NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hart, "Big" John, House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Castle Chapel Road — N/A not for publication

city, town Yazoo City — [X] vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Yazoo code 163 zip code 39194

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property: Contributing	Noncontributing	
[X] private	[X] building(s)	1	1	buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district			sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site			structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure			objects
	[ ] object	1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. Pearl — May 26, 1993

Signature of certifying official — Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

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 and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Entered in the National Register

Joseph M. Lapsley — 7/1/93

for Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: single family dwelling	Domestic: single family dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Weatherboard
roof Tin
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Now located 500 feet south of Castle Chapel Road, the "Big" John Hart House is a story-and-a-half frame Greek Revival planter's cottage that was moved from the Hart Town community in eastern Yazoo County in March of 1991. The house was originally 300 feet south of Highway 433 about 30 miles from its present location. It served until 1971 as a farm residence and was situated on a large tract of farm acreage. Cedar trees were arranged symmetrically on the front lawn. The house now sits within a 100-acre tract adjoining a 3-acre pond. Both locations are within Yazoo County and are largely agricultural and similar in many respects. Vacant since 1971, the house was scheduled to be torn down to make way for a new house on the site. The former owner would only sell the house if the buyer would move it. The house was moved gable end first in one piece. The roof, rafters, front gallery, and storage room upstairs were removed prior to the move and moved separately. Also moved was a dependency that was attached to the eastern end of the house about 1880.

The house is surmounted by a gabled tin roof flanked by outside-end brick chimneys which have been rebuilt. The northern facade is fronted by a one-story gallery that is recessed beneath the front slope of the roof and rests upon brick piers. The gallery is supported by replaced molded wooden box columns with molded capitals. After the house was moved in 1991 an ell wing and screened rear gallery were added, and the upper half story was finished. The only changes on the main floor were the addition of a coat closet and a half bath in part of the rear hall.

The five-bay facade is finished in horizontal tongue-and-groove boards with a baseboard. The window and doorway surrounds are plainly molded. The focal point of the facade is the wide center-bay doorway, which consists of two twenty-four inch wide, two-panel doors set beneath a seven-light transom and framed by sidelights over molded panels. The rear doorway is identical except it lacks the transom. All interior doors on the main floor have two vertical panels over two smaller panels. Doors upstairs are board-and-batten and are mostly reproductions. All windows are filled with nine-over-six, double-hung sash except the kitchen and upstairs which have reproductions of their six-over-six sashes.

[X] See continuation sheet

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) ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	ca. 1845	ca. 1845
Art		

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The "Big" John Hart House is a good example of rural Greek Revival architecture that derives particular distinction from its surviving original decorative painting. The house is a typical antebellum vernacular Greek Revival planter's cottage with a gallery that is recessed beneath the front slope of the roof. The floor plan is also typical to the area, featuring a central hall with two rooms to each side of the hall: the larger rooms to the front and the smaller rooms or "cabinets" to the rear. The dining room of the house has decorative painting that, in a vernacular manner, is as imposing as any house in Mississippi. Here the walls are painted so as to appear arcaded with columns that support a painted ogee-arched frieze. Also of note are the window cornices and baseboards, which are enhanced by the original decorative painting. The use of decorative painting to enliven rural farmhouses was common in Mississippi in the mid-nineteenth century, and the artistic quality of the painting is fairly typical; however, few buildings exhibit the entire walls of a single room that have not been obscured by layers of paint and wallpaper.

The "Big" John Hart House may have been built for or by "Big" John Hart when he came to Yazoo County in 1843. Hart purchased the land the house sat on from William S. Byrd on September 8, 1843. On February 17, 1860, Hart deeded five acres to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for the construction of a church near his house. After Hart's death in 1885 the house began its progression down the family line until it was sold by Hart's granddaughter's estate in 1971. Vacant since that time, the house was scheduled for demolition to make way for a new house on the site. The house was subsequently purchased by its present owners in 1990, with the stipulation that it be moved. Although the building lost integrity of location when it was moved, it retains integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling, and qualifies for listing because of its significance in the areas of architecture and art.

Also associated with the house is a circa 1870 outbuilding that retains integrity. This building was identified as noncontributing only because it is not contemporary with the house and is not individually significant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hart family cemetery; Hart's headstone shows 1885 as year of death.

United States. Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules, Yazoo County, Mississippi, 1840.

Yazoo County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book G, page 630. (Deed from Byrd to Hart.)

Yazoo County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book V, page 619. (Deed from Hart to Cumberland Presbyterian Church.)

Yazoo Historical Association. Yazoo County Story. Fort Worth, TX: University Supply and Equipment Company, 1958.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ 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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	746550	3627070	B			
C				D			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description The property is located in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4 SE 1/4 of Section 35, Range 2 West, Township 11 North. The property is a rectangular parcel measuring 180' x 220', whose northeast corner is 70' directly northeast of the northeast corner of the main house and whose southwest corner is 40' directly southwest of the southwest corner of the frame dependency.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries encompass a tract of slightly less than one acre, consisting of the immediate setting of the house. The boundaries include the house and frame dependency.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jep Barbour

organization Owner date April 5, 1993

street & number R.R. 3, Box 182-B telephone 601/746-6455

city or town Yazoo City state Mississippi zip code 39194

★U.S.GPO:1988-0-223-918

The interior features a center hall divided into a front and rear hall, and there are cabinet rooms located behind the main front rooms. The staircase, located in the front hall, features rectangular sectioned newels and balustrade. All interior walls and ceilings are finished in tongue-and-groove boards with a simply shaped baseboard except the cabinet rooms, ell wing and upstairs, which are finished in sheetrock and the same baseboad. All door and window surrounds are molded and mantelpieces are wooden and pilastered.

The house's interior achieves distinction from its original decorative painting in the dining room. Here the four walls are painted so as to appear arcaded, with columns that seem to be resting on the baseboards and that support a painted ogee-arched frieze (see photograph Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7). Curved brackets extend from the capitals of the columns and from the peaks of each arch of the frieze. The walls are painted blue, the columns are brown with dark brown capitals, and the frieze is brown and green. The windows are enhanced by wooden cornices also featuring decorative painting. Each window cornice has a central medallion with a painted scene: one medallion features a sailboat while three have pictures of deer. The baseboards of the dining room are also embellished with decorative painting.

A detached building, dating from ca. 1870, is located about 150' behind the main house. The 12'x14' frame building has a tin roof and rests on a brick pier foundation. Its door to the rear is nine lights over two vertical panels. A six-over-six sash is located on the northern and western elevations.

The following information is the same for all photographs:

(1) "Big" John Hart House
(2) Yazoo City vicinity, Yazoo County, Mississippi
(3) Jep Barbour
(4) April 1993
(5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1--(6) Main facade (north elevation), view to south

Photo 2--(6) East elevation, view to west

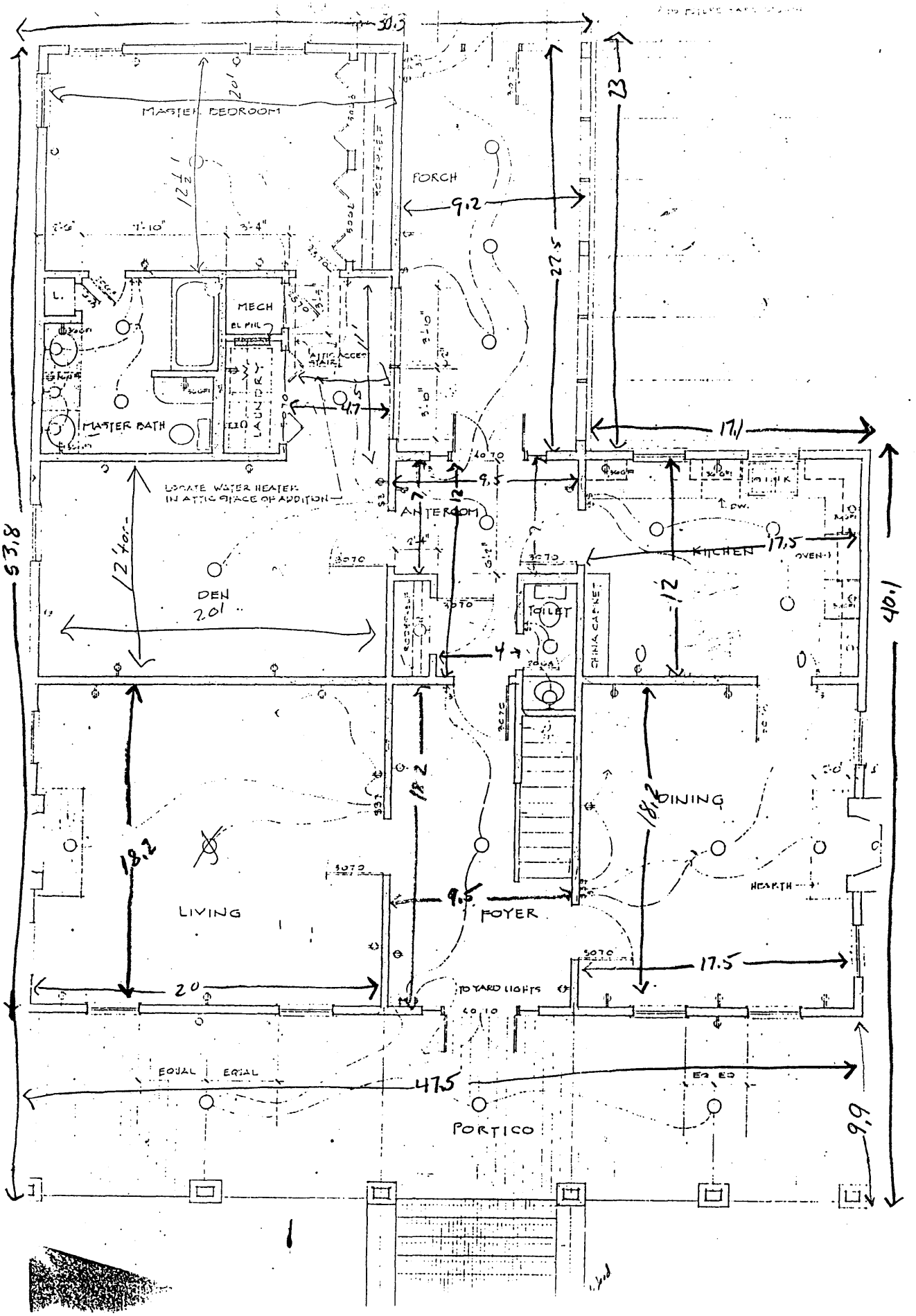
Photo 3--(6) West elevation, view to northeast

Photo 4--(6) Dining room, view to north

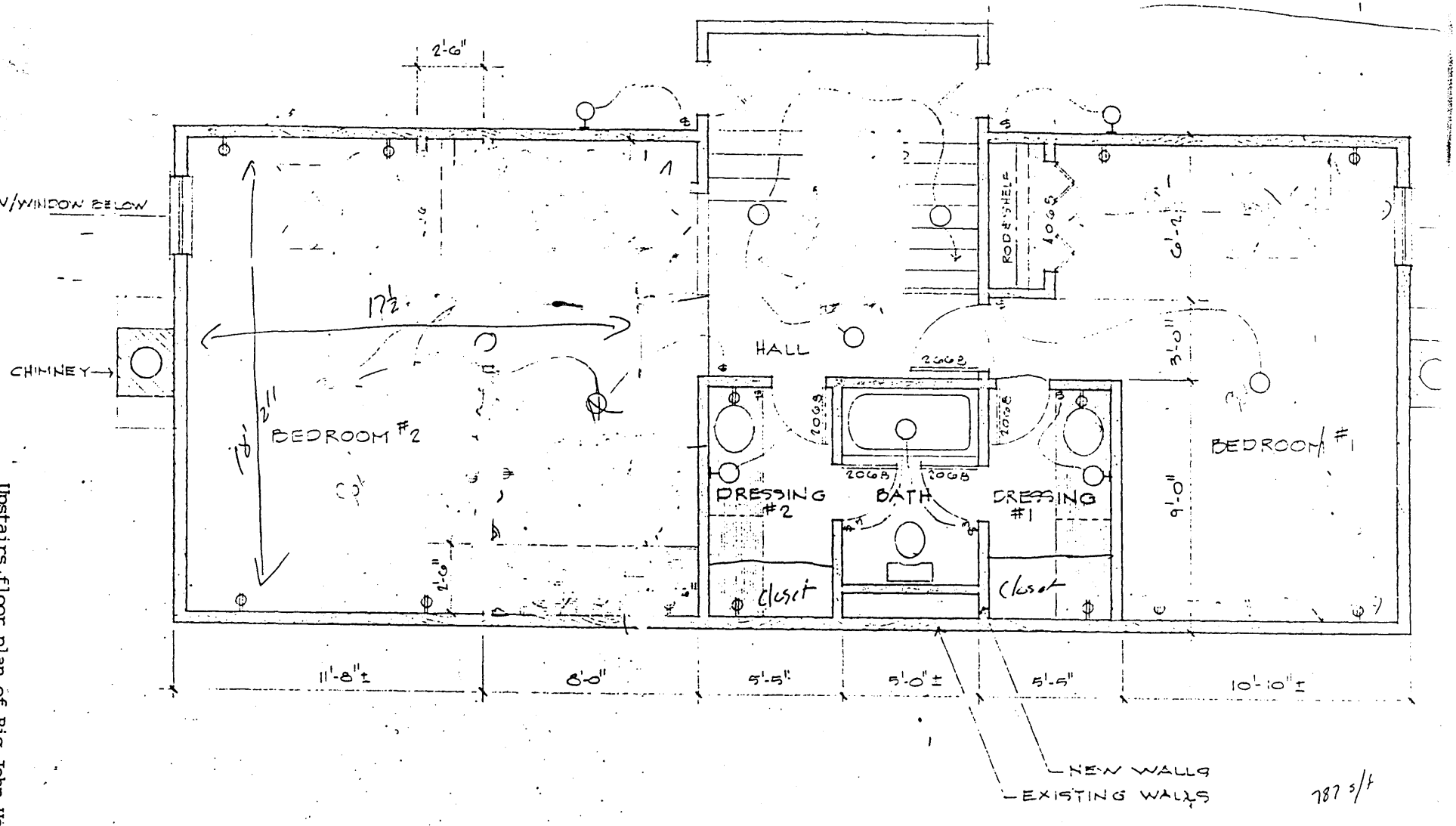
Photo 5--(6) Dining room, view to south

Photo 6--(6) Dining room, view to west

Photo 7--(6) Dining room, detail of ogee-arched frieze and window cornice



Floor plan of Big John Hart house,
located in Yazoo County, MS.



2/2 SECOND FLOOR PLAN

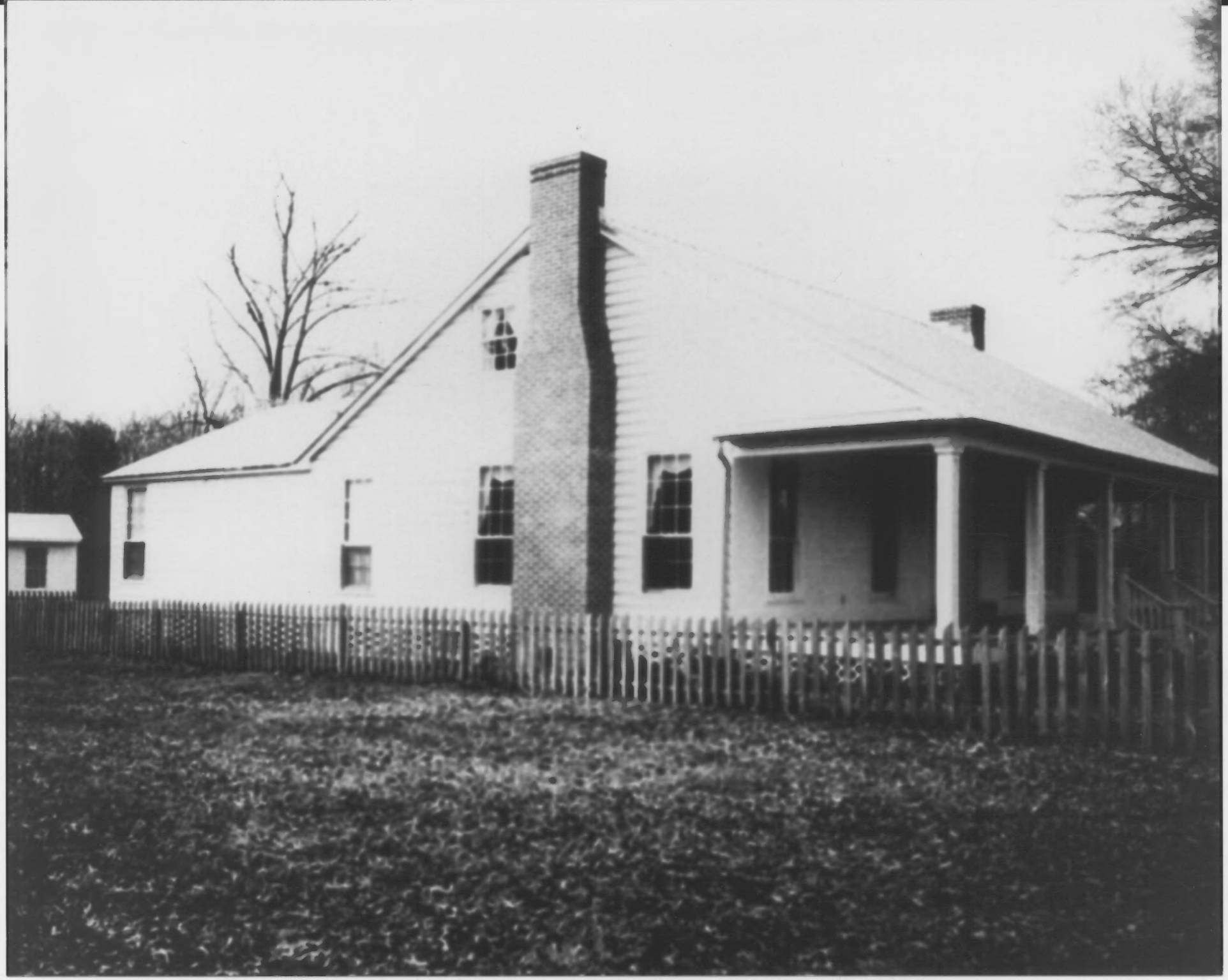
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

Upstairs floor plan of Big John Hart House
located in Yazoo County, MS.

s/f

"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #1 of 7



"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #2 of 7

"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo # 3 of 7

"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #4 of 7

"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #5 of 7

"Big" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #6 of 7

"Bis" John Hart House, Yazoo County, MS

Photo #7 of 7