FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received FEB 25 1980
date entered APR 17 198

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Winston Wilkinson House

and/or common

2. Location

N of Liberty on MS

street & number Country Highway 567 ___ not for publication

city, town Liberty x vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Mississippi code 28 county Amite code 5

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	x unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	x work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. George Jenne

street & number P. O. Box 496

city, town Baton Rouge ___ vicinity of Louisiana state 70821

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk, Amite County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Liberty state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes ___ no

date 1975 ___ federal x state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	_x_ unaltered	_x_ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date _____
_x_ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Winston Wilkinson House faces east on Highway 567 on the southwest corner of the intersection at Busy Corner Road, approximately six miles north of Liberty, the seat of Amite County, Mississippi. Evidence of early landscape around the house includes stands of several varieties of oak, camellia, and magnolia (now overgrown with brush and tall grass). Evidence of an old kiln used to fire the brick during construction of the house exists approximately one hundred feet southwest of the house.

The two-story five-by-three-bay brick residence is supported by the four one-foot-thick exterior walls as well as eight-inch-thick load-bearing interior partitions. The continuous brick foundation wall is punctuated by alternating square ventilators and a square cast-iron entrance door on each elevation. A giant-order Roman Doric portico (minus capitals) is centered on the front (east) facade, with two stuccoed brick columns supporting a diminutive boxed cornice and hip roof. It is probable that the hip roof was rebuilt in the latter part of the nineteenth century, causing the removal of column capitals. Gable ends on the side (north and south) elevations feature stepped and raised parapets balanced by paired interior-end chimneys with a semicircular attic ventilator centered below the parapet of each. A small shed-roof frame porch (constructed in ca. 1930) is situated along the central bay on the first floor of the south elevation, providing an interior access. The existence here of an earlier door stoop and beam seats along the exterior wall indicates the former presence of a more substantial gallery or porte cochere. The fenestration throughout consists of double-hung six-over-six-light sash, with central frontispiece entrances on the first and second floors of both front and rear elevations. The wider first-floor double-leaf entrance on the front facade is enriched with a full entablature and a denticulated cornice. Ghosting along the sides of the entrance indicate the former presence of wood pilaster strips.

Beam seats around the first and second floor entrance doors on the rear (west) elevation are evidence of a former portico. According to local tradition a frame structure (no longer extant) used as a kitchen was also located at the rear of the house. Approximately fifty years ago the structure was moved west of the house and converted into a residence (Truly Whittington, local historian. Interviewed by Jack A. Gold, research consultant, at Liberty, Miss., Dec. 8, 1979). During the 1940s a makeshift water tower was constructed along the southwest side of the rear elevation (to be removed during the present restoration of the property).

The interior of the Winston Wilkinson House consists of the typical center hall plan, two rooms deep. Practically all original millwork detail is intact, with the exception of one (second floor, northeast room) mantelpiece which dates ca. 1900. All walls are finished with two-piece baseboard and heavy chair rail. All mantelpieces consist of flat-faced pilasters supporting a simple entablature and shelf. Windows have simple architraves with molded back-bands. Heavy wood-and-plaster ceiling cornices are featured in the first floor rooms, and in the northeast room on the second floor.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	x architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
x 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect** James Ray Wilson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Winston Wilkinson House combines Adamesque and Greek Revival stylistic influences to produce an ambitious and strongly stated vernacular design for a country house. Retaining most of its original landscape, and exterior and interior building finish, the property retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Constructed ca. 1848 for landowner Winston Wilkinson by local master craftsman James Ray Wilson, the property has historical and associational significance related to mid-nineteenth century Amite County.

Winston Wilkinson, a local plantation owner, purchased the place in 1847, and soon after constructed his residence here (Amite Co., Miss., Deed Book 7:253). He contracted with James Ray Wilson (later a captain in the 39th Infantry, C.S.A.) to design and build the house. Wilson is also credited with the design and construction of the Talbert-Cassels House (1851-1853) near Gloster (Amite County) which follows the design of the Winston Wilkinson House.

The architectural significance of the property is derived from the interpretation by the master craftsman of two separate and academically inspired styles--the Adamesque and the Greek Revival. The application of Adamesque design features such as the rectangular and symmetrical elevations, the stepped-and-raised side-wall parapets, and the fenestration (particularly the semicircular attic ventilators), contrasts with the thick Greek Revival columns on the exterior portico, and heavy ceiling cornices on the interior. Wilson's unique adaptation of these formal building elements created clear and strikingly similar identities for both the Winston Wilkinson House and the Talbert-Cassels House.

Perhaps the most curious element apparent in Wilson's design and construction technique for the Winston Wilkinson House is the portico on the front (east) facade. While the columns exhibit a high degree of sophistication with regard to proper entasis and Doric bases, their lack of capitals and the framing of the roof entablature at the center line of each column rather than at the neck of each indicates either a lack of interest on the part of Wilson to conceive a proper and complete portico, or the removal of the capitals later in the nineteenth century to accommodate a new portico roof. Restoration plans for the Winston Wilkinson House have been formulated for the present owner by architect William Lampton Gill of Jackson, and work will begin in Spring, 1980.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Amite Co., Miss. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book 7. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Microfilm.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Archives Library. "Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from Miss." Microfilm.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property ~~three acres~~ ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Bude

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	704640	3461650
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Three acre tract of land described as the northwest corner of that certain 10 acre tract of land in the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 Section 31, Township 4 North, Range 4 East, conveyed to Ben W. Lauchly by Mrs. A. Smith on October 18, 1940, as recorded in Conveyance Book 90, page 184.

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	Jack A. Gold		
organization	Research Consultant	date	January, 1980
street & number	811 Fairview Street	telephone	601/353-2513
city or town	Jackson	state	Mississippi

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elbert R. Hilliard

title State Historic Preservation Officer date February 15, 1980

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for W. Ray Luce date 4/17/80

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Carol A. Dobbs date 4/16/80

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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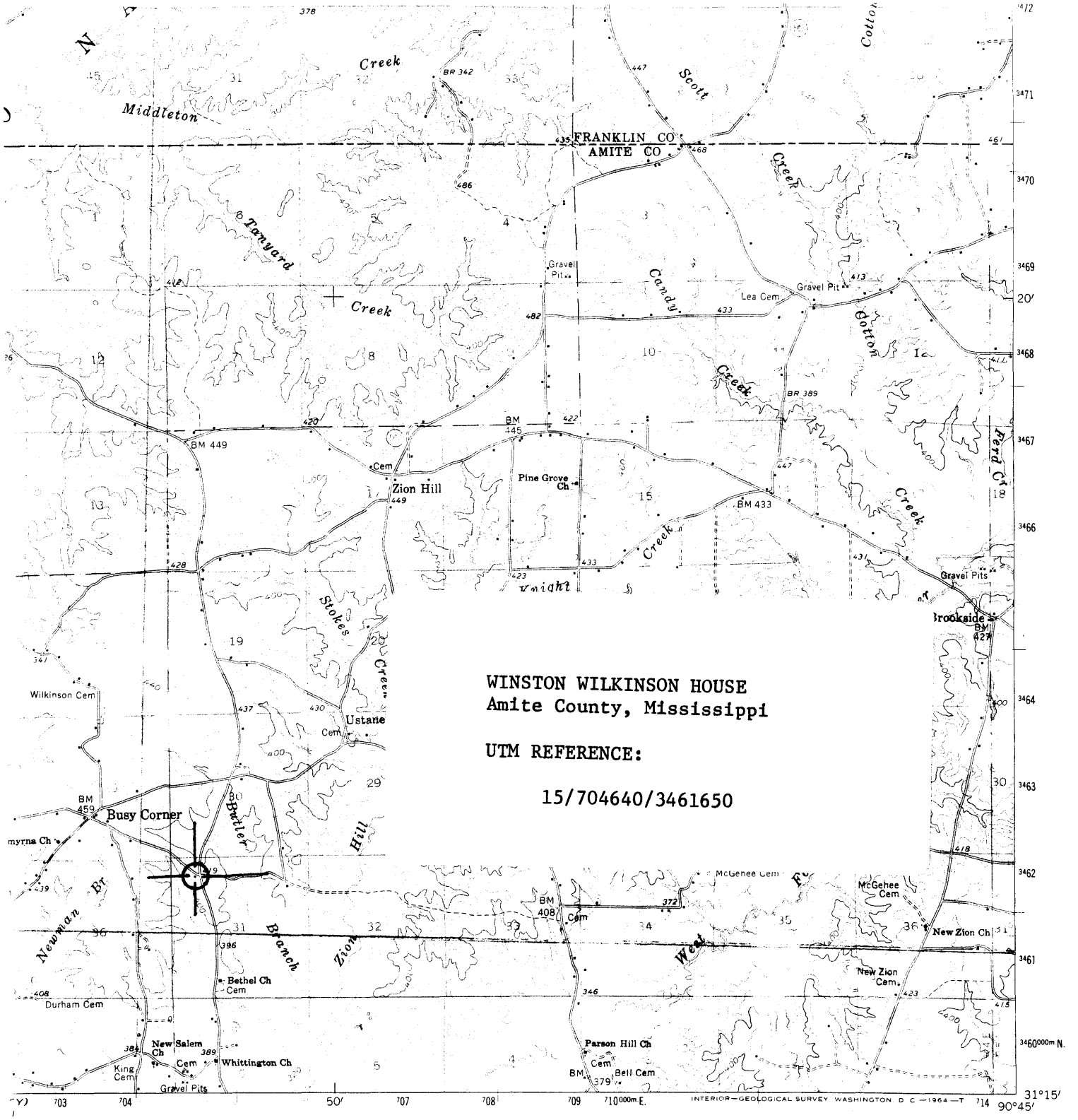
DATE ENTERED

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Amite County. Winston Wilkinson House.

United States Works Progress Administration. Amite County, Miss. Source Material for Mississippi History. Preliminary Manuscripts. Compiled by Statewide Research Project, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Whittington, Truly, local historian. Interviewed by Jack A. Gold, research consultant, at Liberty, Miss., December 8, 1979.



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WINSTON WILKINSON HOUSE
Vicinity of Liberty, Amite County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1979
South and east (front) elevations; view to northwest.
Photo No. 1 of 3

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WINSTON WILKINSON HOUSE
Vicinity of Liberty, Amite County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1979
North and east (front) elevations; view to southwest.
Photo No. 2 of 3

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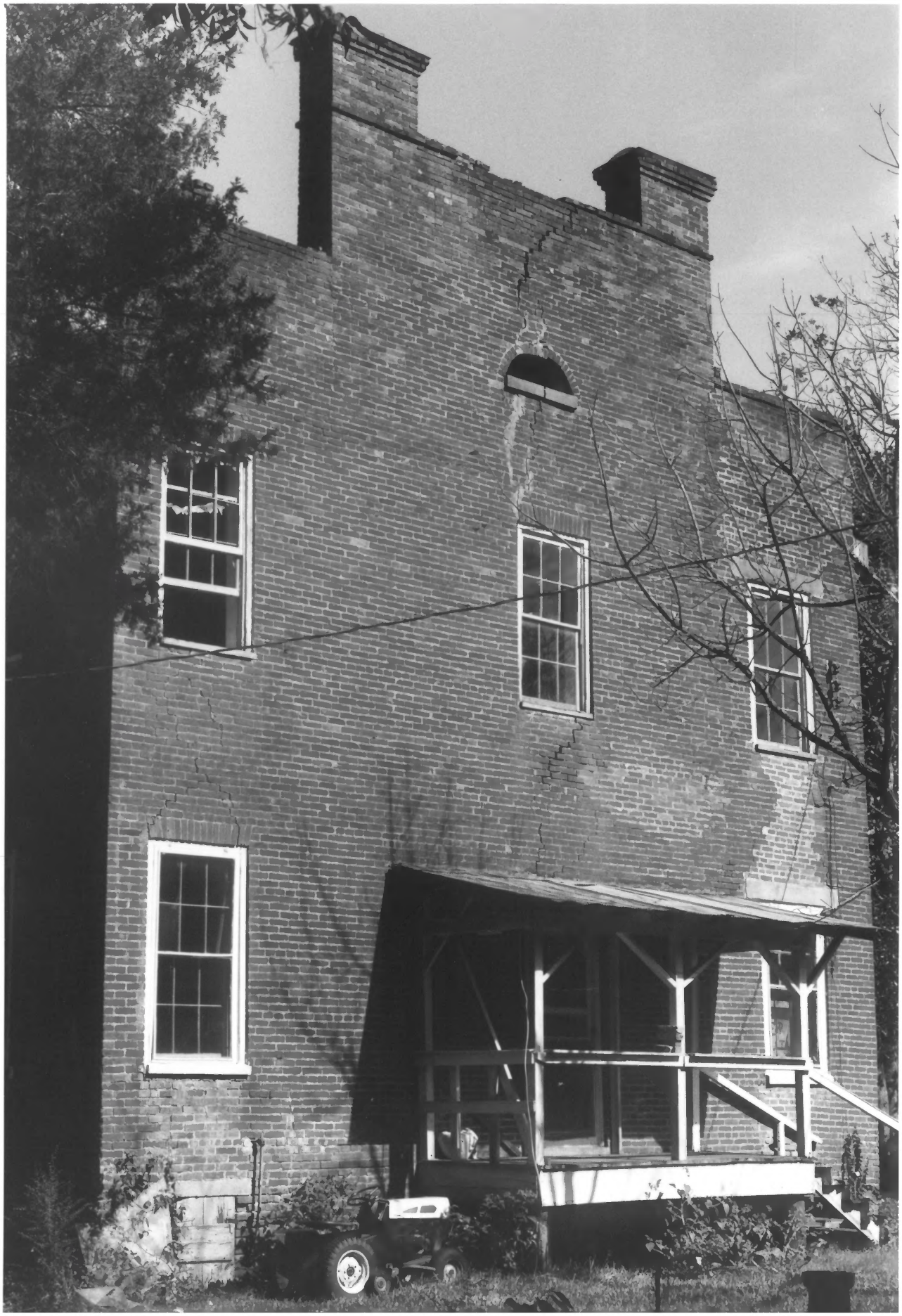

WINSTON WILKINSON HOUSE
Vicinity of Liberty, Amite County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1979
South elevation; view to northeast.
Photo No. 3 of 3

FEB 25 1980

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