

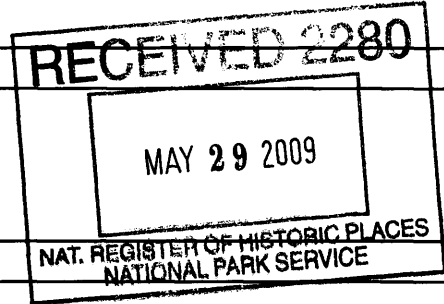
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Eureka Club-Farr's Point
other names/site number Maridon



2. Location

street & number 2326 East Boulevard
city, town Savannah (X) vicinity of
county Chatham code GA
state Georgia code 051 zip code 31410

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

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

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	2	1
sites	0	0
structures	3	0
objects	0	0
total	5	1

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

W. Ray Luce

5-26-09

Signature of certifying official

Date

for W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall *7-8-09*

() determined eligible for the National Register

() determined not eligible for the National Register

() removed from the National Register

() other, explain:

() see continuation sheet

for

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Domestic: camp, single dwelling

Current Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Other: coastal resort cottage

Materials:

foundation	Wood
walls	Wood: weatherboard
roof	Metal
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point is a coastal resort cottage located on the southernmost tip of Wilmington Island in Chatham County, approximately nine miles southeast of downtown Savannah. Built in 1891, the cottage is sited on a narrow peninsula that overlooks the marshes of the Wilmington and Halfmoon rivers. The cottage was built as a seasonal club and was later used as a private vacation house. The house is now used as a year-round residence.

The main house is a sprawling, frame cottage with an L-shaped core that was expanded in the years since it was built in 1891 (photos 1-2, 35-37). The house was built as the Eureka Club with two principal rooms (rooms 1 and 2 on the floor plan) and a kitchen ell (room 3). The full-width front porch that wraps around the south and east facades is original to the house (photos 2, 10, 12-17). Before 1945, a porch was located in the ell on the northeast side. It was later rebuilt as a finished room (room 4). Rooms across the back (rooms 5 and 6) and on the east side (room 8) were also added. After 1945, porches on the northeast and southeast corners were enclosed (rooms 7 and 9) and a room (room 10) on the east side was constructed.

The one-story house is raised on cedar posts (photos 10-11). The three-room core of the house is distinguished by the side gable room and the gable-roofed rear ell. The later additions are covered with shed roofs. The exterior walls are clad in aluminum siding, although the walls inside the porch are weatherboard. The gable roof is covered in corrugated sheet metal. The two interior chimneys feature corbel caps. Windows are two-over-two-light sash and fixed-pane windows. Plain boards form the door and window surrounds.

The interior plan with its many additions is three rooms wide and three rooms deep with a projecting room on the east side. There are no interior corridors. The walls in the original core of the house

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

(rooms 18-20) are covered with horizontal tongue-in-groove boards. Historic interior finishes include beaded-board walls and ceilings, doors and windows and their surrounds, marble sinks, and built-in closets.

The property includes a small, frame pump house that was built before 1941 (photo 9). It is raised on piers in the marsh and is covered with a pyramidal roof. The elevated water tank, also built before 1941, is a tall cylinder composed of riveted sheet metal (photo 8). It is anchored with guy wires to the top of a tall steel-framed platform.

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point includes two docks that reach into the marsh. The longer of the two docks is made of compacted oyster shell and stretches in a straight line from the main house south to Sheepshead Creek, a tributary of the Halfmoon River (photos 3-6, 38, 40. Albert Fendig, who resided at the cottage from 1941 to 1943, described this dock in his manuscript "My Memories of a Cottage on Wilmington Island" (2007), as the "Toonerville Dock aptly getting its name from the comic strip Toonerville Trolley. You could see the Toonerville Dock from the screen porch at the marsh front of the cottage if you looked between gnarled limbs of the old cedar trees between the front steps and the marsh edge." The second dock is made of oyster shell and extends into the marsh by a wood pier (34-37). Albert Fendig called this the "Oyster Dock with shell walkway a short distance along the marsh line . . . and a rickety plank walkway [that] extended over a good stretch of heavy marsh"

The one noncontributing building is a small, one-story frame building used for storage on the north side of the main house (photo 31). It was built after the period of significance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture
Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance:

1891-1945

Significant Dates:

1891 – A group of Savannah residents built the Eureka Club on Wilmington Island as a private vacation club.

1921 – William Farr purchased the club, which he called Farr's Point.

1945 – Inez Womble Rogers purchased the property, which was used as the year-round residence of the Rogers family.

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point is a coastal resort cottage located on the southernmost tip of Wilmington Island in Chatham County. Built in 1891, the cottage is sited on a narrow peninsula that overlooks the marshes of the Wilmington and Halfmoon rivers. The cottage was built as a seasonal club and was later used as a private vacation house. It now serves as a year-round residence.

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point is significant in the area of entertainment/recreation because it represents the first period of resort development on Wilmington Island when residents of Savannah built houses and clubs as seasonal resorts. Wilmington Island is a coastal Georgia Sea Island. It lies between Tybee Island on the Atlantic Ocean and Savannah. It was common for middle-class residents of Savannah to built or seasonally rent cottages on the coastal islands. This trend increased as roadways across the islands improved in the early 20th century. After World War II, it became more common for houses on Wilmington Island to be used as year-round residences.

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point is significant in the area of architecture because it is an excellent example of a coastal resort cottage for middle- and upper-middle-class residents of Savannah. In its early years, the cottage was not a private residence, but a club enjoyed by members who contributed to the purchase of land, construction costs, and maintenance of the property. The small three-room cottage was a retreat from nearby Savannah.

By 1921, the house was used as a private residence and new rooms were added. The sprawling cottage, like the Raised Tybee Cottages that were built on nearby Tybee Island from c.1935 to 1949, is raised on piers to protect against high water and to catch breezes. Screen porches wrap around two sides of the house to provide space for outdoor living. The cottage faces south with views across the across the marshes toward the Wilmington and Halfmoon rivers. Docks, which reach into the marshes, were used for recreational activities, such as swimming and fishing.

The cottage displays an informal character, the result of incremental development with rooms and porches being added and room functions being reassigned over the years. This developmental pattern is seen in Georgia not only in coastal cottages, but also in summer retreats in the Georgia mountains. These resort houses and cottages often include large public rooms for entertaining and broad porches for outdoor living. These houses reflect the informality of "summer" or "resort" living in Georgia.

National Register Criteria

A – Eureka Club-Farr's Point is significant in the area of entertainment/recreation because it represents the first period of resort development on Wilmington Island when residents of Savannah built houses and clubs as seasonal resorts.

C – Eureka Club-Farr's Point is significant in the area of architecture because it is an excellent example of a coastal resort cottage for middle- and upper-middle-class residents of Savannah.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1891 with the construction of the Eureka Club-Farr's Point as a small, private vacation club and ends in 1945 when the property was last used as a seasonal resort home.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The Eureka Club-Farr's Point property includes five contributing resources and one noncontributing resources. The main house and pump house are each counted as one contributing building. The water tank and the two oyster-shell docks are counted as three contributing structures. The one noncontributing resource is a nonhistoric building used for storage on the north side of the main house. It was built after the period of significance.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

In 1891, the Eureka Club was built at the southernmost top of Wilmington Island by a group of Savannah residents as a small, private vacation club. The Savannah *Morning News* reported on March 7, 1891, that "a meeting of the board of directors of the Wilmington Island Pleasure and Improvement Company was held last night. A number of lots have been sold to various parties, and the Eureka Club . . . has just completed a pretty club house upon a lot recently purchased by them." Title of the property changed among club members Clayhorn, Hull, Tilton, Cornwall, and Champion, though by 1908, Champion is listed as the sole owner of the property.

The Eureka Club members built a three-room house that overlooked the marshes of the Wilmington and Halfmoon rivers. The house was composed of two equal-sized rooms, each heated by a central chimney. A kitchen ell was located on the northwest corner. Porches wrapped around the front (south) and west sides with another porch on the northeast side.

In 1921, the property changed ownership several times before it was purchased that year by William Farr, a Savannah lawyer and land developer. Farr, who was instrumental in developing the Parkside neighborhood in Savannah, named his retreat Farr's Point.

In 1937, Marion Heeth purchased the Farr's Point, which he rented as a vacation home. During World War II, the house was rented by Brunswick lawyer and naval officer Albert Fenig II. As recalled by his son Albert (in the 2007 manuscript "My Memories of a Cottage on Wilmington Island"), the family occupied the house from 1941 to 1943. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the elder Fenig was stationed on the coast as a "spotter" for German ships and planes and the Fenig family served as civilian "watchers."

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

In 1945, Marion Heeth sold the property, which he named Maridon, to Inez Womble Rogers. The property was listed as a "seven-room and bath bungalow" for \$12,000. The property was described in the Savannah *Morning News* in 1945 as "one of the largest and best known places on the Wilmington [with] many large and beautiful trees on the site." The newspaper continued, "Mr. Rogers is one of the most ardent and skilled salt water fisherman this vicinity." The property has remained in the Rogers family, which uses it as a year-round residence.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Fendig, Albert. "My Memories of a Cottage on Wilmington Island." 2007. Manuscript on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Harris, Ellen. "Maridon." Historic Property Information Form. July 6, 2007. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued
date issued:
- 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, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 9.76 acres.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 499960 Northing 3537100

Verbal Boundary Description

The historic district boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, which is drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary follows the current legal boundary of the Eureka Club-Farr's Point, except marsh farther from the house along the Wilmington River is not included. The boundary includes the main house, outbuildings, docks, and a portions the marsh that was historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Steven Moffson, Architectural Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 334 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** May 18, 2009
e-mail smoffson@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Ellen Harris
organization Metropolitan Planning Commission
mailing address 110 East State Street
city or town Savannah **state** GA **zip code** 31410
telephone N/A
e-mail N/A

- () **property owner**
() **consultant**
() **regional development center preservation planner**
(X) **other:** Preservation Planner

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Joyce Fisher
organization (if applicable) N/A
mailing address 2326 East Boulevard
city or town Savannah **state** GA **zip code** 31410
e-mail (optional) N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Eureka Club-Farr's Point
City or Vicinity: Savannah vicinity
County: Chatham
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: January 2008

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 44

1. Main house with pump house and water tank, photographer facing northeast.
2. Main house, photographer facing north.
3. Toonerville Dock, photographer facing north.
4. Toonerville Dock, photographer facing north.
5. Toonerville Dock, photographer facing north.
6. Toonerville Dock and main house, photographer facing north.
7. Water tank and pump house, photographer facing north.
8. Water tank, photographer facing north.
9. Pump house, photographer facing northwest.
10. Main house, detail of porch, photographer facing northeast.
11. Main house, detail of cedar posts, photographer facing southwest.
12. Main house, front porch, photographer facing east.
13. Main house, side porch, photographer facing north.
14. Main house, main façade, photographer facing north.
15. Main house, side porch, photographer facing north.
16. Main house, side porch, photographer facing south.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

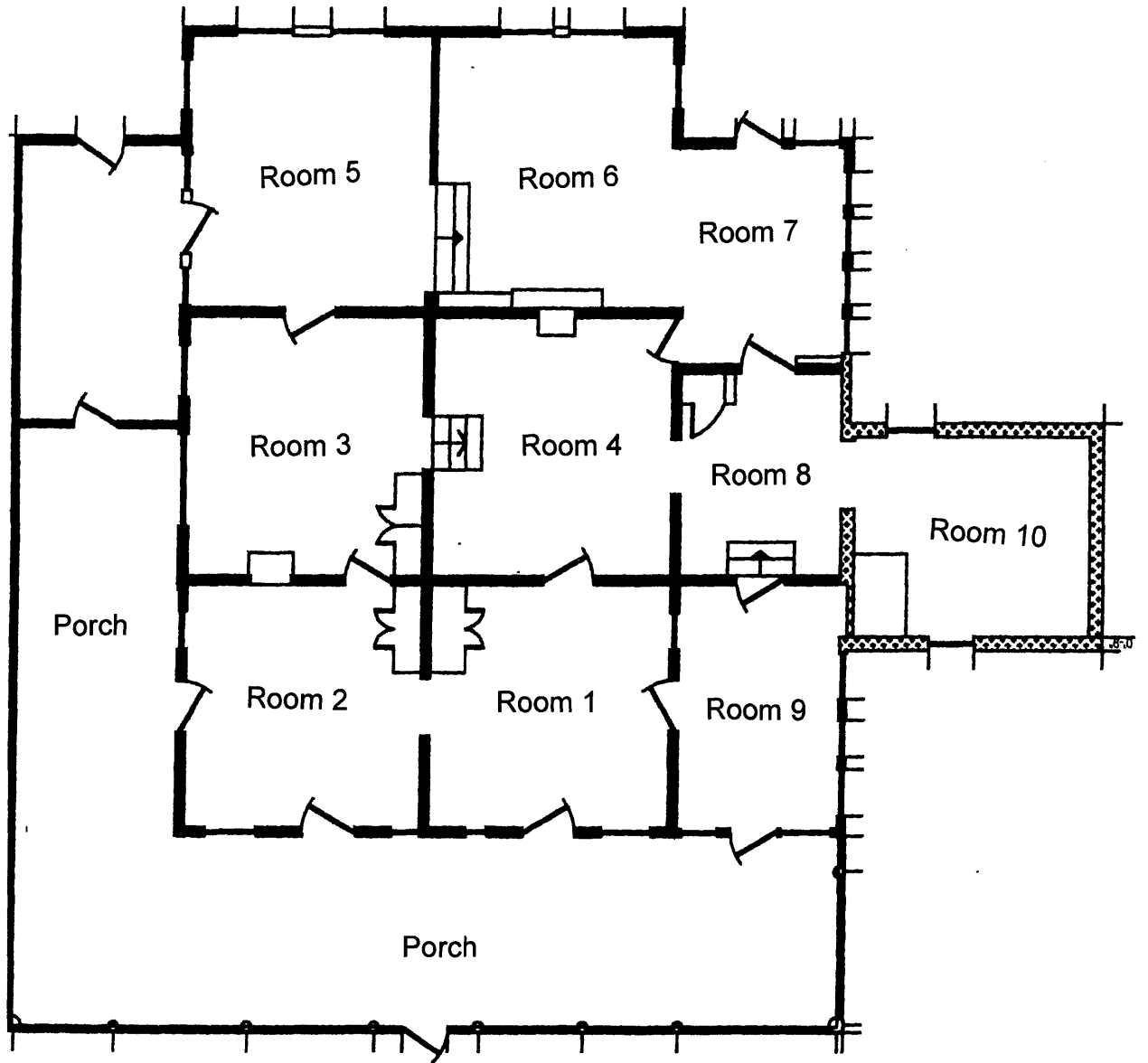
17. Main house, side porch, photographer facing northwest.
18. Interior, main house, room 2, photographer facing north.
19. Interior, main house, room 1, photographer facing northwest.
20. Interior, main house, room 1, photographer facing northeast.
21. Interior, main house, view from room 7 to rooms 8 and 9, photographer facing south.
22. Interior, main house, room 7, photographer facing east.
23. Interior, main house, rooms 6 and 5, photographer facing north.
24. Interior, main house, rooms 6 and 5, photographer facing northwest.
25. Interior, main house, room 4, photographer facing north.
26. Interior, main house, room 5 with views to rooms 6 (left) and 3, photographer facing southeast.
27. Interior, main house, room 6, photographer facing north.
28. Interior, main house, rooms 5 and 6, photographer facing northeast.
29. Main house, rear façade, photographer facing south.
30. Concrete blocks (nonhistoric), photographer facing northeast.
31. House, not located within National Register boundary, photographer facing northeast.
32. Main house, rear façade, photographer facing south.
33. View from marsh, photographer facing east.
34. View from Oyster Dock, photographer facing northeast.
35. View from Oyster Dock, photographer facing northeast.
36. View from Oyster Dock, photographer facing northeast.
37. View from Oyster Dock, photographer facing northeast.
38. View from Toonerville Dock, photographer facing north.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

39. View from Toonerville Dock, photographer facing east.
40. View from Toonerville Dock, photographer facing north.
41. Main house, front and side porch, photographer facing northeast.
42. Main house, front porch, photographer facing northeast.
43. View from marsh, photographer facing southeast.
44. View from Oyster Dock, photographer facing northeast.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

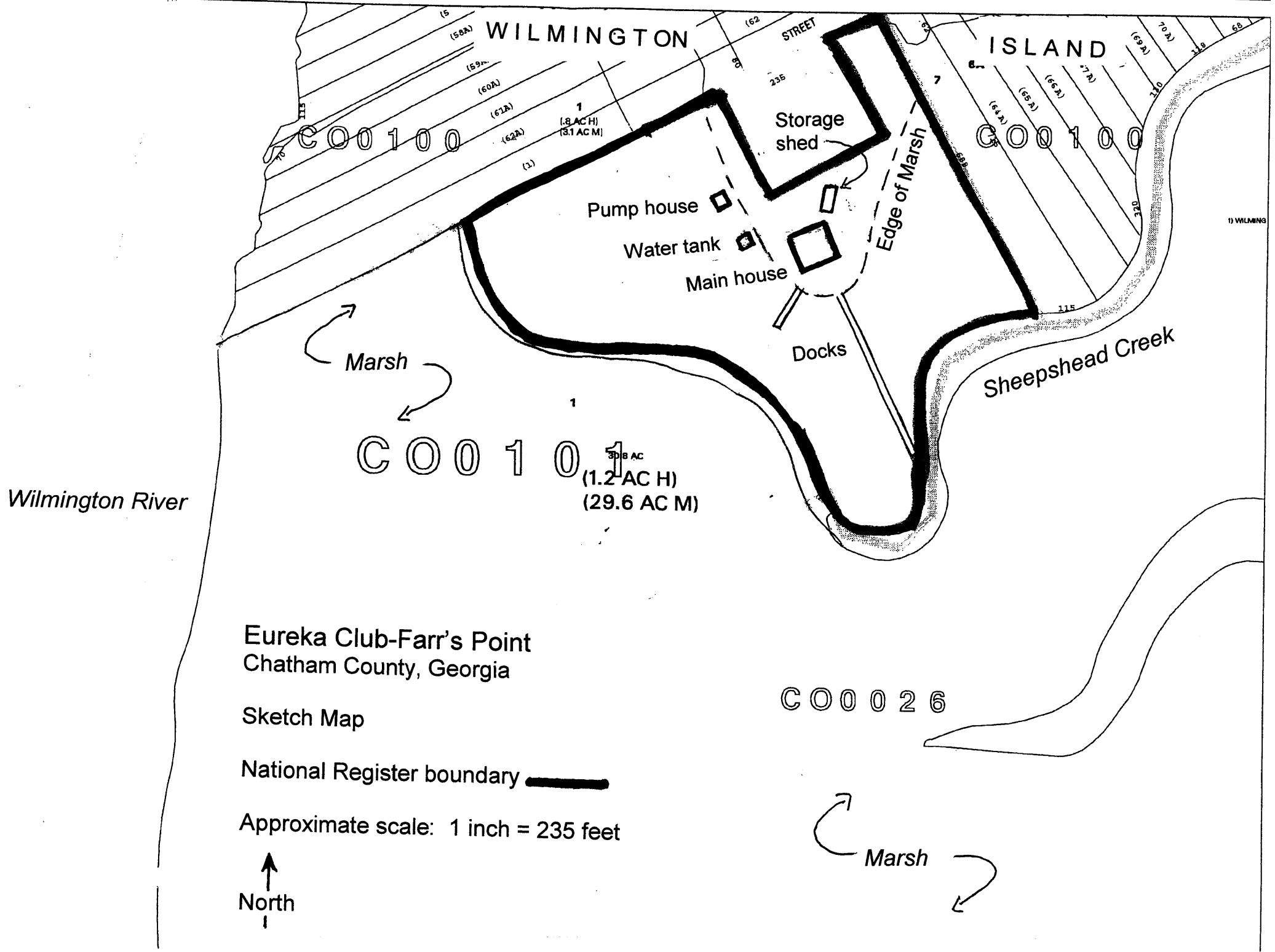


Eureka Club-Farr's Point
Chatham County, Georgia

Floor Plan

No scale

↑
North
↓



Eureka Club-Farr's Point
Chatham County, Georgia

Sketch Map

National Register boundary **—————**

Approximate scale: 1 inch = 235 feet



COO 026

