

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

FEB 12 1993

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 Crest

other names/site number Cedar Crest Farms, Inc.

2. Location

street & number Marengo County Road 51 N/A not for publication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.)

James O. ... 6-30-93
Signature of certifying official/Title 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

Delores ...

NATIONAL REGISTER

Date of Action

8/5/93

Cedar Crest
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	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Plantations of the Alabama Canebrake
and 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

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood

roof Asphalt
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.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1850-c. 1859

Significant Dates

c. 1850, c. 1859

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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
- 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:

Alabama Department of Archives and History
John W. Dubose Papers

Cedar Crest
Name of Property

Marengo County, Alabama
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 6	4 3 7 9 2 0	3 5 8 7 9 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Cedar Crest Farms, Inc. Attn. Amzi Rankin

street & number Route 1, Box 115 telephone (205) 289-1261

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 Crest
Marengo County, Alabama

The Cedar Crest plantation is located just east of Marengo County Road 51, south of the intersection of County Roads 54 and 51. Resting behind a dense grove of cedar trees, the one and a half story Greek Revival cottage was constructed in 1850 by the slaves of Kimbrough Cassells Dubose, a wealthy planter from the Darlington District of South Carolina. Today, the dwelling rests in the midst of a large dairy complex.

The platform frame dwelling is basically square in form, resting on brick piers, and capped by a side gable roof of asphalt shingles with two interior chimneys. The three bay facade contains a central single leaf entrance with a full transom and sidelights, set in a Greek Revival door surround. Originally, the dwelling featured a double leaf entrance with transom only. The entrance portico is supported by simple square Doric columns with flanking pilasters. The wall material of the facade behind the portico is flush boarding. The entrance is flanked by double hung sash windows with 9/9 window pane configuration. Doric pilasters are positioned on the corners of the dwelling and wide cornice encircles the entire structure. The north and south elevations feature upper story 9/9 double hung sash windows. All windows of the structure feature Greek Revival surrounds. The partial width rear shed roof porch has been enclosed.

The original plan of the Cedar Crest plantation house featured a central hall with double flanking rooms on each side. Door and window surrounds throughout the house feature Greek Revival detailing. Each room contains a simple Greek Revival mantle. The central hall contains a staircase which rises along the south wall to the upper story. Modern bath additions have been added to the front north room and to the rear south room. The upper story contains two large bedrooms.

In the late 1850s, extensive additions were added to the north and south elevations of the Cedar Crest plantation house. Front facing gable wings connected by small hyphens were attached to the central block, resulting in a five part plan. Elaborate lattice work supports and screens were attached to the long front facade. By 1938, however, the wings had fallen into disrepair and the later additions to the structure were removed. Subsequently, the main house at Cedar Crest resumed its original appearance.

Located on the property is a one and a half story log cabin which was moved onto the property in 1980. The log cabin, ca. 1850, was originally located on part of the Napier plantation, located three-quarters of a mile south of the Cedar Crest plantation. The cabin is believed to have been the home for the overseer because it was the largest of the log buildings on the plantation. The cabin features half dovetail notching, a central single leaf entrance, and flanking small windows. When removing the bark used to insulate the house, the owners discovered that the upstairs originally had four windows instead of only one. Only three of the original cedar logs

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Continuation Sheet**

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Cedar Crest
Marengo County, Alabama

had to be replaced. Located on its new site behind the family swimming pool, the house originally rested on a log foundation but brick pillars were used on the new site to allow for better drainage. The fireplace was rebuilt with old (but non-original) brick and some of the interior pine flooring was replaced. The owners constructed an enclosed breezeway connecting a small frame rear wing. The cabin originally had a front porch which the present owners reconstructed. The deteriorated wooden shutters were not retained. The log cabin once served as a school for pre-kindergarten age children but currently is used as a guest house.

The main house at Cedar Crest retains much of its original 1850 appearance and retains a high degree of integrity in regard to setting, material, craftsmanship, appearance, and sense of place. Modern bath additions do not detract from the overall feeling nor the overall appearance of the structure. The log dwelling, although moved from its original site, is one of the few remaining log structures which have been identified in the Canebrake region. The dwelling retains much of its integrity and has been relocated in an appropriate setting. The total number of resources included within the boundary of Cedar Crest farms is 2, the plantation house and the log overseer's house.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3Cedar Crest
Marengo County, Alabama**Significance Statements****Criterion C: Architecture**

The plantation house of Cedar Crest farms is a significant example of a Canebrake plantation house. The structure is also a good example of a local interpretation of the Greek Revival cottage. 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 of Cedar Crest farms retains a high degree of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and setting. The log structure is a good example of vernacular architecture and is one of the few remaining examples of log construction found in the Canebrake.

Historical Summary

In 1850, Kimbrough Cassells Dubose moved his family and slaves to a plantation in northeast Marengo County, approximately nine miles west of Uniontown on the Lower Demopolis Road. John Witherspoon Dubose, the planter's son, notes in his memoirs that "Albert built the family residence on the plantation." The dwelling, at first, was a simple, one and a half story Greek Revival cottage. In the late 1850s, Kimbrough Dubose enlarged his dwelling by adding flanking wings connected to the main house by small hyphens and placing an elaborate lattice work screen along the front facade. Kimbrough Dubose was a successful planter, prospering in the Canebrake. By 1860, his personal wealth and real estate was valued at \$226,540. Cedar Crest, the Dubose plantation, at one time consisted of over 1,780 acres and produced an average cotton crop of almost 500 bales. The plantation was worked by a slave force which numbered 130. Cedar Crest passed out of the hands of the Dubose family after the Civil War. By 1938, when Amzi Rankin purchased a portion of the plantation to establish a dairy farm, the later wings and the lattice work porch had been removed. In the 1970s, the Rankin family moved onto the property a log overseer's cabin from the nearby Napier plantation to serve as a guest house and schoolroom. Today, the plantation house is occupied by descendants of Amzi Rankin.¹

Criterion Exception B

The log overseer's cabin located on the Cedar Crest farm property is a significant example of early vernacular architecture constructed in the Canebrake region. While log construction was relatively common in the Canebrake throughout most of the nineteenth century, very few log structures have been identified in the region and therefore, the log structure is a significant resource. Although it has been moved, the log cabin has been relocated in an appropriate setting, and retains a high degree of integrity in regard to materials, design, craftsmanship, and feeling.

¹John Witherspoon Dubose, "Recollections of the Plantation." *Alabama Historical Quarterly*, Spring, 1930, pp. 75; Sixth Census Schedule of the United States, Marengo County; Interview with Amzi Rankin, September 3, 1991.

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Cedar Crest
Marengo County, Alabama

Archeological potential

Although no formal archeological survey has been made at the Cedar Crest 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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Cedar Crest
Marengo County, Alabama

Verbal Boundary Description

That one acre of land lying in Section 22, Township 17 North, Range 4 East being part of the property of Cedar Crest Farms, as conveyed to Amzi Ranking by deed. The one acre consists of the land immediately surrounding the house and the log cabin. For exact boundaries, please refer to tax map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include all the significant remaining resources associated with the antebellum plantation and any other historic resources which contribute to the overall sense of feeling or place or which reveal significant information regarding the development of the plantation system or architecture.

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Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page _____ 6

Cedar Crest
Marengo County, Alabama

Photographs

Information in #1-5 is the same for photographs 1-3.

1. Cedar Crest
2. Faunsdale Vicinity, Marengo County, Alabama
3. Christine Rottmeir - photographer
4. Negatives on file with the Alabama Historical Commission
5. Fall, 1989: There has been no change to the property since a site visit on October 24, 1992.
6. Front facade, camera facing east
7. Photograph #1

6. Northwest corner, camera facing southeast
7. Photograph #2

6. South elevation, camera facing north
7. Photograph #3

Information in #1-5 is the same for photographs 4-11

1. Cedar Crest
2. Faunsdale vicinity, Marengo County, Alabama
3. Jeff Mansell - Photographer
4. Negatives on file with the Alabama Historical Commission
5. Summer, 1991
6. Front facade, camera facing east
7. Photograph #4

6. Interior, detail of door surround
7. Photograph #5

6. Interior, detail of mantle
7. Photograph #6

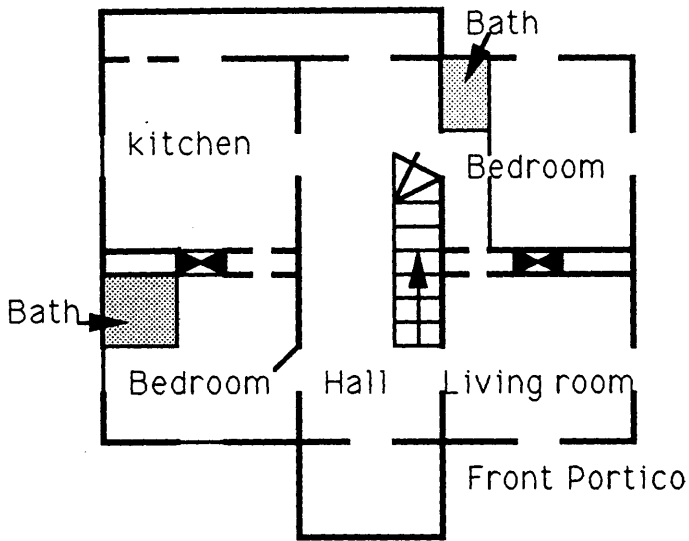
6. Interior, central hall
7. Photograph #7

6. Interior, detail of staircase
7. Photograph #8

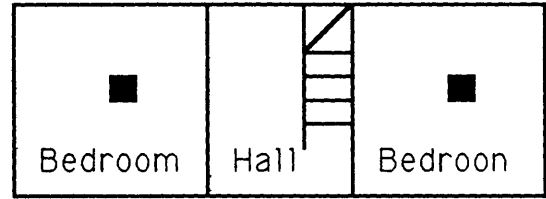
6. Log overseer's dwelling, facing northeast
7. Photograph #9

6. Log overseer's dwelling, facing northwest
7. Photograph #10

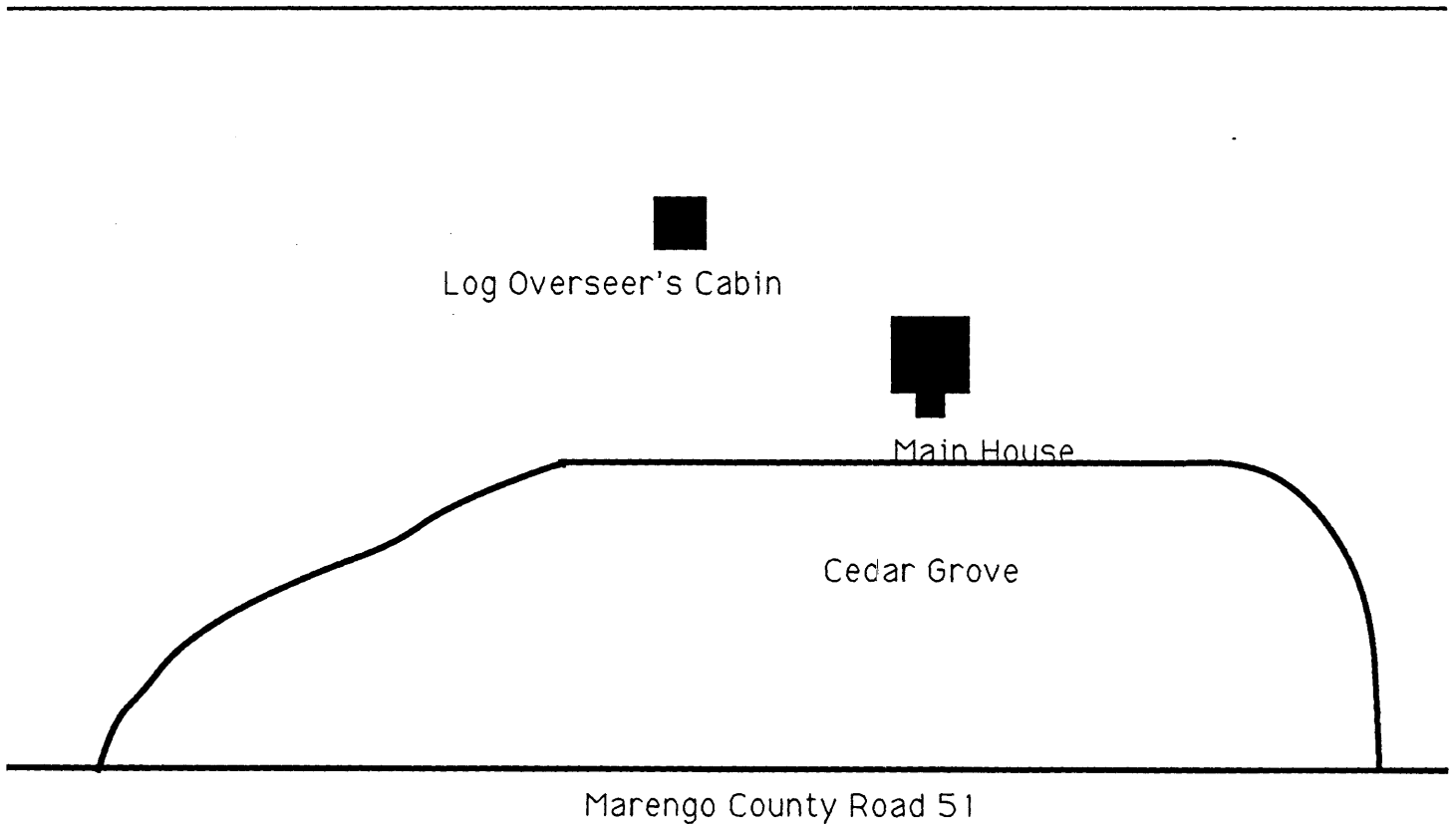
6. Interior, log cabin
7. Photograph #11



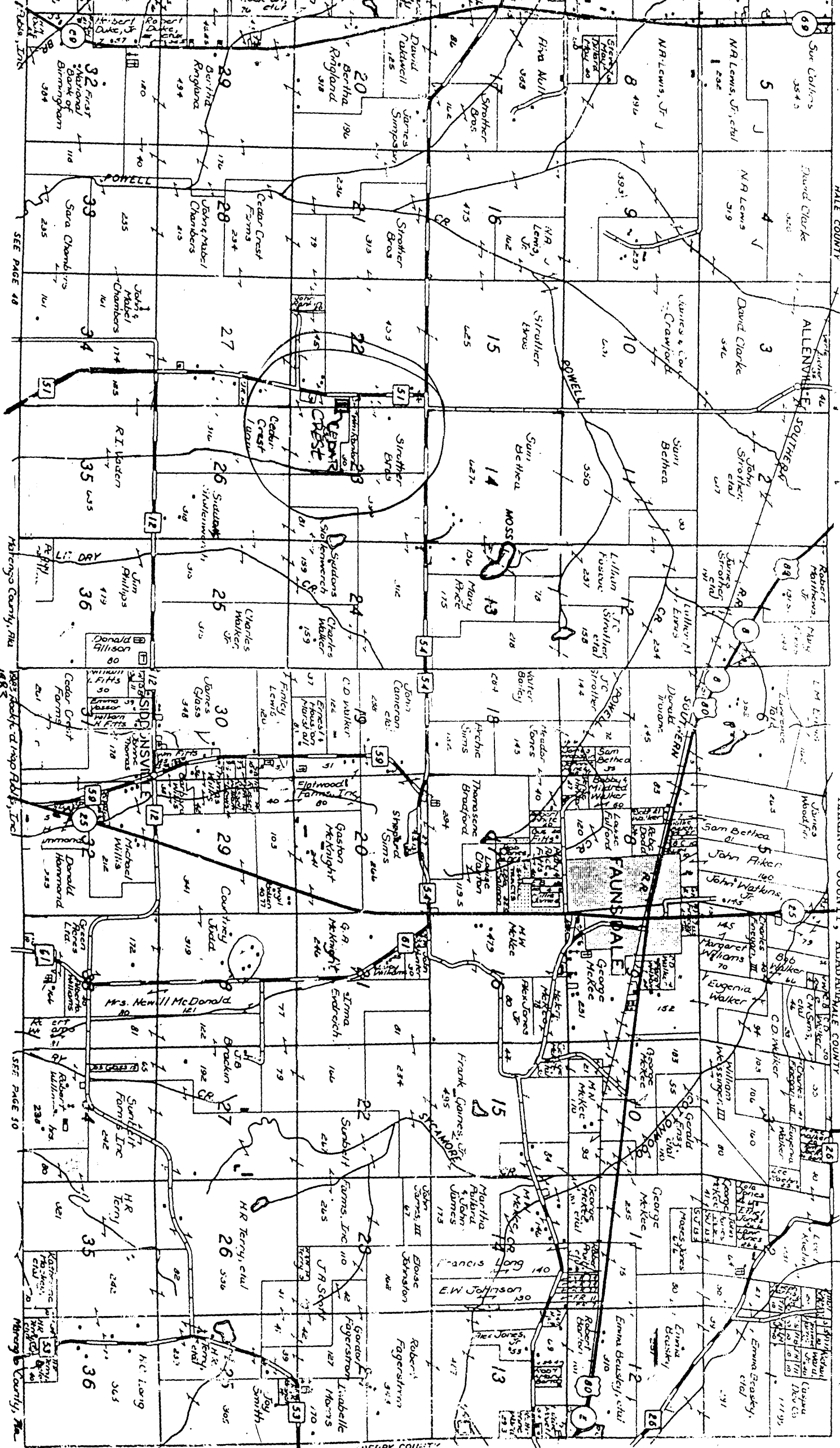
Cedar Crest
First Floorplan



Second Floorplan



T 17 N - R 4 E 1/4 = 1 mile
CEAR CREST FARMS
MARENGO COUNTY, ALABAMA



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Marengo County, Ala.
Marengo County, Ala.

HALE COUNTY

MARENGO COUNTY, ALABAMA

PERRY COUNTY