

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Southwest Durham Quad

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Leigh Farm
AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
East side S.R. 1110, 0.2 mile south of S.R. 1276
CITY, TOWN
Chapel Hill
STATE
North Carolina

VICINITY OF
4th
COUNTY
Durham

CODE
37

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
CODE
063

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Cleora Hudson
STREET & NUMBER
Route 6
CITY, TOWN
Chapel Hill
STATE
North Carolina

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Durham County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Durham
STATE
North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Leigh Farm is a typical, unpretentious nineteenth century farm complex in an undisturbed rural setting; it includes a one-story house plus a collection of nineteenth century outbuildings, of several different types of log and frame construction. Along an unpaved road leading to the house are, on the east side of the road, a log corn crib and a frame carriage house. The house stands on the west of the road, facing south. To the northeast (rear) of the house, in the yard, are a well and a tiny frame dairy. Northeast of this a few yards is a log smokehouse, and several hundred yards east of this, down a path, is a log dwelling, said to have been slave quarters. North of the smokehouse and slightly east is another log dwelling, also said to have been slave quarters, for house servants.

The house is a simple one-story frame building, with a broad gable roof. It is three bays wide and four deep, with two chimneys on the east side, each with a stone base and brick stack. Windows contain six-over-six and four-over-four sash. The house has been re-weatherboarded with German siding, and some of the windows replaced. To the rear is a smaller gable-roof frame section, linked to the main house by a now-enclosed breezeway.

The interior of the main section consists of four rooms, and it is suggested that the two rear rooms are the oldest part of the house. The walls and ceilings are all sheathed with wide pine boards, and an enclosed stair rises from the larger (east) room, along the partition wall, rising in the smaller (west) room. Doors are batten ones, hung on strap hinges in simple frames with a single outer molding. The mantel in the east room is rather large; the opening is framed by a simple bead, with a molded backband beneath a row of seven vertical flat panels, with rather broad moldings; another panel occupies the pilaster strip on either side of the opening. The form of the mantel is somewhat Georgian, but the moldings appear to be of Greek Revival character. The front rooms are similarly finished with wide pine sheathing, walls and ceilings.

Nearest the house is the frame gable-roof well. To the rear of it, and cooled originally by its water, is the tiny dairy, also of frame with a gable roof: the roof extends outward to shelter the south facade. The structure is covered with beaded weatherboards and fitted with a batten door hung in a molded frame with small H hinges. There is a tapered beaded raking cornice. The area beneath the roof where it overhangs on the front is not ceiled but remains open to provide for air circulation; a curved horizontal board is placed beneath the front portion of the overhang. The thick walls are said to have been filled with sawdust for insulation.

The smokehouse to the east is of hewn logs joined in a half-dovetail notch. The door is in the (south) gable end, and the gable roof extends to provide a considerable overhang, protecting the weatherboarded gable.

Northwest of this, and facing east, is perhaps the most interesting building in the complex. It is a log slave quarters, later a weaving house, with a log and stick chimney--a rare feature in North Carolina (only two others are known and recorded).

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The house, a two-bay building with gable roof, is built of logs with diamond joints. The base of the chimney, located on the south side, is of hewn logs joined in a "house topping" notch. At the base of the shoulder the logs stop and the chimney is made of flat sticks crossed at the corners. In the 1920s the owner of the place took down the chimney and replaced the mud-daubed lining with a brick flue but rebuilt it with the original logs; some sticks were replaced. In recent years, some repointing with cement has replaced the mud, which washed away. Comparison with an early twentieth century photograph shows that the chimney retains essentially its original appearance; it is in excellent condition. The gable roof of the house extends in a deep overhang to protect the chimney, whose stack rises through the roof overhang. (This feature is also seen at the Ebenezer Church--a log chimney in nearby Chatham County.) The rear roofline also extends to cover a rear shed, also of logs.

The other log dwelling has two pens, one of hewn logs joined in a house-topping notch, the other (east) of smaller logs, simple joined. The corn crib southeast of the house has hewn logs joined in a pear-shaped V notch and has a small shutter-like door. The frame carriage house has a steep gable roof, a slight overhang over the large front doorways, and sheds to the south and rear. It is covered with relatively recent siding. There is also a typical twentieth century log tobacco barn, with small logs joined in a simple cross notch, some distance from the other buildings.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Leigh Farm, located in a rural area near the town of Chapel Hill, is a complete and representative example of the moderate-sized farm that made up much of nineteenth century North Carolina. Along with the rather modest house with vernacular pine interior woodwork there are several notable outbuildings, including a tiny frame dairy and several log structures with four types of corner timbering; one of these, the servants' house, has a log and stick chimney--a rare survival in the state.

Richard Stanford Leigh was born October 9, 1809, in Orange County, North Carolina. His parents were Sullivan and Nancy Shepherd Leigh. He was married August 10, 1834, to Nancy Ann Carlton (born April 13, 1816). Nancy Ann was a granddaughter of John Daniel who, with others, granted land for the establishment of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and who was also surveyor for the university village in 1792. The Leighs and Daniels were well connected among the old Orange County families.

On October 9, 1834, Sullivan Leigh purchased a tract of 500 acres on "the waters of Newhope Creek" in Orange County from Richard Tapp, and gave it to his son, Richard Stanford Leigh (who had married the previous August) as a homesite. Tradition coupled with stylistic evidence suggest that the dwelling house was built soon afterward.

Richard Stanford Leigh's land holdings increased until in 1860 he had in Orange County, 200 improved acres of land, 787 unimproved acres of land, with an estimated cash value of \$7,500. He owned sixteen slaves which helped him produce 125 bushels of wheat, 1,250 bushels of Indian corn, 3 bales of ginned cotton (400 pounds each), 40 pounds of wool, 200 bushels of peas and beans, 20 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 300 bushels of sweet potatoes, 150 pounds of butter, 25 pounds of honey, and 2 pounds of beeswax. His livestock was valued at \$1,232, which included 6 horses, a mule, 8 milk cows, 45 sheep, 66 hogs, and a dozen other head of cattle. The Leigh plantation produced \$100 worth of homemade materials, examples of which remain there today.

Correspondence still in the Leigh family shows that the family lived in comfortable circumstances, and were educated and cultured people. Nancy Carlton Leigh was an accomplished musician on the recorder, and her "Singing Book" remains at the plantation and exhibits her skill as a composer. Richard Stanford Leigh was a magistrate, and a prominent figure in Orange County.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, several of the Leigh sons enlisted, and one of them, Peregrine Leigh, died of camp fever in April, 1862. Three years later, when Union general, William T. Sherman, was in pursuit of General Joseph Johnston and his

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army, the Leigh plantation, in the direct line of march, was ransacked. The losses of food were high. Horses, a mule, cows, corn, bacon and fodder were taken by the Union troops. Stanford Leigh, as late as June, 1877, was still trying to recover payment for the stolen livestock and provisions. Stanford Leigh's first cousin, Nancy Leigh Bennett, and her husband, James, who lived nearby, were hosts to generals Sherman and Johnston when the surrender terms, which ended the civil War, were worked out in their home on April 17, 1865.

Nancy Carlton Leigh died July 10, 1861, and in 1864 Stanford Leigh married Lethy Hawkins Hudgins, by whom he had five children. (By Nancy Ann Carlton he had fifteen.)

With great family responsibilities and a depleted fortune, Stanford Leigh turned to trade. He opened a saw mill and store on New Hope Creek about 1866 under the name of R. S. Leigh and Company. A Durham County township map, dated 1887, shows both the Leigh homesite, saw mill, and store as prominent local landmarks.

Richard Stanford Leigh died September 1, 1898, and was buried near his dwelling house. By agreement the dwelling house and lands went to the widow for her lifetime. Lethy Hudgins Leigh died in 1900, at which time the numerous children drew lots for portions of the Leigh estate.

Ida Leigh drew the lot which included the dwelling house and tenements, but she later traded her share with Kate Leigh Hudson, who had drawn farmland. At the death of Kate Leigh Hudson in 1946, her heirs deeded the Leigh House to Oliver Wendell Hudson, son of Kate and Henry Q. Hudson.

Oliver Wendell Hudson later married Cleora Quinn, a native of Duplin County, and in 1950 they restored the dwelling house and settled at the Leigh Farm, as it is now known. Since Mr. Hudson's death it has been the home of Cleora Quinn Hudson.

The Leigh plantation is significant in that it represents the middle class in North Carolina, composed of county schoolteachers, lawyers, doctors, small office holders, successful artisans, merchants, manufacturers, and small planters such as the Leighs. This was the group that formed the basis of society--what the editors and political leaders of the nineteenth century constantly referred to as "the substantial citizenry."

In the size of their plantation they were ^{ranked with} 1.8 percent of the total population in North Carolina in 1860, and only 10,000 planters in the state had more slaves than they. Northern Orange County had several large plantations, run by hundreds of slaves, producing vast amounts of products. Southern Orange County, however, was not as rich nor as stratified, with more small and moderate-sized farms. The Leigh plantation still contains an unusual quantity of the tools, products, and papers reflective of the ideas and methods of middle-class Southern rural life.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Battle, Kemp P. History of the University of North Carolina. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Company, 1907.
 Leigh Family Papers. Xerox copies deposited in the Survey files by Curtis Booker, Route 4, Durham, North Carolina.
 Johnson, L. Durham County Map, 1887. Copied from the original in the North Carolina Collection, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>17</u>	<u>682200</u>	<u>3977150</u>	B	<u>17</u>	<u>682200</u>	<u>3976800</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u>17</u>	<u>681800</u>	<u>3977150</u>	D	<u>17</u>	<u>681800</u>	<u>3976800</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Research by John Baxton Flowers, III, survey specialist; architectural description by Catherine W. Cockshutt, survey supervisor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Division of Archives and History

30 July 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

109 East Jones Street

919/829-7862

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Raleigh

North Carolina

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL x

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Bruce Lee Dwyer

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 30 July 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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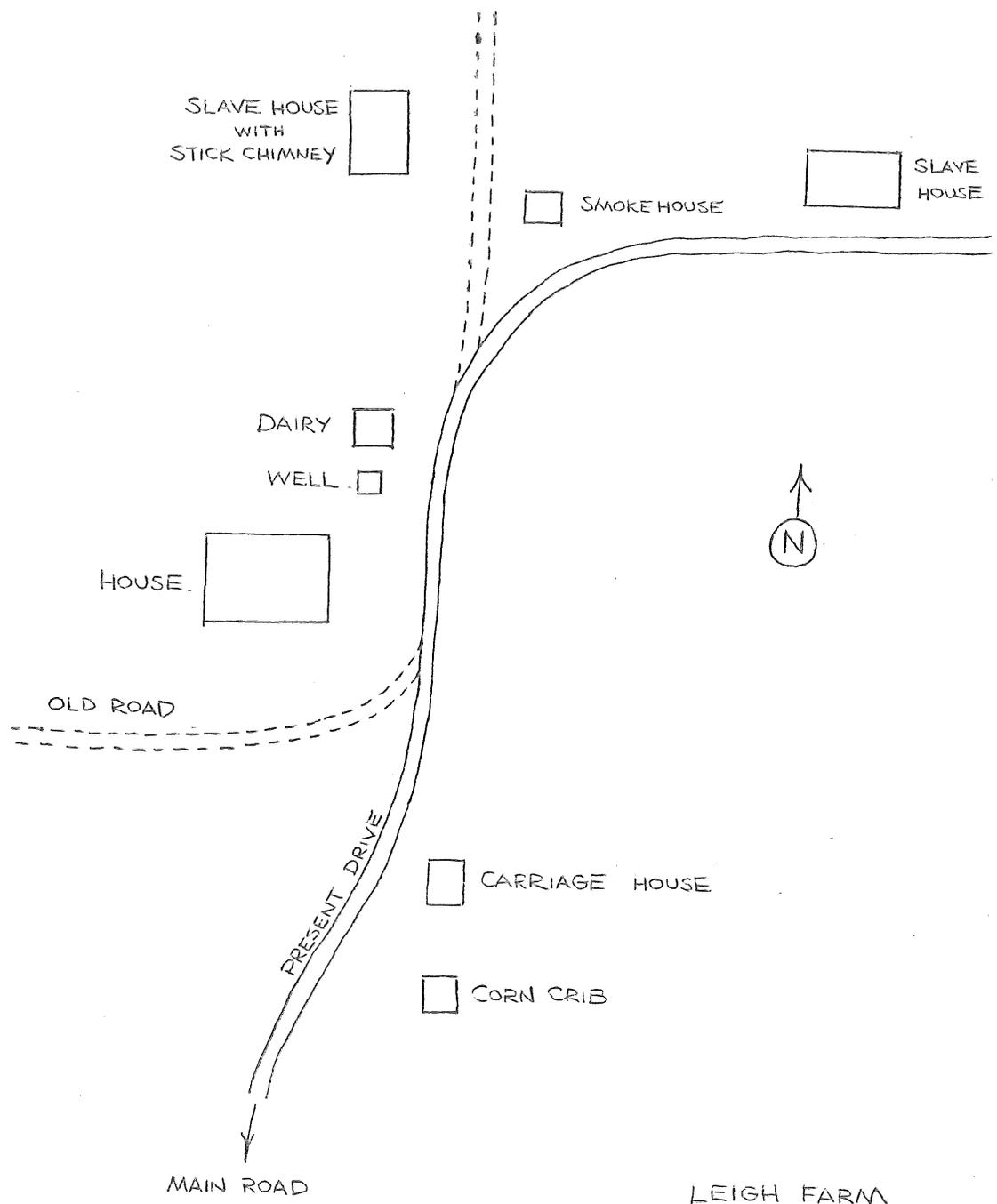
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Orange County Records, Orange County Courthouse, Hillsborough, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Wills, Deeds, Tax Lists, Estate Papers).

Orange County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Wills, Deeds, Tax Lists, Estate Papers).



LEIGH FARM
 DURHAM COUNTY, N.C.
 NO SCALE
 1975
 MICHAEL SOUTHERN

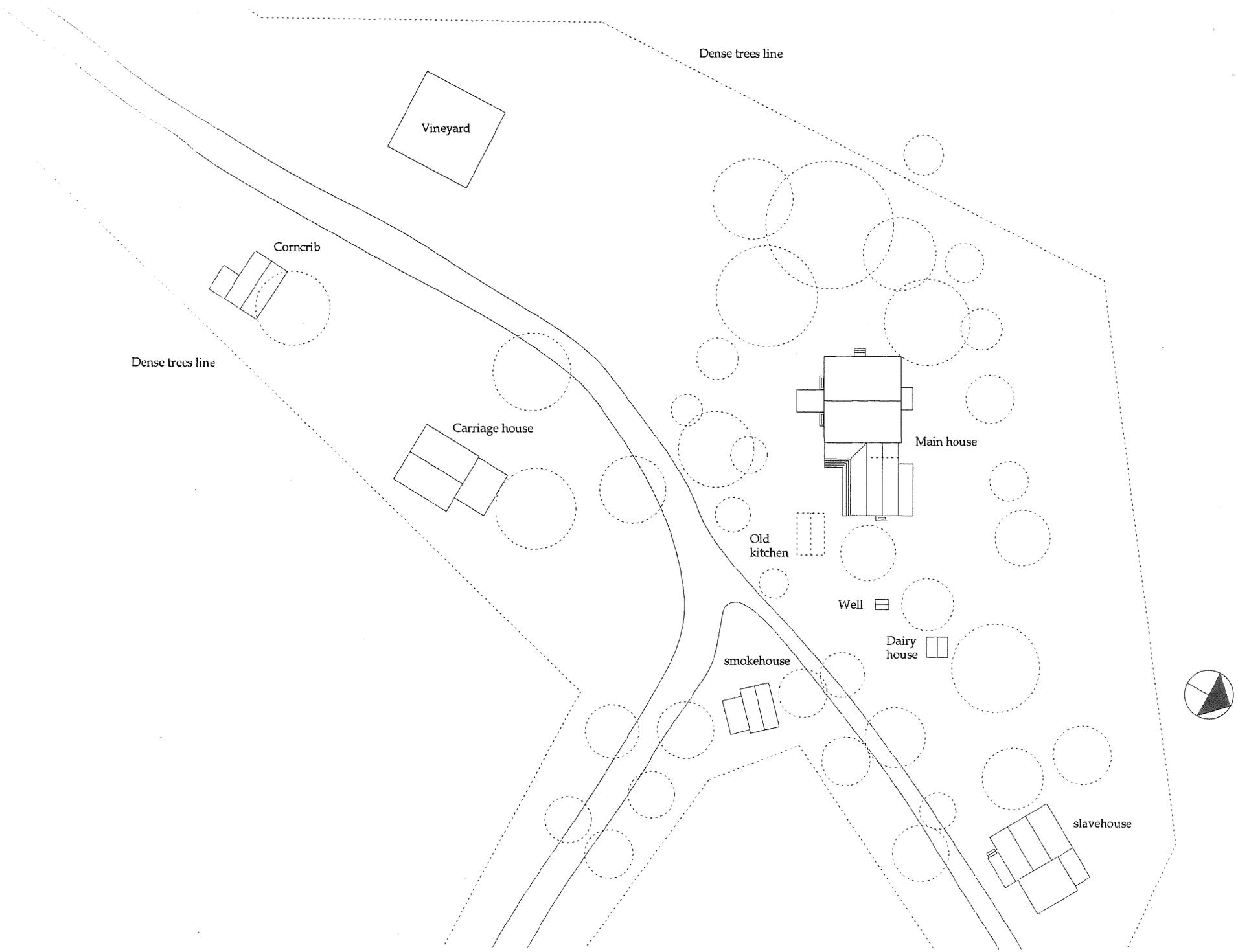


Fig.5: site plan. 1"=50'-0"

