

620 NORTH WILKINSON STREET (HOUSE)
Charlton/Wilkinson Impact Area
Milledgville
Baldwin County
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2248

HABS
GA,
5-MILEG,
11 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHEAST REGION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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GA,
5-MILE

620 NORTH WILKINSON STREET (House) HABS No. GA-2248 11-

Location: 620 North Wilkinson Street
Milledgeville
Baldwin County
Georgia

U. S. G. S. Milledgeville Quadrangle (7.5)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
17.291700.3663060

Significance: The house at 620 North Wilkinson Street is a representative example of early-to-mid-twentieth century worker's housing in an African-American Milledgeville neighborhood. The vicinity developed in response to both the coming of the railroad in the late-1800s and to turn-of-the-century business and industrial growth nearby.

Description: The house at 620 North Wilkinson Street is a one-story, front-gable dwelling with a massed floor plan and a partial-facade, gabled front porch centrally positioned on the front facade. The original portion of the structure (not including the front porch) measures 25'-0" in depth by 30'-0" in width and consists of four rooms. Two shed additions, the smaller of which contains a bathroom, are located on the rear facade. All original windows are six-over-six double-hung sash. The house rests on a concrete block foundation, which is not original, and the roof material is raised seam metal. The exterior of the dwelling is sided with weatherboard.

The interior of the house contains two fireplaces, one in each of the right side (north) rooms; both have been closed in and are no longer functional. Interior doors appear original.

History: The subject house was constructed circa 1920-1925 by an unknown builder. The original occupant is likewise not known. Viola Davis Freeman acquired the house in 1947 and owned the property until 1975, when Ms. Freeman (Viola D. Caine in the tax records) willed the house to her four children: Robert Curtis Hawkins, Lillian Logans, Mary Louise Lucas and Mamie E. Stanley. The present occupant is Elton Stanley, Jr.

The subject property is located in a historically black working class neighborhood located just north of the Baldwin County Courthouse and Georgia College. The existence of this neighborhood can be attributed to several events, the first being

the arrival of the Georgia Railroad in the late-nineteenth century. The railroad was constructed just two blocks north of the 600 block of North Wilkinson Street and the depot was located three blocks to the east. An industrial district developed in the vicinity of the railroad and provided employment opportunities for many blacks. From the 1920s to the post-Second World War era, the neighborhood experienced considerable growth as industry expanded. Milledgeville Ice Works, Milledgeville Cottonseed Oil Company and Mills, The Cook Lumber Company, Fowler-Flimister Coal Company, Oconee Clay Products Company, and the Georgia Railroad Power Company are just some of the businesses that developed near the railroad. Milledgeville's black business district, which, like the railroad and industrial area, provides nearby economic opportunities, is located to the east of the Baldwin County Courthouse.

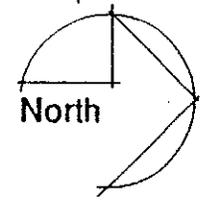
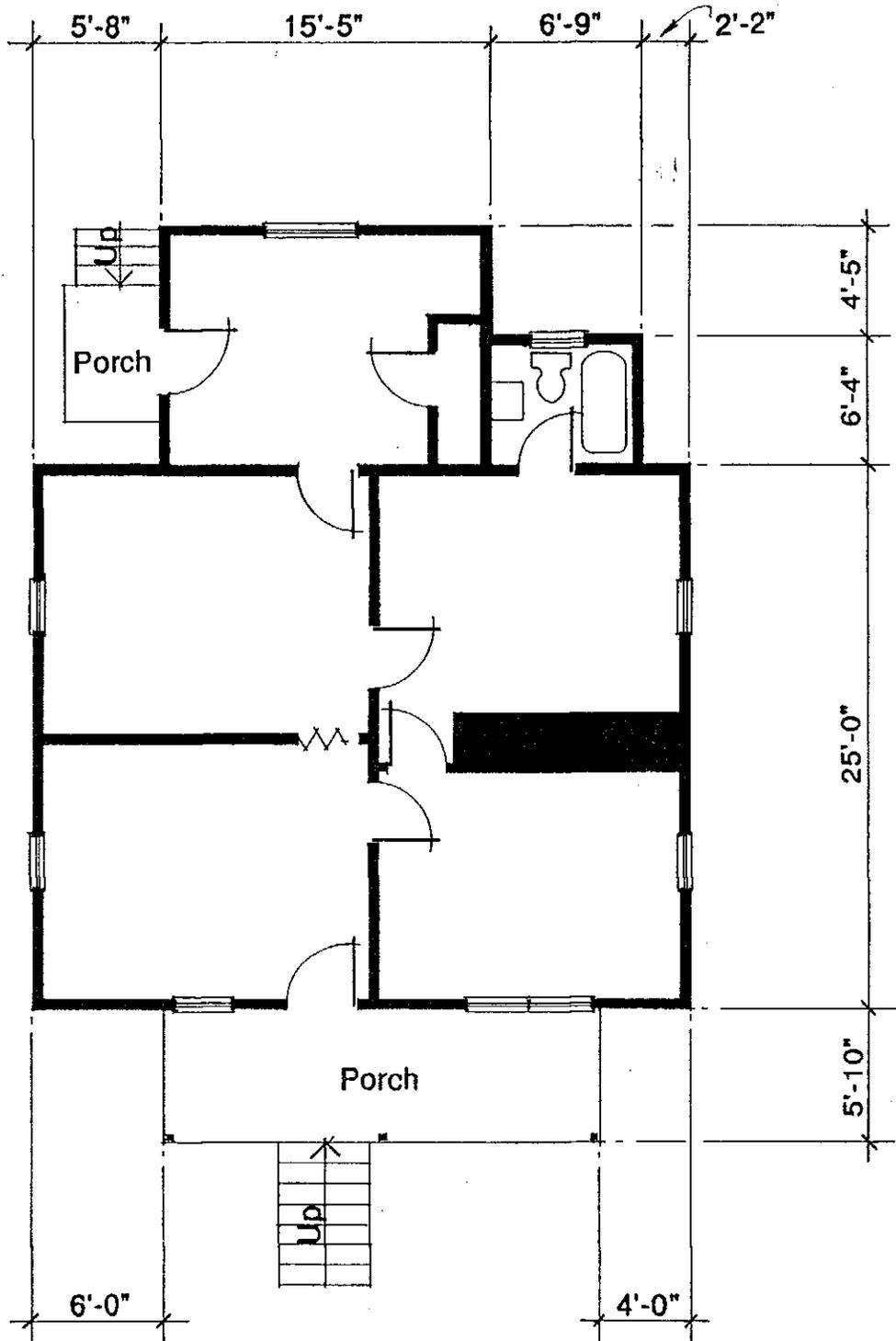
- Sources:
- African-American History File. Georgia College Library, Special Collections, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Baldwin County Deed Records, Baldwin County Courthouse, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Baldwin County Tax Records, Baldwin County Offices, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Black Heritage Tourism File. Milledgeville/Baldwin County Tourism and Trade Department, 200 West Hancock Street, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Campbell, Paul, telephone interview, 1 February 1993, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Campbell, Paul. "City of Milledgeville Community Development Block Grant." Unpublished paper, Georgia College, Milledgeville, Georgia.
 - Dexter, Pete. Paris Trout. New York: Random House, 1988.
 - Milledgeville City Directory, 1939, 1949, 1956-57, and 1966. Located in Georgia College Library, Special Collections, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Milledgeville, Georgia, 1889, 1895, 1908, 1913, 1949. Located in Georgia College Library, Special Collections, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Watkins, Rodney, Georgia State Historic Preservation Office, telephone interview, 2 February 1993, Atlanta, Georgia.

Historian:

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CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE
1990 C.D.B.G. PROGRAM
CHARLTON/WILKINSON IMPACT AREA

