

Williamson House  
Lot 6, Block 1  
Original Town of Evansville  
Randolph County  
Illinois

IL HABS No. R-1996-2

PHOTOGRAPHS,

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Illinois Historic American Buildings Survey  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

ILLINOIS HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WILLIAMSON HOUSE

IL HABS No. R-1996-2

Location: The Williamson House, is located on Lot 6, Block 1 of the Original Town of Evansville, in central Randolph County, Illinois. The house is situated along the bank of the Kaskaskia River, one block west of Evansville's central business district.

Present Owner: Village of Evansville  
Village Hall  
Evansville, Illinois

Present Occupant: None

Present Use: Vacant

Statement of Significance:

The Williamson House is a two-story, five-bay, frame, vernacular, I-house erected ca. 1879-80 for a fairly successful independent business man (ferryman). The Williamson House retains its integrity of location, design, setting and materials. Although modest in character, this structure embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, method and period of construction and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as per Criterion C.

Part I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date(s) of Erection:

As with many vernacular buildings, the actual date of construction of the Williamson House is unknown. Based on a physical examination of the structure and an analysis of tax records, the house is believed to have been constructed in ca. 1879-80.

2. Architect: None.

3. Original and Subsequent Owners:

The following is a list of the owners of the lot on which the Williamson House is located between 1865 and the present.

James D. Thompson (March 1865 to November 1877)  
James N. Williamson (November 1877 to September 1885)  
Mary E. Williamson (September 1885 to July 1889)  
Elizabeth Laufer (July 1889 to September 1898)  
N. B. Paulter (September 1898 to October 1902)  
Charles Rudolph (October 1902 to January 1905)  
William H. Campbell, Sr. (January 1905 to March 1924)  
Albert J. Campbell (March 1924 to April 1927)  
Ralph L. Moll (April 1927 to April 1946)  
Henry F. and Onetia F. Bauer (April 1946 to 1994?)  
Village of Evansville (1994? to present)

4. Builders, Contractors, and Suppliers:

It is suspected that the Williamson House was constructed by an unknown contractor of James N. Williamson.

5. Original Plans:

No original plans exist for the house.

6. Alterations and Additions:

The primary alteration made to the house has been the construction of a two-story, frame addition on the north side of the rear wing. Constructed ca. 1899, the addition provided kitchen space on its first floor and storage space on the upper floor.<sup>1</sup> During the 1950s, a bathroom was added to the first floor of the addition. The front porch of the house was remodeled ca. 1920 (see II.B.5). Aside from the construction of a closet on the second floor, the interior of the original house has experienced very little alteration.

B. Historical Context:

1. Regional Historical Context:

The first Euro-American settlement known to have been made in the vicinity of Evansville occurred around 1780. During that year, a number of George Rogers

Clark's soldiers settled near the mouth of Nine Mile Creek, four miles south of the site of Evansville.<sup>2</sup> Additional settlers gradually filtered into the area in the years following the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. Many of these newcomers settled on Plum Creek, several miles north of Evansville. This location became known as the "Irish Settlement" in reference to the Scotch-Irish ancestry of many of its inhabitants.

In 1811, Andrew White established a farm on the current site of Evansville. White later sold his farm to Adam Henderson, who in turn, sold the property to Adam North. In 1826, North began a ferry service across the Kaskaskia River at this location. This operation represented the nucleus of future Evansville, and for a number years, the town site was known locally as "North's Ferry".<sup>3</sup>

North's Ferry and the surrounding real estate was eventually purchased by Caldwell Evans, who platted out the town of Evansville in 1834. At the time of its founding, Evansville consisted of little more than Evans' residence, the ferry, and a repair shop. Over the course of the next six years, however, the town experienced considerable growth, with a cooper shop, tannery yard, saddlery shop, hotel, and mercantile store being constructed. Further growth was cut short by the financial panic of 1837 which ushered in a nation-wide depression that had lingering effects for a decade or more.<sup>4</sup>

Economic conditions in the United States had improved by the late 1840s, and in 1847 Evansville's prosperity received a boost with the erection of a new store house by Volien Weirham. A dry goods store was erected by Jonathan Chesnutwood in 1854. That same year, a steam-powered flowering mill was placed in operation by Evans & Weirham. Three years later, in 1857, a brewery was constructed. Additional business interests during this period included two wagon factories, two blacksmith shops, five cooper shops and one saddlery shop.<sup>5</sup>

Evansville's prosperity continued through the remainder of the nineteenth century. Improvements in navigation on the Kaskaskia allowed for the easy shipment of goods, and steamboats made regular trips between Evansville and Chester, often carrying flour that was produced at the mill.<sup>6</sup> By 1883, the town's population



had grown to some 500 people, the majority of whom were of German decent. Businesses located in Evansville in 1883, included two dry goods stores, a blacksmith and machine shop, one shoemaking shop, a harness shop, one coopery, three hotels, one drug store, and a limestone quarry. In addition, the town also had a number of saloons and feed stables. The flour mill, which had been acquired the Sauer Family during the late 1860s, was Evansville's most important business during this period.<sup>7</sup>

In 1894, the Centralia and Chester Railroad was extended from Sparta to Evansville. This railroad reached its western terminus at Chester in 1898. Once active rail service was established, Evansville quickly developed into a busy transportation center for grain and flour shipping. The flour mill expanded its operations, and in 1899 Nicholas Sauer officially organized it as the Sauer Milling Company. Evansville currently has a population of approximately 800-900 individuals.<sup>8</sup>

2. Site Specific Historical Context:

The land on which the Williamson House is located was platted as Lot 6, Block 1 of the Original Town of Evansville by Cadwell Evans in 1834. Chain-of-title research failed to find a deed concerning the sale of Lot 6 by Evans. So far as can be determined, Lot 6 remained undeveloped from the time of its platting in 1834 through the middle of the nineteenth century.

On June 1, 1858, the lot was offered for sale by the Sheriff of Randolph County for non-payment of the previous year's taxes. The purchaser of the lot was James D. Thompson, who paid \$2.45 for it and three other town lots. Thompson's ownership of this property was formally affirmed in a deed dated March 28, 1865.<sup>9</sup> Tax records indicate that Lot 6 remained undeveloped throughout Thompson's ownership. In 1875, for instance, the lot was given an assessed value of only \$8, and this assessment would be lowered to \$5 in 1877.<sup>10</sup>

On November 17, 1877, James Thompson sold Lot 6 to James N. Williamson of Evansville for \$45.<sup>11</sup> James Williamson had been residing in Evansville since at least 1870. His father, William G. Williamson, had been born in Tennessee and had moved to Randolph County

in 1830. Initially involved in farming, the elder Williamson was operating a ferry across the Kaskaskia as of 1875.<sup>12</sup> James would later take over the ferry operation, in partnership with his younger brother William.

Tax records indicate that the assessed value of Lot 6 was to steadily increase over the four years following James Williamson's acquisition of it. In 1877, the lot was given an assessed value of only \$5. The following year, it and the North 1/2 of Lot 7 were jointly assessed at \$18. The assessed value of the one and one-half lots was increased to \$75 in 1879 and would be increased again, to \$200, in 1880. The marked increase in the value of the lots between the 1879 and 1880 assessments indicates a significant improvement to the property during those years and points to the construction of the Williamson House during that period.<sup>13</sup> The 1880 census of Evansville lists James Williamson as a 26-year-old ferryman. Residing with him at that time were his wife, Mary, and six younger siblings, including his brother William, who is also noted as a ferryman.<sup>14</sup>

In 1881, James and William Williamson purchased Lots 4 and 5, Block 1 from Nicholas and William Sauer for \$100.<sup>15</sup> Lots 4 and 5 lay immediately west of Lot 6, fronting Broad Street. The brothers' joint ownership of the lots would last until August 1885, when James<sup>16</sup> bought William's interest in the property for \$500.<sup>16</sup> Tax records from that year indicate that Lots 4 through 6 and the North 1/2 of Lot 7 were given a joint assessed value of \$350. In September of 1885, James Williamson signed a quit claim deed in which he sold Lots 4, 5, and 6 to his wife, Mary E., for \$1,000.<sup>17</sup>

On July 6, 1889, James and Mary Williamson sold Lots 4, 5, and 6 to Elizabeth Laufer for \$1,000. Deed records note Elizabeth Laufer as unmarried and as a resident of Evansville. She retained ownership of the Williamson House until September 29, 1898, when she sold Lots 3 through 7 of Block 1 to Nicholas B. Paulter of Evansville for \$1,000.<sup>18</sup> A Sanborn Fire Insurance Map published the following year depicts a two-story, T-shaped house on Lot 6 that corresponds to the Williamson House. The map also shows a two-story barn located northeast of the house, on Lot 7, and a well and pump located on the line between Lots 5 and 6. The remainder of the real estate purchased by Paulter is

depicted as undeveloped. The east end of the iron bridge across the Kaskaskia, completed in 1885, is shown adjacent to Lot 4.<sup>19</sup>

The 1900 census of Evansville notes Nicholas Paulter as a 27-year-old, physician/surgeon. Paulter's family at that time consisted of his wife Lizzie, to whom he had been married for six years, and sons Steven, Sylvester, and Raymond, who ranged between 3 and 6 years in age. Aside from the immediate family, the household also included Lizzie Rabe, a servant, and two, single, male boarders.<sup>20</sup> The location of the Paulter household in the census rolls suggests that they may were occupying the Williamson House at that time.<sup>21</sup>

On October 27, 1902, Nicholas B. and Lizzie Paulter sold lots 3 through 7, Block 1 to Charles Rudolph for \$2,300. A resident of Evansville, Rudolph retained ownership of the lots for less than three years before selling them to William H. Campbell of Evansville for \$2,300 in January 1905.<sup>22</sup> It's not known whether or not the Rudolphs occupied the Williamson House during their period of ownership. A 1906 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows Lots 3 through 7 as largely unchanged from their 1899 appearance, except for the construction of two, single-story, frame outbuildings east of the house.<sup>23</sup>

Prior to his retirement in Evansville, William Campbell had been operating a 200 acre farm situated two-and-one-half miles east of the town. A biography of Campbell is included in the 1894 Portrait and Biographical Record of Randolph, Monroe, Perry and Jackson Counties which describes him as one of the leading "farmers and stock growers of the Evansville Precinct" and notes his services as school director and trustee of his township.<sup>24</sup> The 1910 census of Evansville lists William Campbell as 61 years of age and as living off his "own income". Residing with him at the time were his wife Pauline, two adult daughters, and his sister-in-law. The location of the Campbell family in the census rolls suggests that they were living in a dwelling other than the Williamson House, which presents the possibility that the latter was used as rental property during Campbell's ownership.<sup>25</sup> William Campbell was to own Lots 3 - 7 until March 1924 when sold them to his son, Albert J. Campbell for \$1. Several years prior to the sale, William had moved from Evansville to Chester, where his son was also

residing.<sup>26</sup> Following this sale, the Williamson House is presumed to have continued to be occupied by a tenant or to have remained vacant.

In April 1927, Albert Campbell sold Lots 3 through 7 to Ralph L. Moll for \$1.<sup>27</sup> Moll had moved to Evansville in 1919 when he entered into a blacksmith trade in the old Baumbauer wagon and machine shop located a short distance south of the Williamson House (on Lot 5, Block 2). Moll and his family are known to have resided in living quarters that were attached to the blacksmith shop, and later (ca. 1935) moved into a house that was constructed adjacent to the shop.<sup>28</sup> Hence, it's suspected that Ralph Moll purchased the Williamson House as a rental property --possibly for his son. Moll retained ownership of Lots 3 through 7 until April 4, 1946, when he sold them to Henry F. and Onetia F. Bauer for \$1 and the added stipulation that the couple pay the taxes due on the property in 1946.<sup>29</sup>

Onetia Bauer was still residing in the Williamson House at the time of the 1993 flood. Apparently, Mrs. Bauer was living within the upstairs of the house, having never improved the dwelling after the 1973 flood. Following the 1993 flood, she sold the house and associated real estate to the Village of Evansville as part of the FEMA Buyout program.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

#### 1. Architectural Character:

The Williamson House is a two-story, five-bay, frame, I-house erected ca. 1879-1880. The dwelling has a two-story entrance porch on the east side of its main block and a second two-story porch flanking the south side of its rear wing. A two-story, flat-roofed, frame addition is located on the north side of the rear wing. The house has simple bracket eave indicative of the Italianate style. Queen Anne detailing is present on the front porch.

In its basic form, the main front portion of the Williamson House (which is two rooms long, one room deep, and two stories tall with a transverse-gable roof) represents a traditional house form that is

referred to as an I-house by cultural geographers (due to its initial identification in Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa). Often having a central hallway (as with the Williamson House), the I-house represents a traditional Anglo-American house form that maximizes on the available wall space for windows (necessary for both natural light and ventilation). Often associated with the Upland South, the I-house form has come to connote the economic and agrarian stability of the middle-class farmer "who carried much of the predominately English folk culture of the eastern United States."<sup>30</sup> As Kniffen noted, "the I-house became symbolic of economic attainment by agriculturalists and remained so associated throughout the Upland South and its peripheral extension." The presence of the large I-house in Evansville attests to that communities strong agricultural ties during the late nineteenth century.<sup>31</sup>

2. Condition of Fabric:

While the house remains structurally sound, the interior wall finishes on the first floor were destroyed by flood waters during the summer of 1993. Following the flood, the house was abandoned and has remained vacant.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions:

Excluding the associated porches, the original house measures 32'-3" (east/west) by 36'-4" (north/south) at its widest points. Considered by sections, the main block of the house measures 16'-3" (east/west) by 36'-4" (north/south), while the rear wing measures 16'-0" (east/west) by 14'-2" (north/south). The addition on the north side of the wing 16'-7" (east/west) by 16'-1" (north/south).

2. Foundations:

The foundations beneath the original house and the addition consist of regular-coursed, rough-cut limestone and generally measure 1'-7" in thickness. The porch flanking the rear wing is supported by two, concrete block piers that are probably replacements for original stone or brick piers.



3. Walls:

The house has 6" walls of balloon-frame construction. The exterior is covered with beveled clapboard siding. Plain trim boards are found at the corners and at the window and door jambs. The window and door openings have pedimented head trim that has a crown molding as a drip cap.

4. Structural System, Framing:

The floor of the house is supported by 2"x7-1/2" joists whose ends rest on an 8"x8" sill. The walls are framed with 2"x4", combination circular- and band-sawn, unsurfaced, yellow-pine/cypress that generally were placed on 1'-4" centers and are continuous through both floors of the house. The corner posts are 4"x4" timbers of the same character as the studs and are supported by 2"x4" diagonal braces that are notched into the studs. The second floor of the house is upheld by 2"x8", circular-sawn, unsurfaced, yellow pine joists whose ends rest on a 1"x5-3/4", circular-sawn, yellow pine ribbon that is notched into the studs. The ceiling joists on the second floor are supported by a doubled, 2"x4" plate and have 1" rafter plate set on top of them. The rafters are circular-sawn, unsurfaced 2"x4"s placed on 2'-0" centers.

The lumber used in the framing of the addition is all circular-sawn, fully-surfaced yellow pine. The first floor of the addition is supported by 1-3/4"x7-3/4" joists resting 1'-4" on top of 6"x8" sill. The walls are framed with 1-3/4"x3-3/4" studs placed on 1'-4" centers. The ceiling joists on the second floor are 1-5/8"x5-5/8"s and rest 2'-0" on-center, on top of a doubled 1-3/4"x3-3/4" plate.

5. Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads:

The house originally had an open, two-story, entrance porch on its east side. The only remnant of this porch is the upper story, which measures 6'-2"x8'-4" and is covered by a gable-front roof supported by two, square, wood posts and two half-posts. The porch is surrounded by a wood balustrade that has jig-sawn, panels serving as balusters. Italianate-style, eave brackets and dentils decorate the cornice and the rake. The gable is further embellished by a jig-sawn, applied ornamental trim piece in the shape of a lyre

reminiscent of the Queen Anne style. The lower portion of the original porch is suspected to have been removed ca. 1920.<sup>32</sup> It was replaced with an open, 7'-1"x21'-1" porch covered by a deck roof supported by Craftsman-style, battered, wood piers. The replacement porch is surrounded by a solid balustrade composed of rock-faced, concrete blocks and has a concrete deck.

A second, two-story porch stretches along the south side of the rear wing. It measures 16'-0"x6'-2", is open, and is "incised" beneath the principle roof of the house. The porch has a wood balustrade on both floors that has a 3-1/2" wide rail and 1" square balusters.<sup>33</sup> The second floor of the porch and the roof above it are supported by square, wood posts that have had trim applied at their upper ends in order to emulate capitals. The porch ceilings are covered with beadboard.

6. Chimneys:

The Williamson House has an interior brick chimney situated along each of the gable-end walls in the main block and the gable-end in the rear wing. There is also an interior brick chimney along the east wall of the addition.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors:

The Williamson House has a total of five exterior doorways. The most formal of these is a 4'-10" wide doorway located off the east porch. It holds two, four-paneled doors and is flanked to either side by a decorative pilaster with applied moldings. A fixed, four-light transom and jig-sawn, decorative trim is found above the doorway.

Two, 2'-7" wide doorways are located off the porch flanking the rear wing. Both doorways have a 2'-7" width and have a two-light transom above them that swings inward. The doorway on the east end of the porch, which accesses a parlor (Room 101; see attached plans), holds a four-paneled door. The other doorway is on the porch's north side and leads into the original kitchen (Room 104). Room 104 has an Italianate, paneled sash door that has



two, full-arched window panes with two solid panels below.

A 2'-7" wide exterior doorway is located in the east elevation of the addition. The exterior doorway accessing the second floor of the front porch measures 2'-10" wide.

The interior doorways in the house generally hold 2'-7 wide, four-paneled doors.

b. Windows:

The windows in the original house measure 2'-5"x5'-7" and have double-hung sash with two-over-two lights. The sills are located 2'-5" above the floor. At one time, the windows had shutters.<sup>34</sup>

The windows in the addition measure 2'-7"x5'-6", have double-hung sash with two-over-two lights and have 2'-3" high sills.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, Covering, Material:

The original house has a gable roof that is covered by composition shingles. The roof sheathing below is vertical-sawn pine and varies in size between 1"x9" and 1"x12". The addition has a dropped, shed roof that is covered by standing-seam metal. The roofs associated with the front porch are covered with composition shingles.

b. Cornice, Eaves:

The house has boxed eaves and cornice returns. The cornice is decorated by a wide, plain frieze board that wraps around both porches and follows the returns.

c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:

None are present.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

a. First Floor Description:

As originally constructed, the first floor of the Williamson House had a three-room, T-shaped floor plan, with two principle rooms divided by a central hall in the main block and a single room in the rear wing. The front entrance to the house opens onto a 5'-9" wide hall (Room 102) that extends the full width of the main block. The hall has doorways on the east and west that open into the rooms flanking it and has a third doorway on its north end that accesses the rear wing. An open stairway leading to the second floor rises along the north wall of the hall (see II.C.2).

The room on the south side of the hall (Room 101) measures 15'-3"x14'-3" and is believed to have functioned as a parlor throughout most, if not all, of its history. It has one window each in its west and south walls, two windows in its east wall, and has an exterior doorway leading to the rear porch on the west. A fireplace with a brick hearth in front of it is located along the south wall of Room 101. At some point, the fireplace was bricked-up, and a stove vent was driven through the chimney.

The room on the north side of the hall (Room 103) measures 15'-3"x14'-3". It has two windows in its east wall and a third window in the north. A chimney rises along the north wall. The function of Room 103 is unknown, but it's suspected that it may have originally been used as a dining room.

A doorway in the west wall of Room 103 accesses Room 104 which is a 15'-5"x13'-2" room in the rear wing that served as the original kitchen in the house. Room 104 has a chimney along its west wall and a doorway on the east that accesses a storage closet located beneath the second floor stairway. As originally constructed, the room had one window each in its north, west, and south walls and had an exterior door on the north and south. Following the construction of the addition, however, the window on the north was boarded over

and a second doorway was added to that wall in order to access a stairway leading to the upper floor of the addition (see II.C.2). Room 104's function is also believed to have changed at this time, from kitchen to dining room.

The first floor of the addition originally consisted of a single room (Room 105) that measured 15'-6"x15'-7" at its widest points. Room 105 had an exterior door on its east and west sides and one window each in its east and north walls. However, the construction, ca. 1950, of a 5'-10"x6'-5" bathroom (Room 106) in the room's southwest corner, resulted in the west exterior doorway being partially infilled and converted into a window opening. Room 105 has a suspended chimney along its north wall that is supported from below by a built-in cupboard. A second built-in cupboard flanks the chimney on the west. The stairway accessing the second floor of the addition rises along the east wall of the room, and space beneath it is utilized as a closet. From the date of its construction, up until the 1993 flood, Room 105 is believed to have functioned as a kitchen. The ceiling height in it and the remainder of the first floor rooms is 8'-8".

b. Second Floor Description

The second floor of the original house essentially mirrors that of the floor below in respect to the size of the rooms and their layout. The stairway leading from Room 102 opens onto a central hall (Room 202) that measures 5'-9" in width and has a doorway on its south side that accesses the upper level of the front porch. Doorways on the north and south sides of the hall access bedrooms. The south bedroom (Room 201) measures 15'-3"x14'-3" and has a chimney along its south wall. Lying between the chimney and the west wall of the room is a closet --framed with beadboard-- that appears to be original to the house.<sup>35</sup> Room 201 has a doorway in its west wall that leads onto the second floor of the rear porch and windows in its south, north, and west walls.

The bedroom on the north side of the hall (Room 203) measures 15'-3"x14'-3". It has a chimney and

a window on its north side and two windows on the east. A beadboard closet, constructed ca. 1900, is located in the southeast corner of the room. A doorway in the west wall of Room 203 leads into a 15'-5"x13'-2" room in the rear wing (Room 204). Presumed to have originally functioned as a bedroom, Room 204 has a doorway in its south wall that leads onto the rear porch and once had a single window each in its west, north, and south walls. The north window was later converted into a doorway in order to provide access to the addition.

The second floor of the addition is partitioned into two rooms with a plank wall. The northern of the two rooms (Room 206) is an unfinished storage room that measures 15'-6"x5'-11" and has one window in each of its exterior walls. A doorway on the south side of Room 206 leads onto a landing at the head of the stairway that rises from Room 104. A doorway on the west side of the stair landing accesses the south room in the addition (Room 205). Room 205 measures 12'-8"x9'-6", has a single window in its west wall, and has a doorway on its east side that accesses a closet. Room 205 may have initially served as a bedroom or simply as a storage or multi-purpose room.<sup>36</sup> The ceiling height in the second floor rooms is 8'-2-1/2".

At the time of the 1993 flood, the second floor of the house was being used as living quarters separate from those on the floor below. Room 201 was still functioning as a bedroom, but the function of the other rooms had changed. Room 203 was being used as a living room, Room 204 had been converted into a combination kitchen and dining room, and Room 205 had become a bathroom.

c. Basement/Cellar Description:

The area beneath the house is unexcavated. A large, root cellar is located adjacent to the house and would have functioned as a food storage cellar (See II.D.2).

2. Stairways:

The stairway in Room 102 is 2'-7" wide and is open on both floors. It begins as a flight of ten steps that

rises from east to west along the north wall of Room 102. This first flight ends at a 3'-0"x5'-9" landing, from which a second flight, with three steps, rises from west to east along the south wall of Room 202. The open stringer of the stairway is decorated with thin, jig-sawn trim resembling brackets. The wall beneath the stairs was exposed wood (not-plastered). The newel post and spindles had been removed by salvagers prior to the field investigation.

The stairway leading from Room 104 to the second floor of the addition measures 2'-10" wide and consists of a single flight of fourteen steps. Except for its bottom two steps in Room 104, the stairway is enclosed on both floors by horizontal, tongue-and-groove planking. The bottom steps are flanked on the west by a low wall composed of horizontal, 1"x5-1/4", tongue-and-groove, planking that is topped with a 1"x3" rail.

3. Flooring:

Tongue-and-groove, yellow pine flooring is present throughout the house. The flooring in the original house measures 1"x3-1/4", while that in the addition is 7/8"x3-1/8".

4. Wall and Ceiling Finishes:

The walls and ceilings in the original house are covered with plaster applied to circular-sawn lath. The walls have been wallpapered.

The walls in the addition are covered with horizontal, 1"x3-1/4", tongue-and-groove, yellow pine planking. The ceilings are finished with beadboard. In Room 105, the beadboard has been overlaid with fiberboard panels.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: See II.B.7.a

b. Windows: See II.B.7.b

6. Decorative Features and Trim:

The trim in the original house is white pine and has generally been painted. The door and window jambs are cased by 7/8"x4-3/8", trim whose inside edge is beveled. The head trim is pedimented and lacks a crown

molding. One piece, unmolded baseboard is present.

The most notable decorative feature in the house is the trim surrounding the fireplace in Room 101, which is meant to emulate a classical entablature. The corners of the fireplace are cased with 7/8"x4-3/4" trim that have chamfered edges and an applied molding on their upper end. The corner trim serve as "pilasters" supporting a wide "frieze" board and a 1"x6" mantel above. The frieze board and mantel are separated by a crown molding. All of the fireplace trim has been given a light oak graining.

7. Hardware:

The original house was constructed using machine-cut nails. The doors are held by swagged, butt hinges with acorn-tipped pins.

The addition was constructed with wire nails.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation:

The majority of the rooms in the original Williamson House would have been heated with combination wood and/or coal burning stoves vented through the four chimneys located in the house. The only exception to this is Room 101, which was initially heated by the fireplace discussed above. There is no evidence of a central heating system ever being installed in the house.

b. Lighting:

Given the date of its construction, the Williamson House is presumed to have been illuminated with oil or kerosene burning lamps. These lamps, or similar apparatus, may have remained in use until ca. 1930, when the house was wired for electric lighting.<sup>37</sup> The wiring system in the house is minimal, particularly on the second floor, where there is only one overhead light per room and no baseboard or wall receptacles present.

c. Plumbing:

The water used by the residents of the Williamson



House would have initially been hand-pumped from a well located northwest of the house. This well is depicted on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps published in 1899 and 1906.<sup>38</sup> The bathroom in the house is suspected to have been installed ca. 1950.<sup>39</sup>

D. Site:

1. General Setting and Orientation:

The Williamson House is located parallel to and approximately 30' west of Main Street, one block north of the commercial district in Evansville. The house faces east and lies in a large yard that is adjacent to the remnants of a bridge formerly crossing the Kaskaskia River.

2. Outbuildings

A root cellar is located approximately 6' north of the house. Although believed to have been constructed with the original house (ca. 1880), the cellar does not show up in either the 1900 or 1906 Sanborn Insurance Maps. The cellar has brick walls, two courses thick, and a concrete dome roof that is covered with soil.<sup>40</sup> The cellar is accessed by way of a 2'-8" wide stairway on its west side, the sidewalls of which are constructed of brick. This stairway has six steps and was once covered by a wood hatch. On its interior, the cellar measures 10'-8" (east/west) by 8'-6" (north/south). The ceiling height is 5'-2" at the knee walls and 7'-2" at the peak of the dome. Shelving is found on the north side of the cellar. An air vent, consisting of a stoneware drain tile, extends through the center of the concrete dome.

A single-story, front-gabled, frame shed is situated 23'-2" north of the addition to the house. The shed measures 14'-0" (east/west) by 16'-0" (north/south) and is covered by vertical board-and-batten siding. The walls of the shed are of post-in-ground construction.<sup>41</sup> The roof is supported by 2"x4", surfaced-two-sides rafters that are attached with wire nails. Access to the shed's interior is provided by two doorways in its south gable-end wall. Inside, the shed has a work bench in its northeast corner and a brick chimney along its north wall. A great deal of coal is strewn about the floor of the shed. An outbuilding matching the



shed's size and location appears on the 1906 Sanborn insurance map, but is absent from the 1899 map, pointing to the shed's construction between those dates. Although the function of this outbuilding is unknown, it may originally have functioned as a summer kitchen or workshop.<sup>42</sup>

A single-story, front-gabled, frame garage is located 14' east of the shed, facing Main Street. Potentially constructed ca. 1920, the garage measures 23'-0" (east/west) by 14'-3" (north/south). The garage is framed with 2"x4", unsurfaced, oak studs and has horizontal, 1"x8", circular-sawn, oak sheathing that has been overlaid with tar paper. It has double doors on its east side and has a personal access door on the south.

Prior to the construction of this garage, a large, two-story, frame carriage house was located along Main Street at the same location. This carriage house was documented on both the 1899 and 1906 Sanborn fire insurance maps. The earlier of these two fire insurance maps indicates the presence of two additional frame outbuildings (of unknown function) located along the west property line.

3. Historic Landscape Design:

No information is available.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Original Architectural Drawings: None available.

B. Early Views: None available.

C. Interviews:

Ralph J. "Rudy" Moll, Evansville, Illinois, August 10, 1995. Transcript on file, Fever River Research, Springfield, Illinois.

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and Unpublished Sources:

Jakle, John, Robert Bastian, and Douglas Meyer. Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The

Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley.  
University of Georgia Press, Athens, 1989.

Mansberger, Floyd, Christopher Stratton, and Patrick Steele. After the Great Flood of 1993: An Architectural Survey of Flood Damaged Evansville, Randolph County, Illinois. Report Prepared for Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Report on file at Fever River Research, Springfield, Illinois, 1994.

Randolph County Assessor's Files. Randolph County Historical Society and Archives, Chester, Illinois.

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Randolph County Tax Assessor's Books. Treasurer's Office, Chester, Illinois.

Sanborn Map Company. "Fire Insurance Maps of Evansville, Illinois." New York, 1906.

Sanborn-Perris Map Company. "Fire Insurance Maps of Evansville, Illinois." New York, 1899.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph, Illinois." 1840.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph, Illinois." 1850.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph, Illinois." 1860.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph, Illinois." 1870.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois." 1880.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois." 1900.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois." 1910.

White and Borgognoni Architects, P.C. and Hodge Design Associates, P.C., Evansville, Indiana. "Damage Assessment Report of Historic Resources in Evansville, Illinois." Report prepared for The National Trust for Historic Preservation, Midwest Regional Office, Chicago, Illinois. June 21, 1994.

2. Secondary and Published Sources:

Biographical Publishing Company. Portrait and Biographical Record of Randolph, Monroe, Perry and Jackson Counties, Illinois. 1894.

Bleem, Catherine Berra. Evansville on the Kaskaskia. Evansville, Illinois, 1975.

Brink, W. R. and Company. An Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Randolph County, Illinois. Edwardsville, 1875.

McDonough, J.L. and Company. History of Randolph, Monroe and Perry Counties, Illinois. Philadelphia, 1883.

Glassie, Henry. Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 1968.

Kniffen, Fred. Louisiana House Types. Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Volume 26, p. 179-193, 1936.

McDonough, J. L. and Company. History of Randolph, Monroe and Perry Counties, Illinois. Philadelphia, 1883.

Montague, E. J. A Directory, Business Mirror and Historical Sketches of Randolph County. Alton, Illinois, 1859.

Ogle, George A. and Company. Standard Atlas of Randolph County, Illinois. Chicago, 1919.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

Although extensive documentary research was conducted for this project, several additional avenues of research remain open for further work. One avenue of research that was only touched upon is oral history. Although the number of individuals available to discuss the early history of Evansville (and the buildings documented here) is limited, their knowledge of the community is invaluable. Of particular interest is the history of the blacksmith industry in this community --and particularly the specific history of the extant blacksmith shops still present within the community.

At least two additional blacksmith shops are still intact in Evansville and warrant documentation. One is a small family operation (Rothmeier Shop, located several blocks southeast of the central business district within a residential neighborhood), while the other is the remains of a large industrialized shop (Becker Shop; located immediately adjacent to the south edge of the central business district). The documentation of these two shops would add considerably to our understanding of this nineteenth century industry.

Resources of the Randolph County Historical Society were not completely consulted, particularly with regard to regional blacksmithing and wagon making.

Similarly, the archaeological integrity of the subsurface resources around the Williamson House were not assessed. Archaeological investigations could yield a wide range of information regarding this building and activities that was associated with it. Additionally, subsurface resources (especially filled trash pits, privies, and adjacent middens) associated with these structures have the potential to contribute dramatically to our understanding of past lifeways in small communities such as Evansville.

PART IV. METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

A. Research Strategy:

This documentation project began with an architectural survey of flood damaged Evansville by Fever River Research. The architectural survey of Evansville was

conducted during late January 1994 by Patrick Steele, Sr. The survey work consisted of a building by building inventory of every structure within the city limits that had been damaged by the flood waters and was over 50-years of age. Black and white 35mm photographs were taken of all buildings that pre-dated 1940. Select views of building types and street scenes were also documented using color slide film. While in the field, a survey form which documented such items as a building's address, construction materials, and integrity was completed for each of the pre-1940 buildings. Forms were numbered as prepared and keyed to the photographs of each building as well as maps of the community. A copy of each form and photograph of each building is included as an Appendix of the survey report, entitled "After the Great Flood of 1993: An Architectural Survey of Flood Damaged Evansville, Randolph County, Illinois" (by Floyd Mansberger, Christopher Stratton, and Patrick Steele, Sr., 1994). Although outbuildings were identified on each of the building inventory forms, they were not treated as individual buildings within the survey. Criteria used to evaluate the significance of the properties was based on standard National Register of Historic Places criteria.

Once the survey had been completed, several flood damaged properties were determined eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. After a long wait, the participants in the Federal buyout programs were finally identified, and mitigation work was initiated. At that time, three National Register of Historic Places eligible properties were identified as being part of the Federal buyout program. These included the Baumbauer Blacksmith Shop (See IL HABS No. R-1996-3), Baumbauer Filling Station, and the Williamson House (IL HABS No. R-1996-2; this report). Unfortunately, the Baumbauer Filling Station was demolished prior to our investigations.<sup>43</sup>

B. Actual Research Process:

The research process consisted of physically documenting the above ground remains of the Williamson House with line drawings and photographs. While in the field, measurements of the house were taken, floor plan sketches drawn, and notes on structural details (including materials used, decorative details, alterations through time, etc) were transferred to a

field form. All floor plan drawings (which generally included a basement, first floor, second floor, and roof plan) were drawn at a 1/4" scale. Additionally, 35mm photographs (black and white) were taken of both interior and exterior details.

In conjunction with the field documentation process, archival research was conducted in both local and regional repositories. This research was conducted to answer site specific questions about each structure and the family that occupied it, as well as to develop an historical context for these buildings.

Back in the Springfield office, the field drawings were digitized using Design-CAD software and printed with the aid of a laser printer. Additionally, the outline formats were written, a selection of photographs were chosen, and 5"x7" prints were made. The photographs were mounted on archival photograph mount cards and the text printed on archival bond paper. Upon completion, a microfiche copy of the report was made and it, with the archival original, was submitted to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency to be placed on file with the Illinois State Historical Library. All notes, and additional photographs (with negatives) are on file with the Illinois State Museum (an approved curational facility).

C. Archives and Repositories Used:

In Evansville, the resources at the Evansville Public Library were consulted. Additionally, we were able to conduct an oral interview with Mr. Ralph J. "Rudy" Moll while in Evansville. County resources were consulted at the Randolph County Courthouse (Deed Records in the Recorder of Deeds Office, Tax Assessors Records in the Treasurers Office, Naturalization Records, Death Records, and Probate Records in the Circuit Clerks Office), Randolph County Historical Society and Archives Local (both in Chester), and the Chester Public Library (Local History Room) Additionally, in Springfield, resources at the Illinois State Library (Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, county atlases, and published histories), Illinois State Historical Library, and the Illinois State Archives (Federal population, industrial and agricultural census returns, state census returns) were utilized.



D. Research Staff:

1. Primary Preparer:

The fieldwork for this project was conducted by Messers. Christopher Stratton and Floyd Mansberger, both with Fever River Research, Springfield, Illinois in August 1995. All drawings were prepared by these two individuals while in the field. The written outline was prepared by Mr. Stratton, (research assistant who prepared the majority of the written outline) and Mr. Mansberger. Mr. Mansberger coordinated the field work and assisted with the written outline. Ms. Cynthia Phillippe, research assistant, assisted with the documentary research and transcribed the oral interview with Mr. Moll. All individuals were working under the direct supervision of Mr. Floyd Mansberger, principal investigator, Fever River Research, P.O. Box 5234, Springfield, Illinois, 62705.

2. Photographer:

All field photographs of the Williamson House were taken by Mr. Floyd Mansberger (Fever River Research) during the course of the field documentation. All photographs were processed by the Photographic Services Corporation, Springfield, Illinois.

3. Delineator:

Using the field drawings, Mr. Christopher Stratton prepared final digitized drawings using Design-CAD software. Mr. Stratton is a research assistant with Fever River Research, Springfield, Illinois.

4. Additional Staff:

Additional typing and editing was conducted by Ms. Cynthia Phillippe, research assistant with Fever River Research.

PART V. PROJECT INFORMATION

During the summer and early fall 1993, the Mississippi River flooded its banks and devastated many communities and rural



properties along its course. One community that was completely inundated by the Flood Of 1993 was Evansville, Randolph County, Illinois.

The work described in this report was conducted by Fever River Research under contract with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) to assist FEMA in compliance with their responsibilities for carrying out a Programmatic Agreement among FEMA, the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP), the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the IHPA. Initially, a survey of the flood damaged properties in Valmeyer, Fults and surrounding Monroe County, as well as in Evansville, was undertaken by Fever River Research.

Based on this initial survey, several properties in Evansville were determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural recordation and documentary research presented in this report was undertaken to mitigate the impact of FEMA's community buy-out program on these historic properties.

ENDNOTES

- (1) This addition shows up in the 1899 fire insurance map of Evansville. The fact that wire nails were used in its construction suggests that the house had been built at some point over the previous decade. (Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Fire Insurance Map of Evansville, Illinois, New York, 1899).
- (2) J. L. McDonough and Company, History of Randolph, Monroe and Perry Counties, Illinois, Philadelphia, 1883:415.
- (3) E. J. Montague, A Directory, Business Mirror, and Historical Sketches of Randolph County, Alton, Illinois, 1859:203.
- (4) Ibid, 1859:203-4.
- (5) Ibid, 204.
- (6) McDonough and Company, 1883:417; Catherine Berra Bleem, Evansville on the Kaskaskia, Evansville, Illinois, 1976.
- (7) McDonough and Company, 1883:417.
- (8) Bleem, 1975.
- (9) Randolph County Deed Record, County Clerk's Office, Chester, Illinois, WW:432. Three other town lots purchased by Thompson at that time include Lot 2, Block 14 of the Original Town of Evansville and Lot 8, Block 8 and Lot 8, Block 14 of the town of Preston.
- (10) Randolph County Collector's Books, County Treasurer's Office, Chester, Illinois, 1875-1877.
- (11) Randolph County Deed Record, 15:336.
- (12) U. S. Bureau of the Census, "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois," 1870:1; W. R. Brink and Company, An Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Randolph County, Illinois, Edwardsville, Illinois, 1875:42.
- (13) Randolph County Collector's Book, 1877-1880.
- (14) U. S. Bureau of the Census, "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois," 1880.
- (15) Randolph County Deed Record, 26:109. The Williamsons may

have purchased Lots 4 and 5 in expectation of the construction of a bridge across the Kaskaskia River at the foot of Broad Street. Though partially in the flood plain, the lots would have offered a prime location for a commercial venture. James Williamson may have purchased them with the intention of selling them once their market value increased following the opening of the bridge, or with the purpose of keeping them from being developed and thereby protect the investment he had made on Lot 6.

- (16) Randolph County Deed Record, 31:435. By this deed, William Williamson also sold whatever interest he may have had in Lot 6.
- (17) Randolph County Deed Record, 27:373.
- (18) Randolph County Deed Record, 36:547, 50:94.
- (19) Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1899.
- (20) U.S. Bureau of the Census, "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois," 1900:3B. The male boarders were Armand Schankel, a day laborer, and William Stam (?), who was employed as a printer.
- (21) The census notes the Paulter's residence as being on Main Street. The next household listed in the census, after theirs, is that of William Baumbauer, who is known to have been residing in a dwelling attached to his blacksmith shop on Lots 5 and 6, Block 2. No other dwellings are known to have existed between the Williamson House and Baumbauer's shop at that time.
- (22) Randolph County Deed Record, 57:534, 61:178.
- (23) Sanborn Map Company, Fire Insurance Map of Evansville, Illinois, New York, 1906.
- (24) Biographical Publishing Company, Portrait and Biographical Record of Randolph, Monroe, Perry, and Jackson Counties, Illinois, 1894:261-2.
- (25) U. S. Bureau of the Census, "Population Schedule: Randolph County, Illinois," 1910:2B.
- (26) The deed by which William Campbell sold Lots 3 through 7 to his son notes the former as a "widower living in Chester." Collector's Books from 1918 and 1919 do not list Campbell in the personal property tax roll for Evansville, which points to his move to Chester prior to those dates. Randolph County

- Deed Record, 89:307, 322; Randolph County Collector's Books, 1918-1919.
- (27) Randolph County Deed Record, 91:435.
- (28) Ralph J. Moll, Personal Interview, Evansville, Illinois, August 10, 1995.
- (29) Randolph County Deed Record, 117:368. The deed states that the Bauers purchased Lots 3 through 7 "not in tenancy in common, but in joint tenancy with the right of survivorship."
- (30) Glassie, Henry. Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States. University of Pennsylvania Press: Philadelphia, 1968, 99.
- (31) Kniffen, Fred. Louisiana House Types. Annals of the Association of American Geographers Volume 26, p. 179-93, 1936.
- Jakle, John, Robert Bastian, and Douglas Meyer. Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley. University of Georgia Press, Athens, 1989.
- (32) Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from 1899 and 1906 show a two-story entrance porch whose size and location corresponds to the second story of the existing porch (Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1899; Sanborn Map Company, 1906). Hence, the replacement porch on the front of the house must post-date 1906. The ca. 1920 date provided above is suggested by the style of the porch supports and the balustrade.
- (33) The lower ends of the balusters are cut in an inverted, V-shape in order to fit around the lower rail of the balustrade, which is beveled so that it sheds water better.
- (34) The shutter hinges are still present on some of the windows, and the shutters themselves are stored in the attic of a shed adjacent to the house.
- (35) The age of the closet is suggested by the use of machine-cut nails in its construction and the acorn-tipped pins with its door hinges. The closet in Room 203 was constructed with wire nails.
- (36) It's possible that Room 205 may have initially been occupied by either the servant or the boarders who were residing with the Paulters family in 1900.

- (37) The exact date of the installation of wiring in the Williamson House is unknown. However, Mr. Ralph Moll indicates that an electric plant was set up in Evansville in 1924 or 1926, and it's possible that the house was wired within several years of this event. The wiring in the house is knob-and-tube (Ralph Moll, Personal Interview, 1995).
- (38) Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1899; Sanborn Map Company, 1906.
- (39) The toilet tank lid in Room 106 has a February 20, 1950 date of manufacture on it.
- (40) It's possible that the roof over the cellar may originally have been frame and that the concrete dome represents the second roof on this structure. When the root cellar ceiling was reconstructed, an exposed concrete wall was constructed to prevent the mounded dirt from falling into the bulkhead entrance. At this same time, the brick bulkhead was remodeled and capped with poured concrete.
- (41) The posts are locally-procured stock and still have bark on them.
- (42) Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1899; Sanborn Map Company, 1906.
- (43) In an effort to preserve these three buildings, the National Park Service, in cooperation with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and the Landmarks Preservation Council, funded a damage assessment of these three buildings. This work was conducted by the firms of White and Borgognoni Architects (Carbondale) and Hodge Design Associates, P.C. (Evansville) in April 1994. The results of that assessment were presented in the report entitled "Damage Assessment Report of Historic Resources in Evansville, Illinois".

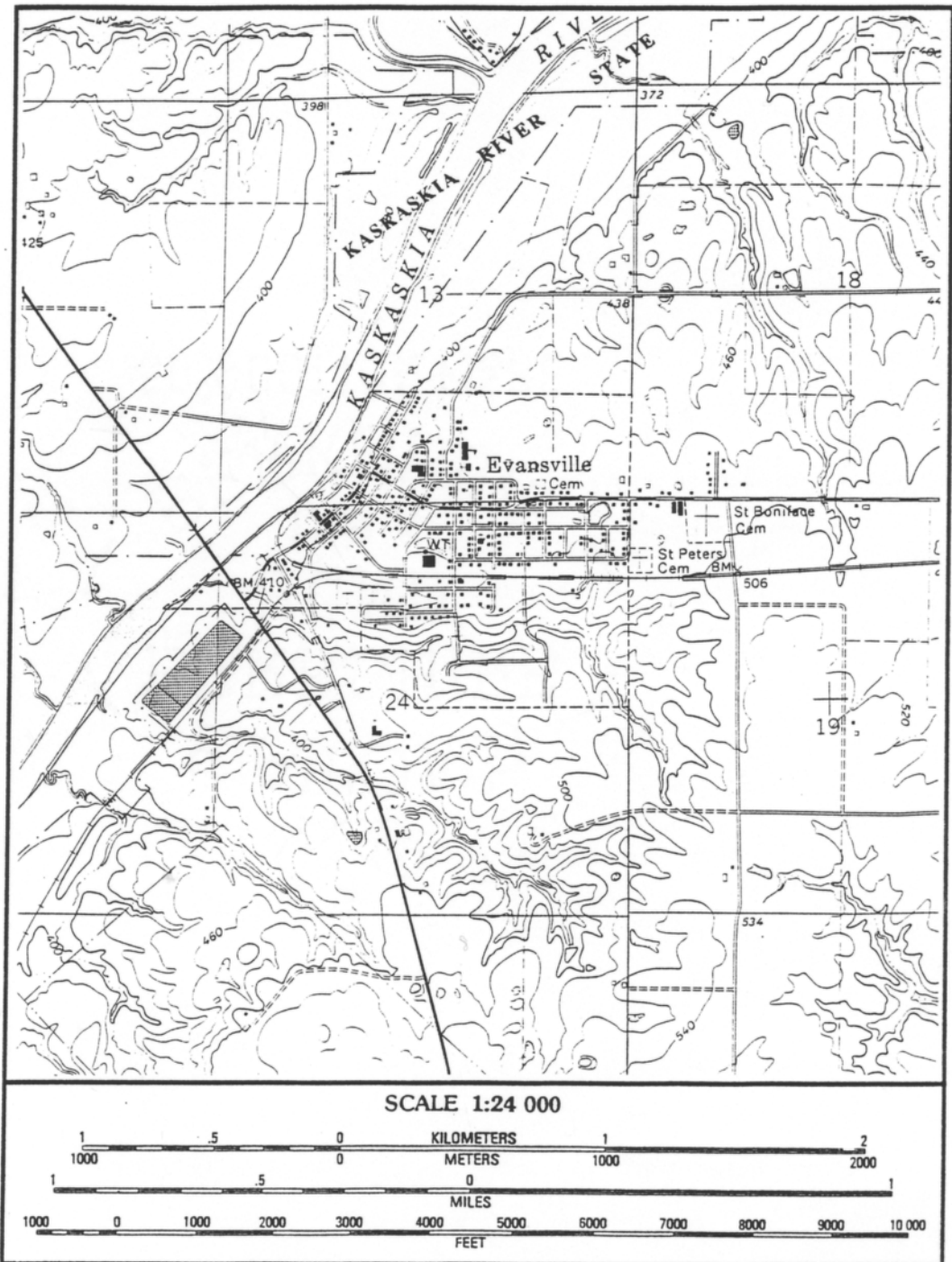


Figure 1. Evansville, Illinois (Evansville 1970 USGS topographic map).







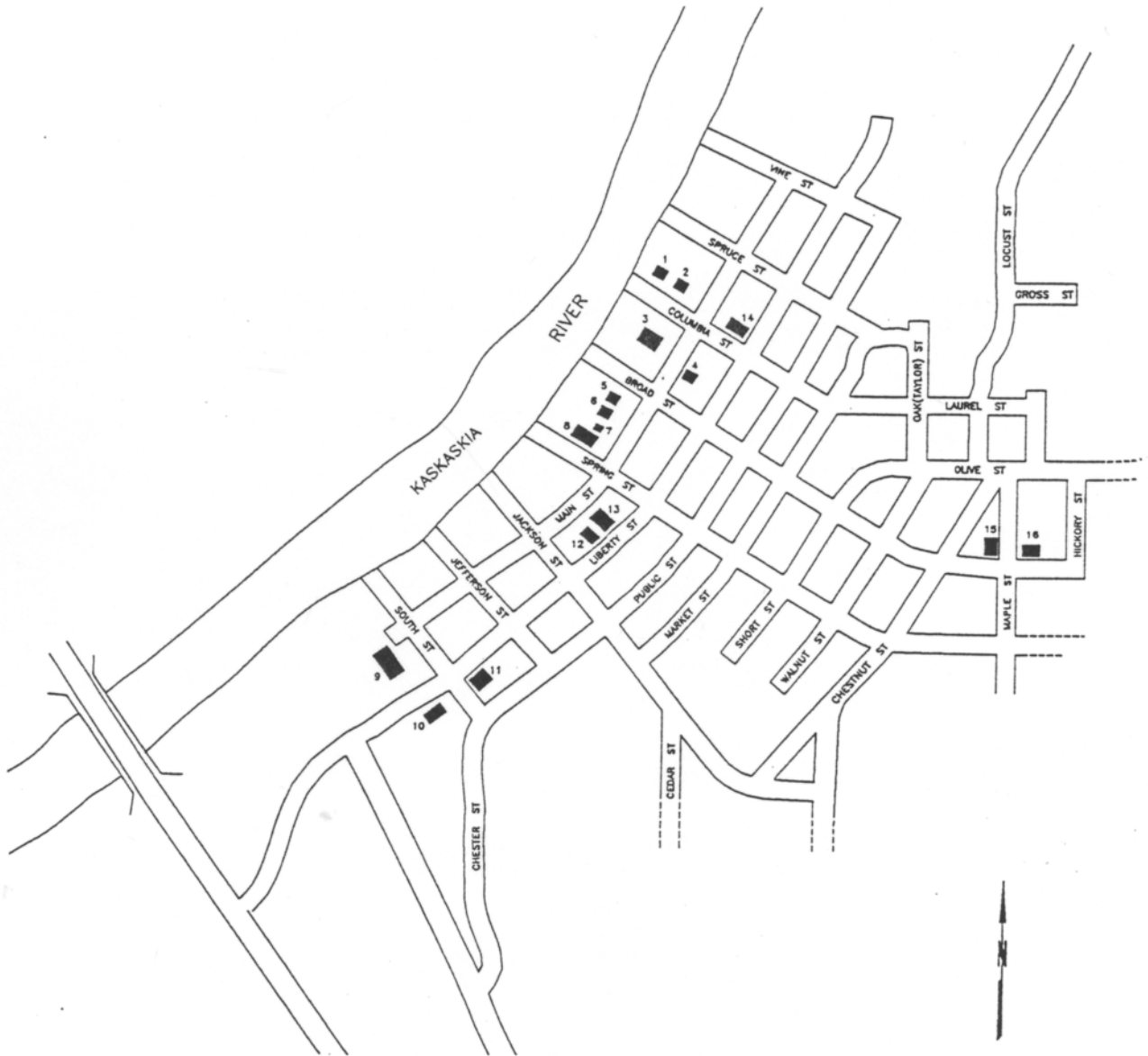


Figure 3. Location of the Williamson House (and other significant properties identified in the preliminary survey). The Williamson House is identified as Building Number 3. Building Number 6 is the Baumbauer Blacksmith Shop (See R-1996-3).

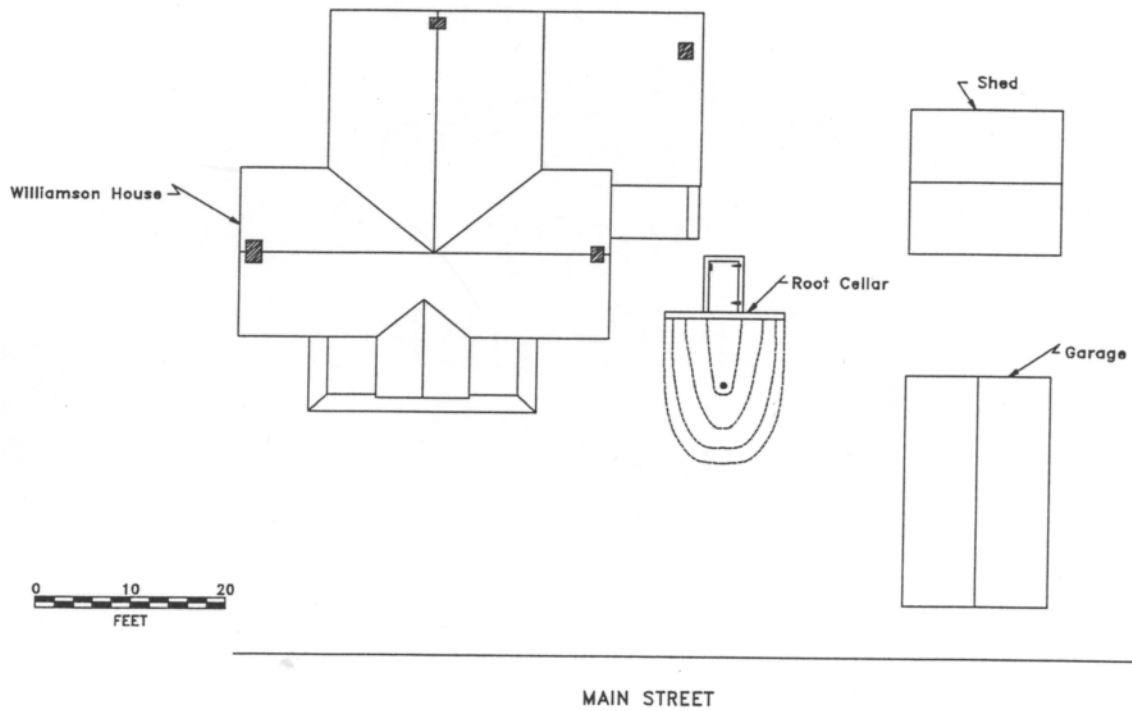


Figure 4. Site plan showing the Williamson House and surrounding outbuildings, 1995.

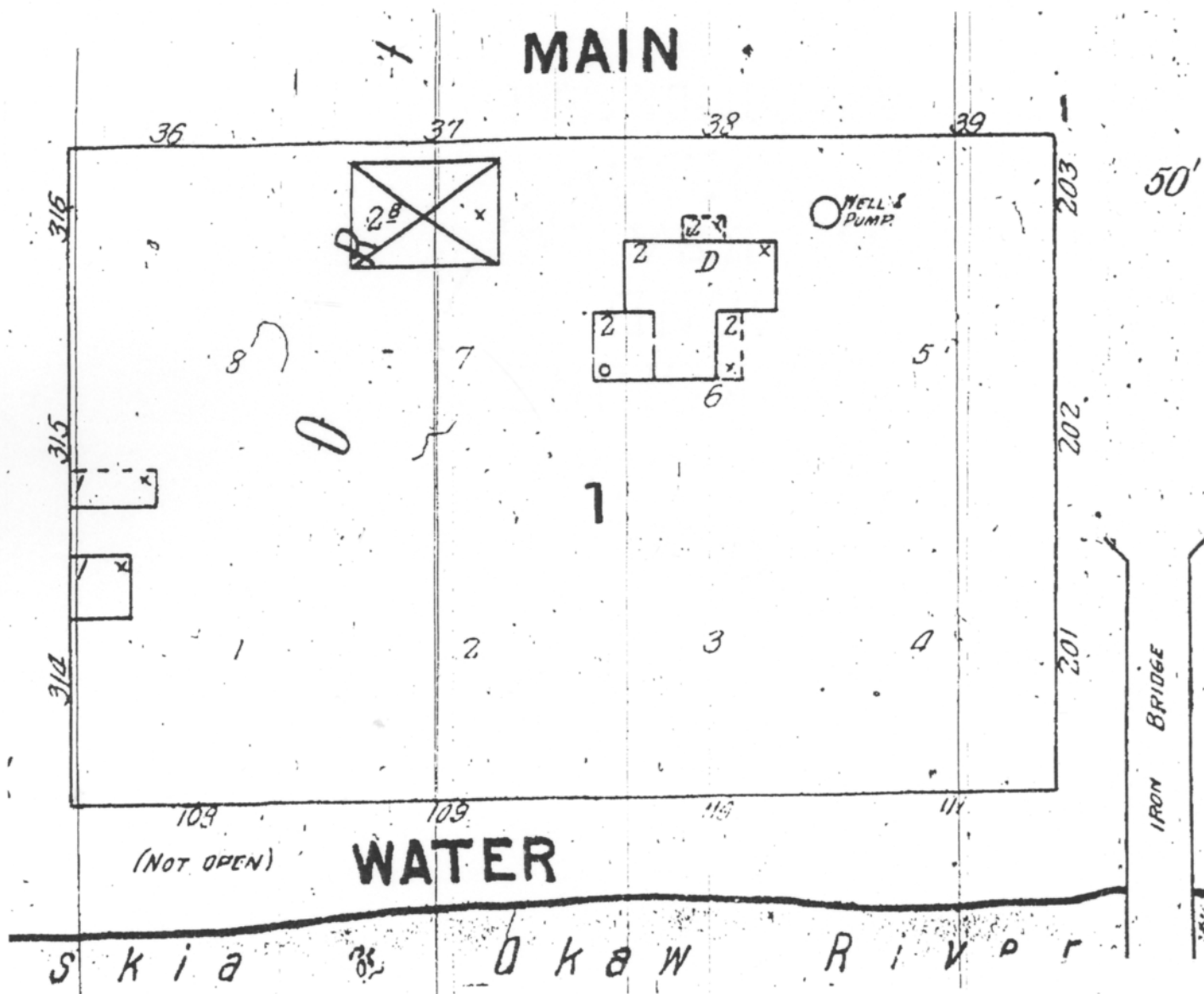


Figure 5. The Williamson House as depicted in the 1899 Sanborn-Perris Fire Insurance Map.



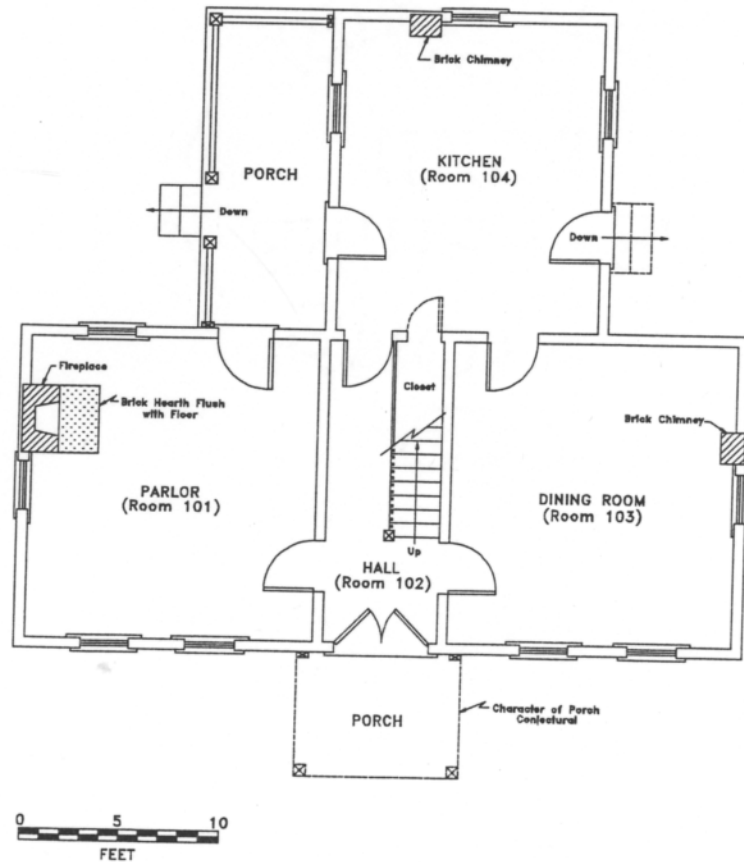


Figure 7. Ground floor plan of the Williamson House, as originally constructed, ca. 1879-80.

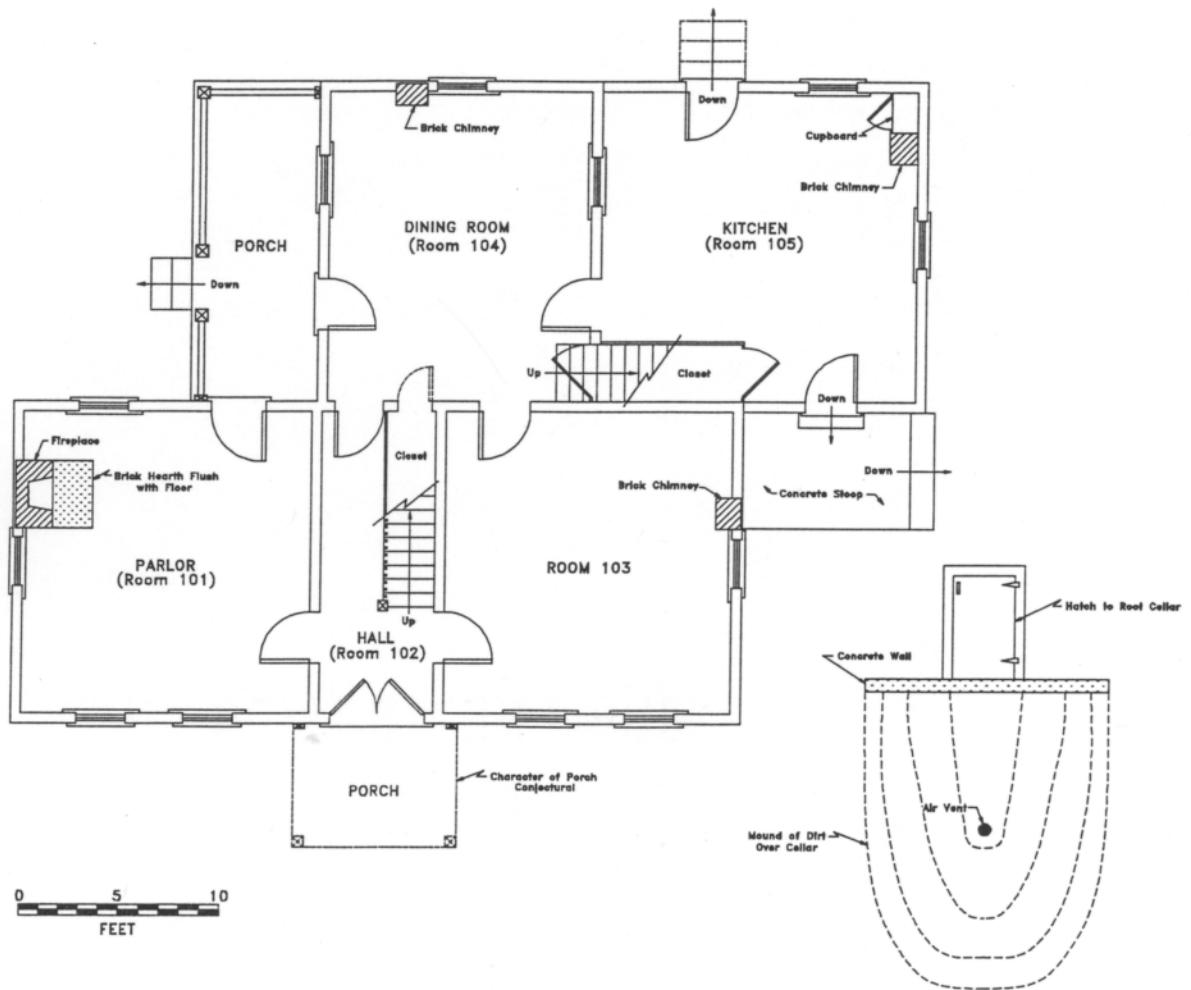


Figure 8. Ground floor plan of the Williamson House, showing construction of the addition flanking the rear wing, ca. 1900.



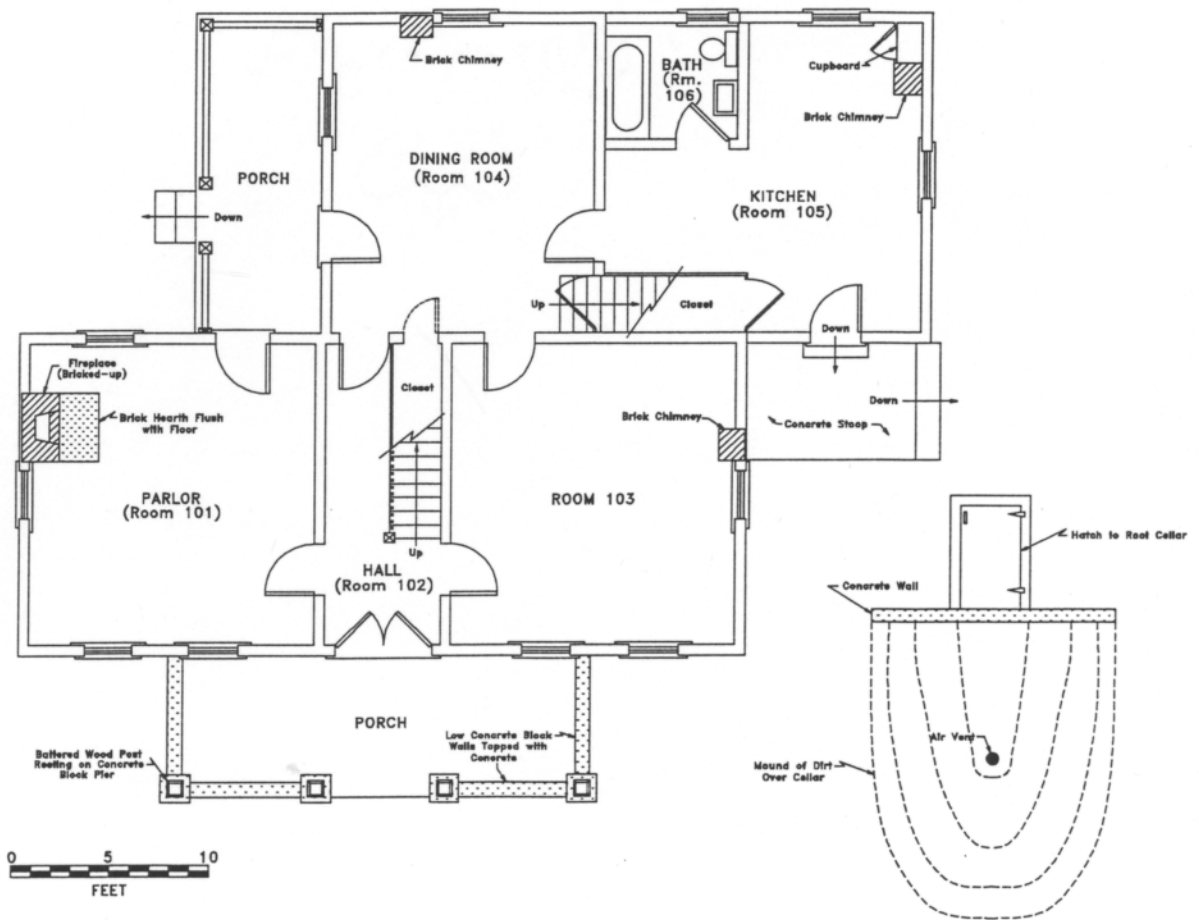


Figure 9. Ground floor plan of the Williamson House, showing recent modifications, 1995.

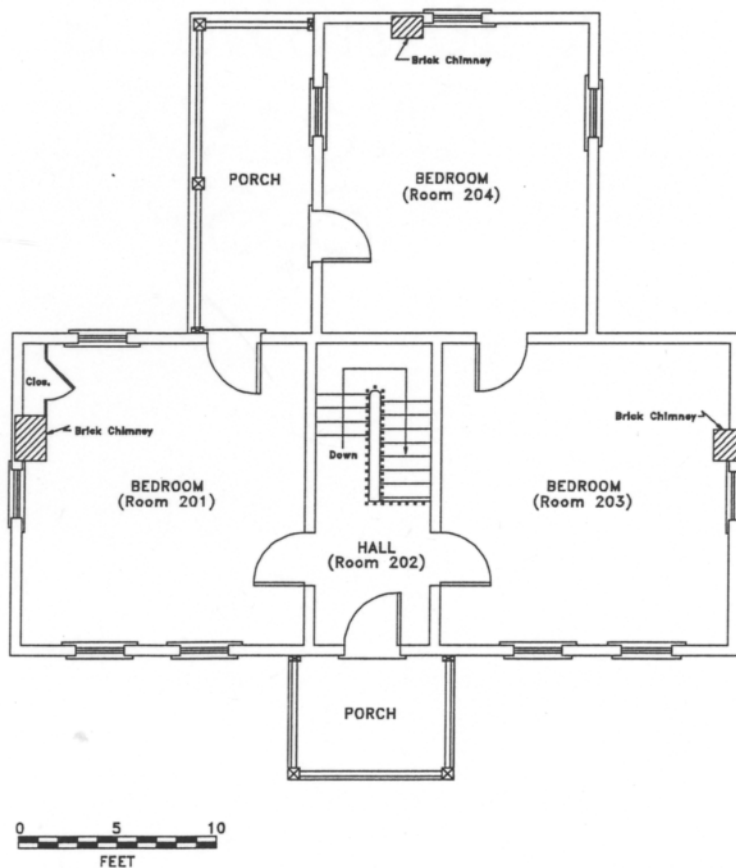


Figure 10. Second floor plan of the Williamson House, as originally constructed, ca. 1880.

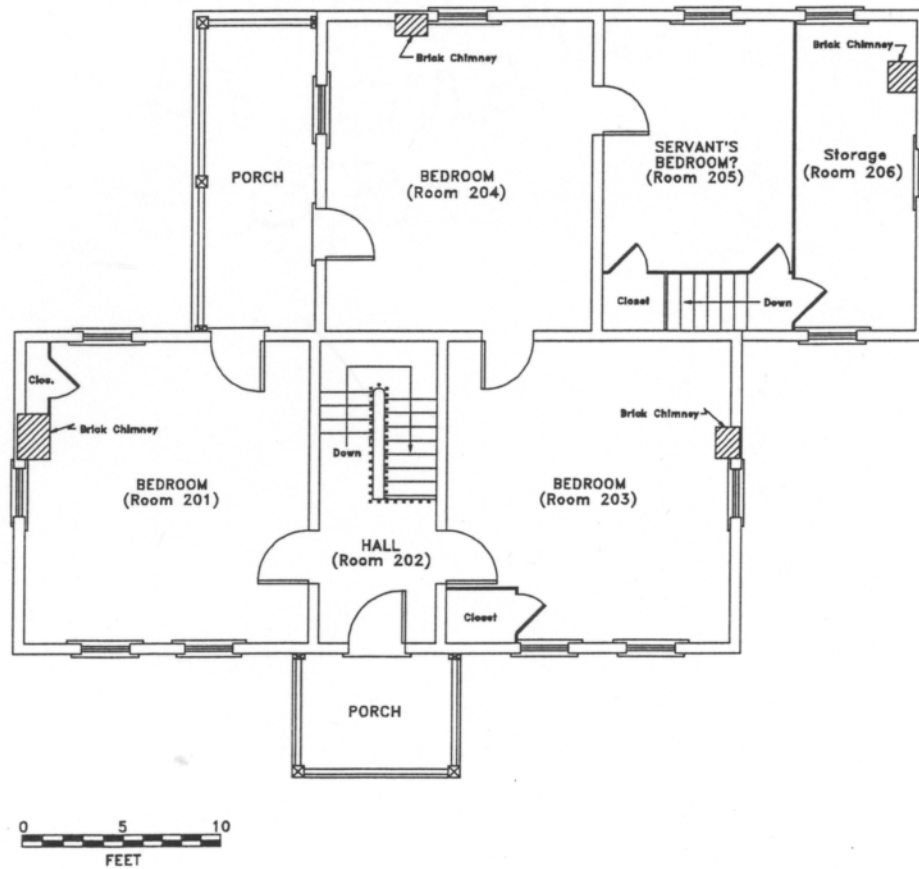


Figure 11. Second floor plan of the Williamson House, showing construction of the addition, ca. 1900.

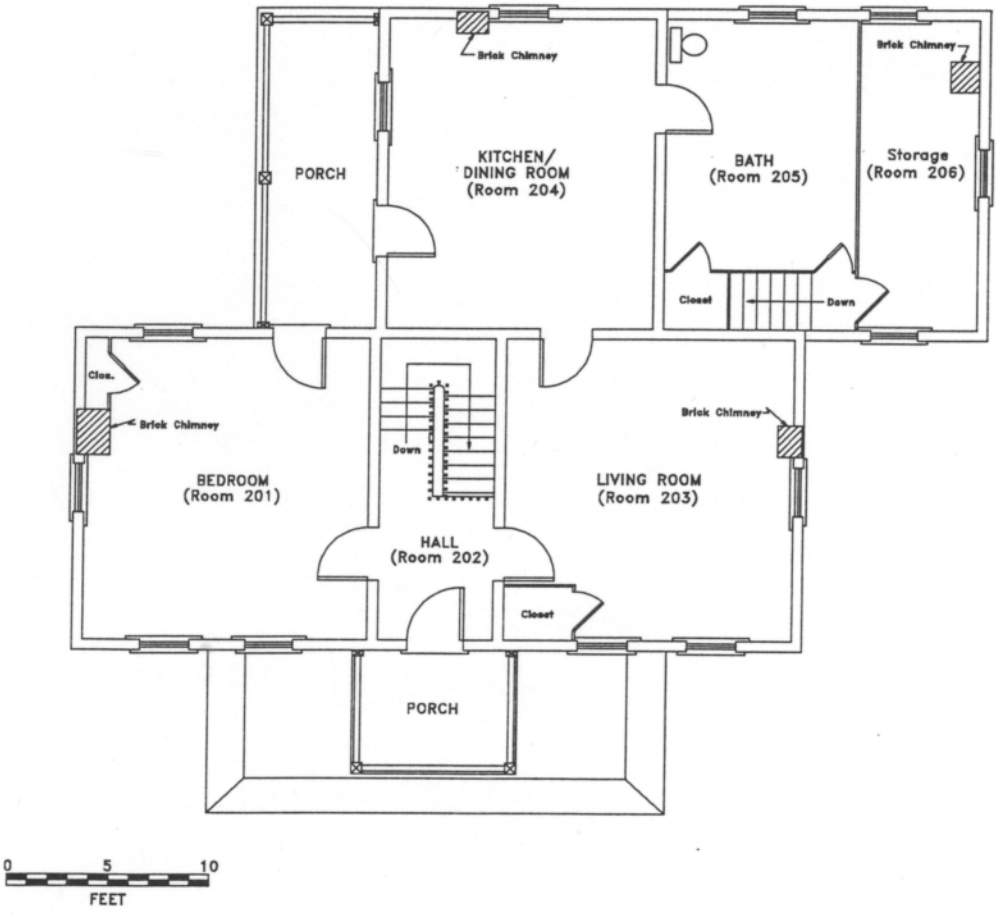


Figure 12. Second floor plan of the Williamson House, showing recent modifications, 1995.

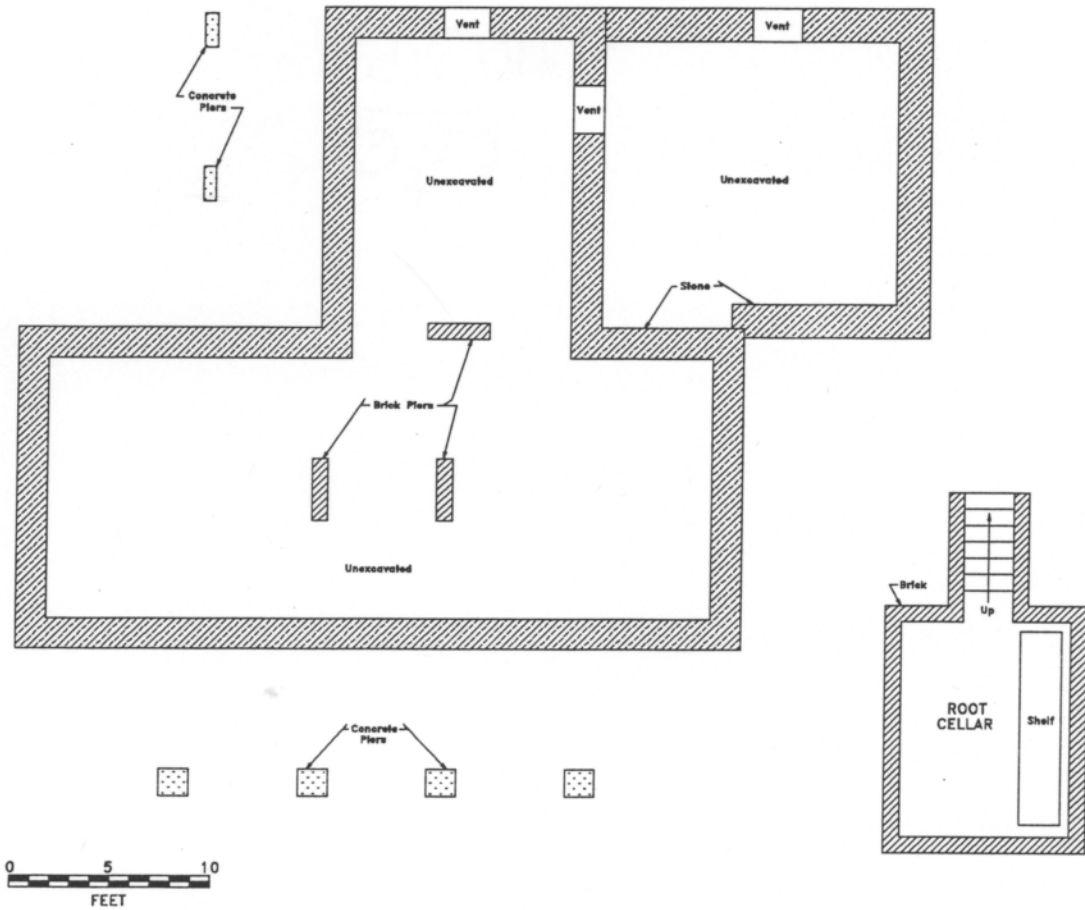


Figure 13. Basement and foundation plan of the Williamson House, 1995.

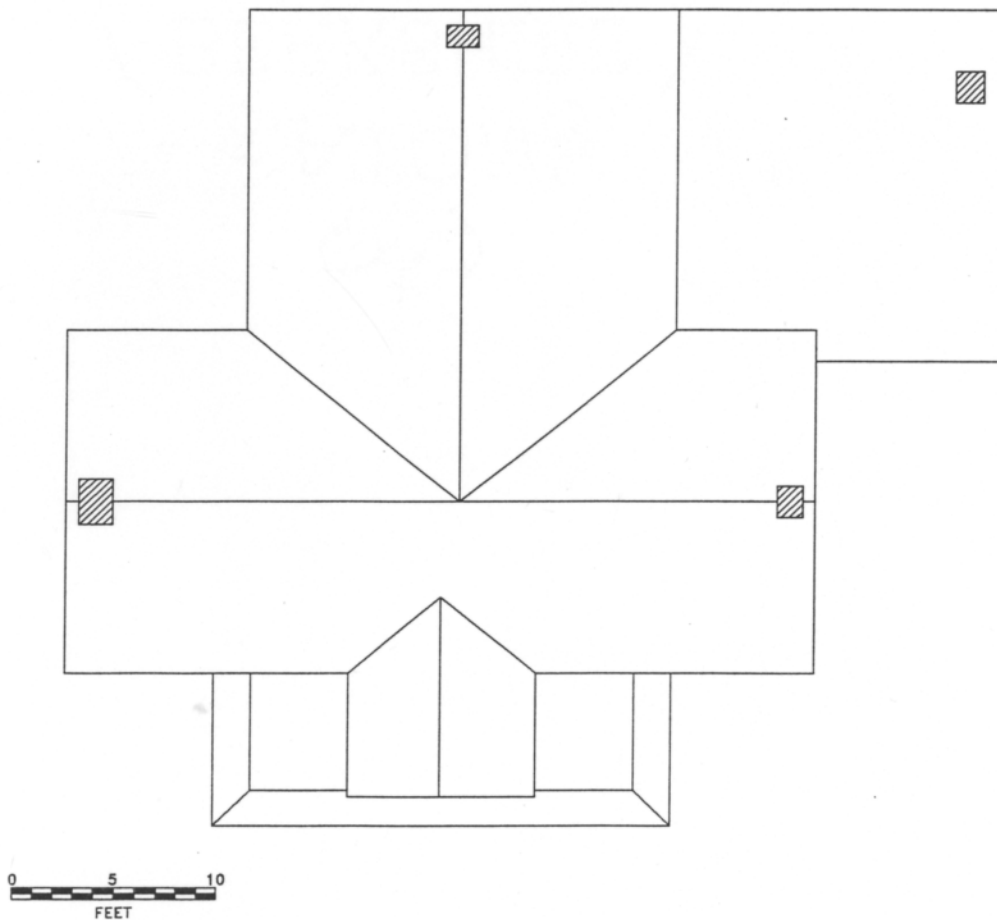


Figure 14. Roof plan of the Williamson House, 1995.



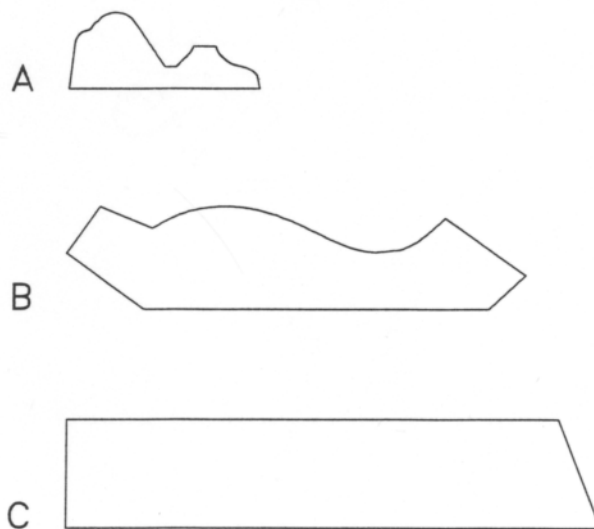


Figure 15. Details of trim found in the Williamson House, 1995. Details A and B are from the fireplace mantel, C is the door trim.

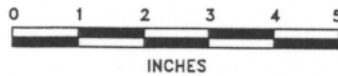
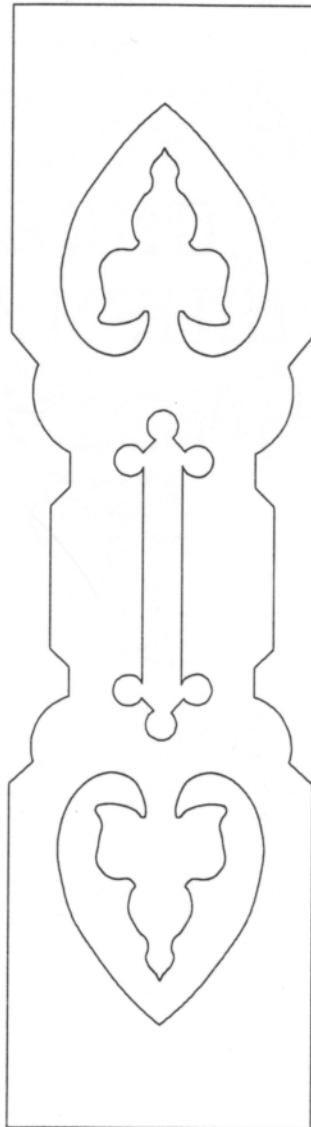


Figure 16. Jig-sawn baluster from the front porch of the Williamson House, 1995.

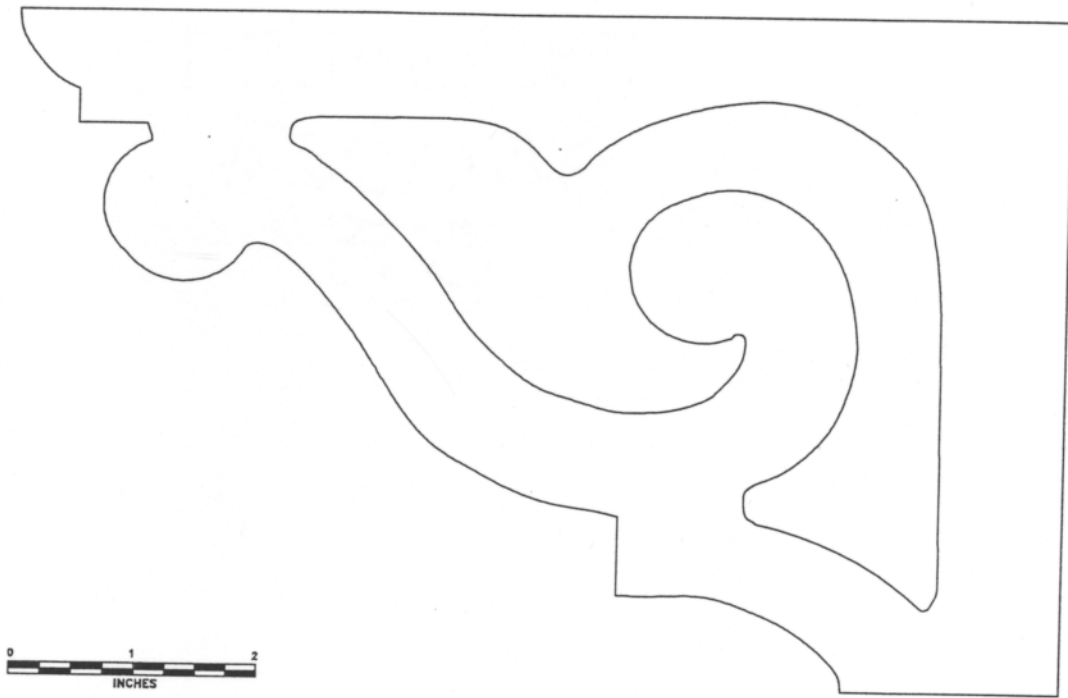


Figure 17. Jig-sawn trim decorating the open stringer of the main stairway in the Williamson House, 1995.

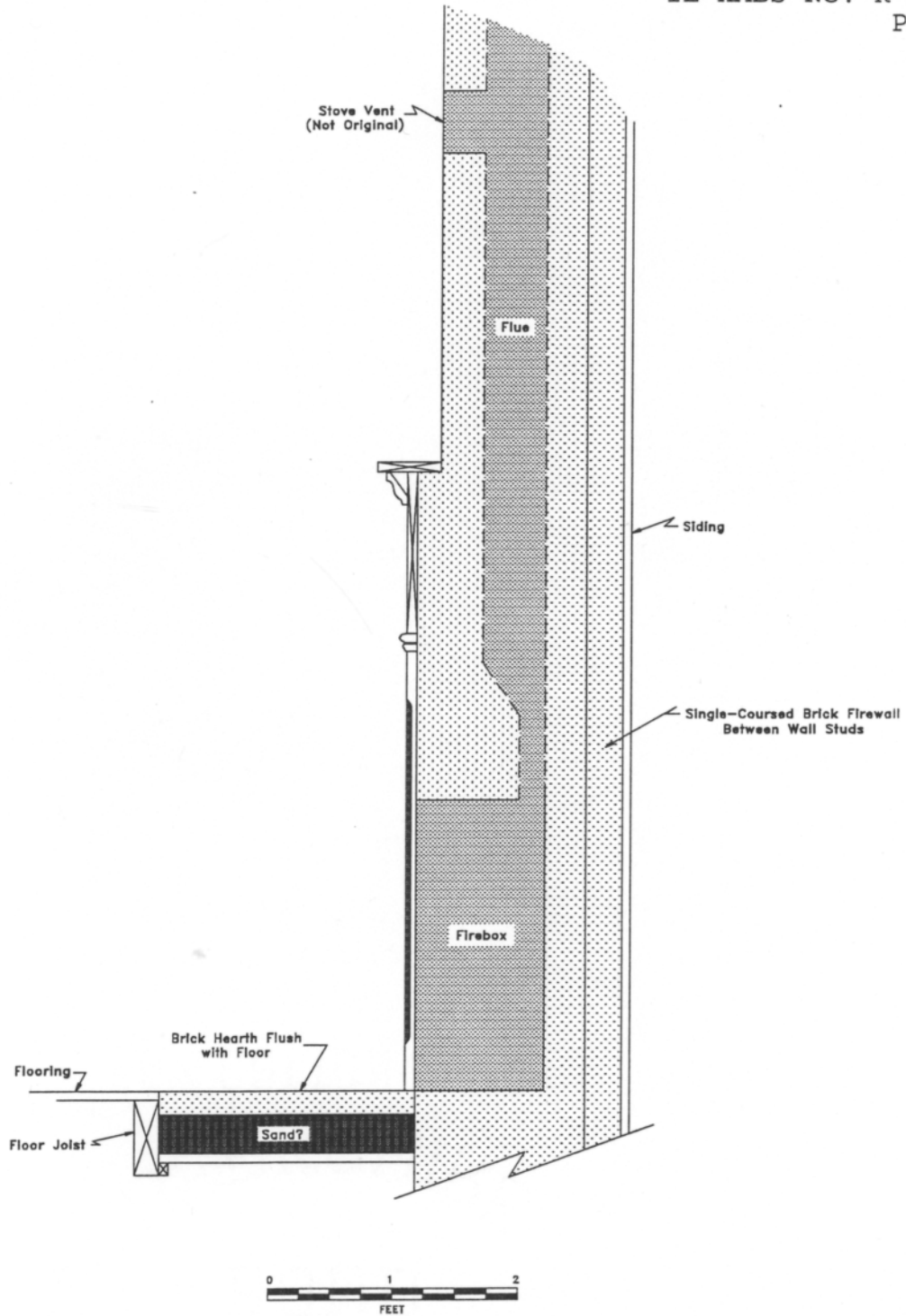


Figure 18. Sectional view of the fireplace in the parlor (Room 101) of the Williamson House, 1995.

ILLINOIS HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

Williamson House  
Lot 6, Block 1  
Original Town of Evansville  
Randolph County  
Illinois

IL HABS No. R-1996-2

Documentation: 14 photographs (1995)  
47 data pages (1996)

Floyd Mansberger, Photographer, August 1995

- R-1996-2.1 Front and side view of the Williamson House.
- R-1996-2.2 Front view of the Williamson House.
- R-1996-2.3 Front porch detail.
- R-1996-2.4 Side view of the Williamson House,  
showing south porch details.
- R-1996-2.5 Rear view of the Williamson House.
- R-1996-2.6 Details of the front entrance.
- R-1996-2.7 Second floor front porch balustrade detail at the  
Williamson House.
- R-1996-2.8 Front entrance detail.
- R-1996-2.9 Details of exterior rear door (leading to the  
south porch).
- R-1996-2.10 Interior view of the Williamson House, showing  
fireplace and hearth details.

- R-1996-2.11 Interior view of the Williamson House, showing chimney and cupboard details located in the rear addition.
- R-1996-2.12 Interior view of the Williamson House, showing balloon frame construction details with inlet knee braces.
- R-1996-2.13 View of entrance to the root cellar at the Williamson House.
- R-1996-2.14 View of frame outbuilding at the Williamson House.



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.1



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.2



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.3



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.4



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.5



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.6





WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.7



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.8



WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.9







WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.12







WILLIAMSON HOUSE  
IL HABS No. R-1996-2.14

