

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only

received **Aug - 1 1988**
date entered **SEP 15 1988**

1. Name Dilworth, Thomas F., House

historic Dilworth, Thomas F., House

and or common same

2. Location

street & number Turn W off Hwy 45 immediately S of Biggersville at Doty's Grove and Tony's Service Station. Located 2 mi W on county road. N/A not for publication

city, town Corinth
Biggersville (unincorporated) ☒ vicinity of

state Mississippi code 28 county Alcorn code 3

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Danny Dilworth & Sue Ann Dilworth

street & number P. O. Box 2511

city, town Tupelo N/A vicinity of Mississippi 38803

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Corinth Mississippi 38834

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☒ original site	
☒ good	☐ ruins	☒ altered	☐ moved	date <u>N/A</u>
☐ fair	☐ unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in the late 1850's the Thomas F. Dilworth house is a large, one story, frame, vernacular farm house, surrounded by four acres of land. The house, which faces south, has twin front-facing gables, matching twin rear-facing gables, and a side-gabled ell attached at a right angle.

The house has no structural evidence of additions. The floor plan is that of a wide central hall, extending from front to back, with four large, square rooms opening off it, two on each side. A fifth large room, opening off the northeast room of the main block, makes up the greater part of the ell, along with a small shed room at the rear, now a bathroom. Originally, the shed room opened off the ell's rear porch, which has now been enclosed to create a hall to the bathroom. The room containing the bathroom is part of the original structure; the porch enclosure appears to be the only alteration to the original floor plan.

The house is raised on brick piers, and the exterior is finished with lapped siding and plain cornerboards. The main facade, due to the side-ell, is asymmetrical, with the main entrance off a small, inset porch between the front-facing gables. The main entry has proportionally narrow double doors, flanked by sidelights. The doors were originally entirely wood paneled, but have been altered to insert glass panels in the upper half. The door and sidelight casings are fluted, with plain corner blocks. The rear elevation repeats the same entry way. The side-ell has a full-width, front-facing, shed-roofed porch, with two secondary entrances off it, both doors being wider versions of the paneled doors of the main hall entries.

All gables, front, rear, and side, have raking cornices, with a shallow eave overhang. The steep-pitched roof, now corrugated tin but originally wood shingle, has a plain frieze. The house has two interior chimneys, and evidence of an original exterior chimney at the gable end of the ell (now being replaced).

Most of the original windows were removed and replaced with disproportionate modern styles, but a photograph, (attached) circa 1890, shows the originals as nine-over-nine, double hung sash, and the windows have been restored in this style.

The same photograph shows the now missing decoration of the main entry porch, a bent-wood arch, flanked by bent-wood bundles.

The interior of the house is significant for its interior finish materials and quality of workmanship. Walls are horizontal pine boards which have never been painted. Ceilings, fourteen feet high except for the shed room and its hall, are similar. Floors are matched pine boards. Door and window casings in each of the four rooms of the main block are milled in different styles; the southwest room has a triangular design, the southeast, a concave design, the northwest, a fluted design, and the northeast, plain casings. The central hall and the room in the ell also have plain casings. All have plain corner blocks. A deep base molding, with recessed dado panels, is employed throughout the house. The bottom board of the molding was marbleized, but at some time in this century has been painted. Efforts are being made to restore the marbling. Doors are paneled and were originally decorated with false graining, since painted over. The mantles are large, with plain Doric pilasters, and deep entablatures. In each of the two south rooms, the entablature consists of three square blocks interspersed with recessed convex panels, all carved from a single board. The entablature of the two north rooms are plain. The mantle is missing in the main ell room.

No outbuildings and little landscaping remain on the property.

Located on this property is the Dilworth family cemetery where Thomas F. Dilworth and other family members are buried. All graves have markers.

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	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1858 **Builder/Architect** Thomas F. Dilworth

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thomas F. Dilworth house derives its significance from its high degree of interior craftsmanship (Criterion C). The interior millwork is very sophisticated for a vernacular house of its period in rural Mississippi. It is also significant that the plan of the house is virtually unaltered.

The builder of the house was Thomas F. Dilworth, brother of Andrew Boyd Dilworth, one-time Mississippi Secretary of State. (Rosemary Taylor Williams, Compiler, Cross City Chronicle (Corinth: Corinth Junior Auxiliary, 1976), p. 25) Dilworth married in 1856, and according to the oral history of the family, he then began building the house for his wife. The family lived in a log cabin, now demolished, at the rear of the present house while the house was being built. Door hinges have a patent date of 1858. The house was used as a hospital during the Civil War (Williams, p. 25).

The interior of the house exhibits a high quality of workmanship. The floors are matched pine boards, and the walls are finished with pine boards which have never been painted. The millwork displays a fine variety of decorative motifs in the door and window casings, deep base moldings with recessed dado panels and paneled doors. The millwork includes four fine mantles with Doric pilasters, two of which have decorative entablatures.

The home has remained in the Dilworth family since construction. It is now owned by Danny and Sue Ann Dilworth.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Teague, Laurie Inspection of Thomas F. Dilworth house, November 1987.

Williams, Rosemary Taylor, Compiler, Cross City Chronicle, Corinth: Corinth Junior Auxiliary, 1986.

Dilworth, Mary Bell Morton, daughter-in-law of Thomas F. Dilworth. Interviewed by Danny & Sue Ann Dilworth, December 1961, January 1976, and other occasions.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4 acres

Quadrangle name Rienzi

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

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3	8	5	4	9	4	5
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification Begin at the NE corner of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 18, township 3, range 7, in Alcorn Co., MS, and run W 474 Ft. to the road; thence S 60 degrees 33 minutes E 871 ft. in said road; thence N 5 degrees 45 minutes W 493 ft.; thence W 127 ft. to the point of beginning, containing 4 acres, more or less.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Danny Dilworth, Sue Ann Dilworth, and Laurie Teague

organization N/A date _____

street & number P. O. Box 2511 telephone (601) 840-2208

city or town Tupelo state Mississippi 38803

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 Kenneth H. P. Pool

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date June 2, 1988

For NPS use only

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

Carol D. Shull

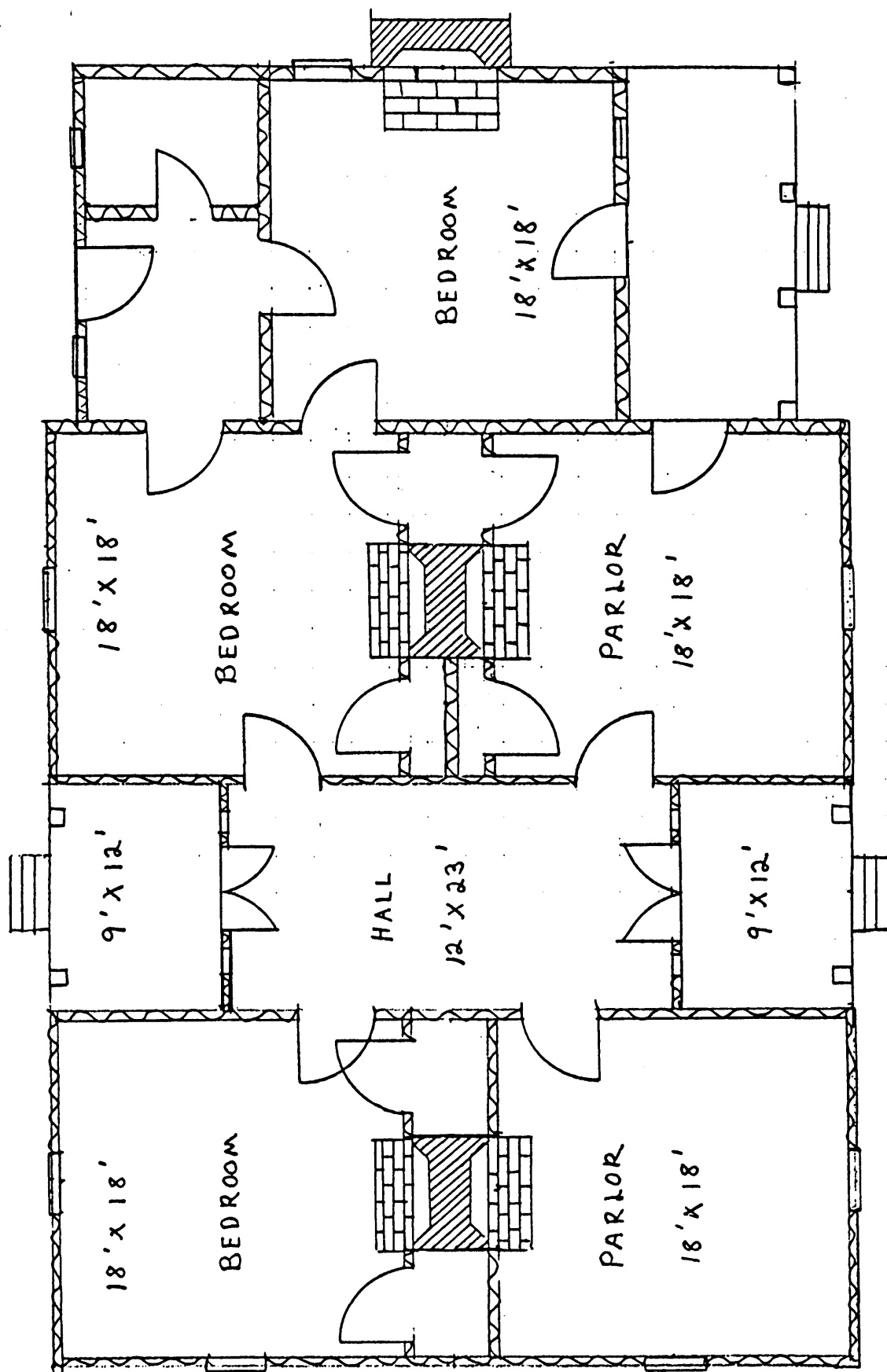
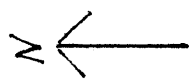
date 9-15-88

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



*Dilworth, Thomas F., House
Corinth vicinity, Alcorn Co., MS*



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi
Front elevation, view to
north
Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi
Mississippi Department of
Archives and History
Photographer unknown
c. 1890
Photo 1 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi
Front elevation, view to
north

Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

Sue Ann Dilworth

March, 1988

Photograph 2 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi
Rear and west elevation,
view to southeast
Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi
Mississippi Department of
Archives and History
Sue Ann Dilworth
March 1988
Photo 3 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi
Front porch, view to north
Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

Sue Ann Dilworth

March, 1988

Photo 4 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi
Mantle from northeast room
Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

Sue Ann Dilworth

March 1988

Photo 5 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi

Door molding and corner piece
from northwest room

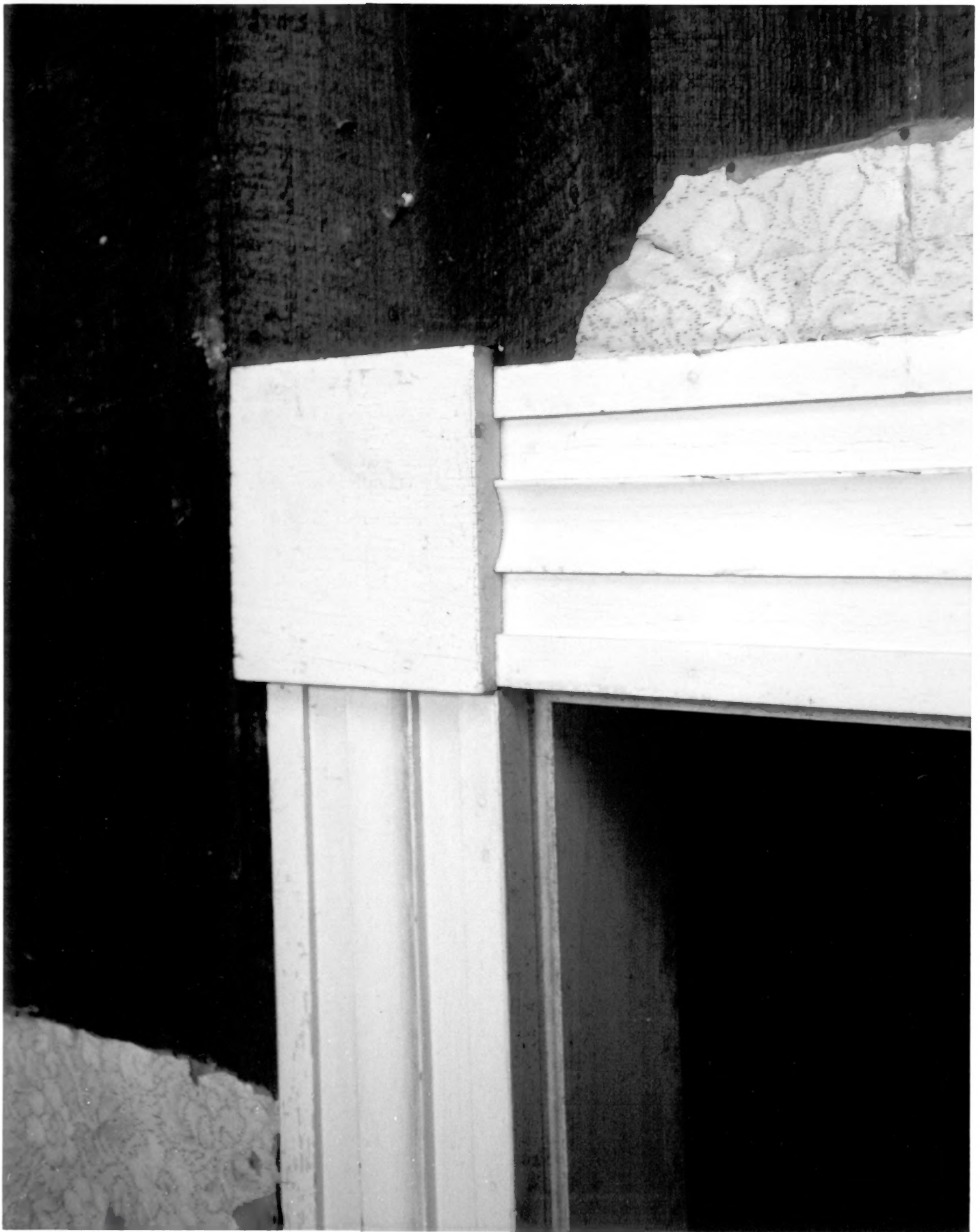
Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

Sue Ann Dilworth

March 1988

Photo 6 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House,
Route 2, Rienzi

Door molding and corner piece
from southeast room

Biggersville Community,
Alcorn Co., Mississippi

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

Sue Ann Dilworth

March 1988

Photo 7 of 7



Dilworth, Thomas F., House

Biggersville community, Alcorn County, MS

Photo by Marc Hammack, April 1987

Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

Detail of Doorframe in SE room



Dilworth, Thomas F., House
Biggersville Community, Alcorn County, MS
Photo by Marc Hammack, April 1987
Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

Mantlepiece