

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF STONE COUNTY
STONE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number ST-27

Owner Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Dayberry

Property Name Binks Hess
House and Barn

Address Marcella, AR 72555

Location Marcella

Significant Date/s C.1871

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The 1871 Binks Hess House and Barn are located at Marcella in southeastern Stone County. The house stands east of Highway 14 and adjacent to an unimproved road leading to the bottom lands of the White River approximately a mile further east. According to an interview with Binks Hess' son, the Burrough Brothers, local craftsmen, constructed the house, which was built according to a dogtrot plan with an original one room rear ell extending from the south pen of the west elevation. The frame weatherboard house, facing east, sits on stone piers and is covered by a gable roof with returns.

The principal facade (east) of the house is distinguished by a Greek Revival inspired porch with gable returns. The single bay porch, which covers the open hall area, is supported by squared columns. The columns are capped by cut-out circles applied to the cornice under each return. Lattice, with segmental arches at the bottom are attached to the underside of the cornice. The enclosure of the open hall with flushboards occurred in the 1920's. The facade's fenestration is made of two six-over-six double-hung windows set in each pen flanking the portico. A wide cornice board terminates the wall.

The south elevation contains a gable end with a return and the south side of the rear ell. An exterior stone chimney is situated on the gable end of the dogtrot's south pen along with a six-over-six window. The side elevation of the ell features a secondary entrance into the kitchen area. Two windows, of previously described design, are set on either side of the kitchen door. A recently constructed stone flue stands between the right window and the door.

The rear elevation is identified by the ell, with a return gable and shed addition. Attached to the ell is a gable roofed room. An interior stone flue projects from the roof line of the ell. The shed addition is attached to the rear of the dogtrot's north pen. The weatherboard shed gives the north elevation a salt-box impression. The elevation also has a single gable return and a interior stone flue. Set off-centered in the gable end is a six-over-six window.

The Binks Hess Barn is set back from the main structure's rear elevation. The barn reflects a transverse crib plan with side additions. Placed on stone piers, the two story frame structure has vertical board wall material and is covered by a gable roof. The Hess Barn has a narrow driveway in comparison with other area barns. Stalls built of horizontal boards flank the drive. The second story functions as a hay loft. Open-side sheds are attached to the south and north elevations of the barn providing additional shelter for equipment and livestock.

There are three other ancillary structures between the house and barn, but they are not significant to the history of the property.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Binks Hess, a younger brother of Thomas Hess, who established the town of Hesstown (Marcella) in eastern Stone County, constructed this weatherboard house in 1871 using a dogtrot plan with a rear ell. Binks Hess hired the Burrough Brothers, local carpenter and stone mason, to build his house. The Burrough Brothers constructed the stylish dogtrot with weatherboard and attractive trim work. They added a handsome portico onto the open hall with return gables, columns, jigsaw cut circles applied on the cornice between the returns and the columns, and segmentally shaped lattice attached along the bottom of the cornice. The overall design of the facade creates an illusion of a sophisticated central hall house. Historic research indicates that this method was a known alternative in refining the dogtrot house in Stone County as well as throughout the region.

The Hess Barn is the earliest documented transverse crib barn in Stone County. It was one of the first barns to incorporate sawn lumber as the building material.

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property, located within the S $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of S6, R8W, T13N, is bounded on the south by an improved road, and on the west by a line running parallel to and 50ft. from the rear elevation of the barn and east by a line running parallel to and 50 ft. from the major facade of the house, and on the north by lines running parallel to and 50 ft. from the north elevations of the house and barn.

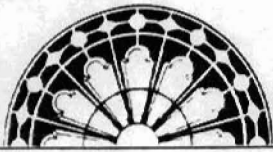
Acreage: less than 1
Quadrangle Name: Marcella

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

UTM Reference:
Zone: 15

Easting: 601090

Northing: 3960900

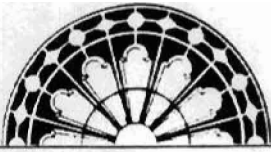


RESOURCE PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM



Historic Resource in Stone County
Binks Hess House and Barn, ST-27
Marcella
Don Brown, photographer
1983
Negative on file at the AHPP
Viewed from the east

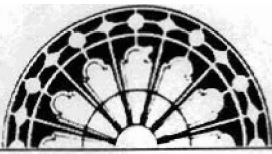


RESOURCE PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM



Historic Resources in Stone County
Binks Hess House and Barn, ST-27
Marcella
Don Brown, photographer
1983
Negative on file at the AHPP
Viewed from the southeast



RESOURCE PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM



Historic Resources in Stone County
Binks Hess House and Barn, ST-27
Marcella
Don Brown, photographer
1983
Negative on file at the AHPP
Viewed from the east