

House (Tract. #6300)

HABS No. MO-1237

.3 miles north of Route 82, 2 miles east of Roscoe  
Roscoe Vicinity  
St. Clair County  
Missouri

HABS.  
MO.  
93-ROSC.V.,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

ADDENDUM  
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20243

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. MO-1237

## HOUSE (Tract #6300)

Location: East side of unnamed road 0.3 miles north of its intersection with route 82 approximately 2 miles east of Roscoe, Roscoe Vicinity, St. Clair County, Missouri.

USGS Roscoe Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 15.432473.4203669.

Present Owner: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: This double house is very unusual. The older rear portion is a good example of a two story saddlebag house. The one story newer portion at the front is unlike any other house in the survey: it has a stone wood-burning fireplace at the eastern end, very tall ceilings, and a gable roof that covers the recessed porch in an unbroken line.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

Condition of fabric: The house has been vacant for several years. The older portion has deteriorated to the point of being unsafe. The newer portion is in relatively good shape, with doors and windows still intact.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The front portion is a one-story house with a seven-bay front, 45'-7" wide, by 39'-10" deep. The rear portion is a two-story house with a four-bay front, 34'-7" wide by 15'-2" deep.
2. Foundations: Random coursed ashlar sandstone set directly on bedrock outcropping. The mortar joints in the newer foundation have a convex bead.
3. Wall construction: Horizontal wood siding over balloon frame.

2. Foundations: Random coursed ashlar sandstone set directly on bedrock outcropping. The mortar joints in the newer foundation have a convex head.
3. Wall construction: Horizontal wood siding over balloon frame.
4. Structural system, framing: Balloon framing.
5. Porches: The rear building has a wooden porch with hipped roof across all four bays of the south elevation. The rear porch has collapsed and been removed. The front building has a wooden porch recessed under the gable roof on the south facade. This porch continues around to the west facade where it is covered by a pent roof. Both porches seem to have been built at the same time. They both have solid walls about 3' high, with openings above that originally were screened.
6. Chimneys: A centrally located brick stove chimney served all four rooms of the rear building. The exterior end chimney at the east gable end of the front building is stone with mortar joints crudely repointed. The front building also has a brick stove chimney on the east wall of the northwest room.
7. Openings: The door and window frames on the south elevation of the rear building have cyma recta moldings in the lintels. Other openings in the rear house and all the openings in the front house have no elaboration.
  - a. Doorways and doors: The rear house has two door types: The first has four vertical rectangular panels, the upper two slightly longer than the lower two; the second has a square glazed opening over three horizontal rectangular panels. The front house also has two door types: The first has a four-paned glass panel over two vertical rectangular panels; the second type has a square glass panel in the upper part of the door with two square panels directly above and two directly below, and two horizontal rectangular panels at the bottom of the door.
  - b. Windows: Windows in the rear house have four-over-four light double hung wood sashes. The front house has two-over-two light double hung wood sashes.
8. Roof: The roof of the rear house is gable covered with corrugated sheet metal. The roof of the front house is gable with a pent roof over the porch on the west side. Two rooms at the rear of the front house have a shed roof with a shallower slope. The roof of the front house has green asphalt shingles over wood shingles.

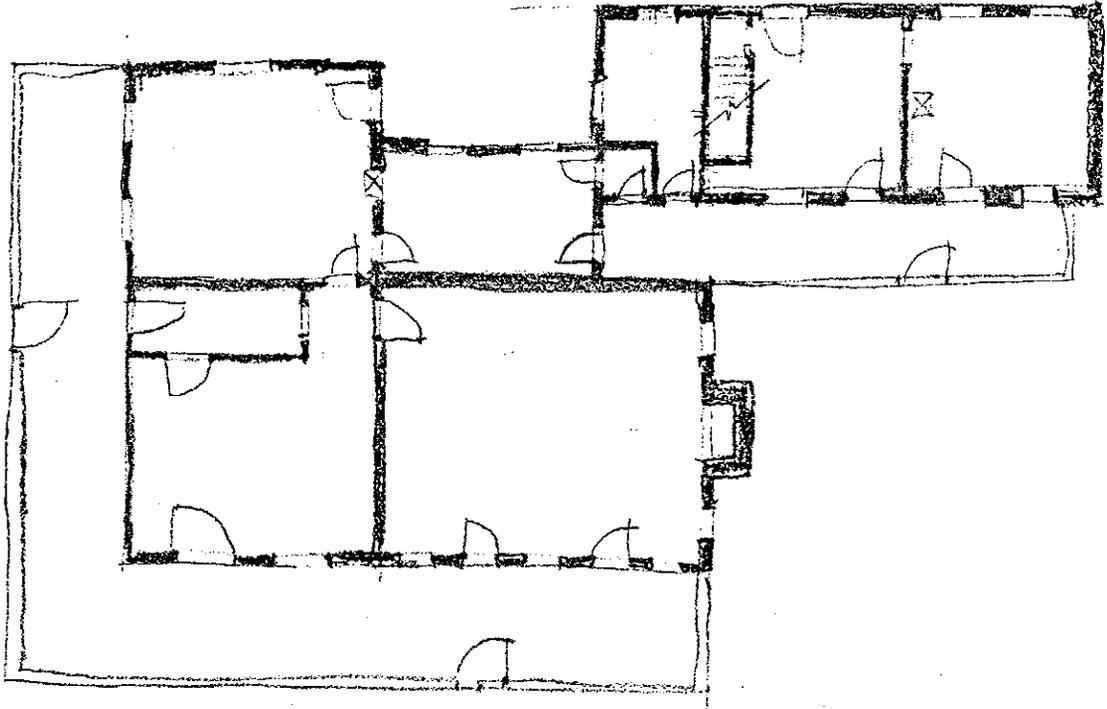
B. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: This house is comprised of two houses set with corners touching and connected by a porch. The rear house is a two story saddlebag and is the earlier of the two. Two front doors open off of a porch across the front into the two front rooms. At the second level are two rooms separated by a plank partition bearing the central brick chimney. The porch across the front of the house leads into the rear northeast corner of the later front house. A small storage room is appended to the west side of the older house on the north side of this porch/corridor. The newer front house is surrounded on its south and west sides by a recessed screened porch. This house is basically two large rooms under a gable roof with two smaller rooms under a shed roof at the rear. The west porch and the rooms under the shed roof seem to be a later addition, as is the porch across the front of the older rear house.
2. Stairway: The stairway in the rear house, enclosed by walls on both sides, is located on the west side of the west room. The doorway at the north wall leads to three winders, and the stair continues along the west wall to the second floor. There is a storage closet under the stair.
3. Flooring: 3 1/4" wide tongue-and-groove wood flooring.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The rear house has wallpaper over plaster on wood lath on the walls, and the ceilings are tongue and groove wood. The front house has painted wallpaper over paper board in the front rooms, and painted wallpaper over gypsum board in the rear rooms.

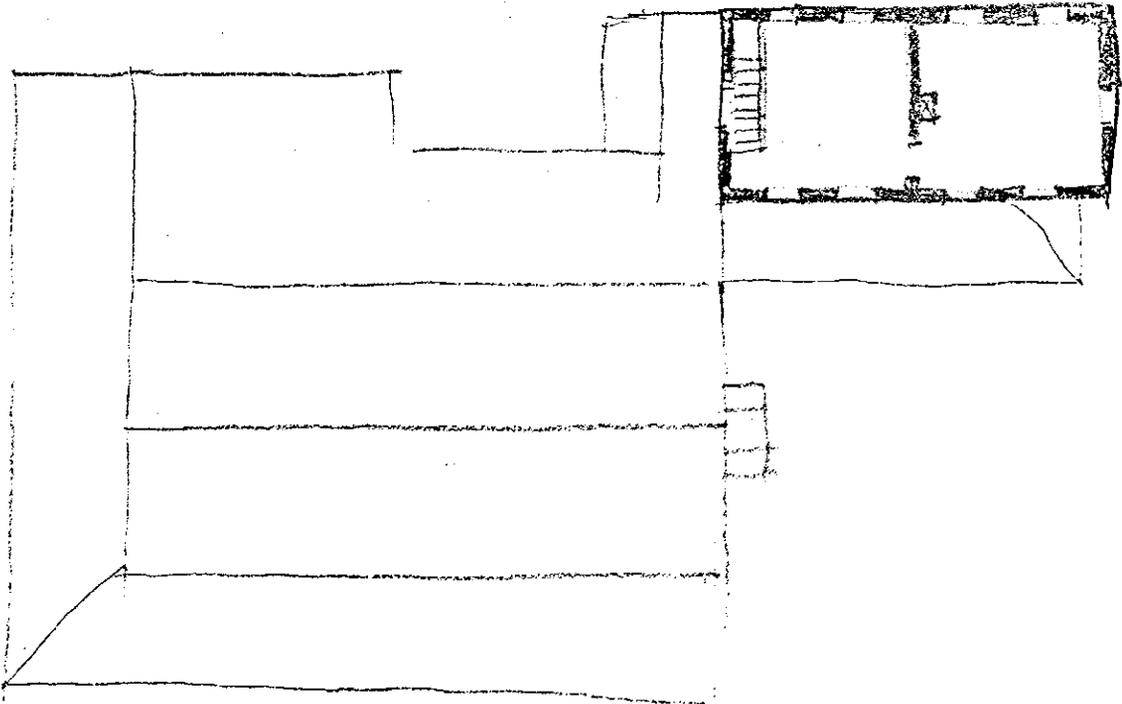
D. Site:

1. General setting: The house, which faces south and sits in the large field, is approached from the south by a private road off of highway 82.
2. Outbuildings: There is a stone vaulted root cellar at the rear of the house dug into bed rock and covered with sod. There is also a tool shed covered with board and batten siding.

Prepared by William Brookover  
Project Supervisor  
Historic American  
Buildings Survey  
Summer 1977



FIRST FLOOR PLAN #6300 (PASLEY ? HOUSE)



SECOND FLOOR PLAN #6300 (PASLEY ? HOUSE)

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.

Addendum to  
House (Tract #6300)  
.3 mis. north of Rte. 82, 2 mis. east of Roscoe  
Roscoe vicinity  
St. Clair County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1237

HABS  
MO,  
ROSCOV,  
1-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ADDENDUM TO:

HOUSE (Tract #6300)

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HABS  
MO,  
93-Roscoe V.,  
1-  
(p.6)

Location: East side of unnamed road 0.3 miles north of its intersection with route 82 approximately 2 miles east of Roscoe, Roscoe vicinity, St. Clair County, Missouri.

A. PHYSICAL HISTORY

1. Date of erection:

The stone chimney was probably part of a cabin which might have been built as early as 1840. The older house would appear to date from 1870-1890 and the newer house circa 1910, but by 1919.

3. Original and subsequent owners:

SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 11 Township 37N Range 26W

Daniel Waldo entered the land 10 April 1843 (113:126); to A.B. Harris 8 March 1860 (H:64); to Waldo P. Johnson 18 December 1868 (N:577). Johnson Land Company (the heirs of Waldo P. Johnson) to Leroy R. Keifer and Jackson Glen Berryhill 25 April 1919 (140:202); to Cris L. Green 1 February 1942 (211:93); to Ralph J. Green 1 November 1942 (211:396); to Clyde M. Pasley 21 March 1950 (231:256).

5. and 6. Original plan, alterations and additions:

The first improvement on this tract was probably a one-room cabin with the stone chimney now part of the newer house. In fact, there is something about the proportions of this house that suggests there might be some logs or heavy timber in its fabric. The next improvement was the two-storey saddlebag house (two rooms on either side of a central chimney), which with its two front doors is typical of its type in the survey area. Totally unexpected is the low, one-storey house. Seen from the Southwest, it has the appearance of the Creole house type common in eastern Missouri with its wide verandah under a hipped roof. In the 1920's the double house was remodelled to serve as a "hotel," though I fail to understand how it could have met this purpose. Mrs. Keifer only said that the kitchen was in the older house, that the help slept there and that a dance floor was installed in the newer house.

## 7. Historic events and persons:

The Waldo brothers -- David, Calvin, Daniel and William -- settled in Saint Clair County in the late 1830's near the junction of the Osage and Sac Rivers. According to the original Plat, Daniel Waldo was on this tract by 14 May 1839, though he did not enter the land until 1843: a common practice in an effort to avoid payment of taxes as long as possible. Waldo P. Johnson was Daniel Waldo's nephew; one of his heirs was William T. Johnson, a prominent lawyer in Kansas City and a noted Greek and Latin scholar (Mills). He used this ranch as his summer home (Keifer): I imagine it was he who built the houses and named the place the Sac River Ranch.

When Keifer and Berryhill bought the ranch for \$172,000 in 1919 it was the largest land deal ever in the history of Saint Clair County (Kansas City Star). Keifer had come to Osceola in 1910 from Oklahoma, where his family had developed oil reserves on land they had received in the Indian Rush. Berryhill was his cousin. The two men supposedly operated a hotel in the double house; in the early 1930's, Keifer obtained sole title and the house was used to house his tenants, who farmed on shares. (Keifer)

The house has now been vacant for many years and though it has not been condemned by the Truman Reservoir Project, it will certainly not stand for many more.

## B. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

## 1. Primary and unpublished

B. Original Plat Book and Deed books A:320, H:64, N:577, S:595, SO:297, 140:202, 211:93, 396, 231:256 and Deed of trust books C:242, L:440 in the Registry of Deeds, Saint Clair County Courthouse, Osceola

## D. Interviews

Jim Atteberry  
Lowry City

23 August 1977

Local historian.

Bryant Johnson  
Osceola

24 August 1977

A nephew (?) of William T. Johnson. It seems that the Osceola Johnsons and the Kansas City Johnsons have not been on speaking terms for many years.

Mrs. Byrl Keifer  
Osceola

23 August 1977

ADDENDUM TO:

HOUSE (Tract #6300)

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Leroy R. Keifer's widow.

John Mills  
Osceola

various meetings, summer 1977

Local historian and President, Saint Clair County  
Historical Society.

2. Secondary

B. Kansas City Star. 3 April 1919. "Largest Land Deal  
in the History of Saint Clair County."

C. LIKELY SOURCES NOT YET INVESTIGATED

The Kansas City Johnsons, although it seems the last of their  
number died in June 1977. John Lucas (816) 842 1800

Prepared by

*Paul Garfield Weed*

Summer 1977