

**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: 93000214

Date Listed: 4/8/93

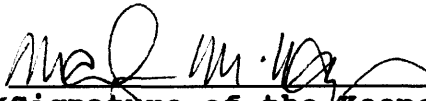
**Devereux-Coleman House
Property Name**

**Baldwin
County**

**GEORGIA
State**

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.


for **Signature of the Keeper**

4/8/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 3

This nomination is amended to include two non-contributing structures to the count (the shed and small unidentified structures shown on the sketch map).

Section No. 8

The period of significance is extended to read c.1820-c.1840, 1887 (to include the c. 1840 addition of the second floor to the main block).

These changes were confirmed by phone with the Georgia SHPO (4/8/93).

DISTRIBUTION:

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

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.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

2/11/93
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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

M. J. M. Way 4/8/93

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for _____
Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Other: I-house, Folk Victorian

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	weatherboard
roof	asphalt
other	wood

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Devereux-Coleman House is a two-story, wood-framed I-house with semi-detached projecting one-story front wings that form a symmetrical, three-part, U-shaped arrangement, all connected by a front porch. The house is believed to have been built between 1820 and 1834 as a one-story central hallway house, and the second floor added just a few years after the initial construction. The wings and connecting front porch were constructed in 1887.

The two-story main section has a side-gabled roof, exterior end brick chimneys, two-story front porch, and rear one-story shed. The two-level front porch has slender chamfered posts with sawn brackets and balustrades that reflect the late-19th-century Folk Victorian style. The porch's upper level has an enclosed room on each end that opens into the second-floor bedrooms and originally served as dressing rooms. The lower level of the porch extends to form one-story porches that connect the two front wings to the main section of the house. Original four-panel, hand-planed doors with sidelights remain at the entrances on both the first and second floors and at the rear entrance. Two other exterior entrances with four-panel doors also exist, one opening onto the front porch, and the other onto the rear porch. Windows are 6-over-6 panes on the first floor and 9-over-9 panes on the second floor, revealing the house's second-floor higher ceiling height, evidence that the second floor was an addition. The rear one-story shed consists of a porch, now screened, with a small room at one end. Another small shed room is located off the first-floor dining room next to the chimney.

On the interior, the house's main section has a central hallway floor plan on each of its two floors. The central hallway is the location of the straight-run stairway with simple chamfered newel post and square balusters. Original wide, hand-planed tongue-and-groove boards

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cover the walls and ceilings of all the rooms except for the current kitchen where deteriorated plaster was replaced with modern plasterboard. Tongue-and-groove pine floors are intact throughout the main core. Original interior doors with two vertical panels remain, some of which have original graining. Mantels on the first floor are very simple, typical of an early 19th-century house.

On the second floor, the character of the rooms' details and the ceiling height differ from those of the first floor, providing evidence that the second floor was added after initial construction. The window and door moldings with dog-eared upper corners and the mantels with pilasters reveal a Greek Revival stylistic influence more typically found in the 1840s and 1850s. Walls, ceilings, and floors are covered with wide, hand-planed boards as they are downstairs. The second-floor ceiling height is approximately 10 feet.

The semi-detached projecting front wings are one-story with front-facing, steeply pitched gabled roofs. They are connected to the main section of the house by one-story extensions of the front porch. Each wing has a projecting bay window with pedimented gable that echoes the wing's pedimented roof. On the interior, each wing consists of one room. The ceilings and floors are of narrow tongue-and-groove boards. The walls are plaster with an unusual wainscoting of alternating light and dark vertical boards. The chimneys for these wings were not rebuilt in the rehabilitation.

The Devereux-Coleman House was moved from its original location to its current site in 1981 to avoid destruction and halt its deterioration. The house was originally located in a rural area near the small town of Devereux in Hancock County, Georgia. The house was moved approximately 20 miles to a wooded five-acre lot outside of the city of Milledgeville in Baldwin County. The surrounding area is residential with houses set back from the street on large five- to ten-acre wooded lots so that the houses are not visible from one to the other and the area has a rural feeling.

No outbuildings associated with the house remained at the original site. Several unassociated outbuildings now sit behind the house at its new location. The boundaries of the nominated property encompass a one-acre area that includes only the historic house.

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

Period of Significance:

c.1820-1834, 1887

Significant Dates:

c.1820-34 - date of initial construction.
1887 - date of construction of front wings.

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

n/a

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Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Devereux-Coleman House is significant as a rare Georgia example of a 19th-century house constructed in a three-part symmetrical plan that evolved in several stages from the 1820s to the 1880s. The house is significant in the area of architecture. This area of significance supports National Register eligibility under Criterion C.

In the area of architecture, the house is significant for its unusual three-part symmetrical arrangement and its evolution from a one-story central hallway plan to a two-story I-house and finally to its present three-part form. The house is believed to have been initially constructed between 1820 and 1834 as a one-story central hallway plan. This date is supported by the hand-planed materials on the house's interior and the simplicity of details such as moldings and mantels. It is believed that the second floor was added only a few years after initial construction, probably around 1840. This is supported by the second-floor ceiling height of ten feet that is higher than the first floor's seven-foot ceilings, and by the details that show Greek Revival stylistic influence that would have been common in the 1840s and 1850s. In 1887, the front wings and connecting front porch were added to form the current three-part arrangement.

The house's plan is reminiscent of the Palladian-influenced, three-part symmetrical house plans built in Virginia during the 18th century. These colonial houses consisted of a central block with attached dependencies symmetrically placed on either side and extending forward to form an entrance forecourt. The Devereux-Coleman House is a simplified and much later version of this same three-part plan. Few examples of this plan were ever constructed in Georgia, making the Devereux-Coleman House extremely significant architecturally as one of these rare examples. William Coleman was a native of Virginia and may well have had these Virginia houses in mind when he decided to expand his own house in Hancock County, Georgia.

National Register Criteria

The Devereux-Coleman House is eligible under Criterion C as a very intact and rare 19th-century example of a three-part symmetrical plan that evolved from a central hallway plan in the 1820s to an I-house in the 1840s to its current three-part arrangement in 1887.

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Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

To avoid destruction and halt its deterioration, the Devereux-Coleman House was moved in 1981 to its current site approximately 20 miles from its original location. The original site was in a rural area just outside of the small town of Devereux, Hancock County, and had become an agricultural field that was cultivated right up to the house. The new site is a wooded five-acre lot located outside of the city of Milledgeville, Baldwin County. The larger surrounding area remains relatively rural with some development. The lot is on a residential street that has large five- to ten-acre lots and has the appearance of a country road. All of the lots are heavily wooded and the houses are set far back from the street so that the houses are hidden from each other and not visible unless one is standing directly in front of a house.

The Devereux-Coleman House is set far back from the street on a heavily wooded lot so that it is only barely visible from the street. No other houses are visible from the house itself, so that it appears to be in a rural area, making the new setting compatible with the original setting. The house is significant primarily for its architectural value as an example of the evolution of a 19th-century house into a three-part symmetrical arrangement rarely found in Georgia. The house was very intact, and great care was taken in the move and rehabilitation to retain the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of the house. No outbuildings associated with the house remained at the original site.

Period of significance (justification)

c.1820-1834 - the initial construction date of the house.
1887 - the construction date of the front wings that completed the house's three-part symmetrical arrangement.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The house is the only contributing resource. There are no noncontributing resources.

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

The Devereux-Coleman House was built on land owned by Samuel M. Devereux (1773-1840). He was an early land owner in the county. Devereux was a member of the Hancock County Militia in 1801, a Justice

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of the Peace from 1797 until 1821, and a state representative from 1828-1829.

Samuel Devereux married Ann Loyd (1795-1866) in 1820. They had five children: Samuel Jr., Crawford, William Wood (1823-1865), Georgia Ann, and Lobelia Ann. The Devereuxs donated the land for the town of Devereux early in the nineteenth century and Mrs. Devereux donated part of the land for Farmer's Academy in Farmersville, about one mile from Devereux.

Devereux accumulated substantial land holdings, frequently buying land in widely varying sized parcels. According to the tax returns of 1825, Devereux owned 3007 acres in Hancock County in four different lots. At the same time, he owned 3365 acres in Wayne County, and 160 acres in Jones County. Devereux also owned a mill.

The Devereux-Coleman House was probably built by Samuel Devereux sometime between his marriage in 1820 and his writing his will in 1834. The house apparently began as a central hallway plan and may even have been a dogtrot. The 10 1/2-inch thickness of the walls in the first-floor hall and that hall's boxed rear plate and corner posts may indicate an original dogtrot form. The core's ground level ceilings are seven feet, while its second-story ceilings are ten feet, indicating that the second story was added later. The date on the second-story addition is uncertain, but it is probable that it was during Samuel Devereux's occupancy.

In his will, written in 1834, Devereux left his wife "...the use of the house and premises whereon we now reside as long as she may choose to remain thereon..." in common with his children. No mention is made of any other house. He requested that his plantation "be kept under cultivation" until the children married or reached maturity. Then the proceeds were to be divided equally.

In a codicil dated 1839, Devereux declared that he had already given Georgia Ann considerable property when she had married Edward Berry in 1836. Therefore, he wanted the remainder of his estate to be divided so that each of his children would benefit equally as they reached maturity or married.

To accomplish equal benefits, his land "in this County", Hancock, was to be divided into five portions of equal value, consisting of five parallel, apparently contiguous, north-south oriented parcels. Devereux's intentions were clear, but the actual disposition of the house and lands are unclear.

Samuel Devereux died in 1840. Only one of his children, William Wood Devereux, appears in the tax digests in Militia District 116 in 1853.

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At that time, William owned 1600 acres of pineland with an aggregate value of \$6500. William married Ann E. Simmons in 1859. In 1863, he sold 978.2 acres "and appurtenances" on "the waters of Buffalo Creek" to John M. Garrard of Putnam County for \$11,736. The next year, 1864, the Hancock County Ordinary Tax Digest showed William Devereux owning 270 acres with a value of \$1350, and ten slaves worth \$8000. William Devereux died in 1865.

In 1864, the new owner, John M. Garrard, owned 1000 acres in Militia District 116, valued at \$12,000. By 1870, Garrard owned 500 total acres worth an aggregate value of \$2000. In 1875, John M. Garrard and Elizabeth K. Garrard sold 445.6 acres, bordering on Buffalo Creek and "the lands of Samuel Devereux" to William Coleman of Hancock County for \$5564.67.

By the time William Coleman bought the house, it had undergone a third remodeling. It is not known which owner was responsible for the changes - the Devereuxs or the Garrards - but physical evidence of the changes remain. During the move in 1981, it was discovered that there had been rear windows on the second floor at one time. Evidence of a second-story portico was also discovered during the move.

William Lewis Coleman (1824-1908) was one of six sons of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Cheely Coleman of Brunswick County, Virginia. William followed his brother, Henry Wells Coleman, who had settled in Shoals, Georgia in 1842. William settled in Glascock County and was a Justice of the Peace from 1863 until 1866. Coleman married Rebecca Thomas Cheely on 11 November 1853. Between 1853 and 1860, the Colemans had five children: William L. Jr., Thomas B., Della (Mrs. J. M. Courson), Jennie (Mrs. Horace Darden), and a child who died in infancy. Coleman accumulated large farming interests near Shoals.

Rebecca Coleman died in 1865, and in 1868 William Coleman married his second wife, Ann Elizabeth Bass (1838-1911). They had three children, none of whom survived to maturity. The Colemans lived in Sparta, then in Devereux. Coleman was a Justice of the Peace and farmer in Hancock County. In 1882, he owned 445 acres with a value of \$2225, employed twelve farm hands, and his entire property was valued at \$5540.

Coleman undertook an ambitious remodeling of his house in 1887. Two articles in the Sparta Ishmaelite mentioned the work in progress. Coleman added the pedimented wings with their thirteen-foot ceilings, the second-story plastered dressing rooms, the recessed porch between them, and the U-shaped ground-level porch to tie the three units together. During Coleman's lifetime, the house was the "most pretentious" in the area. Coleman performed many weddings in front of the bay in the parlor in the right wing. The left wing was the guestroom or preacher's room. On the first floor of the main block,

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the room on the left was the room with the kitchen and pantry on an extension of the back porch. The room on the right was a bedroom which also functioned as a sitting room. The two upstairs rooms were bedrooms.

In his will, written in 1888, Coleman left his wife a life right to "the plantation upon which we now live...containing four hundred sixty acres more or less". A 1904 codicil transferred equal disposition of his plantation from all his children to his daughter Della, Mrs. J. M. Courson. Coleman died in 1908. His wife, Ann Coleman, died in 1911.

After Mrs. Coleman's death, family members lived in the house. Later the house was rented out for a number of years. When Coleman's daughter, Mrs. Courson, died, she left the house to her daughter, Mable Courson Wood (Mrs. George Wood). Finally, the house stood vacant for over twenty years until 1981 when Mrs. Wood sold the house to the present owners, Revel and Otis Hogan. The Hogans moved the house in 1981 to its current site and carefully rehabilitated it.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Houston, Kitty. Historic Property Information Form, January, 1989.
On file at the Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department
of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with supplemental
information.

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

- (x) 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

Acreage of Property One acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 287210 Northing 3669640

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses a one-acre plot with the house at its center, as shown on the enclosed topo map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses a one-acre plot immediately surrounding the house that provides a setting but excludes the surrounding land not historically associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Debbie Curtis, Architectural Historian
organization Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** December 29, 1992

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

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Photographs

Name of Property: Devereux-Coleman House
City or Vicinity: Milledgeville
County: Baldwin
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: September 1991

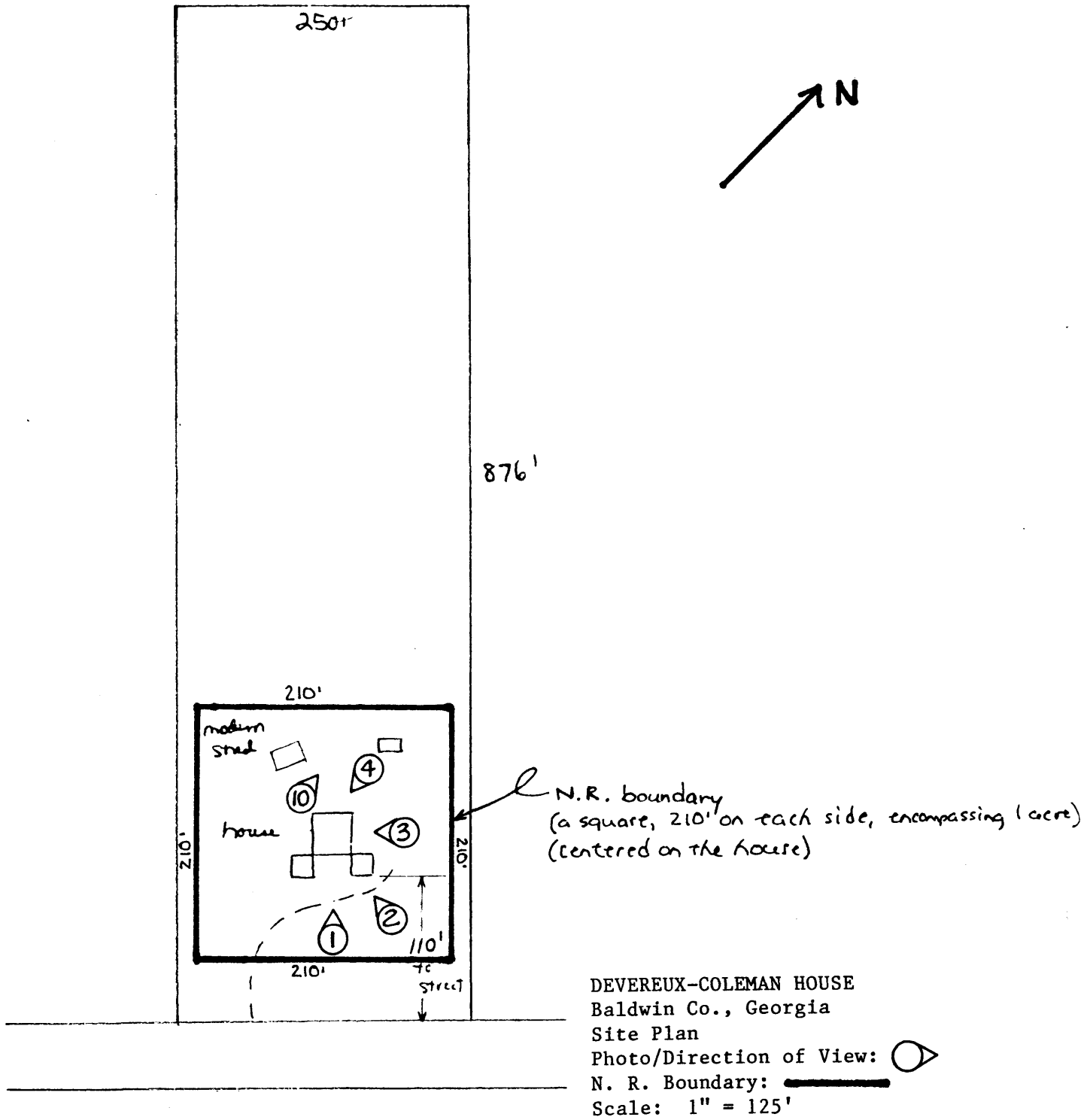
Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 10: Front facade showing three-part symmetrical arrangement; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 10: Front facade showing connecting front porch; photographer facing west.
- 3 of 10: Side facade of main section and wing; photographer facing southwest.
- 4 of 10: Rear facade of main section and wing; photographer facing south.
- 5 of 10: Central hallway of first floor of main section looking onto rear screened porch; photographer facing north.
- 6 of 10: First-floor dining room; photographer facing south.
- 7 of 10: Second-floor bedroom; photographer facing west.
- 8 of 10: Parlor in east front wing; photographer facing south.
- 9 of 10: "Preacher's room" in west front wing; photographer facing south.
- 10 of 10: Rear yard of wooded lot with noncontributing outbuildings; photographer facing north.

IV. G.

1. Sketch Map of Coleman House

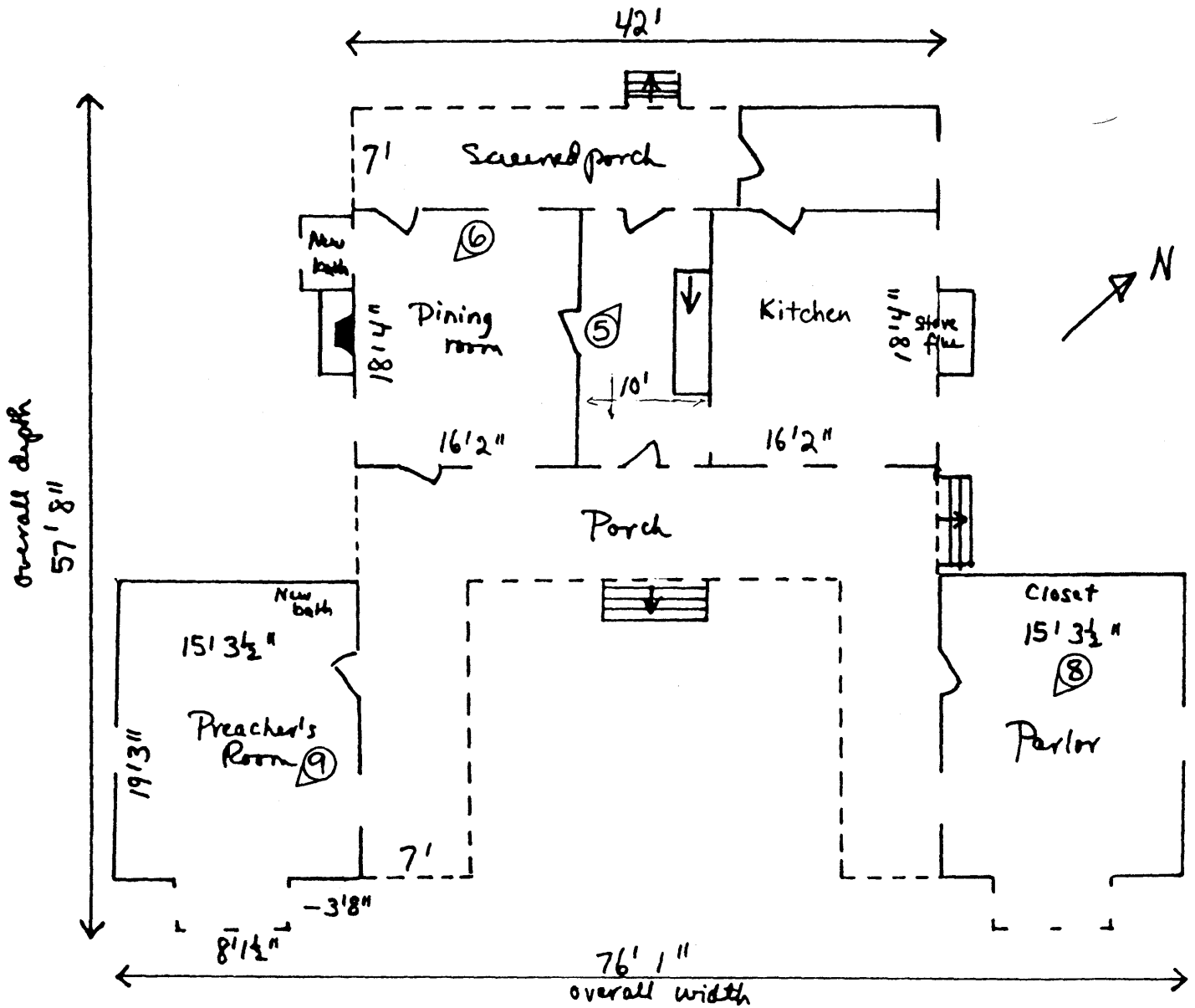
by Kitty Houston
December 30, 1988



Coleman House Plans

by Kitty Houston
 December 30, 1988

First floor



Second floor

