

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93001476

Date Listed: 1/20/94

Roseland Plantation
Property Name

Marengo
County

ALABAMA
State

Plantations of the Alabama Canebroke MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

M. J. M. [Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

2/10/94
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination is amended to add Archeology: Historic-Non-Aboriginal as an area of significance and to show the cultural affiliation as American.

These changes were confirmed by telephone with the Alabama SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

RECEIVED

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
DEC 06 1993
NATIONAL REGISTER

FEB 12 1993

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Ala. Historical Commission

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Roseland Plantation

other names/site number The Frank Gaines Place

2. Location

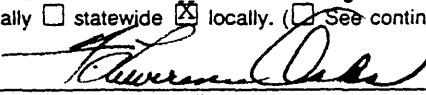
street & number Marengo County Road 54 N/A not for publication

city or town Faunsdale vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Marengo code 091 zip code 36738

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 12/1/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State of Federal agency and bureau

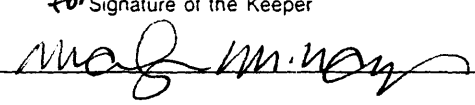
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	<u>for</u> Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	<u></u>	<u>1/20/94</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

Roseland
Name of Property

Marengo County, Alabama
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	0	buildings
1	0	sites
		structures
		objects
6	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Plantations of the Alabama Canebrake and their
Associated outbuildings (1818-1942)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Domestic/Subsistence/animal facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling/ruinous
Domestic/secondary structure/vacant
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century
Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood

roof Asphalt
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1835-1850

Significant Dates

1835, 1850

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Roseland

Marengo County, Alabama

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 495 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1,6 44,612,0 3,59,05,4,0
Zone Easting Northing

2 1,6 44,69,4,0 3,59,05,6,0
Zone Easting Northing

3 1,6 44,69,7,0 3,58,97,7,0
Zone Easting Northing

4 1,6 44,74,2,0 3,58,97,7,0
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeff Mansell; Melanie Betz/AHC Reviewer - 205/242-3184

organization Cahaba Trace Commission date February 10, 1993

street & number Route 1, Box 147 telephone (205) 665-7982

city or town Brierfield state Alabama zip code 35035

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Frank Gaines

street & number 5904 Mt. Eagle Drive telephone

city or town Alexandria state Virginia zip code 22303

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

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Roseland Plantation
Marengo County, AL

Section number 10 Page 5

UTM REFERENCES continued

5) 1 6 | 4 4 7 4 4 0 | 3 5 8 8 9 4 0

6) 1 6 | 4 4 6 0 4 0 | 3 5 8 8 9 2 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 495 acres of land lying in Section 15, Township 17 North, Range 5 East, belonging to Frank Gaines, Jr. For exact boundaries, please refer to tax map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary lines of the Roseland Plantation were drawn to include the acreage associated with the organization and settlement of the original plantation and to include all historic resources significant to the development of the plantation.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Roseland Plantation
Marengo County, AL

Located approximately four miles from Uniontown, Alabama on the old Lower Uniontown to Demopolis Road (present day Marengo County Road 54), Roseland Plantation contains a number of significant outbuildings and the ruins of a once imposing and unique plantation house. The site occupies a small rise at the end of a long drive. Today, the estate is overgrown with small trees, shrubs, and vines and the entire complex is threatened by demolition by neglect.

The ruins of the main house are encircled by a dairy or cooler, an outbuilding believed to be a kitchen, a privy, a barn and a modern garage. At one time, a Greek Revival apothecary stood on the site but this structure was moved to the grounds of Sturdivant Hall in Selma, Alabama to ensure its preservation. The remains of the plantation house consist of the original log dogtrot core of the dwelling, which is now visible, and the remnants of the mortise and tenon construction of the later addition. The log core dates back to 1835, the approximate time of the acquisition and initial residence of the Fitts family while the frame addition probably dates from the 1850s.

The Roseland Plantation complex includes two rare structures, the dairy /cooler and the privy, the only two structures of their type discovered in an initial survey of the Canebrake area. The cooler is a rectangular structure with a deep brick lined basement. The roof extends out over the southeast elevation to cover a well. The privy is a two room structure with a simple gable roof. The structure has a two bay facade and louvered ventilation openings on each side.

The kitchen structure is a simple rectangular structure with simple gable roof and a fireplace centered along the northeast wall. The barn is a rectangular, gable front, one and a half storied structure with decorative diamond shaped pierced openings around the exterior. Also contained on the grounds is a garage structure which may possibly have served as a carriage house at one time. All of the outbuildings probably date from ca. 1850.

While the main house of Roseland Plantation lies in ruins, the complex contains a high degree of integrity in regard to materials, craftsmanship, feeling, overall design and plan. The plantation complex is significant due to the number of outbuildings remaining, all of which retain a high degree of integrity. The Roseland Plantation consists of five contributing buildings and one contributing site.

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Marengo County, AL**Significance Statement****Criterion C - Architecture**

The Roseland Plantation is significant under National Register Criterion C as a collection of early to mid-nineteenth century plantation complex in the Canebrake region of Alabama. The complex contains some outstanding examples of vernacular outbuildings, including two rare structures, a dairy/cooler and a privy. Included in the complex is the ruin of the plantation main house, a once imposing structure.

Historical Summary

The Roseland Plantation was the home of Samuel Fitts who came to the Canebrake region in the 1830s. Samuel Fitts probably constructed the log core of the plantation house around 1835. Fitts prospered as a planter and by 1860 had amassed land and slaves valued at over \$95,000, including 637 acres of land and 67 slaves. The later addition of the dwelling probably dates from the mid 1850s. A two story addition was attached to the log dogtrot, the front porch of the original structure became a cross hall while the dogtrot was extended to become a very long central hall. The hallway contained a reverse stair. The Roseland plantation house, with its cross hall and reverse staircase, resembles the main house at the nearby Cedar Grove plantation, which also underwent an extensive renovation in the mid-1850s. Around the main house of Roseland arose the necessary outbuildings needed for the operation of a large plantation, including the dairy/cooler, kitchen, privy, barn, and an apothecary for the medical practice of Samuel Alston Fitts, son of Samuel Fitts, the original patentee of the plantation. A simple Greek Revival structure, the apothecary was moved to the grounds of Sturdivant Hall, a house museum in Selma, Alabama for preservation. Roseland remained in the Fitts' family, becoming the property of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gaines. Upon the death of Mrs. Gaines, the property was leased for pastureland. Hay was stored in the main house and the dwelling fell into ruins. Today, the plantation is owned by Mr. Frank Gaines, Jr. and the significant collection of outbuildings is threatened by demolition by neglect. ¹

Archeological potential

Although no formal archeological survey has been made at the Roseland plantation, the potential for subsurface remains may be high. Properties of this type were sited within a constellation of dependencies such as kitchens and other outbuildings. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting the entire property.

¹John Witherspoon Dubose, "Chronicles of the Canebrake," *Alabama Historical Quarterly*, Winter, 1947, pp. 596; United States Federal Census of 1860, Marengo County.

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Marengo County, ALCRITERION D (Archaeology: Historic--Non-Aboriginal)

In spite of their dilapidated condition, the plantation house ruin and associated standing structures at Roseland indicate the essential integrity of the below-ground archaeological remains of this plantation. The site has obviously disintegrated gradually, so the archaeological deposits would have suffered little impact, as evidenced by the unusually intact pattern of above-ground structures, still in their original locations. In combination with the above-ground architectural features and the available historical documentation, archaeological data from Roseland Plantation can address several important research questions regarding the development and functioning of nineteenth-century mid-South plantations.

Until archaeological survey reveals the location of slave and tenant quarters at Roseland Plantation, the most important research questions that can be addressed at that site would necessarily focus on the slave owners and plantation managers. Most recent archaeological studies of comparable sites in the South have examined the material expressions of race, class, and status (Singleton 1990:75). Data sets of artifacts (resulting from primary and secondary refuse and loss) generated by the plantation elite, overseers, and servants would permit comparisons across social divisions, with secondary information on slave activities associated with individuals working in the main house and kitchen. There is also considerable potential at Roseland to study changing social roles through time, particularly across the transition from ante-bellum slave economy to post-war tenant economy (Goodwin, Yakubik, and Goodwin 1984; Orser 1988, 1992).

Another useful approach to archaeological research at Roseland Plantation would involve a comparative study of plantation landscapes and physical geography (Orser 1990:137; Vlach 1991). At Roseland, the evolution of the built environment is still apparent in the ruined and decaying structures. Further documentary research on the specific layout and uses of structures--combined with an archaeological survey of structure function, field location, and landscape gardening--could yield important insights on ante-bellum concepts of spatial organization and use.

Perhaps the principal archaeological value of Roseland Plantation derives from its relatively pristine condition, in light of the virtual absence of research on this type of plantation. Archaeological investigations of slave and tenant plantations have mainly occurred along the Atlantic coastal region of Georgia and South Carolina, and in the piedmont regions of South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. Consequently, there are vast regions (including the Gulf coastal plain) with little research (cf., Norrell and Meyer 1992). Historical research has demonstrated the diversity that existed in southern plantations during the 19th century, but more sites like Roseland Plantation need to be investigated archaeologically before we understand the material life and world view of plantation occupants.

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Roseland Plantation
Marengo County, AL

Bibliographical References

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1984 Elmwood: The Historic Archeology of a Southeastern Louisiana Plantation.
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- Norrell, Robert J., and Catherine C. Meyer
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- Orser, Charles E., Jr.
1988 The Material Basis of the Postbellum Tenant Plantation: Historical Archaeology
in the South Carolina Piedmont. University of Georgia Press, Athens.
1990 "Archaeological Approaches to New World Plantation Slavery." Archaeological
Method and Theory 2:111-154.
1992 "Beneath the Material Surface of Things: Commodities, Artifacts, and Slave
Plantations." Historical Archaeology 26(3):95-104.
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1990 "The Archaeology of the Plantation South: A Review of Approaches and Goals."
Historical Archaeology 24(4):70-77.
- Singleton, Theresa A., editor
1985 The Archaeology of Slavery and Plantation. Academic Press, New York.
- Vlach, John M.
1991 "Plantation Landscapes of the Antebellum South." In Before Freedom Came:
African-American Life in the Antebellum South, edited by Edward D.C. Campbell,
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Roseland Plantation
Marengo County, AL

Photographs

For photographs 1-12, the information contained in section #1-5 is the same.

1. Roseland Plantation
2. Faunsdale Vicinity, Marengo County, Alabama
3. Jeff Mansell, Photographer
4. Negatives on file at the Alabama Historical Commission
5. November 1990; There has been no change to the property after a site visit on August 8, 1991.
6. Ruins of front facade of main house, camera facing southeast
7. #1

6. Ruins of main house
7. #2

6. Detail of reverse stair
7. #3

6. Detail of fireplace
7. #4

6. Cooler, camera facing northwest
7. #5

6. Cooler, camera facing northeast
7. #6

6. Privy, camera facing south
7. #7

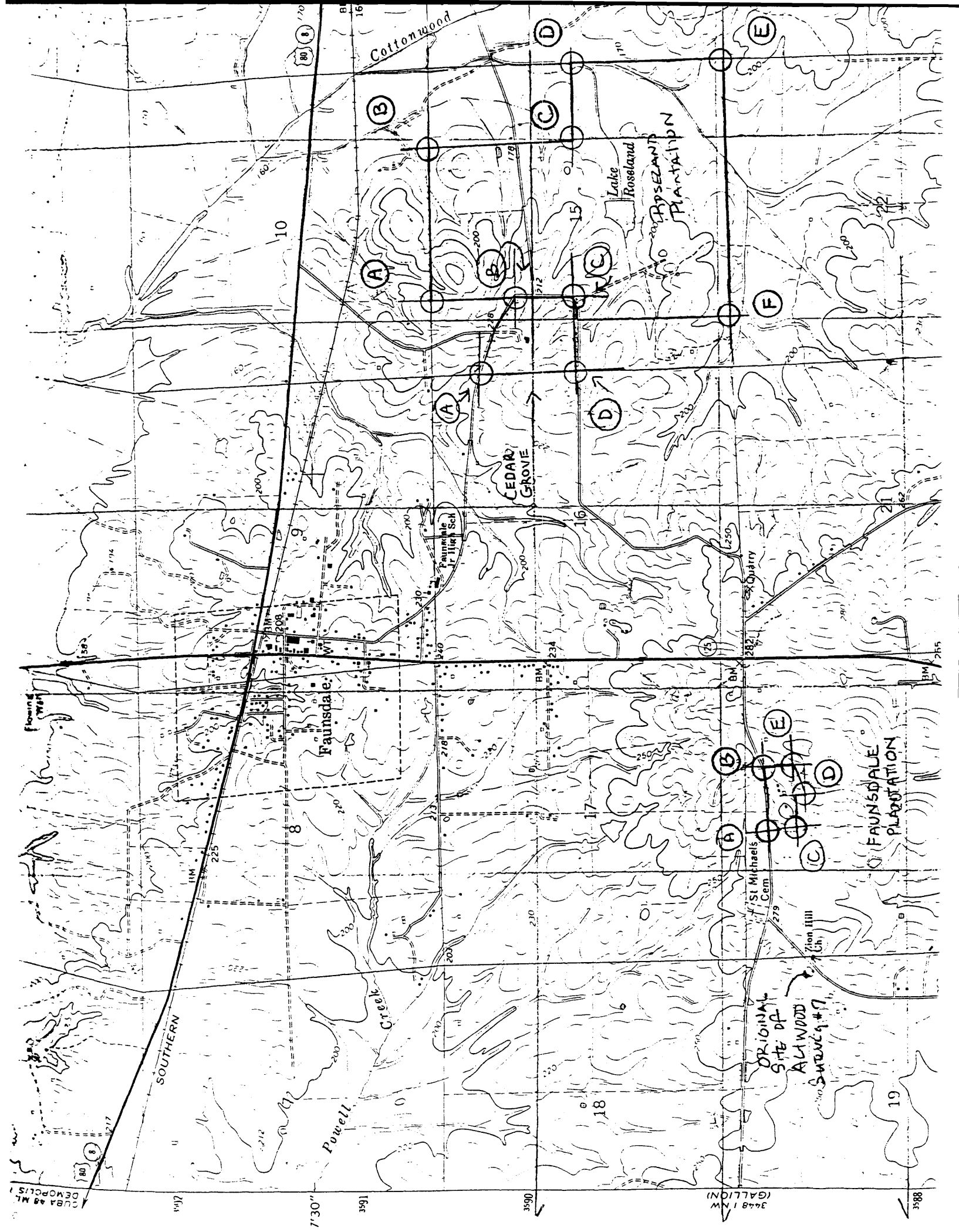
6. Garage, camera facing south
7. #8

6. Barn, camera facing southeast
7. #9

6. Kitchen
7. #10

6. Side elevation of kitchen
7. #11

6. Privy, side elevation
7. #12



CUBA 48 ML
DEMOPUS 1

SOUTHERN

Powell
Creek

Cottonwood

CEGAR GROVE

Lake Roseland

FAINSDALE PLANTATION

St Michaels Cem

FAINSDALE PLANTATION

ORIGINAL SITE OF
ALWOOD SURVEY #7

Zion Hill
Ch.

3448 1 NW
(GALLIUM)

388