

COLE HOUSE
Township Road 139 in Smithfield Township
Smithfield vicinity
Jefferson County
Ohio

HABS No. OH-2404

HABS
OHIO
40-SMIF.V,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

COLE HOUSE

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Location: Township Road 139 in Smithfield Township
Smithfield Vicinity, Jefferson County, Ohio
UTM Coordinates: 17-515900-4460340

Significance: The Cole House's architectural significance is partially due to its Italian detailing. The Coles were a family of highly successful farmers and one of the oldest families in the township. The men of the Cole family were very active in their community churches, often holding Deacon or trustee positions. Also, John M. Cole was one of the Directors for the National Bank at Smithfield.

Description: The Cole House is a two-story, wood frame structure exhibiting Italianate elements. The house measures approximately 36'-6" by 34'-6" with a small pantry addition located at the southeast corner. The hip roof is anchored at its points by two, red brick chimneys. Each chimney is accented by a three course brick pattern. The hip roof is supported on the exterior by highly decorative brackets. The brackets are arranged in pairs along the facades. The exterior walls are clad in wood siding. The foundation materials consist of sandstone and brick. Entry is made from the north side where a porch may have existed at one time. The first floor consists of a kitchen, bathroom, pantry, dining room, and living room.

The other buildings on the site include a barn and pump house. The barn is approximately 36 feet wide by 50 feet long, with a double door centered on the northeast elevation. Due to the slope of the ground, the double door accesses the middle level. The barn has four-pane windows on the lower level, and wood vents over the window openings at the upper ones. The main barn is one large open space, but the exterior facade is divided into four floors: a lower level, a main central level, and two levels in the steeply pitched gable end. A shed-roofed milking structure is attached to the rear wall. This addition is made of concrete block with metal awning windows. The main structure is supported by eight inch square posts.

The pump house is also situated on a slope, and the wood frame walls are supported by a stone foundation. Access is made at the upper level, and the pump area lies on the opposite side of the structure at the lower level. A single window opening sits in the wall opposite the door. The original windows (of which the only remaining examples are on the lower level) were eight over eight double hung, with a shaped lintel and flush sill.

History:

The Cole estate, appears to have been continuously occupied by the Cole family between 1845 and 1967. The barn bears the words "J.O. Cole 1881," and 1881 appears to be the date of construction of both the barn and house. It is unclear who J.O. Cole actually was. A "J.O. Cole" (John O. Cole) did not take possession of any land in this section until 1909.

This particular tract of land was part of a land patent granted to Thomas Mansfield by President Madison in 1809. The southwest quarter of Section 13 (site of the current study) was first sold in its entirety in 1811 to William Elliott. Elliott subsequently sold approximately 50 acres of this quarter to Moses Thompson and 110 acres to Nancy Evans. The Cole property occupies the 50 acre portion. The name John Cole first appeared in the deed transfers in 1845 for the \$900.00 purchase of land in the southwest quarter of Section 13 from Stephen and Mary Jones. John Cole was born in Jefferson County in 1812. He was the son of Joshua Cole, who came to Ohio from either Maryland or Pennsylvania in 1800. In 1837, John Cole married Mary Merryman. When the Mount Moriah Baptist Church was founded in 1861, John Cole was one of the first deacons. By 1880 John Cole was also a director of the First National Bank at Smithfield.

An 1851 atlas showed the southwest quarter divided into a 48 acre tract belonging to J. Cole and a 106 acre tract belonging to J. Watson. An 1871 atlas indicated that the entire southwest quarter was then owned by "J. Cole." It also showed two structures, which may have been the original Cole homes. John O. Cole did not appear in the deed transfers until 1909, when he purchased the southwest quarter of Section 13 from William I. Cole for \$4,000.00. The deed also indicated that the Pittsburgh No. 8 vein of coal was active on the property. It is possible that the first John Cole built the current buildings in 1881, and that John O. Cole added his initials to the barn after his 1909 purchase. The next transaction took place in 1967, when John O. Cole's heirs sold the land to the Consolidation Coal Company for \$20,000.00. In 1974, Consolidation sold the property to Charles Fluharty, who subsequently sold the site to Jeffco Resources, Inc. in 1986.

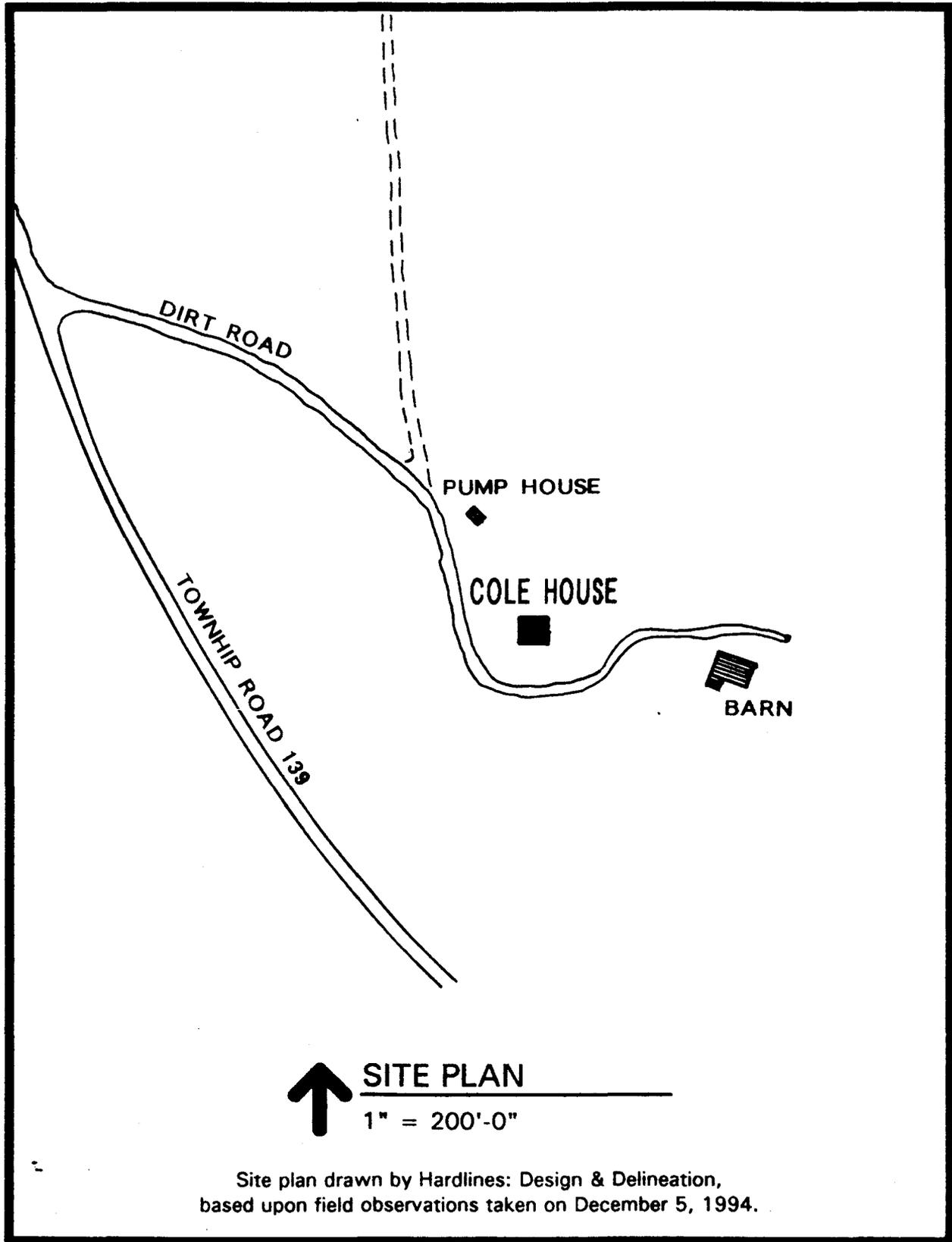
Sources:

History of Belmont and Jefferson County, J.A. Caldwell, 1880.
20th Century History of Steubenville and Jefferson County,
Ohio, Joseph B. Doyle, 1910.
Map of Jefferson County, Ohio, Lee & Marsh, 1851.
Atlas of Jefferson County, F.W. Beers & Company, 1871.
Deed records in Jefferson County Recorder's Office.

Historian:

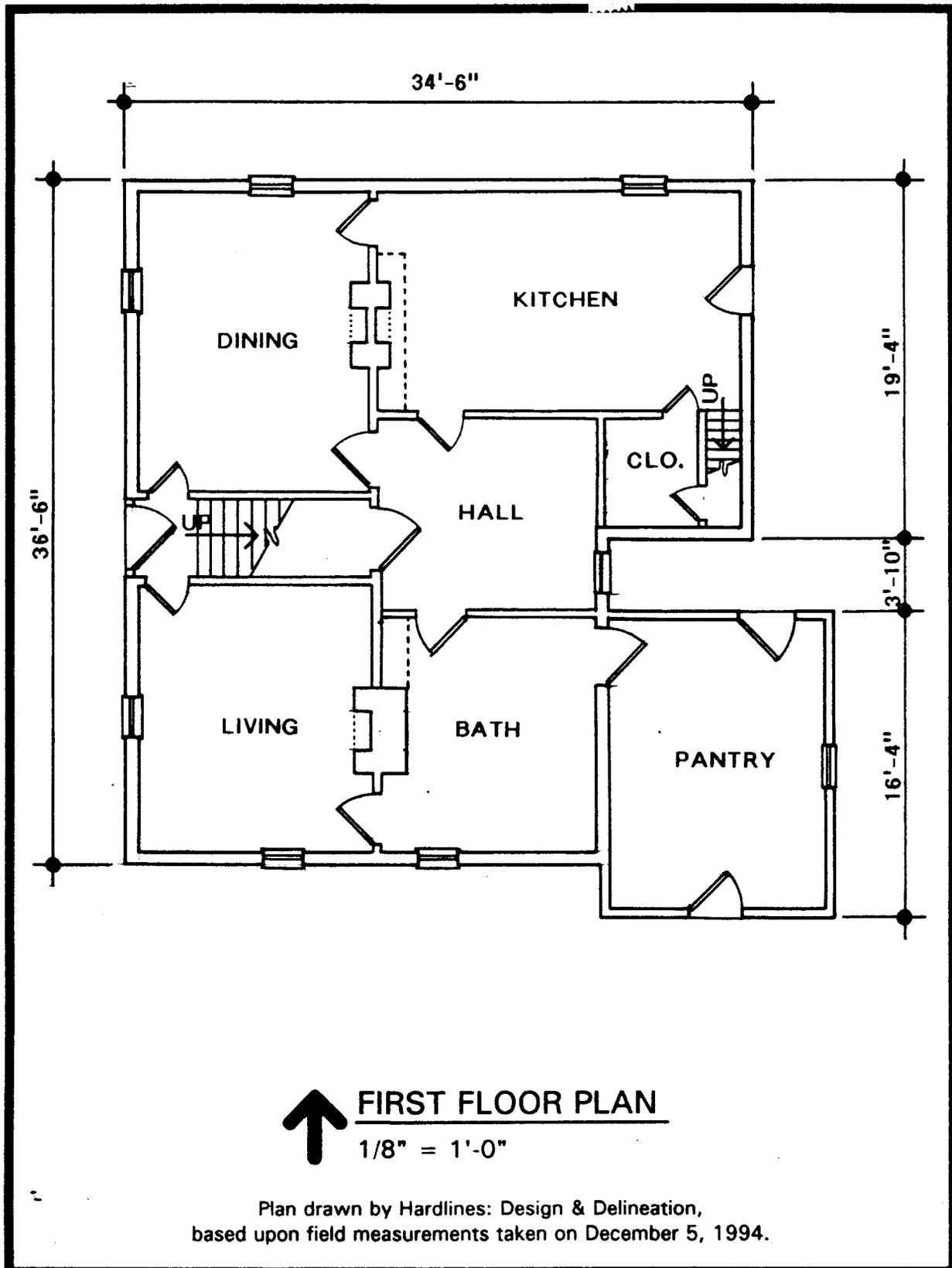
Hardlines: Design & Delineation
Columbus, Ohio & Bethesda, Maryland
December 1994

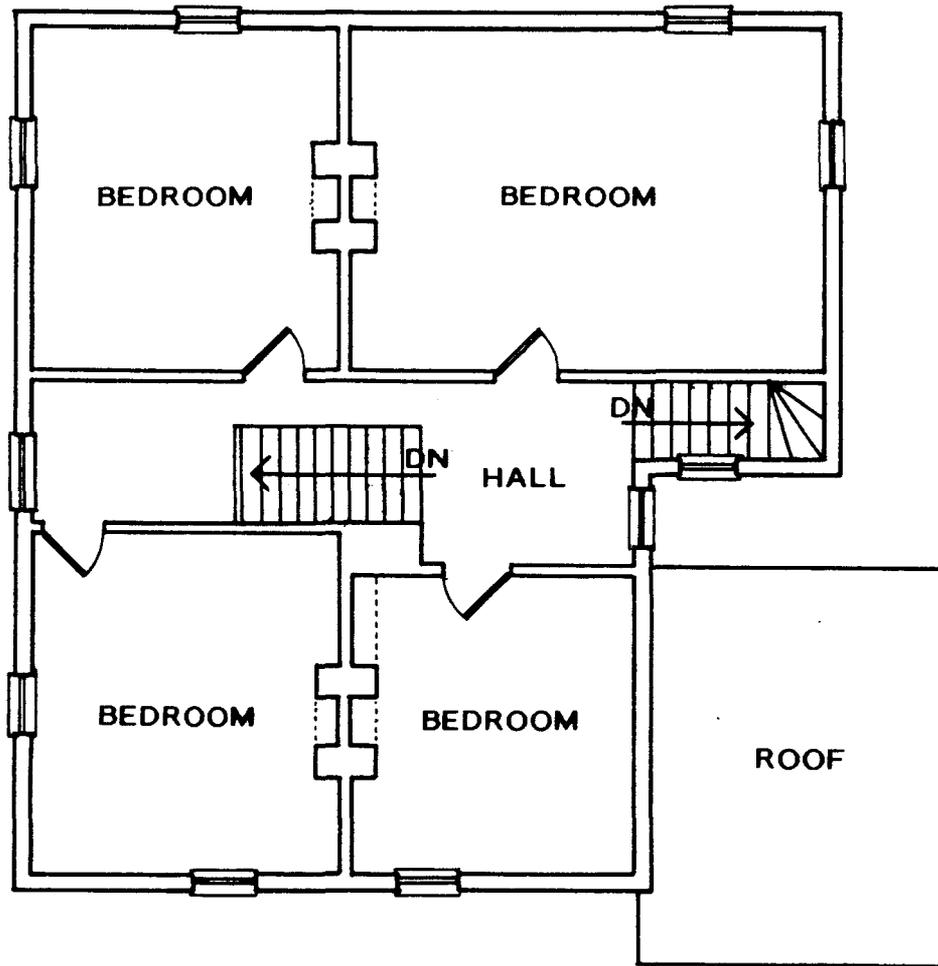




 **SITE PLAN**
1" = 200'-0"

Site plan drawn by Hardlines: Design & Delineation,
based upon field observations taken on December 5, 1994.





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1'-0"

Plan drawn by Hardlines: Design & Delineation,
based upon field measurements taken on December 5, 1994.