

PH0352951

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 6 1976

DATE ENTERED SEP 29 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Anderson House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Box 23, Route 1 GA 44

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Danburg VICINITY OF 10th - Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

STATE Georgia CODE 13 COUNTY Wilkes CODE 317

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Richard Simms

STREET & NUMBER 11 Boundary Place, N.W.

CITY, TOWN Atlanta VICINITY OF Georgia

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Wilkes County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Washington STATE Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Anderson house is located in the town of Danburg, Wilkes County, on the northwest corner of the intersection of State Highway 44, the old Petersburg Road, and an unimproved county road, the old Delhi or Muckleferry Road. Stylistically, it is a late Greek Revival frame weatherboarded house with readily apparent Victorian details which was built between 1865 and 1870. The portico does not quite span the full width of the south or front facade, and its four fluted Doric columns support a wide, bracketed and latticed entablature which in turn supports a pediment which has two window openings. Indeed, the fluting of the four portico columns consists of a rather ornate combination of alternating convex and concave vertical elements with each of the convex elements enhanced by vertical beading. The pitched gabled roof of the house supports two central chimneys, serving eight interior fireplaces. The north or rear facade seems also to have originally displayed a two story portico the width of which was somewhat less than that of the facade. The land on which the house was built was part of a small parcel acquired by John L. Anderson, a moderately wealthy Danburg merchant and planter, in 1865, apparently with the intention of building a new house as soon as possible.

The four portico columns on the south facade are placed such that the central bay is narrower than the two flanking bays. This arrangement plus the facts that a balustrade around the porch at the first floor level creates a strong horizontal line and that the house as a whole is raised only about eighteen inches off the ground gives to the house a massive, weighty appearance. The flat, slightly pedimented lintels above each of the eight, six over six paned symmetrically placed single windows of this facade are identical to the form of the lintel above the main portal of the Chennault House, in Lincoln County, Georgia. Each door of the double doorway of the main portal has four moulded and round-headed vertical panels, further evidence of the Victorian influence upon this house. This main portal, like the double doored portal to the balcony above it, has a transom and sidelights, both portals being surrounded by identical and plain frames.

The east and west facades of the Anderson House are identical and thereby reaffirm the balance and symmetry of the south facade. On each of these side elevations, ten six over six paned single windows open the expansive wall and seem to lighten the weightiness of the mass of the house. Viewing either side elevation of the Anderson House, the articulation of the structural relation of its pedimented portico to the main body of the house is accomplished by the use of a short boxed return at the base of each side elevation gable, beneath which the brackets of the portico entablature are repeated. In this manner, it is implied that the portico does indeed belong to the fabric of the main body of the house and is not merely an adjunct to it. This solution is best understood in relation to a similar feature which occurs on both the Matthews and Chennault Houses in Lincoln County, Georgia, where a boxed return at the base of the gable on each side elevation serves visually to delineate the structural function of the portico which is beneath the main roof of each house.

The north or back facade of the Anderson House has been greatly altered from its original condition. A kitchen has been added at the northeast corner of the first story beneath a shed roof which is as wide as the original two story porch must have been. Further, a bathroom has been added to the second story beneath a shed roof which projects the eave. Parallel to and approximately four feet from this back facade there is a brick wall, part of the remains of what may have been an informal dining room which was attached to an originally separate and possibly much older brick kitchen on the north end of this dining room. A small jam and jelly storehouse, resituated by the present owners at a point about twenty feet from the northwest corner of the house, is said by the present owners to

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have been originally located at the northwest corner of the brick kitchen and made accessible by a covered passageway running along the west wall of the brick dining room. While it is impossible to ascertain its original position, the fact that the balusters used on its porch are identical to those on the main portico of the house indicates that this outbuilding was constructed at about the same time as the house. Only two other outbuildings remain, a small weatherboarded structure just to the north of the jelly house which may have been a smokehouse -- though its date of construction is uncertain -- and a one room structure with an end chimney called the cook's house by the present owners and located just to the north of the remains of the brick kitchen. It, too, is of uncertain date. Two concrete fountains added to the front yard in the 1920's do not obstruct the view of the house from the road.

The interior of the first story of the Anderson House has a twelve foot wide central hall with portals at either end, a straight stairway to the second story and four surrounding rooms, each seventeen feet square. The second story repeats this basic plan, with a second straight stairway leading from the central hall to the attic, closets flanking the fireplaces in the two rooms on the east side of the house and one closet to the west of the fireplace in the northwest corner room. The ceilings on both stories are planked. Throughout the first and second stories, the interior window mouldings are identical in detailing to those around the double windows of the two front rooms on the first story of the Chennault House in Lincoln County, Georgia. They consist of plain pilasters which rise from the floor to the top of the window, a beveled panel beneath the window and a wide cross piece joining the pilaster capitals at the top of the window. On the second story, the original oak graining remains on most of the window and door mouldings.

The mantels in all rooms of the house except the southeast corner front room on the first story are identical with plain pilasters, approximately the width of those on the window mouldings, beneath a plain frieze and shelf. The mantel of the southeast corner room on the first story appears to have been added shortly after the house was completed. It is a cast iron Romanesque Revival imitation black marble mantel-piece with an attached framed mirror over the mantel. Further, there are valances over the four windows in the room which match the architectonic details of the top of the mirror frame.

The intent must have been to finish off the attic, as a hall with three doors is found in the attic at the top of the stairway. Two rooms would have been located at either end of the roof, with the third located beneath the roof of the front portico. The unusual feature of the structure of both the roof of the house and the portico is the use of stripped pine rafters, hewn in half, lengthwise. They were placed a little over a foot apart, probably out of some concern that these young timbers would not be strong enough. This concern about strength may explain the way in which the portico roof is joined to the main roof. Halfway down the rafters on the south slope of the main roof, there is a break about four feet wide which leads into the portico roof area. The initial impression is that the portico was added after the main roof was built, and it is possible that initially the plan was to place the portico beneath the main roof as at the Willis-Sale-Stennett House in Wilkes County, Georgia, and the aforementioned Chennault

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and Matthews Houses. Certainly, the fact that the manner of construction of the portico roof is identical to that of the main roof fabric of the house indicates that the portico must be considered as belonging to the original fabric of the house.

One last notable feature about the roof structure is that numerous of the broad planks spanning the rafters have on them fragments of a wall paper which by their highly saturated, intense colors and their evident hand printing would reasonably date to around 1810. These would seem to be reused timbers from a much older house. Further, on the first story of the Anderson House, the wide pine floorboards of the two back rooms show excessive wear, suggesting that they, too, may have been reused from an older house. The present owners plan to remove some of the brickwork around the foundation of the house so as to see if in the floor structure there is any evidence to confirm this suggestion. It is interesting in this regard that local tradition has it that John Anderson built his house around a late eighteenth century house already on the site, probably the home of the Statham family, early settlers in the area. The only confirmation of the possibility that these reused timbers came from a Statham family home is in a deed reference to the Statham family graveyard as being a part of the parcel of land which John Anderson bought in 1865 and on which he shortly thereafter built his house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1865-1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Anderson House resides in its architecture and in its position in local history just after the Civil War. John L. Anderson, a member of the fourth generation of the Anderson family to live in the Danburg, Wilkes County, community, returned from fighting in the Civil War and immediately bought the land on which the Anderson House is built. He was an enterprising man whose various investments in both land and merchandise yielded him great profit immediately after the Civil War. The Tax Digests indicate he held 2,644 acres by 1868 and in the 1870 census records that he paid out a total of \$3,830 in wages. Certainly his position in the community and the need to be at the geographic center of his expanding business concerns prompted his acquisition of land in town on which he could build a distinctive home.

The major architectural significance of the Anderson House resides in its relationship to three other houses, the Willis-Sale-Stennett House in Wilkes County, Georgia, the Chennault House and the Matthews House, both in Lincoln County, Georgia. (See National Register nominations for all three.) All four houses are found within a six mile radius, but their properties are not contiguous, and thus as a group they do not form a district in the usual sense. As a group, however, they do form a stylistic development which is most probably attributable to the influence of a single master builder in the years just before and after the Civil War.

While documentary evidence indicates that the Willis-Sale-Stennett House was completed in 1857, the documentary evidence for the Matthews House indicates that it was completed by 1861. Likewise, the Chennault House seems to have been begun between 1857 and 1858, and the Anderson House between 1865 and 1870. Thus there is the likelihood based on the documentary evidence that, while the construction of the Chennault House was probably begun before the construction of the Matthews House, for a time these two were being worked on simultaneously.

The stylistic evidence supports the documentary evidence. On the basis of stylistic analysis, the Willis-Sale-Stennett House is most reasonably understood as the first built in the series, being a fairly predictable example of the late Greek Revival style. The second in the series, by this visual analysis, would seem to be the Chennault House, which is similar in appearance to the Willis-Sale-Stennett House, particularly in its incorporation of the portico with the main body of the house and, more generally, in its characteristic late Greek Revival robustness. And the Matthews House is an appropriate third in this series, as it is but a variation on the Chennault House, especially in the visual complexity of its decorative detailing which exceeds the simplicity of both the Willis-Sale-Stennett House and the Chennault House.

The last house in the series, the Anderson House, while it may not have been built by the same person, certainly shows the influence of the other three houses. Here, the portico

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chambers, Margaret, personal inspection, October 27, 1975.
 Chambers, Margaret, interviews with Catherine Frangiamore, Curator, Atlanta Historical Society, December 5, 1976; Interview with Charles Saggas, Professor of History, Augusta College, November 12, 1975.
 Georgia Department of Archives and History, County Records - Deeds, 1820-1903; Census Records, 1850-1880; John L. Anderson Papers; Surveyor General's Office, Wilkes County maps Newsome, Nell and F. M.; Wilkes County Cemeteries, Washington, Georgia, 1970. (cont.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6

UTM REFERENCES (SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The easternmost corner of the boundary of the Anderson House is found at the intersection of State Highway 44 (the Washington-Petersburg Road) and a county maintained paved and dirt road through the center of Danburg, commonly called the Delhi or Muckleferry Road. From this point, the boundary runs in a northwesterly direction for approximately 550 feet along the Muckleferry Road, where upon it turns in a southwesterly, straight-line direction for approximately 430 feet along the McNeill property line. The boundary then makes a right angle turn and continues in a straight line in a southeasterly direction for approximately

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES (cont.)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Margaret Chambers, Intern (Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian, Consultant)

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources February 11, 197

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703-C

404-656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

Georgia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DAVID M. SHERMAN

DATE

TITLE Chief, Historic Preservation Section

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE 9/29/96
ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE 9/26/76
ATTEST	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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has a fully pedimented roof supported by four columns, distinguishing this house from the other three. Despite the fact that the portico and the main body of the Anderson House are not under one roof, the sense of unity between portico and house is nonetheless accomplished by the use of a short boxed return at the base of each side elevation gable, beneath which the brackets of the portico entablature are repeated. This solution is surely attributable in some degree to an awareness of the other three houses of this group. Indeed, the flat, slightly pedimented lintels above the eight symmetrically arranged single windows on the front facade are copied directly from the Chennault House. And the massive girth of the Anderson House, combined with the use of many large windows to open up the walls, are features found in all four houses. While the use of double windows on the Chennault and Matthews Houses is an indication of the influence of Victorian architectural forms upon the pre-existent late Greek Revival style, the addition of brackets and lattice work to the entablature of the Anderson House portico is evidence of the increasing influence of the Victorian on the late Greek Revival immediately after the Civil War.

John Cunningham, the carpenter living with the Matthews in 1860 according to the Census, may well have been one of the carpenters if not the master builder, who worked on the first three houses of this sequence of four. In 1860, he was thirty years old and at age twenty-three and twenty-four in 1853 and 1854 Joseph F. Matthews acted as his Agent in the paying of his poll tax. This does not mean that John Cunningham was necessarily residing with the Matthews at that time, but it does imply that Cunningham was at least in the vicinity. In 1855, a William Stokes, living in the same District as the Matthews, acts as Cunningham's Agent, but in 1856 and 1857 Cunningham pays his own tax and is living by himself, though still in the Matthews' District (the Goshen District of Lincoln County). The tax records are lost from 1859 and 1860, but the 1861 Tax Digest does not list John Cunningham in either the Goshen District or any adjacent District.

The implication is that his carpentry work in the area in which these four houses were built was completed by 1861. It is quite possible that as an inexperienced artisan in his early twenties this John Cunningham worked on the Willis-Sale-Stennett House, learning the essentials of the Greek Revival vocabulary. With greater confidence he alone may have handled the commissions of the Chennaults and Matthews, successfully experimenting with architectural forms as he worked. A two man treadle saw, which the Wayne Matthews have given to the Washington, Georgia, museum, may have been of Cunningham's making. Certainly, that Cunningham disappears from local records in 1861 supports local tradition that these three houses were done before the Civil War.

Whether the builder of the Anderson House was someone who had worked with John Cunningham or was someone who was influenced solely by the results of Cunningham's work can probably never be determined. One Danburg tradition states that a black carpenter directed the building of the Anderson House, and curiously ten black carpenters or brick masons appear in the 1870 Wilkes and Lincoln County census records. But, regardless of the identity of the builder(s); these four houses form a valuable sequence, both aesthetically pleasurable and instructively useful.

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Verbal Boundary Description (cont.)

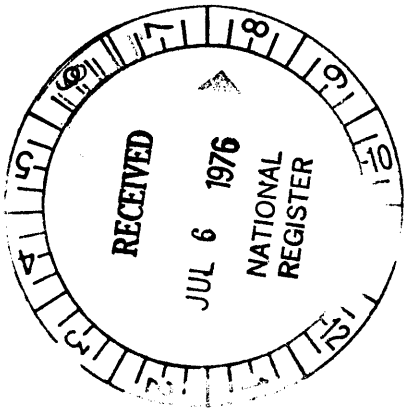
525 feet until it intersects with Highway 44. The boundary line then follows Highway 44 in a northeasterly direction for approximately 390 feet until it returns to the beginning point.

Latitude and Longitude Coordinates

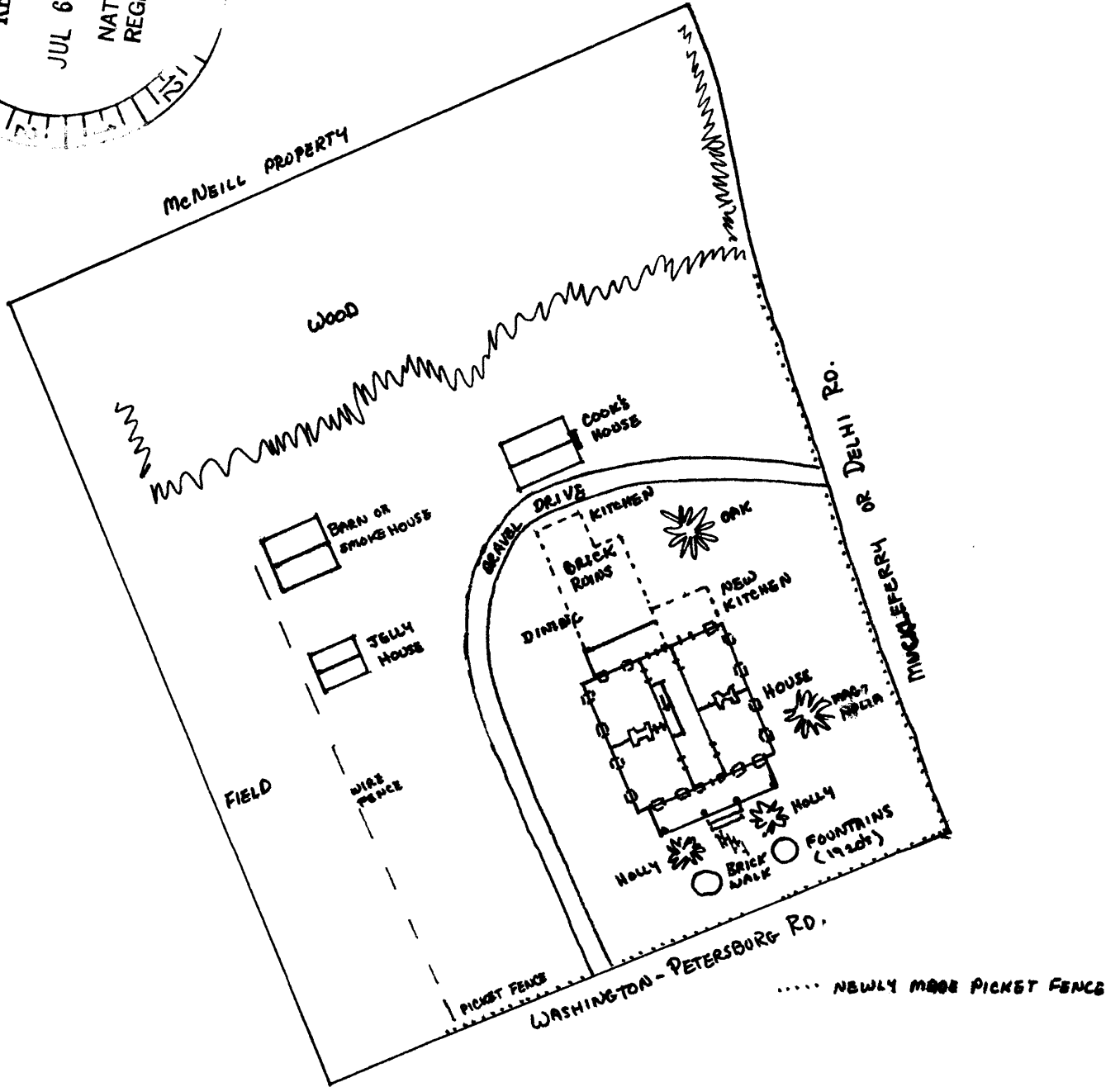
	Latitude	Longitude
NW	³³ 35 ° 52' 10"	82° 39' 16"
NE	35 ° 52' 10"	82° 39' 09"
SE	35 ° 52' 02"	82° 39' 09"
SW	35 ° 52' 02"	82° 39' 16"

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Saggus, Charles, A Social and Economic History of the Danburg Community, M.A. Thesis, University of Georgia 1951.
Willingham, Robert Marion, We Have This Heritage, Washington, Georgia, 1969.



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ANDERSON HOUSE
 DANBURG, WILKES CO.,
 GA.

NOT TO SCALE

SEP 29 1976