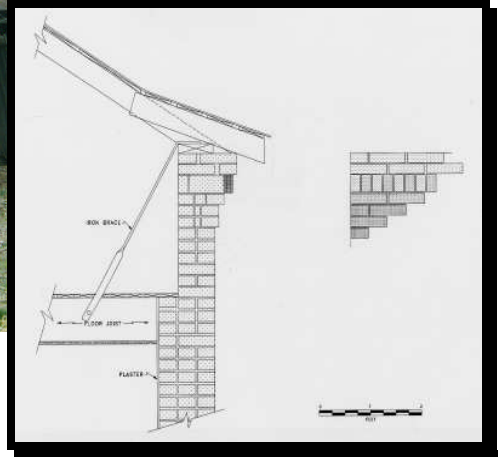


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
ASSESSMENT OF THE
VALENTINE SITE (11MO954),
ILLINOIS CAVERNS STATE NATURAL AREA,
RURAL MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**



by
Christopher Stratton
and
William Flesher

Floyd Mansberger
Principal Investigator

Fever River Research
Springfield, Illinois

1998

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submitted to
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Springfield, Illinois

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING SHORT REPORT

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project type/title: National Register Assessment of the Valentine Site (11MO954),
Illinois Caverns State Natural Area

Responsible federal/state agencies: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Project Description: Land acquisition and building demolition for the Illinois Caverns
State Natural Area

SITE INFORMATION

Sites tested: Valentine Site (11MO954)

County: Monroe

Legal Location: NW1/4, NE1/4, NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 31, Twp 3S Range 9W

UTM: Center of Site at 4235860m N, 750370m E

Site Size: 616 square meters

National Register Recommendations: With regard to Criterion C (Architecture), the house and associated outbuildings at the Valentine Site were previously determined not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (IHPA 1997). At the same time that the buildings were determined not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places for their architectural merit, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency requested that a National Register assessment be conducted to determine the archaeological integrity of the site, as they thought it might be eligible under Criterion D (Archaeology). The investigations described in this Archaeological Testing Short Report (ATSR) determined that 1) although in a deteriorated and highly altered condition, the structural remains of the house at the Valentine Site retained a high level of *archaeological* integrity and yielded information relevant to our understanding of middle-nineteenth-century, rural lifeways in western Monroe County and the greater American Bottom region, and 2) the subsurface archaeological resources associated with this house were limited in extent and adversely impacted by post-1940 activities (such as erosion and the general character of the Armin Krueger occupation).

Therefore, based on the archaeological integrity of the domestic structure, we believe that the Valentine Site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (as per Criterion D). The period of significance of this historic site is circa 1855 (the date the house was constructed) to circa 1925 (the suspected date when the last of the house remodeling was conducted and the house attained its present configuration). The historic context for this archaeological site consists of "Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century German-Immigrant Rural Housing in Monroe County." The domestic remains at this site, albeit very dilapidated, have yielded information regarding the construction techniques, size, and

spatial layout of a middle-1850s farmhouse constructed for a German-immigrant farm family. The structural remains have also yielded information as to how the farm family modified this dwelling through the years in an effort to keep it a modern, viable farmhouse. These modifications give us insights into the conservative nature of the German farm family and the process of modernization that this house underwent during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Such questions as “What is the domestic requirements of a German-immigrant farm family in Western Monroe County in 1855?”, “How did the German-immigrant farm family modernize their middle nineteenth century farm houses during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries?”, and “What does the domestic environment at the Valentine Site in 1855 tell us about the quality of life and general character of this German immigrant farm family?” can be addressed by the archaeological remains of this domestic structure.

The site limits of the Valentine Site consist of an area encompassing approximately 18 meters around the house. Contributing elements of this archaeological site include the remains of the house, the cistern, and the well. Collectively, these contributing elements have given us insights into the domestic housing requirements of the middle-nineteenth century, German-immigrant family in western Monroe County. Detailed architectural drawings (consisting of basement plan, first floor plan, second story plan, and sectional view) of the Valentine House, as well as notes on the unfilled cistern and well, have been prepared for the Valentine Site.

Additionally, it is our opinion that sufficient archaeological work has been conducted at this site to thoroughly document the contributing elements of this historic site. As mentioned above, detailed architectural of the Valentine House, as well as notes on the unfilled cistern and well, already have been prepared for the Valentine Site. The archaeological subsurface testing failed to locate any additional features and suggested that the site has been impacted by erosion and post-1940s activity. As all significant information contained in these contributing elements has been recorded, subsequent field research at this site would not contribute any additional information to our understanding of the site nor the time period under study. Therefore, it is our opinion that no further work is necessary at the Valentine Site, and based on the previously conducted data recovery (as outlined in this report), the demolition of this dwelling, cistern, and well would have a *No Adverse Effect* on the cultural resources at this site.

Topography: The Valentine Site is located on a small ridge amidst a karst topographic region. Small sinkhole ponds are abundant near the site with the closest pond lying directly adjacent to the site. Dry Run Creek is approximately 1 mile to the northwest. The nearest town is Burksville, located approximately two miles to the north. Waterloo, the county seat of Monroe County, lies approximately six and one-half miles to the north. It lies within the physiographic area designated as the Northern Section of the Ozark Division (Schwegman 1973)

Soils: The soils belong to the Hosmer-Stoy-Weir association. The soil parent material is described as light-colored, strongly developed soils formed under forest vegetation from loess 4 to 10 feet thick.

Drainage: Dry Run Creek between sink holes.

Temporal affiliation: The Valentine Site is a historic site whose initial occupation dates to the middle 1850s. The site was continuously occupied through circa 1996.

Land use/ground cover: Until recently the site was used as a lawn and used car part storage area (automobile salvage yard). It now lies fallow with high grass and low surface visibility.

SUMMARY OF ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

The Valentine Site is located on NE1/4, NW1/4 of Section, Township 3 South, Range 9 West. This 38.37-acre parcel land was purchased from the United States of America on September 1, 1854 by Casper Valentine (Monroe County Land Book). On November 23 of that year, Valentine and his wife Catharine mortgaged the tract to Henry Miller for \$129. This mortgage was eventually satisfied in January 1866 (Monroe County Deed Record R: 366-7). Despite his purchase of the NE1/4, NW1/4 late in 1854, Valentine was listed as the owner of the tract in the collector's book for that year, which gave it an assessed value of \$47. Valentine, however, did not have any personal property listed, which suggests that he was not yet living on the tract. The following year, however, he was reported to have \$65 in personal property (Monroe County Collector's Book 1854, 1855). Considering that the NE1/4, NW1/4 of Section 31 was the only property Valentine then owned in the township, it is likely that he had moved to the Valentine Site by 1855. He may also have erected the existing 1-1/2-story, brick house at the site by that date. The assessed value of Valentine's personal property fluctuated over the next five years, rising to \$90 in 1856 only to drop to \$85 in 1857 and \$80 the year after. In 1859, the assessed value shot up to \$130 (Monroe County Collector's Book 1855-1859). On December 27, 1856, Casper Valentine expanded his land holdings with the purchase of the SW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31 from Auston Demint for \$60. This property contained forty acres and was situated directly southeast of Valentine's home tract (Monroe County Deed Record W: 247).

The Valentine family is included in the 1860 population schedule of Township 3 South, Range 9 West. The schedule notes Casper Valentine as a 45-year-old farmer owning real estate assessed at \$900 and personal property valued at \$100.¹ Aside from Casper, the Valentine household included his wife Catharine, who the schedule incorrectly lists as "Elise," an 18-year-old daughter named Elise, and a 16-year-old son named John. All of the family members are reported to have been born in the German state of Bavaria (Population Schedule 1860:127). The agricultural schedule from that year indicates that Valentine owned 30 improved acres and 50 acres that were unimproved. The agricultural implements and machinery used to work this acreage were valued at \$30. Valentine's livestock was valued at \$250 and consisted of two horses, three milch cows, three meat

¹ The \$100 in personal property is \$30 lower than the assessed value given in the 1860 Monroe County Collector's Book.

cattle, and five swine. In respect to production, Valentine was reported to have grown 100 bushels of wheat, 300 bushels of corn, and 100 bushels of oats over the previous year. This lack of diversity in crop production is understandable given the limited number of improved acres the family had at the time. The corn and oats were required as feed for the livestock, while the wheat probably would have been a cash crop. The absence of any dairy products in the schedule is odd, considering that Valentine owned three milch cows, and it's possible that the census taker failed to report on the farm's production in this category (Agricultural Schedule 1860:17).

By 1870, the Valentine household had shrunk to just Casper and Catharine. The population schedule from that year lists them both as natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, rather than Bavaria. Casper is noted as 58 years old—three years older than the age he should have been, based on the 1860 schedule—and as owning real estate and personal property estimated at \$1,500 and \$600, respectively. Catharine is reported as age 50 (Population Schedule 1870:7). According to the agricultural schedule from that year, the Valentine's had barely expanded their improved acreage over the previous decade. The schedule indicates only 35 improved acres and 45 acres that were timbered. Nonetheless, the value of Valentine's farm machinery had increased dramatically over that period, rising from \$30 to \$200. His livestock holdings remained modest and consisted of two horses, one milch cow, and five swine that together were valued at \$200. His farm production over the previous year included 230 bushels of wheat, 300 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of oats, 25 bushels of Irish potatoes, 50 pounds of butter, and one ton of hay. He was also reported to have butchered livestock valued at \$75 and to have paid \$25 in wages for farm labor over the previous year (Agricultural Schedule 1870).

The Valentine Site is illustrated by an 1875 atlas of Monroe County, which is the published atlas available for the county. The atlas notes "C. Valentine" as the owner of the NE1/4, NW1/4 and SW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31, Township 3 South, Range 9 West, and depicts a single house on the property in the northeast corner of the NE1/4, NW1/4 of the section. The location of this dwelling matches that of the existing house at the Valentine Site. The atlas also indicates that John M. Valentine, Casper's son, had established a farmstead adjacent to his parent's farm. John is designated as owning the NW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31. His residence is shown in the northeast corner of the forty-acre tract, roughly one-eighth of a mile east of his parent's home (Brink 1875).

The 1880 population schedule indicates that Casper and Catharine Valentine were still residing by themselves at that time. As in 1870, Casper's age in this census doesn't agree with the earlier censuses. The census lists him as being age 62, rather than the 67 or 68 one would expect --based on the information provided in 1870. Catharine is reported as 60 years of age. It is of note that the couple is once again reported to be from Hesse-Darmstadt, which suggests that the Bavarian nativity indicated by the 1860 census was a mistake. Following Casper and Catharine in the census rolls is the household of their son. John Valentine is listed as a 36-year-old farmer, a widower, and as residing with his two young sons—Henry and Fred—and a hired farm hand named Henry Dinkleman (Population Schedule 1880).

The agricultural schedule for 1880 indicates that Casper Valentine had 48 acres in tilled ground and 38 acres that were timbered. The value of his land, fences, and buildings was estimated at \$2,100, while his farm machinery was worth \$50. His livestock holdings were valued at \$120 and were composed of 2 horses, 1 milch cow, 1 head of meat cattle, 10 swine, and 50 barnyard poultry. Over the previous year, Valentine had devoted the majority of his tilled acreage to wheat production. On 25 acres, he had produced 300 bushels of wheat. Five acres had been set aside for corn and had yielded a 100-bushel crop. He had also grown 25 bushels of oats on 2 acres, 25 bushels of Irish potatoes on one-quarter acre, and had produced 200 gallons of wine from a one-acre vineyard. The total value of these farm products was \$390. Expenses incurred by Valentine over the year included \$15 in fence repairs and \$85 wages for hired labor (Agricultural Schedule 1880:10).

Casper Valentine died on November 6, 1880, leaving behind an estate described as “consisting chiefly of farming lands, 2 lots in Burksville Ill, horses, cows, hogs, farming implements, wheat and corn in crib, and in the field, household and kitchen furniture.” His heirs were Catharine Valentine, who was named as administrator of the estate, his son John, and his grandson John Buettner (Monroe County Administrator’s Book D: 145)². The final settlement of his estate occurred on September 1, 1883. On that date, the court found that the assets of the estate were valued at \$875.65 and that it had \$1,215.39 in claims against it. John and Catharine Valentine assumed responsibility for paying the \$336.74 outstanding (Monroe County Probate Journal K: 478; Accounts Current Book H: 164).

Despite Casper Valentine’s death in 1880, the taxes on the NE1/4, NW1/4 and SW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31 continued to be assessed in his name through 1885. In 1886, the property was assessed in the name of the “Casper Valentine Heirs,” only to be assessed in John Valentine’s name the following year (Monroe County Collector’s Books 1880-1887). John Valentine undoubtedly was working his parents’ farm in conjunction with his own during this period. In September 1888, John Valentine and his wife Sophia lost a suit brought against them by Clara Rosswag for \$2,614.48.³ Failure to pay this sum resulted in D. M. Hardy, the Master in Chancery of Monroe County, selling the Valentine’s real estate at public auction on February 9, 1889. This sale consisted of 118.87 acres located in the NE1/4, NW1/4, the SW1/4, NE1/4, and NW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31. Rosswag was highest bidder at the auction, and was formally deeded the property on May 12, 1890 (Monroe County Deed Record 28:19).

Rosswag retained ownership of the 118.87 acres until 1894, when she sold the property to Frederick Eckert for \$1,500. At the time of this transaction, Eckert was

² The fact that his daughter Elize was not named as an heir suggests that she may have died by this date. We suspect that she had married a Buettner and given birth to a son named John.

³ The nature of this suit is unknown. Future research in the Monroe County circuit court’s records (located in the Circuit Clerk’s Office) would be of interest.

residing in St. Clair County (Monroe County Deed Record 27:587). The 1901 atlas of Monroe County designates Frederick Eckert as the owner of the NE1/4, NW1/4 and the W1/2, NE1/4 of Section 31. Two houses are shown along the northern edge of this property whose locations correspond to the former residences of Casper Valentine and his son John (Ogle 1901:27). In March 1901, Eckert leased the NW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31 to C. E. White and H. J. Hallows for five years at \$120 per annum. The lease also covered a one-acre plot bordering the NW1/4, NE1/4 on the east and a wagon right of way over Eckert's adjoining property. White and Hallow were interested in turning a large cave on the NW1/4, NE1/4 into a tourist attraction, in conjunction with the upcoming 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. Eckert, himself, was quite aware of the cave's wonders, and he was concerned with protecting its integrity. In the lease, he made it clear that Hallow and White were not "to remove any of the natural properties in the cave" and were to do their utmost to prevent others from doing so. However, he did allow them to chisel away rocks at the mouth in order to facilitate access to the cave. The entrance to the cave and the wagon road leading to it are both illustrated by the 1901 county atlas (Ogle 1901:27). During the World's Fair, tourists traveled by train from St. Louis to Burksville Station and were then transported by wagon to Mammoth Cave. The cave proved to be so popular that Hallow and White made plans to continue their operations on a long-term basis. The number of tourists tapered off after the fair ended, however, and the tours of the cave soon ended (Ambrose 1988:10).

Tax records indicate that the NW1/4, NE1/4 and the E1/2, SW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31 (containing 60 acres) were purchased by Jacob Eckert between 1901 and 1902. Frederick Eckert retained ownership of the NE1/4, NW1/4, on which the Valentine Site is located, and the W1/2, SW1/4, NE1/4 (Monroe County Collector's Book 1901-1902). In 1906, Frederick and Jacob sold these properties in a single deed to Henry Eckert for \$600. The deed indicates that Frederick was a resident of St. Clair County, which suggests that the Valentine Site was probably occupied by a tenant farmer during the twelve years (1894-1906) he owned the property. Jacob Eckert is also noted as a St. Clair County resident in the deed (Monroe County Deed Record 35:481).

The Valentine Site is illustrated on the 1916 atlas of Monroe County. The atlas shows a house in the northeast corner of the NE1/4, NW1/4 of Section 31, of which "H. C. & L. Eckert (presumably Henry C. and Louisa Eckert) are designated as the owners. The Eckerts are also noted as owning the 20 acres in the W1/2, SW1/4, NW1/4 of Section 31. Interestingly, White and Hallows are listed as owning the NE1/4, NE1/4 and E1/2, SW1/4, NE1/4 of Section 31, including the entrance to Mammoth Cave. This suggests that the two businessmen may have still had hopes for promoting the cave as a tourist attraction even at this date (Centennial Atlas Company 1916:29). Henry and Louisa Eckert retained ownership of the Valentine Site until 1923, when the NE1/4, NW1/4 and the W1/2, SW1/4, NE1/4 were acquired by John T. Morrison (Monroe County Collector's Books 1907-1923). Although it is not known whether or not Morrison and his family ever resided in the house at the Valentine Site, the dwelling may have been remodeled during their period of ownership. The Morrisons owned the NE1/4, NW1/4 through 1944. By

1945, the taxes on the property were assessed in the name of Philoma Kaempf (Collector's Books 1944-1945).

In 1947, Mammoth Cave was once again commercialized, this time by William Hayden. Hayden constructed a flight of concrete steps into the cave and installed electric lighting in its passageways. He even made plans for a petting zoo and amusement park outside of the cave entrance. This enterprise foundered within several years of its inception, however (Ambrose 1988:10; Illinois Department of Natural Resources 1996).⁴

On April 1, 1951, Philoma Dingerson (nee Kaempf) sold the NE1/4, NW1/4 of Section 31 to Armin Kruger for \$1.00 (Monroe County Deed Record 71:592; Monroe County Collector's Book 1950-1951). Kruger had resided in the immediate vicinity of this property for all of his life and was intimately familiar with the Mammoth Cave. Kruger began exploring the cave as a youth, and as an adult, he became its caretaker. Around 1960, Kruger began serving as the gatekeeper and guide for the cave's private owners. He continued this service after the Illinois Department of Conservation purchased ten acres around the entrance of the cave and established Illinois Caverns State Natural Area in 1985 (Ambrose 1988:8). Kruger retained ownership of the twelve acres surrounding the Valentine Site as a life estate until his death in 1996, arranging for the property to revert to the State of Illinois upon his death.

SUMMARY OF ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH

The Valentine Site is an abandoned farmstead that consists of a brick residence and a number of frame outbuildings. The house is a 1-1/2-story, single-pile, brick structure that appears to date to ca. 1855. The house faces west and has a five-bay facade with a central door flanked to either side by two windows. The cornice of the house is corbelled on the front (west) side of the house but does not extend around the gable ends. The window and door openings are segmental arched and have single rowlock lintels. The windows hold double-hung sash with six-over-six lights. An interior brick chimney is centrally located at both gable ends of the house. As originally constructed, the dwelling had an open rear porch that extended the full length of its east or rear side. During the early nineteenth century (circa 1910-1925), this porch was framed in and divided into several rooms. Contemporary with this alteration was the addition of two shed-roofed dormers on the principal roof and an attached frame summer kitchen along the south side of the house. The original house measures 20'-1" (east/west) by 35'-3" (north/south). Including the rear porch and the summer kitchen, the house measures 30'-5" (east/west) by 58'-3" (north/south) at its widest points.

The form of the Valentine House is reminiscent of the traditional I-Cottage, being one-room deep (single-pile) and two rooms long. The depth of the house, however, is much wider than the typical I-Cottage and may represent a German variant on a house

⁴ A sign that may be from this period of commercialization (or shortly thereafter) was found in the summer kitchen at the Valentine Site. It reads "ILLINOIS CAVERNS / PICNIC AREAS BAR-B-Q PITS / NATURE AT WORK / GREAT SCENIC WONDER SEE IT NOW! / ATOMIC SHELTER."

form that is usually associated with Anglo-Americans. Also, the central stairway represents a twentieth century replacement of a far less formal corner stairway that was accessed from the rear of the house. This positioning of the original stairway and conservative finishing of the house's interior contradicts the house's exterior, which is rather elaborate for a farm family of modest means such as the Valentines.

A close examination of the wall and ceiling surfaces on the first floor of the house reveals that there have been three generations of partition walls separating the two rooms there. As originally constructed, the southern of the two rooms (Room 101) measured 17'-10" (east/west) by 13'-10" (north/south). This room was lit by two windows in its west wall and by a third window on the south. A plank partition in the southeast corner of the room enclosed a stairway leading to the upper floor of the house; this stairway was accessed via an exterior doorway off the rear porch, rather than the interior of the house. Room 101 had two doorways, one of which was located in its east wall and accessed the rear porch. A second doorway was located in its north wall and allowed access to the northern room on the first floor (Room 102), which was larger and measured 17'-10"x19'-5". Room 102 could be entered from the outside through the formal entrance on the house's west side, as well from the rear porch. It had two windows in its west wall and a single window on the east. The walls of both first floor rooms were plastered, but their ceilings were left unfinished except for a coat of whitewash applied over the exposed ceiling joists. Each room had a chimney flue in their respective gable-end wall for a stove.

During the middle to late nineteenth century, the partition wall between Rooms 101 and 102 was removed and moved a short distance to the north, nearly abutting the front doorway. This alteration expanded Room 101's dimensions to 17'-10"x14'-10" and reduced Room 102's to 17'-10"x17'-11". The exact function of either of these rooms during the nineteenth century is unknown, although it's likely that one room served as a multi-purpose dining room, kitchen, and living room, while the other functioned as a master bedroom. Given the larger size of Room 102, it's possible that it served as the multi-purpose kitchen. Either room, however, could have served this purpose since they both had direct access to the rear porch. The rear porch during this period was open and would have served as an ancillary work area. A bulkhead entrance at the north end of the porch allowed access to a cellar located beneath the house proper. The cistern and well were located off the south end of the porch.

The Valentine House took on its present appearance during the early twentieth century (ca. 1910-1925) when it was heavily remodeled. As part of this remodeling, the dividing wall between Rooms 101 and 102 was removed, and a new partition wall was built several feet to the north—to the other side of the front door. This alteration enlarged Room 101 to its present 17'-10"x18'-5", while reducing Room 102 to 17'-10"x14'-10". Contemporary with this alteration was the construction of the present stairway leading to the second floor, which is open and rises from west to east, along the east side of Room 101. When this stairway was constructed, the original stairway in the southeast corner of Room 101 was removed. The ceiling height in Rooms 101 and 102 is 8'-8".

Around the same time Rooms 101 and 102 underwent their final remodeling, the rear porch was framed in and was divided into three rooms. The largest of these rooms (Room 103) is a modern kitchen located at the south end of the porch. The main area of the kitchen measures 9'-7"x14'-4" and is lit by three windows on its east side. A brick chimney situated along the west wall of the kitchen presumably vented a cooking stove at one time, but has most recently vented a oil burning heater. The chimney stack has been removed below the roof level. A short, 3'-9"x 6'-5" hallway off the north end of the kitchen allows access to the two other rooms on the rear porch. To the east of the hall is a 5'-8"x6'-2" room (Room 104) that may have originally served as a pantry. This small room has a single window in its east wall. The room at the north end of the rear porch (Room 105) measures 9'-11"x13'-4" and is lit by grouped awning windows on the north and east. An exterior door is located on the room's east side. The original function of Room 105 is unknown, but it is possible that it served as an enclosed porch. Most recently, the room has been used as a work room. A work bench with a vise is located along the west side of the room. Shelving is found on the south. The ceiling height on the rear porch is 7'-6".

Another alteration that was made to the Valentine House during the early twentieth century was the construction of a frame summer kitchen on the south side of the dwelling. The summer kitchen addition is divided into three rooms and is accessible from Room 103. The first room entered is a 3'-11" wide hallway (Room 106). This hall has an exterior door on its west side and may have also once had an exterior doorway on the west; if so, the hall would have functioned as a breezeway separating the main house from the summer kitchen. The west end of the hall is currently framed in and has shelving built across the opening. An interior doorway on the south side of the hall leads into the summer kitchen proper (Room 107), which is an L-shaped room that measures 15'-5"x17'-5" at its widest points. As originally constructed, Room 107 had two windows on its side, one window each on the south and east. There is evidence of a stove flue passing through the roof above the southwest corner of the room. During the middle to late nineteenth century, Room 107 was turned into a garage—a modification that involved the removal of 8' of the south wall for the large garage door. A wood or junk bin has been erected along the west wall of the room. The third room in the summer kitchen addition is a 7'-9"x4'-4" room that is suspected to have once functioned as a pantry (Room 108). This room was originally accessible through a doorway from Room 107. This doorway was sealed off, however, when the latter room was converted into a garage or after the bin was installed. Room 108 is currently entered through a new doorway that has been constructed between it and the hall.

As mentioned above, the second floor of the Valentine House was originally accessed via an enclosed stairway that was entered by way of the rear porch. Although this stairway orientation seems odd (particularly by modern standards) similar stairways with exterior, rather than interior, entrances have been found on several other houses in southwestern Illinois that have been examined by the investigators.⁵ This stairway rose

⁵ One of these dwellings was the Scott House, located in the rural Shiloh Valley Township, St. Clair County, Illinois. Destroyed as part of the Scott Air Force Base expansion project, the Scott House was a

from east to west along the south gable end of the house and opened onto a single, unpartitioned room on the second floor. Two casement windows were located at each gable end, flanking the chimneys. When the present stairway was installed during the early twentieth century, its opening on the second floor was enclosed with a studded beadboard partition. This partition wall roughly divides the floor into east and west halves, although access between them is unrestricted on the west. The stairway ends at a landing that has doorways on the north and south. The second floor has also been altered by the addition of two large, shed roof dormers. These dormers are located on opposite slopes of the roof and have three windows each. Throughout the history of the house, the second floor has been used as bedroom and storage space.

The Valentine House has a full basement located beneath the main block of the house. The basement is unpartitioned and measures approximately 32'-2"x17'-1". There are three small windows in the basement, two of which are located on the west, while the third is on the north. A 3'-3"x2'-6" wall niche is centrally located along the west wall. The depth of the niche is unknown due to the fact that it has been infilled with poured concrete. Similar wall niches have been documented in southwestern Illinois and are suspected to have been used for cold storage purposes prior to the introduction of refrigeration --particularly by German families. The large size of the basement and its relatively tall ceiling height (7'-9-1/2") suggests that the builder of the house was concerned with having ample cold storage space. The basement was originally accessed via a 4'-6"-wide, bulkhead stairway off the rear porch. This stairway ceased to be used during the early twentieth century and is currently sealed off with a concrete wall. It came to be superseded by an interior stairway located beneath the present stairway leading to the second floor resulting in a window being converted into a door. This stairway can be accessed from the hallway off the north end of Room 103.

The main block of the Valentine House rests on irregularly-coursed, rough-cut, foundations which are predominately limestone with some occasional sandstone having been used. The foundations are 1'-6" thick on their upper 3', and then step out to 1'-10" below grade. The first floor of the house is supported by 2"x12"-13" joists that are set on 2' centers and run parallel to the east/west axis of the building. These joists represent a mixture of circular- and vertical-sawn, unsurfaced, oak and white pine stock, with vertical-sawn, white pine joists predominating. One of the joists is an 8"x8", hand-hewn oak beam that carried the original partition wall between Rooms 101 and 102 above. This beam is supported by a 7"x7", hand-hewn, vertical oak post. The ends of the floor joists rest on a 1"x6" plate and have stone infill between them.. The walls of the main block are of brick

1-1/2 story, double-pile, side-gable, frame structure that was constructed by an American family ca. 1835-1840. The second floor of this dwelling was originally accessed via an exterior stairway that extended from the front porch along the west gable end of the house. A subsequent addition, made in the middle-to-late nineteenth century, resulted in this stairway being rebuilt and enclosed within the house proper. Another example of a house with an exterior, second-story stairway is the Hoerr House, a 1-1/2-story, side-gable, double-pen, log structure in rural Monroe County built by a German immigrant family. Constructed ca. 1865-1870, the Hoerr House has an L-shaped stairway situated in the corner of its front porch, which is open.

laid in common bond. The walls are three courses wide (13" thick) from the foundations up to the second story floor joists, where they narrow to two courses wide (9" thick). The interior walls are plastered and have been painted. The flooring on the first floor is 7/8"x6", tongue-and-groove, yellow pine that was probably installed during the early twentieth century. The character of the original flooring is unknown. As mentioned earlier, the ceilings in Rooms 101 and 102 were originally open, and the exposed joists and lower side of the second-story flooring were given a simple whitewash finish. The ceilings are currently finished with yellow pine beadboard that was installed ca. 1890-1910, prior to the construction of the present second story stairway. The fact that the ceiling joists remained exposed for forty to fifty years after the construction of the house suggests a distinct conservatism on the part of the Valentine family. The baseboard on the first floor is 1"x7" white pine and is not molded.

The door and window openings are cased with 1"x4-3/8" molded white pine trim and pedimented hoods. The doors are four-paneled, have through tenons, are constructed of white pine, and measure 2'-9-3/4"x6'-9-3/4"x1-3/8". Original doors are hung with 2-3/4"x4" butt hinges and have rim locks with porcelain knobs. One of the rim locks is stamped with what appears to be a December 17, 1840 patent date and a December 13, 1850 patent extension date.⁶ These dates, particularly the later extension date, jibe well with the construction date for the house. Later doors have mortise locks as well as "Emerald Design" lock plates and knobs with a brass finish.⁷ The windows measure 2'-10-3/4"x5'-1/2" and have sills located 2'-3" above the floor.

The second story floor joists are 2"x10", unsurfaced, vertical-sawn(?), white pine and are set approximately 1'-6" on-center. The rafters are 2"x5-1/2", circular-sawn oak with 1'-4" centers. The ends of the rafters come to rest on a 2-1/4"x8" plate. The roof sheathing varies in size between 1/2" and 3/4" thick and 12" to 15" wide. It has been planked with circular saw but is unedged. The present roof covering is corrugated steel. The eave of the west side of the house has been extended during the early twentieth century, outward by scabbing in short rafters to the originals. In order to prevent the walls of the house from pushing outward, several strap-iron braces have been run at a diagonal between the rafter plate and the floor joists. Additional support is lent by 2"x4" and 2"x6" studs that run along the east and west sides of the second floor. These studs, which appear to be non-original to the house, are placed approximately 2' in from the wall and extend from a 2"x6" plate laid along the floor to the rafters above. A number of collar ties also extend between the rafters.

⁶ These dates are stamped on the front side of the lock as follows: "DEC 17 1840 / EXT DEC 13 50." The only part of these dates that may be open to question is the last digit of the 1840 patent date. Although it appears to be "0", the last digit is stamped very shallowly and could be another number. The "184..", however, is very clear.

⁷ Identical knobs and lock plates are advertised under the name "Emerald Design" in the 1910 Sears, Roebuck Home Builder's Catalog (Dover 1990:120).

The foundations beneath the rear porch consist of a series of stone piers with brick infill in between. The floor joists measure 2"x10", are set on 1'-6" centers, and run north/south. The interior ends of the joists are carried by a central hand-hewn oak beam. The eastern sill of the porch consists of three 7"x9-1/2", hand-hewn oak beams joined together with hand-forged, iron spikes. Prior to its enclosure, the porch had 6"x6", chamfered posts.⁸ These have been replaced with nominal-sized, yellow pine, 2"x4" studs. The original roof system remains in the place and consists of 2"x4" rafters whose lower ends are notched around a 5"x5", hand-hewn, rafter plate. This plate also supports the original ceiling joists, which measure 2"x5" and have exceptionally wide centers (6' to 8'). The opposite end of these ceiling joists is set in a pocket in the eastern brick wall of the main house. Only one of the joists is still intact for its full length; the others have been cut off at their joist pockets. When the kitchen was remodeled during the early twentieth century, new 2"x6" ceiling joists were installed at a point just above the old ones. The interior walls and ceilings of the rooms on the rear porch are covered with yellow pine beadboard. The flooring on the porch is 3/4"x3-1/4", tongue-and-groove, yellow pine.

The character of the foundations beneath the summer kitchen addition is difficult to determine due to the build-up of the grade around the building. The foundations that are visible consist of single-course, concrete block piers. The building itself is constructed with nominal sized, surfaced-two-sides, yellow pine lumber. The studs, ceiling joists, and rafters all measure 1-5/8"x3-1/2". The exterior is covered with shiplap siding, while the interior walls and ceiling are covered with yellow pine beadboard (double beaded).

The Valentine House would have originally been heated with wood-burning stoves vented through the chimneys at the gable ends of the house. By the early twentieth century, these stoves may have been supplanted by coal or oil-burning ones. The only heating source still present in the building is a modern oil-burning furnace located in the kitchen. The electrical wiring in the house is very limited and was probably added ca. 1940. It is of interest that although the kitchen was modernized (complete with stove, sink, and refrigerator), the house was never equipped with a bathroom—indicating that a privy was in use throughout the dwelling's active occupancy. A large, concrete-lined cistern is located immediately to the rear of the house and was once fed with water draining off the east slope of the roof. Prior to entering the cistern, the rainwater first passed through a concrete-box, charcoal filter that was connected to the cistern by an underground tile drain. The cistern was approximately 6' to 7' diameter by 17' deep (to top of mouth). A well is located adjacent to the cistern.

Aside from the residence at the Valentine Site, there are also a number of outbuildings present, all of which date to the twentieth century. The majority of the outbuildings are in a serious state of disrepair. South of the house, there is a large, two-story, frame barn that measures approximately 22' (north/south) by 90' (east/west). This structure appears to have been constructed in several episodes from salvaged lumber. Evidence suggests that both floors of the building were once used to house chickens. The

⁸ One of the old porch posts was found in the debris filling the cellar bulkhead.

remaining outbuildings are located to the north of the house. Closest to the dwelling is a collection of collapsed frame sheds and a 5'x5', two-seat, flat-roofed, frame privy. Further north are a 12'x15' frame brooder shed with a curved roof and a frame storage shed lying in ruins.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING INFORMATION

The archaeological testing at this site included the use of screened post hole tests and hand excavated test units (trenches). The post hole tests were excavated to determine the character of the soils and to determine the nature of the historic middens around the site. The post hole tests were excavated at 10 meter intervals across the back, side and front yards of the house. The test units were excavated in the back and side yard areas to locate potential subsurface features. Lengths of these test units varied from one meter to 3 meters in length and from 0.5 to 1.5 meters in width. A total of 33 post hole tests and 7 test units were excavated. The total linear quantity of the units was 21.5 meters and the total area excavated was 13.25 square meters.

The soils in front of the house, which are on a slope, appear to be deep with some overburden on top. The yard area slopes down quickly and is not likely to contain the features sought in this testing.

The north side yard soils consist of a humic silt loam surface with a quick transition to strong yellow brown clay loam suggesting either a surface deflated by erosion or a surface stripped of it's soil profile intentionally. Moving north towards the outbuilding complex the soils have a much more mottled appearance and are of a more mixed and/or disturbed character. A test unit adjacent to the north side of the house revealed a shallow pile of rubble and disturbed surface zones with the same rapid transition to clay loam.

The south side yard soils have some of the same overburden on clays up near the house. A modern depression is also present in the profile near the south-east corner of the summer kitchen. As one moves south towards the large barn the soils are natural and have very little deflation. Unfortunately they didn't contain any nineteenth century cultural material (recoverable in the screened post hole tests). Near the barn the soils once again are mottled and probably represent mixing caused by farming activities.

The east side or rear of the house appears to be the area most likely to contain features. On the surface a well, and a cistern (with concrete filter) are clearly visible. Testing demonstrated that the upper fill and/or soil zones are mottled, relatively shallow, and at times scoured away. Much of the material recovered from these excavation units dated from the twentieth century. Only an occasional small piece of nineteenth century material was recovered. A nineteenth-century midden, however, was not defined in this area as we suspected it would be. The limited artifacts recovered are inventoried in Appendix II.

Test 1 was positioned over a shallow depression. Suspecting a subsurface feature with the potential of being a privy, the unit came down on a tree stain which was sectioned and determined as such. Test 3 located a flag-stone surface which extends across the back of the house and also appears in Test 7. This stone pavement continues out 2.5 meters from the foundation and appears to terminate in a limestone curbing at the north-east corner of the house. It also extends out to the edge of the well and cistern. The function of the stone probably was to prevent erosion around the house due to runoff and back yard activities. It also, of course, would add a decorative element to the heavily trafficked back yard area. Although this material could date to the original construction, evidence to date indicates a later, twentieth century construction of this feature. The remaining tests offered negative evidence for feature or midden clusters. The majority of period artifacts appear to be on the outer edges of the site down slope in a pattern that suggests much erosion, which fits well with the soil profiles gained from both the test units and post hole test units. Extensive probing in the rear yard area failed to locate any additional subsurface features.

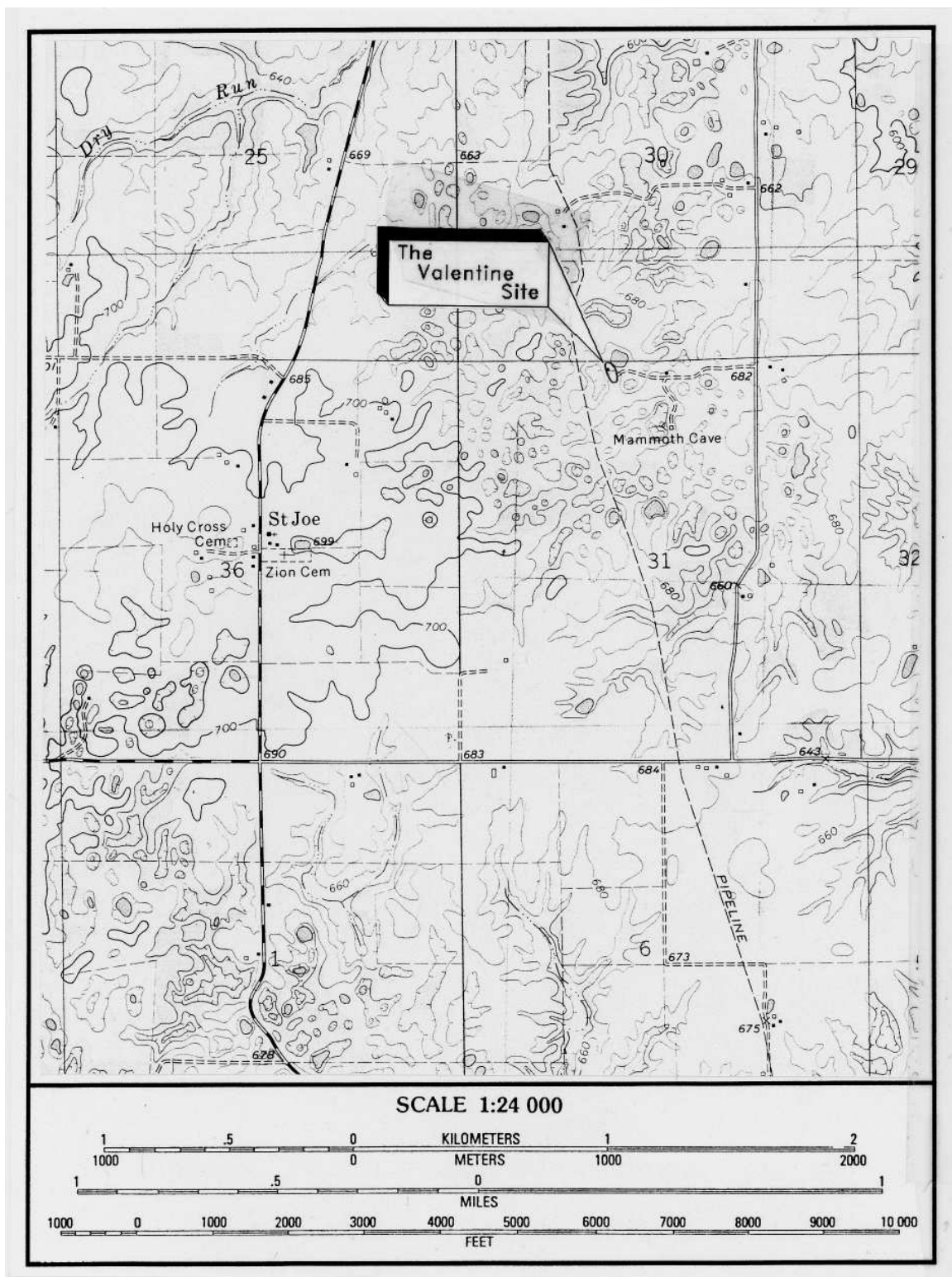


Figure 1. Location of the Valentine Site in Monroe County, Illinois (Renault USGS Topographic Quadrangle, 1970).

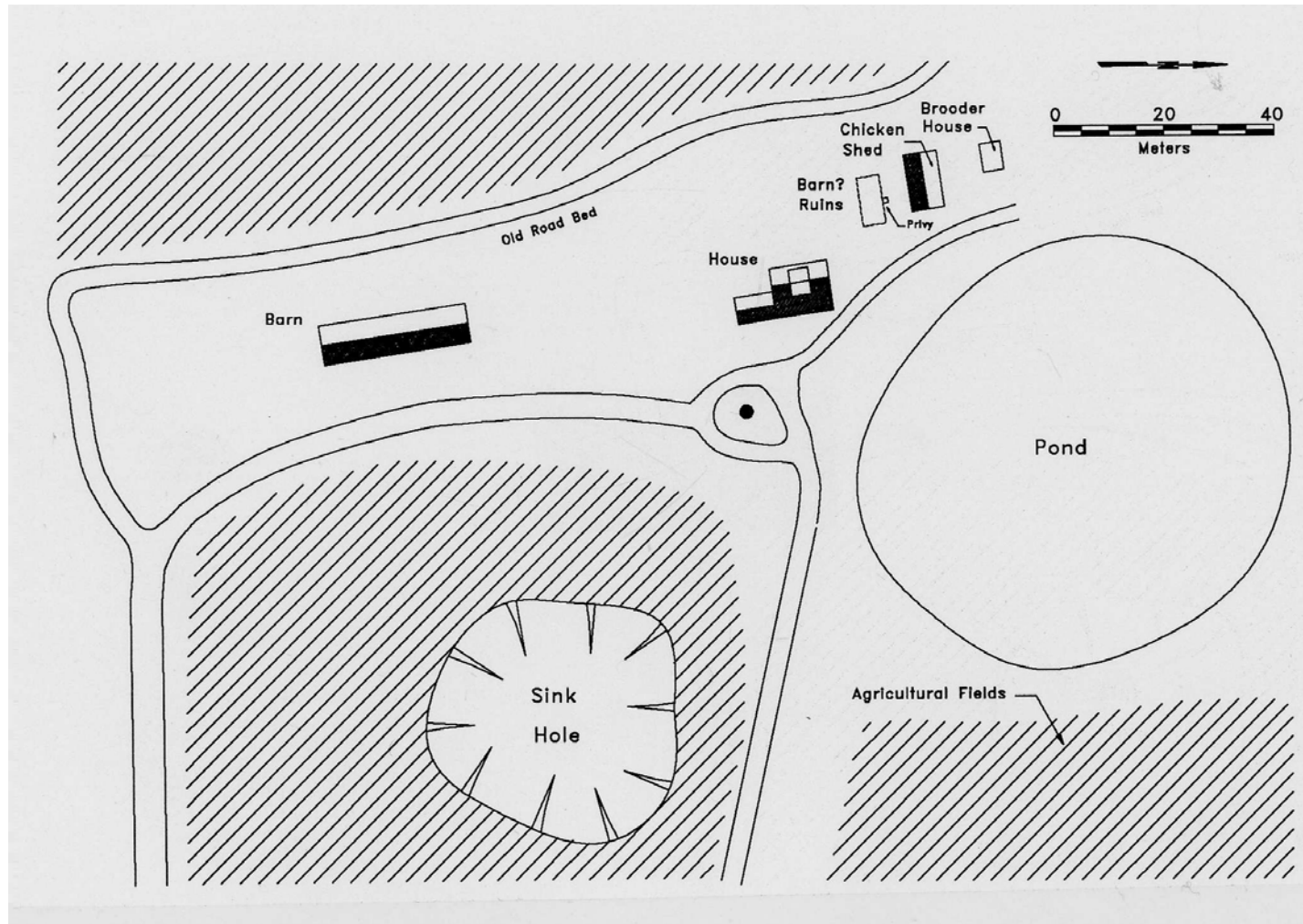


Figure 2. The Valentine Site plan.

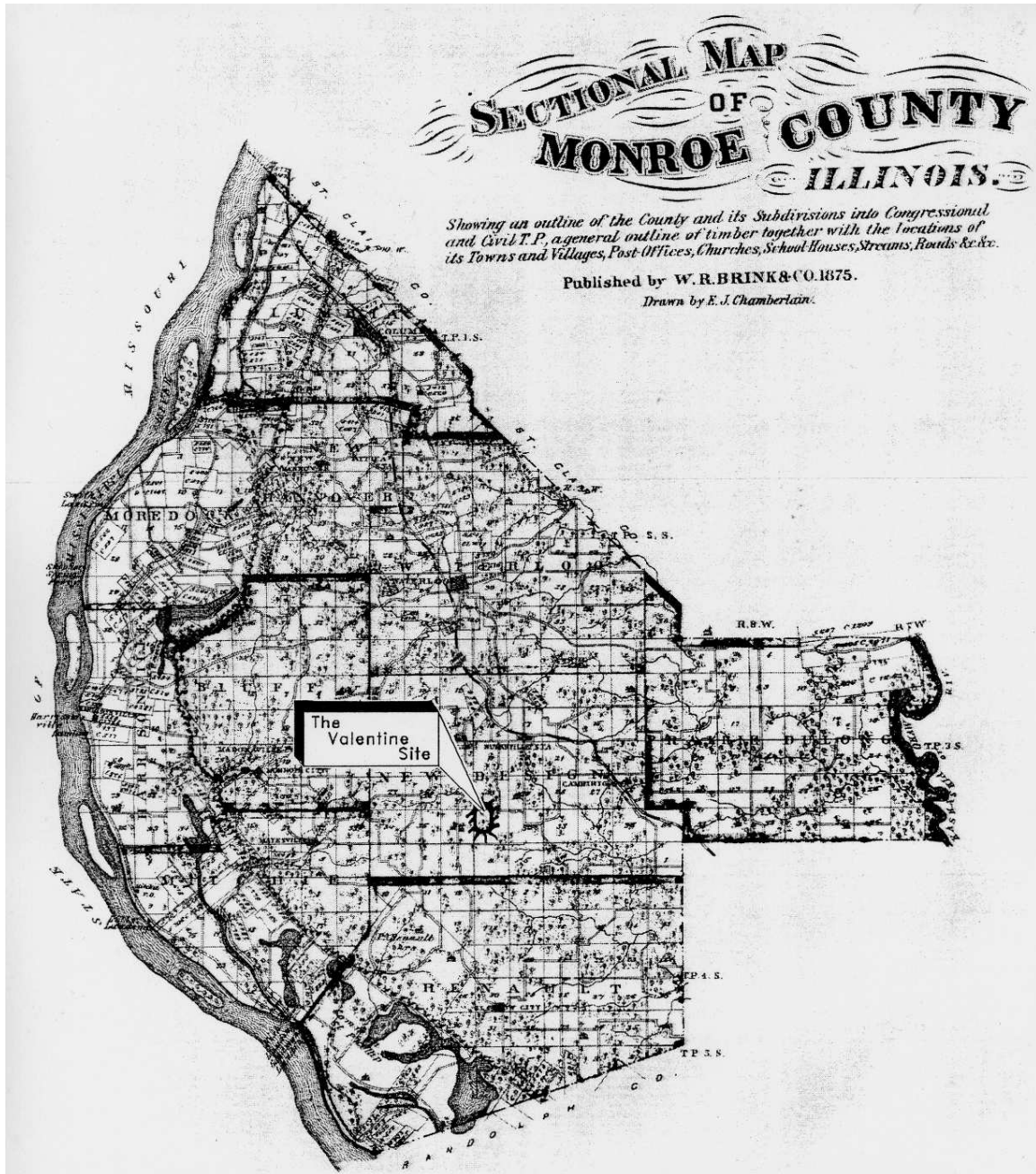
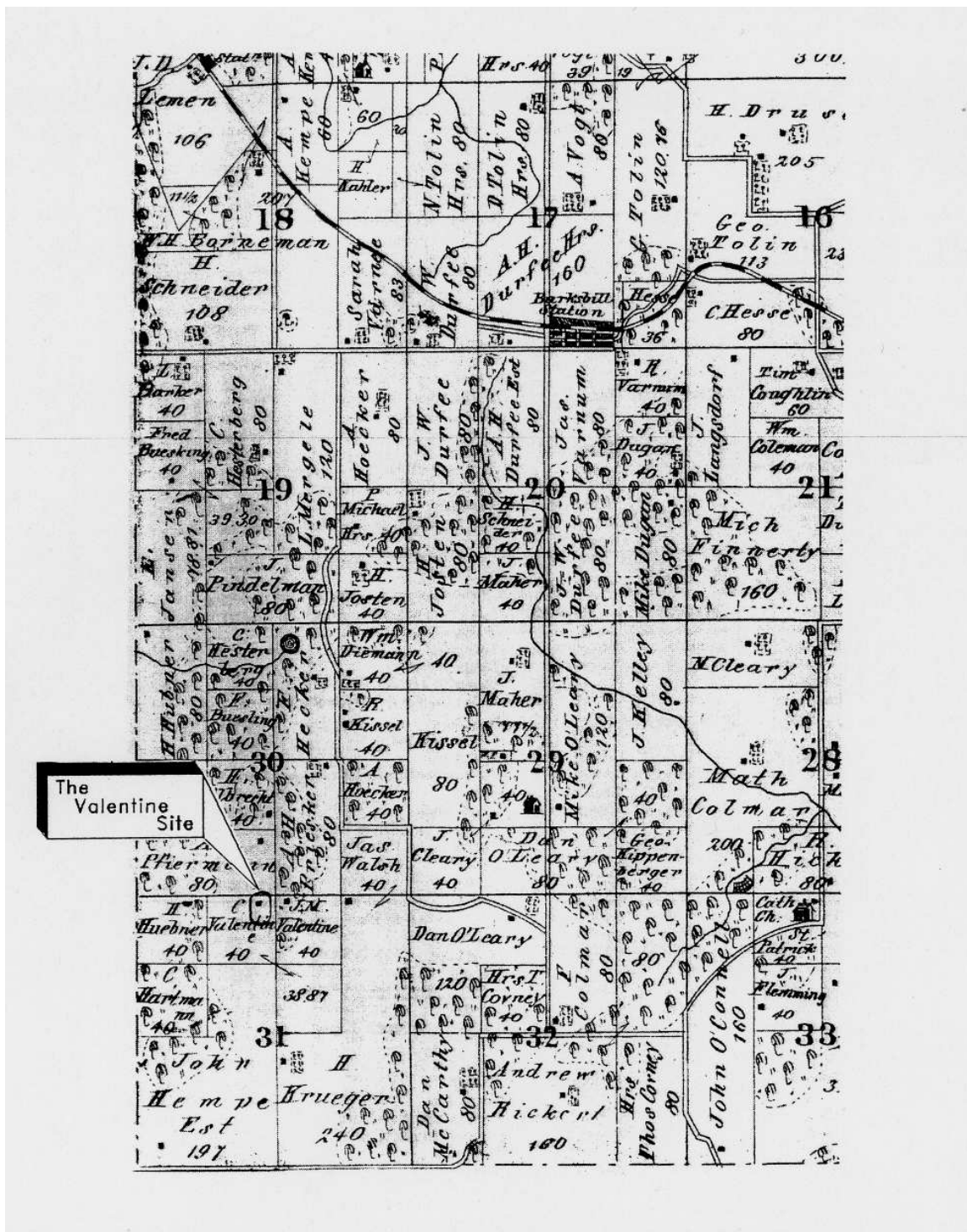


Figure 3. County wide sectional map of Monroe County, Illinois, ca. 1875 (Brink and Company 1875).



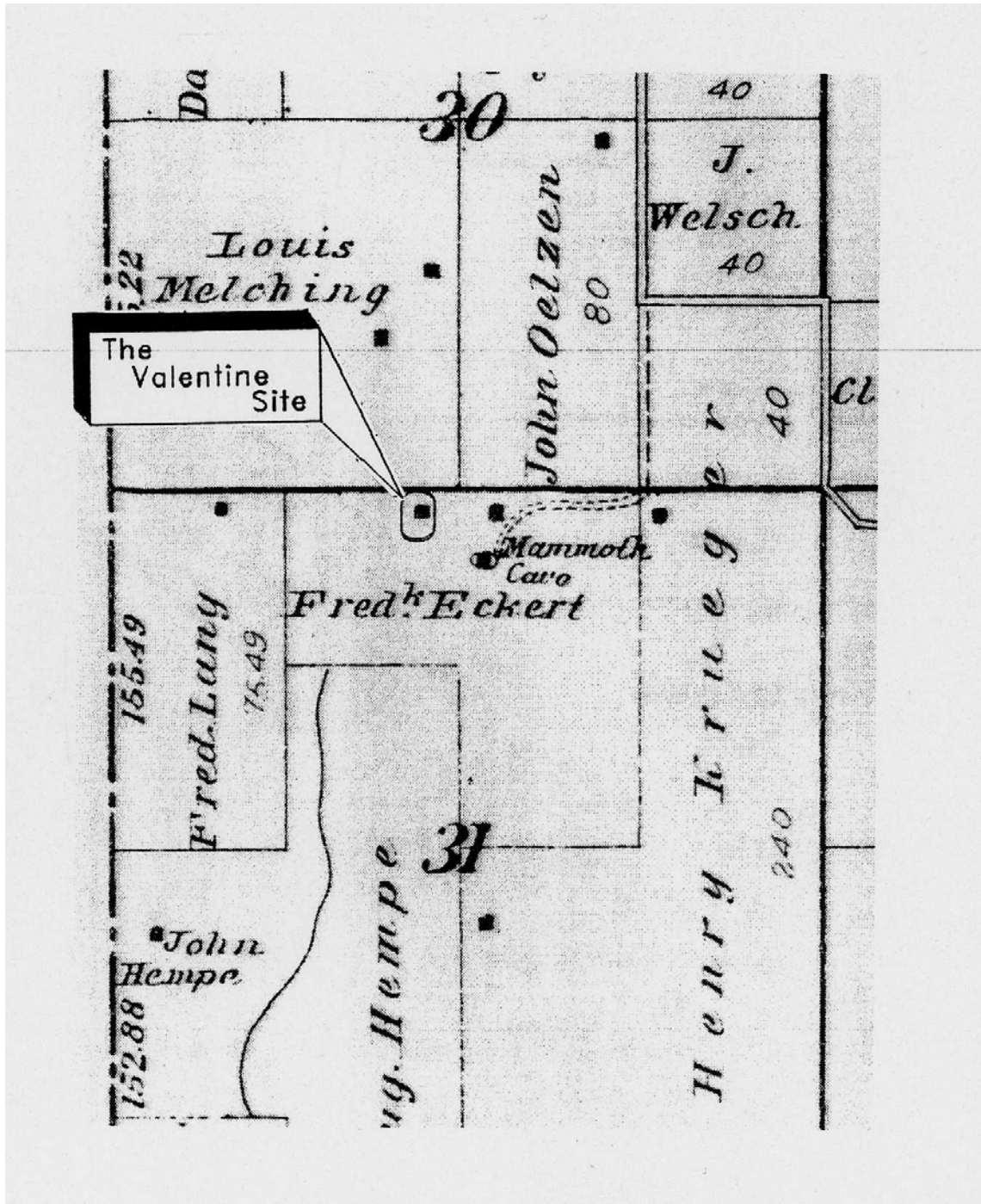


Figure 5. Location of the Valentine Site in Section 31 in New Design Township in 1901 (Ogle 1901:27).

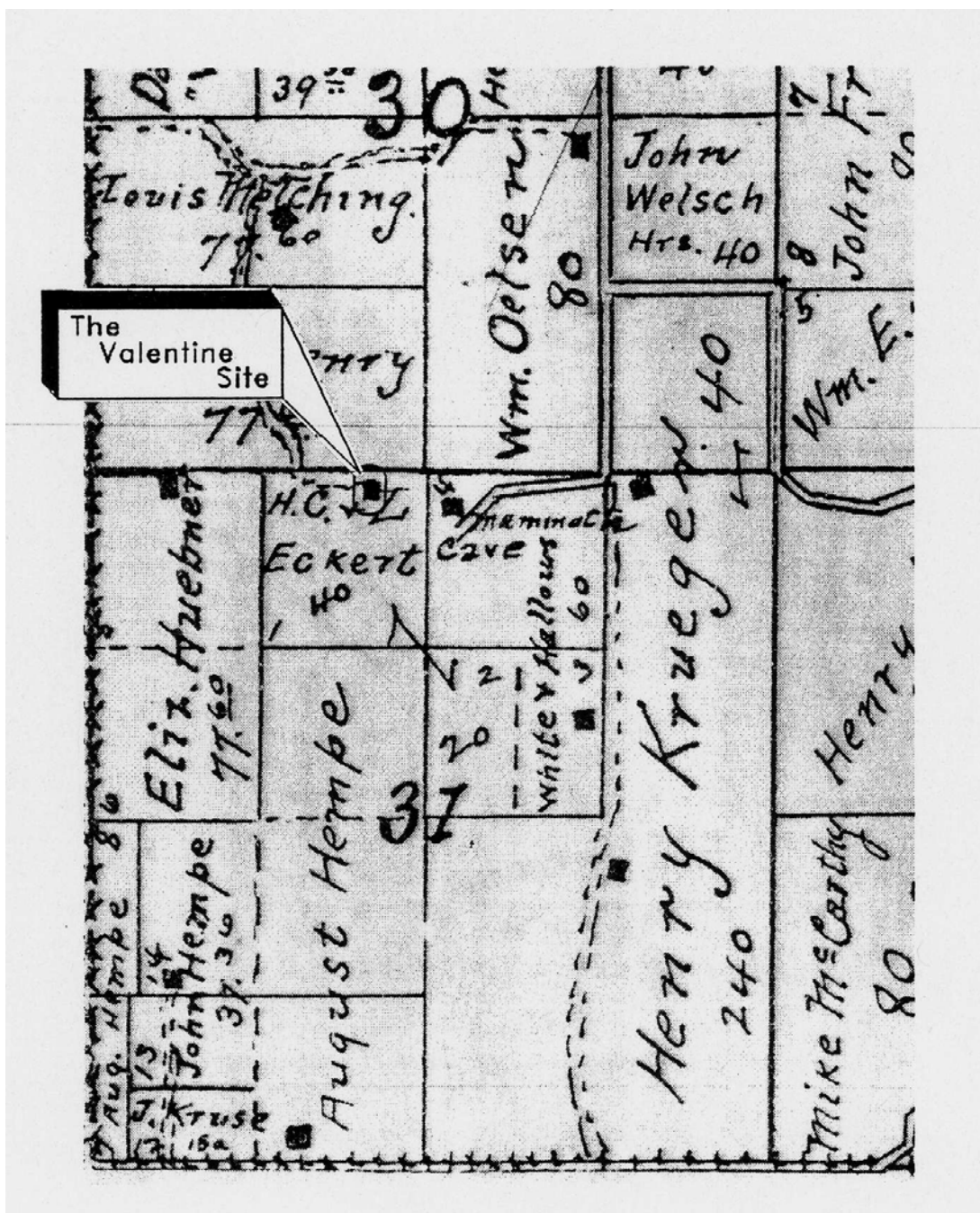


Figure 6. Location of the Valentine Site in Section 31 in New Design Township in 1916 (Centennial Alton Company 1916:29).

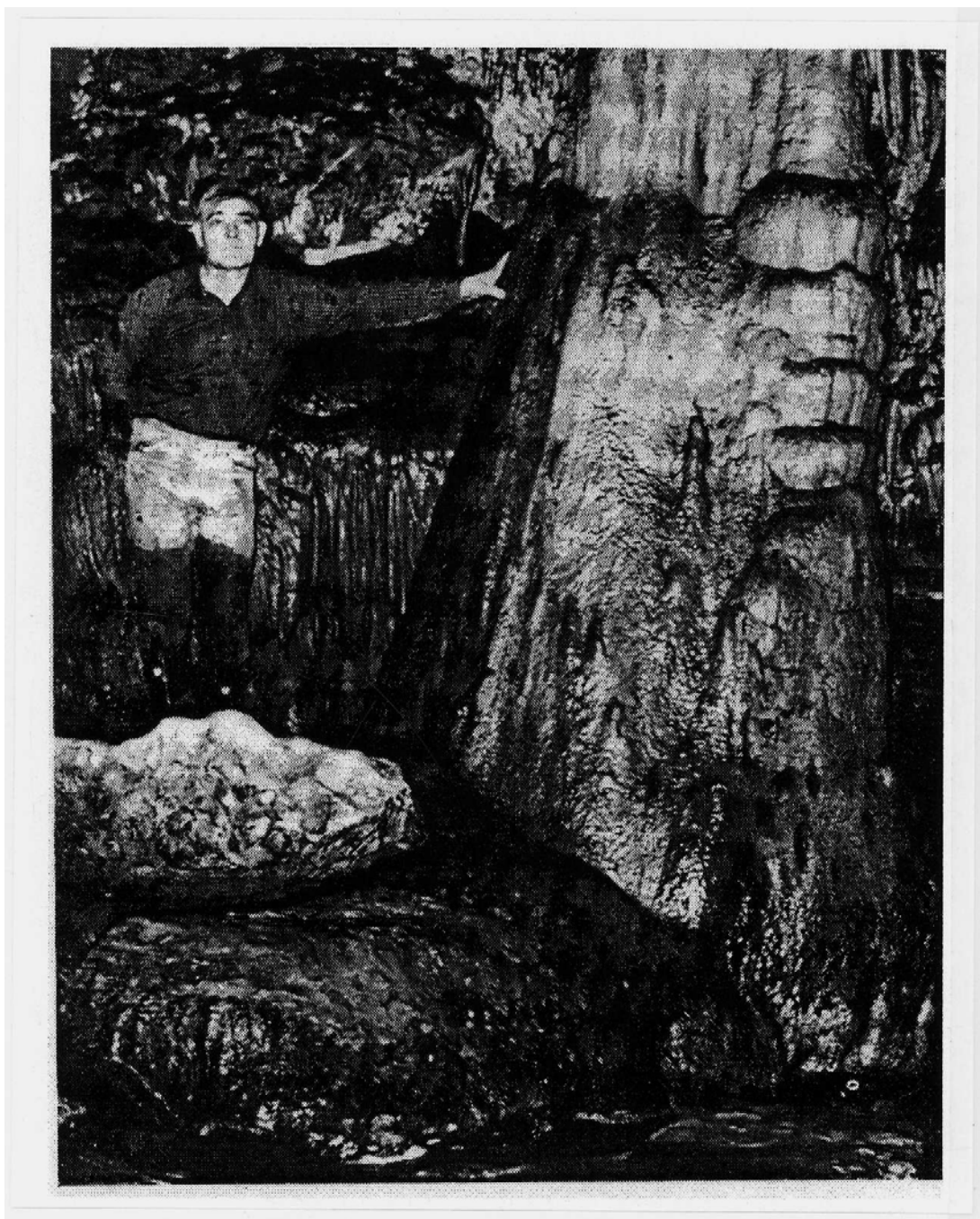


Figure 7. Photograph of Mr. Armin Krueger inside the cave complex, ca. 1967 (Klein 1967).

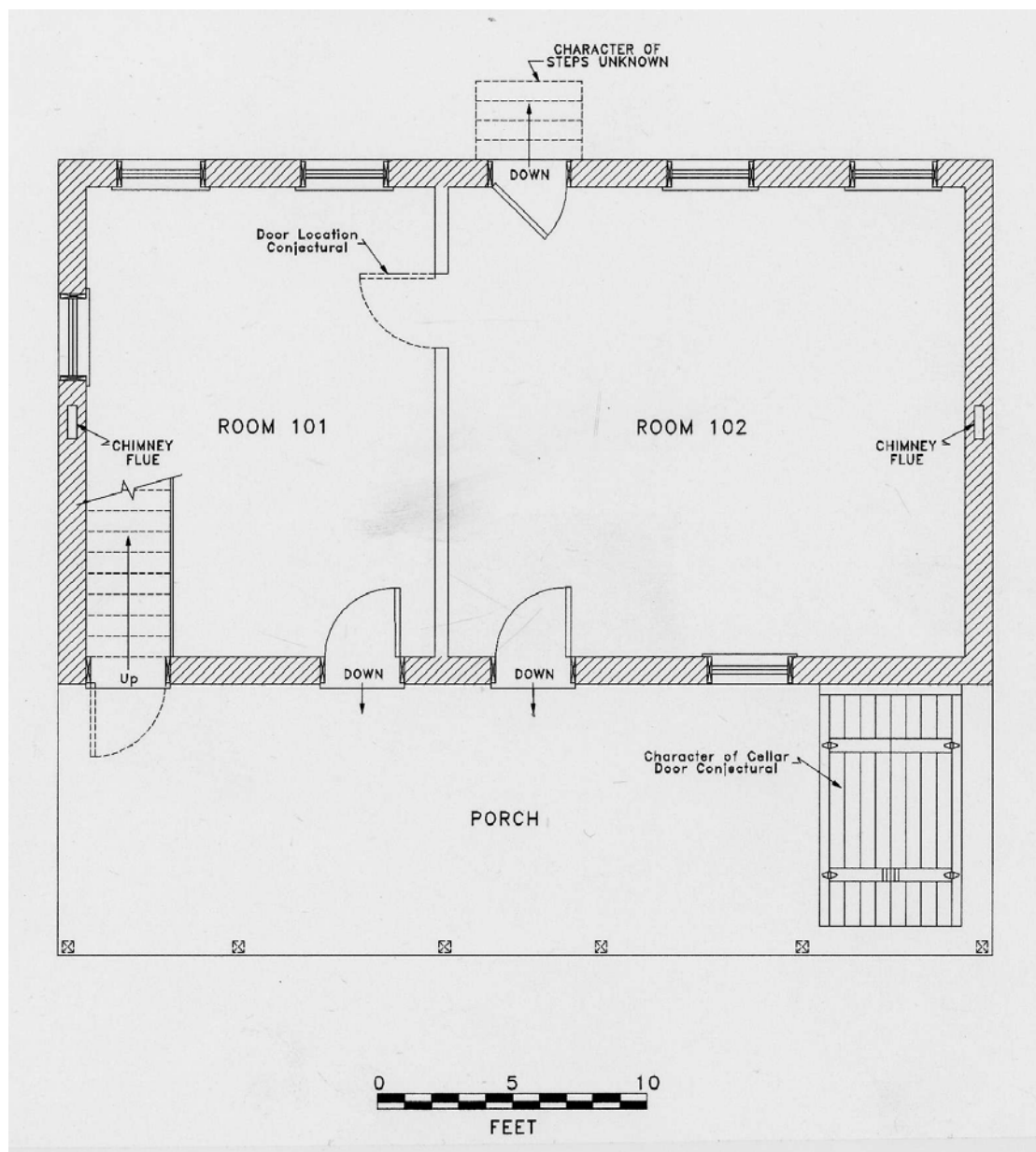


Figure 8. First floor plan of the Valentine House as originally constructed (ca. 1855).

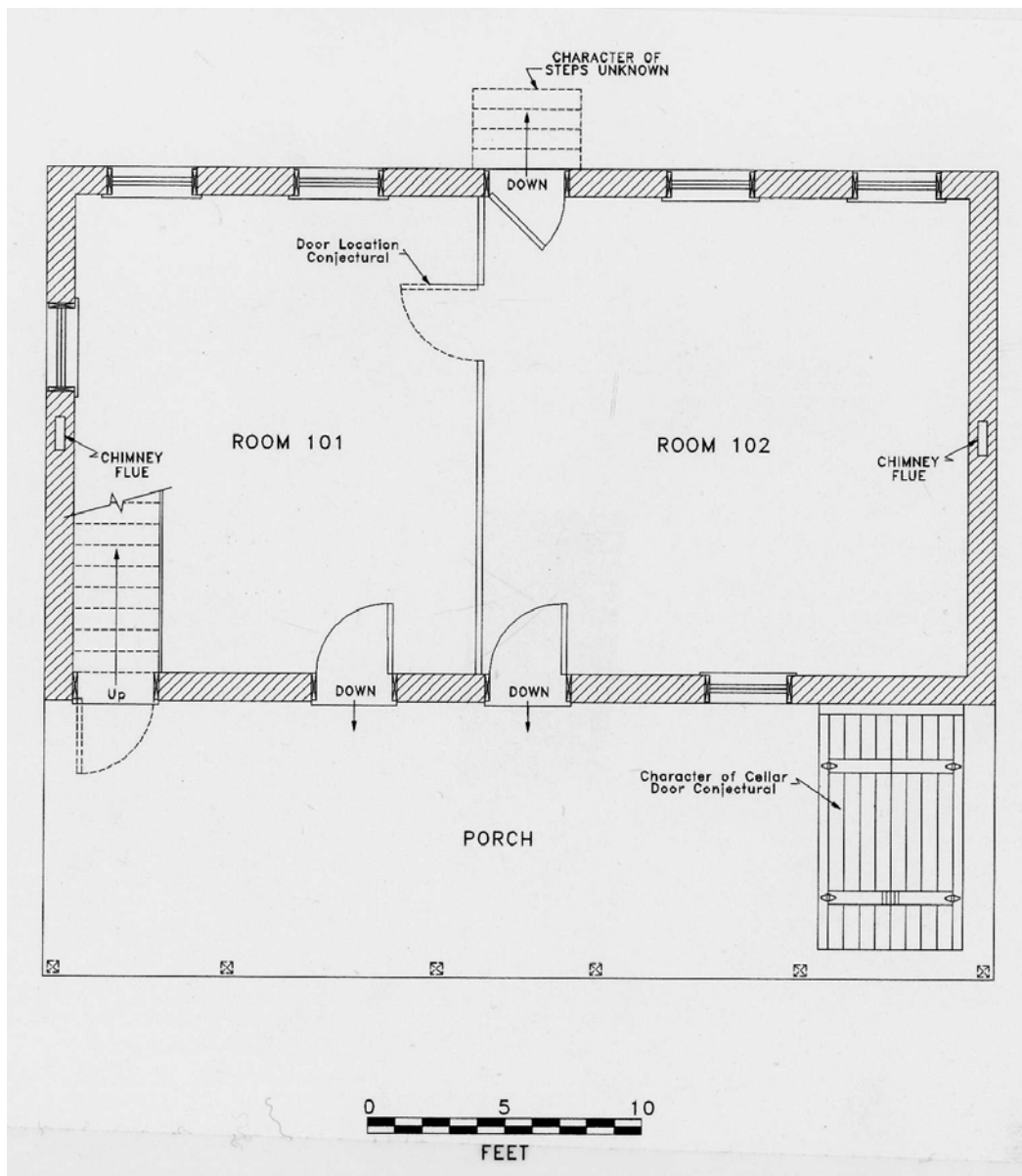


Figure 9. First floor plan of the Valentine House, showing alteration to partition wall (ca. 1875).

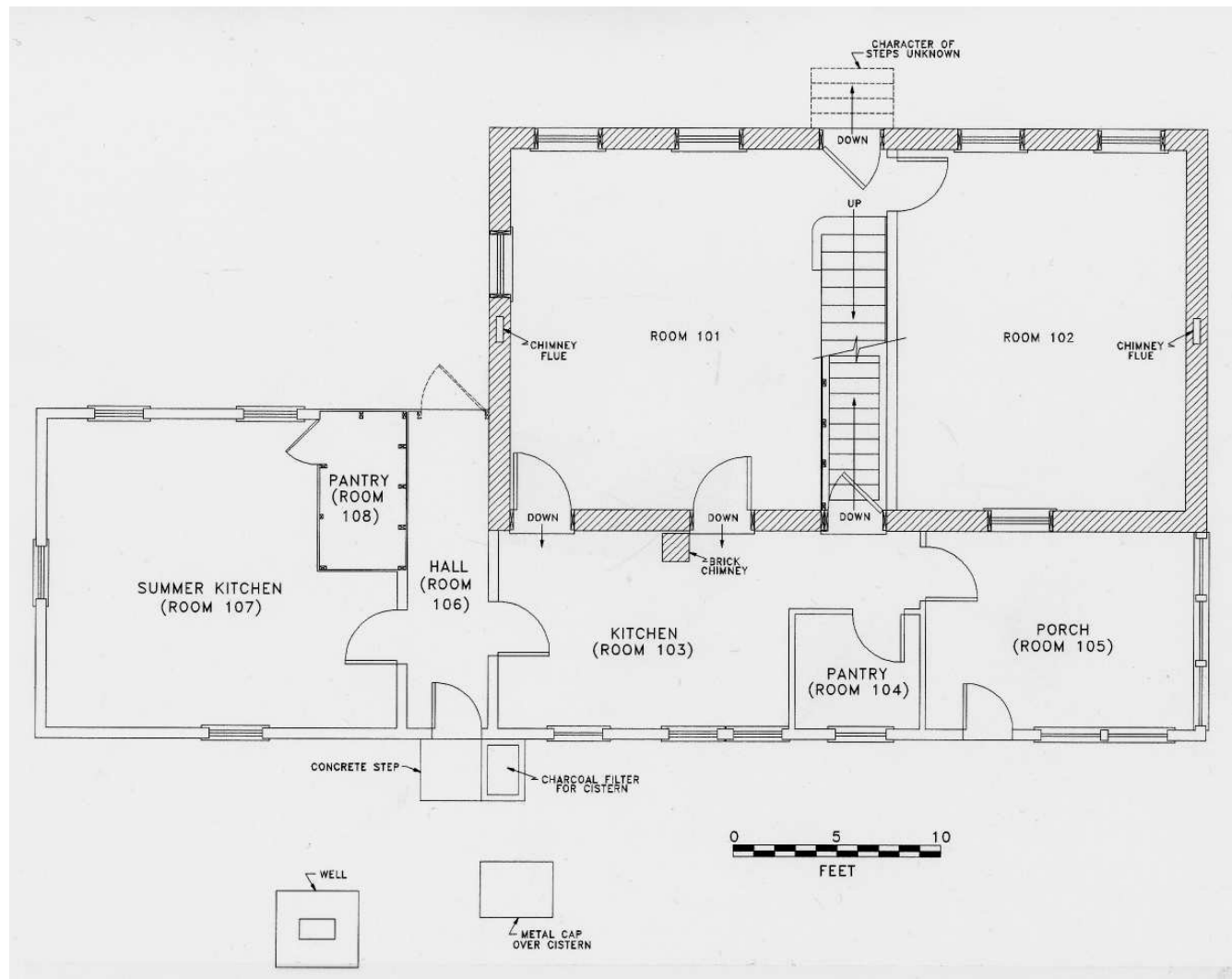


Figure 10. First floor plan of the Valentine House, showing early twentieth century additions (ca. 1925)

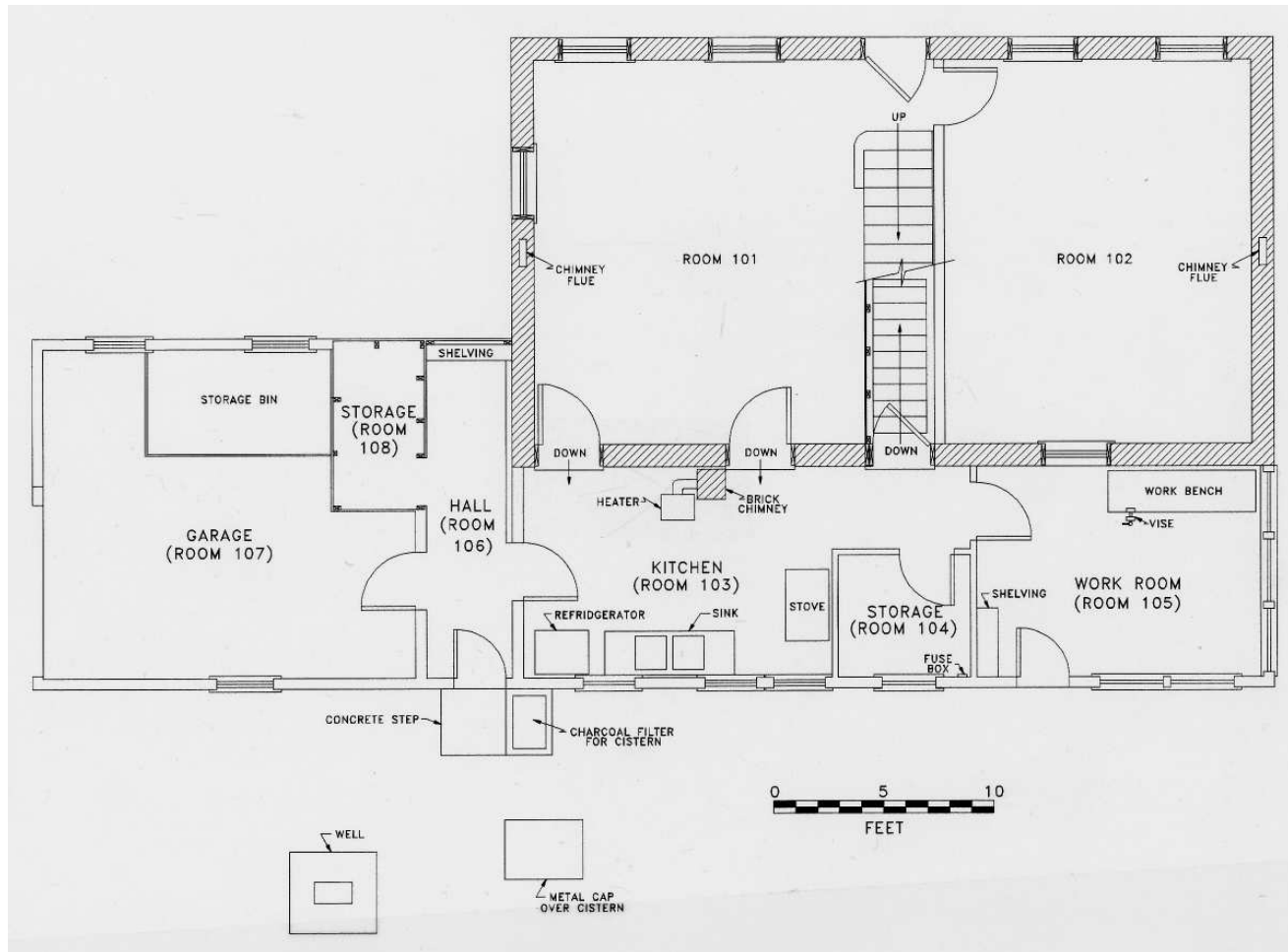


Figure 11. First floor plan of the Valentine House, illustrating present condition.

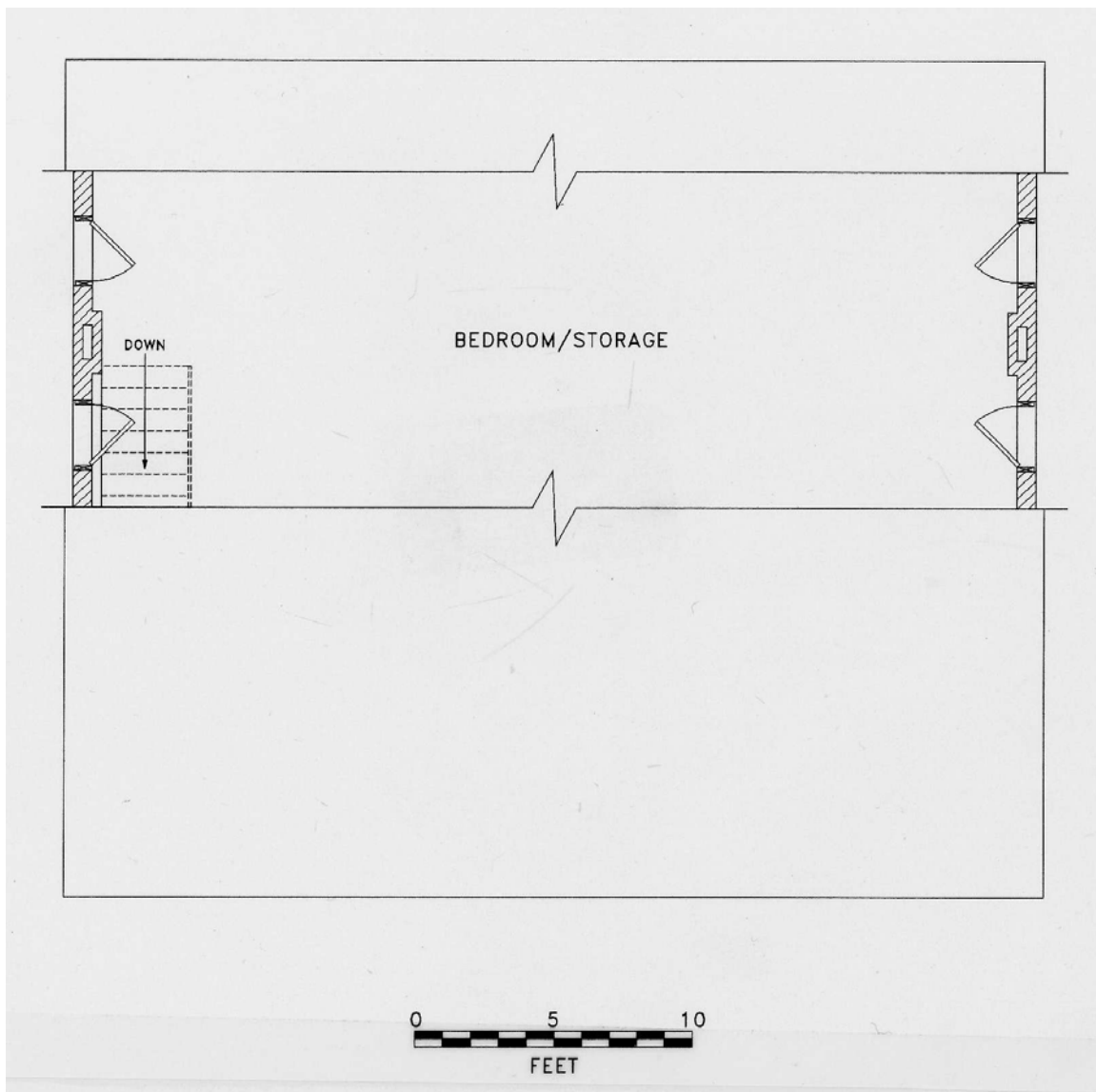


Figure 12. Second floor plan of the Valentine House as originally constructed (circa 1855).

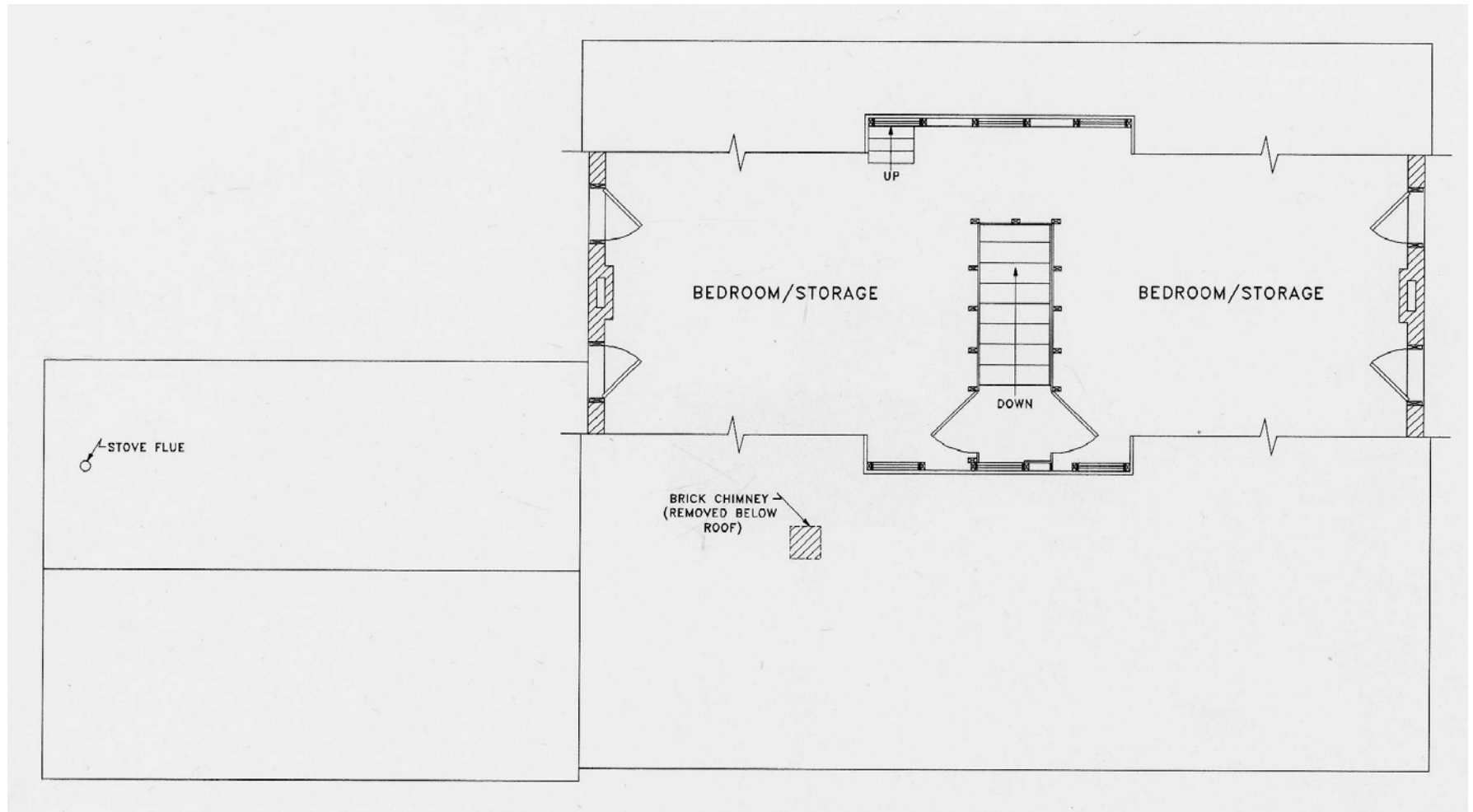


Figure 13. Second floor plan of the Valentine House, showing twentieth century modifications.

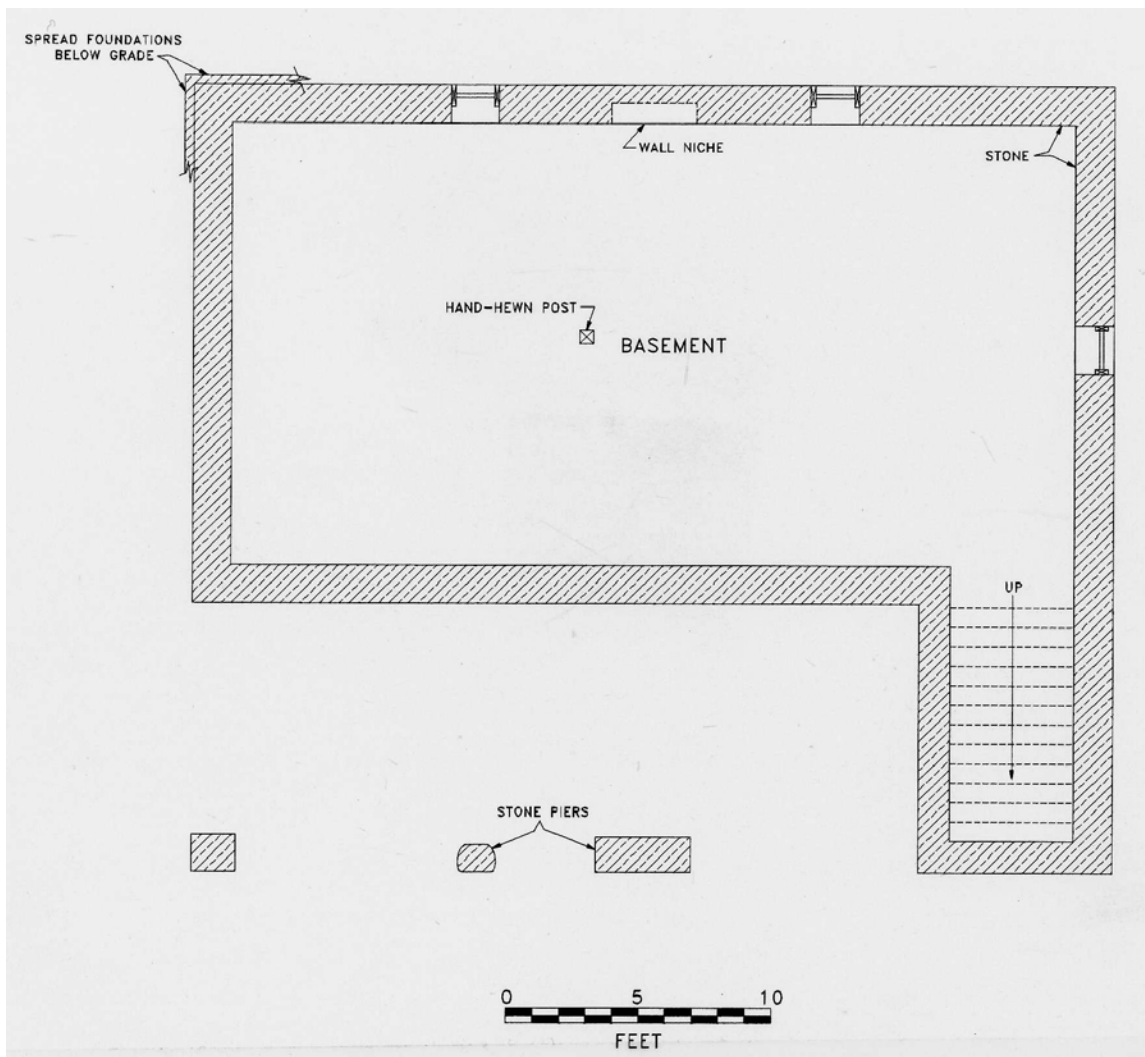


Figure 14. Basement and foundation plan of the Valentine House as originally constructed.

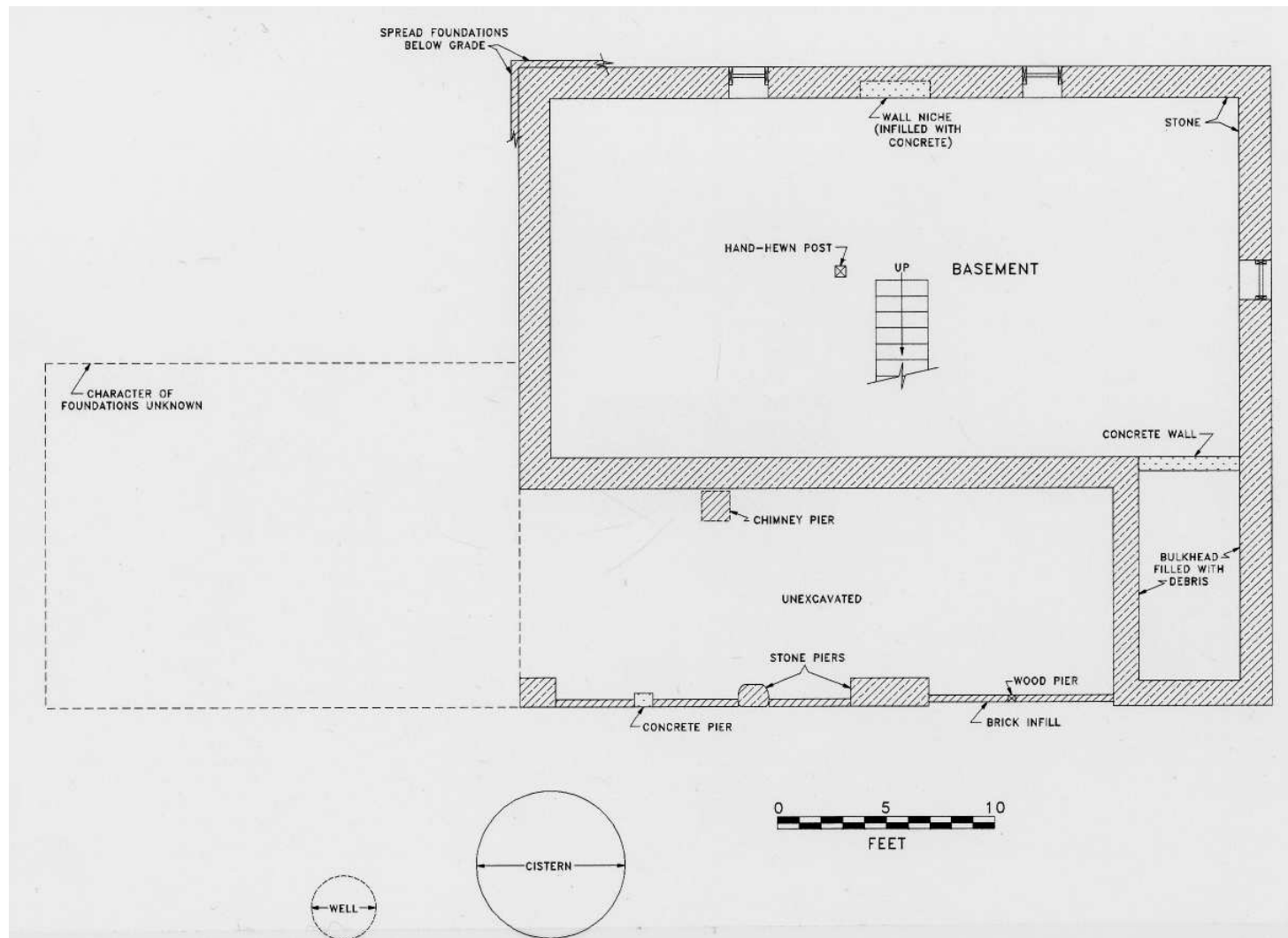


Figure 15. Basement and foundation plan of the Valentine House, illustrating present condition.

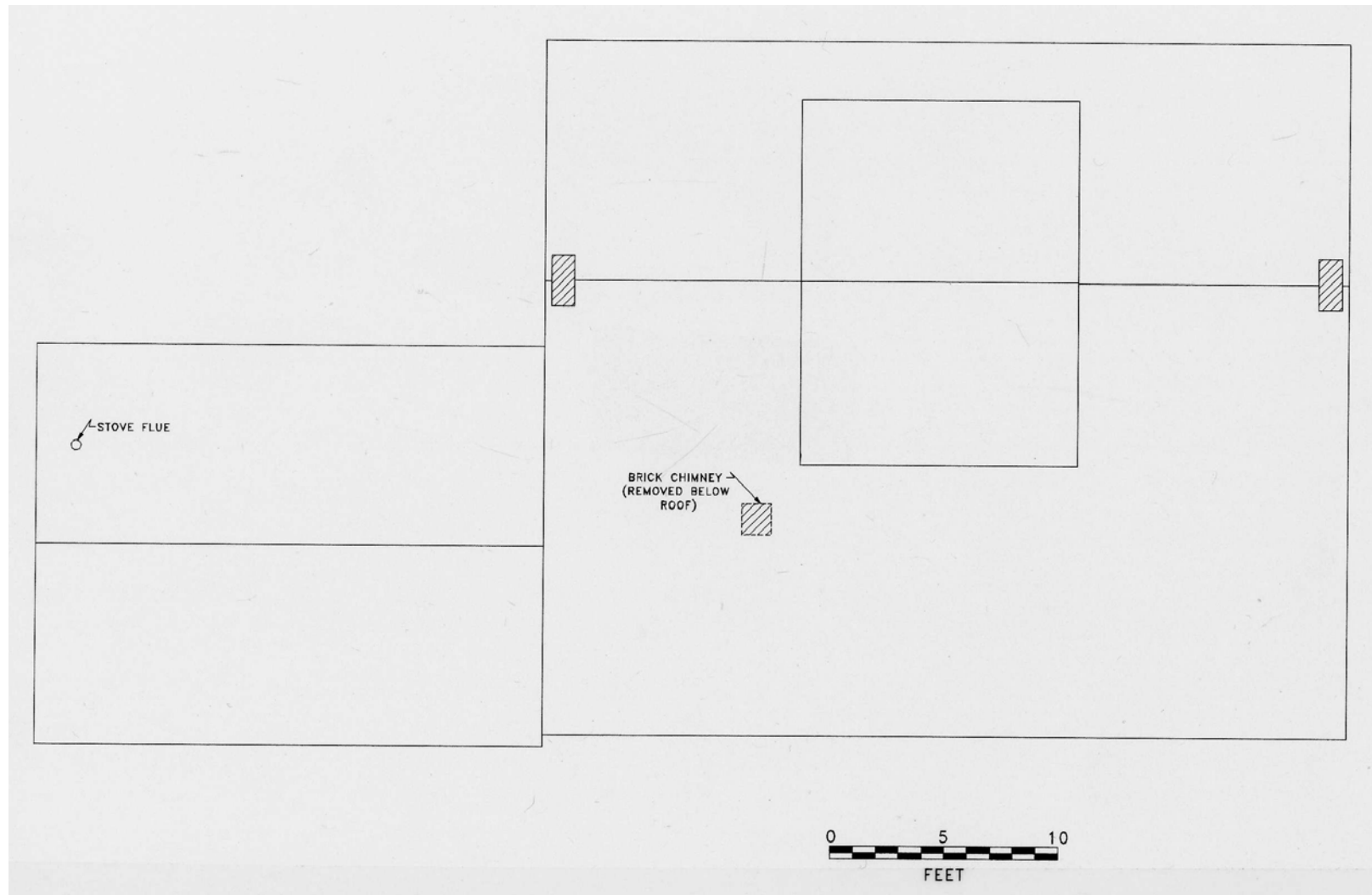


Figure 16. Roof plan of the Valentine House.

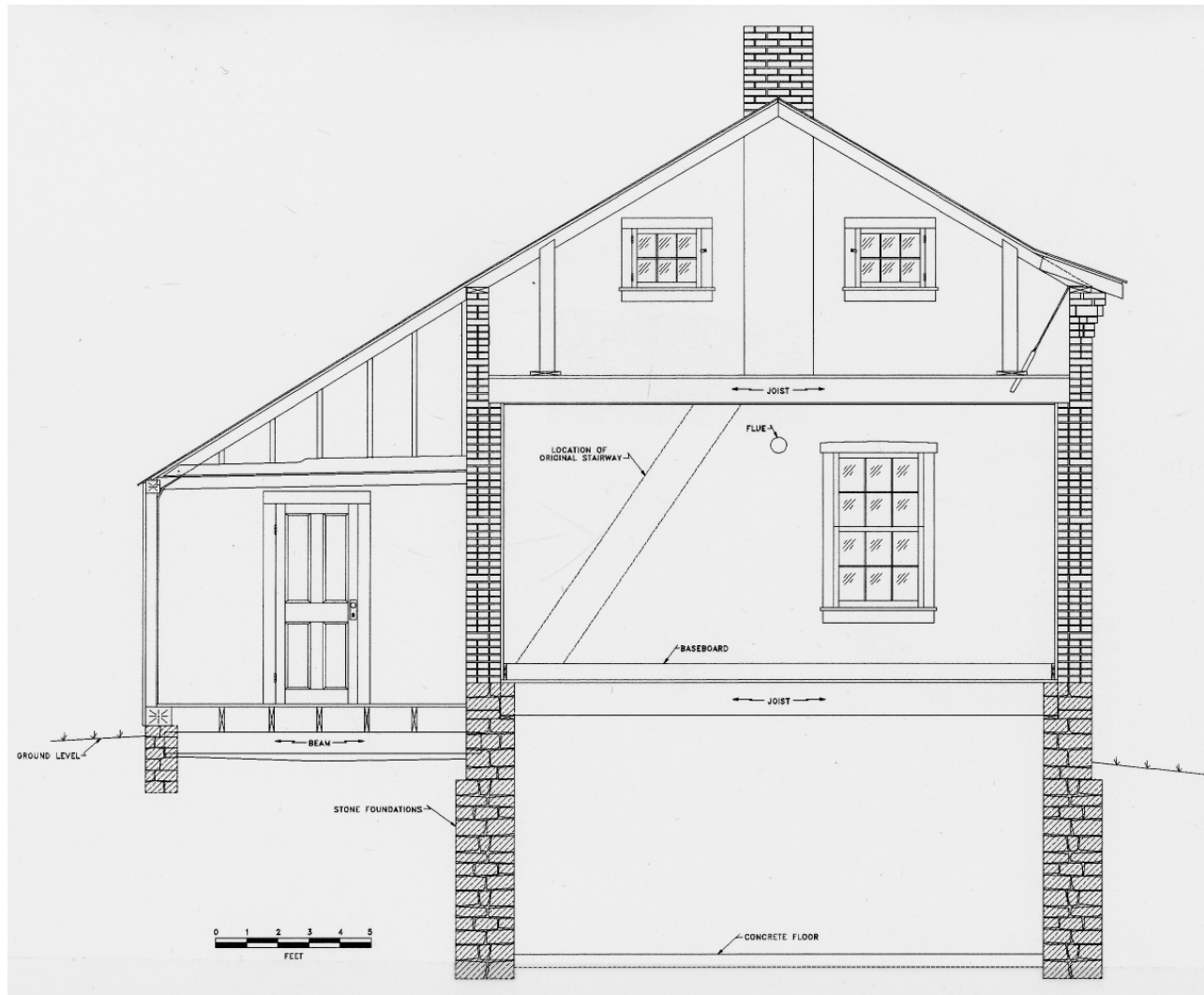


Figure 17. Sectional view of the Valentine House, showing west gable-end wall.

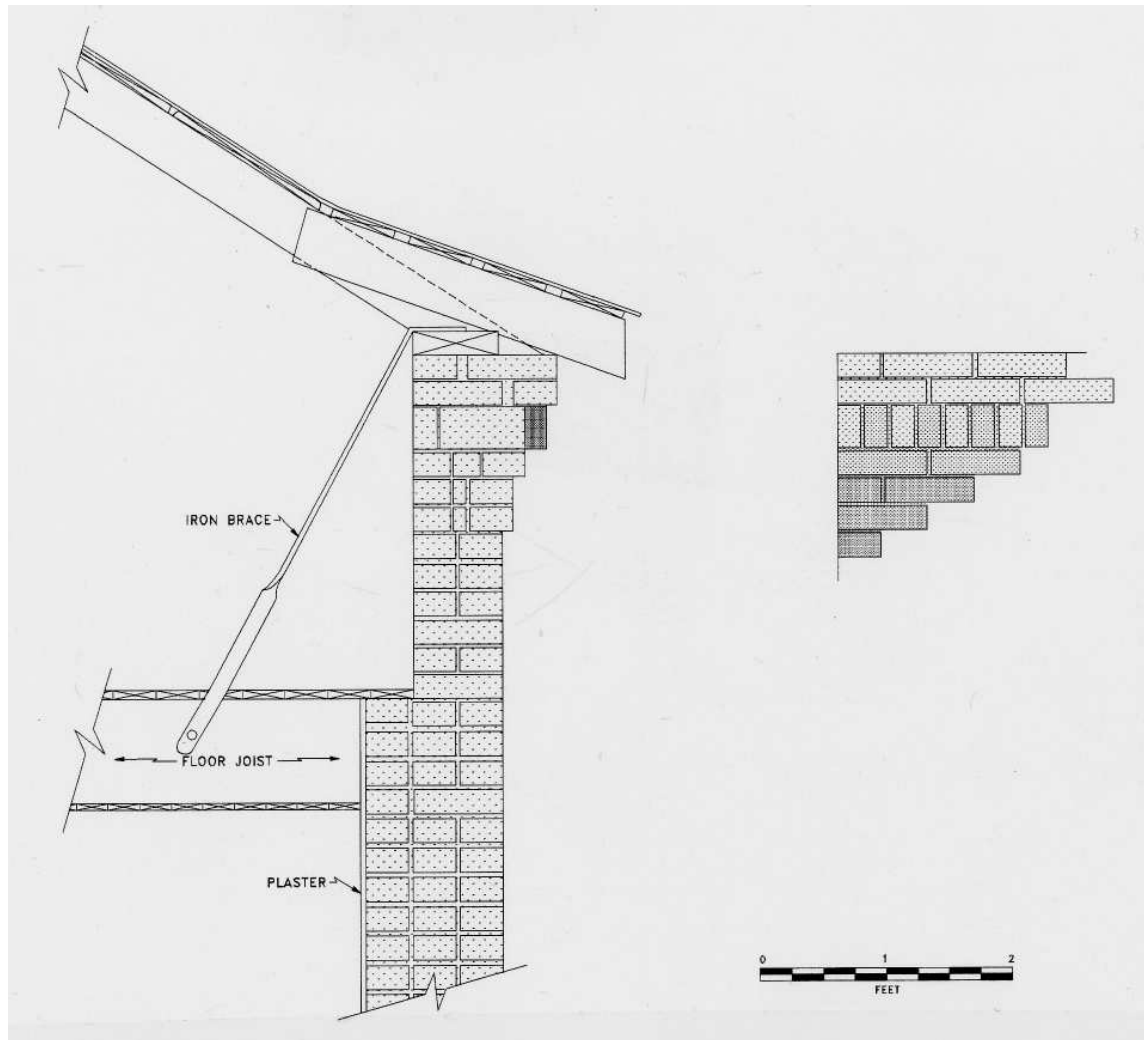


Figure 18. Detail of the north cornice of the Valentine House.

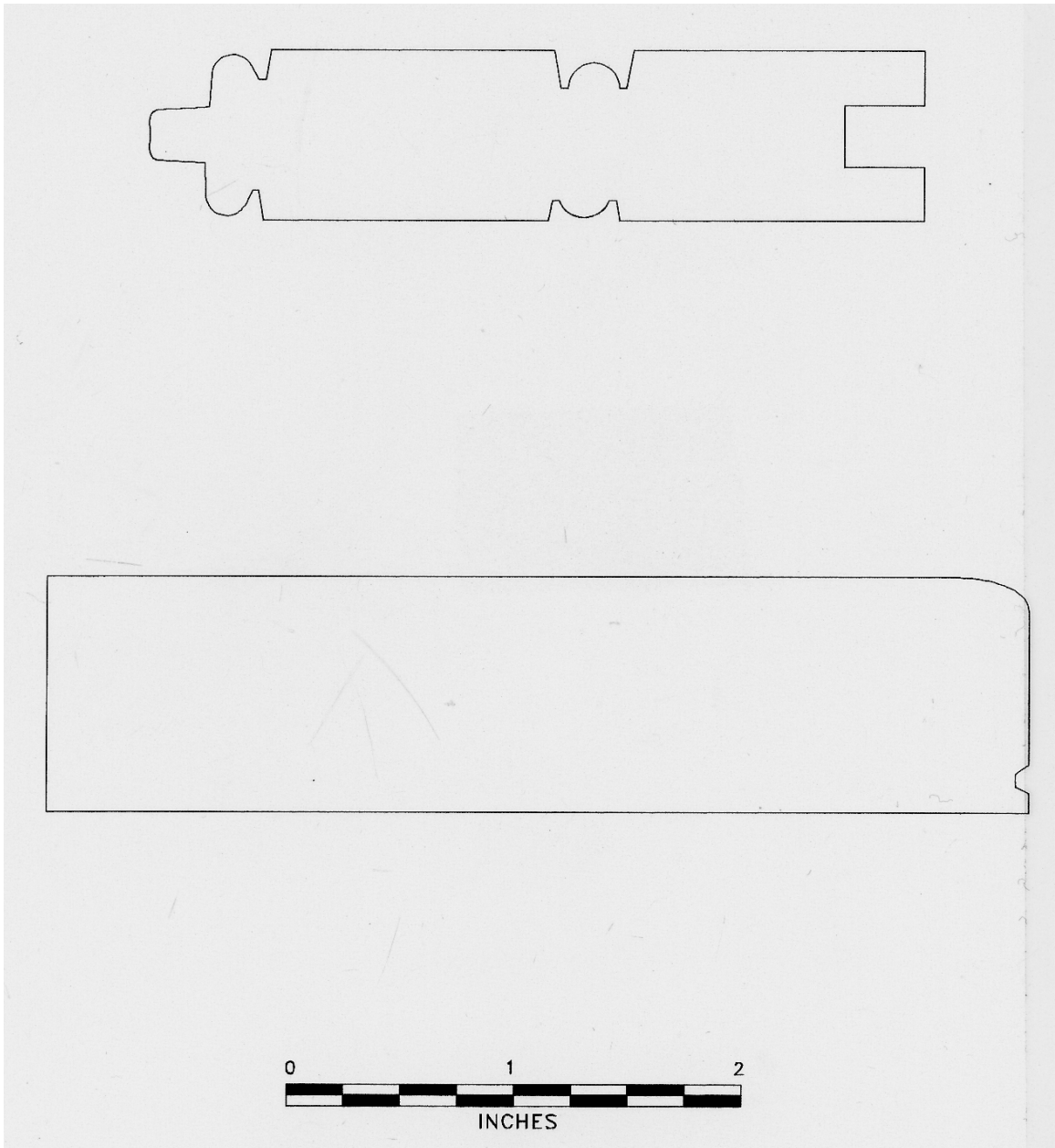


Figure 19. Trim samples from the Valentine House. TOP: Yellow pine beadboard used to finish walls and ceilings in the early twentieth century. BELOW: Original white pine window trim.



Figure 20. Two views of the Valentine House. Top: looking southeast. Bottom: looking northeast.



Figure 21. Front elevation of the Valentine House.



Figure 22. Valentine House. Top: north elevation. Bottom: View of south elevation.



Figure 23. Two views of the Valentine House summer kitchen. Top: looking northeast. Bottom: looking northwest.



Figure 24. Valentine House foundation detail. Note the use of both limestone and sandstone.



Figure 25. Valentine House door and window detail.



Figure 26. Cornice and eave detail at the Valentine House.



Figure 27. Interior details illustrating the original stairway leading from the rear porch. Note the evidence of the plank wall in the plaster above the door and in the ceiling above. Also note the ghost of the stringers along the back wall.



Figure 28. Detail of the original ceiling finish on the lower story. Note the multiple coats of whitewash on both the joists and the underside of the upper floor.



Figure 29. Two views of the Valentine Barn



Figure 30. The Valentine Barn.



Figure 31. Frame Privy at the Valentine Site.



Figure 32. The Chicken Shed at the Valentine Site.

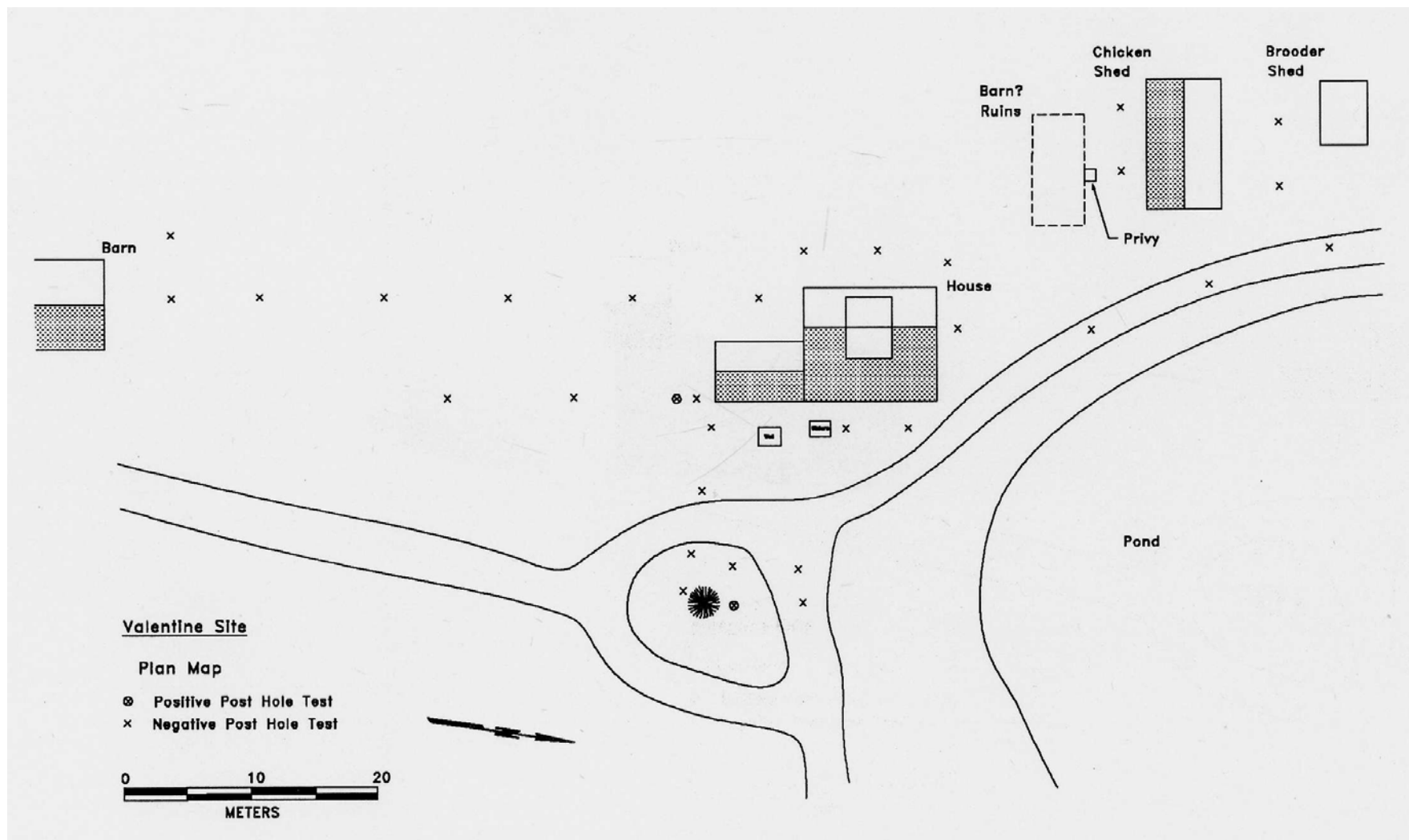


Figure 33. Posthole Testing Plan, Valentine Site.

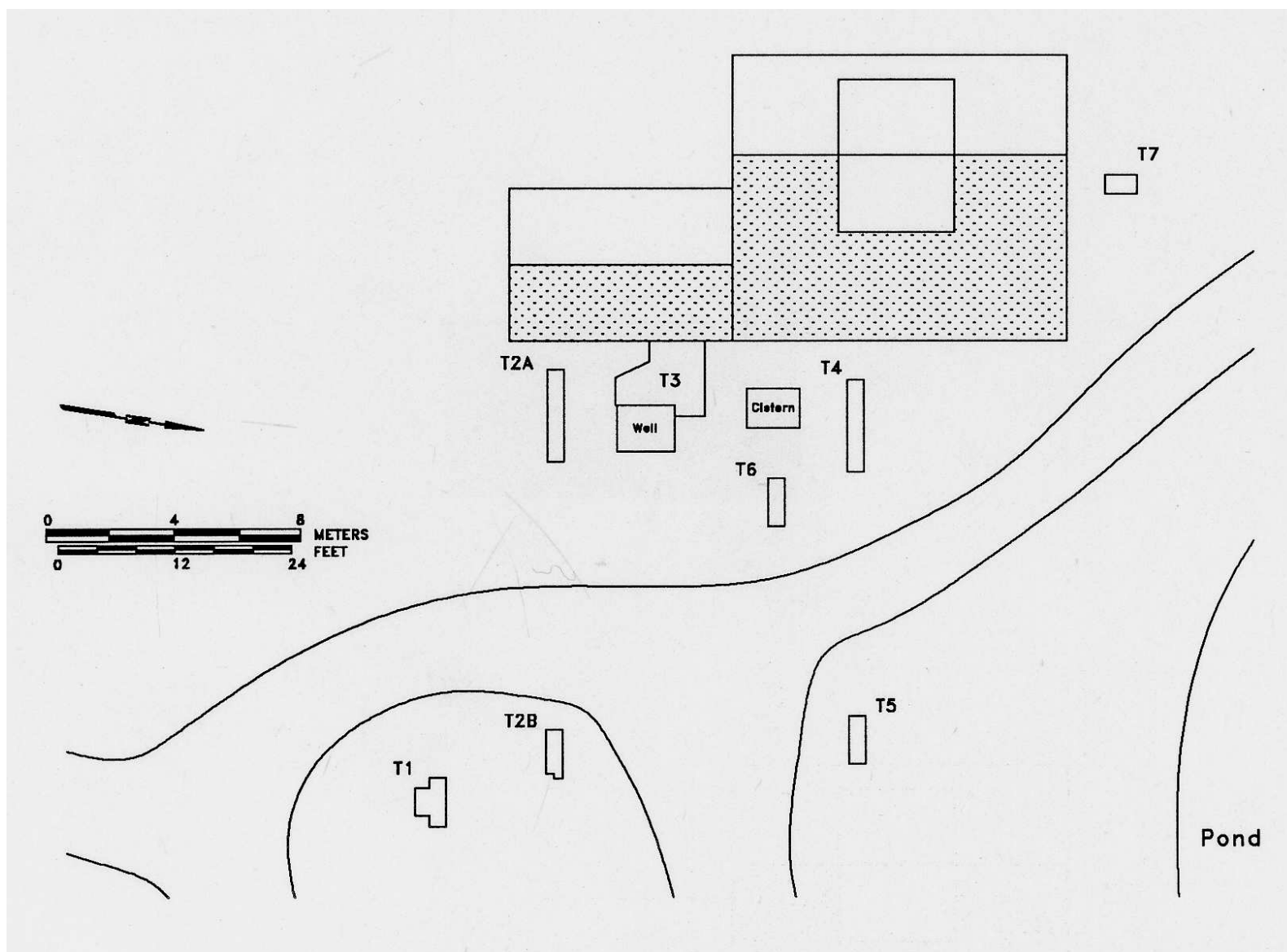


Figure 34. Test Trench Plan, Valentine Site.



Figure 35. Stone pavement uncovered around the cistern and well adjacent to the rear entrance of the Valentine House. This pavement appears to be twentieth century in age.

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1870 Agricultural Schedule of Monroe County, Illinois.

1880 Agricultural Schedule of Monroe County, Illinois.

1860 Population Schedule of Monroe County, Illinois.

1870 Population Schedule of Monroe County, Illinois.

1880 Population Schedule of Monroe County, Illinois.

Appendix I Lot Provenience

Lot #	Provenience
1	Post Hole Test 6
2	Post Hole Test 30
3	Test trench 1A
4	Test trench 2A
5	Test trench 2B
6	Test trench 3, surface
7	Test trench 3, 0-20 cm below surface
8	Test trench 4, 0-20 cm below surface
9	Test trench 4, 15-20 cm below surface, under stones
10	Test trench 5, 0-25 cm below surface
11	Test trench 6, general

Appendix II Lot Inventories

Lot 1

3 albany slip interior/ unglazed exterior stoneware crock
1 window glass fragment, clear
1 machine cut nail, 1 ¼" long
1 wire nail fragment
1 piece of coal

Lot 2

1 machine cut nail fragment

Lot 3

1 albany slip interior/exterior stoneware jar
1 piece of lime
1 juvenile articulating bone surface, small mammal
1 pin 3 ¾" long by ½" diameter, use undetermined

Lot 4

1 light blue transfer printed ironstone
4 undecorated white ironstone
1 wire nail, 2 ¼" long

Lot 5

- 1 machine cut nail, 2 ½" long
- 1 machine cut nail fragment
- 1 wire nail, 2" long
- 1 threaded chair skid, 1" diameter
- 2 long bird bone fragments

Lot 6

- 2 undecorated white ironstone
- 1 wood handled knife (sans tip), 7" long, full shank, 2 rivets

Lot 7

- 2 undecorated whiteware
- 6 undecorated white ironstone
- 1 machine-made clear glass bottle finish
- 1 window glass, thick aqua
- 1 bolt with nut, 2 ¾" long, 3/8" diameter, square nut
- 2 brown glass bottle fragments
- 2 aqua bottle glass fragments
- 14 clear bottle glass fragments
- 1 tin can base fragment
- 5 wire nail fragments
- 4 wire nails, 2 ½" long
- 1 wire nail, 3" long
- 1 brass loop-shank button
- 1 rim fire 22-caliber casing
- 1 piece of lime

Lot8

- 1 polychrome hand-painted whiteware
- 1 polychrome hand-painted ironstone
- 2 undecorated white ironstone

Lot 9

- 1 bolt or pin, 6"long x ½" diameter
- 2 undecorated white ironstone, cup?

Lot 10

- 1 undecorated white ironstone
- 1 undecorated porcelain bowl fragment
- 1 window glass, clear
- 1 carriage bolt, 2 ¾" long
- 1 machine cut nail, 2" long
- 1 machine cut nail, 2 ½ long"
- 5 wire nails, 2 ½" long

- 1 wire nail, 4" long
- 1 brick fragment, soft-mud variety

Lot 11

- 3 bone fragments, mammal
- 1 wire nail, 1 1/4" long
- 1 glass jar base (canning?), aqua, "PAT NOV 20 67/ 51"