S

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
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COUNTY:	
Lawrence	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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AUG 2 1 1972	

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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY							
OWNER'S NAME:			-			T	
Mrs. Frank Aller	1						Miss
STREET AND NUMBER:	***************************************						SS II
P. O. Box 297						1	15
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As originally built, the one-story frame house on lot Maswell Street, Monticello, was a five-room structure with eeply pitched roof. There was an attic window in each gable end, and in the roof of the facade (west elevation) the pediments of two dormers repeated the triangle of the heavily corniced portico. The latter also featured a frieze of broad planking which was supported by two pairs of box columns with abbreviated molded capitals. A vertical latticework of triangular design spanned the intercolumniation of each pair, and a wooden balustrade joined the outermost columns to the facade. Two double-hung 6 over 6 windows flanked each side of the central doorway, which featured a row of five rectangular lights overhead and three in each side light, with wooden paneling be-An identical doorway was in the corresponding position on the rear elevation. The exterior color scheme was white generously accented by dark shutters, sills, lintels, columns, corner and foundation boards, balustrade railing, door enframement, frieze, and cornices.

The disposition of the original five rooms was presumably parlor and bedroom on the south side of the hallway, and bedroom, dining room, and kitchen on the north. Ca. 1906, two rooms were built on the south elevation; another was added on the northeast, beyond the original kitchen; and a fourth was projected from the north end of the facade. Accompanying changes in fenestration included triple windows on the south side of the original main entrance, and a transomed doorway and single window in the facade of the south addition. At the same time a wellhouse was enclosed and joined to the rear porch to provide the first bathroom. The pediment and trellised columns of the portico were replaced by the shed roof and square posts of a front porch which extended almost the length of the south addition. The rear porch was similarly enlarged and projected east as well to include the new kitchen in its ell shape. small third porch with corrugated tin roof braced by slender uprights was added to the north entrance of the kitchen. pitch of the main roof was lowered and on the west elevation transverse gables were built over the two additions, with the southernmost covered in alternating rows of fishtail, square, and trapezoidal shingles. The focal point of the facade, however, was beneath the north gable, the cornice of which extended beyond the chamfered sides of the semihexagonal window to form a hooded triangle embellished with scrolls and pendants. Exterior trim was otherwise sparse, being applied chiefly in cornices with returns stopped by brackets and wide planking defining the angles of the gables.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Andrew Houston Longino (1854-1942), governor of Mississippi from 1900 to 1904, was born in Lawrence County near Monticello, the son of John Thomas and Annie Porter Ramsey Longino. Both his parents died during Longino's early childhood. He was educated in public schools and at Mississippi College, graduating in 1875 with a bachelor of science degree. In 1880 he earned a law degree from the University of Virginia and was admitted to the Mississippi bar the following year. Longino's public life had begun in 1876, with a four-year term as clerk of the circuit and chancery courts of Lawrence County. He was elected to the state legislature, 1880-1884, and in 1888 President Grover Cleveland appointed him United States district attorney for the southern district of Mississippi.

on January 16, 1900, Longino was inaugurated thirtyfifth governor of Mississippi.. Highlights of his administration included construction of the current State Capitol; organization of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History;
establishment of the Sunflower County penal farm and a more
efficient system of penitentiary management; increase in appropriations for public schools; and encouragment of outside investments within the state, resulting in a substantial rise in
the amount of taxable property. In addition to his offical
positions, Longino was a delegate to numerous Democratic state
conventions, and in 1900 he was chairman of the Mississippi
delegation to the national convention of the Democratic party
at Kansas City which nominated William Jennings Bryan for
the presidency.

In 1884 Longino had purchased lot 52, Caswell Street, Monticello, from S. B. Herring for \$250.00. Shortly afterwards he constructed thereon a home which he first called Bachelor's Ranch but which became Fairlawn upon his marriage on April 14, 1887, to Marion Buckley of Jackson. Miss Buckley had been one of the first women employed by the State of Mississippi, holding a position in the office of the state auditor. In 1888 the Longinos moved from Monticello and two years later their house was sold to Will C. Cannon, clerk of the chancery court of

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Interviews:

Mr. Frank Allen, Monticello, May 31, 1971, and March 1, 1972.

Mrs. Gay Longino Durham (daughter of A. H. Longino), June 14, 1971, and February 29, 1972.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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On the interior, flooring in the addition was narrower than the 6-inch boards in the original portion, and several of the later rooms were walled in 2-inch horizontal studding as well. Subsequent changes over the years have included replacing the wall between the hallway and parlor with a rectangular archway; installation of closets and a second bath; and papering of walls and ceilings. Baseboards throughout are unusually wide (approximately 18 inches) and ceilings are approximately 12 feet in height. Window and door casings are variously treated (molded or plain-surfaced, mitred or joined at right angles) but are consistently utilitarian. Although none of the wooden mantelpieces with brick hearths is striking, that in the projecting northwest room is the most decorative. Its pilasters are grooved horizontally at baseboard level and vertically above, and a pair of scrolled brackets with pierced crescents supports the shelf atop a broad frieze.



Form 10-300g (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Lawrence County and a friend of Longino's from their bachelor days when both resided at the Beal Hotel in Monticello. Following Cannon's death shortly after the turn of the century, his widow remarried and the house underwent the alterations previously noted. The property was retained by the Cannon heirs until 1969, when it was sold to Mrs. Frank Allen of Monticello.

The Longino house is currently unoccupied and its purchase is being considered by the city of Monticello for restoration as a memorial to Longino, with auxiliary functions as a county history museum and exhibition art gallery for the local schools. The primary use would be particularly appropriate in that the house is the sole survivor of several residences associated with Longino, and there is at present no specific site which commemorates his life and his administration, one of the more significant in the state's The additions made to the house in 1906, with their irregularity of mass and Queen Anne detail, would be removed and the original appearance restored. Although the house was not then, any more than now, architecturally distinguished, it was a pleasing expression on a modest scale of the symmetry and decorative components of an earlier classicism which resurfaced in the closing decades of the nineteenth century. In view of the commemorative nature proposed for the structure, the renovation appears justified



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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Mrs. Blanche Cannon Wilson (daughter of Will C. Cannon), Monticello, June 1, 1971

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi:

"Governor A. H. Longino" Picture and Subject Files.

Works Progress Administration. "History of Lawrence County: Old Homes" (typescript).

Office of the Chancery Clerk. Lawrence County Courthouse, Monticello, Mississippi:

Deed Books Z, p. 36; Z, p. 227; 4, p. 128.

Plat map of town of Monticello by W. W. Brinson, 1958; based on original plat map destroyed in tornado of 1882.

Personal inspection by Dawn Maddox, May 31, 1971.

Rowland, Dunbar. Encyclopedia of Mississippi History. Atlanta: Southern Historical Publishing Association, 1907. Vol II: "Longino, Andrew Houston," and "Longino's Administration," pp. 113-17.

Undated photograph in possession of Mrs. Blanche Cannon Wilson, depicting Longino house as originally built.





