

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

4/23/91
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
- () determined eligible for the National Register
- () determined not eligible for the National Register
- () removed from the National Register
- () other, explain:
- () see continuation sheet

Allores Beyan 5/30/91

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: dogtrot

Materials:

foundation	stone
walls	log, weatherboard
roof	metal
other	brick, wood

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Log Dogtrot House is a one- and one-half-story dogtrot type house constructed probably between 1834 and 1854. The house sits in a clearing in the woods on a dirt road in rural Houston County just outside of the small community of Kathleen. The clearing is a swept dirt yard with large cedar, magnolia, and pine trees surrounding the house. One outbuilding remains on the property immediately behind the house.

The main section of the house is a one- and one-half-story dogtrot constructed of hand-hewn logs. The dogtrot type house consists of an open central passageway with a room on either side. A stairway in the open passageway leads to a hallway and two rooms within the attic space. The large, exposed, hand-hewn logs are joined at the corners with square notching, and the horizontal joints between the logs are covered with narrow wooden battens. The roof is side-gabled and covered with corrugated metal. This main section is thought to have been constructed sometime between 1834 and 1854.

The front of the house has a full-facade, shed-roofed porch with an enclosed room on one end. This room is of wood-frame construction covered with weatherboarding. The porch posts are simple square wooden posts sitting on stone piers directly on the ground. The rear of the house has a wood-framed, shed-roofed addition of two rooms with a continuation of the open passageway between them. These wood-framed rooms are thought to have been added shortly after the house's original construction, perhaps in the 1850s. The enclosed room on the front porch is traditionally thought to have been used as an office by a doctor who purchased the property in 1856.

There were originally four chimneys on the exterior end walls of the house. Three of these are still standing, and the base of the fourth

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one remains. These chimneys are constructed of brick with stone bases. Two of them appear to have been partially rebuilt. The house's double-hung windows are nine-over-nine panes in the log section and six-over-six in the shed additions. Many of the nine-over-nine-pane windows retain workable wooden shutters. The attic window openings are covered only by wooden shutters. The entire house sits on stone piers and remains open underneath.

On the interior, the hand-hewn logs are exposed and the horizontal joints between logs are covered with wooden battens just as on the exterior. The floors are tongue-and-groove boards. The mantels are very simple wooden ones. The doors are made of wide, vertical boards. No electricity or plumbing has been introduced into the house.

The only outbuilding remaining on the property is a one-room, wood-framed building that may have served as a kitchen. The building sits on stone piers (one has been replaced with concrete blocks), has a front-gabled corrugated metal roof, and is covered with weatherboarding. There is a brick flue on the interior of the building. At one time a covered breezeway connected this outbuilding with the rear of the house. An old hand-operated water siphon pump that may date from the turn of the century still stands in the yard.

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.1834-1854 (see page 6 for justification)

Significant Dates:

c.1834-1854 (see page 6 for explanation)

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 Log Dogtrot House is a rare surviving example of an early to mid-19th-century dogtrot house constructed of logs. Only a few examples of intact log dogtrots remain in Georgia. The house is significant in the area of architecture as a very intact example of the dogtrot house type with open central passageway. It is also significant for its log construction techniques of hand-hewn logs joined with square corner notching and with narrow, horizontal wooden battens covering the log joints. The mid-19th-century additions of wood-framed front and rear sheds with porches and enclosed rooms and the freestanding "kitchen" outbuilding are also significant as good examples of the kinds of additions that were typically made to this type of house to provide more living space. This area of significance supports National Register eligibility under Criterion C.

National Register Criteria

The Log Dogtrot House is eligible under Criterion C as an excellent and very intact example of the dogtrot house type constructed in Georgia between 1834 and 1854. It is also a good example of early to mid-19th-century log construction techniques.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification, if applicable)

The dates given of c.1834-1854 are the period within which the house is believed to have been constructed.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if applicable)

The two contributing resources are the house and the kitchen outbuilding. There are no noncontributing resources.

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Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

The 202 1\2-acre tract that includes the location of the Log Dogtrot House in the 11th District, Land Lot 27, in Houston County, was drawn in the 1821 land lottery by Neil Culbreth of Chatham County. Culbreth apparently never lived on the property, and lost it in 1832 due to a suit brought against him for nonpayment. Henry Conyers bought the property at a sale on the Houston County courthouse steps in 1832 for \$70.00. In 1833 Conyers sold approximately 30 acres of Land Lot 27 to Osburn Wimberly. This 30 acres included the property where the log dogtrot is now located.

In 1834 Wimberly sold the 30 acres to Hugh L. Dennard, along with several other parcels. Dennard moved to Houston County shortly after buying this property, established a large plantation there, and built a house in nearby Perry. Dennard was one of Houston County's prominent early citizens. In 1836 he led a group of Perry volunteers to join the fighting in the Creek Indian Wars.

In 1848 Dennard sold several parcels of land including this 30 acres to Ezekiel H. Wimberly, another prominent Houston County citizen who also operated a large plantation in the area. Shortly after this, in 1848, Wimberly sold the property to Judge Eugenius A. Nisbet of Macon, plus an additional 1,000 or more acres in the 11th District of Houston County. Nisbet had settled in Macon in 1837 and built a large house on Mulberry Street in which he lived. By the 1850s he had a large plantation in Houston County, although he apparently never lived there. Nisbet served in the Georgia House of Representatives for four terms and in the Georgia Senate for three terms. In 1838 he was elected to the United States Congress, and in 1845 was appointed as one of the first justices of the Georgia Supreme Court.

Nisbet placed an advertisement in the Macon newspaper The Georgia Telegraph on September 5, 1854 announcing that his Houston County plantation was for sale. The advertisement described the property as follows: "It contains 1040 acres; about 650 cleared: one-half Oak and Hickory lime land, and the other half Pine lime land. There is a large framed dwelling house on the place, and it is in excellent repair."

The log dogtrot house is believed to have been built between 1834 when Hugh Dennard purchased the property and 1854 when Nisbet advertised the property for sale and mentioned the house. It seems most likely that Dennard actually constructed the house since he owned the property from 1834 until 1848.

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The property with the log dogtrot was purchased by Dr. Robert Campbell Bryan (1826-1895) from Nisbet in 1856. Dr. Bryan eventually owned the entire 202 1/2 acres of Land Lot 27 and lived there with his family until he died in 1895. He attended Mercer University at Penfield, Georgia, and the Cincinnati and Philadelphia medical schools. He returned to Houston County to practice medicine sometime around 1850. On October 23, 1851, Dr. Bryan married Eliza Brown. He had purchased all of Land Lot 27 in 1854 from Henry Conyers except for the 30 acres where the dogtrot was located, which he then purchased from Nisbet in 1856. The 1860 census records Robert Bryan, a physician, living on the property with wife Eliza and two daughters. The 1860 agricultural census records that Bryan owned 750 acres of improved land and 350 acres of unimproved land, all valued at \$15,000, with \$250 in farm implements. This was comparable in size and valuation to others listed near him in the census records, so he seems to have had an average size farm. In the 1880 agricultural census, Dr. Bryan owned 800 acres of improved land, 500 acres of woodland, and 400 other unimproved acres, so he had increased his property holdings.

In 1882, Bryan put his real and personal property in a trust for his daughters and sons-in-law, with the understanding that he and his wife could live in the house and use the plantation until their deaths. Dr. Bryan died in 1895, and his wife in 1907. According to local history, the town of Kathleen was named for Bryan's daughter Nancy Catherine. Nancy's husband J. O. Wardlow sold land to the railroad for a depot around 1889, and they allowed him to name the area for his wife's nickname, Kathleen.

The property has remained in the Bryan family. In 1941, R. T. Wardlow, son of Nancy and J. O. Wardlow, sold the property to a family cousin, J. E. Story. Story in turn sold the property in 1959 to the current owner, Jerry A. Davis, great-grandson of Dr. Bryan. The property is currently used as rental residential.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Wood, Adriane. Historic Property Information Form. June, 1988. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, GA, 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 255595 Northing 3598200

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property encompasses a one-acre square-shaped parcel of land with the house at the parcel's approximate center. The square parcel is approximately 209 feet on a side, centered on the house. The nominated property is shown on the enclosed USGS map and the Houston County tax map. The tax map is the largest-scale local map available.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the house, outbuilding, and surrounding yard in a one-acre parcel of land that provides a setting for the buildings. There are no intact historic boundaries or obvious environmental boundaries for the nominated property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Debra A. Curtis, Architectural Historian
organization Historic Preservation Section, 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** April 16, 1991

(HPS form version 11-02-90)

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Photographs

Name of Property: Log Dogtrot House
City or Vicinity: Kathleen
County: Houston
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: January 1990

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 13: West (front) and north facades of dogtrot house and setting of swept yard with large trees surrounded by woods; photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 13: West and south facades of dogtrot house and its setting; photographer facing northeast.
- 3 of 13: East (rear) and south facades of dogtrot house; photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 13: Rear facade of dogtrot showing relationship to outbuilding; photographer facing west.
- 5 of 13: North and east facades of dogtrot; photographer facing southwest.
- 6 of 13: Detail of north facade showing log construction, chimney, and piers; photographer facing south.
- 7 of 13: Detail of south facade showing log construction, chimney, and windows; photographer facing north.
- 8 of 13: West facade showing front porch and central open passageway; photographer facing east.
- 9 of 13: Detail of front porch, enclosed room, and log and wood-framed construction; photographer facing south.
- 10 of 13: Detail of central open passageway with stair to attic rooms; photographer facing west.
- 11 of 13: Interior of south room inside log dogtrot showing exposed log construction; photographer facing south.

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Photographs

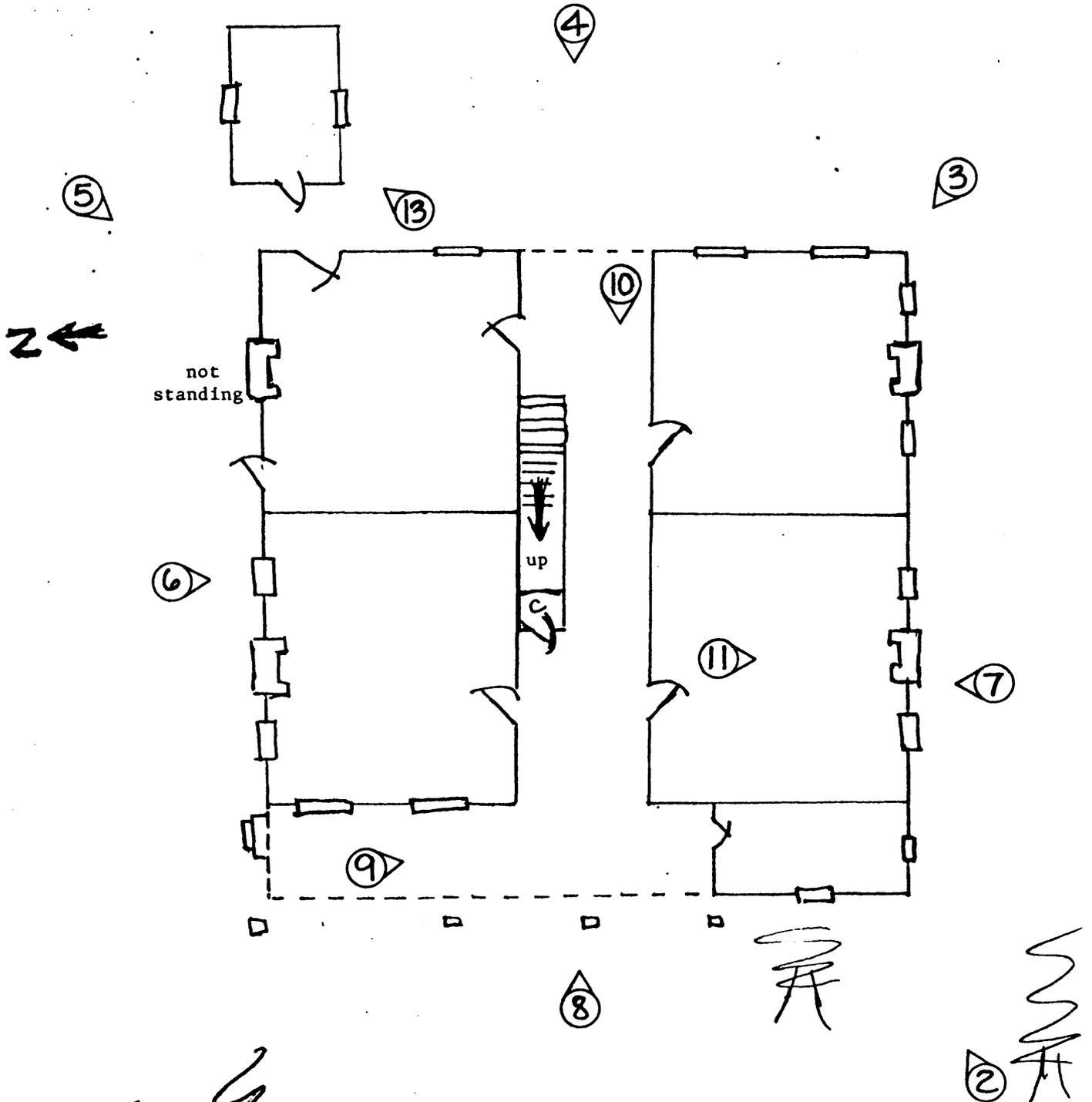
12 of 13: Interior of south attic room; photographer facing southwest.

13 of 13: Outbuilding once used as a kitchen; photographer facing northeast.

WOODS

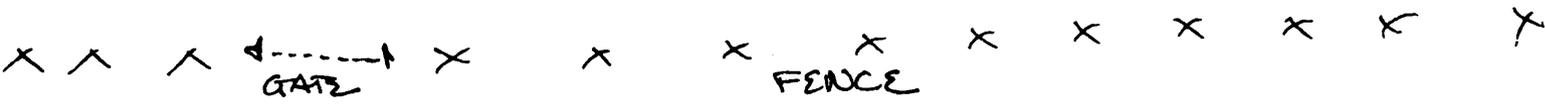
SITE

Davis Dogtrot
Kathleen, Houston Co., GA



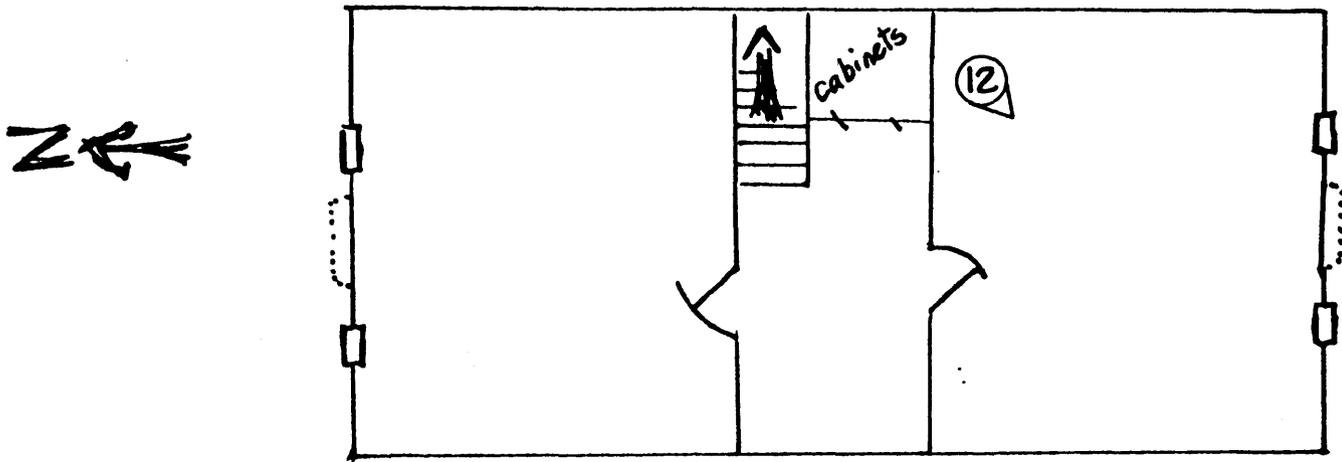
LOG DOGTROT HOUSE
 Houston County, Georgia
 Site and First-Floor Plan
 Scale: None
 Photo/Direction of View:

North: ←



Davis Dogtrot
Kathleen, Houston Co., GA

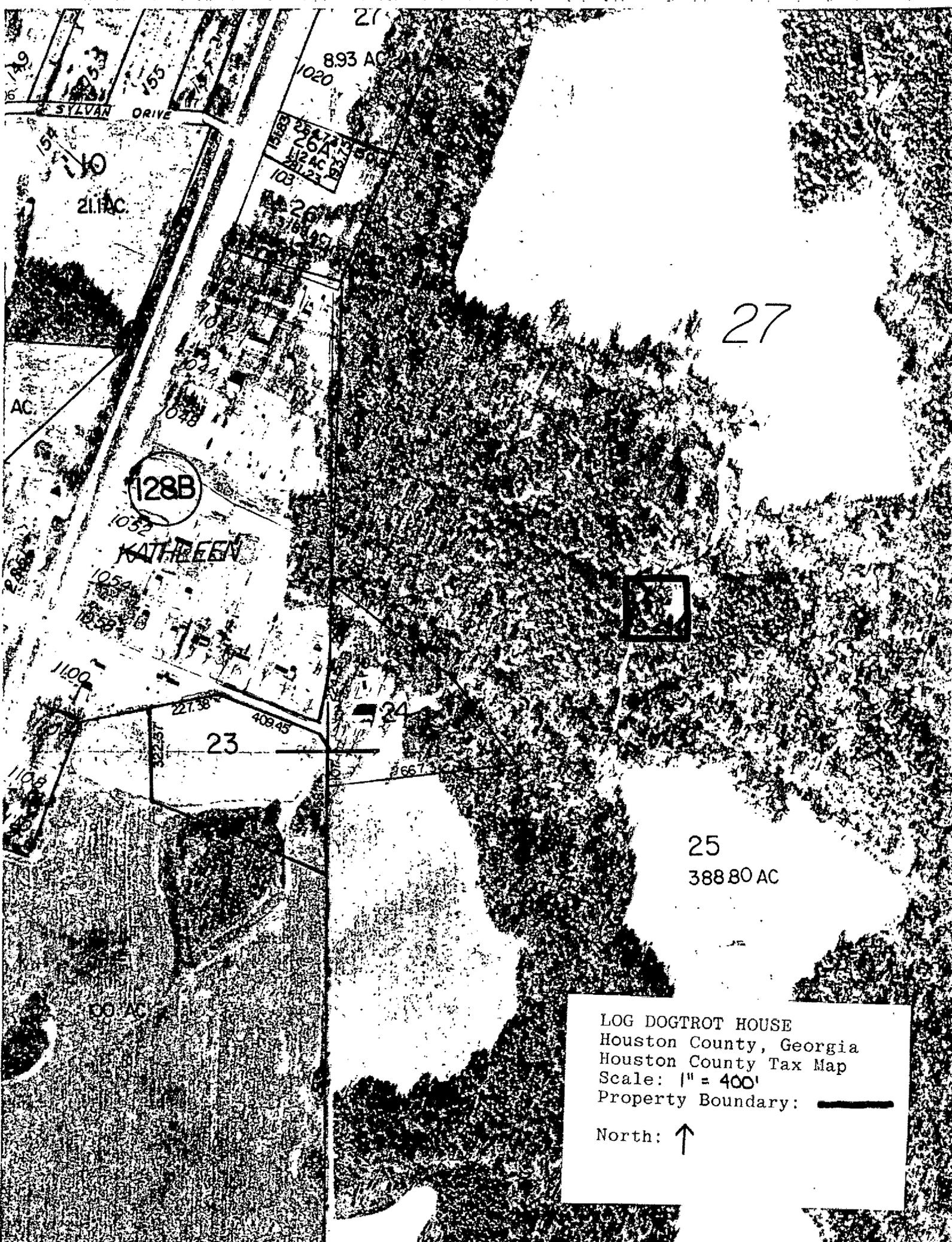
Attic rooms



LOG DOGTROT HOUSE
Houston County, Georgia
Second-Floor Plan
Scale: None
Photo/Direction of View:



North: ←



27

893 AC

1020

SYLVAN DRIVE

26 AC

21.1 AC

AC

128B

1052

KATHLEEN

1054

1058

1100

227.38

409.45

23

24

2667.32

1106

100 AC

27

25

388.80 AC

LOG DOGTROT HOUSE
Houston County, Georgia
Houston County Tax Map
Scale: 1" = 400'

Property Boundary: ———

North: ↑