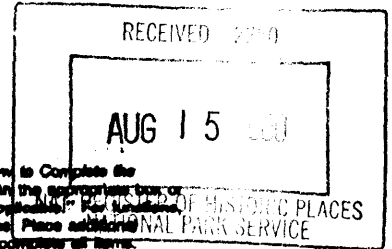


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1083



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual pre-  
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin  
by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property  
architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only owner  
series and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a 5

How to Complete the  
" in the appropriate box or  
" applicable." For questions  
ions. Place additional  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

Historic name Miller, Abraham, House

Other name/site number LI-255

#### 2. Location

Street & number 3475 Ky. Hwy. 300 (Knob Lick Road)  Not for publication

City or town Stanford  vicinity

State Kentucky code KY county Lincoln code 137 zip code 40484

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nominates  
 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.)

David L. Morgan 6-5-2000 David L. Morgan, SHPO and Executive  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date Director, KHC  
State Historic Preservation Office/KY Heritage Council  
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 commenting official/Title Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the  
National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- removed from the National  
Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Edson A. Beall Date of Action 3/6/01

Abraham Miller House  
Name of Property

Lincoln co., KY.  
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Other: Saddlebag Log House

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Wood logs

roof Wood shake (wood shingle)

other

Narrative Description

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

See Continuation Sheet

**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**

1785-1835

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Miller, Abraham

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Miller, Abraham (builder)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

See Continuation sheet.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- 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:

Boyle Co. Ky. Library  
Land Office/KY. Archive  
Lincoln Co., KY. Clerk

Abraham Miller House  
Name of Property

Lincoln Co., KY.  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1.6 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>699</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>415</u>	<u>9130</u>	<u>Stanford Quad</u>						
	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing						
2							4					

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

See Continuation Sheet

**Boundary Justification**

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

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Allan R. Leach - Lincoln County Historian/Genealogist

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date January 14th, 2000

street & number P.O. Box 14 telephone 606-346-4129

city or town Hustonsville state KY. zip code 40437

**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.

Attached: U.S.G.S. map; Stanford Quadrangle

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 Jesse S. Hocker

street & number 1700 Crockett Circle telephone 972-252-9283

city or town Irving state TX zip code 75038

**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.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Section number - 7 Page 1**

**The Abraham Miller House is a two room, one story, log structure. A very rare surviving example of what is known in Early Kentucky Folk Architecture as a "Saddlebag" type house, this house stands today in remarkably good condition and has undergone only a few minor changes throughout its long existence. The house stands alone, high on a ridge, surrounded by rolling farmland.**

**The Miller house is constructed of two separate log pens with the west pen being slightly longer than the east pen. The corners of both cabins are constructed of V type notching. The two log pens are separated by a massive fieldstone chimney which serves both pens. A single fireplace is in each pen. As originally built, the space on either side of the chimney, between the two log pens, was open to the outside.**

**Each cabin pen is built on a separate foundation constructed of fieldstone. The entire structure, including the open spaces on either side of the chimney, is covered with an unbroken wood shake roof. The front, facing south, has a full length porch supported by a series of large wooden posts. The porch floor is set upon a series of wooden and stone-stacked pillars. The porch rafters are overlapped a distance of about 5 feet with the front house roof rafters.**

**Originally, there was no connecting passway between the two log pens. A single door on the front of each pen opened out onto the porch. A single small window, set high above the ground, was located on the front and rear (south and north) sides of each pen. There is no opening of any kind in the west and east ends of the house. A very small room was located in the roof attic area above each pen and was reached by means of a small enclosed corner cupboard staircase located in the end front corners of each pen. The floor was originally a puncheon floor laid upon a series of half-hewn log joists. The ceiling joists are also hand-hewn but hewn on both sides.**

**Built sometime in the period between 1785 and 1815, the Abraham Miller house saw only very minor changes typical of the era during the 1800s. At an early day, the original puncheon floor boards were removed and a heavy tongue and groove floor was laid upon the original half-hewn log joists. The original doors were board and batten but were replaced well after 1900 with plain solid doors of a factory origin. Shallow, plain, mantels were set with the mantel shelf placed high above the fireplace opening and both remain in place.**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Section number - 7 Page 2**

**A very small lean-to type of room of simple frame construction was built at the rear of the west log pen and was reached by making the one rear window in that room into a doorway. At the same time that this lean-to room was added at the rear (around 1900), a small door was cut into the wall of each cabin on the rear (north) side of the open chimney space to allow access between the two main log pens.**

**A tin roof replaced the original wood shingles about 1920 and was laid upon the original rafters and crossboards. Wood siding was applied to the exterior of the entire structure probably around 1840. The interior walls were originally covered with a rough wood paneling which was never covered with any form of paper. The corner cupboard staircase in the east log pen was removed at some unknown date; however, the original corner cupboard staircase remains intact in the west log pen.**

**Except for the lean-to addition at the rear, the house has never had any kind of plumbing. Electric wiring was installed about 1950 but consisted merely of a single drop cord from the ceiling of each room. The original fireplaces were the sole means of heat in the house until stove pipes were installed in the chimney about 1900.**

**The Abraham Miller House stood vacant for about 25 years but was generally maintained. In the summer of 1999, the Hockers (owners) began a careful restoration of the house. The lean-to addition was removed from the rear side and a simple bathroom addition constructed of matching materials will be built in its place. The tin roof was removed and a cedar shake roof has been installed upon the original rafters and crossboards. The original front porch has been retained. The keystone arches over the fireplaces have been re-laid using the original stone and arrangement. The top 18 inches of the massive chimney are being re-laid as originally built. This stone is so well preserved that the fireplace will continue to be used as the source of heat for the house.**

**Three deteriorated logs near the top of the west end wall of the west cabin have been carefully replaced with similar matching logs from another structure: the rest of the log structure is intact as originally built. About 60% of the original log chinking remains in place in excellent condition with the remainder being replaced in as near as possible the original form.**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Section number - 7 Page 3**

**Other than being wired for electricity and plumbing in the new lean-to addition, the owners are making no major changes to the house. The tongue and groove flooring has been taken up and the original half-hewn log floor joists have been braced for added strength with paralleling milled floor joists. All original joists have been retained. The original tongue and groove flooring is being relaid over the braced original floor joists. Reconstructed board and batten doors, of matching wood, have been installed throughout the house.**

**The owners are restoring the Abraham Miller House carefully with respect to its original and extant architectural features. They are installing the very minimum of modern conveniences in the small bathroom addition at the rear. The restored house will serve as a weekend and/or summer seasonal home for the Hockers who live seasonally in Kentucky and Texas.**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name - Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State - KY**

**Section number - 8 Page 1**

**In his book entitled “Log Cabin Village”, Terry Jordan states that it is a book “about dwellings born not on the drafting tables of professional architects, but springing instead from the collective memory of a people”. He cautions that one should not look at folk houses for refined artistic genius or innovative design”, but rather, “seek in them instead the traditional, the conservative, the functional”. “Expect from them a simple beauty, a harmony with their physical surroundings, a visible expression of folk culture”.**

**No more apt description could apply to the Abraham Miller House which meets National Register Criterion C. Lying astride the area between the first settlement in Kentucky, Harrodsburg, and the second settlement in Kentucky, Stanford, this log house reflects an architectural design that was significant at a time, and place, in history, when Lincoln County and the state of Kentucky were born, and when the first English settlement in the United States west of the Allegheny Mountains occurred. The design of this log house can definitely be placed within the architectural context and development of both Lincoln County and other areas of Kentucky during the period 1785 - 1835.**

**FOLK ARCHITECTURE:**

**Authorities on log cabins/houses frequently referred to as “folk houses”, generally discuss these structures in the context of “Folk Architecture”. This type of architecture in America has been marked by regional differences, because of the nature of local types of building material, the climate of a particular area, and most importantly, tradition. Experts referenced, generally give credit to the origin of the log cabin in America to the Swedes in Delaware and the Germans in Pennsylvania, who, through cultural exchange of ideas, passed it on to the English, Scotch-Irish, and Welsh pioneers who settled Kentucky.**

**Nowhere in the country at that time was the geography more suited to the use of the log cabin than on the wooded landscape of the Upper South. In Kentucky, due to this abundance of wood, and the cultural background of the settlers, the first log structures were constructed in that area of central Kentucky where the Miller house stands. From the basic single-pen cabin, subsequent modifications resulted in double-pen houses which provided more room and desirability. The many double-pen houses built in Kentucky have been further categorized by folklorists into the Double-pen house, the Dogtrot house, and the Saddlebag house, which includes the Miller house. As one of the types of double-pen houses, the Saddlebag house provided more room, and provided privacy, since in some models of these houses, such as the Miller house, the two pens were not connected.**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name - Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State - KY.**

**Section number - 8 Page 2**

**The Saddlebag house was common throughout the Upper South, in Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia and Kentucky. However, interestingly enough, while it was generally very popular in Kentucky, it was rare in the Bluegrass area of the state, to include Lincoln County. This finding of rarity, is unexplained; however, apparently accurate since a survey of all pre - 1850 log structures in Lincoln County was made in the 1980's which tends to confirm it. In this survey, over one hundred and fifty such structures were found in the northern half of Lincoln County, the majority of which were the Dog - trot style. Of the two Saddlebag houses found in the survey, one has been razed, leaving only the Miller house as the one known standing in the country.**

**The Abraham Miller House is a most worthy candidate for selection to the National Register of Historic Places. It is a classic example of the Saddlebag house that many of the earlier settlers of America, from New England through Tennessee and Kentucky, found to be both flexible and functional. The Miller House is unique. Situated in the middle of an area of Kentucky, that was settled first, today it is the only surviving example of an early Saddlebag house in Lincoln County. As a Saddlebag house, the Miller house reflects an additional significance in terms of Lincoln County and the state of Kentucky which is its relationship to the "tenant house". As described in their book Kentucky Folk Architecture, William Lynwood Montell and Michael Lynn Morse state that "there appears to be a generic relationship between the tenant house type and the Saddlebag house. "Both have two front rooms, often two front doors, and a central chimney". It was during the late nineteenth century and early years of the twentieth, that the tenant house sprang up as a rather distinct adaptation of the Saddlebag house. It was so named a tenant house because of its widespread acceptance as a dwelling for tenant farmers, and it can be frequently found on much of Kentucky's cultural landscape today--such as the one that is located on the Hocker Farm approximately one quarter mile from the Abraham Miller House.**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name - Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State - KY**

**Section number - 8 Page 3**

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

**The Abraham Miller House stands high on the dividing ridge between the Knob Lick creek and the Hanging Fork creek. This house faces south towards the original Knob Lick Trace. This early trace (or trail), which is still visible on the ground, passes about one hundred yards south of the house in a west and east direction. This trail was laid out in the 1780's by Isaac Shelby and the early settlers of the area. Shelby, Kentucky's First Governor and a hero of the Battle of King's Mountain, blazed this trail through the wilderness from its beginning point at Fort Logan (now Stanford) to his Knob Lick settlement (also known as Traveller's Rest) about 7 miles northwest. The trail crosses the Hanging Fork creek and ascends the hill, passing in front of the Abraham Miller House, and down the other side of the hill to Knob Lick creek and on northwest a distance of two miles to the Shelby farm. The old Knob Lick road trail is referred to specifically and repeatedly as a boundary and landmark in the deeds to this farm from 1835 to 1870. About 1875, the road was shifted about one half mile to the north to its present location.**

**The Abraham Miller House stands on one of two land grants made between 1781 and 1783 to Abraham Miller. The smaller one-hundred-acre settlement grant is located south of the old trace and the one-thousand-acre preemption grant is crossed midway by the old trace. The house stands on the west-central portion of the preemption grant. The adjacent land grant owners were Isaac Shelby on the west, Capt. George Givens on the north, Samuel Craig on the east, and Daniel and John McCormack on the south.**

**Abraham Miller served as a lieutenant in the War of 1812 from Lincoln County. The Kentucky Militia was commanded by his next door neighbor Isaac Shelby. Miller served under Col. Samuel South in George Murrell's company. Murrell was another near neighbor just to the southwest near Carpenter's Station.**

**The Miller home was known as the last resting stop on the trail for early Kentucky travelers who came to visit Isaac Shelby by way of Fort Logan. Shelby, well known for his love of the farming neighborhood, no doubt visited his neighbors in this home occasionally. Abraham Miller was continually called upon for helping to transact county business by the county court and continued a strong influence well after Shelby's death until his own death in 1834. At that time, his heirs sold a portion of the thousand acre preemption land. This included the Abraham Miller home. The house and its 246 acres passed through a series of owners up through 1870 when the McCartys purchased the property. Throughout this period, the**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name - Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State - KY**

**Section number - 8     Page 4**

**boundary of the farm never changed. With the exception of a small tract of land added on the north side by the current owner's grandfather, the farm boundary is the same as it was when the Millers sold it in 1835.**

**The Miller home was known as the last resting stop on the trail for early Kentucky travelers who came to visit Isaac Shelby by way of Fort Logan. Shelby, well known for his love of the farming neighborhood, no doubt visited his neighbors in this home occasionally. Abraham Miller was continually called upon for helping to transact county business by the county court and continued a strong influence well after Shelby's death until his own death in 1834. At that time, his heirs sold a portion of the thousand acre preemption land. This included the Abraham Miller home. The house and its 246 acres passed through a series of owners up through 1870 when the McCartys purchased the property. Throughout this period, the boundary of the farm never changed. With the exception of a small tract of land added on the north side by the current owner's grandfather, the farm boundary is the same as it was when the Millers sold it in 1835.**

**As the Hockers (current owners) have owned the old Abraham Miller House for many years, and as the house is not visible from the modern-day Knob Lick road (state highway 300), this very old landmark has gone almost unnoticed by modern day local historians.**

**Truly one of Lincoln county's best kept historical secrets, it stands as a monument to the saddleback architecture that found its way to the frontier of Kentucky from its origins in New England as well as in the Tidewater and Piedmont regions of Virginia and North Carolina. It is a monument to the early Kentucky Settlement Period and to the early Kentucky Settlers who played pivotal roles in the transforming of the Kentucky territory into a state and furthering the nation's westward expansion at large.**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Additional Documentation**

**U.S.G.S. Topographical Map (partial) is attached showing the location of the  
Abraham Miller House in red ink. This is the Stanford Quadrangle. The latitude  
and longitude for the house is:**

**37 degrees 32' 28" N  
84 degrees 44' 28"W**

<b>Zone 16</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>
	<b>699 560</b>	<b>4157 130</b>

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Section number - 9 Page - 1**

**Bibliography**

- 1. Montell, William Lynwood and Morse, Michael Lynn, Kentucky Folk Architecture, Lexington, KY: The University of Kentucky Press, 1976**
- 2. Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Kentucky, Soldiers of the War of 1812, Southern Historical Press Inc.; 1891, reprinted 1992.**
- 3. KY Land Office Records; Kentucky State Archives, Frankfort, KY  
Land Office Treasury Warrant NO. 930, Survey no. 953#1, Grant Book 5  
p. 71 - 72**
- 4. Will - J. S. Hocker, Willbook 7 page 75; Lincoln County Clerk's Office,  
Stanford, KY**
- 5. Deeds - deedbooks 7 page 61, Y page 394, X page 265, W page 585, W page 574,  
O Page 308; Lincoln County Clerk's Office, Stanford, KY**
- 6. Lincoln County, KY Pre-1850 Log Structures - Survey; 1980-89; unpublished  
Allan R. Leach, P. O. Box 14, Hustonville, KY**
- 7. Jordan, Terry, Log Cabin Village, Fort Worth, Texas**
- 8. Martin, Charles, Hollybush, The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, TN,  
1984.**
- 9. Kentucky Heritage Council Location of Log Buildings Constructed Between Pre-  
1800 - 1849, in Casey, Pulaski, Boyle, Hart, Barren and Garrard Counties,  
Kentucky**

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Property Name - Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
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Section number - 10      Page - 1

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a large Elm tree, in the fence line, about 15 feet due west of the west end of the Abraham Miller House. From the Elm tree, 235 feet south to a corner with the south farm boundary fence; adjacent to the Old Knob Lick Trace. Thence, from the corner, east along the fence and adjacent to the old trace, 187 feet to a large hackberry tree. Thence, north 290 feet to a stake in the open field. Thence, west, 187 feet to the fence. Thence, south, 30 feet to the Elm tree in the fence line at the point of beginning. Boundary contains approximately 1.6 acres.

Boundary Justification

This boundary was selected to honor and preserve the land which lies between the front of the house and the Old Knob Lick Trace as well as to provide a suitable scenic easement for the area fronting on the house. Nearly all the activity associated with the old trace and the visitors who frequented the house took place within this boundary.



**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Additional Documentation**

The following information applies to all four photos:

1. Name: Miller, Abraham , House
2. County: Lincoln
3. Photographer: Jesse S. Hocker
4. Date: January 22, 2001
5. Location of Negatives: 1700 Crockett Circle, Irving, TX 75038

**ORIENTATION OF PICTURES:**

1. Photo No. 1 - Front of House Facing South  
camera facing North
2. Photo No. 2 - East side of House  
camera facing West
3. Photo No. 3 - West side of House  
camera facing East
4. Photo No. 4 - Rear of House facing North  
camera facing South



**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Property Name -Abraham Miller House  
County - 137 (Lincoln)  
State -KY.**

**Additional Documentation**

**Photographs - Taken January, 2000 (house still under restoration)**

**Photographs are labeled on the backs and are referred to here by number.**

**No. 1 - shows the front of the house as it appears with one standing near the Old Knob Lick Trace looking due north at the front of the house. The large Elm tree to the left is the beginning point in the boundary description.**

**No. 2 - is the east (end) side of the house.**

**No. 3 - is a close up of the front of the west log pen; looking south.**

**No. 4 - shows the (north) wall. The lean-to bathroom addition will be built where the wooden pole is leaning against the board and batten door. The open space between the two log pens has been closed over with matching logs to provide inside access between the two log pens for convenience in bad weather.**