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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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FEB 12 1993

National Register of Historic Places JUN 2 1993  
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

Ala. Historical Commission

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cedar Grove Plantation

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Marengo County Road 54, west of State Highway 25 N/A not for publication

city or town Faunsdale  vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Marengo code 091 zip code 36738

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title

5-25-93  
Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)

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 certifying 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

Date of Action

Patrick W. Anderson

7/13/95

Cedar Grove  
Name of Property

Marengo County, Alabama  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

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

Plantation house of the Alabama Canebrake  
and their associated outbuildings (1818-1942)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/secondary structure

Agricultural/Subsistence

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/secondary structure

Agricultural/Subsistence/Animal facility

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th century: Greek Revival

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood

roof Asbestos

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

**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.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS): 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  
# AL-200
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1840-1900

**Significant Dates**

c. 1840, 1857, 1900

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Birmingham Public Library  
Cedar Grove Collection

Cedar Grove Plantation

Marengo County, Alabama

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 44 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1,6] [44,57,3,0] [3,59,02,9,0]
Zone Easting Northing
2 [1,6] [44,61,2,0] [3,59,01,0,0]

3 [1,6] [44,61,2,0] [3,58,97,7,0]
Zone Easting Northing
4 [1,6] [44,57,6,0] [3,58,97,5,0]

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeff Mansell; Melanie Betz/AHC Reviewer - 205/242-3184

organization Cahaba Trace Commission date February 9, 1993

street & number Route 1, Box 147 telephone (205) 665-7982

city or town Brierfield state Alabama zip code 35035

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.

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 Thomas Lide Alison

street & number P. O. Box 157 telephone (205) 628-2000

city or town Faunsdale state Alabama zip code 36738

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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, Alabama

The Cedar Grove Plantation rests at the junction of the old Upper and Lower Demopolis Roads, approximately 7 miles west of Uniontown on Marengo County Road 54, east of State Highway 25. The plantation main house rests approximately one quarter of a mile from the intersection of the two roads. Originally, the approach to the dwelling was from the east, down a long entrance drive. Today, one approaches the house from the north. The remnants of a large grove of cedar trees, from which the plantation drew its name, are still visible. The house is a mixture of Greek Revival and Neo-classical detailing.

The main house is basically U-shape in plan, with a large two story central block with two rear wings. The house is platform frame construction and rests on brick piers. Originally, the house began as a hall-and-parlor plan I-house; in 1857, a large addition was attached to the east end of the I-house and the original part of the dwelling became the rear northwest wing. The two story central block had a hipped roof with interior chimneys, the five bay facade contains a central double leaf entrance with transom and side lights on both floors. The transom and sidelights contain colored glass panes. The windows are 9/9 double hung sash and are set in pedimented enframements. The central block is embraced on three sides by a one story porch with boxed columns with a two story entrance portico with a flat roof. The two story entrance portico and the porch projections on the north and south facades feature triple posts. On the north and south elevations, the porch projects slightly at each of the side entrances. The porch features a wide cornice with a small band of dentil work and exposed rafters which give the impression of dentil work. Originally, the porch was only one story (with no second tier for the portico) and featured slender posts connected by delicate lattice screens. The porch was altered and achieved its present appearance during a renovation circa 1900, which gave the dwelling a more pronounced Neo-classical appearance.

The two rear wings are connected by a one story porch with boxed posts. The southwest wing contains one large room; this room was originally separated from the main house by an open breezeway which was enclosed in 1991 to form a bathroom. The southwest wing features a hipped roof and a recessed porch on the north elevation. The two wings are connected by a rear one story porch.

The floorplan of the dwelling contains a cross-hall plan, dividing the downstairs into four large compartments. Elaborate plaster brackets and decorative arches are located at the juncture of the cross halls. The two front (east) rooms contain elaborate plaster moldings, cornice, and chandelier medallions. While throughout the house, the mantles are original, in these front two formal rooms, the mantles date from the early 1900s. Each room opens into the hallway through triple folding doors, creating a large suite when opened. The staircase is located in the left (south) cross hall and is a reversed stair. A large bedroom is located in the southwest corner of the main block while the dining room is located in the northwest wing. The dining room was remodelled during the early 1900s and features beaded board wall material and a plate rail. The dining room is a large room that encompasses the original first floor of the earlier structure. A modern kitchen

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Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, AL

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wing is being constructed to the rear of the dining room (1992).

The upstairs features three bedrooms and a trunk room in the two story central block and a bedroom and storage room above the rear dining room. The interior decoration is much more simple in these rooms than in the downstairs rooms. All bedrooms feature simple Greek Revival mantles and simple Greek Revival door and window surrounds.

A barn and modern shed are also located on the property. The barn dates from the late nineteenth century while the shed is of fairly recent construction and is a noncontributing resource. Remnants of the original gardens which flanked the house on the north and south elevations are still evident with sections of an elaborate rail fence remaining.

The main house at the Cedar Grove retains much of its original design, materials, craftsmanship, workmanship, and feeling and a high degree of its original components and stylistic detailing. The structure has undergone some changes but still retains a high degree of architectural and historical significance.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, AL

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### Criterion C: Architecture

The Cedar Grove plantation house is a significant example of a large Canebrake plantation house which incorporated Greek Revival detailing. Too, the main house reflects the change of a plantation dwelling over a period of time, from the construction of the original wing of the house (ca. 1840) to the 1857 addition, to the remodeling around 1900. The plantation house yields information regarding the styles, forms, construction methods, and techniques, and craftsmanship utilized by the residents of the Canebrake from 1830-1865. The plantation house at Cedar Grove retains a high degree of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and setting.

### Historical Summary:

In 1854, Charles Walker of Pulaski County, Georgia purchased the plantation of a Mr. McAlpine. Located on the plantation was a two story hall and parlor plan I-house. In 1857, Walker engaged local builder, Theophilus Fowler to erect an addition to the east wing of the existing structure, resulting in a large rambling plantation house. Fowler utilized a cross hall plan and embellished the formal rooms with elaborate plasterwork, cornices, and chandelier medallions. Charles Walker was a wealthy planter, in 1860 his real estate was valued at \$85,000 while his personal property was worth \$172,952. Walker owned 154 slaves and his plantation comprised 1700 acres. The plantation passed to Charles Walkers's son, Mims Walker, who renovated the house around the turn of the century, modifying the porch, replacing some mantles, and refurbishing the dining room. Cedar Grove remained in the Walker family until the late 1980s when it was sold. In 1990, it was purchased by Thomas Alison who has since undertaken an extensive renovation of the dwelling.<sup>1</sup>

### Archeological Potential

Although no formal archeological survey has been made at the Cedar Grove plantation, the potential for subsurface remains may be high. Properties of this type were sited within a constellation of dependencies such as kitchens and other outbuildings. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting the entire property.

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<sup>1</sup>John Witherspoon Dubose, "Chronicles of the Canebrake." *Alabama Historical Quarterly*, Winter, 1947, p. 606; Theophilus Fowler, "Memoirs," privately printed, n.d. Sixth Federal Census of the United States, Marengo County.

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Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, AL

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### Verbal Boundary Description

That tract of land, comprising 44 acres, lying in the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 17 North, Range 5 East, conveyed from Burt and Debbie Perkins to Thomas Lide Alison on August 20, 1990. For exact boundaries, please see tax map.

### Boundary Justification

The boundaries were drawn to include the remaining tract of land of the original plantation which contains the historic resources associated with the Cedar Grove Plantation.



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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs \_\_\_\_\_ Page 5

Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, AL

Photographs

For Photographs 1-7, the information in sections 1-5 is the same:

1. Cedar Grove
2. Faunsdale vicinity, Marengo County, Alabama
3. Jeff Mansell, photographer
4. Negatives on file, Alabama Historical Commission
5. August 7, 1991: There has been no change to the property since a site visit on October 24, 1992.
6. Front facade, camera facing north
7. Photograph #1

6. Front facade, camera facing west
7. Photograph #2

6. North elevation , camera facing south
7. Photograph #3

6. Rear elevation, camera facing east
7. Photograph #4

6. Detail, side entrance, south elevation
7. Photograph #5

6. Rear wing, south elevation
7. Photograph #6

6. North elevation, northwest wing, part of original dwelling
7. Photograph #7

For photographs, #8-12, the information in section 1-5 is the same

1. Cedar Grove
2. Faunsdale vicinity, Marengo County, AL
3. Christine Rottmeir
4. Negatives on file Alabama Historical Commission
5. Fall, 1989
6. Interior dining room, facing west
7. Photograph #8

6. Interior, detail of cornice molding
7. Photograph #9

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Cedar Grove Plantation  
Marengo County, AL

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6. Interior, stairwell

7. Photograph # 10

6. Interior, detail of crosshall

7. Photograph #11

6. Interior, detail of southeast room

7. Photograph #12

6. Interior, hallway facing north, detail of rear entrance and staircase

7. Photograph #8

6. Interior, hallway facing northeast, detail of staircase

7. Photograph #9

6. Interior, detail of door in right (east) room

7. Photograph #10

6. Interior, detail of upper story, left (west) room

7. Photograph #11

Barn

Cedar Grove  
Plantation House



MODERN  
SHED

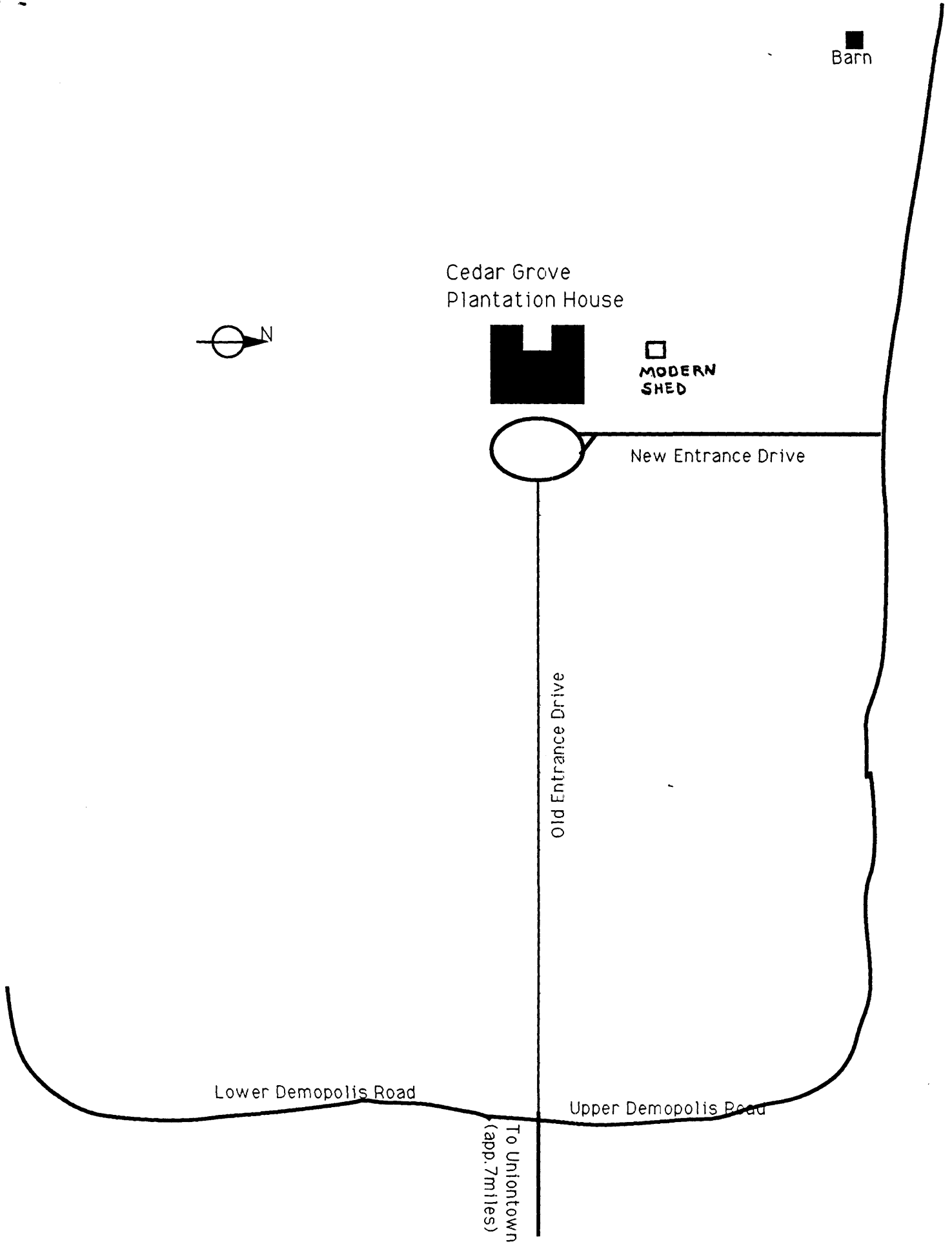
New Entrance Drive

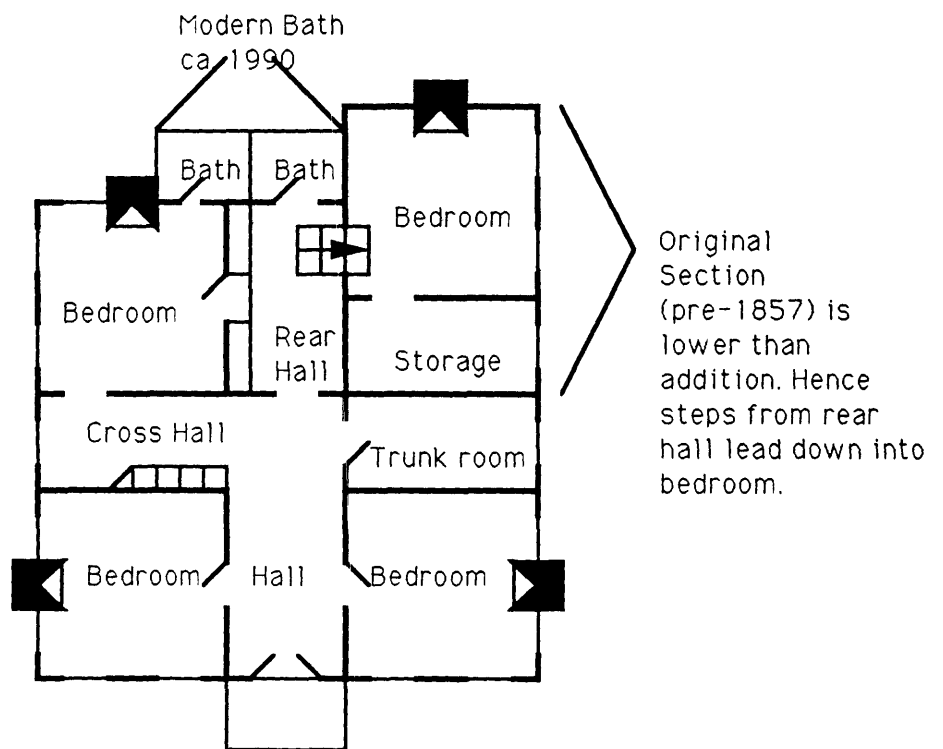
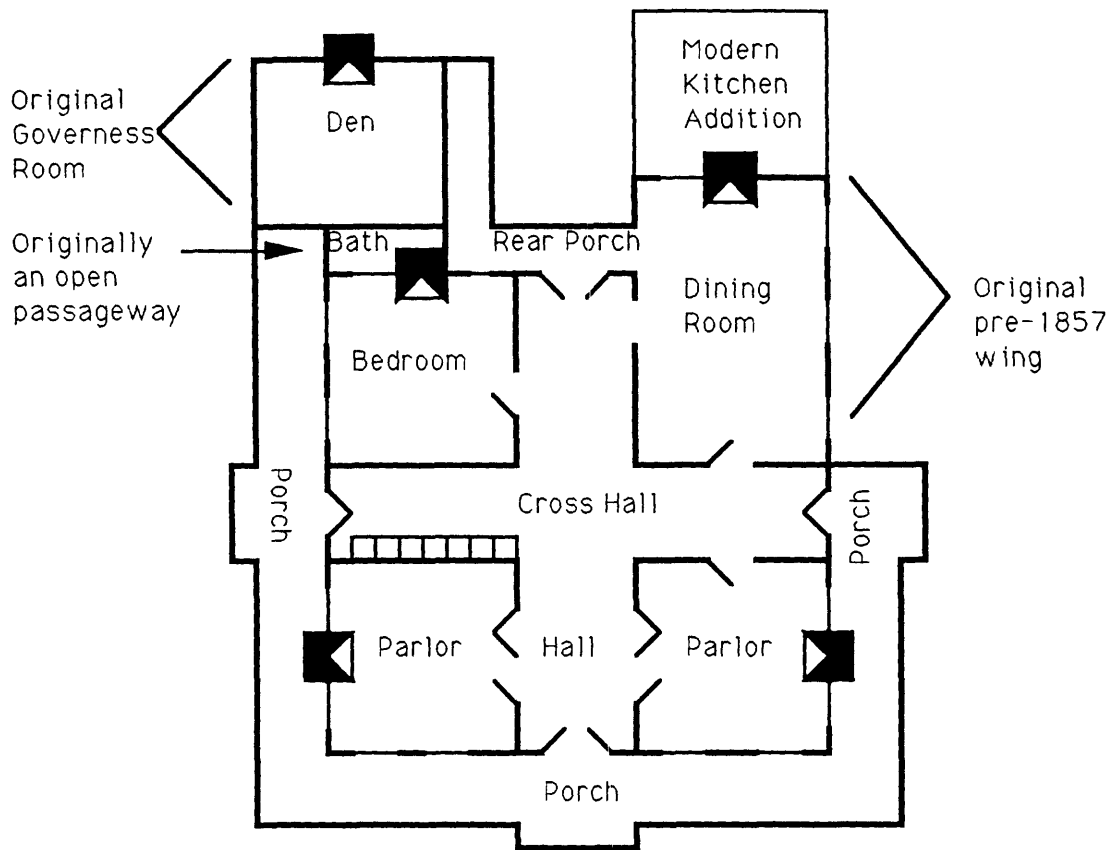
Old Entrance Drive

Lower Demopolis Road

Upper Demopolis Road

To Uniontown  
(app. 7 miles)

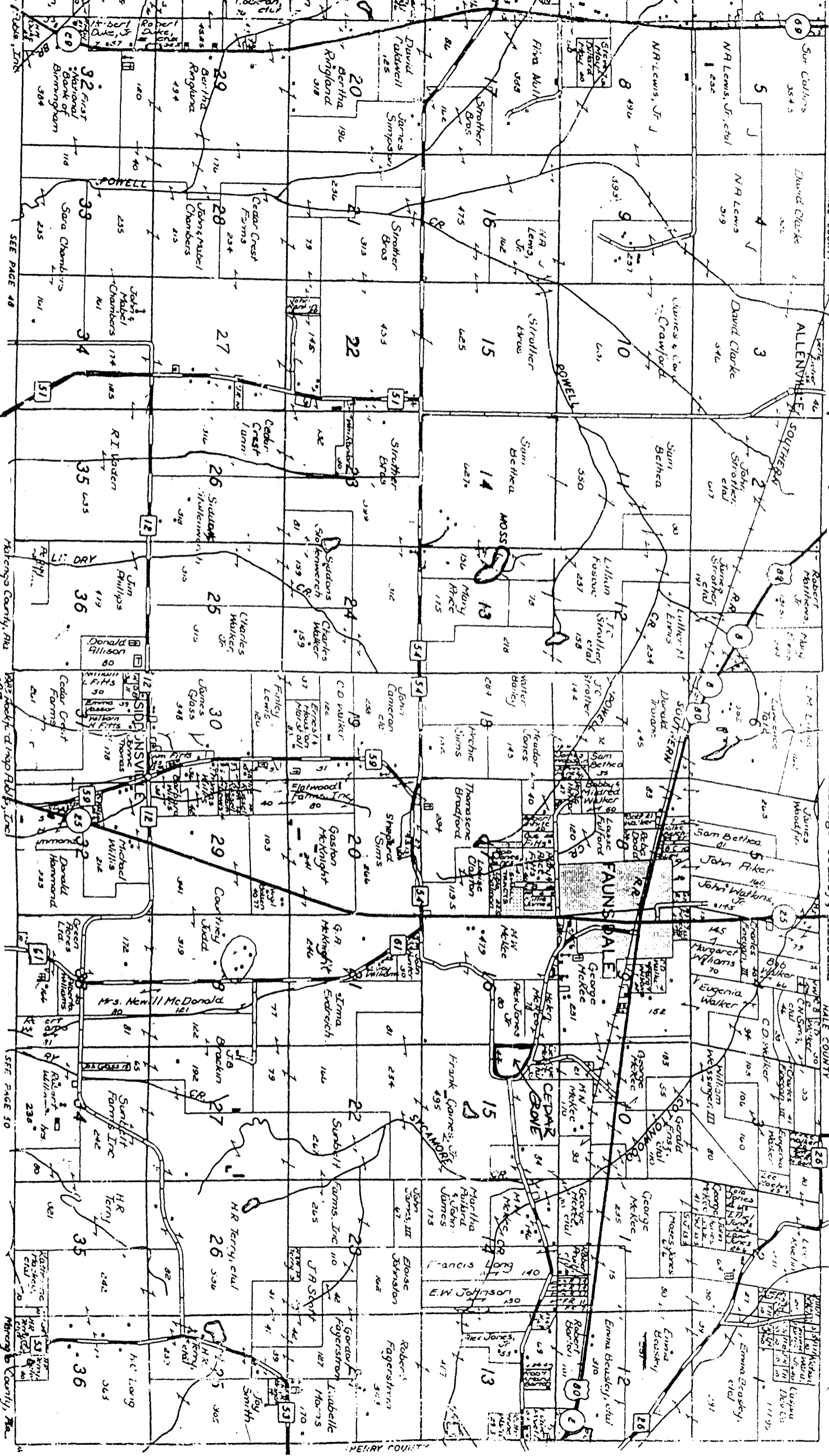




*Cedar Grove Plantation Floorplan*  
MARENGO COUNTY, ALABAMA

Not to scale

T 17 N - R 4 E 1/4 = 1 mile  
CEDAR GROVE  
Marengo County, Alabama  
T 17 N - R 5 E



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