

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

SENT TO D.C.  
7-2-96

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Trobaugh-Good House

other names/site number House at Homestead Prairie Farm

2. Location

street & number 1495 Brozio Lane  not for publication

city or town Decatur  vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Macon code 115 zip code 62521

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Lhee / SHPO 6-25-96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Lhee / SHPO 6-25-96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Trobaugh-Good House

Name of Property

Macon, Illinois

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-Nineteenth

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Weatherboard

roof Shingle

other Rubber

Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Trobaugh-Good house  
Name of Property

Macon, Illinois  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Exploration/Settlement

**Period of Significance**

c. 1847-c. 1860s

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Name of repository:**

Macon County Conservation District  
Headquarters Building

Trobaugh-Good House  
Name of Property

Macon, Illinois  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 1.4

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	6	3	2	7	8	4	0	4	4	0	9	8	9	0
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
2															

3															
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
4															

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title R. Lee Slider, Historical/Cultural Interpretive Specialist

organization Macon County Conservation District date April 5, 1996

street & number 1495 Brozio Lane telephone 217-423-7708

city or town Decatur state Illinois zip code 62521

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Macon County Conservation District

street & number 1495 Brozio Lane telephone 217-423-7708

city or town Decatur state Illinois zip code 62521

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Trobaugh-Good House

### Description

The Trobaugh-Good House is a one story log and frame vernacular saddlebag dwelling located on its original building site within the confines of the Macon County Conservation District's Rock Springs Center for Environmental Discovery, 1495 Brozio Lane, southwest of Decatur, Illinois. This five-room house has been restored externally and internally much to its mid-nineteenth century appearance. The house is a good representation of rural settlement architecture and reflects no architectural style in its appearance and construction.

The Trobaugh-Good House is the center feature of the Homestead Prairie Farm interpretive complex at Rock Springs Center. Homestead Prairie Farm is not a historic name but a fictitious name given to the site for interpretive purposes. The nomination consists of only the house and the immediate ground surrounding the house. On the farmstead are a number of moved or recently constructed buildings and structures including a garden shed, smoke house, privy, wood shop, wood shed, and stage. These buildings and structures are not included within the nominated boundaries for the Trobaugh-Good House since they were moved onto the property or recently constructed. There are plans to build a chicken coop and barn in the near future. The site is nearly surrounded by natural screening consisting of an original osage orange hedgerow, trees and a replicated long grass prairie. A small interpretive cemetery has been built in a corner of the prairie. The site and living history interpretive program has been designed to reflect farming life on Illinois prairies circa 1860.

### Historic Integrity

The Trobaugh-Good House reflects in its construction two periods of Illinois history. The original one room log pen structure c. 1847-1853 was probably built from timber found on the property near the end of the Exploration/Settlement contextual period (1821-1858). One balloon-framed lean-to addition and the remodeling of the log pen with lapped siding c. 1850s marks the beginning of the Railroad contextual period (1854-1945). A second a saddlebag addition was built in the 1860s. The third addition was added around 1920. Over the years other minor alterations were made to the house but it has, overall, maintained a mid-nineteenth century appearance. The Trobaugh-Good House and farmsite, historically, is located within the predominantly

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Upland Southern, Ward Settlement which was one of the first pioneer settlements in Macon County. The house reflects plain and simple workmanship throughout, with no apparent attention paid to style or decoration. The basic log pen core and later alterations reflects certain Upland Southern building traditions.

When the Conservation District purchased the farmstead, the house was the only building left standing: all other earlier associated historical outbuildings had been razed. The remaining visual elements of the farmstead's built landscape were an original osage orange hedge row, some surviving horticultural plantings, a dirt access road, a concrete garage foundation, concrete walkways, cistern and accumulated junk located in scattered washouts. The overall archaeological integrity of the site seemed largely intact.

A records and literature search through public and private accounts revealed no construction or remodeling dates; therefore, all dates referred to in this document are approximate.

#### The Single Log Pen

The original c. 1847-1853 core structure of the Trobaugh-Good House is a nearly square 17'-6" X 17'-7" one-story, one-room, hewed-log, single-pen cabin with a side-gabled roof. The log pen originally sat on four large field stones. Its construction reflects both Midland and Upland Southern building tradition (Hutslar 1971: 176-180; Kniffen & Glassie 1968 :51; Meyer 1978: 3; Sculle & Elbert 1982: 2-3; Wyatt 1987: 36-37). The front of the house is aligned to face the south as most Ohio log houses (Hutslar 1971: 218). There is no fireplace hearth opening in any of the walls, which suggests a construction date after the availability of stoves in the Macon County area. The logs were hewn and erected green without debarking and locked with a half dovetail notching system. The interstices between the logs were chinked with circle sawn chunks of wood and mud daub. The interior log interstices were finished with lime based chinking and the wall whitewashed. All windows in the house are double-hung unless otherwise noted. The front saddlebag portion of the house has a low-pitched cedar shake shingled gable roof. The lean-to and 1920s addition has a cedar shake shingled shed roof. An earthen cellar which was enlarged and deepened in the 1930s is located under the log pen.

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The pen was built with its south-facing facade fenestration, from left to right a window-door arrangement which consisted of a 6-over-6 window and a batten door. At the center of the east facade is a 6-over-6 window. A batten door is on the north, rear facade and is located directly opposite the front door. There were no openings in the west facade. A door opening was cut later near the south end of this wall to provide access to the later west addition. The sashes of the two, 6-over-6 windows are 1 1/8" thickness and feature 8" x 10" window panes. All door and window openings contain vertical boards with pegs to hold the ends of the logs at these openings.

An examination of the log walls reveal much about the house's past construction. There are hewn ceiling joist notches which had been cut to carry rounded ceiling joists. These notches were later sawn to receive 2" x 6" ceiling joists. These, in turn, were abandoned when the ceiling was raised during the first alteration. The deteriorated north and south sill logs were found to contain empty hewn notches which once carried an earlier log floor joist system.

Five evenly spaced 3-to 4-inch wide hewed kerfs are located along the top outside edge of the second spandrel logs down, on each of the gable end sides of the log pen. Each kerf is cut on a 30 to 45 degree angle between the top and exterior side of these logs. Perhaps they contained small diameter "skids" that were used to raise the additional logs during the first alteration of the house. Several kerfs still contain bent or broken off square spikes. The purpose of these kerfs is not presently known.

At some time between the erection of the log pen and the first remodeling, the log pen leaned to the east, being about 4 inches out of plumb from top to the bottom at the gable ends. The pen also settled about the same amount in the southeast corner.

### North Addition

In the mid-1850s, not too long after the building of the original log pen structure, the house underwent its first major alteration. The log pen was extensively remodeled and a one story frame lean-to was added to the back north side of the structure.

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The original roof system was removed to facilitate the raising of the ceiling. Two new hewed oak logs were added to the top of the east and west gable end walls. Then two new hewed plate logs, turned flatways, were laid over the north and south ends of new gable end logs, and pegged. The new south top plate log was installed in such a manner as to partially overcome the settled southeast corner of the pen and provide a more level surface for a new 2" x 4" oak rafter system. The opening along the length of the new upper plate and old plate logs varies between 15 and 18 inches, a width too wide to practically chink.

In the interior of the log pen, once the roof was raised, the ceiling followed. The original 2 x 6 oak ceiling joists, now whitewashed on the sides and bottom, were removed from their sockets. Furring strips were then added around the inside perimeter of the room. To compensate for the eastern lean of the log pen, the furring strips were shaved or shimmed to straighten the interior walls. Ledger boards were installed at the top of the furring strips. The ceiling joists were recycled by being shortened, notched, and nailed to the top of the ledger boards. Lath was applied to the ceiling and walls, and the inside window and door trim, base boards and picture rails nailed onto the lath. The trim for the north door frame was cut on an angle which reflected the lean of the building. The room was then plastered throughout. All of the interior trim work in the lean-to and remodeled log-pen portion consists of one-inch thick finished lumber.

A 10' X 17'-7" balloon frame, shed-roofed, one-room lean-to was also added to the north rear of the log pen. This addition sits on three hewn oak sill members which have been half-lapped and pegged at the outside corners, and sits on five dry brick pillars, probably not the original, and two foundation stones, probably original.

The east, west and south sills were mortised on 16-inch centers to receive the tenons of the addition's 2" x 4" oak wall studs. The south member was notched to receive the north end tenons of the 2" x 6" oak floor joists. Two hewn ledger boards were spiked to the north side of the log pen's north sill log to carry the south ends of the joists. A large 36- x 52-inch, 6-over-6 window was located in the center of the north wall. A batten door was located in the east wall.

The 2" x 4" rafters of the shed roof were devised to rest on the north rafters of the newly erected rafter system built over the log pen. Random width rough sawn oak



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boards were then applied over the rafters of both the pen and lean-to to provide a nailing surface for a machine-cut wood shingle roof.

On the exterior of the south log wall of the pen, 2 x 4's were nailed vertically to the log wall for furring strips. At the gable ends 2 x 4 oak studs were set flush with the outside edge of the log walls to provide support for siding, end rafters, and barge boards. Six-inch fir or pine lapped siding was then nailed to the exterior of both the log pen and lean-to. The siding was applied over the furring strips on the south side and, strangely, directly onto the log wall from the gable down on the east side. Broken square nails in the log wall of the east side as well as sunburned profiles of the lapped siding found on the south outside edge of the east window casing revealed this siding application, long gone by the time of restoration.

In the interior of the lean-to, lath was nailed to the three frame walls, and one-inch thick baseboards, window and door trim were nailed over the lath. A six-inch tongue and groove wood ceiling was nailed to the room's ceiling joists. The walls were then plastered to the wood trim and ceiling boards. The south wall, the once exterior side of north log wall of the pen, was left with little treatment. An examination of this wall reveals that it was surface chinked with a lime base chinking. Later this wall was papered with newspaper, then later painted green. A batten door was hung as an interior door between the pen and lean-to.

In the attic a wooden pan was built between two ceiling joists near the west gable end and filled with mortar and brick.(Hutslar 1971: 254). A chimney of soft locally made brick was constructed to extend through the ridge of the roof. Access to the chimney was through a six-inch round hole in the ceiling plaster.

At the time of the restoration several pieces of the original lapped siding were found still attached with square nails to the old west gable end studs over the log pen that had once been the west end of the house before the west addition was built. These pieces of siding, plus some other remnant pieces of lapped siding, were found nailed to the outside west wall of the lean-to, most of which are in the District's collections. They show sunburning and no evidence of ever having been painted. All other siding on the house at the time of restoration was of the tapered kind and was attached with wire nails and painted.

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The addition of the lean-to changed the basic floor plan of the house from nearly square to rectangular. The house at this time, while appearing more finished, still retained its traditional Midland/Upland Southern floor plan and appearance (Glassie 1968: 101-106). The lean-to was used as a kitchen by one of the later inhabitants in the early twentieth century, but it is unknown if the room was originally built to serve as a kitchen (Williams 1986: 130-136).

### West Addition

A balloon-framed, gable roofed, two-room addition was built onto the west end of the remodeled log pen structure in the late 1850's or early 1860's. This 13' x 20' foot addition changed the floor plan of the house from a rectangle to an L-shape which changed its vernacular type from that of a single room house with lean-to that of a vernacular saddlebag house (Hutslar 1971: 234; Glassie 1968: 104-105, Wyatt 1987: 35). Structurally, this addition was constructed as a one room frame pen which was added in line with the log pen. Each pen has its own entrance door, and both have chimneys located near the center of the saddlebag. The unusual feature of this added west pen is that the interior space had been separated into two rooms by a one-inch-thick beaded partition wall.

The west addition was built as a self-supporting four-walled structure and is not attached to the log pen structure. Even the roof sheathing boards were butted over the divide. The wood shake shingles were laid to bridge the gap. Rough sawn oak was used for all framing members and one-inch-thick planed pine or fir was used for the finished work. Square nails were used throughout.

The north, west and south walls of this structure rested on an eight-inch-thick double brick foundation wall, except for a gap along the east wall left for a cellar extension. Sill timbers are 6" x 8" sawn oak, mortised on 16-inch centers to receive the tenons of the 2" x 4" oak wall studs. The east and west sills were also mortised along their inside edges on 16-inch centers to carry the tenons of the 2" x 6" oak floor joists. The 2" x 6" oak ceiling joists are seven feet above the floor.

The fenestration of the south front side of this addition left to right is a 4-over-4 window and a four-panel door. Across the entire asymmetrical south facade of the house it is window-door-window-door. The fenestration of the west facade of the

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addition features a 4-over-4 window near the south end. There was a 4-over-4 window located in the center of the north side facade which provided light into the north room. This window was later moved and inserted into the west wall of the north room and a doorway installed in the original window hole which provided access to the much later northwest addition.

The south roof rake of this addition matches the pitch of the original structure. The north side is different because the west addition was built deeper than that of the original structure. The north roof rake of the addition is longer, higher and more shallow than the north pen and lean-to roof. This difference in pitch and elevation was solved with a vertical frame sided wall to close the void.

A chimney of soft, local brick was built between the ceiling joists at the east end of the addition to match the one on the core structure and placed within a few feet of its eastern mate.

In the interior, a fir 1" x 6" tongue and groove floor was laid north to south over the floor joists of the entire addition, butt joints alternating. Lath was then applied to the walls and ceiling. Then a 1 x 5 1/2-inch beaded tongue and groove partition wall with a central doorway was built and trimmed with simple narrow milled molding. A four-panel door was hung to divide the space into two rooms. The addition's interior narrow milled four-panel door, door and window trim, and picture rails are the only examples of such decorative trim in the house. The door and window trim and picture rail have Italianate influenced moldings.

### Northwest Addition

The house stood without any major changes for quite a number of years before a third addition was added at some time just prior to 1920. This 17- x 13-foot, two-room, balloon framed, shed-roofed addition was built onto the north end of the west addition and the west side of the lean-to. This addition changed the house's floor plan to a massed or modified L, and is very different in appearance and construction than any of the previous additions.

This addition is directly connected to the north outside wall of the west addition, its east wall sits on its own foundation and is separate from the west wall of the

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lean-to--similar to the double wall between the log-pen structure and the west addition.

The outer three walls of the foundation consists of 6-inch thick fire tile blocks set on a poured concrete pad. All sills, studs, ceiling joists and rafters are of fir. The siding of the north exterior of the west addition was removed to expose the underlying oak studs for an interior nailing surface.

The exterior of the addition is presently covered by its original 6-inch drop siding. The fenestration of the east facade consists of a 6-over-6 window to the south, and a 6-pane fixed window to the north. There are no openings in the north facade. There is a 6-over-6 window in the center of the west facade.

The flat roof was covered with roll roofing and flashed into the roof of the west addition. At the time this addition was built, roll roofing and possibly an asphalt shingle roof had already been applied over the original worn out wood shingle roof of the connecting saddlebag building.

The interior of this addition is divided into a bedroom and a narrow walk-in closet separated by a interior wall. A doorway and four-paneled door provided access to the closet. No door was hung in the doorway that had been cut from a window opening between this bedroom and the north bedroom of the west addition. Fiber composition wall boarding was applied to the walls and ceiling of both rooms and wallpapered. All window, door and baseboard trim is of 3/4-inch thick fir lumber, and is applied over the wallboard. The overall appearance of this addition is simple, utilitarian and marks a declining economic status of the house's inhabitants.

### Other Remodelings

At some later time, the original lapped siding on the core structure, lean-to, and west addition was removed and new 6-inch pine or fir tapered clapboard siding was applied with wire nails. Also at this time, when the original lapped siding on the east side of the log pen was removed, 6-inch shiplap boards were nailed vertically to the log wall to provide a smoother and level surface for the new siding.

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The presence of square nails and holes, along with round holes of wire nails, found in the studs and furring strips of the exterior during the restoration suggest this sequence of events.

Two simple shed type porch roofs were built -- one across the front of the house and another, smaller one over the side door of the lean-to -- sometime within the first four decades of the twentieth century. Insulbrick, a commercially manufactured asphalt based, mineral surfaced composition board siding, was applied over the siding of the whole house some time shortly after World War II.

According to Piekutowski family traditions the earthen cellar was enlarged or deepened in the 1930s, and the excavated dirt was spread over the front yard, raising the elevation six inches. Some of the dirt was thrown onto the surface of the crawl space under the west addition. A six-foot, 12-inch concrete block retaining wall was then built along the east end of the cellar. A one-course deep brick cellar entrance was built and covered with a wooden cellar door. Open ledges were cut into the south and west earthen walls for storage.

In the southeast corner of the pen, the bottom south sill log, the attached bottom east spandrel log, and portions and butts of the logs immediately above, were in very bad condition. The deteriorated south sill log and erosion of the ground from under the southeast corner had been at some time repaired by the application of a 12-foot concrete block course laid along the entire south side of the pen. The rotted butt ends of the logs were reinforced with concrete and vertical boards to strengthen the deteriorating notches.

The interior of the house also underwent subsequent renovations over the years. At some time, probably when the south block foundation wall was being installed, the original floor and log floor joists in the log pen were removed and a new floor system installed. The new system consisted of 2 x 6- inch fir floor joists installed on 24-inch centers and covered over by a 1- x 3- inch (not full cut) tongue-and-groove fir floor. The new floor joists were not attached to the sill logs of the pen, but rather sat on individual bricks that had been on or in the ground just inside the north and south sill logs. The flooring was nailed to the joists forming a raft that filled the interior floor space, trapped by the four log walls. (Hutslar 1971: 248)

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The house was wired for electricity in 1939 when electric power arrived in the neighborhood.

**The Condition of the Trobaugh-Good House When Acquired by the Macon County Conservation District**

The Trobaugh-Good House when purchased in 1977 was found to be in a run down and deteriorated state. An examination revealed that the deterioration was primarily external and internal finish items, such as siding, roofing, chimneys, windows, doors, plaster, and flooring needed to be only refurbished. There was limited damage to some the house's structural members such as logs, joists, foundations, and studs. The house retained enough of its basic integrity to make restoration economically practical.

**The Restoration**

The restoration of the Trobaugh-Good House was done largely by the staff and volunteers of the Macon County Conservation District over an 11-year period, beginning in late 1978. The staff began with an inspection to determine the amount of underlying damage by removing some siding, lath, plaster and flooring. From this assessment, a restoration plan was developed which would restore sections of the house over a period of years. The staff decided that the restoration should strive to restore or replicate the historic exterior and interior appearance of the structure. Original structural members would be replaced only as necessary.

The work began in the summer of 1979 with archaeological testing in the door yard which located two wells, a cistern, a privy, a buried brick sidewalk and remains of a porch.

With the removal of the Insulbrick siding from the house, the underlying tapered siding was found to be too badly split and brittle to salvage. The soft brick had deteriorated and the mortar joints were turning to sand. The chimneys were removed and rebuilt with new soft brick. Several of the original ceiling joists had deteriorated to the point that the chimneys were about to fall into the log pen. They were replaced and braced with steel angle iron to provide solid support for the eastern chimney. The log pen was lifted and the deteriorated logs on the south and east side were replaced with new hewn oak replacements. A concrete block foundation wall on a concrete mud

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pad was built under the south side. A concrete block extension was added to the north end of the east cellar retaining wall to provide support for a new treated lumber sill, which supports the north side of the log pen. The old settled and deteriorated tongue-and-groove flooring and 2" x 6" fir floor joists, a twentieth century replacement, were also removed. To strengthen a new floor, new 2" x 8" fir joists on 16-inch centers were installed and covered with new tongue-and-groove flooring.

The old deteriorated plaster in the log pen, lean-to, and west addition was removed and new lath applied as needed before the room's original baseboard, window and door trim was reapplied. The original plaster was left on the east and south inside walls of the west addition bedroom.

Work on the lean-to was extensive due to the extent of damage present. The siding was removed from the exterior and a frame extension was splinted onto the sound one-third remnant of the south sill. The frame foundation extension was extended to the east side. New floor joists replaced the bent and deteriorated originals. Some studs and rafters were also replaced for the same reason. A new fir half-lap 6-inch floor was laid, and new lath applied as needed. Most of the original trim and tongue-and-groove ceiling was salvaged and re-installed. The doorways were rebuilt and the original batten door rehung on the side door, and a new batten door was hung on the inside door.

Work on the west addition of the house saw the addition jacked up and the deteriorated and cracked brick foundation wall on the south and west sides removed and replaced with a new combination brick and concrete block foundation wall that looks very nearly like the original. New oak foundation sills on the south and west wall replaced the original termite-damaged sills. New 2" x 8" ceiling joists were installed over the parlor to replace the deteriorated originals, as were the joists under log pen chimney. The new joists under the new brick parlor chimney were braced with angle iron. The interior trim and window frames were removed and the frames were replicated as needed. Most of the original trim and frames were reinstalled. A drywall ceiling was installed in the parlor. In the bedroom, the east, north and ceiling plaster walls were cleaned. The rough and peeling painted ceiling of this room was covered with a thin wallboard to provide a smoother surface. The original tongue-and-groove partition wall between the parlor and bedroom was stripped of old fiber wallboard and repaired. All damaged flooring was replaced with milled replica pieces. The four walls

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of the parlor were then papered with a colorful mid-nineteenth century replica wallpaper.

On the outside of the house, the following work was done: On the log pen new furring strips were installed and new redwood siding, the same size as the deteriorated and split earlier pine or fir siding was replaced. The original window sash was not salvageable. New sash was replicated, glazed with the original glass, and installed. The house was then painted with a historic paint color.

A new exterior cellar entrance and staircase was built that approximated the appearance of the collapsed original. All existing roofing was removed from the log pen, lean-to, and west addition. Repairs were made to the original rafters as needed, and new 3-inch fir sheathing boards installed. New machine cut cedar shakes were applied.

In the northwest addition, the deteriorated fiber wallboarding, window and door trim were removed. Fiberglass insulation was added to the inside and outside walls, and ceiling. New wallboard was applied and the original baseboards, window and door trim were re-installed. A new fire safety doorway, hung with a batten door, was built into the walls between the bedroom and the lean-to. When the house was acquired in 1977, the wall studs between these two rooms had been removed leaving no evidence of a door ever having been there. New replicated flooring was used to replace sections of the original bedroom flooring where it had rotted.

During the latter years of the restoration and again in the very wet Spring of 1993, areas of the dug cellar walls slumped, endangering the foundations of the log pen. To repair the damage and to check further slumping of the cellar walls, a concrete block retaining wall was built just inside the dug wall perimeter and the void between the earthen and concrete walls packed with sand.

Five-inch, half-round gutters and round 3-inch downspouts were added in 1994 to the south and north sides of the house. The gutters were hung to appear as if they were made up of short soldered lengths.

In the winter of 1995-96 the roll roofing applied over the northwest addition in 1979 had to be replaced.



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### Statement of Significance

The Trobaugh-Good House is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for Criteria A and C. The house meets Criterion A for Exploration/Settlement as a remaining building associated with the early Ward Settlement in western Macon County. Built c. 1847-1853 with later additions from the 1850s, 1860s, and a small rear addition in the 1920s, the Trobaugh-Good House was associated with the development of the loosely scattered, rural agricultural Upland South community, known as the Ward Settlement. The house represents one of the earliest settlements in Macon County and its development during the late Exploration/Settlement (1821-1858) and early Railroad (1854-1870s) periods. The period of significance for Criterion A is c. 1847-1853 when the original log pen of the house was constructed to the 1860s when the rural Ward Settlement was influenced by the coming of the railroads and the development of popular culture.

The Trobaugh-Good House also meets Criterion C for Architecture as a good representative vernacular example of Upland South/Midland architecture. Built as a single pen, log house c. 1847-1853 with half-notched, dovetail construction, the house was expanded to the rear by a frame addition in the c. 1850s, and in the c. 1860s by another frame pen creating a saddlebag type house. The house represents the transition from early folk Upland South/Midland construction to elements of popular material culture in its later additions. The period of significance for Criterion C is c. 1847-1853 when the house was believed to have been built, to c. 1860s when an addition was added to west creating a saddlebag type house.

### Exploration/Settlement

The Trobaugh-Good house is the only known extant early vernacular resource log house left in its original location within the boundaries of the old Ward Settlement c.1820 - 1900. Displayed within its vernacular construction c.1847-1860s is evidence of its transition from early folk construction and elements of popular material culture. The house consists of a single-pen log core structure and three frame additions, the last addition being built c. 1920, and carefully restored between 1978 and 1994. However, it has been structurally upgraded for public usage and maintenance considerations. The restoration of the Trobaugh-Good House began in November 1978 as an historic cultural interpretive station within the boundaries of

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the Macon County Conservation District's Rock Springs Center for Environmental Discovery, just southwest of Decatur, Illinois.

Macon County is geographically located within the southwestern corner of the ancient Grand Prairie of Illinois. It is bisected northeast to southwest by the Sangamon River Valley and by the Shelbyville Moraine of the Wisconsin Glacier which meanders along the western and southern side of the county. The Trobaugh-Good farmstead is within the upland hardwood riverine forest on the south side of the Sangamon River and near the eastern edge of the Shelbyville Moraine on Wisconsin glacial soils.

To understand American cultural activities in any area requires an awareness of that area's geographical location, its biotic and geologic landscape and its climate. This kind of biocultural approach was used in the research of the Trobaugh-Good House. Nineteenth and twentieth century Macon County histories and plat books only hint at the impact the natural landscape of the Grand Prairie of Illinois had on overall settlement patterns and area social history (Fragher 1986; Hawes 198-. Clayville History: Tradition and Change in the Mid-Nineteenth Century, 1981; Poggie 1934) These larger area studies were compared and coupled with additional original intensive research in early local land purchases (Nugent and Slider 1985) and into early Decatur newspapers (Kreuger 1993-1994).

The results of the studies were similar to other biocultural Central Illinois studies, in that the first Anglo-American migration into the Middle Sangamon Valley, c.1820-1837, occurred first along, and just within, the savannah of the forest-prairie edge. As more settlers arrived they moved toward the river and tributaries and onto the upland forests. Clearing the timber for their farms, they used the wood for housing, outbuildings, fencing and fuel. Settlement beyond the savannah and in the high prairie was infrequent and was usually within a mile of the savannah because of the lack of timber and the cost for hauling it, as well as not having the equipment that made planting the prairie sod equitable.

The majority of the first settlers to migrate into the county during the Exploration and Settlement Period between 1821 - 1858 were from the Upland South, especially Kentucky and Tennessee; secondarily from the Midland or Middle Atlantic states of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio and a minority from New England (Baker 1923:117-119; Meyer 1974, Illinois Cultural Regions:3-13; Smith 1876:24).

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The second and larger migration in the area, which marked the beginning of the Railroad period, occurred between 1854 to 1875 during the time the railroads opened the prairies to agriculture. A very large number of these newcomers were from the eastern and mid-western states, especially from Ohio; and over the decade a growing number from Germany and Ireland (Nugent and Slider, 1985). By 1875 nearly all government and railroad land in Macon County had been purchased.

The first Midland/Upland Southern "squatters" began to filter into the Sangamon River Valley in what was then the northern part of Shelby County in 1821 just before the government survey of the area. Most came on their own, others (in the 1830s) at the urging of land speculators. Speculators, realizing that money could be made in the land rush to the West, bought vast tracts of riverine forest lands in Indiana and Illinois for investment purposes.

One of these speculators was Philo Hale of northern Ohio, who invested in thousands of acres of land in Illinois and Indiana in 1836-8. Among his extensive scattered and fragmented holdings in Macon County was the east 1/2, of the southeast 1/4, of Section 19, Twp. 16N., Range 2 E of the Third Principal Meridian, the future site of the Trobaugh-Good farm. Hale sold much of his Macon County land prior to his death in 1848; the remainder was sold by his estate over the following years.

Arriving in increasing numbers, following traces from Shelbyville and Terre Haute, Indiana, the early migrants spread out along the middle Sangamon Valley in what was then the northern part of Shelby County. Here they settled within the forest/prairie edges of the Sangamon River and Salt Creek and their respective tributaries.

The largest of these settlements, the Ward Settlement, was a loose collection of small farmsteads which through the 1820s came to extend nearly a dozen miles along both sides of a state road in an early strip development. This state road, known as the Paris-Springfield Road or the Springfield Road, was laid out in 1824, and it connected with an earlier road between Paris, Illinois, and the National Road at Terre Haute, Indiana. In Macon County the road ran along and within the forest/prairie edge south of the Sangamon River. The Shelbyville Road joined it near the middle of the Ward Settlement. This settlement was named after the Ward family, the largest family group in the settlement during its earlier days (Nugent & Slider 1985:17-26,80-112; Richmond 1930:18-22; Smith 1876:26-27). The settlement filled out during the 1820s

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and 1830s in a chain migration of relatives and acquaintances from Kentucky and Tennessee (Baker 1923:118-119; Richmond 1930:18-22). Two families who arrived in the winter of 1830-31 were the Lincoln and the Hanks families, the former settling at the western end of the Ward Settlement.

Opposite and north of the Ward Settlement, on Stevens Creek - a south flowing tributary of the Sangamon River - was the Stevens Settlement. This smaller and more compact settlement took its name from the Stevens family, a large family that had immigrated here from New York in the early 1820s. The Stevens Settlement stretched from prairie edge to prairie edge across the riverine forest of Stevens Creek. This settlement also grew during the 1820s and 1830s but its members were predominately from the Midland states of New York and Pennsylvania and a minority from the Upland Southern states (Nugent & Slider 1985:17-55; Richmond 1930:16-17; Smith 1876:26-27).

These two settlements, though about two miles apart, were separated by the Sangamon River, which acted as a boundary between Southern and Midland cultural values. In the late 1820s these cultural differences led to competition between the two settlements that sometimes resulted in fights (Richmond, 1930:18). There were other settlements in Macon County at this time - the Salt Creek Settlement in the Salt Creek Valley in the northern part of the county, and Piatt's Settlement in the Sangamon Valley on the eastern side of the county. However, these settlements tended to be more Midland than Southern. The Sangamon River and the Paris-Springfield Road seemed to mark the northern extent of Upland Southern settlement in Eastern and Central Illinois in the 1830s and 1840s (Meyer 1978:31-35). There were a number of Upland Southern towns, settlements and enclaves along the Illinois River as far north as Peoria and across western Illinois to the Mississippi River.

Although there were cultural differences between these two regional groups they both shared a common log building tradition which had emerged from the southeastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland hearth of Germans, Scotch-Irish and Scandinavians who had immigrated into this area during the seventeenth century (Hutslar 1971; Kniffin and Glassie 1973 ; Weslager 1969).

The original land purchases in the Ward and Stevens Settlements began in 1827 and were mostly 20 acre parcels. Then after 1832 more 10 acre parcels were purchased

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than 20 acre. After 1836 a number of 40 to 160 acre parcels began to appear about a mile out on the prairie from the forest-prairie edge (Nugent and Slider 1985). Some purchases were contiguous with the buyers' original holdings, others were not and were scattered about the growing community.

There are no complete or partial surviving original (1821-1858) Ward or Stevens Settlement farmsteads extant today. Only four scattered log houses and two barns survived until the last twenty years and all of these were within the boundaries of the Ward Settlement. Today only two houses and one barn survive. Of the four log houses only three had been photographed and measured, all shared Midland/Upland Southern vernacular construction, being either single or double pen saddlebag log houses. There were probably no or few frame structures built in the 1820s and 1830s because of the cost of sawing local lumber. No Stevens Settlement buildings from 1821 through 1858 have survived, probably because of their more progressive Midland culture in modernizing and upgrading their material culture. Of oral and recorded family descriptions of early houses and farm buildings only a few meager and incomplete descriptions have been passed down.

The Rock Spring flows from under a bluff on the south side of the Sangamon River just north of the heart of the Ward Settlement and just south, down Stevens Creek, from the Stevens Settlement. A combination grist/sawmill and nearby blacksmith shop was established a few hundred yards upstream of the spring in 1838 to serve the needs of those in the vicinity of both settlements.

The Trobaugh-Good House and farmsite are located within a half-mile of both the spring and the ruins of the mill site, and all within the boundaries of the Macon County Conservation District's Rock Springs Center for Environmental Discovery.

In 1829 members of the Ward and Stevens settlements, claiming that Shelbyville (the county seat of Shelby County) was too far away to conduct county business, petitioned the Illinois State Legislature to form a new county out of the northern part of Shelby County. This new county was named after Nathaniel Macon, a popular South Carolina senator and former Speaker of the House of Representatives.

It is reported that in order to choose a site for the new county seat, several meetings were held between the men of the Ward and Stevens settlements. During one of

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these meetings, history notes, a fight broke out over the proposed location and one man was beaten so badly that he eventually died. (Richmond,1930:28). After an eventual compromise the new town was laid out on a hill-top on the forest-prairie edge, on the north side of the Sangamon River, east of the Stevens Settlement, and north of the Ward Settlement. The new county seat was named after Commodore Stephen Decatur, the popular naval hero and Southerner, who had been killed in a duel in 1820.

In 1839 the growing Salt Creek settlement petitioned to establish a new county from the northern part of Macon County. This new county was christened DeWitt County, with Clinton as the county seat. Both the county and town were named after DeWitt Clinton, the well-known New York governor and promoter of the Erie Canal. The names reflect the strong Northern influence north of the Sangamon River.

During the 1830s, as Decatur became better established, the business and political members of the earlier settlements began to work together. In 1839 they defeated an attempt by a pressure group from the eastern Macon County settlements to move the county seat from Decatur to a new town site located more in the center of the county. Soon after this defeat, in 1841, the group went on to petition the State Legislature to split off a large portion of the eastern side of Macon county to form Piatt County. The last partitioning of Macon County occurred in 1843 when Moultrie County was formed from parts of Macon and Shelby Counties. All three partition petitions claimed Decatur was located too far away to do county business.

Immigration and land purchases in the Ward and Stevens Settlements, as well as in the rest of Illinois and the West, crashed in the years following the economic Panic of 1837. Because of the resulting lack of hard currency, dependable transportation, markets, and a prairie farming technology, immigration to, and land sales in, Macon County dribbled to a near halt with an increase of only a few hundred people between the Census of 1840 and that of 1850. Beginning around 1849 and into the early 1850s, economic conditions in Central Illinois began to improve considerably with the completion of the Illinois and Michigan Canal and the anticipated building of the Illinois Central Railroad, north and south, and the Great Western Railroad, east and west, crossing at Decatur.

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While these railroads were built to provide dependable transportation for getting future crops out of the Illinois prairies to railhead ports and world markets, the Illinois Central, because of its huge land holdings along its right-of-way, was also in the land business. It advertised extensively in Eastern and European papers, and attracted new settlers to its prairie lands and railroad towns. This advertising helped to set off a second and greater migration into the state. With the railroads and new people, the Market Revolution and popular material culture soon followed to overthrow and nearly sweep away the old traditional ways of the resident population (Smith 1876:32).

Sometime in the late 1840s Joseph M. Trobaugh, along with his wife, brothers and mother, moved to Macon County from Tennessee, being some of the last Upland Southern migrants to arrive. The Trobaugh family appears in the 1850 Census of Macon County. In 1853, Trobaugh bought 40 acres of Philo Hale's remaining estate lands in Section 19, Twp 16N., Range 2E, the heart of the Upland Southern Ward Settlement where the house sits.

There are no records to indicate whether Joseph Trobaugh actually built the hewn single-pen log core structure of the Trobaugh-Good house in 1847, or if he may have "squatted" or rented the land and built it previous to his purchase in 1853. It could even have been built by others prior to his purchase. But whoever built it did so late in the Exploration/Settlement Contextual Period, using Midland/Upland Southern building practices (Hutslar 1971:176-180; Kniffen & Glassie 1968:51; Meyer 1978:3; Sculle & Elbert 1982:2-3; Wyatt 1987:36-37). At that time, in Macon County, dimensional lumber for frame houses was available, but a few log homes were still being erected as quick housing or for those who could not afford the higher cost of a frame house.

The only extant log clapboard sided house contemporary with the Trobaugh-Good House is the c. 1860 Clark Warnick House. This one-and-one-half story, hewn, single pen log house has been moved from its original site, about two miles west of the Trobaugh-Good House, to the Macon County Historical Society's Prairie Village in Decatur, where it has been restored. Another vernacular log building, the c. 1833 Warnick Tavern, had been considered for purchase by the Conservation District, but was burned in 1975. Photographs and measured drawings of this one-and-one-half story, hewn, double-pen or saddlebag, log house are available for comparison

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to the Trobaugh-Good House. The fourth, a single pen, one-and-one-half story, sided and plastered log house, was found as it was being razed in the early 1980's to make room for a new house. Only a few pictures of this house were taken. All three log structures had been remodeled, clapboard sided and plastered, and all shared common Midland/Upland Southern construction origins.

Between the years of 1850 and 1870 the population of Macon County soared from nearly 4,000 inhabitants to over 26,000. To accommodate the growing need for construction lumber, pine and fir were shipped into the state, via the new railroads, from the forests and mills of Wisconsin (The Decatur Gazette, 22 Dec.,1858), and timbering of the state's riverine forests accelerated (Decatur Gazette and Chronicle, 20 Sept.1865). The 1860 Federal Census for Macon County and local newspaper accounts reveal that housing could not keep up with demand. People doubled up and took in boarders. Rooming houses and hotels were full. Frame houses were being built as fast as carpenters could be found to put them up, however flimsy, and some were sold or rented before they were even built (Illinois State Chronicle, 28 Aug. 1856).

The Illinois State Census of 1855 reports Joseph Trobaugh as farming and operating a steam sawmill on his property. The Illinois State Agricultural Census of 1860 also lists the steam sawmill as well as the following: 40 acres of improved land and 80 acres of unimproved land with a cash value of \$3,500; three horses, eight working oxen, eight milk cows and 38 hogs, a total worth of \$1,150; \$200 worth of farm machinery; and \$1,800 worth of Indian corn. It is very probable that Trobaugh's continued sawmill operation was helping to supply the community's oak construction lumber needs.

The Federal Census of 1860 records 11 people as living at the Trobaugh residence. Of these, six included Trobaugh family members: Joseph M. Trobaugh, 40, farmer, originally from Tennessee; his wife Elizabeth, 28, an Illinoisan as were daughters, Margaret, 4, Nancy, 2, and baby Isabel, 4 months; and his mother Margaret, 65, originally from Virginia. Others listed at the residence were: James D. C. Travis, 34, farmer, his wife Susan, 30, both from Illinois; Thomas Price, 23, from England; James Wray, 18, a laborer from Kentucky; and Gilbert Meyers, 9, from Illinois. There is no other documentation providing additional insight into these people's activities, but it is probable that they were helping Trobaugh with his farming and sawmill operation.



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In August, 1864, Trobaugh sold the south 20 acres of his original 40 acre home place. Then in March, 1866, he sold his farmstead and remaining north 20 acres to Emanuel Good, who was originally from York County, Pennsylvania. In both transactions, Trobaugh sold his land and improvements for half of what he paid for them. The Trobaugh family moved onto a prairie farm near Boody, Illinois in South Wheatland Township.

Emanuel and Anna Good, their daughters Sara, 6, and Margaret 1, and son Charlie, 3, moved onto the farm in the spring of 1866. Charlie died there within a few months. Here Anna bore seven of their ten children: Laura, in 1867; James, in 1869; Rose, in 1872; John, in 1874; Lillie, in 1877; Ida, in 1879 and who died at five years; and Robert, born 1884 (Bear, 1986). The surviving eight children all grew to adulthood here.

Emanuel Good, a Union Army veteran who was hospitalized for a period after the siege of Fort Donelson in Tennessee and released from U.S. service in 1862, claimed that he suffered from chronic diarrhea contracted during his military service. He died on the farm in 1902. His probate lists him as leaving about 107 acres of what is now Rock Springs Center. After his death a disagreement arose between his daughter Rose and the rest of the family that resulted in a forced sale of the property. Anna was moved into a house on land left to her by her father, where she remained until her death in 1917.

Associated with the Market Revolution of the nineteenth century was a growing movement to improve the civility, refinement and gentility of the American people (Bushman 1992; Kesson 1992; Sellers 1991). This movement, led by various secular and religious reformers, was disseminated through manners books, newspapers and magazines. Its most visual artifacts appear in this area as furniture, other household items and architecture.

During the 1850s and 1860s the prairies of Macon County were systematically being purchased and put to the plow. By the late 1870s nearly all public and railroad land had been purchased. During this time the second generation of the original inhabitants of the old Ward Settlement had come of age, and while invaded and flanked by more culturally progressive newcomers with their new ways, most remained fairly culturally stable, many preferring to keep to their older social and agricultural traditions. This

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cultural pattern decreased slowly in the old Ward Settlement area over the latter years of the century. The more progressive Midland descendants of the Stevens Settlement, however, quickly acculturated into the new surrounding growth of Decatur and its railroads and soon ceased to exist as a recognizable entity in the growing population.

The second generation of the Ward Settlement were not entirely immune to the pressures of the new popular culture and like the Trobaughs, many made improvements to their houses and material goods. Traditional log houses were no longer economic, or more importantly, fashionable. The newer generation preferred to live in more stylish and comfortable frame hall-and-parlor, gable-front-and-wing, I-houses and pattern book houses (McAlester and McAlester 1992). The older log houses of their parents were relegated to other purposes, abandoned, torn down or left to rot. A few were remodeled or incorporated into larger structures and survived, such as the Trobaugh-Good House.

During the Trobaugh occupancy, the house -- starting as a traditional log house -- very quickly was upgraded in the early 1850s with the addition of a lean-to to the rear, and exterior clapboard siding and interior lath and plaster. While these changes provided additional room and visual refinement, they were not a great departure from a basic traditional Midland/Upland Southern construction (Bushman 1992: 256-262; Hutslar 1971: 264). Spatially, the Trobaughs appeared to retain their southern "big house" tradition where all family activities took place within the two rooms, the rear lean-to addition possibly being used as a kitchen (Williams 1986: 131-136).

By mid-century, the refinement movement had evolved to a point that middle-class family structures were not considered refined unless they included a comfortable parlor in which the family could gather, away from the day-to-day activities of life, and there to pursue more genteel activities (Bushman 1992: 262-278; Kesson 1992: 169-181).

The building of the c.1850's/60's west addition, with its "parlor" room, marked a refinement of its inhabitants and the house. The addition was built as a traditional Midland/Upland Southern one room wide, one room deep saddlebag or double-pen extension to a single-pen core, albeit built in a different style and of different materials. Internally the addition is not traditional with the new one-room space divided into two

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rooms, a parlor and a bedroom, by means of a thin wooden partition wall. The inclusion of the parlor and separate bedroom into the house made it modestly fashionable.

From that time on, despite subsequent minor remodeling and alterations, the house began a slow decline, as the Good family grew in number and older. Family financial needs probably increased to the point where there was little money available for major replacement or modernization. At Emanuel Good's death in 1903, his probate listed very modest means and personal possessions, and the house was deteriorating.

Over the first five decades of the twentieth century, the house and farm changed hands several times. After the 1920s the house was inhabited by German and Polish immigrant families who had come to live there for a while to work the land, growing berries and orchard fruit for the local market, as they assimilated themselves into the community.

Today, there are but few descendants of the old original families living within the boundaries of the old settlement. The area is now in the path of the encroaching suburbs of Decatur and Mt. Zion.

The Trobaugh-Good House remains the last restored, vernacular log/frame, lower to middle-class home of the Ward and Stevens Settlements, and one of few houses in Macon County to exhibit, in one structure, the social, economic and architectural changes which occurred nationally within the late Exploration and Settlement and early Railroad contextual periods.

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Architecture

The Trobaugh-Good house qualifies under Criterion C as a locally significant, carefully restored example of a rural vernacular house c. 1847 - 1860s which reflects both Midland and Upland Southern notched-log building techniques and balloon frame construction, and straddles both the historic late Exploration/Settlement (1821-1858) and the early Railroad (1854-1945) geographical and chronographical contextual periods. It is the only known structure of its kind still standing on its original site in the Ward Settlement of Macon County, Illinois.

The house consists of a one story, hewn, single pen, log core structure built c. 1847 -early 1850s and three frame additions, two of which were built c. 1850s -early 1860s, and one added c. 1920. Other than the latter addition, the house has not been substantially altered from its mid-nineteenth century appearance.

The log single pen core of the Trobaugh-Good House -- while built late in the Exploration/Settlement contextual period in Central Illinois -- however, reflects earlier Midland/Upland Southern building practices (Hutslar 1971: 176-180; Kniffen and Glassie 1968 :51; Meyer 1978: 3; Sculle & Elbert 1982: 2-3; Wyatt 1987: 36-37). A log pen consists of four log walls laid up with the alternating horizontal logs of each side interlocking together and held in place by a shaped corner notch and gravity. The log house in America was first culturally assimilated from the Scandinavian immigrants of Maryland by the Scotch-Irish, English and German immigrants of southeastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware in the seventeenth century. Due to the abundance of timber, and the lack and cost of stone, the Scotch-Irish and German traditional building material of choice in Europe, they integrated Scandinavian horizontal log construction into their own traditional houses.

These single pen, one room log structures were the basis of other types of buildings and building configurations. They could be square or rectangular and built as houses, corn cribs, hog houses, barns and etc. The single pens could also be arranged as two pens built next to each other with a central fireplace between them. This type of house configuration is called a saddlebag. A long rectangular log pen built with a transverse log wall dividing the structure into two rooms is called a saddlebag house. Saddlebag houses were two rooms wide and one room deep. Another common type of log housing is the dogtrot where two log pens would be built with a wide space

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between them and both covered by a common roof. Any of the described pens could be any where from one, one-and-a-half or two stories in height. (Hutslar 1971; Sculle and Elbert 1982; Kniffen and Glassie 1973; Weslager 1969).

Generally speaking, log house building traditions over the eighteenth century first spread from its hearth down the east side of the Appalachian Mountains with the Scotch-Irish/German frontiersmen and through the mountain gaps into Kentucky and Tennessee. Here over several generations their building and other social traditions moderated into what has come to be called Upland Southern folk culture.

At the same time the mix of English/German/Scotch-Irish inhabitants of eastern Pennsylvania and lower New York pushed across the mountains to the west, and the blending of their different ethnic cultures developed into a Midland tradition.

By 1787 the Northwest Territory, was opened to settlement. Soon settlers from the Upland Southern states of Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia crossed the Ohio River into the lower portions of what would soon become the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Soon after emigrants from the Midlands of Pennsylvania and New York and Yankees of the New England states moved into the central and northern regions of Ohio, and later across Indiana into Illinois. In all three states the architecture of all three cultural building traditions are present. Yankee in the north, Midland/Upland Southern in the middle and Upland Southern in the south (Hutlar 1971; Glassie 1968; Meyer, Native-Born Immigrant Clusters on the Illinois Frontier, 1976; Weslager 1969).

Specifically, these migrant groups preferred several different types of notching systems over the years, using one or another for different kinds of buildings. One variation, the half dovetail notch was a derivation of a more complicated full dovetail notch which had originated in Europe. The half dovetail for houses became more popular because it was easier to make but was as stable as the full dovetail. This particular notch seems to have moved down from southeastern Pennsylvania into eastern Kentucky, northeastern Tennessee and northwestern North Carolina (Kniffen and Glassie 1973: 50). It also appears as the notch of choice in houses built in southern Ohio after c. 1825 (Hutslar 1971: 190 and 192), and is one of the most common found in log houses in the southern two-thirds of Illinois (Elbert and Sculle 1982: 2-3).

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The nearly square 17'-6" x 17'-7" Trobaugh-Good log pen faces south with its front and back batten doors opposite each other. There are two, six-over-six windows, one located immediately to the west side of front door and one in the center of the east wall. There is no hearth opening or any evidence of an earlier such opening in any wall, indicating the pen was built after the availability of cookstoves in this area. A doorway had been cut through the logs in the south end of the west wall to provide access to a later west addition.

The corners of the pen feature half-dovetail notching are found in two other contemporary log house structures in Macon County. The c.1833 Warnick Tavern was a vernacular one-and-one-half story, hewn log, double pen house with frame additions. The c. 1860s Clark Warnick House, a third generation relative of the owner of the Warnick Tavern, is a vernacular one-and-one-half story, hewn log, single pen house, which has been moved from its original site within two miles of the Trobaugh-Good House, to the Macon County Historical Society's Prairie Village, where it was restored. All three had been clapboarded externally and plastered internally.

The logs in the Trobaugh-Good House were roughly hewed without debarking and hastily erected suggesting that the intent of the builder was to cover it with clapboard siding within a few years (Reed 1986: 213). The interstices between the logs were chinked with odd shaped pieces of circle sawn lumber and mud daub. During the restoration it was found that the interior interstices had been faced with a lime based chinking and the walls whitewashed.

The siding was added some time in the mid-1850s when the house was extensively altered with a one room, oak framed, shed roofed, lean-to addition added to the back side of the house. This addition featured a batten door in its east wall and a oversized six-over-six, double-hung window in the center of the south wall. The addition is also typical of an Midland/Upland Southern building practices (Hutslar 1971: 264-265; Glassie 1968:105-6). At this same time the roof was raised, furring strips were added to the south side and the entire house was sided with clapboards. The interior of the log pen and three walls of the lean-to were lathed and plastered. The exposed log wall in the lean-to was chinked with a lime based chinking and whitewashed.

It is probable that all of the lumber in the house for this alteration was taken from the property due to Trobaugh's sawmill operation on the property. The exception was of

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the interior pine or fir trim work and the recovered remnants of the lapped clapboard siding found still attached to the west wall of the altered log pen and lean-to. Pine and fir products from Michigan and Wisconsin were available in Macon County just prior to the building of the railroads in 1854, but not as much as there would be after arrival of the railroads.

Architecturally this alteration changed the floor plan of the house from that of a square into a rectangle, and spatially it provided the Trobaugh's with more room. Aesthetically the once crude log structure had been changed into a more modern looking, although unpainted, home that exuded modest comfort and respectability for the Trobaugh family (Bushman 1992; Kesson 1992).

Some years later, in the first years of the Railroad contextual period, a one story, one room wide, one room deep, self-supporting gable ended addition was built onto the west side of the house. This addition changed the floor plan of the structure from that of a rectangle to that of a massed ell and a single pen into a vernacular double pen or saddlebag house. (Hutslar 1971: 255; Glassie 1968: 78-79,82-83,103-106; Wyatt 1987: 5-6). While traditional in its construction, the new west addition was built as a oak framed balloon structure, resting on its own brick foundation adjacent to the log pen (Hutslar 1971: 264). The gable roof of the south side of the addition was built to align with the south roof slope of the core structure. The north slope was built shallower and longer, and does not align with the north slope of the core structure and lean-to. The addition is finished internally with manufactured four-panel doors, narrow 4-over-4 windows and pine or fir trim. The exterior was sided with clapboards.

Traditional saddlebag type houses are constructed one room deep, as is the west addition of the Trobaugh-Good House; but internally it has been divided into two rooms by a one-inch tongue and groove partition wall (Hutslar 1971: 262). These two rooms were a popular departure from traditional architecture with one being a separate bedroom and the other a parlor (Bushman 1992: 264-279; Kesson 1992: 169-181).

Earlier saddlebag houses featured either a single central chimney containing two hearths which served the two rooms, or chimneys located at the extreme ends of the two pens (Glassie 1968: 78-79). The Trobaugh/Good House features a different configuration with two ceiling through attic chimneys, serving two stoves located on

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either side of the central double dividing wall separating the two pen structures (Hutslar 1971: 255).

It is probable that Joseph Trobaugh, an Upland Southerner originally from Tennessee, and who lived in the house from c.1853 to 1866, built the shed lean-to and renovated the log pen; and Emanuel Good, a Midlander originally from York County, Pennsylvania, who lived in the house from 1866 to 1902, constructed the west addition. It is also possible that Trobaugh built the west addition. Either Trobaugh or Good and their families were influenced enough by the pressures of the Market Revolution and its accompanying movement toward increased refinement in housing and living standards to make those refining changes (Bushman 1992: 426-427).

The Trobaugh/Good House underwent no major remodeling or renovations for the rest of the nineteenth century and first two decades of the twentieth century. Just prior to 1920, a one story, room and closet, shed roofed, frame addition was built on to the northwest side of the house, joining the west side of the north lean-to and the north side of the west addition. This addition was built with fir lumber and wall board and exhibiting the building practices of the time. The addition reveals no definitive architectural style, but is as different as the log pen/lean-to section and the west addition are different from each other. These differences do not seem to detract from the aesthetics of the house, but, rather, showcase the changes in the structure over time.

The Trobaugh-Good House is a restored architectural example of a lower- to middle-class Macon County home which straddles that time (1840-1860s) between traditional and popular culture in Central Illinois.

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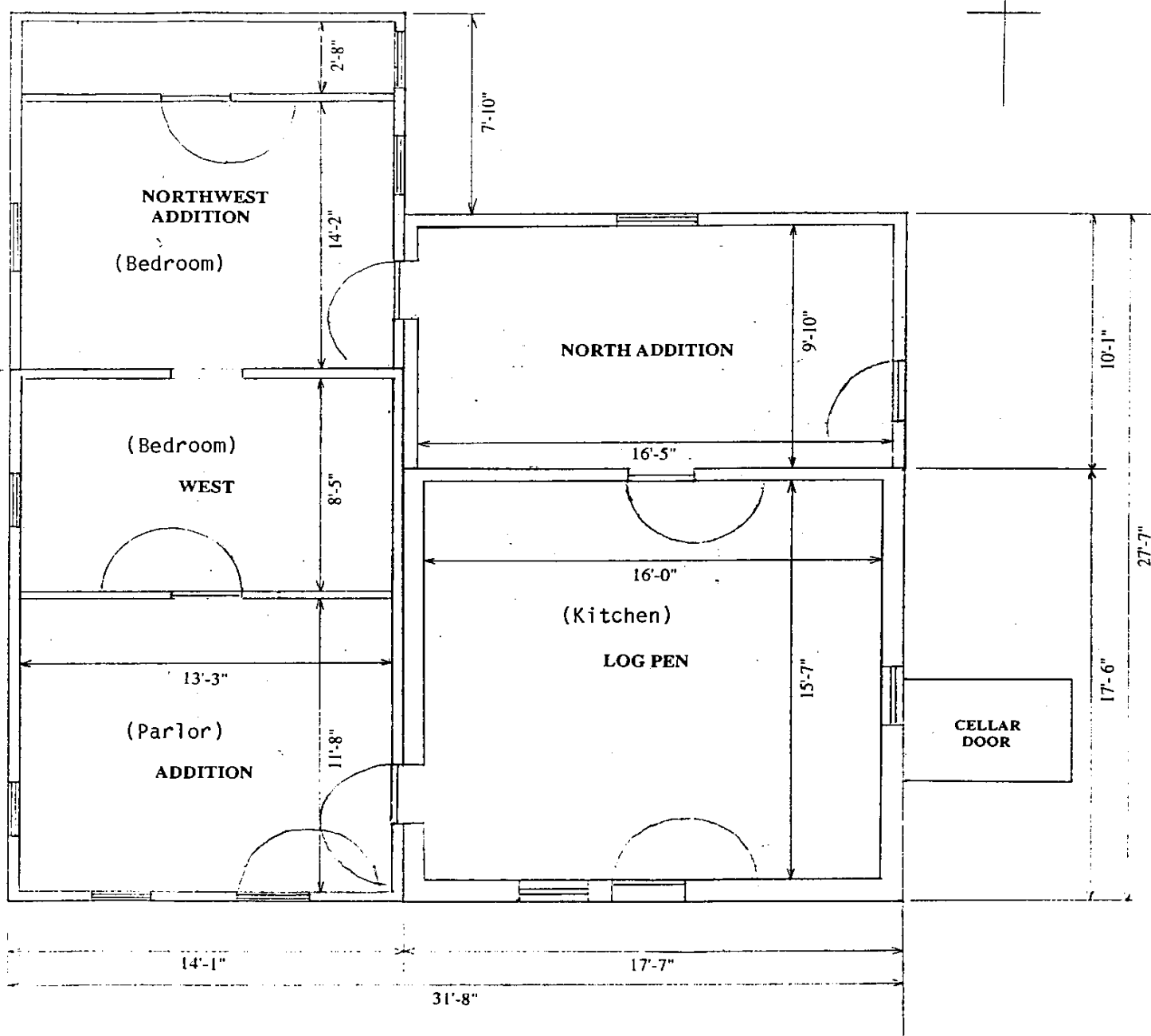
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### Verbal boundary description

The West 65 feet of the East 460 feet of the South 155 feet of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of Township Sixteen North (16N) Range Two East (R2E) of the Third Principal Meridian (3rd P.M.).

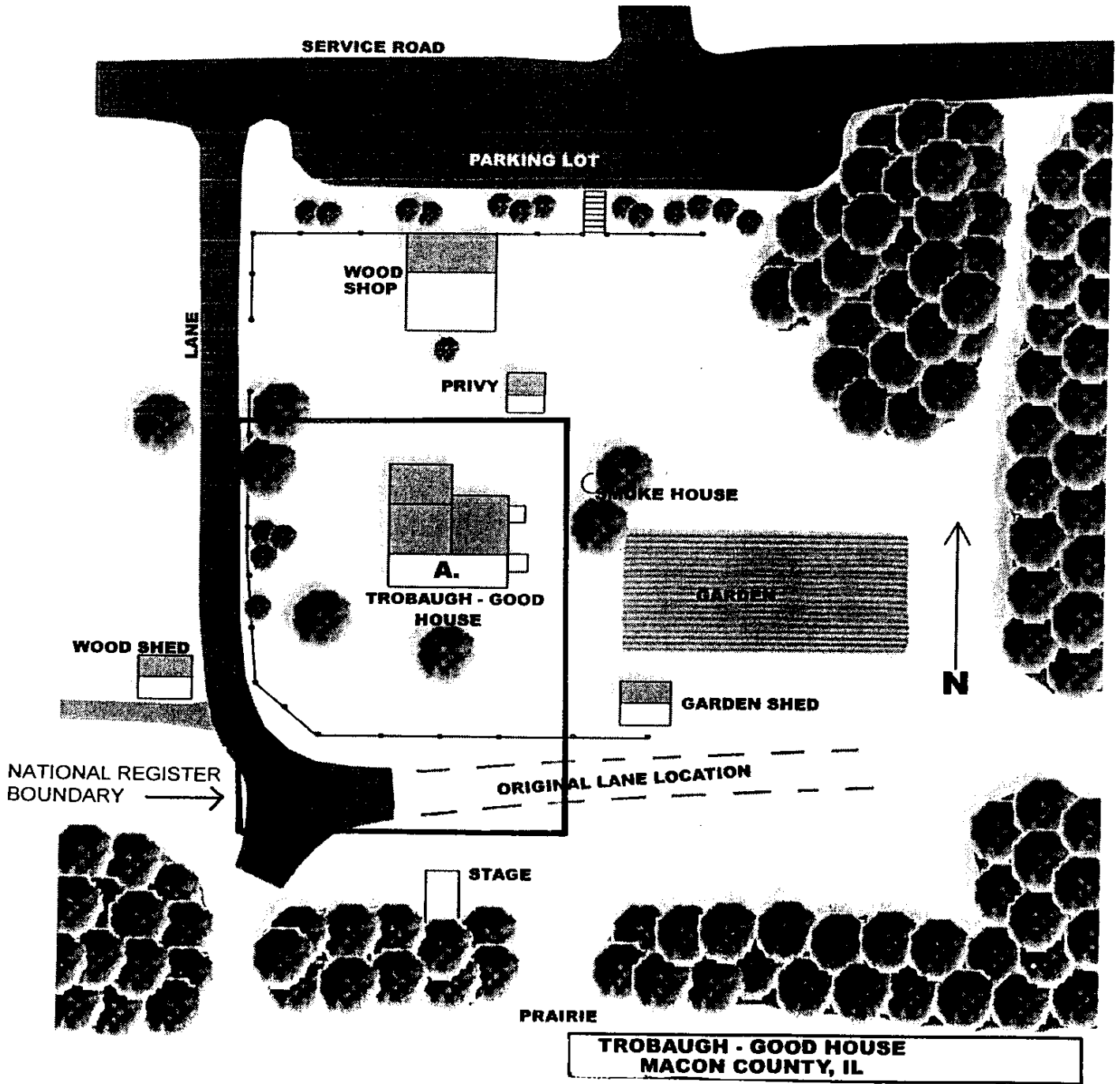
### Verbal boundary justification

The nominated property includes only the house and surrounding land historically associated with the Trobaugh-Good house and that maintains historic integrity. Newly constructed and moved buildings and structures on the farmstead are not included within the boundaries being nominated due to their recent relocation or construction. The farm fields surrounding the house, historically associated with the Trobaugh and Good families have not been included in the boundaries being nominated as they have been subdivided into smaller parcels.



Not to Scale

**Floor Plan**  
**Trobaugh-Good House**  
**Decatur, II**





# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to announce actions on the following properties for the National Register of Historic Places.

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(202) 343-1572, fax (202) 343-1836 or E-mail: edson\_beall@nps.gov

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AUG 9 1996

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 7/29/96 THROUGH 8/02/96

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

ARIZONA, PIMA COUNTY, Pie Allen Historic District, Roughly bounded by N. Euclid Ave., E. 6th St., N. Park Ave., and E. 10th St., Tucson, 96000648, LISTED, 6/20/96

CONNECTICUT, LITCHFIELD COUNTY, Lakeville Historic District, Bounded by Millerton Rd., Sharon Rd., Allen St., and Holley St., Salisbury, 96000845, LISTED, 8/02/96

CONNECTICUT, NEW LONDON COUNTY, Lighthouse Inn, 6 Guthrie Pl., New London, 96000822, LISTED, 8/02/96

FLORIDA, ORANGE COUNTY, Winter Garden Downtown Historic District, Roughly bounded by Woodland, Tremaine, Henderson, and Lake View Sts., Winter Garden, 96000850, LISTED, 8/01/96

FLORIDA, ORANGE COUNTY, Winter Garden Historic Residential District, Roughly bounded by Plant, Boyd, Tilden, and Central Sts., Winter Garden, 96000849, LISTED, 8/01/96

FLORIDA, SARASOTA COUNTY, Sanderling Beach Club, 105 Beach Rd., Sarasota, 94000618, PROPOSED MOVE APPROVED, 7/26/96

FLORIDA, VOLUSIA COUNTY, Daytona Beach Surfside Historic District, Roughly bounded by Auditorium Blvd., the Atlantic Ocean, US 92, and the Halifax River, Daytona Beach, 96000851, LISTED, 8/01/96 (Daytona Beach MPS)

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, Lincoln Building, 44 E. Main St., Champaign, 96000854, LISTED, 8/01/96

ILLINOIS, JOHNSON COUNTY, Ater--Jaques House, 207 W. Elm St., Urbana, 96000855, LISTED, 8/01/96

ILLINOIS, KANE COUNTY, LaSalle Street Auto Row Historic District, 56--84 LaSalle St. and 57--83 S. LaSalle St., Aurora, 96000856, LISTED, 8/01/96

ILLINOIS, LOGAN COUNTY, Mattfeldt, Theodore H. O., House, 202 S. Marion St., Mt. Pulaski, 96000853, LISTED, 8/01/96

ILLINOIS, MACON COUNTY, Trobaugh--Good House, 1495 Brink Ln., Decatur, 96000858, LISTED, 8/01/96

ILLINOIS, MCLEAN COUNTY, US Army Aircraft C-53-DO-41-20124, 1.25 mi. E of jct. of IL 9 and IL 5, Bloomington, 96000857, LISTED, 8/01/96

INDIANA, JENNINGS COUNTY, Benville Bridge, US Army Proving Ground, approximately 1 mi. E off Perimeter Rd., San Jacinto vicinity, 96000789, LISTED, 7/30/96

INDIANA, JENNINGS COUNTY, Edward's Ford Bridge, US Army Jefferson Proving Ground, off Northwest Rd., Nebraska vicinity, 96000788, LISTED, 7/30/96

INDIANA, RIPLEY COUNTY, Collin's Ford Bridge, US Army Proving Ground, approximately .75 mi. W of New Marion, New Marion vicinity, 96000787, LISTED, 7/30/96

INDIANA, RIPLEY COUNTY, Marble Creek Bridge, US Army Jefferson Proving Ground, approximately .75 mi. W of jct. of G and W. Recovery Rds., San Jacinto vicinity, 96000785, LISTED, 7/30/96

KANSAS, NEOSHO COUNTY, Austin Bridge, SE of Chanute at Neosho River, Chanute vicinity, 77000592, REMOVED, 8/02/96

KENTUCKY, FAYETTE COUNTY, Wolf Wile Department Store Building, 248--250 E. Main St., Lexington, 96000795, LISTED, 7/31/96

KENTUCKY, MORGAN COUNTY, Cooper, Judge John E., House, 709 N. Main St., West Liberty, 96000824, LISTED, 8/01/96

MASSACHUSETTS, BERKSHIRE COUNTY, Congregational Church of West Stockbridge, 45 Main St., West Stockbridge, 96000899, LISTED, 7/30/96

MASSACHUSETTS, BRISTOL COUNTY, Attleborough Falls Gasholder Building, 380 Elm St., North Attleborough, 96000848, LISTED, 8/02/96

MISSISSIPPI, BOLIVAR COUNTY, Taborian Hospital, US 61, jct. of McGinnis St., Mound Bayou, 96000827, LISTED, 8/02/96

NEW YORK, ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY, Fine Town Hall, 91 NY 58, Fine, 96000829, LISTED, 8/02/96

NORTH CAROLINA, DURHAM COUNTY, Golden Belt Historic District (Boundary Increase), 1000--1004 E. Main St., Durham, 96000816, LISTED, 7/30/96

NORTH CAROLINA, GASTON COUNTY, Mount Holly Cotton Mill, 250 N. Main St., Mount Holly, 96000830, LISTED, 8/01/96

OREGON, BENTON COUNTY, Hull--Oakes Lumber Company, 23837 Dawson Rd., Monroe vicinity, 96000869, LISTED, 8/02/96

SOUTH CAROLINA, ORANGEBURG COUNTY, Stroman, William P., House, 1017 N. Boulevard, Orangeburg, 96000836, LISTED, 8/01/96 (Orangeburg MRA)

SOUTH CAROLINA, UNION COUNTY, Union Community Hospital, 213 W. Main St., Union, 96000835, LISTED, 8/01/96 (Union MPS)

SOUTH DAKOTA, BUTTE COUNTY, Belle Fourche River Bridge, NE of Belle Fourche off US 212, Belle Fourche vicinity, 86000923, REMOVED, 8/01/96 (Rural Butte and Meade Counties MRA)

SOUTH DAKOTA, BUTTE COUNTY, Fruitdale Bridge, 1/2 mi. S of Fruitdale, Fruitdale vicinity, 86000925, REMOVED, 8/01/96 (Rural Butte and Meade Counties MRA)

WASHINGTON, GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY, McCleary Hotel, Old, 42 Summit Rd., McCleary, 96000842, LISTED, 8/02/96

WASHINGTON, LEWIS COUNTY, Hillside Historic District, Roughly bounded by Jefferson Ave., Hill St., Washington Ave., and 9th St., Chehalis, 96000841, LISTED, 8/01/96

WASHINGTON, YAKIMA COUNTY, Edgar Rock Lodge, 380 Old Naches Rd., Naches, 96000843, LISTED, 8/01/96