

WAO 369

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CANEHILL
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Survey Number CH-12
Property Name William Welch House
Location Main Street (Highway 45)
Construction Date c. 1850s

Owner Conrow Miller
Address Reedholme
Canehill, AR 72717

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Set back on a lot facing Main Street, the William Welch House is a one-story gable-roofed woodframe weatherboard-faced structure built on a "T"-plan with two irregularly planned one-story additions to the rear (east). Two original gable-end chimneys survive. A one-story cross-gable-roofed central portico projects from the symmetrical facade (west elevation). Paneled box columns, with bases and capitals articulated in a triglyph-like design, carrying an unembellished frieze and cornice support the portico. The gable end of the portico, the overhanging edge of the roofline, and the gable ends of the house are embellished with a decorative band of scalloping, apparently a circa 1870's alteration. The building also has a distinctive cornice moulding. Although the existing windows are not original to the structure, the integrity of the symmetrical fenestration is retained. Similarly, the principal entrance exhibits the original delineation of its multi-light transom and sidelights.

STATEMENT OF SIGNICANCE

As one of Canehill's few surviving pre-Civil War structures, the William Welch House is of great architectural, historical and potential historical archeological importance. A simple vernacular structure built on a traditional "T"-plan, the building typifies the character of building that comprised the Canehill townscape in the 1840's and 1850's and influenced the design of the first structures erected after the Civil War. Its projecting gable-roofed portico, although now enriched with a touch of Victorian "gingerbread", offers a vernacular interpretation of this typical Greek Revival form.

Verbal Boundary Description Block 2, Original Plat, Lot 11, Part of Lot 12

Acreage less than one acre

Quadrangle Name Lincoln, Ark.

Quadrangle Scale 1:24000

UTM Reference

Zone 15 Easting 374 035 Northing 3974 440