

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 282154 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 5 1975

DATE ENTERED JAN 1 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Freeman-Hurt-Evans House

AND/OR COMMON

Hurt Place

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER <sup>4.5</sup>  
Highway 411

*S of Atlanta*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Oakman

VICINITY OF

7th - Lawrence P. McDonald

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Gordon

CODE

129

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. J. W. Evans

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fairmount

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Gordon County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Calhoun

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

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located one mile south of Oakman, Georgia, on Highway 411, the Freeman-Hurt-Evans House and its outbuildings face an overgrown lane, the Old Tennessee Road, curving up the hill from 411.

Moving east off the highway on the old road, the first building to the right is a long, fairly new wooden shed. The caretaker's grey-shingled cottage is to the left as the drive curves right. Along the left side of the road are four buildings in a row: a barn, two sheds, and the guest house, Travellers' Rest. Behind these buildings stretch large fields, beyond which is a range of mountains. The main house, with its original outbuilding behind and to the north, and shed to the south are across the road from the Travellers' Rest. The sheds, of later construction, are simple and have the same weathered appearance as the older buildings.

The barn (4), with its notched corners and hand-hewn boards, was probably built about the same time as the earliest part of the house. Larger at one time, as attested by beams left projecting sideways in mid-air, the barn may have had two pens.

Travellers' Rest, a one-story plain style building with shed porch and rear addition, is in good condition. Its tongue-and-grove siding has been covered with newer clapboards and paper siding.

Four huge cedar trees, a popular ornamental in the early 1800's, line a now non-existent walkway to the front door of the main house (1). The log house, now extended to two and one-half stories, is built of hand-hewn logs one room deep, and newer clapboards, that complete the rear rooms and heighten the roof. The foundation is slate. Consisting of a main section, a north wing, and a very small storage room at the far north (removed 1940's), the house is approximately 70 feet long by 30 feet wide.

The north wing is an addition built probably in the 1840's or 50's. It is clapboard, with a wide, wooden gable with boxed cornice and returns, and simple Doric corner pilasters. What seems to be a cut-out wooden hex symbol of unknown origin is attached to the gable of this section.

The main body of the house is the oldest. There are indications in the window arrangement, proportions, exposed walls, etc., that the original building was a one and one-half story dog-trot, one room wide, of handhewn logs fastened together with half-dove-tail notching and mortise and tenon jointing. The back rooms and probably the loft were added later, using different construction methods. The interior stairs are in the newer part of the house. The wide central doorway, second floor central windows, and clapboarding between them appear to have been added later also to close in the open breezeway. Made of indigenous slate, both south chimneys seem to be original and the front fireplace is of the round-arched type common before 1825 and often dating from as early as before 1810.

Over the years changes have been made to the house including the addition of electricity and plumbing, while the front porch and its columns were allowed to disintegrate and disappear. The last renovation occurred c.1944. However the house, still in good condition, seems to have been left in a fairly original state, changed mainly by addition, in its natural setting, including both the field to the west of the house mentioned in an 1832 survey, and fields to the east which would have been part of the original land lot.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Burdine Swann

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Freeman-Hurt-Evans House represents almost all phases of North Georgia history and culture, beginning at least as early as 1832 with the Cherokee Indians, and continuing through the Civil War to the present day.

In its earliest years, according to oral tradition, the house and its outbuildings were a part of the Cherokee Indian farm culture which had developed with incredible repidity since the 1780's and 90's. It resulted from the willing cooperation and intelligence of the Indians, and the concentrated efforts of white Americans. Their attitudes are expressed in Article 14 of the Treaty of Holston. This document provided "That the Cherokee nation may be led to a greater degree of civilization, and to become herdsman and cultivators, instead of remaining in a state of hunters." The process of acculturation was stopped short by the tragic 1838 displacement of the Cherokee Nation to Oklahoma.

A Cherokee mixed-breed named Burdine Swann constructed the Freeman-Hurt-Evans House, according to Mrs. C. E. Ratcliffe, a direct descendant. A local man named Joe Wickett helped the Pickens County carpenter Swann. Although the exact construction date and original owners and occupants are not known, the house and a fifteen acre field were noted by William Clifton, district surveyor for the 1832 Georgia land lottery.

Located on the Old Tennessee Road, which was originally an Indian trail, the house became a supply post for planters and drovers from Tennessee on their way to Augusta, Georgia. There were stops such as this all along the Tennessee Road. The old Indian farm and supply post had become a plantation by the time of the Civil War, and a guest house called "Travellers' Rest" was built to accommodate visitors. The present owner, Mrs. Evans, remembers her uncle telling of his driving a stagecoach to and from the plantation taking guests out to the house from surrounding towns during the 1880's.

The first known owner of the house was James Freeman, who bought it previous to the Civil War. He bought several land lots in that area in 1838, including the one just south of the house. Freeman's son Benjamin became a first lieutenant in the Confederate Army and later served on Governor Joseph Brown's staff. The house was owned by the Freeman-Hurt family until the late 1940's, when it was sold by a son-in-law, John Foy, to J. W. Evans of Fairmount, Georgia. Occupied until the late 1950's or early 60's, the old log house is now used for hay storage.

The house is an important addition to the relatively short list of log houses in Georgia. There are records of double-pen houses in that area in the Cherokee Evaluation of 1835, and the state of preservation and age of the Freeman-Hurt-Evans House, as well as its being the largest known log structure in the state, make it particularly significant. Its almost organic evolution through the years represents the integral part played by the house in the history of North Georgia as it developed from early settlement to plantation culture and beyond.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letters to L. Scarboro from Mrs. C. E. Ratcliffe (5/23/75) and Mrs. V. Wilson (6/3/75) Malone, Henry T. Cherokees of the Old South. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1956). Ohio Historical Society. Ohio History: The Log Architecture of Ohio. (Columbus: Ohio Historical Society, 1972).  
 Pitts, Lulie. History of Gordon County, Georgia. (Calhoun, Ga.: Press of the Calhoun Times, 1933).  
 Scarboro, Llona, Personal inspection and interviews.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 30 acres  
 UTM REFERENCES

		320		860			850		860
<i>D</i>	<i>A</i>	1,6	7 1,0 4 5 0	3,8 2,5 7 8 0	<i>A</i>	<i>A</i>	1,6	7 1,0 9 7 0	3,8 2,5 7 8 0
		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
<i>B</i>	<i>F</i>	1,6	7 1,0 9 7 0	3,8 2,5 7 8 0	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	1,6	7 1,0 4 5 0	3,8 2,5 7 8 0

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Start at Highway 411, which forms west boundary, then east and south along a dry creek bed until it meets the Old Tennessee Road in the southeast. Follow road until the road takes sharp northward turn, then follow natural boundary of rising ground back to Highway 411.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE (Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian, Consultant)  
 ORGANIZATION Llona Scarboro, Intern  
 ORGANIZATION Historic Preservation Section  
 STREET & NUMBER 270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703-C  
 CITY OR TOWN Atlanta  
 DATE July 22, 1975  
 TELEPHONE 656-2840  
 STATE 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 *[Signature]* DATE 10-28-75  
 TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER DAVID M. SHERMAN (ACTING)

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE <u>11/1/76</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>12/30/75</u>
ATTEST <i>[Signature]</i>	
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

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Addition by Marilyn Pennington, Archaeologist.

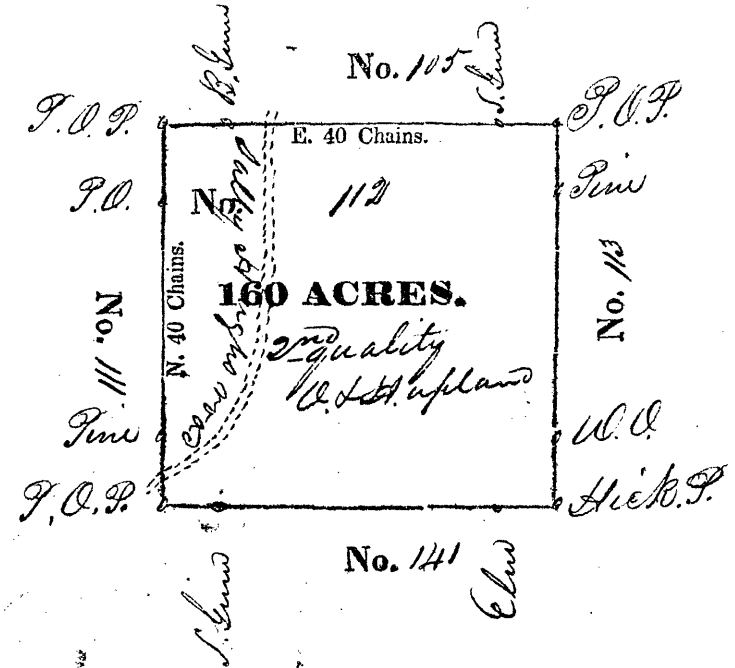
The road that the house sat beside was called the Sally Hughs road on the 1832 survey; it was also commonly known as New Road (going to New Echota or New Town) and the Georgia Road. Sally Hughs was an Indian woman who ran a ferry on the Etowah River near what is now Cartersville. Although a house was indicated on the 1832 survey, there is no way to correlate this structure with those described in the 1836 valuation of Cherokee territory.

Because the house is old, a surface collection of ceramics was made from around the kitchen, a separate structure which is deteriorating. This building has an enormous fire place opening roughly six feet across and four feet high.

When the ceramics have been cleaned and analyzed, a continuation sheet will be sent containing the information.

MAGNETIC VARIATION  $F^{\circ}$  EAST.

*Rebecca Ingram Wier  
of James vs Madison*



SCALE OF 20 CHAINS TO AN INCH

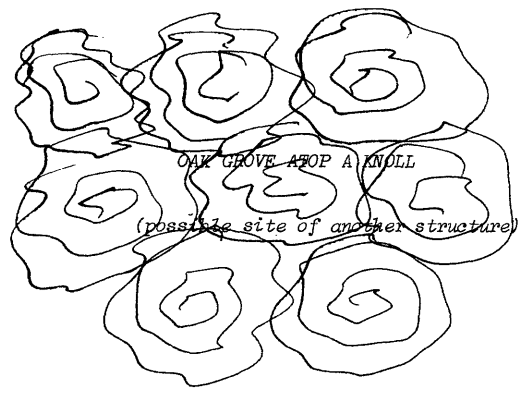
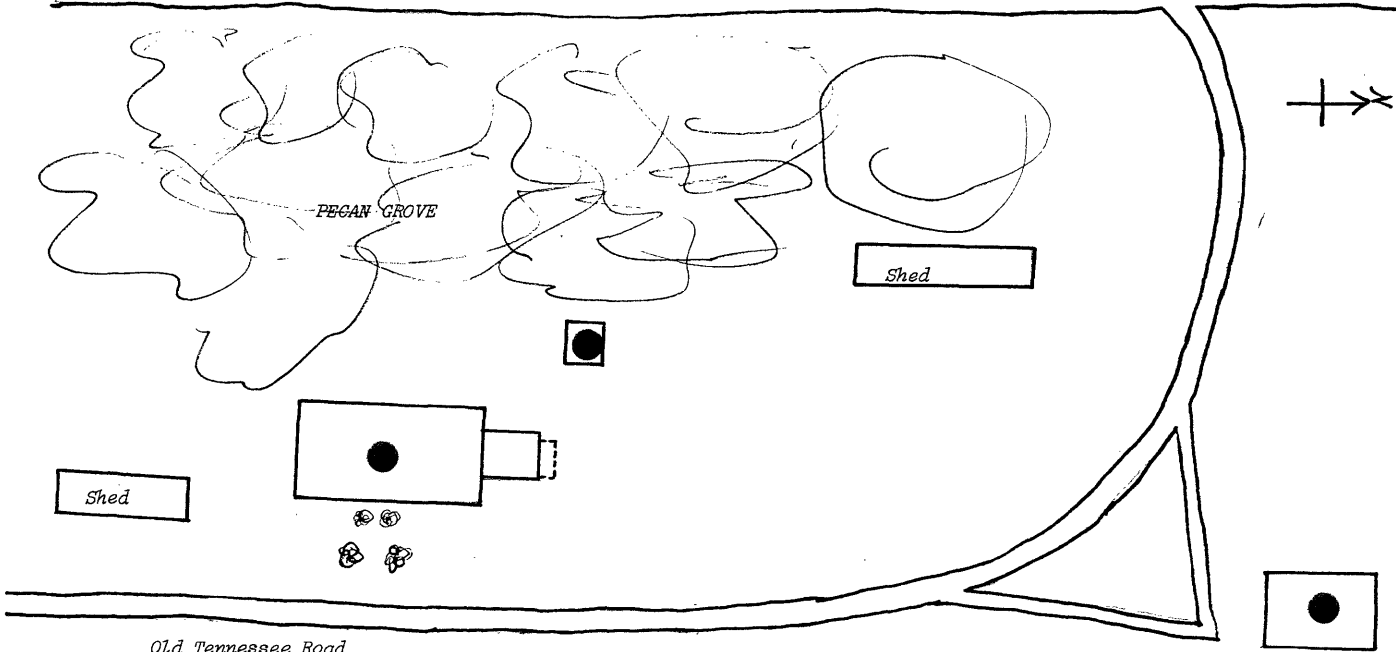
**STATE OF GEORGIA.**

THE above plat is a representation of the tract or lot of land situate in the <sup>24<sup>th</sup></sup> District, in the second Section, containing One Hundred and Sixty Acres, and is known and distinguished in the plan of said District by the Number One hundred and twelve

Surveyed on the 2/6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832.

By William C. G. G. Dist. Surveyor.

Jack. Butler  
Francis Butler } C. G.

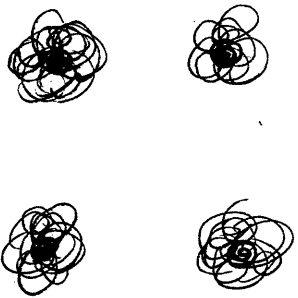
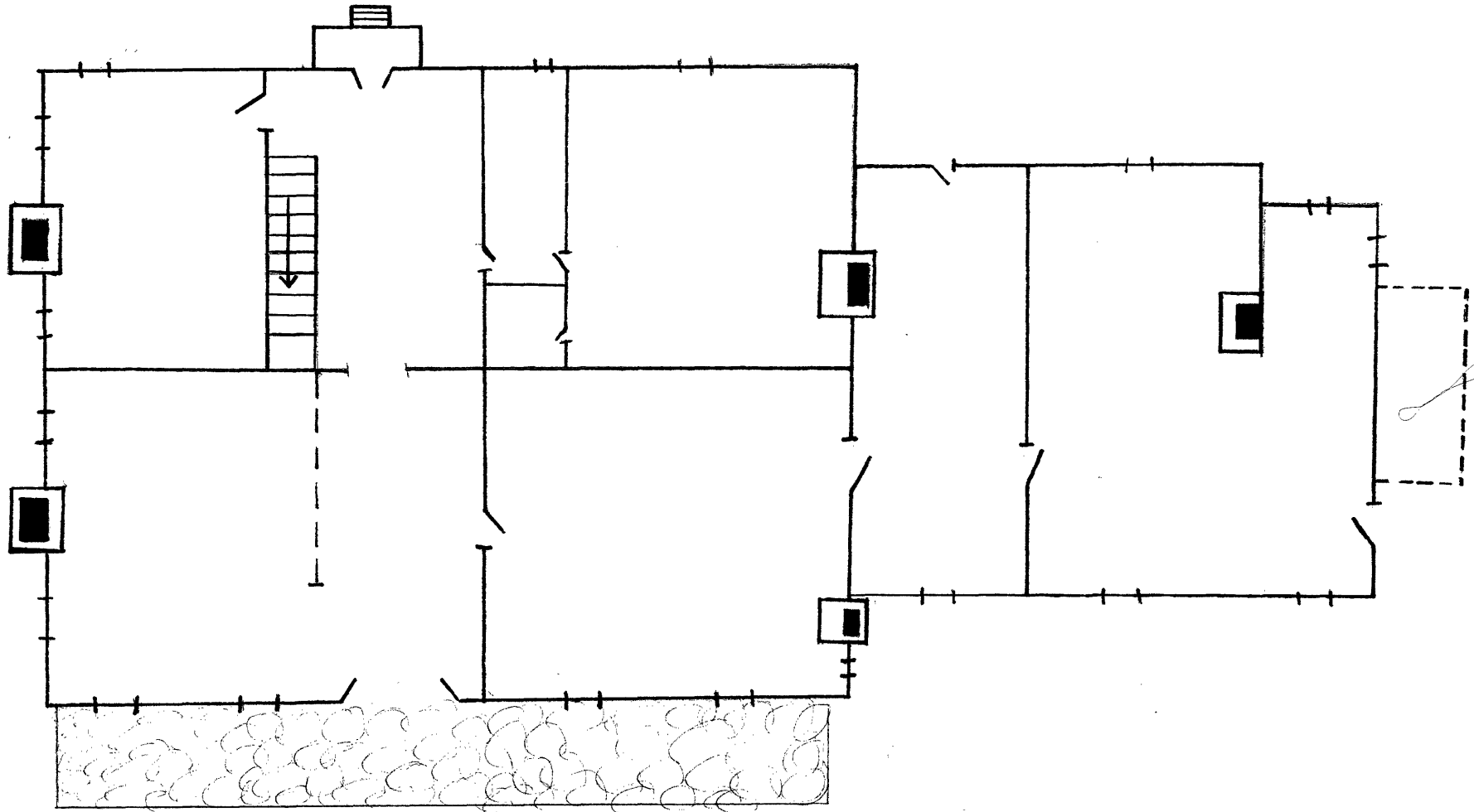
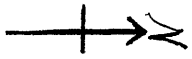


Old Tennessee Road

Site Plan (not to scale)  
 Freeman-Hurt-Evans House  
 Gordon County, Ga.

↓  
 Fields

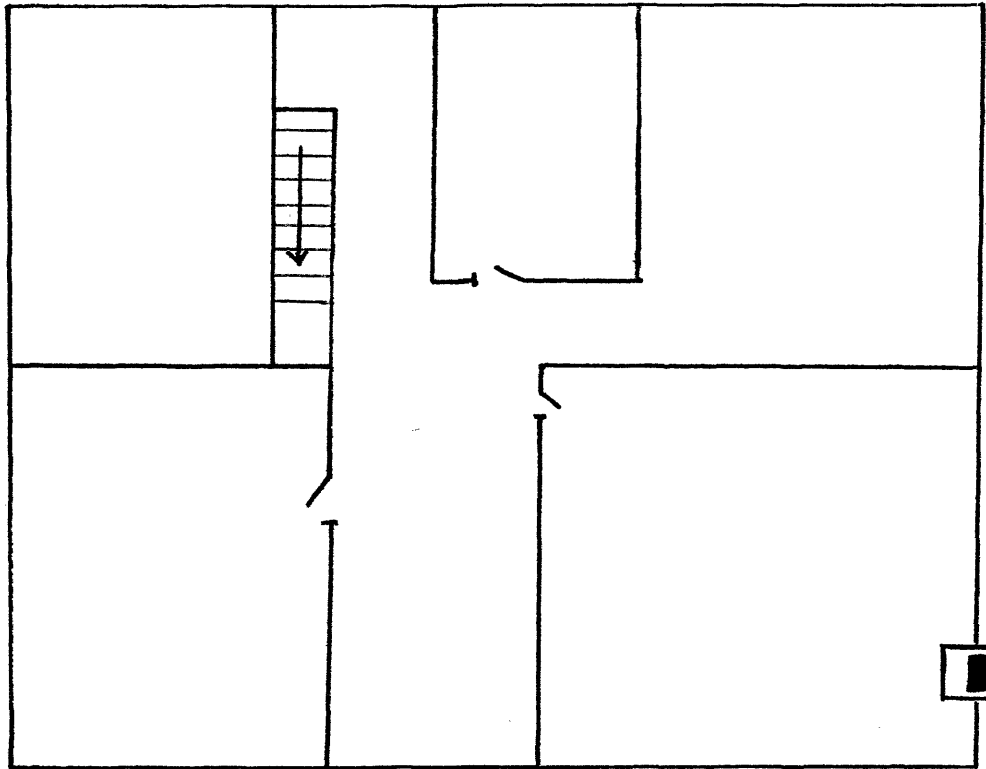
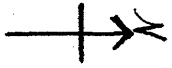
- 1. House
- 2. Outbuilding
- 3. Travellers' Rest
- 4. Barn
- 5. Caretaker's House



Ground Floor Plan (not to scale)

Freeman-Hurt-Evans House  
Gordon County, Ga.

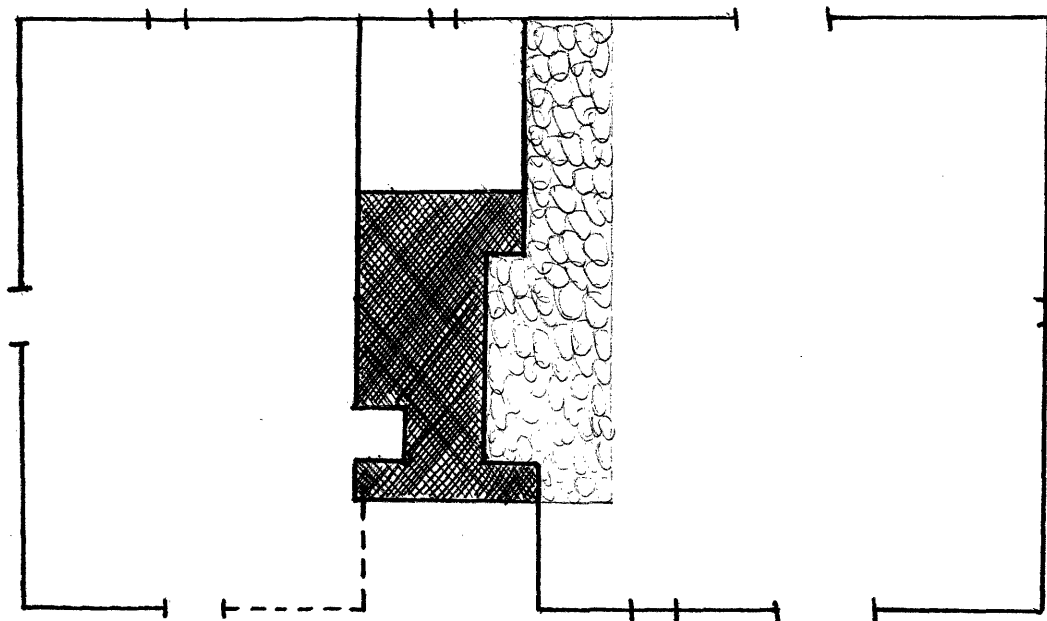




Second Story Floor Plan (not to scale)

Freeman-Hurt-Evans House  
Gordon County, Ga.





Outbuilding (not to scale)

Freeman-Hurt-Evans House  
Gordon County, Ga.