NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

FEB 02 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Little, Dr. William, House

other names/site number Lightsey House

2. Location

street & number 1022 Collier Street n/a not for publication

city or town Wesson n/a vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Copiah code 29 zip code 39191

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.)

Kenneth H. P. Pool JAN. 25, 1993
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
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 Entered in the National Register Date of Action

Action Byrne 3/4/93

Dr. William Little House
Name of Property

Copiah County, Mississippi
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

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)

Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
walls weatherboard
shingle
roof asphalt
other n/a

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

1894-95

Significant Dates

1894-95

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Brasfield, George

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

Dr. William Little House
Name of Property

Copiah County, Mississippi
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1 acre, more or less

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	746710	3509700
2			
3			
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 Mary Warren Miller/Preservation Director

organization Historic Natchez Foundation date August 1, 1992

street & number P. O. Box 1761 telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez state MS zip code 39120

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 James and Martha Lightsey

street & number 204 Collier Street telephone (601) 643-5279

city or town Wesson state MS zip code 39191

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The William Little House is a one-and-a-half story, frame Queen Anne style cottage that rests upon a partial basement and brick piers and is surmounted by a steeply pitched, broken slope, gabled roof. The house faces northerly and consists of a one-and-a-half story main block and one-story rear ell. A bungalow style carport with gabled roof and battered box columns atop brick piers was added to the westerly side elevation about 1920.

The gabled roof of the house is pierced by a large central dormer porch flanked by a single dormer window. The dormer porch and dormer windows are inset into the broken slope of the roof and all three are surmounted by steeply pitched roofs with wide overhanging eaves echoing the pitch and eave treatment of the main roof. The dormer porch, dormer windows, and gable ends of the main block of the house all feature decorative vergeboards and shingled gable ends. On the dormer porch, the shingles are applied to create a central heart motif flanked by diamonds. Only the heart motif is expressed in the shingled gable ends of the dormers, and the gable ends of the house each feature three diamonds. The dormer windows have molded caps and are filled with two-over-two, double-hung sash. The dormer porch features bracketed turned posts linked by both a spindle frieze and turned baluster railing. Access to the second-story interior from the dormer porch is provided by a transomed doorway filled with a single-leaf, four-panel door, whose upper panels have been glazed.

The five-bay facade of the house is sheltered by an inset, nearly full-width gallery which features bracketed turned posts, spindle frieze, and turned baluster railing. The facade is finished in novelty siding with a baseboard and wainscoting of vertical beaded boards. Floor-length, two-over-four windows with molded caps, unmolded surrounds, and original shutter blinds flank the central doorway, which has a chamfered surround and is filled with a single-leaf door with glazed upper panel. The door is set within a transom and sidelights over fielded panels. The gable ends of the main block of the house are lighted on both the first and second story by paired window units, each filled with two-over-two, double-hung sash. The mid wall section between the upper and low windows is finished in vertical beaded board to echo the wainscoting of the facade.

A one-story rear ell contains the dining room and kitchen and features a gabled roof with undercut full-width gallery extending along the westerly elevation. The gallery is supported by bracketed

chamfered posts linked by a railing of rectangular-sectioned balusters. Transomed doorways with single-leaf four-panel doors and floor-length windows with two-over-four sash open onto the gallery.

The interior of the house retains its original millwork and a combination of beaded-board wall finishes with some rooms featuring a wainscoting. Doors are four-paneled and mantel pieces are wooden with mirrored tops that are typical of the Queen Anne style. The hallway and dining room are especially well trimmed with wainscoting and molded doorway surrounds with corner blocks, knee blocks and plinth blocks. The hallway has a straight-run staircase featuring a decoratively carved, square newel post and turned balusters. The dining room ceiling is decorated with a wooden ceiling center piece, molded cornice, and diagonal boards forming a pattern. The dining room also retains its original built-in china cabinet. Other interesting survivals include the original bathroom with two original plumbing fixtures and most of the original hardware.

Alterations to the house are minimal and include the removal of the western hall wall by a previous owner, the addition of a bungalow style porte cochere, and the enclosure of the rear porch to accommodate Dr. William Little's home medical practice.

Two dependency buildings have survived. The cook's house is located southeast of the main house and is a small, frame, gabled roof building that rests upon brick piers. A single-bay doorway is located on the facade and the side elevations are lighted by a single window unit filled with two-over-two, double-hung sash. The carriage house is located south of the main house and is a square frame building that has a pyramidal roof with finial, board-and-batten siding, overhanging eaves, and small, shed-roof additions on each side. The carriage openings have no door infill.

The William Little House is a locally significant example of Queen Anne architecture that derives additional significance from its well documented construction, architectural integrity, survival of original dependency buildings, and association with one of the leading citizens of Wesson, Mississippi. The house was built 1894-95 for Dr. William Little by Wesson builder George Brasfield, and the construction is well documented in an account book that belonged to Dr. Little (William Little account book, xerox copy of original in the possession of Betty Youngblood of Boulder, Colorado, William Little House, Statewide Survey of Historic Sites, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson).

Dr. William L. Little recorded on June 29, 1894 that he has made the first payment of $125.00 on his building lot to Mrs. Dr. Rev. Rea. Various costs were incurred in July to prepare the lot for building, including two charges of $1.10 and $2.40 for uprooting trees. Across the top of two pages is written:

George Brasfield in account with
Dr. W. L. Little based on contract
to build residence, do all paint and bricks tin
work also build and paint front yard fence--
for the sum of six hundred and eight five dollars,
As per contract Aug-20/1894 $685.00

Enochs Lumber and Manufacturing Company of Jackson, Mississippi, agreed to furnish all the materials for $1,187.70. By April 1895, the house was nearing completion as charges were incurred that month in the amount of $9.85 for "Painting rooms upstairs." Although George Brasfield is documented as the builder, it is unknown whether he drew the plans. Either Brasfield or Little may have based the design on a published plan in an architectural pattern book.

The William Little House is located in downtown Wesson and is one of the town's most architecturally significant residences. It retains its original one acre town lot and its two original dependency buildings--the cook's house and carriage house. The architectural integrity is compromised only by ca. 1920 rear porch enclosures made to accommodate Dr. Little's medical practice, by the addition of a bungalow style porte cochere, and by a previous owner's removal of the wall separating the stair hall from the parlor. Like most doctors in small town America, Dr. William Little was an important community leader in the manufacturing town of Wesson, which is located about fifty miles south of Jackson.

(A contextual report entitled "Victorian Queen Anne Architecture in Mississippi" by Richard J. Cawthon, 1991, rev. 1992, discusses the significance of Queen Anne architecture in the state and establishes standards for assessing their eligibility for the National Register. This house meets the standards of that report.)

Bibliography:

Miller, Mary W., preservation director with the Historic Natchez Foundation, Natchez, Mississippi. Inspection of William Little House, June 1991.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Copiah County. Wesson.

Verbal Boundary Description:

All of lot 1, in square 8 fronting 209 1/2 feet on Collier Street and fronting 207 1/2 feet on Pine Street and running back in parallel lines, all measurements more or less. Said lot in Wesson, Mississippi, and laid off and marked on the plots of the town of Wesson made by T. S. Hardee and H. D. Burton and deposited in the office of the Recorder in the City of Hazlehurst, Copiah County, Mississippi. See attached City of Wesson property tax map with nominated property indicated by cross-hatching.

Boundary Justification:

The total nominated acreage represents the original tract purchased by William Little for the construction of his house.

The following information is the same for all photographs:

(1) Little, Dr. William, House
(2) Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi
(3) James Lightsey
(4) September 1991
(5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1--(6) Looking southerly, the northerly facade

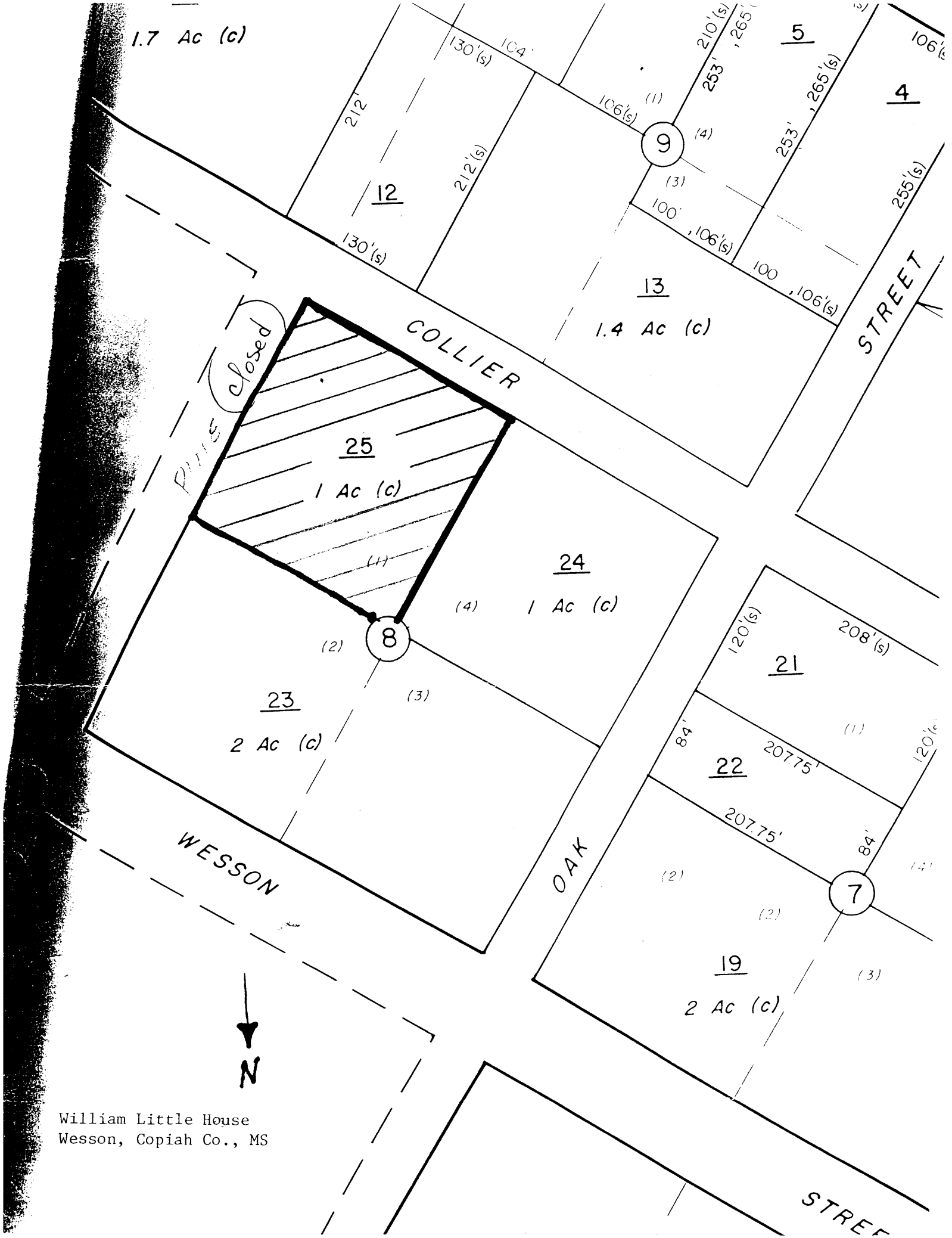
Photo 2--(6) Looking southeasterly, the stairway and stair hall

Photo 3--(6) Looking southerly, the dining room in the rear ell

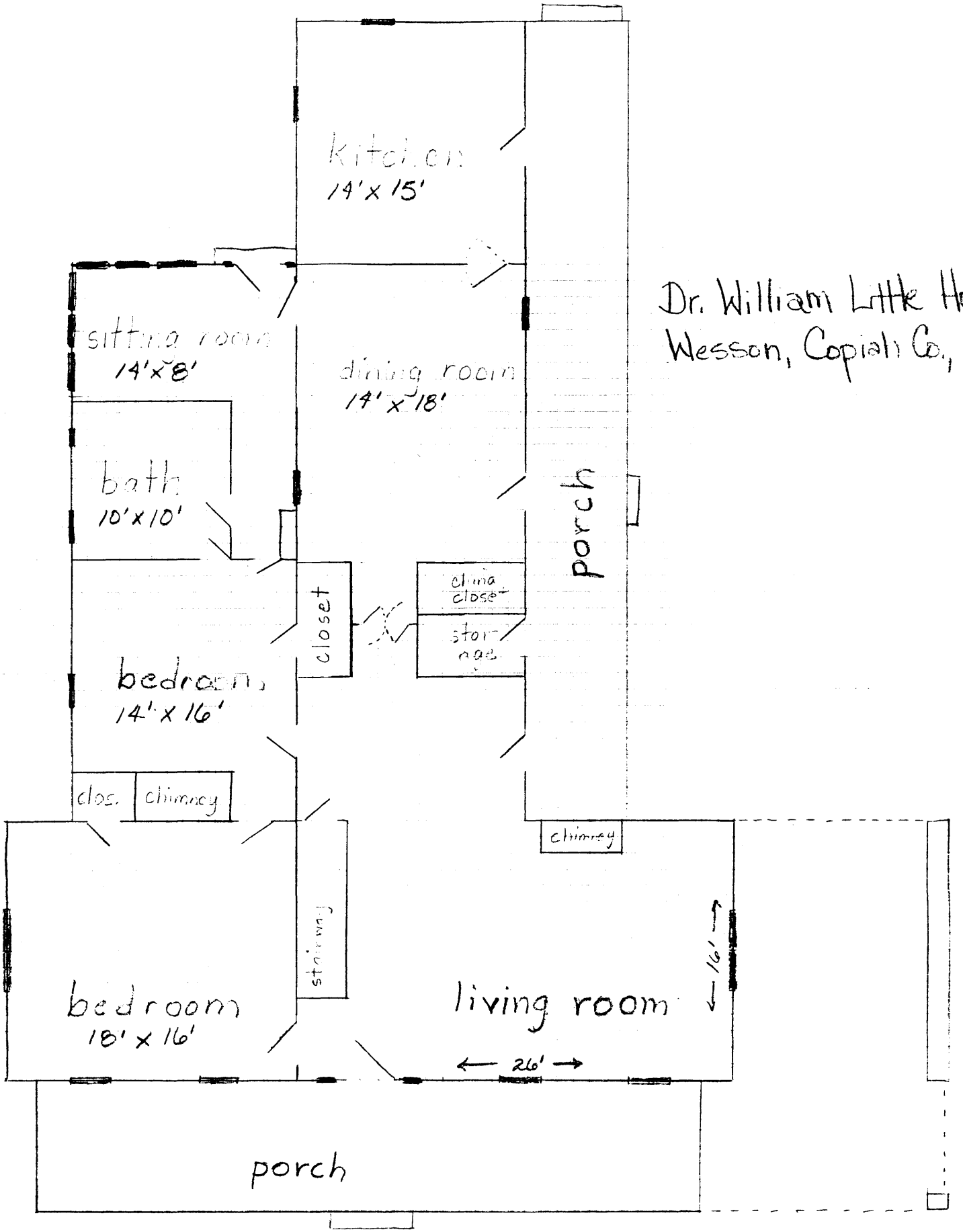
Photo 4--(6) Looking northwesterly, the rear and southern side elevation of cook's house

Photo 5--(6) Looking southeasterly, the westerly facade and northerly side elevation of the carriage house

Photo 6--(6) Looking easterly, the westerly side elevation of the house showing the rear ell



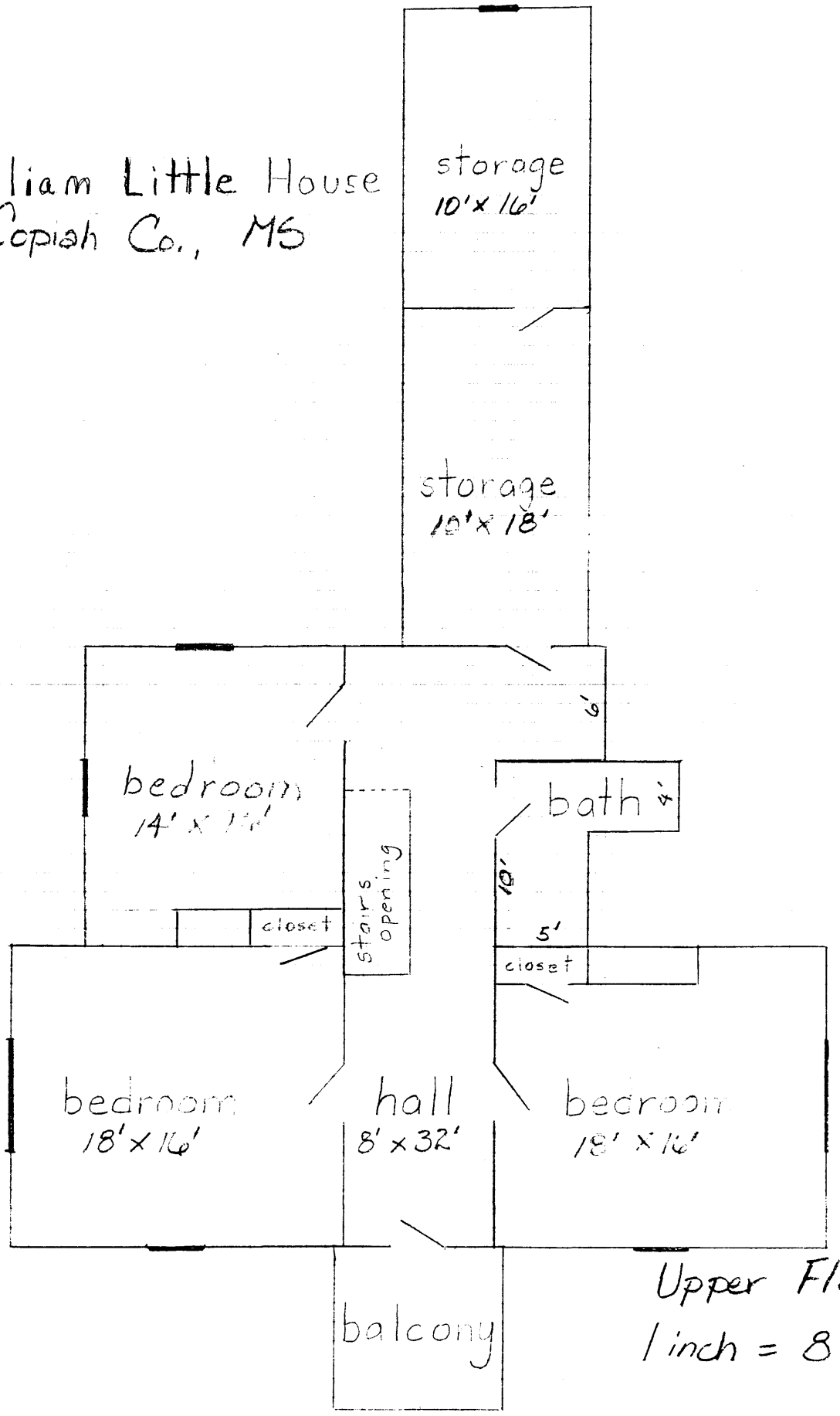
William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS



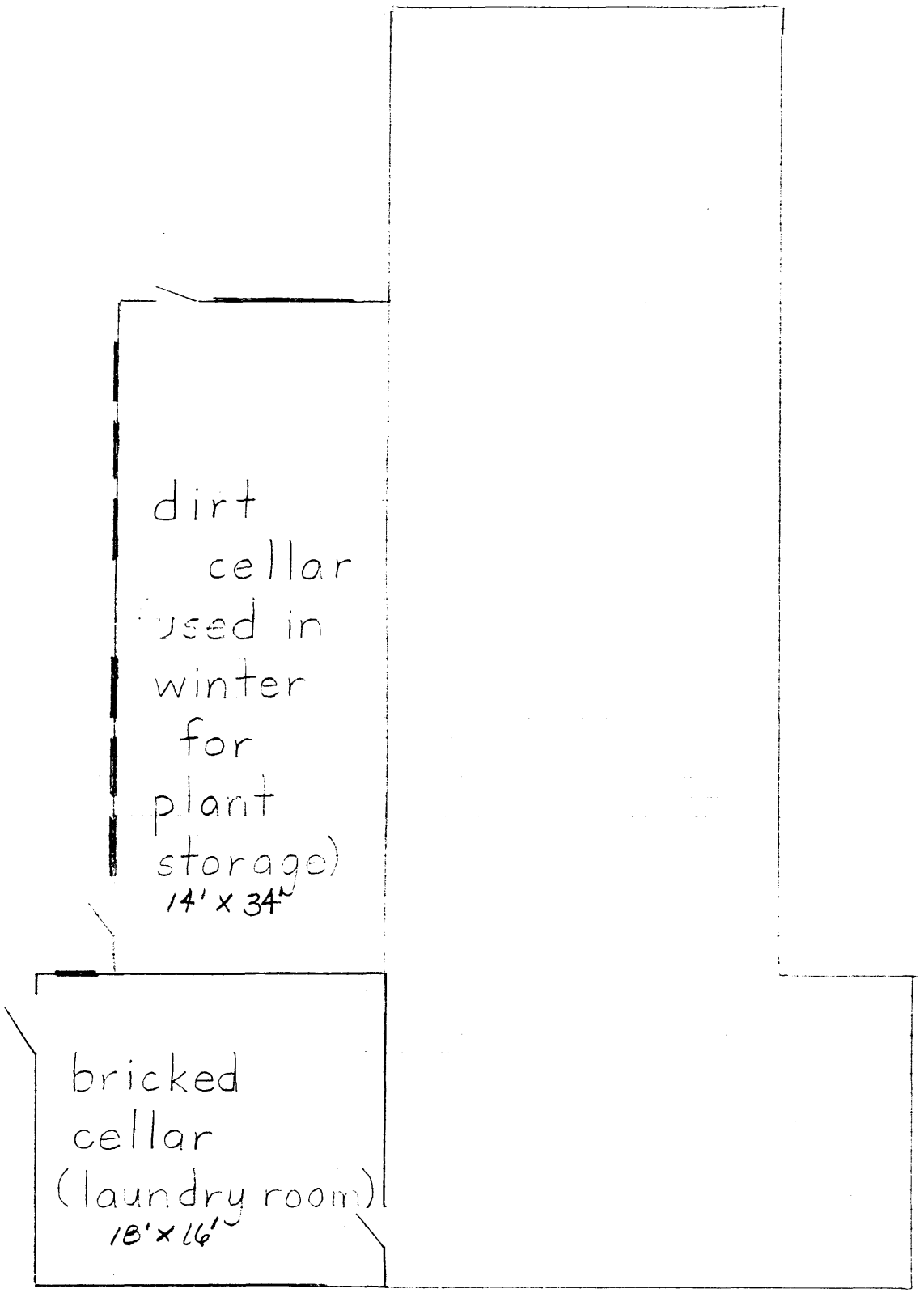
Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

First Floor
1 inch = 8 feet

Dr. William Little House
Nesson, Copiah Co., MS



Upper Floor
1 inch = 8 feet



Ground Level

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

1 inch = 8 feet

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Photo 1 of 6

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

photo 2 of 6

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Photo 3 of 6

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co, MS
4 of 6

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS
Photo 5 of 6

Dr. William Little House
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Photo 6 of 6