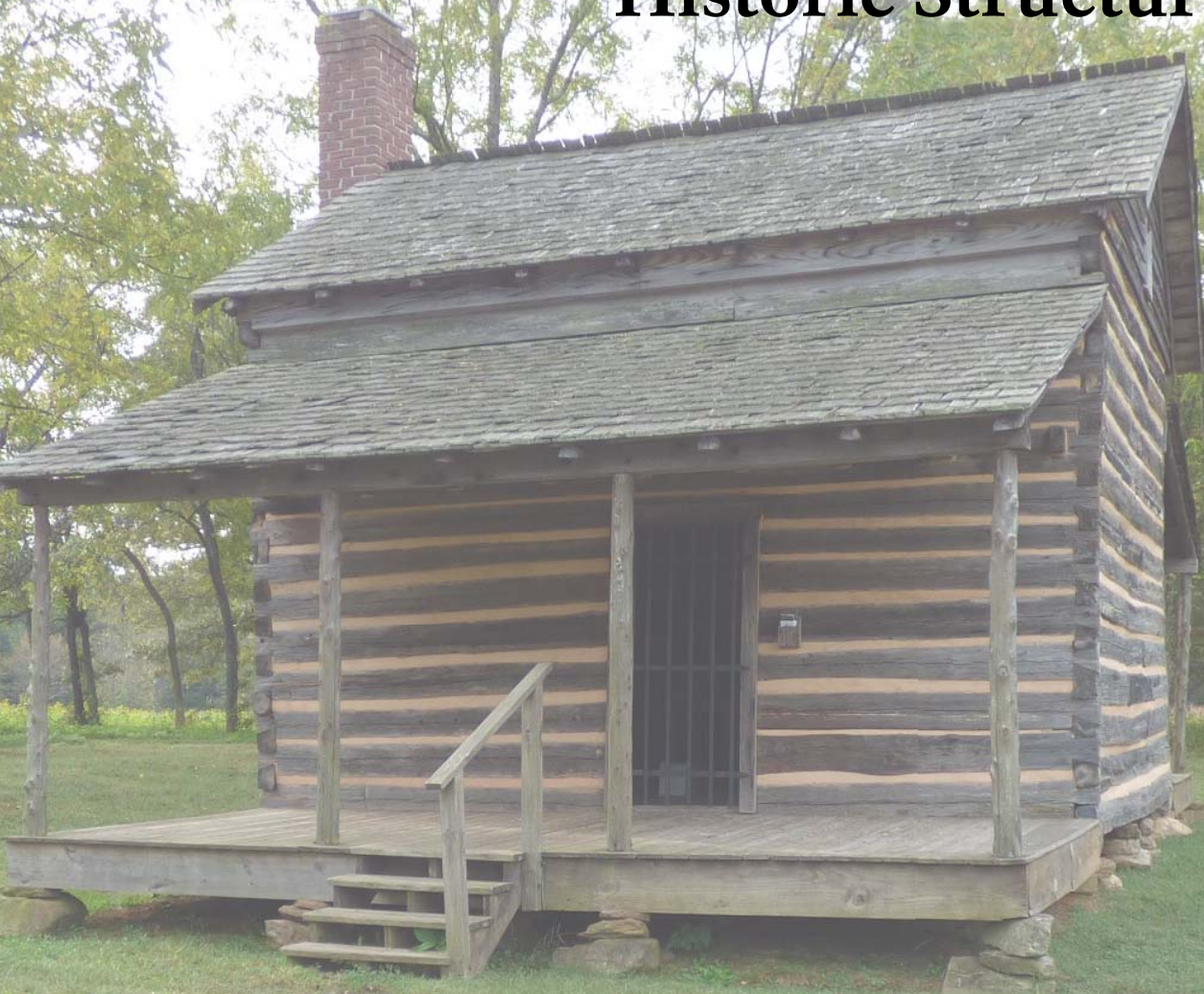




Richard Scruggs II House Ruin & Martin Barn Foundation Robert Scruggs House Cowpens National Battlefield Historic Structure Report



**Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Division
Southeast Region**

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin &
Martin Barn Foundation
Robert Scruggs House
Cowpens National Battlefield
Historic Structure Report

November 2018
Prepared by:
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RATIO Architects

Under the direction of
National Park Service
Southeast Regional Office
Cultural Resources, Partnerships, & Science Division



The report presented here exists in two formats. A printed version is available for study at the park, the Southeastern Regional Office of the National Park Service, and at a variety of other repositories. For more widespread access, this report also exists in a web-based format through ParkNet, the website of the National Park Service. Please visit www.nps.gov for more information.

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About the cover: View of Robert Scruggs House, 2017.

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin &
Martin Barn Foundation
Robert Scruggs House
Cowpens National Battlefield
Historic Structure Report

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Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Historic Structure Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and cultural landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Region. A number of individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Cowpens National Battlefield for their assistance throughout the process. We hope that this study will prove valuable to park management in ongoing efforts to preserve the historic structure and to everyone in understanding and interpreting this unique resource.

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Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division
Southeast Regional Office

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2018

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Management Summary

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Executive Summary

At the request of the National Park Service (NPS), WLA Studio has developed this Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the Robert Scruggs House and Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation at Cowpens National Battlefield. WLA Studio consulted with RATIO Architects, Inc. in preparing this document.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this Historic Structure Report is to document the construction history and current condition of the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation and the Robert Scruggs House at Cowpens National Battlefield (COWP) and to provide recommendations for the treatment and use of the structures. This HSR will guide the National Park Service (NPS) in the stewardship of these historic resources.

The report includes *Part I: Developmental History* and *Part II: Treatment and Use*. Part I provides a brief review of the historical development of Cowpens National Battlefield, known historical information about the construction and use of the buildings, and transfer of the property to the National Park Service. A chronology of the structures' physical development and use provides information on the known evolution of the resources over time. This information derives largely from physical investigations with the addition of available historical documentation. The HSR provides information about why the structures were constructed, who constructed them, and how they were constructed. The HSR also provides a chronology of changes that have been made to the structures, from their original construction to 2017.

A current physical description based on building investigations and assessment using non-destructive methods provides a systemic accounting of both structures' features and materials. A summary assessment of their current condition is also included.

Part II provides recommendations for the treatment and use of the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation and

the Robert Scruggs House. The Treatment and Use chapter presents a proposed treatment for the historic structures. It emphasizes preservation and restoration of existing historic material while conforming to applicable laws, regulations, planning, and functional requirements. Treatment recommendations address foundation conditions, masonry conditions, and deterioration of the physical structure.

A bibliography provides all sources of information this report references. An appendix contains period plans of the structures and buildings and existing plans and elevations.

Historical Overview

Cowpens National Battlefield is an 842.5-acre site located in Cherokee County, South Carolina. The site was established to commemorate the Battle of Cowpens, a nationally-significant Revolutionary War battle fought on January 17, 1781. The closest towns to the site are Chesnee, Cowpens, and Gaffney; Interstate 85 is approximately eleven miles southwest. Though rapidly developing, the surrounding area is still mostly rural in character.

Before European colonization, the site does not appear to have supported any permanent prehistoric settlements. Instead, the area served as hunting grounds for the Cherokee and Catawba. The site is located along an elevated ridge. This topographic condition coupled with specific soils and periodic fire disturbance produced a savanna vegetation community. Below and surrounding the drier ridge, mature forest and swaths of rivercane grew dense and provided alternate browsing areas for wild fauna. It is likely American Indian hunters augmented the naturally-occurring fire cycles of the site to increase vegetation preferred by wild game such as white-tailed deer. These conditions were amenable to cattle grazing as well, and after the Cherokee and Catawba were removed from the area, the landscape was used as a cow holding area—a cow pen— during the late Colonial era.

It is unknown who first used the area for holding cattle. The names “Hannah” and “Saunders” were associated with the site during the historic period, but no record related to either person can be traced directly to the site. There is also no

definitive evidence of anyone living within present park boundaries prior to 1811. However, by the start of the American Revolution two regional roads passed through the site: Green River Road and Island Ford Road. These roads provided settlers from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia access to the South Carolina frontier as they migrated south, while also connecting the backcountry to regionally important trading centers. Further, these roads served both patriots and British troops during the war.

The Battle of Cowpens was one of the notable patriot victories of the southern campaigns, and one that helped to change the outcome of the war. Building on the momentum of the patriot victory at the Battle of Kings Mountain, General Nathanael Greene, commander of the patriot forces in the South, sent Brigadier General Daniel Morgan with half the southern patriot force to attack the British should they enter North Carolina. Tipped off to the plan, British General Lord Charles Cornwallis sent the highly-skilled and fast-moving British light troops commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton to disrupt the patriot plan. Tarleton pursued Morgan through the South Carolina backcountry in the winter of 1780-1781, gaining on him and getting into position to overtake the slower-moving patriot force. Realizing that retreat from Tarleton would not be possible, Morgan devised a plan to engage Tarleton in battle. Based on input from a local named Captain Dennis Trammel, Morgan directed his troops to make for the “cow pens” area. Arriving earlier than the British allowed Morgan to develop a battle plan using the natural systems and features of the site.

The Battle of Cowpens was fought on the morning of January 17, 1781. The 25 - 30-minute battle resulted in a resounding victory for the patriots. Coming at a time when morale among troops and militiamen was low, the victory gave new life to the patriot cause. It also helped sway loyalist sentiment towards independence. As the year went on, the British and American forces fought a series of battles, with the British winning the majority of them, though suffering many casualties each time. With dwindling numbers, the remaining British forces marched to Yorktown, where patriot forces under General George Washington surrounded them. On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered, signaling the beginning of the end

of the war. The war officially ended in September 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris.

Following the Battle of Cowpens, a period of land speculation in the South Carolina Piedmont region began. At the battlefield, many acres were claimed, though initially little development of the area occurred. Soon after, various settlers, most notably the Scruggs and Ezell Families, came to the cow pens area to start self-sufficient farming operations. Settlers cleared land, planted crops, tended gardens, and raised livestock. Eventually, a farming community developed in the area. Churches, mills, and other industries were established nearby. The nearby town of Spartanburg developed southwest of the site.

Local citizens recognized the importance of the Battle of Cowpens, and as early as the 1830s, they held commemoration events at the battlefield. In 1856, a militia from Charleston erected the Washington Light Infantry Monument on the battlefield. The following year, a group of local Spartanburg women purchased a one-acre plot from the Ezell Family to surround the monument. This was the first physical commemoration at the battle site. Local boosters wanted more recognition for the battle however, and several decades of petitioning government officials began. In 1929, a bill authorizing the creation of a one-acre Cowpens National Battlefield Site (NBS) was signed, though the one-acre parcel containing the Washington Light Infantry Monument was excluded from the development plan. Between 1929 and 1933, the US War Department administered the site, which was located at the intersection of two local roadways. They erected a 32-foot-tall monument and installed minimal site improvements. In 1933, the War Department transferred most of the military parks under their management to the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS did not make any substantial changes to the site until the 1950s, when site managers installed parking, interpretation, and vegetation.

Throughout NPS ownership, local boosters continued to advocate for an expanded battlefield park. As local and political support grew, the NPS began exploring the possibility of a dramatically larger site and created a series of master plans to create a vision for what the park would contain. The plans called for the creation of an 800-acre site that would contain extensive interpretive

features, a visitor center, picnic area, walking trails, and an automobile tour road. Additionally, the plans called for the restoration of the landscape to 1781 conditions. The restoration necessitated the removal of many residents from within the park boundary, as well as removal of the physical evidence of their residency, including all houses, barns, fences, roads, and commercial buildings. The plan was approved in 1970, and on April 11, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed House Bill 10086, establishing Cowpens as a national battlefield.

After residents relocated from within the park, the process of removing non-historic features began. While most of the site was cleared, several historic resources dating to after the battle were spared demolition. The features were the Robert Scruggs House, the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin, the Green River Road, and the two existing monuments, including the Washington Light Infantry Monument. The park was redeveloped between 1978 and 1981 and was completed in time for the bicentennial of the Battle of Cowpens. Since that time, landscape restoration activities have focused on restoring the ecological character of the landscape by thinning areas of successional forest, prescribed fire, and planting native trees, grasses, and river cane.

Statement of Significance

The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation and the Robert Scruggs House and are significant resources associated with the settlement of the South Carolina Piedmont following the American Revolution and reflect the evolution of Piedmont farmsteads between 1800 and the 1930s.

The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin site is significant for its retention of the circa 1811 stone chimney, believed to be the only example of a Tidewater/Virginia chimney in the South Carolina Piedmont, reflecting the persistence of colonial building traditions in South Carolina after the Revolutionary War. The Martin Barn Foundation reflects the continuing evolution of farming in the region into the Great Depression. The Richard

Scruggs II House Ruin site could yield potential archaeological evidence of the lives of enslaved people in the South Carolina Piedmont.

The Robert Scruggs House is significant as a surviving example of a log house representative of the vernacular dwellings built in the South Carolina Piedmont during the period after initial settlement. Single-room dwellings with a sleeping loft above represent one of the earliest housing types in the United States and appear to have been the dominant housing form in frontier areas. This building form rarely survived unaltered. The history of the Robert Scruggs House embodies the growth of a single-room log house through several periods of expansion and improvement.

As noted by Edwin C. Bearss in 1974, the Robert Scruggs House was significant as an example of a log house that had grown with two generations of a family of yeoman farmers, embodying the vernacular building traditions of the Carolina Piedmont over the arc of the nineteenth century. The 1977-1980 restoration project, for which little documentation has been found, destroyed all fabric associated with the house's evolution, limiting the period of significance to the first stage of construction. The site may possess archaeological resources that could provide new information about life on an antebellum farmstead in the South Carolina Piedmont. The house is also significant for its association with the interpretation of the Cowpens Battlefield during the Scruggs family's occupancy.

Project Methodology

The scope of work for this HSR defined the required level of the historical research and the architectural investigation, analysis, and documentation as "limited." Research was to be conducted referring to primary-source documents and public records, with most resources derived directly from the NPS archives. Additional research was conducted at the University of Georgia, Cultural Landscape Lab (UGA-CLL). The UGA-CLL had recently completed a final draft of a Cultural Landscape Report for Cowpens National Battlefield, and the group possessed copies of many primary resources pertaining to the site. The records previously kept at Kings Mountain

National Military Park Archives were in transition to the National Archives during the investigation stage of the project. Since these sources had not yet been re-catalogued, the original archives location (Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives) is noted throughout the report. Monument investigation was directed to be “non-destructive.”

Documentation of the monument began in August 2017 with the kick-off meeting for the project. Consultants conducted fieldwork for the project in September 2017. Documentation included field drawings of existing conditions, notes about materials and architectural features, structural conditions, and digital photographs. The available NPS documents provided important information on the historic context of Cowpens Battlefield, documentation to-date of the monument, and management plans that are guiding the current treatment of the resources.

The historical architects referred to existing recordation documents, as available, for the preliminary analysis of the monument’s evolution and to prepare for fieldwork. The historical architect and staff prepared the existing condition plans based on these field investigations and drafted them using AutoCAD.

may not have been present during construction stage 1. Restoration to construction stage 2, with the exterior of the log walls covered by wood weatherboard siding, would help alleviate the rapid deterioration seen since the siding was removed during the 1977-1980 project. A new restoration of the house could more accurately represent its appearance during the first or second stage of construction while correcting long-term maintenance problems. In a restoration to either period, the house’s size and interior configuration would remain as they are today. Restoration to either period would support interpretation of life in the South Carolina Piedmont in the generations following the American Revolution—including the issue of slavery—and the role of the Scruggs family as early tour guides for the Cowpens Battlefield. These two alternative restoration periods should be reviewed to determine a suitable balance for interpretation and long-term preservation of the historic fabric of the house.

Conclusions and Recommendations

It is recommended that the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation receive a Preservation treatment, with regular maintenance and cyclical repairs to maintain the ruins in their present condition for future generations. Current interpretation may be enhanced by further research and archaeological investigation.

It is recommended that the Robert Scruggs House receive a Restoration treatment, restoring it to its appearance during the period between the house’s construction around 1828 and 1850, the year after Benson Lossing’s visit (construction stages 1-2). The house underwent a restoration project during 1977-1980, which intended to show the structure at construction stage 1 (around 1828). Available evidence suggests that horizontal battens covered the walls’ chinking and that the porches

Administrative Data

Locational Data

Building Name: Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation
Robert Scruggs House

Location: Cowpens National Battlefield

State/Territory: South Carolina

Related NPS Studies

Cameron Binkley and Steven A. Davis. *Cowpens National Battlefield: An Administrative History*. Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Stewardship, 1998.

John W. Walker. *Archeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina*. Tallahassee, Florida: National Park Service, Southeast Archeological Center, 1990.

Edwin C. Bearss. *Historic Grounds and Resource Study, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina*. Denver: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1974.

Real Property Information

Acquisition Date: 1970s (after 1972)
LCS ID: 000239 (Robert Scruggs House)
LCS ID: 012261 (Richard Scruggs House Ruin)

Size Information

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin: 40 square feet ±
Martin Barn Foundation: 1,276 square feet ±
Robert Scruggs House: 620 square feet ±

Cultural Resource Data

Cowpens National Battlefield was added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966. The site boundaries at this time excluded the Scruggs resources. The documentation for the nomination was submitted and approved in 1978. The 1978 nomination included the Robert Scruggs House as a contributing resource to the significance of Cowpens National Battlefield under National Register Criterion A for their association with the commemoration of the Battle of Cowpens. The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin, specifically the chimney and a few foundation stones, was added to the nomination as a contributing resource in 1987 for its reflection of vernacular building style. The chimney is locally significant under NR Criterion C as a unique remnant of Tidewater design and for its large firebox and overall size. The Robert Scruggs House is locally significant under NR Criterion C as an intact example of early 19th-century log construction. It is also locally significant under Criterion A because the Scruggs family served as travelers' guides to the battleground.

Proposed Treatment

Richard Scruggs II Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation

It is recommended that the Richard Scruggs II Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation receive a Preservation treatment, maintaining the ruins in their present condition.

Robert Scruggs House

It is recommended that the Robert Scruggs House receive a Restoration treatment, restoring it to its appearance at one stage during the period c.1828-1850.

The map illustrates the Copepans National Battlefield area, featuring the Visitor Center, Main Entrance, and various trails. Key locations marked include the Visitor Center, Main Entrance, Battlefield Parking #1, Battlefield Parking #2, Battlefield Trail, and the Robert S. Rogers House. The map also shows the Copepans National Battlefield Scenic Highway and the Copepans National Battlefield Scenic Byway. The map is titled 'COPEPANS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD'.

Legend:

- Auto Loop Road
- Battlefield Trail
- Green River Road
- Other Trail
- Historic road of
- and indicator

Scale: 0 to 0.5 Miles / 0 to 0.5 Kilometer

North Arrow: North

Map Labels:

- Visitor Center
- Main Entrance
- Battlefield Parking #1
- Battlefield Parking #2
- Battlefield Trail
- Robert S. Rogers House
- Copepans National Battlefield Scenic Highway
- Copepans National Battlefield Scenic Byway
- Copepans National Battlefield
- Green River Road
- Historic road of
- and indicator

I.A Historical Background and Context

Introduction

Located in rural upstate South Carolina, Cowpens National Battlefield commemorates the 1781 Battle of Cowpens, a significant patriot victory during the final months of Revolutionary War. The battlefield encompasses roughly 250 acres of the 842.5-acre site, of which about 80 acres has been proposed for the “core battlefield.”¹ While the park focuses its interpretation program primarily on the Battle of Cowpens, it also interprets cultural resources related to early settlement of the South Carolina backcountry. Of the remaining resources, two pertain to the Scruggs Family—the Richard Scruggs II House site and the Robert Scruggs House. These post-battle resources tell the story of the evolution of vernacular life in the early-nineteenth century, as well as the story of commemoration and eventual preservation of the battlefield.

Commemorative activities of the battlefield began as settlers established homes, institutions, and industries in the immediate area during the early nineteenth century. Recognizing the importance of the battle, local boosters held commemorative events beginning as early as 1835. These events transitioned into advocacy for protection of the battlefield site. In 1856, The Washington Light Infantry—an organization created in honor of George Washington—erected a memorial to the battle participants. The following year, aided by local citizens, a one-acre parcel upon which the monument was built was sold to the group. These commemorative events mark the beginning of a long history of local efforts aimed at increasing public knowledge of Cowpens’ significance, commemorating Cowpens’ history, and protecting the battlefield landscape.

In the years following the battle, the growing local community used the battlefield for various community events. For instance, in 1861, 2,000 people attended the 80th anniversary of the battle.² After the Civil War ended, the nation viewed the impending centennial of the American Revolution as a way to heal a divided country. As part of this nationalist spirit, the federal government sought to identify battlefield sites in need of protection and commemoration. As they had for the previous half-century, local organizations and politicians championed Cowpens as a site of great national importance and one worthy of federal recognition. Eventually, after decades of promotion, Congress authorized funds for building a new monument at Cowpens to coincide with the battle’s centennial. For several reasons however, the location for the monument was switched from Cowpens to nearby Spartanburg. The move illustrates the challenges local Cowpens enthusiasts faced in their advocacy. Their subsequent attempts to expand the existing commemorative site were mostly unsuccessful until 1929, when congress authorized the purchase of one acre of land to establish Cowpens as a National Battlefield Site (NBS).

The enabling legislation classified Cowpens as a Class IIB site and authorized the creation of a small commemorative area to be administered by the U.S. War Department. It did not authorize money for land purchase. Therefore, in 1930, the Daniel Morgan Chapter NSDAR and the Cherokee County government raised the funds to acquire a one-acre parcel at the intersection of South Carolina Highways 11 and 110. The land was then deeded to the federal government. The U.S. War Department in turn constructed the US Monument on the triangular tract of land in 1932. The new Cowpens NBS did not include the one-acre parcel that featured the Washington Light Infantry Monument. In 1933, the War Department transferred most of its battlefield sites to the National Park Service (NPS). From 1933

1. Palmetto Conservation Foundation, *Cowpens National Battlefield: Administrative Record of Battlefield Landscape Restoration, 2001-2012*. Prepared for the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, under Task Agreement H5510070003 (2007; Modification 2, 2012), (Columbia, South Carolina: Palmetto Conservation Foundation, 2013), 17; 140-141.

2. Cameron Binkley and Steven A. Davis, *Cowpens National Battlefield: An Administrative History* (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Stewardship, 1998), 10.

through the 1960s, locals continued to lobby for an expanded battlefield site. Their efforts were again mostly unsuccessful, though this does not mean the site was neglected. Mission 66 directives in the late-1950s and early-1960s improved the Cowpens NBS landscape with new tree and shrub plantings, a parking area, walkways, and interpretive features.

In the late 1960s, efforts to increase the prestige of Cowpens NBS gained renewed traction, with the NPS taking the lead role in planning the future of the site. The NPS planners' vision was authorized in 1969 and focused on turning the site into a historical park complete with a historic core restored to 1781 conditions, walking trails, an automobile tour road, a Visitor Center, and other recreational areas. The plan necessitated the acquisition of hundreds of acres surrounding the site, which included numerous privately owned residences. In 1972, the decades-long attempt to expand Cowpens into a well-developed interpretive site was finally successful. The enabling legislation established Cowpens as a National Battlefield, and "authorized over five million dollars for acquisition of approximately 845 additional acres and park development."³ This time, the land containing the Washington Light Infantry Monument was included. The monument was excluded from the list of buildings, structures, and features slated for demolition and removal. Planners also saved the Green River Road, the Robert Scruggs House, and the Richard Scruggs II House site from demolition. By the bicentennial of the Battle of Cowpens, the NPS had implemented most aspects of the plan.

Since that time, the park managers have continued the landscape restoration activities envisioned in the late 1960s. Various partners have conducted extensive ecological, archeological, and cultural resources surveys since that time, which have revealed much about Cowpens' landscape history. The recommendations in these reports continue to guide restoration efforts today.



Figure 1. Artistic rendering of a cowpen area in the backcountry. Source: 1938 Cowpens National Battlefield Master Plan cover art.

The Early Cowpens Landscape

American Indian Influence

Prior to human presence in what is now the South Carolina Piedmont, the environment contained a mixture of mature forest, open savanna, and dense rivercane ecosystems. Finding the landscape amenable to resource extraction, American Indians populated the southeast in increasing numbers by around 8000 BCE (Before Common Era) and practiced agriculture by around 2000 BCE. Coinciding with agricultural activities, American Indians throughout the southeast mimicked naturally-occurring processes and used fire to maintain and expand the savanna landscape.⁴ Fire management encouraged the growth of plant species preferred by wildlife such as deer and elk. It is assumed American Indians employed fire management in the Cowpens area. Archeology within the park identifies the presence of American Indians as early as the Late Archaic to Early Woodland Periods (approximately 1000 BCE-1000 CE).⁵ There is no evidence of prehistoric human settlement of the landscape, suggesting that American Indians, specifically the Cherokee and Catawba, used the area for hunting and gathering and likely did so into the early-eighteenth century. As Europeans settled the Southeast, they introduced diseases

3. Ibid., 28.

4. Reed F. Noss, *Forgotten Grasslands of the South: Natural History and Conservation*, (Washington D.C.: Island Press, 2013), 67.

5. Christopher Clement and Tamara Wilson, "Intensive Archaeological Survey of Cowpens National Battlefield, Cherokee County, South Carolina," (South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, 2004), viii.

that decimated American Indian populations. Population decline coupled with aggressive methods of land acquisition, resulted in Europeans gradually taking control of the region. Often, new settlers established settlements in areas formerly occupied by American Indians and reused the old agricultural fields for their own subsistence. While some European settlers adopted the use of fire as a landscape management technique, in general the practice declined, which resulted in successional vegetation overtaking abandoned fields.

Cow Pens

The grasses and other forage of open savanna areas that were preferred by browsing wildlife were also ideal for grazing cattle (Figure 1). As the colonial government promoted settlement in the South Carolina Piedmont as part of the 1731 Township Scheme and as people increasingly occupied available land, cattle drivers entering the Piedmont searched for new grazing areas. Cowpens, as its name suggests, met the needs of the transient cattle drivers, who often squatted on and used the landscape without owning it outright. These settlements generally existed as “isolated homesteads with cattle pens, dwellings, and gardens, sitting amidst expanses of unfenced woodlands. A typical cowpen was manned by a white rancher, or ‘cowpen-keeper,’ and by several black slaves, or ‘cattle-hunters.’ In addition to raising crops in manured gardens, cowpen slaves branded cattle, penned calves, and collected beeves for market.”⁶ Enslaved Africans possessed a working knowledge of cattle raising, which is a primary reason for its successful introduction into the colonies.

The names “Hannah” and “Saunders” were associated with the site during the historic period, but no record related to either person can be traced directly to the site. There is no evidence that any buildings, fences, or structures were present at Cowpens in the years prior to the American Revolution, though, based on period documents, it appears that for a time the area was associated with a person named Hanna or Hannah. The absence of fencing can be attributed to the extensive canebrake communities that penned-in the upland area and served as natural fencing. The cattle

drivers used the developing road network to get their cattle to both local and distant markets. By the late 1770s, both Green River Road and Island Ford Road existed within the present park boundary. While colonial-era roads were often improved American Indian trails, it is not known if this is the case for either the Green River or Island Ford roads. The road network encouraged the gradual settlement of the South Carolina backcountry by Irish, Scottish, and German families. These immigrants added to the existing population of Europeans, Africans, and American Indians present in the area. At this time, the population of the South Carolina Piedmont region numbered over 10,000.⁷

The Battle of Cowpens

In the lead up to the American Revolution, the recent settlers of the South Carolina backcountry generally favored remaining British subjects.⁸ This sentiment continued as the British waged the first Southern Campaign in 1776, which aimed to wrest control of the southeastern coastline from the patriots. After a series of defeats, the British temporarily abandoned the campaign in order to focus on the northern colonies. In 1780, the British once again set their sights on the South and launched the second Southern Campaign.

As the British army marched through the South once again, a civil war between loyalists and patriots erupted throughout the southern colonies, destabilizing the region.⁹ Tensions among settlers were high as numerous battles and skirmishes broke out across the backcountry. This time, the British won a number of these conflicts. However, in October 1780, at the Battle of Kings Mountain, the patriot victory over a 1000-person strong loyalist force proved to be a serious setback for the Southern Campaign. Nearby, a place known locally

6. John S. Otto, “The Origins of Cattle-Ranching in Colonial South Carolina, 1670-1715,” *The South Carolina Historical Magazine* 87, No. 2 (Apr., 1986): 123.

7. Chad O. Braley and Joseph R. Gainey, “Mills in the Upcountry: a Historic Context, and a summary of a mill site on the Peters Creek Heritage Preserve, Spartanburg, SC,” (Athens, GA: Southeastern Archaeological Services, Inc., January 22, 2005), 4.

8. Jack Bass and W. Scott Poole, *The Palmetto State: The Making of Modern South Carolina*, (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2009), 16.

9. *Ibid.*, 17.



Figure 2. “The Battle of Cowpens” by Charles McBarron. Note the widely spaced trees, limited understory vegetation, and rolling topography.

for cattle grazing soon served as the site of one of the pivotal battles of the American Revolution—the Battle of Cowpens.

Seizing on the victory at Kings Mountain, General Nathanael Greene, commander of the patriot forces in the South, “divided his army and sent half of it with Brigadier General Daniel Morgan to attack the rear of the British force if it entered North Carolina.”¹⁰ As a response, British General, Lord Charles Cornwallis, sent the highly-skilled and fast-moving British light troops commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton, to disrupt the patriot plan. As the two armies marched through the cold and wet winter, Morgan realized he would not be able to outrun the fast approaching British force. Based on the recommendation of a local named Captain Dennis Trammel, Morgan directed his troops to Cowpens, and they prepared for battle.

10. Binkley and Davis, *Administrative History*, 5.



Figure 3. Portion of Spartanburg District map by Robert Mills. Source: Mills, Robert, T Whitten, A Cheville, and Henry Schenck Tanner. Spartanburgh District, South Carolina. [1820] Map. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2007627909/>. (Accessed December 07, 2017).

Use of the Landscape

On the evening before the battle was fought, Morgan and the troops made camp at Cowpens. As meals and preparations were made, Morgan devised his battle plan. The plan relied on the natural systems and features of the site, especially those related to topography and vegetation. Morgan planned to organize his troops in a “three-tier, in-depth defense as was standard in eighteenth-century European warfare,”¹¹ but to reverse “the usual order of battle so that his positions became progressively stronger, instead of weaker, as the enemy encountered them.”¹² The landscape, as it did with cattle, would force Tarleton within the confines of the elevated ridge and open-forest savanna, thus preventing British attempts to flank the patriot forces. The mature hardwoods that punctuated the landscape would be used as cover, variations in topography would be used as vantage and firing locations, and the rising sun made the British easier to see.

The Battle of Cowpens was fought on the morning of January 17, 1781 (Figure 2). From the start, Morgan’s plan was a success, and despite moments of uncertainty, the 25-30 minute battle went decidedly in Morgan’s favor. At the end of the conflict, “Tarleton’s army had lost eighty-six percent of its men, including 110 killed, two hundred wounded, and 512 additional soldiers captured. Morgan’s losses included at least twenty-four killed and one hundred wounded.”¹³

Significance

The Battle of Cowpens dealt a severe blow to the British ranks, but it did not knock them out of the war. Perhaps more significantly than the number of British casualties, the battle swayed loyalist sentiment in favor of the patriots in the backcountry, while simultaneously boosting the morale of the militia and regular troops. As the year went on, the British and American forces fought a series of battles, with the British winning the majority of them, though suffering many casualties each time. With dwindling numbers, the remaining

British forces marched towards Yorktown, Virginia. There, patriot forces under General George Washington surrounded them. On October 19, 1781 Cornwallis surrendered, which marked the beginning of the end of the war.

The Settlement of Cowpens

Following the Battle of Cowpens, the backcountry remained a volatile cultural environment. The Revolution and the local civil war produced wounds that were not quick to heal. With the passage of time however, an increasing number of settlers came into the region and established homes, farms, industries, and communities (Figure 3). Cowpens followed a pattern of development in line with these trends.

The settlement of the region surrounding Cowpens began by the start of the American Revolution. “In what is now Spartanburg County,” just to the west of Cowpens today, “Scots-Irish settlers occupied the various branches of Tyger River by 1761, but the first permanent settlement was at Lawson’s Fork (Glendale) in 1775.”¹⁴ By 1780, William Abbett established a small farm two miles southwest of the battleground, making him one of earliest settlers in the area. Even closer to the battleground, in 1787, James Steadman purchased a grant for land just west of the core battlefield. In 1791, ten years after the Battle of Cowpens, the South Carolina General Assembly sanctioned the survey, purchase, and settlement of vacant backcountry lands. With the opening of the backcountry by the General Assembly, a period of land acquisition began in the area, resulting in a series of large land purchases by speculators and settlers alike. The flurry of land acquisition produced overlapping property boundaries and conflicting claims.

As previously mentioned, while Cowpens was historically associated with a person named Hanna (Hannah) and Saunders, there is no known record of a person of either name living or owning land at Cowpens. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, the area was still largely unclaimed. Speculators did not let the land go vacant for

11. Ibid., 6.

12. Ibid.

13. Ibid., 7.

14. Braley and Gainey, “Mills in the Upcountry,” 4.

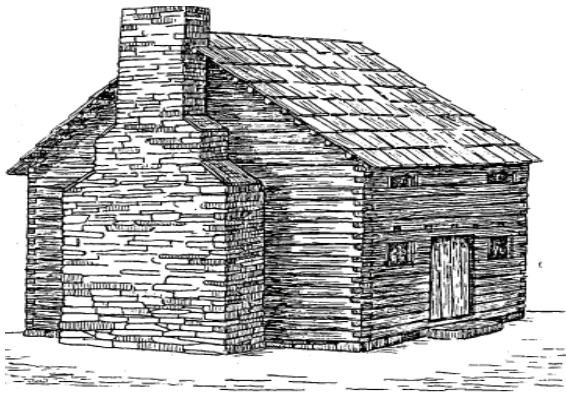


Figure 4. Artistic rendering of the Richard Scruggs II cabin, showing Tidewater chimney. Source: Walker, *Archeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site*.



Figure 5. Lossing's depiction of the Robert Scruggs cabin and landscape. Source: Benson John Lossing, *The pictorial field-book of the revolution: or, Illustrations by pen and pencil of the history, biography, scenery, relics and traditions, of the war for independence* (New York: Harper & bros., 1859). Accessed May 24, 2017. <https://archive.org/details/pictorialfieldbo02lossoft>.

long however, and within a few years, they had purchased most of the remaining unclaimed Cowpens lands. The earliest deeds for lands encompassing the battlefield proper date to 1803 and correspond to Daniel McClaren's purchase of 2,000 acres. Like other speculators, it does not appear that McClaren improved the property in any way.

Early Settlers: Scruggs and Ezell Families

Richard Scruggs II of Rutherford County, North Carolina, on the other hand, improved the land he purchased. Between 1803 and 1804, Scruggs II purchased 200 acres located southeast of the core of the battlefield. The land was first purchased in 1797 by George Williams and then was sold several times before Scruggs acquired the property. A portion of this land constituted part of William



Figure 6. Robert Scruggs House in 1928. By this time, several additions to the house had been made. Source: United States Department of War, *The Battle of Kings Mountain and The Battle of Cowpens, Historical Statements*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1928). <http://archive.org/details/historicalstatemOOarmy>.

Abbett's original farm, which Scruggs' father-in-law had purchased a few years prior. Based on recorded deeds and an inscription on a chimney stone, it is generally assumed that around 1811 Richard Scruggs constructed a single-room cabin for his family near a branch of Island Creek. The cabin featured a Tidewater-style chimney, which is characteristic of backcountry houses constructed in the mid- to late-eighteenth century (Figure 4). As such, it is possible that the cabin, or some iteration of it, was actually the house Abbett constructed in the late-eighteenth century. As archeologist John Walker surmises, "were the Richard Scruggs II chimney judged wholly on architectural style, it would likely date from the eighteenth century."¹⁵ Walker further conjectures that "Scruggs may have moved into the house at that time under some sort of informal familial arrangement" prior to the 1811 date in the deed book. Either way, as it is currently understood, the chimney remains the oldest surviving constructed feature within the park boundary.

Richard and his wife Mary proceeded to have children who later acquired property in the immediate vicinity and established their own homes and farms. In 1828, the elder Scruggs gifted 200 acres to his son Robert Scruggs as a wedding present. Here, Robert built his house with his wife Catherine at the intersection of Green River

15. John W. Walker, *Archeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina*, (Tallahassee, Florida: National Park Service, Southeast Archeological Center, 1990), 5.

Road and Scruggs Road (Figure 5). Scruggs built the house as “a one-room log cabin with a loft and chimney and fireplace in its east elevation. As his family grew and he became more affluent, Robert Scruggs enlarged and framed in his log house. A second chimney and fireplace were erected at the west elevation of the addition.”¹⁶ Since at least 1849, when Robert assisted American Revolution researcher Benson Lossing, the Scruggs family served as unofficial tour guides of the battlefield, directing visitors around the site and discussing area history. Later, in 1895, James Scruggs lent Battle of Cowpens artifacts—Scruggs Family heirlooms—to display at the Atlanta Exposition. The house’s association with the commemorative history of Cowpens helped save it from demolition during park expansion in the 1970s.

Other Scruggs family members similarly carved out their own space in the landscape, and the family established themselves as integral members of the small but growing community (Figure 6). Other prominent families in the area included the Ezell Family, who owned land near the intersection of Green River and Island Ford Roads northwest of the Scruggs’ properties. The land, which included a house and small family cemetery, was acquired by James H. Ezell in 1850. The Ezell Family became community fixtures, participating in Cowpens commemorative events and selling the one-acre parcel the Washington Light Infantry Monument occupied. Members of both the Scruggs and Ezell families operated the local Cowpens post office, which was actually named “Ezell” even after the nearby town of Cowpens was established. James Ezell also ran a general store, which he constructed sometime during the 1870s. The store served as both the post office and polling place. The Byars-Ezell Cemetery still exists in the northwest portion of the park.

Agriculture, Settlement Patterns, and Land Use

Of the Cowpens community, Historian Ed Bearss offers that “[t]hese people and their way of life were more important politically and economically in the South than the great planters with their

mansions and slave gangs.”¹⁷ Primarily subsistence farmers, these farming families produced cattle, hogs, corn, tubers, and other vegetables. Orchards grew interspersed with the fields and fencerows. Settlement took into account the landscape’s natural features such as creeks, topography, and wetlands. Settlers built homes on topographical highpoints but in relatively close proximity to water sources. A dispersed settlement pattern characterized the early Cowpens landscape. The area’s character differed greatly from that of the South Carolina low country. Here, large plantations were few and far between, and correspondingly, fewer enslaved people lived in the backcountry. While enslaved workers were not uncommon—Richard Scruggs II enslaved seven people by 1840—the smaller-scale agricultural output of the region did not necessitate the presence of more laborers.

As the nineteenth century progressed, settlement of the area increased, which produced significant changes to the landscape. Within the first decade of the 1800s, cattle had dramatically reduced the native cane ecosystem. Agricultural land practices resulted in worn-out fields, which farmers subsequently abandoned. Timbering activities related to land clearing for settlement and extraction for the burgeoning iron industry further altered the pre-settlement landscape. While battlefield farmers grew cotton by the mid-1850s, they did not plant it extensively until after the Civil War. Where farmers cultivated cotton in large quantities, it resulted in the construction of agricultural terracing and drainage ditches throughout the landscape of Cowpens. These modifications are still evident today.

When Benson Lossing visited Cowpens in January 1849, he described the Robert Scruggs homestead as containing a “cleared field . . . in the center of which was a log-house . . . The field was covered with blasted pines, stumps, and stocks of Indian corn, and had a most dreary appearance.”¹⁸ Appearances aside, at this time, Robert Scruggs “was one of the community’s most successful and

16. Edwin C. Bearss, *Historic Structure Report, Robert Scruggs House, Cowpens National Battlefield Site, South Carolina*, (Denver, CO: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Team, 1974), 4.

17. Ibid., 4.

18. Benson John Lossing, *The pictorial field-book of the revolution: or, Illustrations by pen and pencil of the history, biography, scenery, relics and traditions, of the war for independence* (New York: Harper & bros., 1859). Accessed October 13, 2017. <https://archive.org/details/pictorialfieldbo02lossuoft>



Figure 7. Green River Road in 1928. The original caption indicates the house in the distance was the Blackwell Residence. Source: United States Department of War, *The Battle of Kings Mountain and The Battle of Cowpens, Historical Statements*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1928). <http://archive.org/details/historicalstatemOOarmy>.

prosperous farmers.”¹⁹ After the Civil War, Robert Scruggs and other Cowpens farmers continued to grow a variety of crops. Even with the addition of cotton, corn and pigs remained vital cash crops.²⁰ Local farmers produced wheat, corn, oats, rye, butter, milk, molasses, and wool, and raised sheep, chickens, hogs, cattle, horses, and mules.²¹

Within the first few decades of the twentieth century, agricultural land use was prevalent at Cowpens (Figure 7; Figure 8). However, the industries that had propelled the growth of the Piedmont backcountry experienced significant decline. Erosion of agricultural fields displaced tons of soil into local waterways, making mill operations unsustainable. Iron factories closed as production moved northward. The boll weevil decimated cotton crops throughout the South. Additionally, urbanization trends combined with the decline of agriculture changed the character of the countryside as families abandoned their small farms. This economic shift and decrease in farming resulted in an increase in residential development and the subdivision of former farm fields. By the time of the establishment of Cowpens National Battlefield in 1972, the Cowpens landscape contained 295 acres of woodland and 549 acres of land characterized as fallow or in pasture, crops, orchards, turf, residential and commercial sites,

19. Bearss, *Historic Structure Report*, 32.

20. *Ibid.*, 33.

21. *Ibid.*, 29-30.



Figure 8. Cowpens landscape in 1928 looking towards Thicketty Mountain in background. Source: United States Department of War, *The Battle of Kings Mountain and The Battle of Cowpens, Historical Statements*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1928). <http://archive.org/details/historicalstatemOOarmy>.

and roadways. Around 250 people lived in the area, divided between 85 families.²²

Commemoration

The settlers of the Cowpens landscape and surrounding area looked towards Cowpens as a source of local pride. As early as the 1830s, locals held commemorative events at the battlefield. In particular, “several thousand of the citizens of Spartanburg and the adjoining Districts and counties of South and North Carolina” celebrated the 53rd anniversary of the battle.²³ Many of the visitors camped on the battlefield the evening before and woke to rousing cheers and musket fire. Dignitaries gave speeches, prayers, and retellings of the events of the battle. Events such as these likely continued through the next two decades and helped to galvanize community interest and support for more permanent commemorative presence on the landscape. The publication of Benson Lossing’s popular *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution* in 1859 helped bring national attention to Cowpens. The publication featured the

22. Denver Service Center, “Final Environmental Statement: Master Plan and Development Concept Plan, Cowpens National Battlefield,” (Denver, CO: Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1975), 1.

23. The Greenville Mountaineer, as quoted in Edwin C. Bearss, *Historic Grounds and Resource Study, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina*, (Denver: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1974), 181.



Figure 9. 1936 photograph of the battlefield site. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is within the wooded area in the background. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3A, 132, 4481 c. 2.

Cowpens landscape in both narrative description and illustration, which increased popular interest in the battle.

Local Commemoration Activity

In April 1856, the Battle of Cowpens was permanently commemorated with the construction of the Washington Light Infantry Monument. The monument—a cast iron shaft atop a slab of marble resting on an octagonal tabby base—was the first physical commemoration of battle.²⁴ In July of 1856, a group of local women from Spartanburg raised funds to purchase a one-acre plot of land from James H. Ezell upon which the monument was erected. The group then conveyed the land to the Washington Light Infantry. The following year, local men raised the funds and labor for a thirty-foot square iron fence to enclose the monument.

The events of 1856 mark the beginning of organized and concerted advocacy to commemorate the battle at Cowpens. Led by two chapters of the National Society of the Daughters of the Revolution (NSDAR)—the Daniel Morgan and Battle of Cowpens chapters—these groups fought on behalf of Cowpens, arguing on behalf of its recognition as a place of national significance, for the next several decades. With the support of local residents, the two NSDAR chapters were incessant in their attempt to expand the memorial function the site. In general however, for the better part of seven decades, the groups were unsuccessful.

24. Bearss, *Historic Grounds*, 163.

It was not for any lack of trying that the boosters failed in getting Congress to authorize the creation of a federally-funded and federally-administered Cowpens Battlefield Site. In fact, between 1902 and 1924, local congressional representatives introduced twelve bills seeking the establishment of an official Cowpens site.²⁵ At this time, Congress had limited funds with which to preserve or commemorate historic sites. In order to make such determinations, committees conducted studies to identify sites to receive funding. Most significantly for Cowpens, a national study of battlefield sites begun in 1926 finally identified Cowpens as possessing “more than ordinary military and historic interest” and “worthy of some form of monument, tablet, or marker to indicate the location of the battle field.”²⁶ The study, boosted by the support of the NSDAR and other prominent locals, helped secure authorization for the creation of a national battlefield site. The proposed bill for its creation approved the acquisition of at least ten acres. The final bill, after committee tinkering, reduced its size to one acre, and local supporters were once again responsible for purchasing the land. Despite the setback, on March 4, 1929, President Hoover signed the bill authorizing the creation of Cowpens National Battlefield Site (NBS), and thus it became one of many historic battlefields administered by the US War Department.

Cowpens National Battlefield Site

The Daniel Morgan Chapter of the NSDAR and Cherokee County government combined forces to raise the necessary money to purchase the one-acre lot for Cowpens NBS, which was done in July 1930. The triangular lot, located at the intersection of South Carolina Highways 11 and 110 roughly a hundred yards to the north of the existing Washington Light Infantry Monument, was the “approximate spot from which Morgan directed his troops during the battle.”²⁷ After its purchase, the DAR deeded the property to the U.S. War Department. For its part, the War Department

25. Binkley and Davis, *Administrative History*, 12-13.

26. “Study and Investigation of Battle Fields in the United States for Commemorative Purposes, May, 4, 1926,” in Lary M. Dilsaver, *America’s National Park System: The Critical Documents*, (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 1994), 66.

27. Binkley and Davis, *Administrative History*, 15.

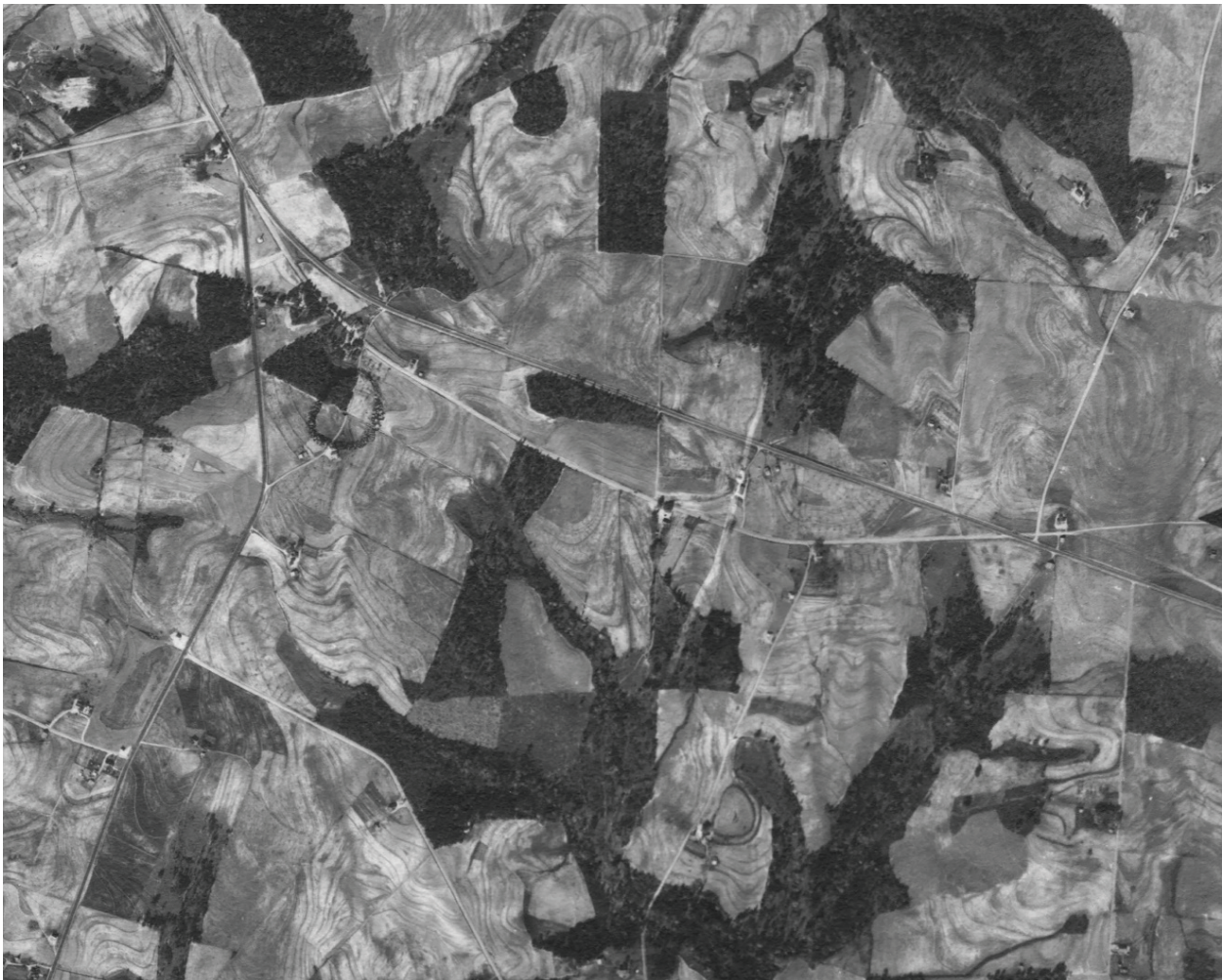


Figure 10. 1937 aerial photograph of Cowpens. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is obscured by vegetation, but is located in the wooded area southeast of the one acre battlefield site. Source: USDA.



Figure 11. 1956 photograph looking down the Green River Road west towards the Robert Scruggs House in the background. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c332.



Figure 12. 1950s era photograph of Cowpens landscape at this time. Sources: Kings Mountain Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C191.



Figure 13. 1961 image of the US Monument site. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C162, 1 of 2.

designed the monument to be erected at the new site. The designed monument featured a 32-foot tall multi-block granite obelisk that stood above a large inscribed granite block and even larger granite foundation stone (Figure 9). A low fence and raised octagonal platform surrounded the monument. Construction began in 1931, and its builders completed the monument the following year. A dedication ceremony hosted by the Daniel Morgan Chapter of the NSDAR was held on June 14, 1932.

A year later, in 1933, Executive Order 6166 transferred all War Department historic battlefields and parks to the National Park Service (NPS). The superintendent of the recently created Kings Mountain National Military Park oversaw administrative duties of Cowpens. NPS ownership of Cowpens did little for the site at first. The NPS created several iterations of master plans in the late-1930s, but due to a lack of funding, the recommended improvements were not implemented. The surrounding area at this time remained rural and featured extensive agricultural land use—not an overtly park-like setting (Figure 10; Figure 11; Figure 12). The NPS returned to the plans after WWII but did not make any substantial improvements until the establishment of the Mission 66 program in the late 1950s. These improvements included the construction and installation of a parking lot, walkway, signage, some plantings, and flagpole. In addition to these improvements, the county “agreed to grade a road on the third side for a visible site boundary and access to the parking lot.”²⁸

28. Ibid.

Efforts to Expand

Local boosters continued their advocacy for increased recognition and protection of the entire battlefield. In the early 1940s they “stepped up their pressure on the National Park Service to further enlarge and develop the site.”²⁹ In 1956, the Battle of Cowpens Chapter of the NSDAR purchased a one-quarter-acre lot that was created by the relocation of SC 11. The land was deeded to the federal government, expanding Cowpens NBS to 1.25 acres. As the 1960s progressed, the local citizenry joined in the calls for greater recognition, and a new bill was introduced by local congressional members to add acreage to the site. Noting this activity, the NPS began considering the expansion of the site into a national battlefield (Figure 13).

Park Establishment and Development

In 1969, the Denver Support Office began drafting a new master plan for what the expanded park would look like, outlining resources to remove, resources to retain, and post-removal development. The plans “called for an entrance road with a parking lot, a visitor center separated from the battlefield core, a walking tour trail, a one-way automobile loop tour road, a picnic area, an environmental study area, a bridle path, restoration of the Robert Scruggs House, preservation of the Richard Scruggs House Ruin, and a battlefield landscape restored to its 1781 appearance.”³⁰

NPS director, George B. Hartzog, Jr., approved the plan in 1970, and that year the NPS held public meetings concerning the proposal. Despite some opposition, locals generally supported the plan. After a series of committee meetings and hearings, on April 11, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed house bill 10086, enshrining Cowpens as a national battlefield, as opposed to a national battlefield site. The authorization also included five million dollars slated for land acquisition and park development. The wish held by local supporters for over a century had been granted.

29. Ibid., 17.

30. Ibid., 31.



Figure 14. Example of house and land at time of park establishment. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C235, 13 of 37.



Figure 15. Cantrell's Service Station at Cowpens before demolition. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C273, 14 of 43.



Figure 16. 1979 photograph of the restoration of the Robert Scruggs cabin. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 17. 1980 photograph showing the late stages of restoration work on the Robert Scruggs II cabin. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 18. 1970s condition of the Richard Scruggs II chimney site. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 19. The relocated 1932 US Monument and 1978 Visitor Center building. Source: National Park Service.

In order to perform this work, the NPS removed “90 major buildings, including 27 farm residences, 45 year round residences, 2 service stations and 3 garages” from the park between 1978 and 1979 (Figure 14; Figure 15).³¹ Planners aimed to finish the work by the bicentennial of the battle. By 1982, the NPS had completed most work pertaining to the development at Cowpens National Battlefield.

Landscape Restoration

One of the key park management goals was to restore the landscape to its 1781 appearance. Historical accounts describe the battlefield as an open woodland savanna with long sight-lines through the trees, bounded by dense forest and canebrakes. However, even with the removal of the dozens of buildings and structures, the landscape still reflected two centuries of agricultural and residential land use. Beginning in the 1980s, and increasing during the 1990s, management of Cowpens’ vegetative character became a priority. Toward this goal, park managers partnered with various organizations and universities to conduct a series of studies on both the historic and existing ecological conditions of the park. These reports guided landscape restoration objectives and identified key target areas within the landscape for specific treatments. Such treatments included prescribed fire, mechanical thinning, canebrake restoration, grassland restoration, extensive tree planting, and removal of invasive species. These activities are ongoing.

In addition to addressing the vegetative character of the site, the park oversaw the restoration, repair, and relocation of cultural features at the site. While all these features post-date the battle, park historians viewed their connection with the battle as reason for their continued presence in the landscape. Between 1979 and 1980, the Robert Scruggs House, which had been occupied until park acquisition, was stripped of its numerous post-1828 additions (Figure 16; Figure 17). Moretti Construction, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina performed the restoration work. Over the last few decades, the NPS conducted periodic repair work on the cabin as its condition deteriorated. In 1979,

the park stabilized the chimney at the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin, which survived the 1961 fire that destroyed the house (Figure 18). In the ensuing decades, park staff oversaw the repointing and repair of chimney ruins several times.

The park similarly addressed the two monuments of the site. At the time of park acquisition, the Washington Light Infantry Monument displayed substantial deterioration. Restoration and repairs to the monument occurred over a period of years and concluded by the mid-1990s. The U.S. Monument, which was relocated to the new visitor center site, showed issues related to mortar leaching. The cause of the leaching related to the monument’s disassembly and reassembly. The park has periodically cleaned the leaching stains from the monument. These restoration activities aim to better interpret the history of the Battle of Cowpens, military commemoration, and early settlement of the South Carolina backcountry.

Bicentennial Development

While the commemoration of the first centennial of the Battle of Cowpens resulted in the construction of the Morgan Monument in Spartanburg, the commemoration of the bicentennial produced significant changes to Cowpens. In addition to the restoration of the landscape and contributing resources, another primary objective of the park focused on developing Cowpens into a park unit that catered to a variety of visitors. Park planners in the early-1970s envisioned the addition of various new constructions for the site, including a picnic area, visitor center, and automobile-oriented interpretive scenic loop road (Figure 19). Planners sited these additions in a way that lessened their visual impact to the historic battlefield area, placing them within the successional forest buffer that ringed the battlefield. By the bicentennial of the battle, most major work related to the development plans was complete.

The chronology of development and use has been treated separately for the two sites. The first site includes the Richard Scruggs Site (Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation) and the second includes the Robert Scruggs House.

31. “Interview with Mike Loveless, Kings Mountain National Military Park, South Carolina, 16 October 1985,” in Gregory De Van Massey, *An Administrative History of King’s Mountain National Military Park*, (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Stewardship, 1985), 94.

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I.B Chronology of Development and Use

Chronology of Development: Richard Scruggs Site

Richard Scruggs II House

The Richard Scruggs II House was destroyed by fire in 1961, leaving only its stone chimney and foundation, the latter now being concealed. No photographs of the house have been located to date. Past research by Edwin C. Bearss and John W. Walker provides some historical information on the house and Walker's archaeological survey and oral history interviews provide most of the known information on the house's physical form and appearance. The following chronology has been developed based on the limited information available.

Pre-1804 | Early History

This site was part of a tract of land granted to George Williams by the State of South Carolina in January 1797. Williams sold 100 acres of this land to John Parris in January 1803. In March 1803, Richard Scruggs II (1776-1855) of Rutherford County, North Carolina, purchased this tract from Parris.³² Sometime before 1800, Richard had married Mary "Molly" Dobbins (1767-1854). In March 1804, Mary's father, William Dobbins, purchased 350 acres of land from Matthew Abnett, including an "old house and a small improvement."³³ Richard and Mary occupied a house on the Dobbins land until their deaths in the mid-1850s.

1804-1855 | Construction & Improvements

Based on the history of settlement in the upper Carolina Piedmont, it is possible that the "old house" referenced in the 1804 deed was built

before the Battle of Cowpens in 1781. This old house may have been occupied and improved by Richard Scruggs II after 1804.³⁴ It is also possible that Richard built a new house on the property between 1804 and 1811. Archaeological investigation and historical research indicates that the single-room log house measured 15 by 20 feet and was topped by a loft.³⁵

Richard Scruggs II built a large stone chimney on the west side of the house circa 1811. This chimney included a stone bearing the inscription "RS C 17 1811." This stone was removed from the chimney at an unknown date and was in the possession of Allen Hinna, nephew of Rosa Scruggs Garrett, as of 1974.³⁶ A 1961 article suggests that the house predated the construction of the stone chimney and stated: "The stone used to build the chimney was hauled by slaves on sleds pulled by oxen from Thickety [sic] Mountain..."³⁷ The chimney, located on the exterior face of the wall, steps in twice above the fire box (a condition described as "double-stepped" or "double constricted" or as having "double shoulders" or "double weathering"), reflecting a type often referred to as a "Tidewater" or "Virginia" chimney.³⁸ Tidewater-type chimneys were built on the upper Carolina Piedmont before the American Revolution but seem to have been very rare after 1800, indicating that the Richard

32. Susan Vincent, *Cultural Landscape Report: Cowpens National Battlefield* (Charlotte, North Carolina: Historic Land Design, 2001), 23; John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 5.

33. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 5.

34. Walker, 5-6, 8.

35. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 1.

36. The current whereabouts of the stone are unknown. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 5; Bearss, 14.

37. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, "Fire Destroys Ancient House at Battleground," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 17 August 1961, 2.

38. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 4.

Scruggs II chimney reflects earlier building traditions.³⁹

A conjectural image of the house was prepared in 1990 based on archaeological evidence of the house's footprint (Figure 4). The lack of physical or documentary evidence of the house's appearance and building materials makes it difficult to date the chronology of subsequent improvements. The log walls of the house were likely covered with weatherboard siding during Richard's lifetime, reflecting his increased economic and social status.⁴⁰ In many regions of the United States, log buildings were often covered with siding as their owners gained greater economic ability.⁴¹ Other early improvements may have included the addition of one or more rooms to the original house and the construction of outbuildings on the property.

The property likely included multiple outbuildings during this period. Aside from a log barn east of the house, demolished after the construction of the Martin barn in the 1930s, nothing is known of early outbuildings on the property. Some of the enslaved people owned by Richard Scruggs II may have lived in the house with the Scruggs family, or all may have lived in one or more slave dwellings on the property. Typical slave dwellings in the South Carolina Piedmont are believed to have housed one to eight persons, some of whom may have been related. Scholarship to date indicates that there are no known slave dwellings surviving in the South Carolina Piedmont.⁴² Writing in 2006 about African Americans in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, W. J. Megginson notes: "Virtually no information survives about local slave houses or their contents, nor has any archaeological work explored such sites."⁴³ The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin site has

the potential to yield archaeological evidence of the lives of enslaved people in the South Carolina Piedmont.

1855-c.1897 | Intermediate Period

Nothing is known of the house's evolution over more than four decades after Richard's death in 1855. It was occupied by his grandson, James Augustus "Black" Scruggs (1848-1923), son of Robert Scruggs and Catharine Connel, from the late 1870s until 1890, but no alterations are known during this period. The house appears to have been occupied by Black's daughter and son-in-law, Daisy Scruggs Martin and Rev. J. F. Martin, around 1897.

New Pleasant Baptist Church was established in 1878, and the congregation constructed a building on the east side of Scruggs Road in 1888. The church was located southeast of the Richard Scruggs II House. The New Pleasant Baptist Church Cemetery, located north of the church, incorporated an existing Scruggs family cemetery. The church was expanded and remodeled many times before it was destroyed by fire in 1996. Following the fire, the congregation built a new church across the road, immediately south of the Richard Scruggs II House.

c.1897-1961 | Martin Period Expansion

It is reported that, sometime between circa 1897 and 1925, probably around 1900, Daisy Scruggs Martin and her husband Rev. J. F. Martin "added a large frame addition to the east and north sides of the log house."⁴⁴ The addition appears to have included three rooms along the east side of the original house and an ell of two rooms along the north side, forming an uneven "T" shape. A shed-roofed porch wrapped around the east façade of the addition and along the south elevation of the addition and the original house. The east wing likely had a side-gabled or hipped roof facing Scruggs Road to the east. It is unclear whether the roof of the original log house was incorporated into the new house or whether it was removed and replaced by a new roof over both sections. The ell along the north elevation of the original log house was described as a "built-on kitchen," and it was reported that this wing was "used by the Martins as a kitchen and dining room."⁴⁵ A 1961 article stated,

39. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 4.

40. Edwin C. Bearss, *Historic Grounds and Resource Study, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Denver, CO: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Team, 1974), 151.

41. Warren E. Roberts, *Log Buildings of Southern Indiana* (Bloomington, Indiana: Trickster Press, 1996), 15.

42. W. J. Megginson, *African American life in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, 1780-1900* (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 2006), 160-161.

43. W. J. Megginson, *African American life in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, 1780-1900* (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 2006), 161.

44. Bearss, 13.

45. Bearss, 13.



Figure 20. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the east, c.1973-1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

“Part of the home was log and put together with pegs, but the house had been remodeled and more added to it.”⁴⁶

1961-2017 | Destruction & Stabilization

The Richard Scruggs II House was destroyed by fire on the morning of Saturday, August 12, 1961.⁴⁷ For the next 15 years, the chimney stood as a ruin and suffered vandalism and deterioration (Figure 18). Following acquisition of the property by the National Park Service in the 1970s, plans were made to stabilize the chimney, including repairing masonry, installation of a timber lintel, and removal of vegetation, trash, and rubble.⁴⁸ In 1974, Edwin C. Bearss noted that “immediate measures must be taken by the NPS to stabilize and preserve” the chimney and foundations and recommended



Figure 21. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the southeast, c.1973-1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

the preparation of a Historic Structure Report.⁴⁹ The condition of the chimney is documented in a set of undated photographs in the archives of Kings Mountain National Military Park (Figure 20 - Figure 25).

John E. Walker of the Southeast Archeological Center conducted field investigations on site in August 1979 “to ascertain the size, shape, and location of the original Richard Scruggs II house and to determine if stabilization of the house’s chimney would affect significant archeological resources.”⁵⁰ At that time, Walker identified the remains of the house including the stone chimney, “most of the foundation stones of the original structure; and a collapsed brick chimney, which appears to have been centered on the wall

46. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, “Fire Destroys Ancient House at Battleground,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 17 August 1961, 2.

47. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, “Fire Destroys Ancient House at Battleground,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 17 August 1961, 2.

48. Walker, 9.

49. Edwin C. Bearss, *Historic Grounds and Resource Study, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Denver, CO: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Team, 1974), 161.

50. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), i.



Figure 22. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the south, c.1973-1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 24. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the northeast, c.1973-1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 23. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the northwest, c.1973-1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 25. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, detail of southeast corner, n.d. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

dividing the central and southern rooms of the large frame addition.⁵¹ Archaeological testing around the chimney revealed only evidence of modern occupation, likely dating from the Martin period. In 1990, Walker prepared “an inferential reconstruction” sketch of the house “based on

51. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 1.



Figure 26. Deteriorated timber removed from Richard Scruggs II Chimney, c.1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 27. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the north, c.1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

house remains, archaeological evidence, and oral history”⁵² (Figure 4).

The chimney appears to have undergone two stabilization projects under NPS ownership. The first, documented in a series of undated

52. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), frontispiece.



Figure 28. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the east, showing firebox and hearth, c.1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 29. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the southeast, c.1978. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

photographs in the archives of Kings Mountain National Military Park, took place in 1978 (Figure 26 - Figure 29).⁵³ This project appears to have rebuilt the collapsed east face of the chimney and added a new wood lintel across the firebox opening (Figure 30). An undated photograph of wasp holes in the chimney’s masonry may date from before or after this project (Figure 31). These holes are believed to have been made by red paper wasps (*Polistes carolina*), the species that remains present at the chimney today.

By 2008, the chimney was overgrown and had suffered extensive deterioration (Figure 32). The chimney underwent a stabilization project in August and September 2008 (Figure 33). This project included disassembly and reconstruction of the upper part of the chimney, “installation of hidden iron beams,” and installation of a new

53. Leonard Brown, Cowpens National Battlefield, National Register nomination, 1976 (Richard Scruggs II Chimney included on a continuation sheet dated March 1987).



Figure 30. Richard Scruggs II Chimney from the east, n.d. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 31. Richard Scruggs II Chimney showing wasp holes, n.d. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 32. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, April 2008. Source: Eric A. Hutchinson, Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008).



Figure 33. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, east and west elevations after rehabilitation, September 2008. Source: Eric A. Hutchinson, Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008).

wood mantel shelf.⁵⁴ The project was undertaken by the NPS Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC). The project team included project supervisor Scott Jones, mason David Barker, and mason worker Travis Smith. The new lintel was of cypress and a steel angle was inserted to provide added capacity over the wide firebox and to allow subsequent replacement of the wood lintel. It was estimated that the project would cost \$49,470.⁵⁵

Documentation from 2010 indicates staff concern with open mortar joints in chimney and the intent to patch holes with mortar mix of caulking. In February 2011, two masons were sent to address the mortar issue and an apparent rodent tunnel within the chimney. The masons were identified as Dave Barker, who worked on the 2008 rehabilitation, and Les Messer.⁵⁶

Martin Barn

A frame barn on a concrete foundation was built northwest of the Richard Scruggs II House in the 1930s, replacing an earlier log barn northeast of the house.⁵⁷ The barn was built during Daisy Scruggs Martin's ownership and appears to have served the needs of her farm during this period. The barn was demolished at an unknown date, leaving only the concrete foundation (Figure 34). No documentation of the barn's use has been found, and little is documented regarding the farm's operation under Daisy's ownership. A 2008 Preservation Maintenance Plan listed the foundation as "remnants of previously unidentified buildings in the form of foundations made of tabby..." Further archaeological investigation is recommended to identify the use of these buildings and to classify their function and relevance to the site.⁵⁸ A 2010 report recommended archaeological survey in "an area near the Richard



Figure 34. Martin Barn Foundation, September 2008. Source: Eric A. Hutchinson, Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008).

Scruggs Chimney where slave quarters may have been located."⁵⁹ Park staff report that the barn foundations have been suggested as possible ruins of slave quarters.⁶⁰ The physical and documentary evidence indicates, however, that the Martin Barn Foundation is a structure built more than 60 years after the abolition of slavery in the United States.

Chronology of Use: Richard Scruggs II Site

c. 1804-1855 | Richard Scruggs II Period

Richard Scruggs II Family

The household of Richard Scruggs II was not recorded on the census in 1810 or 1820.⁶¹ At the time of the 1830 census, the household included one white male age 60-70 (Richard), one female age 60-70 (Mary Dobbins Scruggs), and one white female age 20-30. Richard is listed as owning two slaves. By the time of the 1840 census, the household consisted of one white male age 70-80 (Richard) and one white female age 70-80 (Mary). Richard owned seven slaves by this time. The 1850 census shows Richard and Mary living in a household headed by John Timm (born c.1805 in North Carolina), an overseer. Richard is listed as a farmer.⁶²

54. Eric A. Hutchinson, *Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site* (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008), 7.

55. Cowpens National Battlefield, Scruggs Chimney maintenance file.

56. Cowpens National Battlefield, Scruggs Chimney maintenance file.

57. John E. Walker, *Archaeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, South Carolina* (Tallahassee: Southeast Archaeological Center, 1990), 1.

58. Eric A. Hutchinson, *Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site* (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008), 8.

59. *Cowpens National Battlefield: A Resource Assessment* (Washington, DC: National Parks Conservation Association, 2010), 15.

60. Park staff reported that the 2008 *Preservation Maintenance Plan* said that the foundation ruins could be associated with slave cabins, but review of that document finds no mention of this assertion.

61. Bearss, 14-15.

62. Bearss, 15.

Mary Dobbins Scruggs died in October 1854 and was buried in a family cemetery across Scruggs Road, now incorporated into the cemetery of New Pleasant Baptist Church. Richard died shortly after, in March 1855. Following Richard's death, his personal property was divided and inventoried. In addition to agricultural implements, wagons, tools, livestock, and an enslaved woman, the inventory listed a variety of furnishings and household goods:

| Item | Heir | Value |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1 "drawing chair" | Charles Durham | \$ 0.05 |
| 1 cupboard | D. Scruggs | \$10.00 |
| 1 "shugar bole & picher" | Charles Durham | \$ 0.1125 |
| 1 set plates | Lem Durham | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 pitcher | Lem Durham | \$ 0.12 |
| 1 Tea pot | Charles Durham | \$ 0.15 |
| 1 set Knives & forks | Lem Durham | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 set Knives & forks | Charles Durham | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 lot crockery | Charles Durham | \$ 0.05 |
| 1 "pewtor Dish" | Robert Scruggs | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 "pewtor Dish" | Isaac Yong | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 "pewtor Dish" | Lem Durham | \$ 0.15 |
| 1 bowl | Isaac Yong | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 stone churn | D. Scruggs | \$ 0.15 |
| 1 half round table | D. Scruggs | \$ 3.00 |
| 1 clock | D. Scruggs | \$ 1.00 |
| 1 stone[ware] pitcher | Isaac Yong | \$ 0.125 |
| 1 "fire shovil" | L. Durham | \$ 0.05 |
| 1 lot fire dogs | Jesse Scruggs | \$ 0.75 |
| 1 "Flax wheal" | D. Scruggs | \$ 0.60 |
| 1 spinning wheel | L. Durham | \$ 2.05 |
| 1 Reel | L. D. Scruggs | \$ 0.10 |
| 1 pewter basin | Isaac Yong | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 pewter basin | D. Scruggs | \$ 0.25 |
| 2 pewter basin | L. Durham | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 bread tray | L. Durham | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 cupboard | L. D. Scruggs | \$ 1.00 |
| 1 table | C. Durham | \$ 0.50 |
| 1 table | Isaac Yong | \$ 0.25 |
| 1 bed & 2 bed steads | Isaac Yong | \$10.00 |
| 1 bed & 1 bed steads | L. Durham | \$10.00 ¹ |

The inventory identified a variety of items that may have been used for cooking in the fireplace:

- 1 large pot
- 1 large pot & hooks
- 1 oven & lid & hooks
- 1 large oven & lid
- 1 pot & hooks
- 1 skillet
- 1 oven & lid
- 1 large oven & lid
- 1 large oven lid & pan
- 1 fire stick & hooks
- 1 wheele²

This information provides clues to the lifestyle of Richard and Mary Dobbins Scruggs by the time of their deaths in the mid-1850s. Archaeological investigation could provide additional information on the life of the Scruggs family, the enslaved people, and other residents of the house.

Enslaved People Owned by Richard Scruggs II

Census documents record that Richard Scruggs II owned two slaves in 1830, seven in 1840, and seven in 1850. In 1840, there were four enslaved males under age 10, one female under age 10, and two females age 24-36. The two enslaved women may have been the mothers of the five children. In 1850, the seven enslaved people owned by Richard included females ages 55, 17, 16, and 10, and males ages 17, 14, and 2.⁶³ Richard's will, prepared in June 1853, lists seven slaves: females named Malissa, Lucinda, Jane, and Liza and males named Materson, Jefferson, and Lawson. The inventory of Richard's property in March 1855 also lists an enslaved woman named Lisa.⁶⁴

Little is known about the life and experiences of the enslaved people owned by Richard Scruggs II or his children. Some may have lived in the house with the Scruggs family, or all may have lived in one or more slave dwellings on the property. Typical slave dwellings in the South Carolina Piedmont are believed to have housed one to eight persons, some of whom may have been related. Scholarship to date indicates that there are no known slave dwellings surviving in the South

Carolina Piedmont.⁶⁵ Writing in 2006 about African Americans in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, W. J. Megginson notes: "Virtually no information survives about local slaves houses or their contents, nor has any archaeological work explored such sites."⁶⁶ The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin site could yield potential archaeological evidence of the lives of enslaved people in the South Carolina Piedmont. This information could provide a broader picture of the lives of enslaved people in South Carolina, supplementing evidence from other parts of the state.⁶⁷

1855-1876 | Intermediate Period

The property seems to have passed to Robert Scruggs in 1855. The occupation and use of the Richard Scruggs II House between Richard's death in 1855 and its occupancy by Black Scruggs around 1876 is unclear.

1876-1890 | Black Scruggs & Mary Hamer Scruggs Period

James Augustus "Black" Scruggs (1848-1923), son of Robert Scruggs and Catharine Connel, married Mary Ellen Hamer, age 15, in 1876. The couple occupied the Richard Scruggs II House as of the 1880 census and are believed to have moved

65. W. J. Megginson, *African American life in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, 1780-1900* (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 2006), 160-161.

66. W. J. Megginson, *African American life in South Carolina's Upper Piedmont, 1780-1900* (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 2006), 161.

67. See also Leland Ferguson, *Uncommon Ground: Archaeology and Early African America, 1650-1800* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian, 1992).

63. Bearss, 15.

64. Bearss, 21.

into the Robert Scruggs House in December 1890.⁶⁸ Robert Scruggs divided his land among his children during 1885-1886, giving 265 acres, including the Richard Scruggs II House and the Robert Scruggs House, to Black Scruggs.

1891-c.1897 | Intermediate Period

The occupation and use of the Richard Scruggs II House between December 1890 and circa 1897 is unclear.

c.1897-1961 | Daisy Scruggs Martin & Rev. J. F. Martin Period

The house was occupied by Daisy Hattie Louise Scruggs Martin (1879-1965), daughter of James Augustus “Black” Scruggs and great-granddaughter of Richard Scruggs II, and her husband, Rev. Joseph Fetner “Fet”/”J. F.” Martin (1876-1925), following their marriage in c.1897.⁶⁹ Martin was a grandson of James H. Ezell (1819-1900). Rev. J. F. Martin was the pastor of several Baptist churches in the area, including New Pleasant Baptist Church and High Point Baptist Church.

The couple seems to have married before June 1897, when a newspaper article reported that “Mrs. Daisy Martin” living near Ezell’s was recovering after being sick for a few days.⁷⁰ Census documents from 1900 to 1920 show the couple living in a rented house on a farm, indicating that they did not own the house during Black Scruggs’ lifetime. As of the 1900 census (June 5), the household consisted of J. F. (who listed “logging for sawmill” as his occupation) and Daisy, their daughter Bessie Martin (1899-1982), and William Scruggs (born 1883, a “hireling” listed as “teaming for sawmill”). By the 1910 census (April 28), the household consisted of J. F. (then a farmer), Daisy, and their children Bessie Martin, Dugan Arthur Martin (1901-1918), Joseph “Joe” Harley Martin (born 1903), Ellen Martin (born c.1905), and Thomas Martin (born 1910), as well as David Hayes (born c.1885, listed as a “hired man”

working as a farm laborer).⁷¹ By the time of the 1920 census (January 9), the household consisted of J. F. (a farmer), Daisy, and their children Joseph Martin, Ellen Martin, Thomas Martin, and John Carnel “Tobe”/“Toad” Martin (c.1913-1943).

Ownership of the property passed to Daisy upon the death of her father in 1923.⁷² Rev. J. F. Martin died in June 1925. By the time of the 1930 census (April 29), Daisy owned the house and was living there with her son, John C. Martin. Daisy is listed as a farmer of a “general farm” and John is listed as a farm laborer. John “Toad” Martin married Clara Scruggs in January 1936, and the couple reported that they “will make their home with the groom’s mother, Mrs. Daisy Martin.”⁷³ By the time of the 1940 census, the household contained Daisy as well as John, his wife Clara, and their children Lucile (born May 1937) and Jenoile (born 1939).⁷⁴ A third child was born in the early-1940s. It is unclear whether John and Clara were still living in the house in January 1943, when John “was found dead at his home. . . the victim of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in his chest.”⁷⁵

Following Fayette Martin’s death in 1925, Daisy occupied the addition and rented out the older part of the house to the Pritchard family. In July 1951 the *Gaffney Ledger* reported that “Mrs. Roland [Bessie Martin] Hayes and children, of Gaffney, have moved into the house with her mother, Mrs. Daisy Martin, widow of the Rev. J. F. Martin.”⁷⁶ During the late-1950s and early-1960s, the Vera Payne Circle of the New Pleasant Baptist Church assembled to celebrate Daisy’s birthday each August. In August 1957, the group celebrated Daisy’s 78th birthday with “a covered dish supper” and a cake with 78 candles. An article in the *Gaffney Ledger* noted: “Mrs. Martin, widow of the Rev. J. F. Martin, lives next door to the New Pleasant Baptist Church, of which she is a faithful

68. Bearss, 45.

69. Bearss reports Martin’s name as “Fayette Martin,” census documents list him as “Fetner Martin,” vital records list him as “Joseph Fetner Martin,” and period newspaper articles and his tombstone list him as “Rev. J. F. Martin.” Bearss, 13.

70. “Ezell Dots,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 3 June 1897, 1.

71. James D. Martin, *Martin Martin: The Family Lines* (King and Queen County, Virginia: Southern Historical Press, 2002), 336.

72. Bearss, 49.

73. Mrs. M. E. Ellison, “Three Couples Wed During Recent Days,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 1 February 1936, 4.

74. Rosa Ellison, “Farmers Completing Planting of Crops,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 30 May 1937, 8.

75. Rosa Ellison, “New Pleasant School is Re-Opened Monday,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 2 January 1943, 6.

76. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, “Pastor’s Father Taken by Death,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 31 July 1951, 4.

and active member. She is the oldest member of the Woman's Missionary Society."⁷⁷ In August 1959, Daisy's family celebrated her 80th birthday at the house, with relatives attending from the surrounding community as well as from Charlotte and Valdese, North Carolina.⁷⁸

By 1961, Daisy was living in the house with the family of her niece, Verlene "Nuffie" Jolley Pritchard (1929-2000), daughter of Vaud Scruggs Jolley. Verlene's family consisted of her husband, John William "Bill" Pritchard (1927-2007), and daughter Billie. A few days after Daisy's 82nd birthday in August 1961, the Richard Scruggs II House was destroyed by fire. Daisy was the only one at home at the time and was "cooking dinner when the fire started from an oil stove. Only a few things were saved."⁷⁹ An August 1962 article reported that Daisy "makes her home with the children and other relatives since her home was burned last year."⁸⁰ She died in 1965 at a local hospital.⁸¹

1961-present | Ruin

The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin chimney has stood as a ruin since the house was destroyed in August 1961. The property was acquired by the National Park Service during the creation of the Cowpens National Battlefield in the mid-1970s. After an initial stabilization project in the late-1970s, the chimney became a feature within the battlefield.

Chronology of Development: Robert Scruggs House

Robert Stoball Scruggs built a log house on the south side of Green River Road circa 1828. The house appears to have undergone a series of remodelings and expansions between 1849 and 1928. Most of the house's post-c.1828 historic fabric was removed and discarded during the 1977-1980 restoration project, providing limited material for assessment. An 1849 engraving and a 1928 photograph, several photographs from the 1970s, Edwin C. Bearss' 1974 report, and a set of architectural drawings for the 1977-1980 restoration provide limited documentation of the house's evolution and appearance prior to its 1977 deconstruction. The following stages of construction are suggested based on available evidence. The room numbers included in the text can be found on the drawings included in the Appendix.

Stage 1 | c.1828 to c.1850

The house's c.1828 configuration—the target of the 1977-1980 restoration—appears to have contained one room (101) topped by an attic (also called a "loft" or "garret") level (102). This form, called a "single-pen" or "single-cell" cottage ("cottage" denoting a height of less than two full stories, in contrast to a "house" with two full stories), was a typical first stage of construction in areas of recent settlement and often expanded as the owner's family and finances grew. The log exterior walls are believed to have been exposed during this period. It is possible that the chinking was covered over with horizontal battens at the time of construction or shortly after. A 1977 section of the house indicates the presence of battens over the gaps between the logs on the north façade, within the space of room 105, and notes "Remove all exterior battens and reset after applying preservative treatment" and "replace missing battens." A photograph of the south elevation during the house's 1977-1980 restoration appears to show ghost marks of horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs (Figure 35). The inclusion of these horizontal battens would have provided a more durable and permanent exterior envelope than leaving the chinking exposed to the elements. In other regions, evidence has been found of chinking

77. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, "Mrs. Martin, 78, Circle Hostess on Her Birthday," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 17 August 1957, 6.

78. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, "New Pleasant Holds Revival," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 15 August 1959, 7.

79. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, "Fire Destroys Ancient House at Battleground," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 17 August 1961, 2.

80. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, "Trio Appointed to Seek Pastor at New Pleasant," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 11 August 1962, 6.

81. "Mrs. J. F. Martin," *Greenville News* (Greenville, South Carolina), 27 January 1965, 5.



Figure 35. West part of south elevation of the Robert Scruggs House during removal of the weatherboard siding, c.1977. The west wall of the kitchen ell is at right and the south ends of the west wall logs are visible at left. Note the outlines of horizontal battens over the chinking. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

installed only from the interior, the exterior being covered with wood weatherboards.⁸²

Room 101 appears to have had exterior doors centered on the north and south walls, a fireplace and small window on the east wall, and a winder staircase at the southeast corner. The fireplace would have served as the source of heat and light within the main room and as the place for any indoor cooking.⁸³ Family tradition states that the brick and stone chimney that survived until the 1970s dated from the first period of construction.⁸⁴ The chimney was placed outside the wall, as was common throughout the southeast, with an air space between the upper part of the chimney and the exterior face of the wall. This placement kept heat outside the house in South Carolina's hot climate while also simplifying the connection between the chimney and the roof, reducing the chances for roof leaks.⁸⁵ The west wall may have contained a central window on each floor, but evidence of this feature was destroyed in subsequent remodeling and restoration projects. The exterior doors were likely batten doors, a type that was simpler to construct than paneled doors and commonly used on frontier dwellings.⁸⁶

Room 101 would have been used for cooking, working, sitting, and sleeping, while room 201 may have been used for sleeping and storage. Privacy would have been minimal and the function of all spaces was likely fluid, depending on the number

of people present and the work or activities being undertaken.⁸⁷ Room 101 retains traces of what appears to be a whitewash finish on the interior face of the log walls. This was a common early treatment, providing a brighter space more conducive to work.

On January 11, 1849, Benson J. Lossing visited the Cowpens during a tour of Revolutionary War sites that would form the basis for his *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution* (1850-1852). Lossing reported:

I was now within fifteen miles of the Cowpens, and at daybreak the next morning [January 11, 1849] started for that interesting locality. I was informed that the place of conflict was among the hills of Thicketty Mountain, and near the plantation of Robert Scruggs. To that gentleman's residence I directed my inquiries. . . .at about four o'clock [I] reached the residence of Mr. Scruggs. His house is upon the Mill-gap road [Green River Road], and about half a mile west of a divergence of a highway leading to Spartanburg. . . Upon the gentle hills on the borders of Thicketty Creek, covered with pine woods, within a triangle, formed by the Spartanburg and Mill-gap roads, having a connecting cross-road for a base, the hottest part of the fight occurred. The battle ended within a quarter of a mile of Scruggs's, where is now a cleared field, on the northeast side of the Mill-gap road, in the center of which was a log-house, as seen in the annexed engraving. The field was covered with blasted pine stumps, and stocks of Indian corn, and had a most dreary appearance. In this field, and along the line of conflict, a distance of about two miles, many bullets and other military relics have been found. . .⁸⁸

[Note] They have a dangerous practice at the South in clearing their wild lands. The larger trees are girdled and left standing, to decay and fall down, instead of being felled by the ax. Cultivation is carried on among them, and frequently they fall suddenly, and endanger the

82. Roberts, 80, 83.

83. Roberts, 108.

84. Bearss, 53.

85. Roberts, 99-100.

86. Roberts 117-118.

87. Milette Shamir, *Inexpressible Privacy: The Interior Life of Antebellum American Literature* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006), 28-29.

88. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 636-637.

lives of the laborers in the field. Such was the condition of the field here represented.⁸⁹

It was almost sunset when I left the Cowpens to return to a house of entertainment upon the road to the Cherokee Ford, seven miles distant; for the resident there could not find a corner for me in his dwelling, nor for Charley in his stable, that cold night, “for love nor money,” but generously proposed that I should send him a copy of my work when completed because he lived upon the battle-ground! To a planter on horseback, from Spartanburg, who overtook me upon the road, I am indebted for kindness in pointing out the various localities of interest at the Cowpens; to the other for the knowledge that a small building near his house was the depository of a field-piece used by an artillery company in the vicinity, when celebrating the anniversary of the battle.⁹⁰

Lossing’s engraving of the Robert Scruggs House and the surrounding field of dead pine trees and stumps was likely based on a sketch made on January 11, 1849 (Figure 5).⁹¹ The orientation of the house, placement of the chimney, and direction of the shadows would be consistent with a view looking toward the house from the southeast. The image illustrates the appearance of the Cowpens site and the southern method for clearing forest land, the Robert Scruggs House being a feature of the view but not its focus. The details of the image, particularly the characteristics of the house itself, may have been filled in later by Lossing or by an artist who prepared the illustrations for engraving and publication. For this reason, the image may not provide an accurate record of the house’s appearance in 1849. Some of Lossing’s other engravings can be compared with the documented appearance of their subject buildings. For example, Thomas Jefferson’s “Monticello” near Charlottesville, Virginia, and the New Garden Meeting House in Guilford County, North

Carolina, appear to be accurately represented in Lossing’s illustrations.⁹²

Lossing’s engraving shows a distant view of a side-gabled, one-and-one-half-story house with walls of horizontal logs. The roof, covered with snow, appears to include horizontal boards that project beyond the eaves, suggesting three projecting boards interspersed with five that ended at the eastern eave of the south face of the roof. The north face of the roof appears to be of a lower slope than that on the south; this may be a mistake in the rendering of perspective. A chimney of horizontal logs is centered on the east wall, ending roughly halfway up the attic wall. The south wall appears to contain a central door opening. No porches are shown. A low, one-story, side-gabled log building is located immediately southwest of the house and presumably served as a barn or other outbuilding. Although the details could be inaccurate, Lossing’s engraving suggests a one-room log house that seems to be consistent with the earliest section of the Robert Scruggs House.

Analysis of the house conducted by NPS historical architect Ron Bishop in the 1970s found cut nails of a type suggesting a date of c.1830 and floorboards measuring 11 inches-wide and one inch-thick.⁹³ Porches on the north and south elevations could have been part of the original construction or may have been added in a later stage. They do not appear in Lossing’s 1849 engraving (Figure 5). Porches would be a common adaptation to the climate of South Carolina, providing expanded living space beyond the dark interior of the house. During the previous century, North Carolina had developed a strong tradition of broad porches for living and working. These porches “were usually called ‘piazzas’ in eighteenth century North Carolina and pronounced with a short *a* . . .”⁹⁴ The second floor joists project through the north façade and could have originally been connected to the roof structure of the porch. In 1979, Bishop reported the discovery of “dry laid stone piers [that] told us that the porch was exactly eight

89. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 636, Note 2.

90. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 643.

91. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 636.

92. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 547, 613.

93. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 1.

94. Catherine W. Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 2005), 34.



Figure 36. Example of a log house restored and interpreted to the period of 1836, with wood weatherboard siding, Conner Prairie, Indiana.



Figure 37. North elevation of Robert Scruggs House, 1975. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C76, 1 of 8.

feet away from the cabin.”⁹⁵ A 1979 newspaper article states front porch was “determined to be an original feature” due to “the contour of the land.”⁹⁶ No documentation of the stone piers or archaeological features has been found to date, but they appear to have been the basis for the present north and south porches built during the 1977-1980 restoration. The lean-to later containing rooms 103, 104, and 105 and a stone pier under the east wall of room 106—all documented in the 1977 drawings—would appear to align roughly with the location of the piers described by Bishop.

95. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

96. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.



Figure 38. Whitewashed hewn log walls exposed after removal of c.1840 board paneling (left), Harris-Vail House (c.1821-1823), Aurora, Indiana.



Figure 39. Detail of remnants of newspaper (dated to 1827-1836) pasted over hewn log walls and chinking, exposed by removal of c.1840 board paneling, Harris-Vail House (c.1821-1823), Aurora, Indiana.

Stage 2 | c.1850

The original log house appears to have been covered with wood weatherboard siding sometime after January 1849, when Benson Lossing described it as “a log-house.”⁹⁷ In many regions of the United States, hewn-log buildings were often covered with siding as their owners gained greater economic security (Figure 36).⁹⁸ The improvement of the house could have been associated with the construction of Robert Scruggs’ store building across the road, likely built during his tenure as postmaster of the Cowpens Post Office (1847-1859).⁹⁹ The addition of siding appears to have predated the construction of the west wing. Large boxed corner boards marking the east and west ends of the north elevation above the roof of the north porch are visible in later photographs and

97. Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. II (New York: Harper & Bros., 1852), 636-637.

98. Warren E. Roberts, *Log Buildings of Southern Indiana* (Bloomington, Indiana: Trickster Press, 1996), 15.

99. Bearss, 37-38.

the siding of the upper part of the west wing did not align with that of the original house (Figure 6, Figure 37). The original batten doors may have been replaced during this period with paneled doors, particularly on the north elevation facing Green River Road.¹⁰⁰ Improvements to the interior may have included improved finishes over the logs in room 101. Depending on local traditions, the budget, and owner's preferences, log walls could be painted or covered with plaster or sawn boards (Figure 38). Log walls or board walls could be covered with printed wallpapers or with newspaper, which contained a high fabric content until the spread of wood-pulp paper after 1880 (Figure 39). The interior of room 101 appears to have been covered with furring strips and a finished surface, but the nature of this treatment was not documented before its removal in the 1970s. At an unknown date, 3¼ inch-wide tongue-and-groove flooring was installed over the original 11 inch-wide floorboards. This treatment was not documented before its removal in the 1970s.

Stage 3 | c.1850 to c.1880

The west wing (rooms 102 and 202) appears to have been built sometime between 1849 and the 1870s, possibly in 1874. This expansion may or may not have included rooms 103, 105, and 203. If this stage included only rooms 102 and 202, it would have expanded the house into a “double-pen” cottage (if the second room also included an exterior door) or a “hall-and-parlor” cottage (if the second room did not contain an exterior door).¹⁰¹ This form—two rooms wide and one room deep with a side-gabled roof—was a British folk form and was the dominant vernacular housing form in much of the southeastern United States prior to the introduction of railroads in the 1840s and 1850s.¹⁰² Houses of this form typically featured fireplaces at the outer end walls and were often expanded by the addition of a front porch and a rear ell or lean-to.¹⁰³ The “hall” in a hall-and-parlor house served as the primary space for cooking and working, typically maintaining the function of



Figure 40. Rosa Scruggs Garrett (1894-1992) and an unidentified woman at the southwest corner of the west wing during demolition, c.1977-1979. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

the original single-pen room. The “parlor” often served as a multipurpose room for sitting and sleeping, often containing the best bedstead in the house. Privacy was still minimal, and the function of spaces remained fluid.¹⁰⁴ Room 101 would be the “hall” in this stage, retaining the primary work and cooking functions and likely serving as a social and sleeping space, while room 102 would be the “parlor,” likely serving as a bedroom and sitting room. Rooms 201 and 202 likely served as sleeping and storage spaces. Drawings from 1977 indicate that these rooms had exposed structure—logs in 201 and studs and the interior face of sheathing in 202—compared with the finished interior surfaces of rooms 101, 102, and 103.

Drawings for the house's restoration dated July 19, 1977, show the chimney of the west wing with the note “Remove intact four course section of inscribed brick for preservation” and appear to show bricks with inscriptions including “MAR 3,” “1874,” and “74.”¹⁰⁵ Inscriptions and graffiti are often seen on wood and masonry surfaces and cannot automatically be assumed to be associated with the building's construction.¹⁰⁶ For this reason, the inscriptions could indicate that the west wing was built in 1874 or could be the date that someone carved the marks into the bricks of an existing chimney. The west wing and north porch rested on brick piers of varying dimensions.

100. Roberts, 117-119.

101. John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, Douglas K. Meyer, *Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1989), 216.

102. The nearby Robert E. Scruggs House (demolished in the late-1970s) appears to have been a hall-and-parlor house with a front porch and a rear kitchen ell.

103. Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 2015), 140-141.

104. Milette Shamir, *Inexpressible Privacy: The Interior Life of Antebellum American Literature* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006), 28-29.

105. The present whereabouts of these bricks is unknown and they are not mentioned in any other NPS documentation of the site located to date.

106. Roberts, 8-9.



Figure 41. Robert Scruggs House from the northwest, c.1978-1979. Note the possible horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs at the east part of the north elevation, below the plastic sheeting. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 42. Rectangular cut nail adjacent to former door opening at west elevation, with pins from 1970s log splice.

The west wing was built with frame walls reflecting the transition from earlier mortise-and-tenon timber framing techniques to lighter balloon framing (Figure 40). Balloon framing was developed in the 1830s and became the dominant form of house framing in the United States by the 1870s.¹⁰⁷ Balloon framing was reportedly uncommon in coastal South Carolina until after 1860; it is unclear when it became common in the Piedmont.¹⁰⁸ The transitional framing used in the west wing resembles an 1847 illustration by architect William H. Ranlett for framing a “cheap house.”¹⁰⁹ Architectural pattern books and builders’ guides varied in the presentation

107. Sigfried Giedion, *Space, Time and Architecture: The Growth of a New Tradition* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1982), 350-354.

108. Michael Trinkley and Natalie Adams, *The History and Archaeology of Kiawah Island, Charleston County, South Carolina* (Columbia, South Carolina: Chicora Foundation, 1993), 330.

109. William H. Ranlett, *The Architect*, Vol. II (New York: Dewitt & Davenport, 1855), 57, Pl. 37.

of framing methods, with balloon framing commonly recommended for fast and economical construction by the mid-1860s.¹¹⁰ The framing of this wing, combined with evidence from the 1849 Benson Lossing view, suggest that it was built sometime between 1849 and the 1870s.

A photograph taken during the demolition of this wing show two different widths of horizontal boards on the interior faces of the west and south walls of room 102 (Figure 40). The interior face of the west wall appears to have been covered with wide boards while the interior face of the south wall appears to have been covered with narrow boards. Newer strips of wood had been nailed onto the sides of framing members in the south wall, possibly to serve as blocking for the narrow boards. Similar blocking was not present on the west wall. The wide boards would be more consistent with the period 1830-1880 while the narrow boards would be more consistent with the period 1880-1930. This could indicate modifications to the interior of room 102 at the time of the kitchen ell’s construction. A photograph taken after the demolition of the west wing shows the log wall of the original house retaining traces of plaster or wallcovering within the space formerly covered by room 102 (Figure 41). Nail holes around the opening of the former door between rooms 102 and 101 retain traces of cut nails (Figure 42). Nails of this type would be expected in construction dating from the period 1800 to 1890.

Stage 4 | pre-1894

If rooms 103, 105, and 203 were not built at the same time as the west wing, they may represent one or more expansion projects predating construction stage 5. Room 103 provided an indoor space, likely a bedroom, connected to rooms 102 and 101. This would have been the most private room on the first floor. Room 105 was of similar size to 103 but was accessed only from the north porch. It appears to have had unfinished frame walls as of 1977. Room 203 was a dormer on the north façade above the roof of room 104 and partially overlapping rooms 103 and 105. It is unclear how this space

110. The evolution of framing recommendations can be seen in a comparison of the light timber frame and balloon frame in the following two architectural pattern books: Samuel Sloan, *The Model Architect*, Vol. II (Philadelphia: E. S. Jones & Co., 1852), Pls. III-V; George E. Woodward & F. W. Woodward, *Woodward’s Country Homes* (New York: Geo. E. & F. W. Woodward, 1865), 158-160.



Figure 43. Robert Scruggs House from the southwest, c. 1979-1980. Note the new horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs on the south elevation. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

was accessed or used. There is no evidence of a past opening in the north wall of room 201, and room 202 does not appear to have provided access. Room 203 may have been accessed via a ladder and hatch on the north porch (room 104). This may suggest that the room was used for storage rather than as occupied space. These additions are believed to have been complete before the birth of Rosa Scruggs Garrett in 1894.¹¹¹

Other possible improvements may have included the addition of iron stoves for cooking and heating. Iron stoves were available in a wide variety of sizes and styles during the period that the house was occupied by the Scruggs family.¹¹² The inventory of Robert Scruggs' estate, compiled in 1892, noted the presence of one "oven with lid," but this may have referred to a Dutch oven cooking pot that could have been used in one of the house's fireplaces.¹¹³ There is no evidence of a stove-pipe hole above the firebox in room 101, suggesting that any stove in use would have vented into the chimney through the flue of the firebox. Fireplace and chimney conditions in room 102 are not clearly documented.

Stage 5 | [between 1901 and 1928] to [between 1928 and 1935]

The rear kitchen ell was added sometime between 1901 and April 1928. It is possible that an earlier stage of development included the construction of a detached kitchen building that was replaced by the attached kitchen ell. In 1973 interviews,

Black Scruggs' daughters Rosa Mary Ellen Scruggs Garrett (1894-1992) and Maud Elizabeth Scruggs Jolley (1901-1995) reported that the kitchen had been added within their memory, replacing a full-length back porch. Lillie Mae Martin Scruggs (1894-1977), wife of Black Scruggs' son Robert Edmond Scruggs (1888-1960), and her sister Leona Martin Jolley (born c.1897) also recalled the full-length back porch and addition of the kitchen. It is unclear whether this work occurred before or after Black Scruggs' death in August 1923. The outline of the kitchen ell's gable roof was clearly visible on the logs of the south wall during the house's restoration (Figure 43). This suggests that any earlier furring or siding on this elevation had been removed when the ell was built, possibly to salvage materials for reuse. The kitchen ell rested on stone piers like those of the original house, possibly incorporating one or more piers from an earlier south porch.

Drawings of the house from 1977 show three of the house's four exterior doors. The front door contained two horizontal raised panels below a glazed panel while the exterior doors of the kitchen and the west wing featured six horizontal panels. These doors are consistent with the period 1900-1930 may have been installed at the time of the kitchen addition. All phases of construction were complete by the time of the next known image of the Robert Scruggs House, a photograph taken in April 1928 by Lieut. Col. H. L. Landers (Figure 6).

The shingle roof may have been replaced by galvanized metal roofing at the time of the kitchen addition. The 1928 photograph does not appear to show wood shingles; it could show the metal roofing seen in later photographs or an intermediate treatment, possibly an asphalt roll roofing.

Stage 6 | [between 1930 and 1935] to 1977

The north dormer (room 203) was removed sometime after April 1928. Rosa Scruggs Garrett, owner of the house during this period, reported that the dormer was removed before the death of Mary Ellen Hamer Scruggs in December 1935.¹¹⁴ Her sister, Vaude Scruggs Jolley, reported that this

111. Bearss, 53.

112. Josephine H. Peirce, *Fire on the Hearth: The Evolution and Romance of the Heating-Stove* (Springfield, Massachusetts: Pond-Ekberg Company, 1951), 92-123.

113. Bearss, 44.

114. Bearss, 54.



Figure 44. Robert Scruggs House, view from the west, August 1975. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield National Register Nomination.

change occurred in the 1930s, suggesting a date range of c.1930-1935.¹¹⁵

The metal roof was installed sometime before the removal of the north dormer, the outline of which was clearly visible in roof patches that remained in place in 1975. The house appears to have seen minimal changes for more than 40 years after the removal of the north dormer. The upper part of the east chimney collapsed under high winds—reported as “a number of years ago” in 1973—and was not repaired before the chimney was demolished in the late-1970s.

Stage 7 | 1977-1980 Restoration to 2017

During 1973-1974, Edwin C. Bearss of the Denver Service Center’s Historic Preservation Team prepared a historical data report for inclusion in a future Historic Structure Report (HSR) on the Robert Scruggs House. This report included research on the Scruggs family, oral history interviews, and review of known historical records, but it did not include architectural analysis of the house. In his preface, Bearss stated: “The data gathered has been compiled into a report designed to provide architects with a structural history of the Robert Scruggs House and grounds; museum curators with data useful in preparation of a furnishing plan; and interpreters with information on the cultural and social history of the Scruggs family and the community.”¹¹⁶ Bearss noted that his section of the HSR would be accompanied by “the

architectural data section written by the historical architect,” but no record of such a section has been found to date.¹¹⁷

Bearss’ report noted a proposed treatment for the house: “The exterior of the structure will be restored to reflect its appearance ca. 1900, while the interior will be rehabilitated and refurnished to interpret the way of life of Robert Scruggs and others who lived in this section of the Piedmont in the 1850s.”¹¹⁸ This treatment would have involved removal of the kitchen ell (stage 5), restoration of the previous south porch, reconstruction of the north dormer (removed in stage 6), reconstruction of the damaged east chimney, stabilization of the west chimney, and general replacement of deteriorated historic fabric.¹¹⁹ Some physical investigation appears to have taken place in August 1975, when a group of three men was photographed looking at the house (Figure 37, Figure 44). The 1976 National Register nomination states: “Architectural investigation in 1975-76 revealed that the original log structure was substantially intact and retained much of its integrity. Based on this information, it was decided to return the house to its appearance circa 1830. In June 1977 a Section 106 statement outlining this work was approved by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.”¹²⁰ NPS historical architect Ron Bishop of Atlanta appears to have been involved in this investigation. To date, no documentation of this investigation or proposed treatment has been found. NPS staff issued a drawing set titled “Preservation of the Robert Scruggs House, Cowpens National Battlefield Site,” dated July 19, 1977, showing a restoration treatment to return the house to its c.1828-1830 appearance.

Demolition work began in October 1977, but a stop work order was issued due to cold weather. Initial work appears to have included demolition of the west wing, kitchen ell, north and south lean-tos, and brick chimney. The remaining portion of the house was partially wrapped in clear plastic sheeting during a portion of this period. Work resumed in April 1978 and was completed around

115. Bearss, 54.

116. Bearss, iii.

117. Bearss, 2.

118. Bearss, 1.

119. Bearss, 1-2.

120. Leonard Brown, Cowpens National Battlefield, National Register nomination, 1976, Sec. 7, 1.



Figure 45. Boys installing chinking on the north facade of the Robert Scruggs House, c.1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield.

November 1979.¹²¹ Moretti Construction, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina, was the contractor for the restoration. The company had previously been the contractor for the restoration of the Henry Howser House (c.1803), a stone house at Kings Mountain National Military Park. The contract price was \$19,414, with a change order to accommodate the addition of porches based on evidence discovered during demolition.¹²²

The only written documentation of discoveries made between 1974 and 1979 located to date comes from an article in the *Gaffney Ledger* in 1979, which included an interview with NPS historical architect Ron Bishop. Bishop reported the discovery of “dry laid stone piers told us that the porch was exactly eight feet away from the cabin.”¹²³ It is unclear which porch he was

121. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

122. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

123. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.



Figure 46. Boys installing chinking on the north elevation of the Robert Scruggs House, c.1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield.

referring to. Peg holes in the log walls were believed to have been the remnants of past shelves or pegs for hanging items.¹²⁴ New brick was made for the reconstruction of the fireplace and chimney.¹²⁵ The exposed log walls were fitted with new horizontal battens over the gaps, following evidence found during the removal of weatherboard siding and furring. Aside from deterioration and repair campaigns, the house has remained largely unaltered since the completion of this project. A local Boy Scout troop reportedly replaced chinking—presumably on the interior—and repointed the chimney in 1984.¹²⁶

In 1990, the Robert Scruggs House was identified as one of 15 historic structures proposed for the preparation of Historic Structure Assessment Reports under a programmatic agreement between the NPS’ Southeast Regional Office and the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech). Ali Miri, an architect with the Center for Architectural Conservation at Georgia Tech, performed an inventory of the Scruggs House on November 12, 1990. Items identified as in fair or poor condition included the interior chinking, missing window sash in the attic, select wood shingles, and modern brass lock sets. Insect damage was noted at some of the lower logs. No security system was in place at that time. The assessment recommended replacement of all damaged chinking and epoxy

124. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

125. Janet Spencer, “Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

126. Binkley and Davis, *Administrative History*, 67, 69.

consolidation of logs that had suffered insect damage or moisture-related deterioration.¹²⁷

Subsequent repairs have been made, addressing deterioration and vandalism. In August 1991, vandals kicked in the house's front door, broke windows, and removed wooden steps.¹²⁸ Again in 1991, a local Boy Scout troop reportedly replaced the interior chinking.¹²⁹ A 1993 project included removal of the horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs. At this time, new chinking was installed and was left exposed to the elements. A product known as "Perma-Chink," intended as chinking for contemporary log houses, was used in place of traditional chinking. No documentation of this project has been located except for photographs of Boy Scouts installing chinking and drawings dated March 2, 2015, indicating that the chinking, porch posts, and the wood shake roof were addressed in a 1993 stabilization project (Figure 45, Figure 46). Park staff report that Perma-Chink was used only on the interior of the walls and that a clay-like substance was used on the exterior sides.

A project (PMIS 19091) titled Replace Deficient Fire & Intrusion Systems at VC (Visitors' Center), Historic Scruggs House & Maint. Facility was completed between September 2003 and August 2004 at a cost of \$17,040. The house was reported to be well maintained and in good condition overall in September 2008.¹³⁰ Maintenance files at the park indicate the purchase of more Perma-Chink in 2007 and 2011. Maintenance work performed in 2012 by the GRSM Historic Preservation Team included replacement of cedar shakes on the roof, sealing the chimney, and repairing rodent damage to beams in room 201.¹³¹

Drawings dated March 2, 2015, provide recommended treatments for exterior repairs to the house, noting failure of past treatments including a chinking product known as "Perma-

Chink." Repairs following these recommendations were made in 2015. The project included replacement of deteriorated logs, realignment of the foundation, floor repairs, replacement of deteriorated rafters, replacement of cedar shakes, repair to two window frames and sash, and repair or replacement of the batten doors fabricated during the 1977-1980 restoration. Rebecca Cybularz served as project historical architect.¹³² The house does not appear to have undergone any major work since the completion of the 2015 project.

Chronology of Use: Robert Scruggs House

The Robert Scruggs House was occupied by three generations of the Scruggs family between its construction c.1828 and its acquisition by the National Park Service in the mid-1970s.

c.1828-1890 | Robert & Catharine Connel Scruggs Period

Robert Scruggs Family

Robert Stoball Scruggs (19 June 1800 – 7 December 1890) was the second son of Richard Scruggs II (1 September 1776 – 5 March 1855) and Mary "Molly" Dobbins (1767 – 14 October 1854). He married Catharine Connel (1805 – 2 January 1892) in the 1820s and built the one-room log house around 1828. At the time of the 1830 census, the household of [Robert] Stoball Scruggs included five people: one white boy under age five (probably Richard Allen "Uncle Dick" Scruggs, born March 1828), one white boy age five to 10 (probably Lemuel Durham Scruggs, born 1825), one white boy age 10-15, one white man age 30-40 (Robert), one white woman age 20-30 (Catharine).

At the time of the 1840 census, the household of Robert Scruggs contained nine people: one white boy age five to 10, two white males age 15-20 (probably including Richard Allen Scruggs), one white man age 40-50 (Robert), two white girls under age five, two white girls age five to 10 (probably including Mary Scruggs, born 1831), and one white woman age 30-40 (Catharine). The large

127. Cowpens National Battlefield, Scruggs House maintenance file.

128. Laura J. Perricone, "Vandals Damage Cowpens Site," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 7 August 1991, 1.

129. Binkley and Davis, *Administrative History*, 69.

130. Eric A. Hutchinson, *Preservation Maintenance Plan: Robert Scruggs House & Richard Scruggs Ruin Site* (Frederick, Maryland: Historic Preservation Training Center, 2008), 8.

131. Cowpens National Battlefield, Scruggs House maintenance file.

132. Cowpens National Battlefield, Scruggs House maintenance file.

family reflects the crowded living conditions in the house during this period.

Robert Scruggs was appointed postmaster of the new Cowpens Post Office on May 14, 1847. He retained this position until August 8, 1859. The Scruggs household does not appear on the 1850 census, although the enumerator did record Robert's farming interests on September 16, 1850.¹³³ Robert operated a store during at least part of the period he served as postmaster. The store was reported to be a one-story frame building on the north side of Green River Road west of the house and appears to have closed sometime during the 1860s.¹³⁴ In 1859, James H. Ezell became postmaster, serving until the Cowpens Post Office was discontinued on September 29, 1866.¹³⁵ It was re-established on October 3, 1871, with Robert's son Richard A. Scruggs as postmaster. During this period, the post office was located in a store that James H. Ezell had built around 1870 across Green River Road from his house. Richard remained postmaster until the Cowpens Post Office was discontinued on August 6, 1878.¹³⁶

At the time of the 1860 census (August 15), the household consisted of Robert and Catharine, July E. Scruggs (born c.1834), Robert D. Scruggs (born c.1842, farm laborer), Martha Scruggs (born c.1844), Sampson Scruggs (born c.1846), and James A. Scruggs (born c.1848). Robert listed his occupation as "merchant" at this time.

At the time of the 1870 census (August), Robert listed his occupation as "farmer." The household consisted of Sally Pritchett (born c.1844, keeping house), Robert and Catharine, Mary Scruggs (born c.1847, domestic help), Alice Scruggs (born c.1849, domestic help), Munro Scruggs (born c.1850, farm laborer), Emma Scruggs (born c.1857), Clara Scruggs (born c.1860), Frank Scruggs (born c.1861), Sally Scruggs (born c.1862), George Scruggs (born c.1863), and Matilda Scruggs (born c.1866).

At the time of the 1880 census, the household included Robert, Catharine, and their adult

daughter Martha J. Scruggs, their widowed daughter Susan Nancy Scruggs Martin (18 September 1835 – 18 October 1909), and Susan's children Green, Myra, and Martin E. Martin (1872-1936). Susan appears to have rejoined the household after the death of her much older husband, William M. Martin (1793-1874). Catharine and her daughters were listed with an occupation of "keeping house," while granddaughter Myra Martin, age 10, was listed with "works on farm" and a note that she attended school but could not read or write. All other members of the family were listed as being able to read and write. Grandson Green Martin, age 14, was listed as "idiotic" and "disabled," with "kick of horse" as the apparent cause of his injury. The 1890 census documents were almost entirely destroyed by a fire in 1921, with no known surviving fragments of census forms for South Carolina.

Robert's will, written in April 1870, left the house and 343 acres to his youngest son, James Augustus "Black" Scruggs, with Catharine to occupy the house for the duration of her life.¹³⁷ During 1885-1886, Robert divided the farm among four of his children, giving the house and 265 acres to James Augustus "Black" Scruggs.¹³⁸ Robert died in December 1890 at age 90 and Catharine died in January 1892 at age 87.¹³⁹ Both were buried in the family plot in New Pleasant Baptist Church Cemetery.

Enslaved People Owned by Robert Scruggs

Census records for 1830 and 1840 indicate that Robert Scruggs did not own slaves. The 1850 census slave schedules (September 15) list Robert Scruggs owning one enslaved male, age 11. Richard Scruggs II's will, prepared in June 1853, left an enslaved male named Jefferson to Robert. Records from the settlement of Richard's estate in 1855 do not indicate a deviation from the disposition of the seven enslaved people listed in his will.¹⁴⁰ The 1860 census slave schedules (August 1860) list a Robert Scruggs in the Northern Division of the Spartanburg District owning one enslaved man, age 20. The 1850 and 1860 census records may show the same individual.

133. Edwin C. Bearss, *Historic Structure Report: Robert Scruggs House: Historical Data* (Denver: Denver Service Center, 1974), 28.

134. Bearss, 37-38.

135. Bearss, 38.

136. Bearss, 38.

137. Bearss, 41.

138. Bearss, 42.

139. Bearss, 43.

140. Bearss, 16-17.

1890-1923 | James Augustus “Black” Scruggs & Mary Hamer Scruggs Period

Although James Augustus “Black” Scruggs received the homestead and 265 acres during the 1885-1886 period, he is believed to have moved into the Robert Scruggs House in December 1890.¹⁴¹

Born in the Robert Scruggs House on November 1, 1848, Black married Mary Ellen Hamer, age 15, in 1876. The couple occupied the Richard Scruggs II House as of the 1880 census. Fourteen months after Robert’s death, shortly after the death of Catharine, the executors of his estate sold off his personal property to divide the value among his heirs. This sale documents the furnishings of the house at that time along with their sale price and buyer:

| Item | Buyer | Cost |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------|
| 1 bureau | Richard A. Scruggs | \$1.95 |
| 1 cupboard | Richard A. Scruggs | \$1.90 |
| 1 book case | Susan M. Martin | \$0.75 |
| 1 bed and bedstead | Susan M. Martin | \$5.50 |
| 1 bedstead | Mary Parris | \$0.60 |
| 1 table | Susan M. Martin | \$0.55 |
| 2 chairs | Mary Parris | \$0.30 |
| 2 chairs | Susan M. Martin | \$0.35 |
| 2 chairs | James A. Scruggs | \$0.60 |
| 1 wash pot | W. H. Champion | \$1.00 |
| 1 oven and lid | Dennis Scruggs | \$0.15 |

Other items in the sale included agricultural implements, a wagon, a buggy, tools, cows, and a shotgun.¹⁴²

A correspondent from the *Gaffney Ledger* visited Black Scruggs and others in the Cowpens area in February 1898:

I arrived at the home of my friend Mr. Berck [sic] Scruggs... where I was most kindly received, got a fine dinner and my pony fed... The old part of his house was built just a few years after the close of the Revolutionary war. In front of his house musket balls, gun flings, and other paraphernalia... have been found in abundance from time to time... Mr. Scruggs himself has picked up many different relics. He sent several balls to the Atlanta exposition two years ago. In

company with Messrs. Black and R. A. Scruggs I went to see Mr. J. H. Ezell [age 78]... Mrs. Nancy Williams, who is now 70 years old, ...has picked up bullets about Black Scruggs’ house and in many parts of the field.¹⁴³

At the time of the 1900 census (June 5), the Scruggs House was home to Black and Mary Scruggs and four children: James A. (born 1881), Robert Edmond Scruggs (1888-1960), Jessie Emaline Malissa Scruggs (1890-1976), Rosa Mary Ellen Scruggs (1894-1992), and John B. Scruggs (1897-1930). Black was listed as a farmer. The census reported that Mary Ellen Hamer Scruggs had given birth to 10 Children, of which six were then living. By the time of the 1910 census (April 27), the house was occupied by Black and Mary Scruggs and their children Rosa, John B, and Vaud. Vaud Elizabeth

141. Bearss, 45.

142. Bearss, 44.

143. “The Cowpens Battle Field,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 3 March 1898), 1.

Scruggs (1901-1995) was the couple's eleventh child.

At the time of the 1920 census (January 15), the house was occupied by Black and Mary Scruggs and their adult daughter Rosa. Black was listed as a farmer with a "general farm." The three children had attended school in the last year. Horace Shuford Scruggs and Mary Elizabeth Cook were married by Black Scruggs on the house's front porch on July 10, 1920.¹⁴⁴ Black Scruggs died on August 28, 1923 and the property passed to his daughter, Rosa.

1923-[between 1974-1977] | Rosa Scruggs Garrett Period

Twenty-eight-year-old Rosa Scruggs appears to have taken over operations of the farm following her father's death. She and her mother continued to occupy the house during this period. Lt. Col. H. L. Landers of the Army War College's Historical Branch visited the Cowpens battlefield site on April 8, 1928. He visited the Scruggs family and photographed the exterior of the house, including an image in his report. On April 14, Landers wrote a letter of thanks to Mary Hamer Scruggs, acknowledging her hospitality and enclosing a copy of the photograph of the house.¹⁴⁵

By the time of the 1930 (April 24) census, Rosa was listed as the head of the household. The only other resident was her mother, Mary Hamer Scruggs. Rosa is listed as a farmer with a "general farm." Like other nearby families, the Scruggs family did not own a radio. Rosa married Henry Pearson Garrett (1891-1935) in 1931 and he moved into the house.¹⁴⁶ Rosa's nephew (Charles) Osborne Scruggs (1922-1970), son of her brother John Boyd Scruggs (who had died in 1930), moved into the household before April 1, 1935. Henry Garrett died at Columbia Hospital in Spartanburg on May 6, 1935, following a short illness. He was a member of New Pleasant Baptist Church and the Woodmen of



Figure 47. Robert Scruggs House from the northwest, c.1970-1975. Source: Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 1.



Figure 48. Robert Scruggs House from the southeast, 1975. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C76, 3 of 8.



Figure 49. Robert Scruggs House from the southeast, c.1977. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

144. It is unclear whether Black Scruggs was an ordained clergyman or a justice of the peace, but the report would indicate that he was a recognized marriage officiant. Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 1.

145. Rosa Scruggs Garrett had the letter and photograph as of 1973. Bearss, 52.

146. Bearss, 51.



Figure 50. Robert Scruggs House from the east, c.1977-1979. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 51. Robert Scruggs House from the northwest, September 1979. Source: Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 1.

the World.¹⁴⁷ Only a few months after the death of her husband, Rosa faced the death of her mother, Mary Hamer Scruggs, in December 1935.

By the time of the 1940 census (May 3), Rosa and Osborne were the only residents of the house. Rosa is listed as a farmer, working 60 hours per week, while Osborne is listed as a farm laborer working 40 hours per week. Rosa reported that she had a sixth-grade education, while Osborne reported having a fifth-grade education.

147. "Henry Pearson Garrett," Find A Grave, last updated 18 June 2012, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/92106734>



Figure 52. View southeast in room 101 of Robert Scruggs House, September 1979. Original caption: "Mike Loveless, park superintendent at Cowpens National Battlefield and Kings Mountain National Military Park, and Ron Bishop, historical architect with the National Parks [sic] Service in Atlanta, are shown inside the Robert Scruggs House at the Cowpens Park." Source: Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

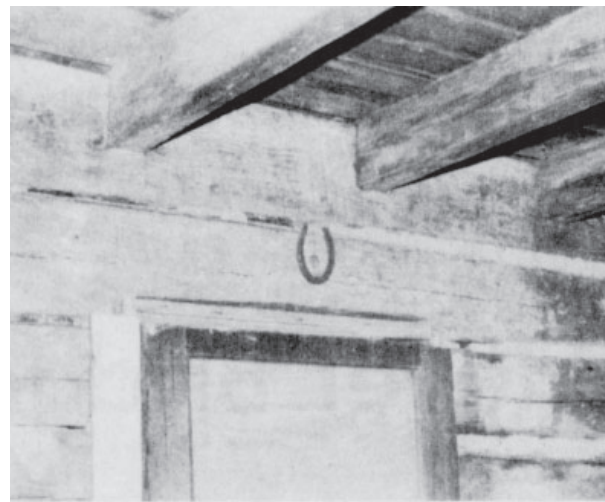


Figure 53. View northeast in room 101 of Robert Scruggs House, September 1979. Original caption: "Old Horseshoe is displayed on one wall of the Robert Scruggs cabin." Source: Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.

Rosa Scruggs Garrett occupied the house until at least 1974. Inflation in agricultural wages made continued operation of the farm infeasible and the land was rented out to other farmers. Rosa supplemented this income by selling off seven lots of her land fronting Green River Road and South Carolina 11-122 to nieces and nephews, who built houses on the land.¹⁴⁸ In September 1973, more than 150 of Rosa's friends and family members held a surprise birthday party for her. An article on the event noted: "She lives in the old Black Scruggs

148. Bearss, 51.

home place which is the oldest house in our community. It was originally a log house, but it has been remodeled. The Park Commission will restore it to a log house.”¹⁴⁹ As of 1974, Rosa reported that most of the house’s furnishings had belonged to her parents and paternal grandparents.¹⁵⁰

c.1975 – Present | NPS Period

The property appears to have been acquired by the National Park Service in 1974 or 1975 during the creation of Cowpens National Battlefield. The house underwent a restoration project in 1977-1980 and has been used as a historic site with varying levels of programming since that time (Figure 47 - Figure 63).



Figure 54. Robert Scruggs House from the southeast c.1979-1980. Note the horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 55. Cutting log joists for the new porch of the Robert Scruggs House, c.1979-1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 56. Robert Scruggs House south porch from the east, c.1979-1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.

149. Mrs. M. E. McGinnis, “Surprise dinner Honors Mrs. Garrett,” *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 5 October 1973, 5.

150. Bearss, 54.



Figure 57. Robert Scruggs House south porch from the east, c.1979-1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 58. Robert Scruggs House south porch from the east, c.1979-1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 59. Detail of post, decking, and skirt board of new porch, Robert Scruggs House, c.1979-1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 60. Robert Scruggs House from the northwest, c.1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 61. Room 101 of the Robert Scruggs House, facing southeast, c.1980. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives.



Figure 62. Detail of window broken by vandals, August 1991. Note the horizontal battens over the gaps between the logs. Source: Laura J. Perricone, "Vandals Damage Cowpens Site," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 7 August 1991, 1.



Figure 63. Chief of Maintenance Billy Greenway in room 101 of the Scruggs House, c.1991-1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield.

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I.C Physical Description and Condition Assessment

Richard Scruggs II Site

Site

The Richard Scruggs II site is located within a small opening of successional forest in the southeast portion of the park. The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin is sited atop a small highpoint in the surrounding landscape, though the encroaching vegetation has obscured the topographical prominence of the location. The house ruin is enclosed by a ring of wooden split-rail fencing. The outline of the house is interpreted with a rectangular bed of river rock, edged with spans of dimensional lumber. A standard NPS-style interpretive panel is located just outside the fence. Within the clearing there are several, large deciduous trees. They have broad canopies, which may indicate that the area was historically open allowing the spread of their limbs. The ground plane is a mixture of various grasses.

The Martin Barn Foundation is located within the surrounding woodland, having been overtaken by the successional forest. It sits approximately 120 feet west-northwest from the chimney. No formal circulation features currently connect the house site to the barn site.

No formal parking areas are located within the site. The area is accessed via two short unpaved driveways that connect to Scruggs Road, which runs north-south on the eastern edge of the site. A large modern church is located off-site directly south of the ruin at the intersection of Scruggs Road and New Pleasant Road. An associated cemetery is located across Scruggs Road from the church.

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin (Chimney)

The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin (Chimney) stands in a clearing in a wooded area (Figure 64). A rectangular gravel enclosure suggests the rough outline of the original log house and an interpretive sign nearby includes a brief history and some images. The chimney is of warm-colored stone,



Figure 64. Richard Scruggs II Chimney and context from the southeast.



Figure 65. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, east elevation.

with individual stones ranging in color for a rich iron-ore red-orange to paler grayish-tan. Mortar ranges in color from a warm tan to a cool gray. The chimney measures roughly 9'-0" wide and 4'-6" deep at the base. The firebox, located in the east



Figure 66. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, detail of firebox on east elevation.



Figure 68. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, detail of east elevation.



Figure 67. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, detail at neck of chimney showing steel angle.



Figure 69. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, south elevation.

elevation, measures roughly 6'-9" wide by 4'-0" high (Figure 65, Figure 66, Figure 67). The back of the firebox is covered with a tan plaster or stucco. The firebox is flanked by projecting stone pilasters that likely extended in through an opening in the log wall of the house. The firebox is topped by a wooden beam measuring roughly 6" high, 8'-4" wide, and 8½" deep. The chimney breast rises to a height of approximately 8'-6", from which the north and south sides slope inward, forming the first "shoulder" of the chimney. Just above this

level, the east face slopes west, moving the chimney away from the gable of the west wall of the house (Figure 68). Above this level, the chimney steps in on the north, south, east, and west sides, forming the second "shoulder" and presumably pulling the chimney out to the edge of the roof overhang (Figure 69). The west elevation of the chimney features all masonry in a single plane, showing the double-shouldered design (Figure 70, Figure 71).



Figure 70. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, west elevation.



Figure 71. Richard Scruggs II Chimney and from the north-west.

The Richard Scruggs II Chimney remains in fair to good condition overall as the result of a major stabilization project in 2008. Wasp holes in the mortar joints of the west elevation have been a long-term problem (Figure 72, Figure 73). Park staff report that the wasps (apparently red paper wasps, *Polistes carolina*) seem to like this location because the stone is warm in the afternoons. One open vertical mortar joint was noted on this elevation and several areas of mortar deterioration were noted, particularly in areas with many wasp



Figure 72. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, typical wasp holes at mortar joints on west elevation.



Figure 73. Richard Scruggs II Chimney, wasp and wasp holes at mortar joints on west elevation.



Figure 74. Martin Barn Foundation, view of east rooms from the north, with center bay at right.

holes. The top of the chimney is believed to have been covered with a cap during the 2008 project. The steel angle at the neck of the chimney shows signs of surface corrosion.



Figure 75. Martin Barn Foundation, view of center bay and west rooms from the northeast.



Figure 77. Martin Barn Foundation, view of west wall (extending beyond figure) from the northwest.



Figure 76. Martin Barn Foundation, view east across west rooms, center bay, and east rooms, showing door openings.



Figure 78. Martin Barn Foundation, detail of concrete and large aggregate at northeast corner of west rooms.

Martin Barn Foundation

The Martin Barn Foundation indicates the following layout: a central bay roughly 9'-10" wide with three rooms or cribs along each side (Figure 74, Figure 75). The cribs measured roughly 8'-10" wide, with 7"-wide foundations at the perimeter. The southern rooms were roughly 10'-0" long, the center rooms roughly 10'-3" long, and the northern rooms roughly 7'-3" long, with 6"-wide foundations below the partitions. The center rooms had 3'-2"-wide door openings to the central drive bay (Figure 76). The east and west sides of the barn retain a parallel foundation wall roughly 7'-3" beyond the outer walls of the three rooms (Figure 77). The east wall was not visible in November 2017 but was reported to have been visible in 2013. The barn foundation appears to have been created by filling wooden board forms with large stones—possibly fieldstone gathered from the surrounding farmland—are much larger than aggregate but do

not appear to have been mortared together (Figure 78). The concrete foundations are in fair condition overall, having suffered damage from tree roots and falling trees, including cracks, displacement, and partial collapse. Metal debris is evident in the underbrush around the ruins and appears to include remnants of agricultural equipment as well as pieces of sheet metal that could have been associated with the barn.



Figure 79. Robert Scruggs House, view in context from the northwest.



Figure 81. Robert Scruggs House, north façade.



Figure 80. Robert Scruggs House, north façade and west elevation.



Figure 82. Robert Scruggs House, south elevation.

Robert Scruggs House

Site

The Robert Scruggs House is located along the ridge that bisects the park, which it shares with the Green River Road roughly 70' to its north. The area is open immediately surrounding the house, except for a large boxwood located just north of the house. The ground plane is mown short in this area. A large patch of trees containing a mix of pine (*Pinus* spp.), pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), and black walnut (*Juglas nigra*) surrounds the open area on the east, south, and west. A seasonally-maintained grassland of native forbs and grasses rings the outside edge of the trees. The restored Green River Road runs east to west across the northern portion of the site. A capped well is located off the southwest corner of the house.

To the north of Green River Road, a circular wayside pull-off extending southward from the

Battlefield Loop Road provides limited vehicular parking for site visitors. The parking area contains seven parking spaces that are rimmed by a sidewalk. An additional walkway connects to the sidewalk and extends south from the parking area, terminating at Green River Road. Scattered trees grow in the area, including in the large circular island of grass in the center of the wayside loop, as well as south of the parking area between the drive and the Green River Road. No other formal circulation features are located in the area, though a remnant trace of the Scruggs Road remains in the southern portion of the site. Two interpretive panels exist within the area: one at the intersection of the two sidewalks in the parking area, and one along Green River Road north of the cabin.

Exterior

The Robert Scruggs House sits in a clearing on the south side of the historic Green River Road, now a trail within the Cowpens National



Figure 83. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, interior face of modern batten door.

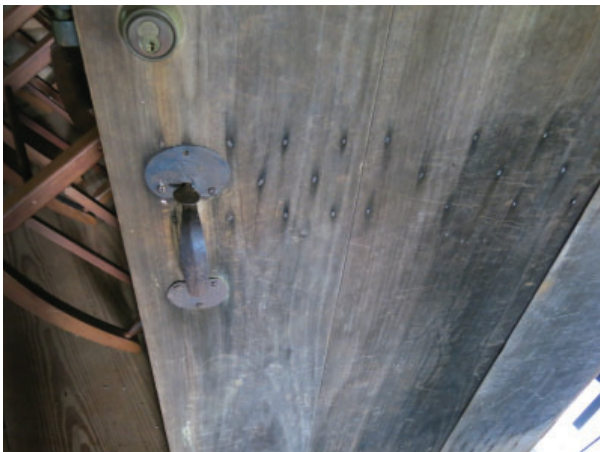


Figure 84. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, typical modern hardware at exterior doors.

Battlefield (Figure 79). The house is a rectangular, side-gabled, one-and-one-half-story log house measuring roughly 17' by 20' (Figure 80). The house faces north, toward the former line of Green River Road. Shed-roofed porches extend the full width of the north façade and the south elevation. The house rests on granite boulders or stacks of stones, forming rough piers under the corners and intermediate points along each elevation. The north façade and south elevation each have a single door opening near the center of the wall (Figure



Figure 85. Robert Scruggs House, east elevation.



Figure 86. Robert Scruggs House, west elevation.



Figure 87. Robert Scruggs House, detail of upper west elevation showing opening infilled during 1977-1980 restoration and wood siding and window in gable.

81, Figure 82). These doors are modern batten doors installed during the 1977-1980 restoration project (Figure 83, Figure 84). Both door openings are fitted with modern metal bar gates on the exterior. On most days, the doors are opened and the gates are locked, providing park visitors with



Figure 88. Robert Scruggs House, typical weathering of logs and later splice repairs, northwest corner.



Figure 91. Robert Scruggs House, splice repair.



Figure 89. Robert Scruggs House, detail of door opening at west elevation infilled during 1977-1980 restoration.



Figure 92. Robert Scruggs House, open holes in logs of south elevation.



Figure 90. Rectangular cut nail adjacent to former door opening at west elevation, with pins from 1970s log splice.



Figure 93. Robert Scruggs House, shrinking and damage at chinking.

a view into the house's interior while preventing access. The east elevation contains a projecting chimney of stone and brick masonry and a small double-hung window at the first floor level (Figure 85). The west elevation has no openings in the log

wall but includes a small fixed sash in the gable (Figure 86). Both gables are of frame construction and are clad in unpainted wood weatherboard siding installed during the 1977-1980 restoration project (Figure 87).



Figure 94. Robert Scruggs House, double-hung window on east elevation.



Figure 96. Robert Scruggs House, detail of window frame and casing separating from east wall.



Figure 95. Robert Scruggs House, detail of open joints at frame and casing of window on east elevation.



Figure 97. Robert Scruggs House, detail of stone base of chimney on east elevation.

The exterior walls are of horizontal hewn logs that have a weathered surface. Most of the logs exhibit significant weathering, including cracks and splits in the direction of the grain (Figure 88). Infill from the 1970s in a former door opening at the west elevation includes spliced patches (Figure 89, Figure 90). A major repair campaign in 2015 included splicing repairs into deteriorated logs (Figure 91). A number of large holes have been bored into the logs and remain open (Figure 92). A number of logs on the east and west elevation

were noted to be in fair to poor condition. The logs of the north and south elevations are somewhat sheltered by the porches and roof overhang and remain in fair condition overall. The gaps between the logs are now filled with an acrylic product called “Perma-Chink,” marketed as a low-maintenance, durable simulated chinking product for new log buildings. Park staff report that Perma-Chink was used only on the interior of the walls and that a clay-like substance was used on the exterior sides. This chinking appears to remain



Figure 98. Robert Scruggs House, detail of flashing at stepped courses of chimney on east elevation.



Figure 99. Robert Scruggs House, detail of chimney cap from the southeast.

in fair to good condition in some areas and fair condition in others, with several areas of damage (Figure 93). Past documentation indicates that this chinking has required patching or replacement every few years. Separation between the chinking and the logs was noted at several areas, particularly on the exposed east and west side elevations. The wood weatherboard siding of the gables, installed during the 1977-1980 restoration project, is in fair to poor condition overall, showing the effect of many decades of weathering of the unpainted wood.



Figure 100. Robert Scruggs House, underside of roof at south porch.



Figure 101. Robert Scruggs House, detail of typical conditions at porch posts and decking.

Wood sash windows on the east and west elevations are in fair condition. The east window, fabricated during the 1977-1980 restoration project, appears to have a new lower sash dating from 2015 (Figure 94). The window frame and trim, apparently repaired in 2015, are separating from the log wall, leaving large gaps open to the elements (Figure 95, Figure 96). An opening in the upper part of the south elevation vents room 201 and is fitted with wire mesh at the interior.

The masonry chimney of the east elevation contains a base of sandstone, extending up above the first floor level (Figure 97). The rest of the chimney is of red brick. The chimney remains the full width until just below the top of the log walls, where it begins to step in from the north and south, forming a nearly square chimney rising along the gable and above the roof. The chimney is held back from the weatherboard siding of the gable and the space between is concealed by wooden boards.



Figure 102. Robert Scruggs House, typical condition of wood shakes at south roof.



Figure 104. Robert Scruggs House, room 101 facing southwest.



Figure 103. Robert Scruggs House, typical conditions of log sills and joists, looking southeast from the west elevation.

Soldered flashing is present at the joint between the stepped masonry of the chimney and the west wall (Figure 98). The top of the chimney is trimmed by a cap formed from three courses of slightly corbelled brick (Figure 99). A screen and stone cap appear to have been installed in 2015. The chimney had suffered damage prior to the 1977-1980 restoration project and all brick masonry was demolished and rebuilt during that project (Figure 50). New brick was made at that time and it is unclear whether any of the existing brick predates the 1970s.¹⁵¹ The stone base exhibits several periods of mortar, with mortar joints being in fair condition overall. The brick masonry also shows more than one period of mortar and the mortar joints are also in fair condition.

151. Janet Spencer, "Log Cabin Restoration Part of Park Project," *Gaffney Ledger* (Gaffney, South Carolina), 28 September 1979, 2.



Figure 105. Robert Scruggs House, room 101 facing east.



Figure 106. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, view up chimney.

The north and south porches were built during the 1977-1980 restoration project, possibly including some salvaged log joists. These porches have modern wood decks and skirt boards, posts composed of tree-trunks stripped of branches and bark, and log rafters and wood skip-sheathing dating from the 1970s (Figure 100, Figure 101). The



Figure 107. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, board over fireplace with potential evidence of early paint finishes.



Figure 108. Robert Scruggs House, room 101 facing southeast.

porch decking, replaced sometime after the 1977-1980 restoration, is in fair condition overall, with signs of cupping and warping at individual boards.

The roof of the main house and those of the porches are covered in cedar shakes believed to have been installed in 2012 (Figure 102). The roofing appears to be in fair condition overall, with signs of curling, splitting, and biological growth evident on most of the shakes. The underside of the shakes show some signs of moisture penetration. The skip-sheathing of the main roof appears to be in good condition. The skip-sheathing of the porches appears to be in fair condition, with individual pieces in fair to poor condition.

The house rests on a series of stone piers. Log sills support log joists carrying the first floor. Review of the area under the house from the perimeter indicates that the sills and joists are not in contact



Figure 109. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, detail of staircase, facing southeast.



Figure 110. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, detail of latch and wood finishes at stair closet door.

with the ground and that the area below is clear of debris (Figure 103).

Interior

The interior of the Robert Scruggs House consists of two rooms of similar dimensions: room 101 on the first floor and room 201 at the loft level.

Room 101

Room 101 was the primary space of the original house and measures roughly 19'-0" by 16'-3". The



Figure 111. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, 1970s replacement components at lower steps of staircase, facing south.



Figure 113. Robert Scruggs House, room 101 facing west.



Figure 112. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, staircase with damaged modern door, facing east.

north and south walls each contain a single door opening (Figure 104). The east wall contains a central fireplace with a double-hung window to the north (Figure 105). The face of the fireplace measures roughly 6'-0" wide and is of red brick, projecting in slightly beyond the face of the log walls. The firebox measures 3'-9" wide at the face, with sloping brick sides extending to a stone back wall. It has an open flue built during the 1977-1980 restoration project (Figure 106). The firebox is topped by a header course of brick. Two courses above, a horizontal board is set into the face of the



Figure 114. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, detail of forged iron hanger on joist, typical beaded corners, and nail holes at bottom sides of joist, facing northwest.



Figure 115. Robert Scruggs House, room 101, detail of nails in sides of joist, typical beaded corners, and nail holes at bottom sides of joists, facing south.

masonry. This board appears to retain evidence of early paint finishes (Figure 107). A small stone hearth projects out from the fireplace. A winder staircase rises in the southeast corner (Figure 108, Figure 109). The stair itself appears to have been demolished and replaced with a replica during the



Figure 116. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, facing east.



Figure 118. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, facing southwest.



Figure 117. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, view of staircase, facing southeast.



Figure 119. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, opening at south wall.

1977-1980 restoration project. The board walls that enclose the stair appear to incorporate historic fabric that could retain early finishes. A small closet under the stair appears to retain a historic batten door with a forged iron clasp (Figure 110). This clasp appears to be consistent with the period 1800-1850, although comparison with similar features in other Piedmont buildings may yield a narrower date range. The lower three steps of the staircase rise from west to east along the south wall and appear to have been entirely replaced in the 1970s (Figure 61, Figure 111). The door enclosing the staircase at the level of the fourth step also appears to be a modern replacement and is in poor condition, with several broken boards (Figure 112). The west wall contains no openings but retains the outline of a door opening infilled during the 1977-1980 restoration project (Figure 43, Figure 113).

The room's walls are of exposed logs with modern chinking. Some of the logs shown signs of active moisture, particularly along the top of the east wall near the northeast corner. The modern

chinking material has failed in several areas. The logs retain traces of whitewash. The floor joists and floorboards of the loft above are exposed. The joists have crudely-beaded lower corners, a typical practice for log joists that were to be exposed (Figure 114). The joist space roughly centered on the two door openings contains a large number of nails attached to the faces of the joists at either side (Figure 115). These are rectangular cut nails, consistent with the period 1800-1890 and they are somewhat regularly spaced—at 10" to 15½" on center—along most of the length of the joists. The placement of these nails would make sense for hanging items to dry, being in the path of cross-ventilation between the doors. At least one of the nails is surrounded by recently-splintered wood, suggesting it was installed within the last 40 years. It is possible that some nails remained in place at this location, concealed by a later finished ceiling, and that additional nails were added during the 1977-1980 restoration. A joist in the northwest part of the room retains a U-shaped forged iron loop with its points driven into the wood (Figure 114).



Figure 120. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, facing west.



Figure 121. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, typical pinned connection at rafters.

The bottom faces of the joists retain rectangular holes from cut nails that appear to have held a board ceiling. Some of the joists exhibit horizontal cracking. The room is floored with unpainted boards installed during the 1977-1980 restoration.

Room 201

Room 201 forms an attic or loft level above room 101 and measures roughly 19'-0" by 16'-3". The log walls extend up to a height of roughly 3'-0", above which rises the gable roof. The west wall has no openings (Figure 116). The winder staircase rises up in the southeast corner (Figure 117). No guardrail is present. A small opening is present near the center of the south wall and is now fitted with wire mesh on the interior (Figure 118, Figure 119). A former opening in the west wall was infilled during the 1977-1980 restoration (Figure 43, Figure 120). The roof is supported by narrow log rafters with horizontal braces near their midpoints, the braces being attached with wooden pegs (Figure 121). The gable ends are framed with a mix of narrow logs and squared



Figure 122. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, detail of east gable.



Figure 123. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, detail of west gable showing daylight through gaps.

timbers (Figure 122). Wood weatherboard siding, installed on the gables during the 1977-1980 restoration project, is exposed at the interior and is said to replicate surviving historic fabric removed at that time. Daylight is visible between the weatherboards (Figure 123). A small window is located in the west gable. The roof's skip-sheathing appears to have been replaced within the last 40 years. The underside of the wood shake roofing is visible between the skip-sheathing and daylight is visible in the sheathing's gaps at the gable ends. The room's flooring may predate the 1977-1980 restoration.

Room 201 is used only for storage and contains surplus wood shakes, modern furniture, and other items (Figure 124). Park staff report that pest infestation has been a long-term issue. Squirrels, birds, and black snakes are frequently found in room 201. Squirrels appear to have burrowed into several areas of chinking, particularly on the west wall (Figure 125). A large snake-skin was observed on the staircase in November 2017 (Figure 126).



Figure 124. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, surplus shakes stored on site.



Figure 125. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, evidence of squirrels burrowing in chinking of east wall.



Figure 126. Robert Scruggs House, room 201, snake skin on staircase, facing southeast.

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I.D Evaluation of Significance

Introduction

The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Robert Scruggs House are significant resources associated with the settlement of the South Carolina Piedmont following the American Revolution and reflect the evolution of Piedmont farmsteads between 1800 and the 1930s.

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation

The Richard Scruggs II Ruin site is significant for its retention of the circa 1811 stone chimney, believed to be the only example of a Tidewater/Virginia chimney in the South Carolina Piedmont, reflecting the persistence of colonial building traditions in South Carolina after the Revolutionary War. The Martin Barn Foundation is significant as an example of an outbuilding built by a female farmer, reflecting the continuing evolution of farming in the region into the Great Depression. The Richard Scruggs II Ruin site could yield potential archaeological evidence of the lives of enslaved people in the South Carolina Piedmont.

Robert Scruggs House

The Robert Scruggs House is significant as a surviving example of a log house representative of the dwellings built in the South Carolina Piedmont during the period after initial settlement. The temporary log cabin was a “typical pioneer dwelling” in many timber-rich regions of the country, including the Carolina Piedmont.¹⁵² Log buildings were documented in South Carolina by 1690 and were often the earliest type of construction in rural sections of the state.¹⁵³ A permanent log house like the Robert Scruggs House typically represented “the next step up from the cabin and was intended as a permanent dwelling.”¹⁵⁴ Log houses are distinct from early and temporary log cabins—crudely built of round logs,

with a board roof—being permanent buildings constructed with square-hewn logs and covered with a shingled roof. This distinction was evident in the Virginia Piedmont by the 1790s and persisted into the 1840s in the Midwest.¹⁵⁵

The Robert Scruggs House reflects a common form and construction method for vernacular dwellings in the South Carolina Piedmont. “Log architecture in the Piedmont South is characterized by rectangular pen structures with gable ends facing sideways and a roof ridge running parallel to the front.”¹⁵⁶ The house is a comparatively late example of log construction in the Piedmont. In neighboring North Carolina and in the Virginia Piedmont, limited log construction was seen well after 1800.¹⁵⁷ Catherine W. Bishir has noted that log construction in North Carolina ranged from early settlement until after 1900, but that “By about 1800... the method was considered old-fashioned, and by the 1850s, observers commented on the disappearance of” log buildings.”¹⁵⁸

Log buildings in the Piedmont were “frequently clad in weatherboards as soon as the family finances allowed it, in order to preserve the wooden walls.”¹⁵⁹ These improvements contributed to the disappearance of log buildings from the public eye and lent farmsteads and rural communities a more permanent and settled character. In other regions, hewn-log houses of the period were often covered with siding from

152. C. A. Weslager, *The Log Cabin in America* (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1969), 6.

153. Roberts, 31.

154. K. Edward Lay, *The Architecture of Jefferson Country: Charlottesville and Albemarle County*, Virginia (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2000), 5.

155. Craig Thompson Friend, *Along the Maysville Road: The Early American Republic in the Trans-Appalachian West* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2005), 72; Warren E. Roberts, *Log Buildings of Southern Indiana* (Bloomington, Indiana: Trickster Press, 1996), 41-44.

156. Kenneth E. Lewis, *The American Frontier: An Archaeological Study of Settlement Pattern and Process* (Orlando: Academic Press, 1984), 139.

157. K. Edward Lay, *The Architecture of Jefferson Country: Charlottesville and Albemarle County*, Virginia (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2000), 5.

158. Catherine W. Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 2005), 5.

159. K. Edward Lay, *The Architecture of Jefferson Country: Charlottesville and Albemarle County*, Virginia (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2000), 5.

the time of their first construction.¹⁶⁰ The early enclosure of the house with siding reflects the typical pattern for improvement of log buildings, ultimately achieving a finished state associated with developed and settled rural agricultural landscapes.

Single-room dwellings with a sleeping loft above represent one of the earliest housing types in the United States. They appear to have been the dominant housing form in frontier areas as well as more settled rural regions of the country.¹⁶¹ Such buildings are often referred to as “single-pen” cabins or cottages (“cottage” denoting their height of less than two full stories, in contrast to a “house” with two full stories). Single-pen cottages were typically expanded as the owner’s family and finances grew. The addition of a second room to one side of the first created a “double-pen plan cottage” (if the second room also included an exterior door) or a “hall-and-parlor” cottage (if the second room did not contain an exterior door).¹⁶² The history of the Robert Scruggs House embodies the growth of a single-pen log house through several periods of expansion and improvement.¹⁶³

As noted by Edwin C. Bearss in 1974, the Robert Scruggs House was significant as an example of a log house that had grown with two generations of a family of yeoman farmers in the Carolina Piedmont during the period around 1828 until about 1900, and had survived with minimal alterations after the 1930s. The house appears to have been significant at the local level and possibly at the state level for its embodiment of vernacular building traditions of the Carolina Piedmont over the arc of the nineteenth century. While many comparable farmhouses once existed, many have been lost or have undergone significant post-World War II changes.

The rationale behind the decision to restore the house to its late 1820s appearance in 1977-1980 is not documented. This project appears to have destroyed all historic fabric associated with the house’s expansion and improvement after its initial construction and introduced new

fabric and features alleged to have been based on evidence found in the 1970s, but for which no documentation has been located to date. The loss of historic fabric limits the period of significance of the first stage of its construction. The house is still significant as an example of a surviving single-pen log house of the 1820s and appears to maintain sufficient integrity to this period in the form of its log walls and basic structure. Many early log buildings underwent similarly extreme restorations after the 1920s.¹⁶⁴

The site may possess potential archaeological information. Writing in 1997, J. W. Joseph noted that farmstead archeology in the South Carolina Piedmont “is limited in that it does not provide much information concerning antebellum farmsteads, and is focus most intently upon the postbellum era.”¹⁶⁵ Joseph notes that Southern farm settlement tended to be “less structured than farms of other regions and featured fewer and less substantial structures,” making archaeological evidence key to understanding the history and function of the farm as a whole.¹⁶⁶

The Robert Scruggs House is also significant for its association with the interpretation of the Cowpens Battlefield’s history during the Scruggs family’s occupancy. The family is known to have served as informal interpreters of the site from the visit of Benson Lossing in 1849 to that of Col. H. L. Landers in 1928. Further research may reveal additional clues to the family’s role in early interpretation of the Battle of Cowpens.

160. Roberts 75-77, 85-87.

161. Roberts x-xii, 128.

162. John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, Douglas K. Meyer, *Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1989), 216.

163. Roberts, x-xi.

164. For example, a log house in nearby Gaffney was built in 2006 using 24 logs from a c.1804 house built by Michael Gaffney and is presently furnished with a variety of items from many time periods to present a generalized suggestion of a “pioneer” lifestyle. This type of interpretation became particularly popular around the time of the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976.

165. J. W. Joseph, “Building to Grow: Agrarian Adaptations to South Carolina’s Historical Landscapes,” in *Carolina’s Historical Landscapes: Archaeological Perspectives* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1997), 51.

166. J. W. Joseph, “Building to Grow: Agrarian Adaptations to South Carolina’s Historical Landscapes,” in *Carolina’s Historical Landscapes: Archaeological Perspectives* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1997), 51-52.

II Treatment and Use

Introduction

Multiple NPS administrative documents include recommendations for stabilization and/or treatment of the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation and the Robert Scruggs House. Few documents have addressed treatment of the Martin Barn Foundation.

The 1976 *Cowpens National Battlefield Master Plan* identifies a preservation treatment for the Robert Scruggs House.¹⁶⁷ Documentation of the cabin within the master plan is minimal, and the document does not identify the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin or the Martin Barn Foundation as contributing resources.

The NPS Historic Preservation Training Center prepared a *Preservation Maintenance Plan for the Robert Scruggs House and Richard Scruggs Ruin Site* in 2008. This plan notes that stabilization efforts at the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin “resolved the outstanding structural issues of the feature.” The report finds that the materials used in repairs in the early 2000s “were compatible with the existing mortar and stonework.”¹⁶⁸ For the “unidentified buildings... foundations made of tabby” [Martin Barn Foundation], the report recommends removal of vegetation and debris at the site and further archeological investigation.¹⁶⁹ The report notes “no deficiencies needing immediate attention” at the Robert Scruggs House.¹⁷⁰ The report states that the house would likely need re-roofing within the next five to ten years. The report also includes a maintenance checklist to monitor degradation of the building and site.¹⁷¹

167. Denver Service Center, “Final Environmental Statement: Master Plan and Development Concept Plan, Cowpens National Battlefield,” 12.

168. Eric A. Hutchinson, *Preservation Maintenance Plan*, 7.

169. *Ibid.*, 8.

170. *Ibid.*, 8.

171. *Ibid.*, 13-14.

Laws, Regulations, and Functional Requirements

Applicable laws, regulations, and requirements that apply to the treatment recommendations include the following:

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). This act mandates that federal agencies, including the NPS, take into account the effects of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment.
- National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Guideline (Director’s Order 28). This order requires planning for the protection of cultural resources on park property.
- Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 1990.
- International Building Code (IBC), 2015.
- International Existing Building Code (IEBC), 2015.
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 914.
- International Energy Conservation Code, 2015.

The NPS, Denver Service Center references the 2015 IEBC as a standard. The 2015 IEBC includes the following statement in paragraph 408.1, Historic Buildings: “[t]he provisions of this code that require improvements relative to the building’s existing condition or, in the case of repairs, that require improvements relative to a building’s predamage condition, shall not be mandatory for historic buildings unless specifically required by this section.”¹⁷² Paragraph 408.2, Life Safety Hazards states: “[t]he provisions of this code shall apply to

172. International Building Code Council, 2015 International Existing Building Code, Fifth Printing, (Country Club Hills, IL: Publications, 2014).

historic buildings judged by the building official to constitute a distinct life safety hazard.”¹⁷³

Executive Order 13514 issued in 2009 directs all federal agencies to implement sustainable design and construction practices. The relevant guidelines in this executive order require “. . . managing existing building systems to reduce the consumption of energy, water, and materials, and identifying alternatives to renovation that reduce existing assets’ deferred maintenance costs. . . [and] ensuring that rehabilitation of federally-owned historic buildings utilizes best practices and technologies in retrofitting to promote long term viability of the buildings.”¹⁷⁴

Recommended Ultimate Treatments

Cowpens National Battlefield listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966, but the original site boundaries excluded the Scruggs resources. Additional documentation submitted in 1978 included the Robert Scruggs House as a contributing resource. The Richard Scruggs II House Ruin (chimney) was added to the listing as a contributing resource in 1987. Its Management Category is “May be Preserved or Maintained”

The recommended ultimate treatment for the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation is a Preservation treatment. The recommended ultimate treatment for the Robert Scruggs House is a Restoration treatment. Its Management Category is “Should Be Preserved and Maintained” These treatments are as characterized in *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties* and are described in detail in the two sections, below.

Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation – Preservation

It is recommended that the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation receive a Preservation treatment, maintaining the ruins in their present condition. Reconstruction of

the lost buildings associated with these ruins is not recommended due to lack of available evidence of their appearance and lack of potential interpretive value for the site. A preservation treatment would allow continued interpretation of the ruins and would maintain these resources for future generations. This treatment and associated interpretation may be enhanced by further research and archaeological investigation. A preservation treatment should be regarded as a treatment of indefinite length, requiring regular maintenance and cyclical repairs to maintain the present condition of the resources.

The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines Preservation as follows:

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction... The Standards for Preservation require retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric along with the building’s historic form.¹⁷⁵

The following work should be anticipated as a part of a preservation treatment of these resources:

Work by NPS staff:

- Continue regular maintenance of the site. Follow recommendations in forthcoming Cowpens Cultural Landscape Report once approved by park management. Landscape maintenance work at the Martin Barn Foundation and Scruggs House chimney may include:
- Regularly remove fallen limbs from within the Martin Barn Foundation.
- Remove small trees and shrub sprouts from inside and within five feet from the perimeter of the Martin Barn Foundation. Regularly inspect larger trees that have root systems that may grow under

173. Ibid.

174. “Executive Order 13514 of October 5, 2009: Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance,” (Washington, D.C.: Federal Register 74, no. 194, October 8, 2009).

175. Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Revised) (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2017) 2, <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/treatment-guidelines-2017.pdf>

- foundation. Prune roots or remove as necessary to alleviate possible damage.
- Install a weed barrier/landscape cloth inside of the Martin Barn Foundation ruins to prevent future growth of vegetation and reduce ongoing maintenance.
- Allow fallen leaves to remain on the ground within and around the Martin Barn Foundation to protect the ground from erosion.
- Remove metal debris around the Martin Barn Foundation Ruins under the supervision of an archaeologist.
- Regularly inspect masonry of Martin Barn Foundation Ruins. Locate missing stones or fallen pieces. Store in safe place for future repairs. Mow the area around the Scruggs House chimney regularly, preventing future overgrowth.
- Regularly remove weeds growing in the gravel around the Scruggs House chimney ruins.
- Install a weed barrier/landscape cloth under the gravel around the Scruggs House chimney ruins to prevent weeds and reduce ongoing maintenance.
- Implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan to address ants, red paper wasps, squirrels, snakes, etc.
- Selectively patch holes in mortar on west elevation of chimney following removal of wasps to discourage re-infestation. Use a mortar that matches the consistency and color of the original.
- Clean deteriorated mortar joints of the chimney with hand tools and selectively repoint with compatible mortar of similar consistency and color. Repoint as necessary based on quarterly inspection to repair damage.
- Remove corrosion from steel angle at neck of chimney and repaint with a rust-inhibiting primer and paint.
- Continue borate preservative application at the mantel beam of the chimney.¹⁷⁶

Future Investigation

Additional scholarly research by historians:

- Research the enslaved people owned by the Scruggs family and consider interpretation of the stories of enslaved people in the

Carolina Piedmont as a component of the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin site.

Physical investigations by a team of historic preservation professionals:

- Conduct an archaeological survey and targeted investigation of the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin site. This could reveal more information on the evolution of the buildings on the property and evidence of material culture associated with the Scruggs family's occupancy (1804-1961) and the people who were enslaved at the site from at least 1830 to 1855.
- Additional development on the site could destroy archaeological resources and should not be implemented until after an archaeological survey and targeted investigation have been completed.

Robert Scruggs House – Restoration to 1828-1850 Appearance

It is recommended that the Robert Scruggs House receive a Restoration treatment, restoring it to its appearance during the period c.1828-1850 (construction stages 1-2). The house's size and interior configuration would remain as they are today. Further research and analysis will be necessary to determine the most likely appearance of the building during construction stage 1. Most of the documentation used to support the 1977-1980 restoration project is currently unavailable. This documentation may include valuable clues to the house's exterior appearance during construction stage 1. Available physical and documentary evidence suggests that the chinking may have been covered by horizontal battens and the porches may not have been present. Restoration to construction stage 2, when the house was enclosed with wood weatherboard siding, would provide added protection to the log walls, avoiding the rapid deterioration seen since the siding was removed during the 1977-1980 restoration. The interpretive value of these stages should be reviewed to determine a suitable balance for interpretation and long-term preservation of the historic fabric of the house.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines Restoration as follows:

176. Hutchinson, 9.

Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project. The Restoration Standards allow for the depiction of a building at a particular time in its history by preserving materials, features, finishes, and spaces from its period of significance and removing those from other periods.¹⁷⁷

Restoration of the Robert Scruggs House to its first stage of construction (c.1828) was the target established by the NPS in the mid-1970s. Although documentation for this decision has not been located, restoration to this period would support interpretation of life in the South Carolina Piedmont in the generations following the American Revolution—including the issue of slavery—and the role of the Scruggs family as early tour guides for the Cowpens Battlefield. A new restoration of the house could more accurately represent its appearance during the first or second stage of construction while correcting long-term maintenance problems. In either scenario, preservative treatment of exposed wooden components should be considered but must be weighed in light of the visual, environmental, and health effects of treatment products.¹⁷⁸

Overview of exterior treatment options:

- Treatment Option A: Reinstallation of the horizontal battens over the exterior chinking, following evidence of an early exterior treatment and matching the treatment installed in the 1970s.
- Treatment Option B: Restoration to conjectural stage 2 conditions, with weatherboard siding protecting the log walls.
- Other treatment options based on new evidence.

177. Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Revised) (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2017) 3, <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/treatment-guidelines-2017.pdf>
178. Hutchinson, 9.

The following work should be anticipated to support a future restoration project:

Work by NPS staff:

- Implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan to address red paper wasps, squirrels, snakes, etc. This would include regular inspection for termite infestation and for other wood-destroying insects. It would also include preventing access to birds, squirrels, and other rodents by ensuring windows and doors openings are tight and chimney capped with wire mesh designed for such use.
- Continue regular maintenance of the site.

Site recommendations:

Follow recommendations in forthcoming Cowpens Cultural Landscape Report once approved by park management. Site recommendations may include:

- Regularly maintain area around structure. Avoid the use of outdoor power maintenance equipment (such as the “weed-eater” or leaf blowers) or chemical pesticides as these may damage historic materials including stone and wood. Assume major cleanups in spring and fall with monthly monitoring the rest of the year.
- Remove boxwood on the north side of the cabin.
- Add appropriate vegetation between the house and the parking area to screen views of modern visual intrusions.
- The park should consider removing the raised planting bed at the interpretive garden. Ensure positive drainage away from chimney foundation and support piers; regrade as necessary.
- Replant turf in worn areas around building to prevent erosion. Ground should be lightly aerated and backfilled with compost/soil mix to promote turf health.

Based on available information the restoration work should be assumed to include:

- For restoration to construction stage 1: Remove porches, install horizontal battens to cover existing chinking. New battens should be of native hardwood treated with a borate preservative. The battens should be installed to provide coverage as shown in images of the building between 1980 and

1993. Provide new wood entry steps and handrails at each door.

- For restoration to construction stage 2: Retain porches, install vertical furring strips over face of logs and install horizontal wood weatherboard siding over these furring strips. Provide plain 1x wood trim as documented in historic photographs: true 1x3 trim at windows, true 1x4 trim at the doors and corner boards below the porch roofs, 8" corner boards with 1" beads along the outer edges at the corners above the porch roofs. The wood siding should be treated with a preservative compatible with a paint finish and should be painted following evidence of documented mid-nineteenth century treatments for the South Carolina Piedmont region. If no period evidence from the region can be found, it is recommended that a common white or off-white documented to the period be used. One example includes Benjamin Moore's OC-25 "Cloud Cover," an off-white documented to 1849,¹⁷⁹ while others include Sherwin Williams' SW-2829 "Classical White" or SW-2833 "Roycroft Vellum."¹⁸⁰

Alternative Treatments

An alternative treatment for the Robert Scruggs House would be a Preservation treatment, maintaining the house in its current form, anticipating regular maintenance and significant repair campaigns every 10 to 15 years. The drawbacks of this treatment include failure to address long-term maintenance issues presented by the modern chinking materials and exposed logs as well as the potentially inaccurate presentation of a log house in the South Carolina Piedmont, reinforcing widespread stereotypes and myths related to "log cabins."

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines Preservation as follows:

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction... The Standards for Preservation require retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric along with the building's historic form.¹⁸¹

A preservation treatment would not preclude the research and investigation leading to an ultimate restoration treatment. For this reason, a preservation treatment could serve as an intermediate level of treatment until research and investigation are completed and funding can be secured for a restoration treatment.

A preservation treatment should include:

1. Continue to maintain clear space between the building's log sills and joists and the ground below.
2. Inspect the exterior envelope of the building twice per year, documenting the condition of logs, chinking, weatherboard siding, windows, doors, trim, roofing, exterior masonry, porch floors, and entry steps. Record conditions in a spreadsheet or matrix to allow for comparison of conditions over time and to anticipate the need for larger repair and replacement projects.
3. Consider the interpretive potential of maintenance, repair, and preservation work.
4. Patch open holes in logs with borate-preservative-treated wood plugs.
5. Monitor and document deterioration of exterior log walls as a part of routine maintenance inspections. When deterioration meets or exceeds 25% of the cross section of any log, consult a structural engineer to determine the scope of repairs needed to maintain the structural stability of the building. Prioritize maintenance of historic fabric and consider strategies like

179. Matthew J. Mosca, *Historic Paint Finishes Study: The Charles Shrewsbury House*, Madison, Indiana (Baltimore: Artifex, Ltd., 2013), 312.

180. "Roycroft Vellum" was formerly titled "Colonial Revival Ivory." Roger W. Moss, *Century of Color: Exterior Decoration for American Buildings, 1820-1920* (Watkins Glen, NY: American Life Foundation, 1981), 98-99.

181. Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Revised) (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2017) 2, <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/treatment-guidelines-2017.pdf>

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- epoxy consolidation or dutchman repairs where possible.
6. Patch deteriorated, damaged, or separated section of chinking with matching chinking material. Provide selective patches of both interior and exterior chinking as required following biannual inspections.
 7. Anticipate in-kind replacement of the 1977-1980 wood weatherboard siding on the gables. Replace with matching wood siding treated with a borate preservative when necessary. Install interior wood or sheet metal patches behind large gaps in the siding until it is replaced.
 8. Repair east window frame to correct separation from the log wall, eliminating the existing gaps.
 9. Repair wood windows as necessary based on biannual inspections. Use materials compatible with the original for repairs. Conduct mortar analysis to determine composition of existing mortar and to determine a compatible mix for repointing. Repair as necessary based on biannual inspection. Clean deteriorated mortar joints with hand tools and selectively repoint with compatible mortar.
 10. Selectively replace cupped and warped boards at porch decks in kind. Continue in-kind selective replacement as required following biannual inspections.
 11. Use a low-pressure wash to remove moss and other biological growth from the cedar shake roofing. Avoid high-pressure that can cause unnecessary erosion of the shakes' surface.
 12. Increase ventilation of underside of roof following rain events. This may be accomplished by opening the gable window or installing a screened louver and may be assisted by opening the stair door at the first floor level.
 13. Continue to monitor the condition of the cedar shake roofing during biannual inspection. If moss and biological growth become a persistent problem, consider use of a cleaning solution or chemical solution to kill the mosses and fungi. Anticipate cleaning every two to five years. Follow cleaning and maintenance instructions from the shake manufacturer to avoid compromising any warranties. Anticipate selective in-kind replacement

of deteriorated skip sheathing based on biannual inspections. Consider the use of preservative-treated shakes that will retard the growth of moss, fungi, and other biological growth.

14. Selectively replace damaged boards at first floor stair door. Continue selective in-kind replacement as required following biannual inspections.
15. Engage a structural engineer to inspect floor and roof joists, particularly those exhibiting horizontal cracking. Anticipate structural inspections every 10 years.
16. Implement an integrated pest management (IPM) strategy for economical control of chronic pests including squirrels, birds, and black snakes.
17. Provide heavy-duty metal mesh at lower 36" of metal grille doors to deter the entry of small animals when the house is open for passive interpretation.
18. Discretely install hardware mesh designed for such use at top of chimney to prevent animals from accessing interior of structure. Consult manufacturer specifications before using fireplace or discontinue using the fireplace.

Future Investigation Work by NPS staff:

- Continue the search of NPS records to locate missing project documentation from the 1977-1980 restoration, including architectural analysis and photographs of the house prior to partial demolition.
- Search for additional historic photographs of the structure that may be in the possession of Scruggs family members or other members of the local community.

Additional scholarly research by historians:

- Research the enslaved people owned by the Scruggs family and consider interpretation of the stories of enslaved people in the Carolina Piedmont as a component of the Robert Scruggs House site.

Additional physical investigations by a team of historic preservation professionals:

- Conduct an archaeological survey and targeted investigation of the Robert Scruggs House site. This could reveal more information on the evolution of the house

and other buildings on the property and evidence of material culture associated with the Scruggs family's occupancy (c.1828-c.1975).

- Conduct an archaeological survey of the area around the Robert Scruggs House site. This could reveal the location of outbuildings, fences, plantings, and other landscape features.
- Conduct historic finish analysis inside the house, focusing on the board over the fireplace, the stair enclosure, and areas of extant whitewash.
- Conduct analysis of chinking materials and develop recommendations for repair or replacement.

Resilience to Natural Hazards

The Robert Scruggs House, Richard Scruggs II House Ruin, and Martin Barn Foundation are susceptible to threats associated with climate variability and environmental pollution. The resources' location appears to be less vulnerable to flooding but may be affected by rising temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns, acid rain, and increased frequency of severe weather. Specific threats include accelerated deterioration of wood components, increased crystallization of efflorescent salts due to increased evaporation rates, sulfur dioxide deposits damaging masonry, wind damage and weathering, damage or destruction by potential future wildfires, and added stress from sudden thermal change.¹⁸²

Cultural resources including historic buildings "are fixed in place or derive much of their significance from the place within which they were created. Many are non-living, and all are unique. As a result, the capacity of cultural resources to adapt to changing environments is limited."¹⁸³

As stated in the Director's Policy Memorandum 14-02, "NPS cultural resource management must keep in mind that (1) cultural resources are primary

sources of data regarding human interactions with climate change; and (2) changing climates affect the preservation and maintenance of cultural resources."¹⁸⁴

An increase in temperature can lead to the "increased crystallization of efflorescent salts due to increased evaporation rates, leading to increased rates of structural cracking deterioration."¹⁸⁵ Higher relative humidity, resulting from higher temperatures, would increase the moisture absorption rates for wood, brick, and porous stone. This increased moisture absorption would result in the decrease of crystallization and dissolution of salts within the masonry. The increased moisture would also increase the rates of growth of vegetation on masonry surfaces, increase the rate of corrosion of ferrous metal features, and accelerate the deterioration of wooden components.¹⁸⁶

A decrease in precipitation may be expected to increase the levels of salt deposits that collect on the surfaces of masonry and porous stone. These salt deposits would then be infiltrated into the porous stone during a rain event. This cycle would cause spalling and fractures in the material. Decreased precipitation would accelerate the shrinking and cracking of wooden components and the separation of chinking material from the adjacent logs, opening the Robert Scruggs House's walls to further damage from the elements and pests.

An increase in heavy rain events would stress the resources' ability to shed water. The infiltration of water into the Robert Scruggs House would cause extensive damage to its wooden interior. The extreme rain events will result in accelerated decay of wooden components and masonry due to increased extremes of wetting and drying. The extreme cycle of wetting and drying will also increase the deposition and the eventual infiltration of salts into the porous material of the structure.

Carbon dioxide, sulfur oxide, and nitrogen oxide from fossil-fuel-based power generation, automobile exhaust, and industrial pollution cause acid rain, which has been widely documented

182. Rockman, Marcy, Marissa Morgan, Sonya Ziaja, George Hambrecht, and Alison Meadow. *Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy* (Washington, DC: Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science and Climate Change Response Program, National Park Service, 2016), 20-24.

183. National Park Service, "Cultural Resources and Climate Change," (n.p., 2016), accessed December 9, 2016, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/upload/06-CCRP-Cultural-Resource-Brief-FEB-2016.pdf>.

184. John B. Jarvis, February 10, 2014, 2.

185. Rockman, *Cultural Resource Climate Change Strategy*, 20.

186. Ibid.

as a cause of deterioration of historic buildings, particularly masonry materials and metals. Threats associated with extreme weather events include damage from wind, rain, wind-borne debris, and wildfires.

Implications – Adapting to Natural Hazards and Increased Climate Variability

According to NPS documents, impacts to buildings and structures related to temperature and drought extremes include: deterioration, conflagration, and desiccation.¹⁸⁷ A loss of resource integrity may occur over time from conditions related to increased climate variability and its impacts. Typically, documentation is one of the first mitigation techniques undertaken in response to deterioration. This document, which includes narrative, photographs, measured drawings, and recommendations, fulfills this first step in the mitigation process.

These resources exhibit signs of previous deterioration and recommendations for repair are included in this document. The treatment recommendations also address many of the threats inherent from the increase in climate variability. The ultimate treatments would be designed to provide a more stable exterior for the Robert Scruggs House and appropriate maintenance for the Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation, with the goal of allowing these resources to better withstand the pressures presented by climate variability.

187. Marcy Rockman, "An NPS Framework for Addressing Climate Change with Cultural Resources," *The George Wright Forum* 32, no. 1 (2015), accessed December 9, 2016, <http://www.georgewright.org/321rockman.pdf>.

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Appendix

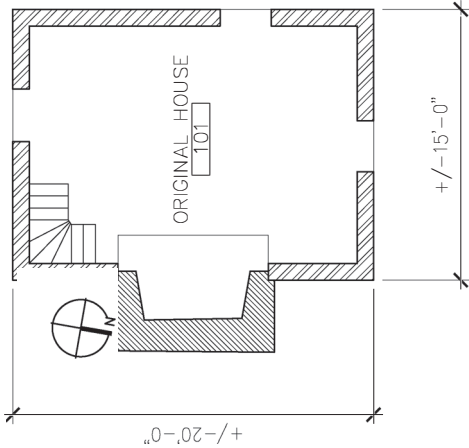
Richard Scruggs II House Ruin and Martin Barn Foundation

- A1 Richard Scruggs II House, c. 1811-1900
- A2 Richard Scruggs II House, c. 1900-1961
- A3 Richard Scruggs House, Plan and Elevations, 2017
- A4 Martin Barn Foundation, Plan and Elevation, 2017
- A5 Richard Scruggs II House Site, 2017

Robert Scruggs House

- B1 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 1, Plan
- B2 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 1, Elevations
- B3 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 2, Plan
- B4 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 2, Elevations
- B5 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 3, Plan
- B6 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 3, Elevations
- B7 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 4, Plan
- B8 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 4, Elevations
- B9 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 5, Plan
- B10 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 5, Elevations
- B11 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 6, Plan
- B12 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 6, Elevations
- B13 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 7a, Plan
- B14 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 7a, Elevations
- B15 Robert Scruggs House, Stage 7b, Elevations
- B16 Robert Scruggs House Site, 2017

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FIRST FLOOR [BASED ON SKETCH PLAN BY JOHN W. WALKER (1990)]
RICHARD SCRUGGS II HOUSE, c.1811–1900



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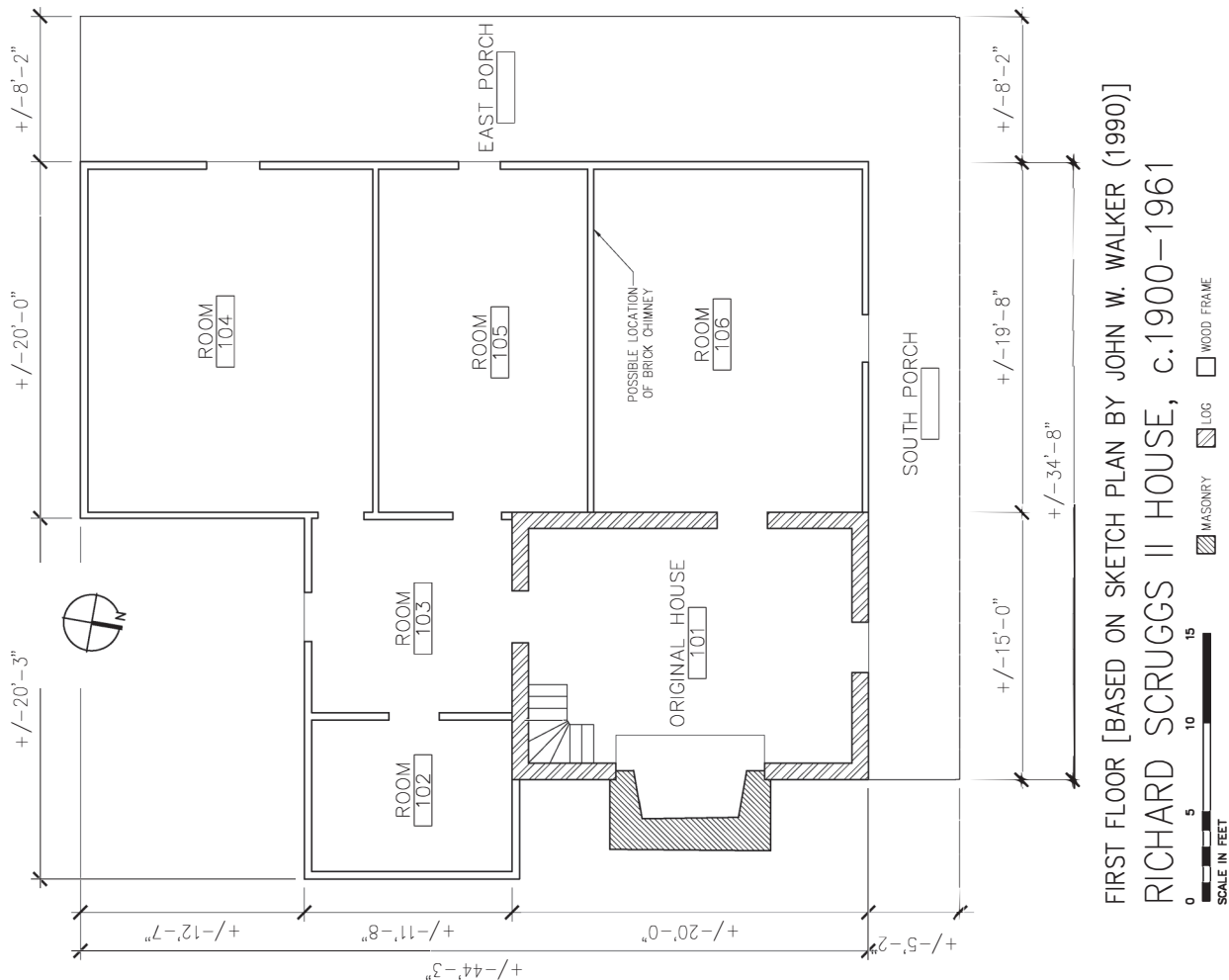
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COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
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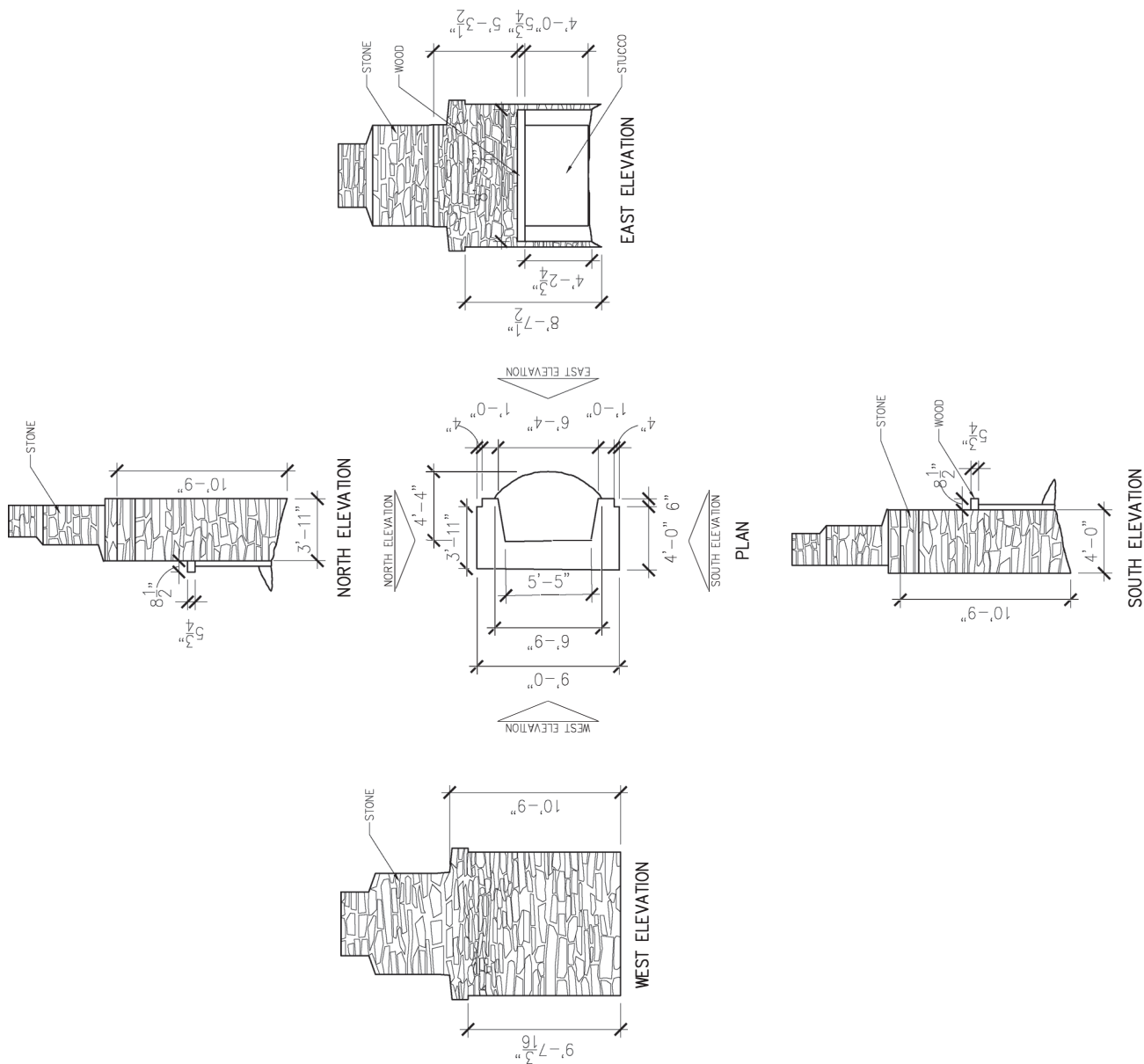
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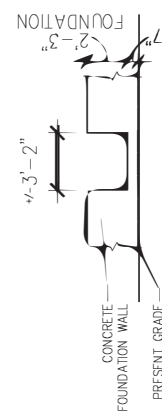
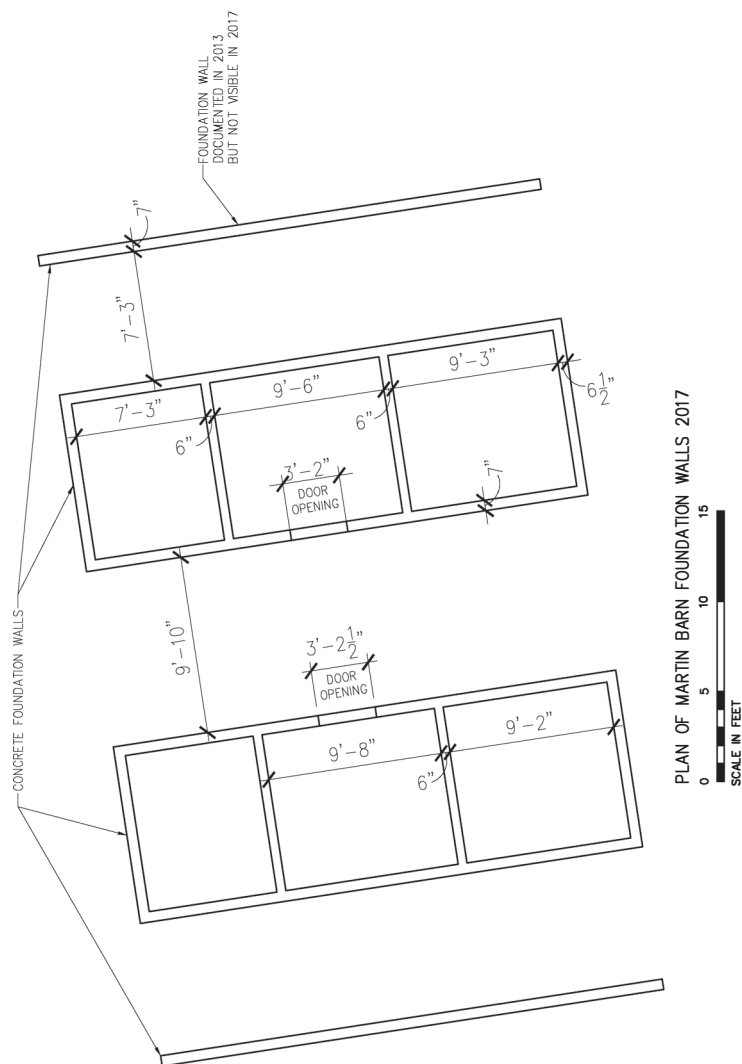
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PLAN AND ELEVATIONS OF RICHARD SCRUGGS II CHIMNEY RUINS 2017
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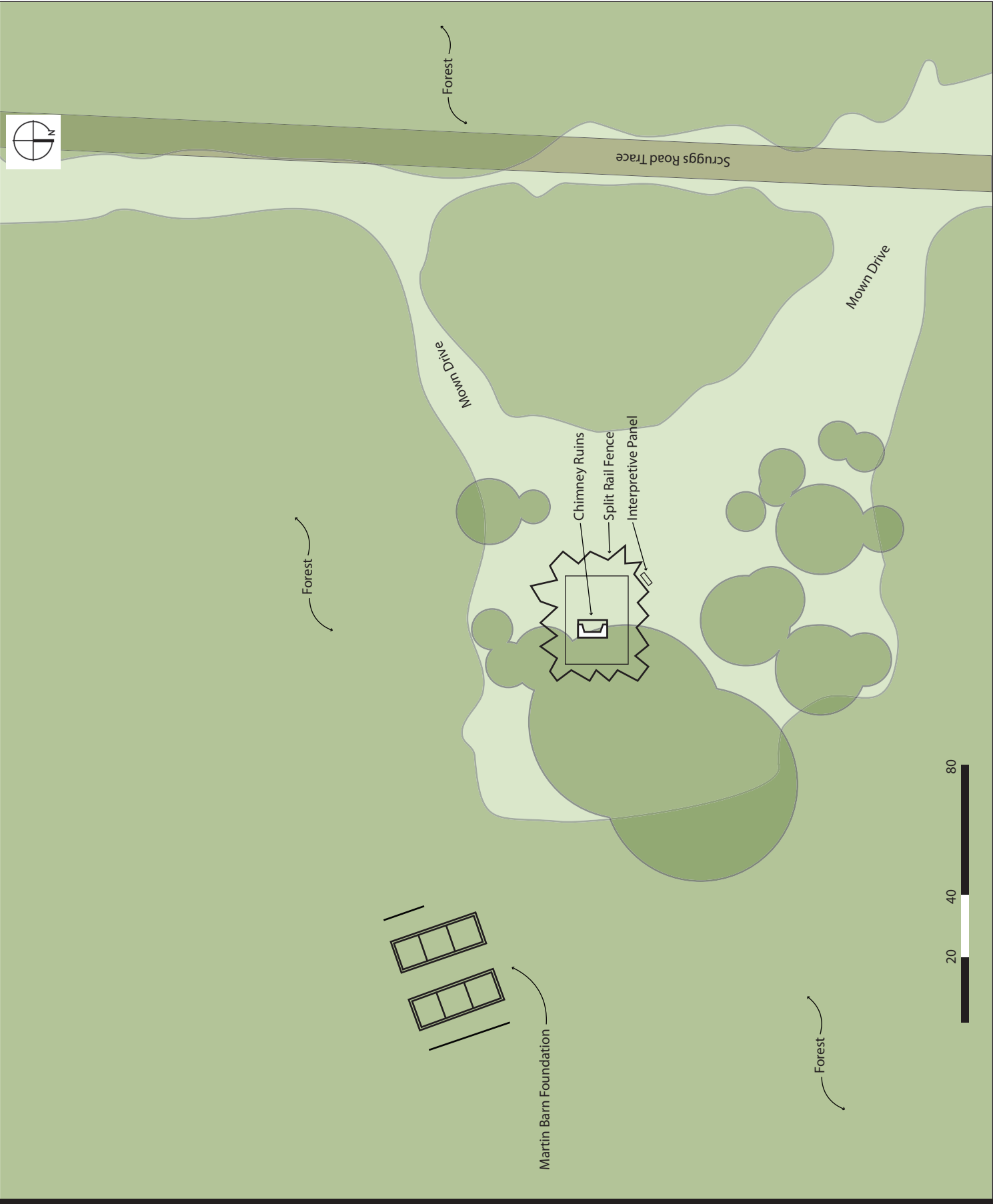
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DETAIL ELEVATION AT DOOR OPENING 2017

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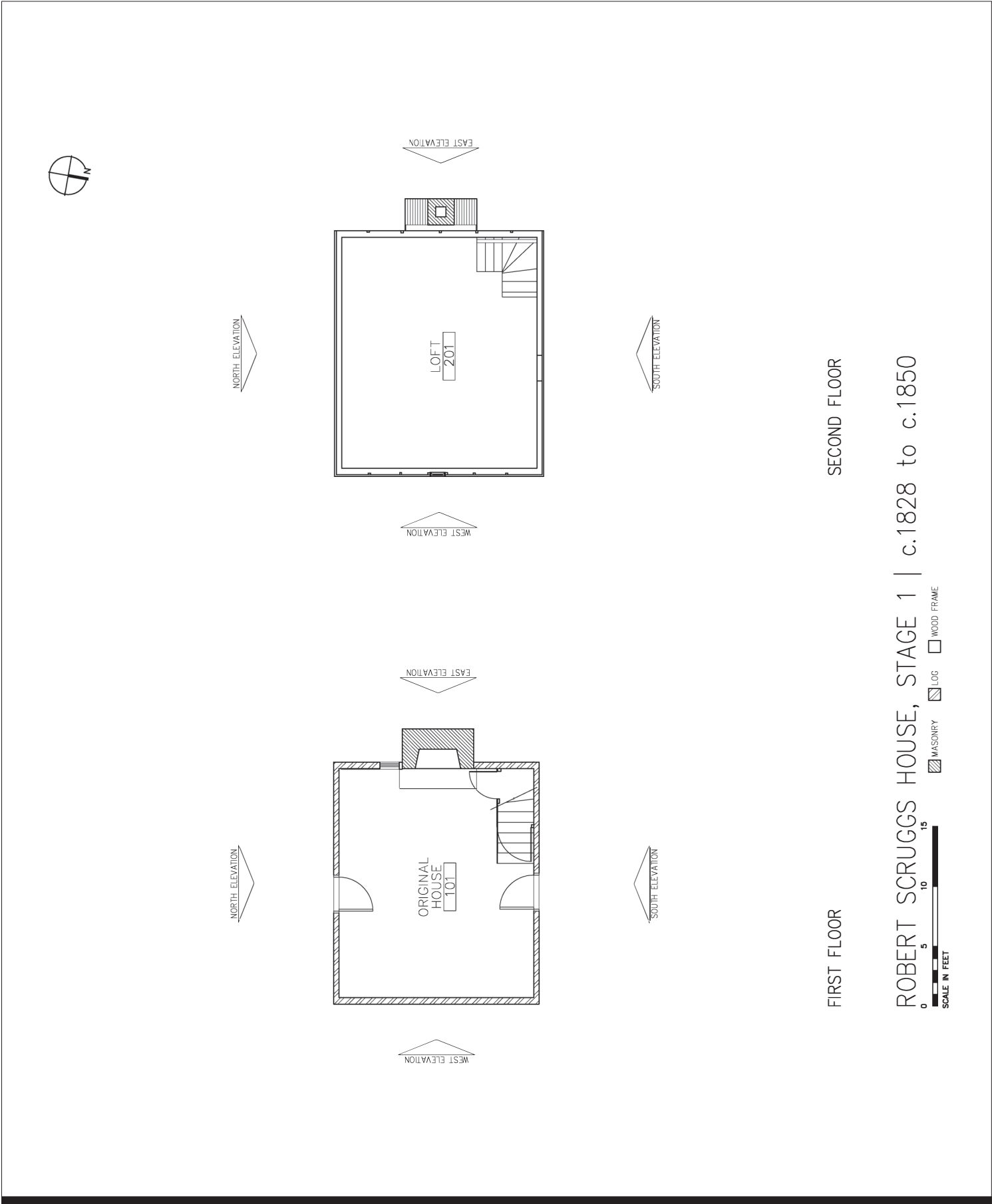
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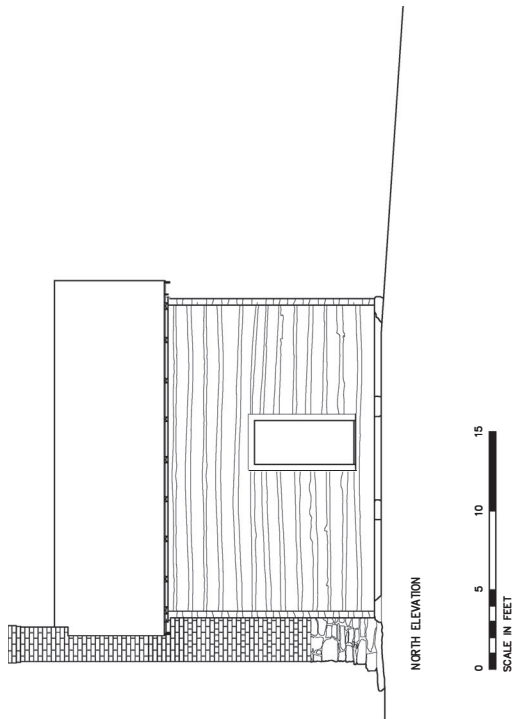
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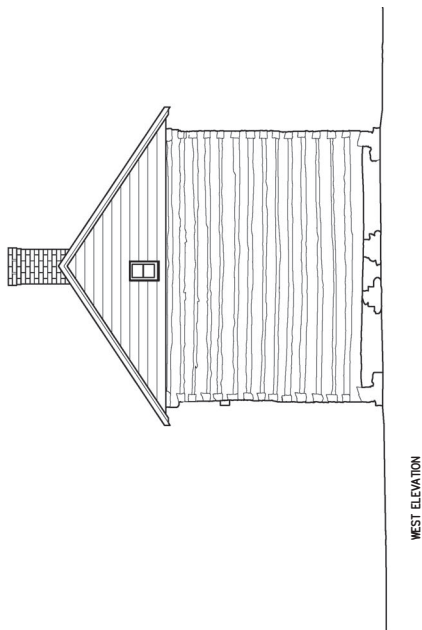
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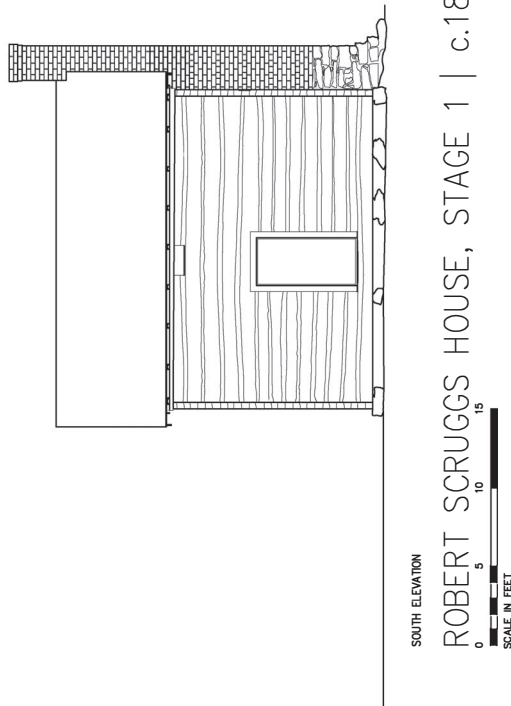


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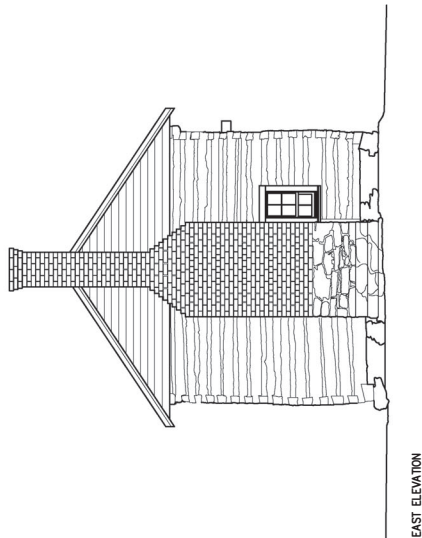


WEST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION

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EAST ELEVATION

ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 1 | c.1828 to c.1850

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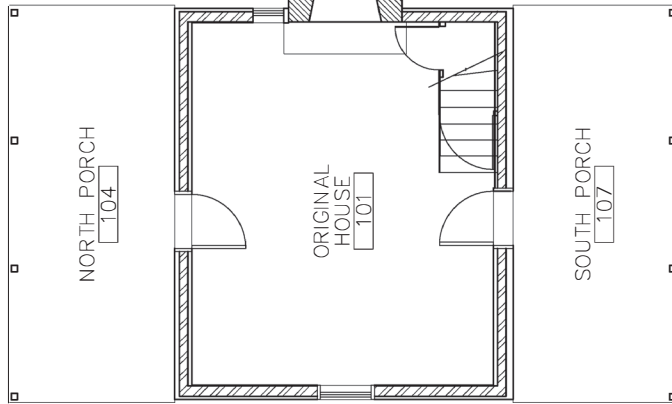
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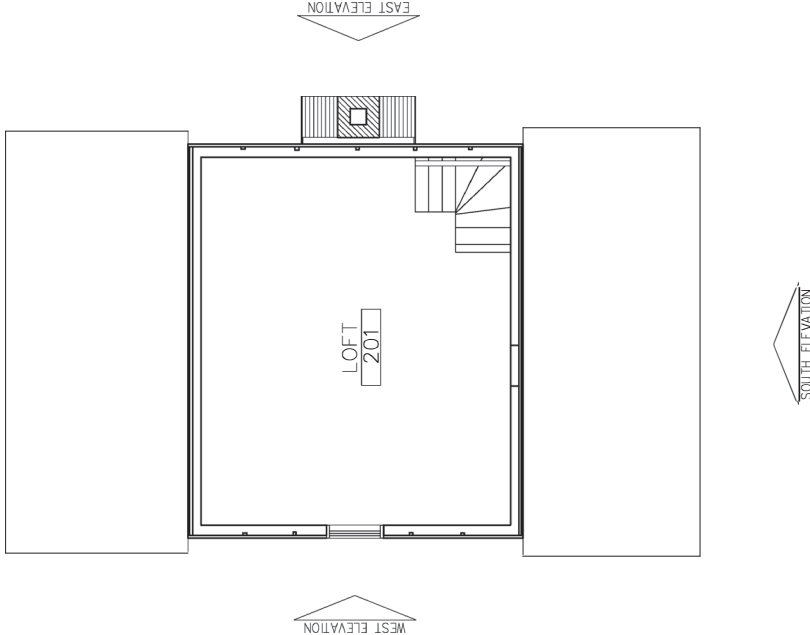
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NORTH ELEVATION



FIRST FLOOR

NORTH ELEVATION



SECOND FLOOR

ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 2 | c.1850



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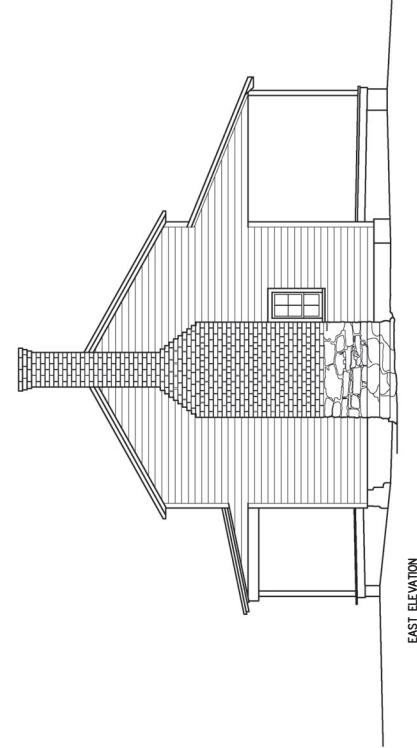
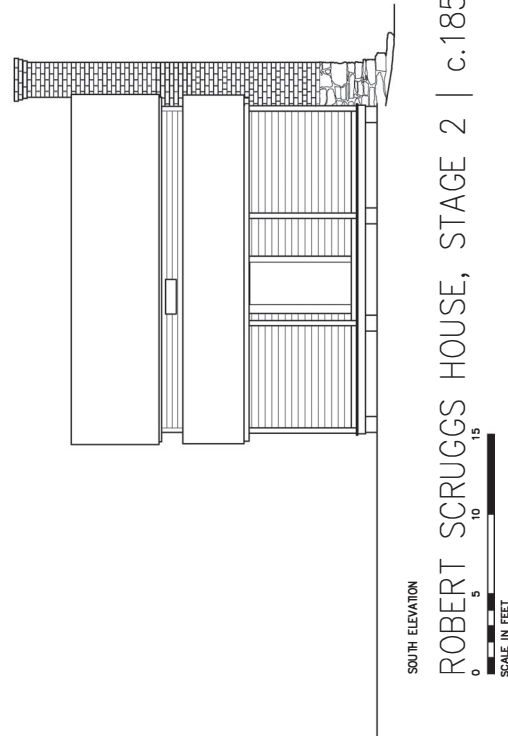
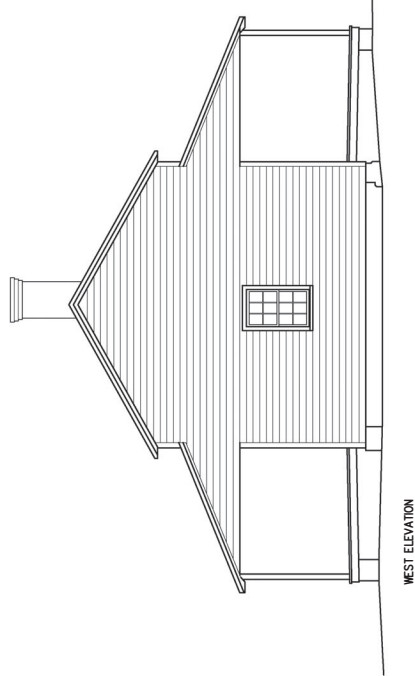
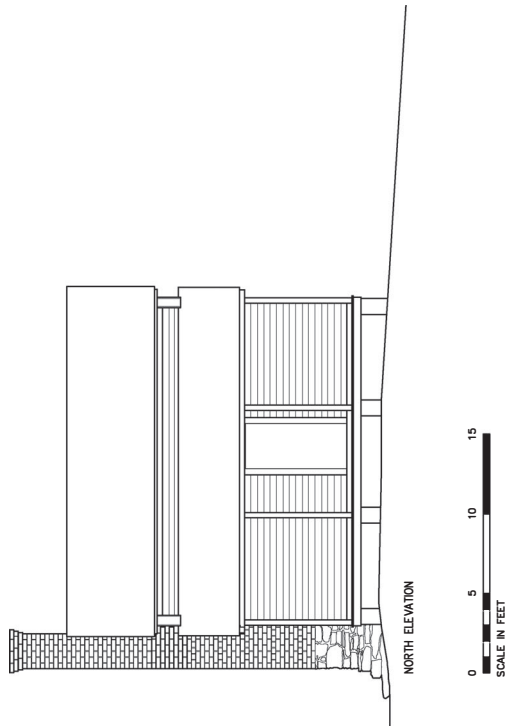
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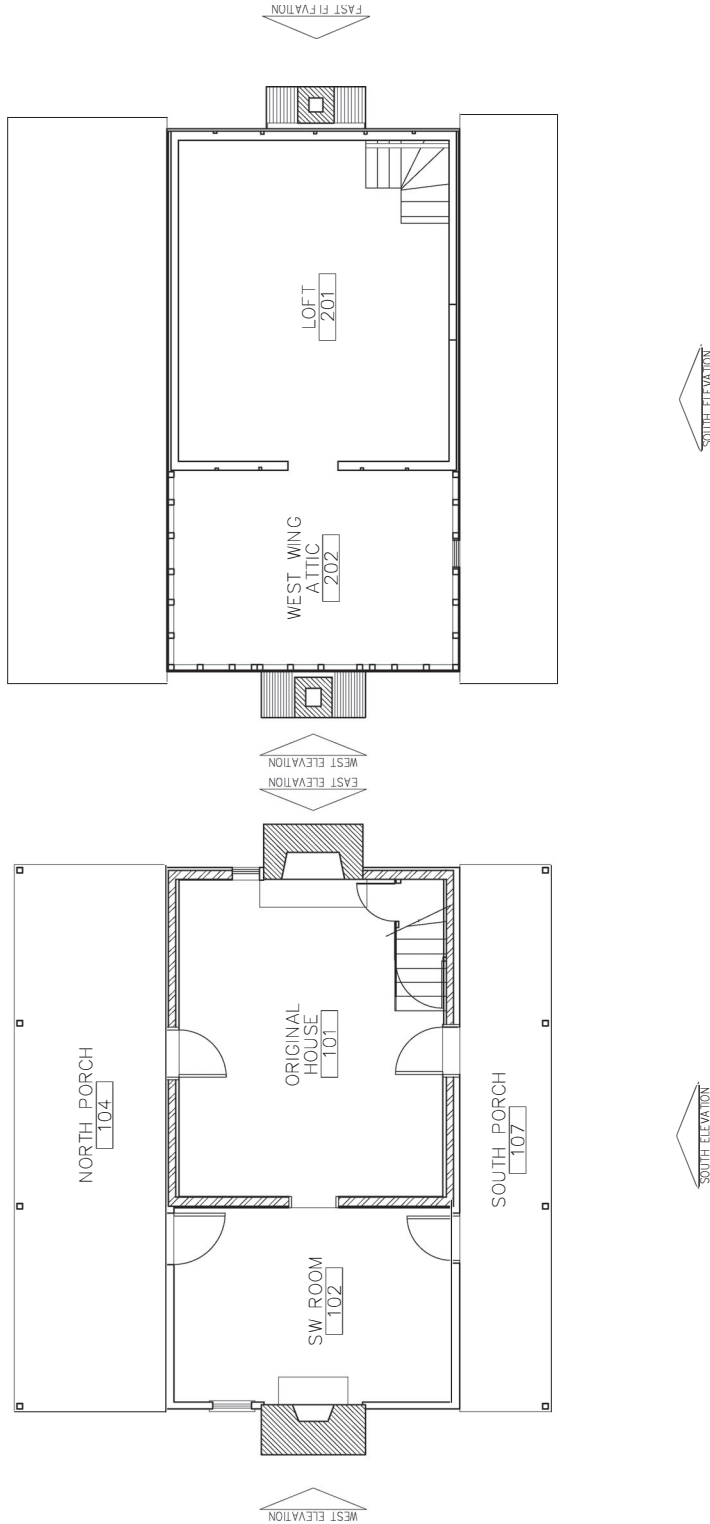
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 2 | c.1850

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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 3 | c.1850 to c.1880



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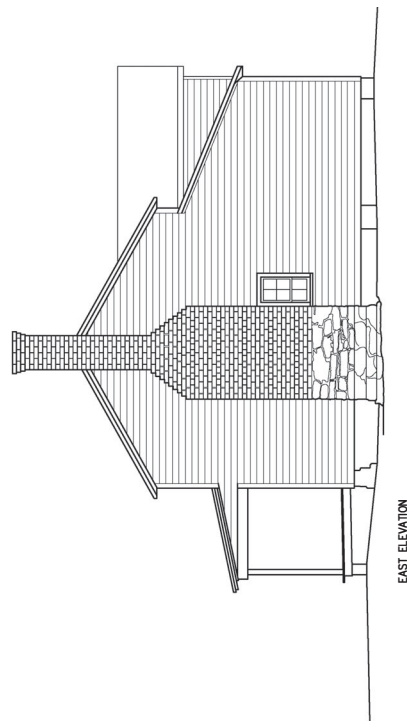
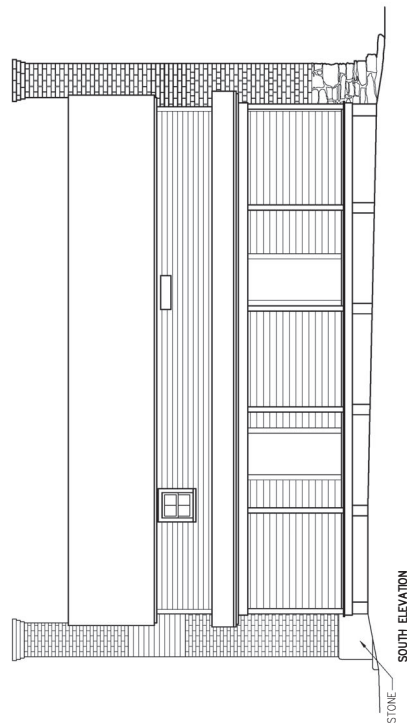
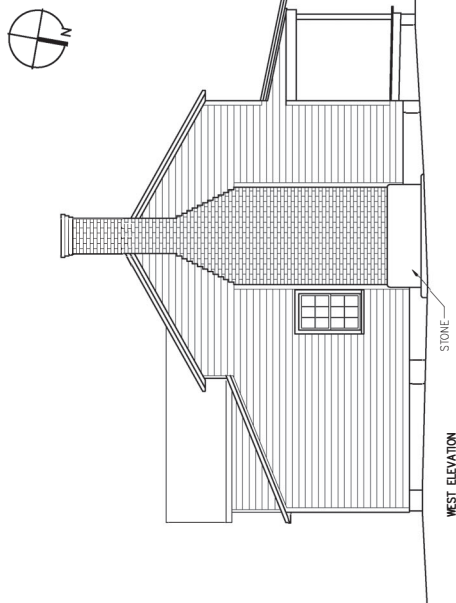
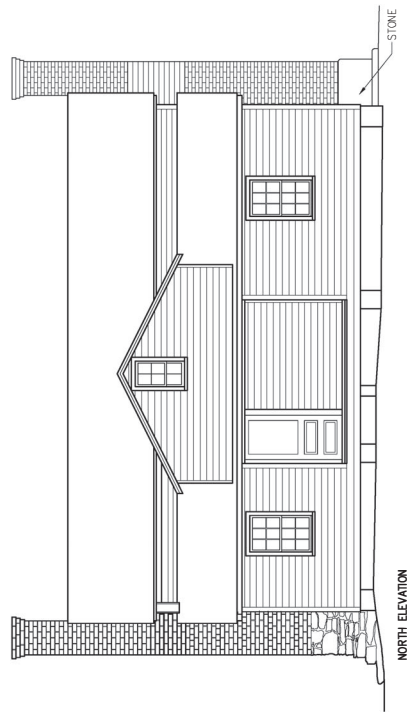
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE STAGE, 4 | pre-1894
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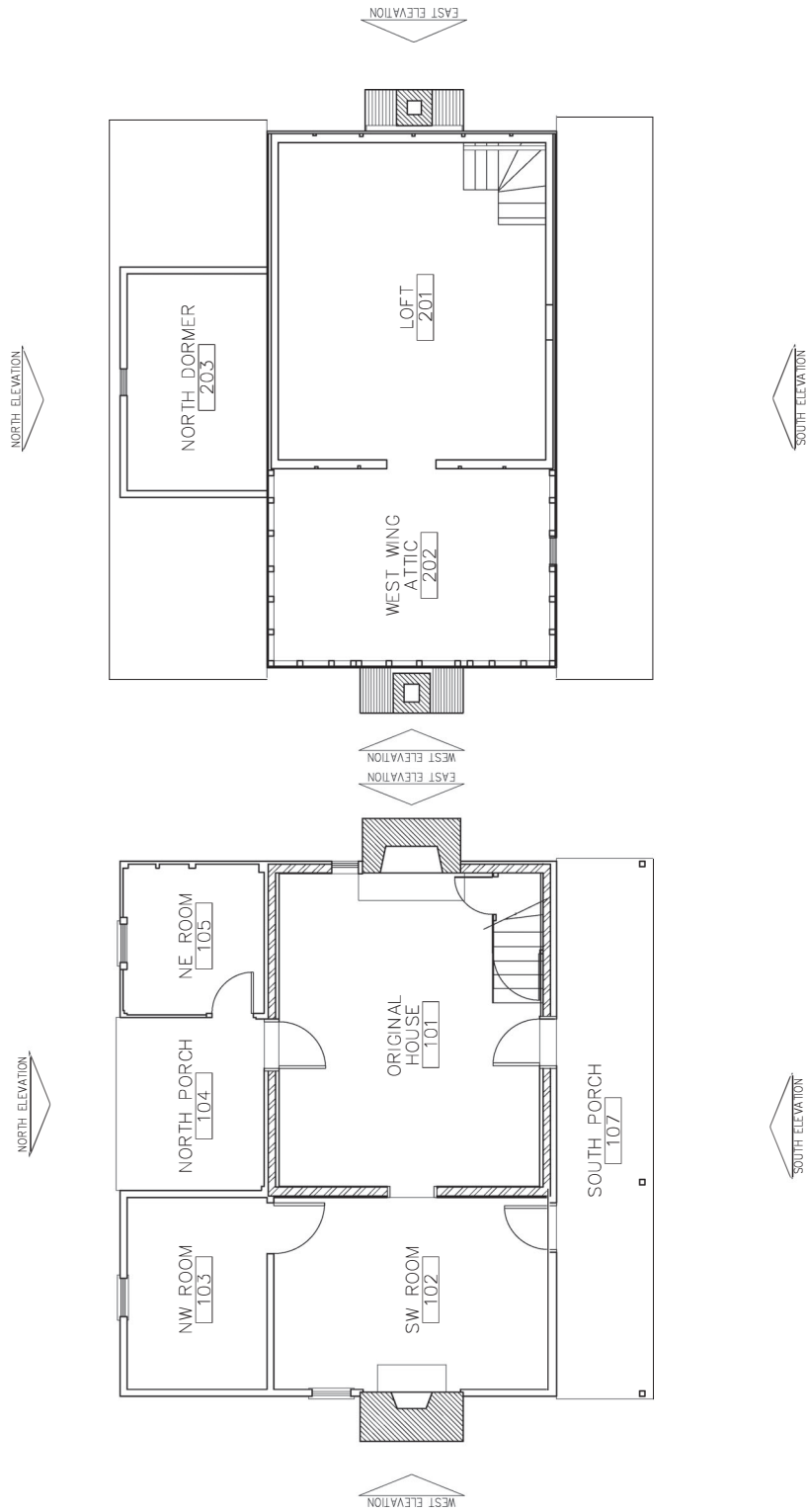
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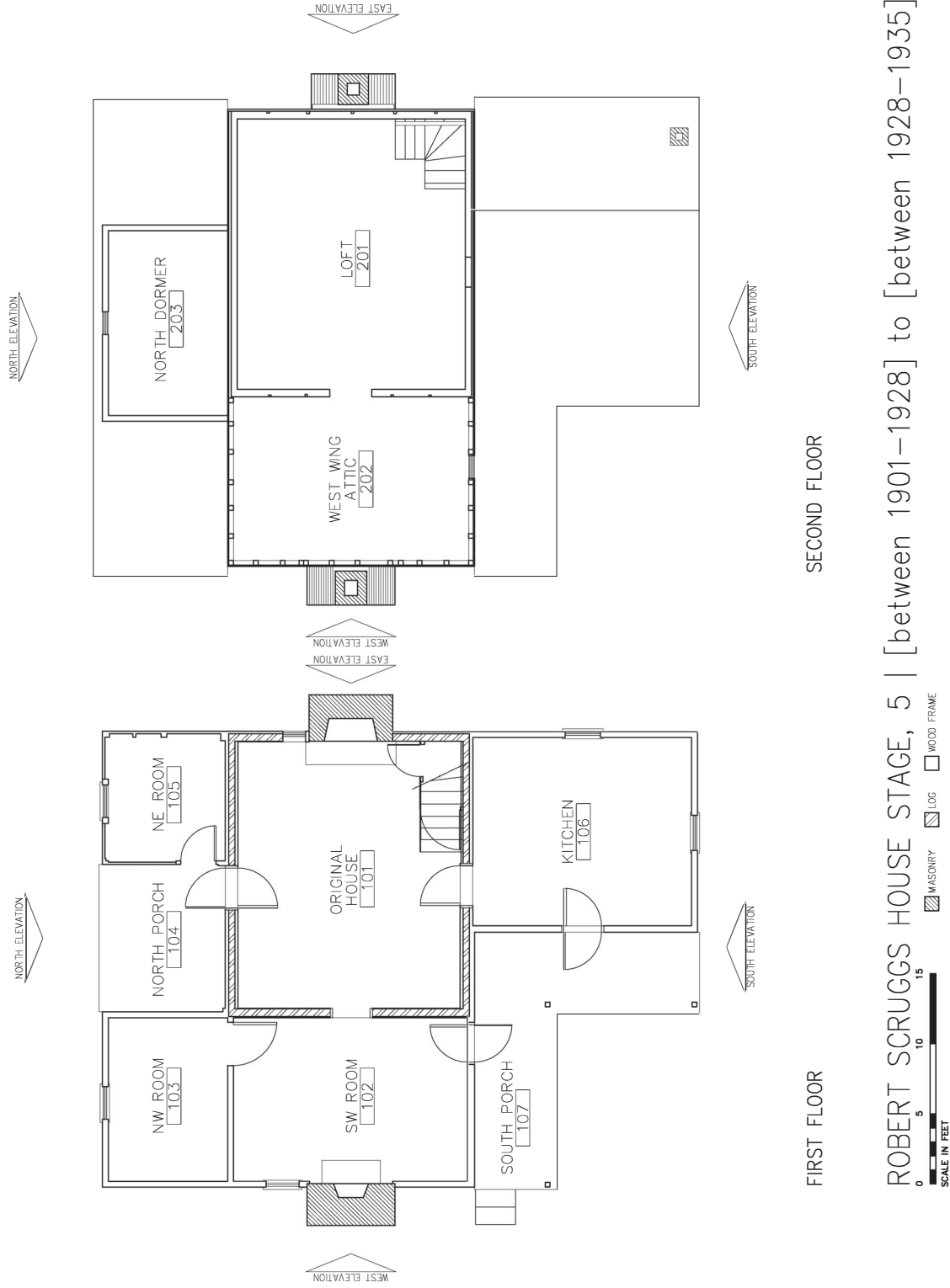
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE STAGE, 5 | [between 1901–1928] to [between 1928–1935]

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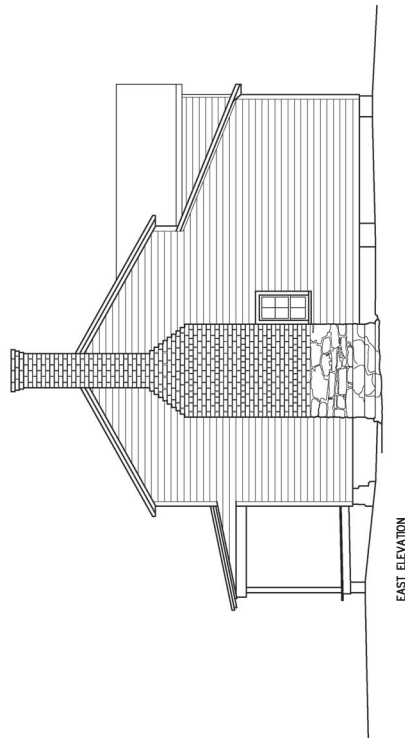
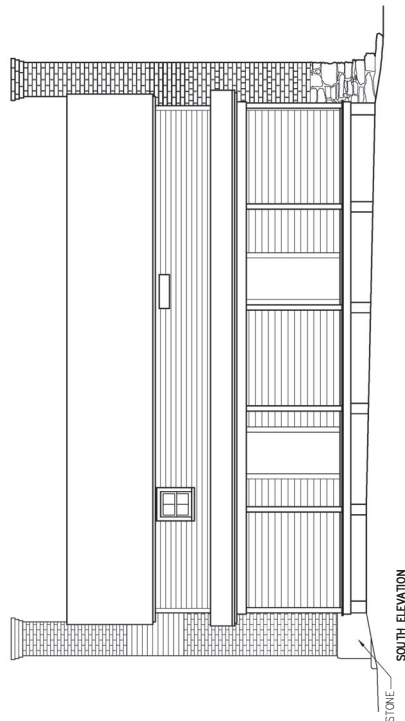
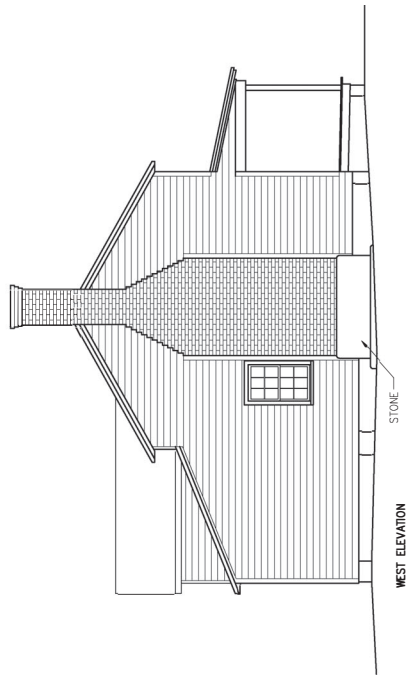
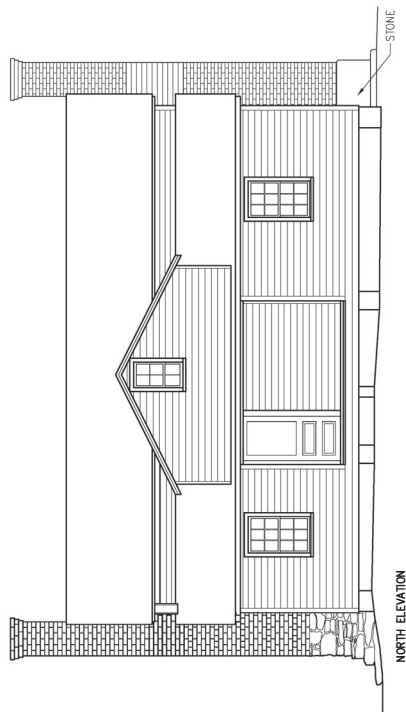
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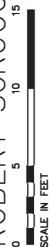
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE STAGE, 4 | pre-1894



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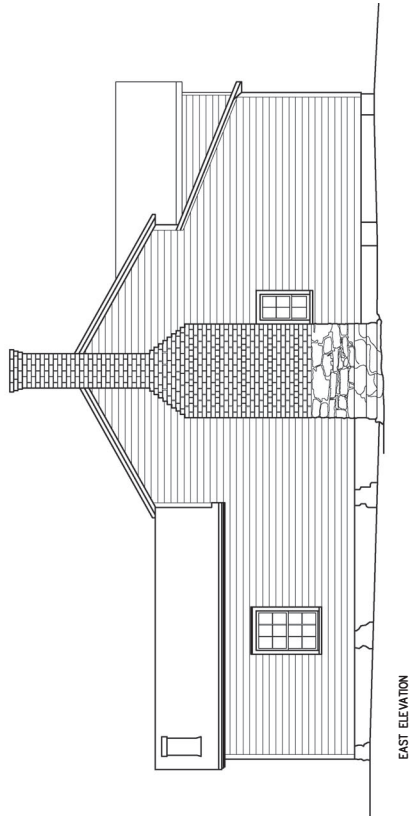
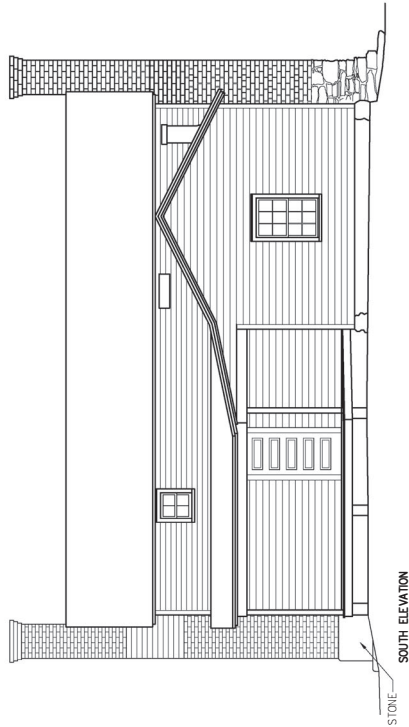
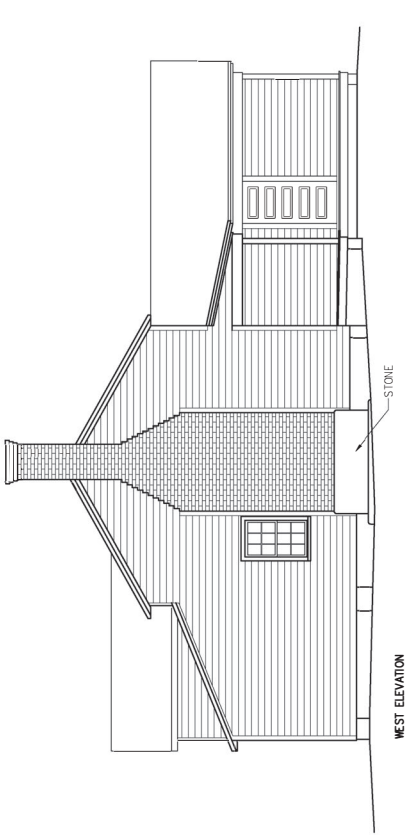
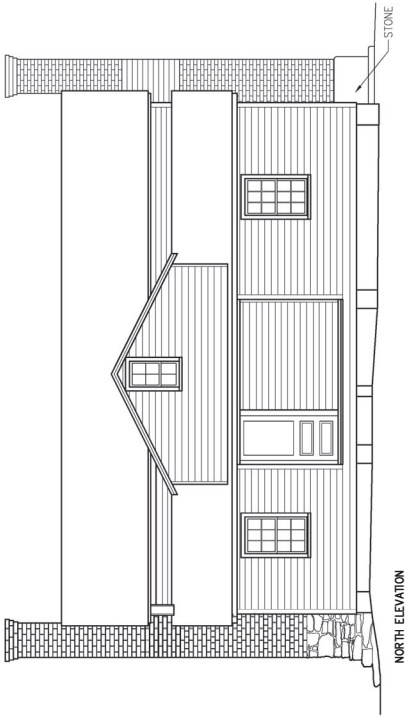
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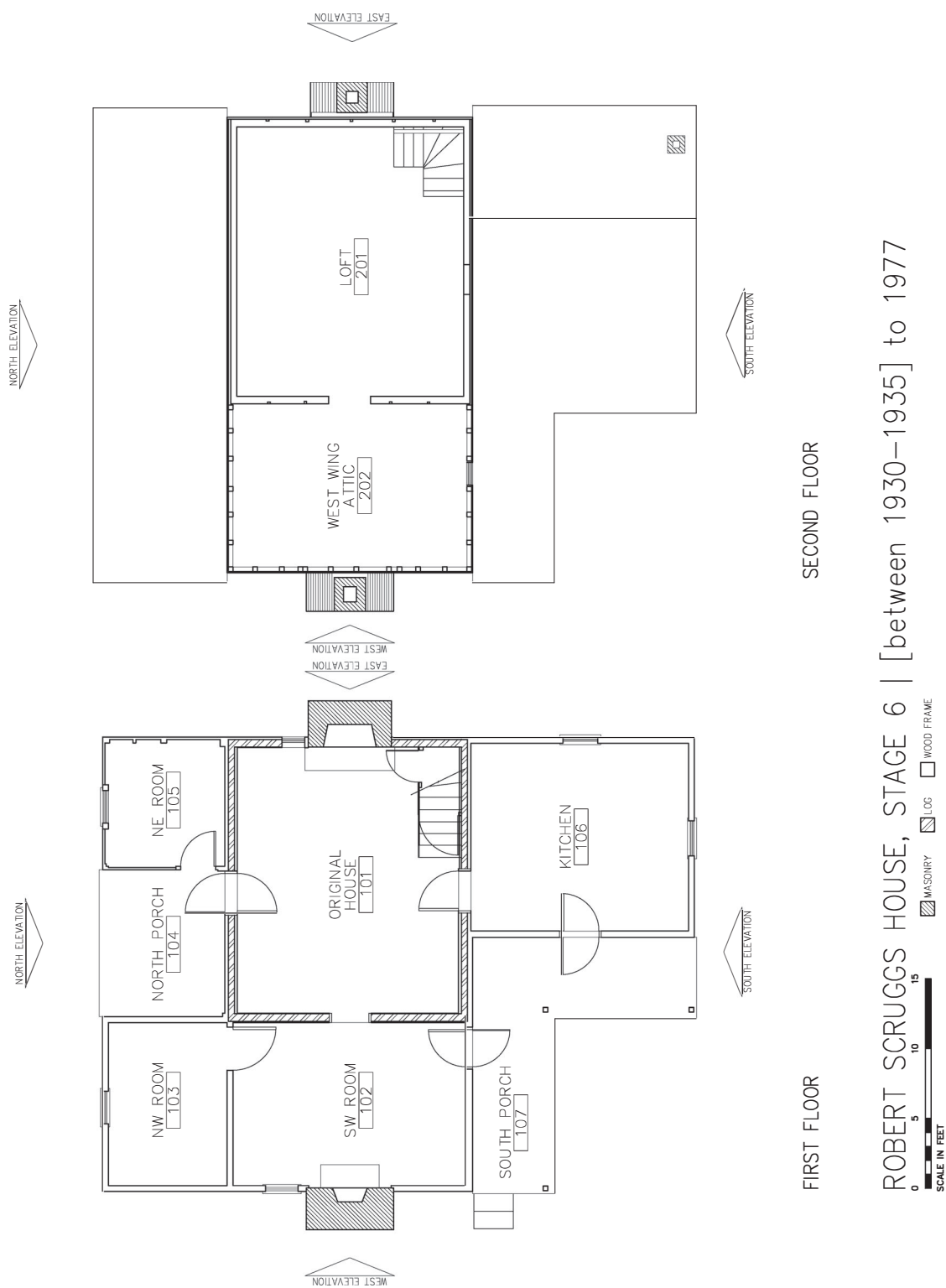
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE STAGE, 5 | [between 1901–1928] to [between 1928–1935]

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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 6 | [between 1930–1935] to 1977

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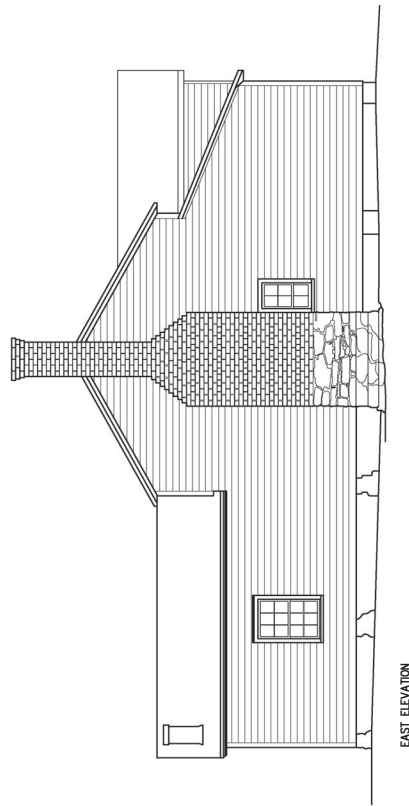
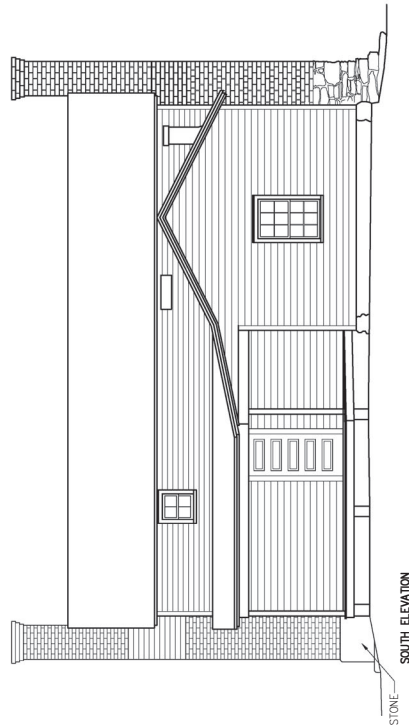
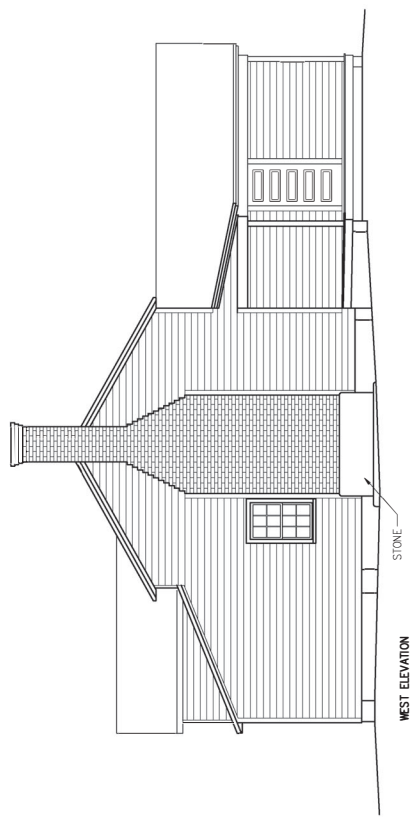
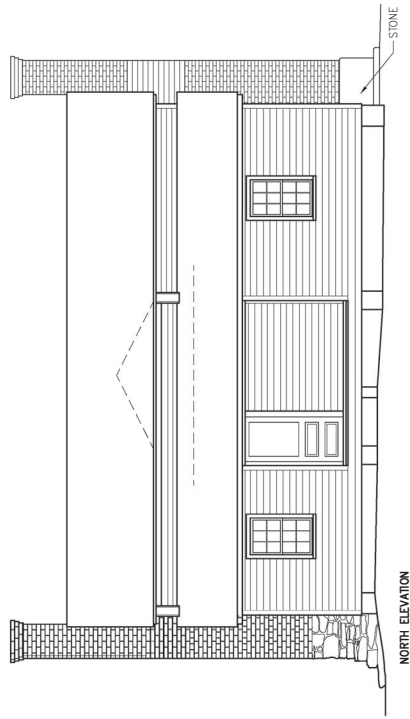
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SOUTHEAST REGION

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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 6 | [between 1930–1935] to 1977



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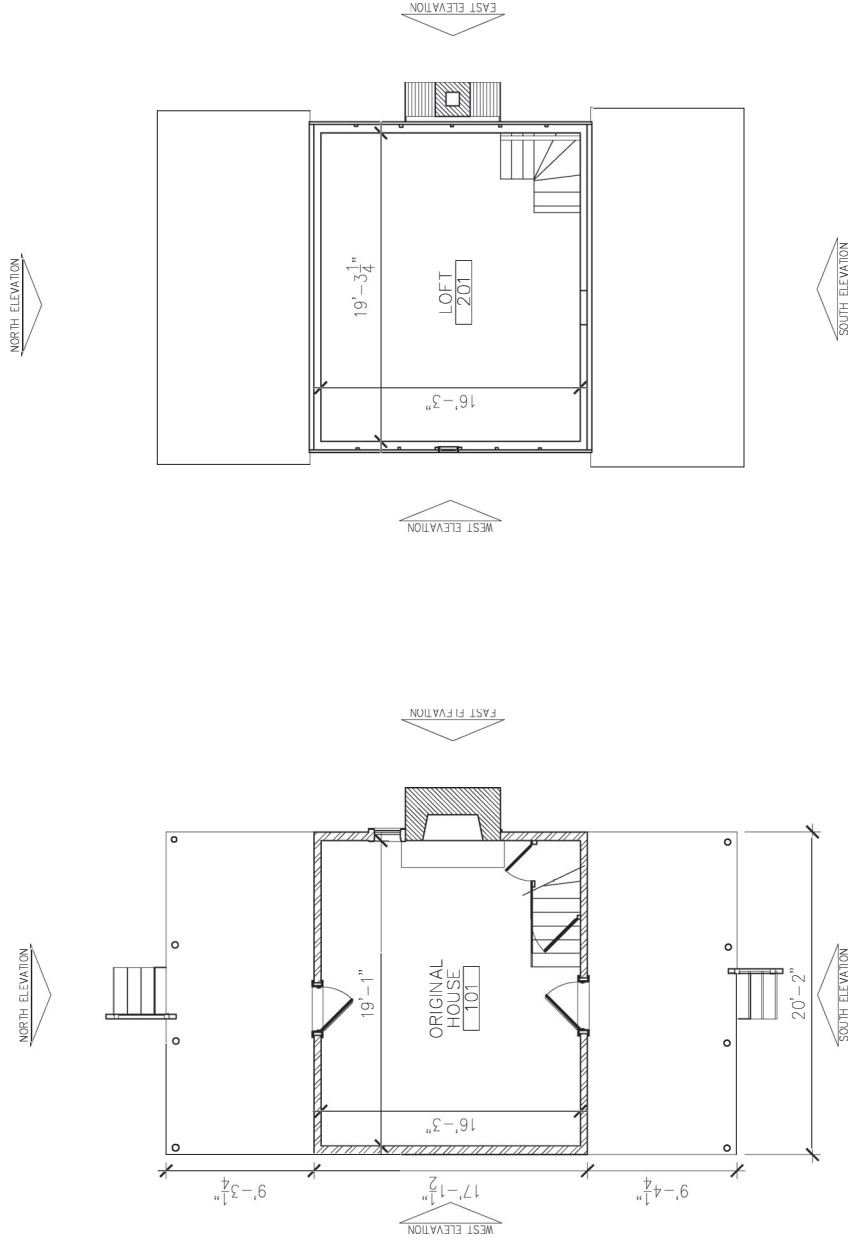
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SOUTHEAST REGION

RATIO DESIGN
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FIRST FLOOR

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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 7 | 1977-1980 to 2017 (EXISTING)

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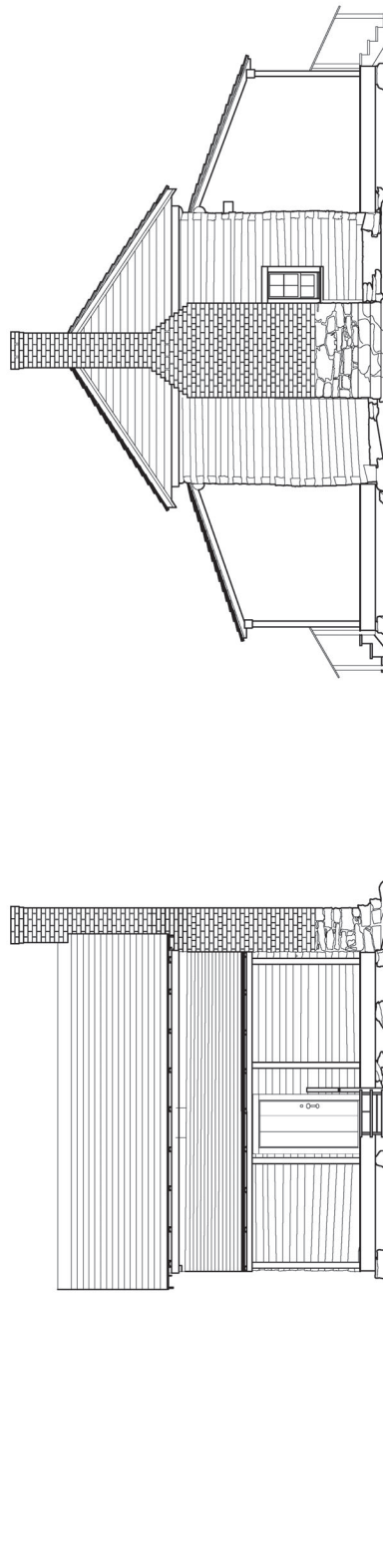
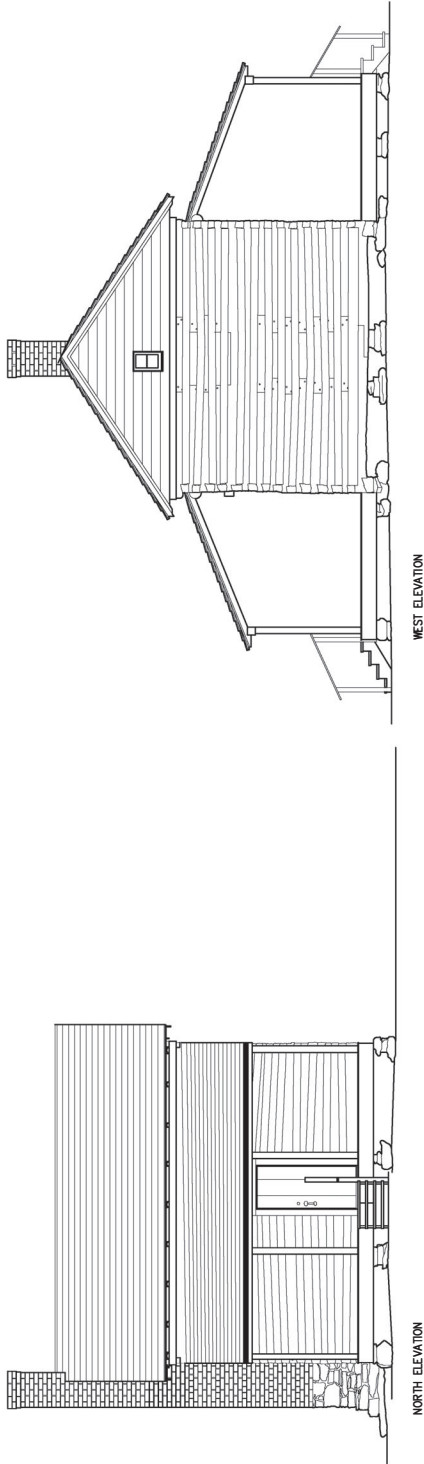
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE
COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
UNITED STATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SOUTHEAST REGION

RATIO DESIGN
WLA STUDIO



SOUTH ELEVATION
ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 7a | 1977-1980 to 1993
EAST ELEVATION
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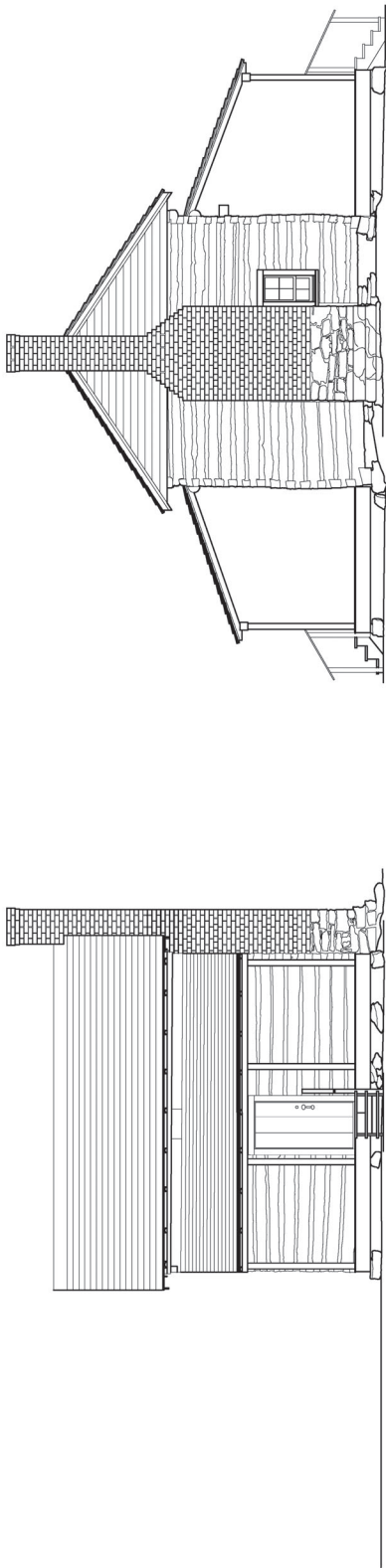
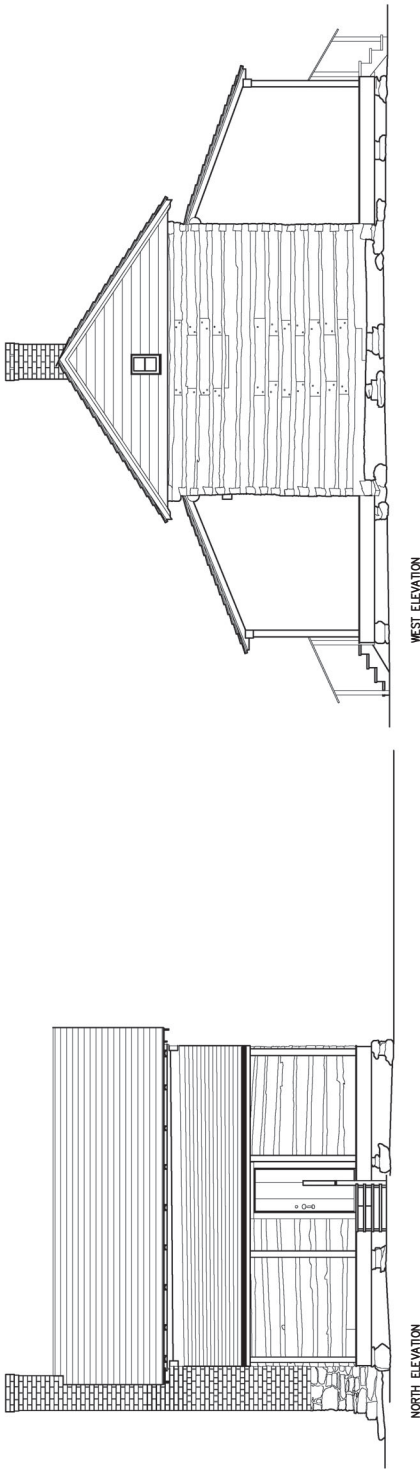
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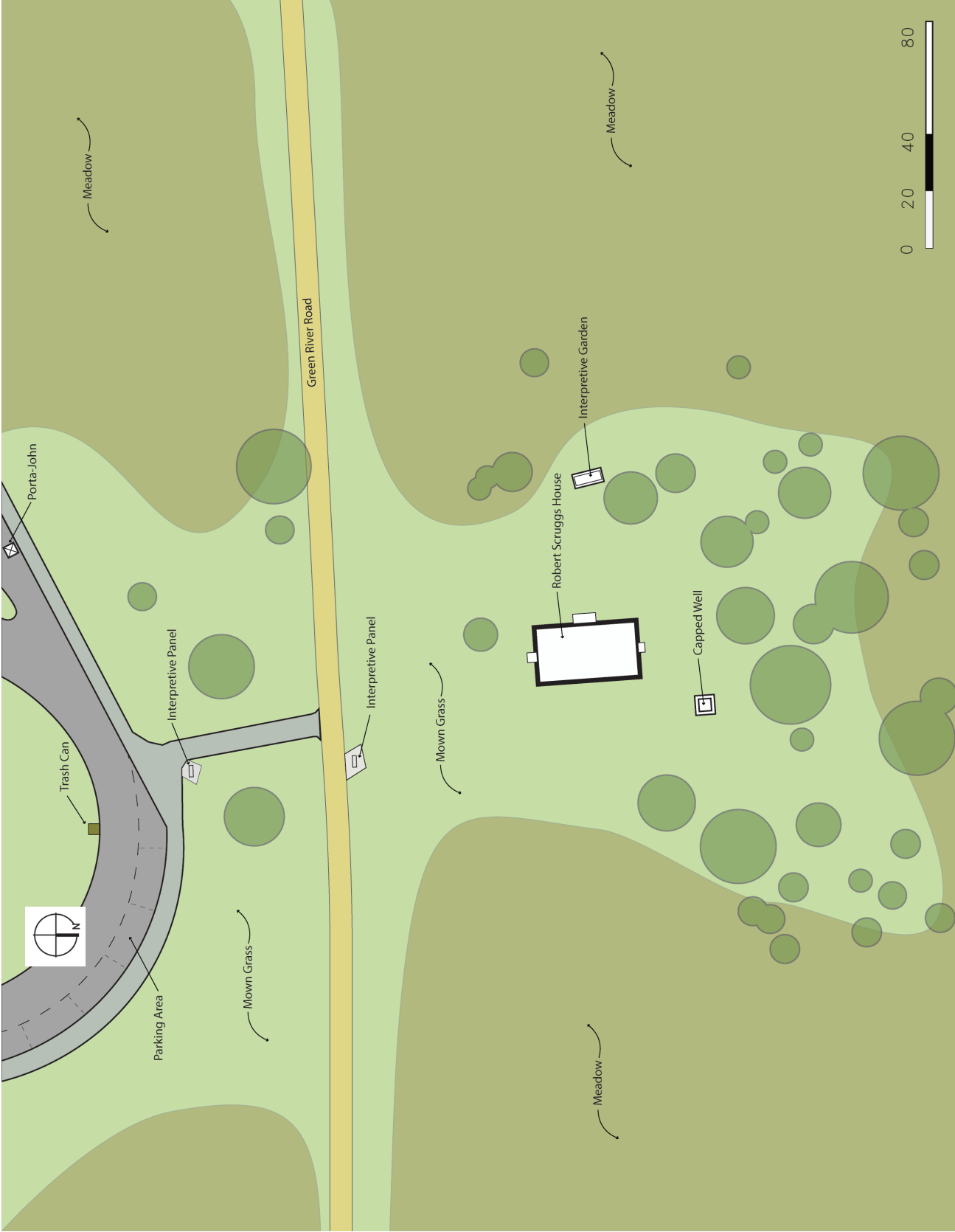
ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE
COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
UNITED STATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SOUTHEAST REGION

RATIO DESIGN
WLA STUDIO



SOUTH ELEVATION
ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE, STAGE 7b | 1993 to 2017 (EXISTING)
EAST ELEVATION
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ROBERT SCRUGGS HOUSE
COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
UNITED STATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SOUTHEAST REGION

RATIO DESIGN
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Cowpens National Battlefield
338 New Pleasant Road
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