

# THE DOGTROT HOUSE TYPE IN GEORGIA: A HISTORY AND EVOLUTION

by

SHELDON BEN OWENS

(Under the Direction of John C. waters)

## ABSTRACT

The dogtrot house type is one of the more romanticized vernacular house types in Georgia, yet at the same time one of the least represented in recognized material form. Once one of the most important house types in Georgia, the dogtrot's reputation for adaptability earned it high status among the pioneer cultures that populated the inland forests of Georgia, as well as the rest of the eastern United States. This thesis analyzes the dogtrot's history from its first diffusion into early Georgia up to its nostalgic picturesque reputation of the present. Finally, this thesis attempts to call attention to the dogtrot as one of Georgia's most elusive and endangered vernacular forms.

INDEX WORDS: Dogtrot, Georgia, open-passage house, double log house, double-pen, two-pens-and-passage, hallway house, dogrun, possum trot, turkey trot, saddlebag, dingle, vernacular architecture, log construction, FindIT, NAHRGIS, Salzburgers, New Sweden, historic preservation, braced frame construction

THE DOGTROT HOUSE TYPE IN GEORGIA: A HISTORY AND EVOLUTION

by

SHELDON BEN OWENS

A.A. Young Harris College, 2003

B.A. University of Georgia, 2004

A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of The University of Georgia in Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree

MASTER OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATHENS, GEORGIA

2009

© 2009

Sheldon B. Owens

All Rights Reserved

# THE DOGTROT HOUSE TYPE IN GEORGIA: A HISTORY AND EVOLUTION

by

SHELDON BEN OWENS

Major Professor: John C. Waters

Committee: Mark Reinberger  
David Spooner  
Melissa Roberts

Electronic Version Approved:

Maureen Grasso  
Dean of the Graduate School  
The University of Georgia  
August 2009

## DEDICATION

To my loving parents, Ronald Eugene Owens and Helen Polack Owens.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the many people and entities that contributed in various ways to the development of this thesis. To my parents: this would not be possible without the years of loving support and confidence. To John Waters, for the many forms of guidance throughout the process. To Donna Gabriel, for the caring guidance over the past three years. To Katie McAlpin, for the constant support and many hours of assistance, while putting up with this work. To Eric Reisman, for the friendship that is so genuine, and the greatly needed help with this work. To Melissa Roberts, for being a wonderful instructor in the realm of field research. To Bill Moffat, for the chance to compare notes with real knowledge of Georgia's vernacular landscape. To Tim Walsh, for the true willingness to teach responsible building material preservation. To Hunter S. Thompson, for always being there in one form or another. To the University of Georgia School of Environment and Design, for this opportunity. To Paul Ridenour, for the use of his wonderful pictures of Chieftans Museum. To the Public Libraries' staff / communities of Gordon and Emanuel Counties, for acceptance and information. To ITOS, for the gift of NAHRGIS. To the Atlanta Braves, for the nineties, and beyond. To Kevin Wimbs and Wired Communications, for keeping things going. To Robert Joseph Delenback III, for introducing me to Danny of Monterrey and the graphic support. To God Almighty, for such a beautiful world.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	v
LIST OF TABLES .....	ix
LIST OF FIGURES .....	x
 CHAPTER	
1: INTRODUCTION .....	1
Purpose and Methodology .....	2
An Overview .....	3
2: DESCRIPTION OF THE DOGTROT HOUSE TYPE .....	8
A Definition of the Dogtrot House Type.....	8
The Open Passage .....	10
The Foundation.....	13
The Chimney .....	14
The Roofing.....	15
The Porch .....	16
The Attic Space .....	16
The Windows .....	16
Possible Additions.....	17
Log Dogtrots.....	18
Frame Dogtrots.....	21
3: THE ORIGIN THEORIES OF THE AMERICAN DOGTROT .....	23

The Lower Delaware Valley .....	25
Southeastern Tennessee.....	28
4: THE DOGTROT IN GEORGIA .....	31
The Diffusion of the Dogtrot in Georgia.....	32
The Exiled Lutherans of Georgia .....	36
The Log Dogtrot in Georgia.....	39
The Framed Dogtrot in Georgia .....	42
The Current Status of Georgia's Remaining Dogtrots .....	45
The Dogtrot Enclosed with Double Doors .....	45
The Dogtrot Enclosed with Permanent Clapboards and Central Front Door.....	46
The Dogtrot Altered to Resemble an I-House .....	47
Field Data on the Georgia Dogtrot .....	50
5: CONCLUSION.....	59
REFERENCES .....	63
APPENDICES .....	67
A: Northern European Log Construction Traits .....	68
B: Historic Resource Survey Form and Pictures from Emanuel County Dogtrot.....	70
C: Additional Pictures of Dogtrots in Georgia .....	80
D: Dogtrot Diffusion Map .....	88
E: Various Dogtrot Floor Plans.....	89



## LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1: Georgia Dogtrot Field Data .....	51
Table 2: Bartow County Field Data.....	52
Table 3: Emanuel County Field Data.....	52
Table 4: Gordon County Field Data.....	54
Table 5: Whitfield County Field Data.....	56
Table 6: Analysis of Dogtrot Loss.....	57

## LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1.1: Child walking through Dogtrot in Laurel, MS .....	4
Figure 1.2: Classic Dogtrot homestead .....	5
Figure 1.3: Illustration of western Pennsylvania pioneer Dogtrot .....	6
Figure 2.1: Dogtrot surveyed in Emanuel County .....	12
Figure 2.2: closer view of Emanuel County Dogtrot passage .....	13
Figure 2.3 Composite chimney structure, Whitfield County, GA .....	15
Figure 2.4: Jacob Wolf house, Norfolk, Arkansas. Const. 1809 .....	18
Figure 2.5: Diagram of Midland corner notching technology .....	20
Figure 2.6: Upland South routes and notches.....	20
Figure 2.7: Braced Frame Dogtrot in process of salvage demolition, Emanuel Co., GA.....	22
Figure 3.1: Fenno-Scandian cottage that resembles a dogtrot.....	24
Figure 3.2: The Environmental Paramaters of the Upland South.....	28
Figure 4.1: Map of recorded Dogtrot concentration by county .....	32
Figure 4.2: Routes of Backwoods frontier expansion 1725-1825 .....	35
Figure 4.3: Salzburger type 4 barn.....	37
Figure 4.4: another example of Salzburger type 4 barn.....	38
Figure 4.5: half-dovetail notch, Gordon Co. GA. ....	41
Figure 4.6: Saddle-notch, Emanuel Co. ....	41
Figure 4.7: c. 1790 dogtrot floor system with hewn log sill, Whitfield Co.....	43
Figure 4.8: double door enclosed hall, Marion, Co.....	46

Figure 4.9: dogtrot enclosed with permanent clapboards, Gordon Co. GA.....	47
Figure 4.10: Illustration of Chieftains Museum.....	49
Figure 4.11: Chieftains Museum.....	49
Figure 4.12: enclosed dogtrot, Schley Co. Georgia.....	58
Figure 4.13: enclosed passage, Schley Co. Georgia .....	58
Figure 5.1: Kudzu covered dogtrot in Schley Co. Georgia.....	62

## **CHAPTER 1.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

My fascination with the dogtrot house type began gradually and subconsciously at an early age. One of my first childhood memories is when our elementary school class visited a historic structure – known as the Possum Trot Church and School – situated on the Berry College campus in Rome, Georgia. These structures were the ‘cradle’ of Berry College, as it is the site where Martha Berry first started teaching local children. Although the church and attached school buildings do not fit into the dogtrot house type, they are attached by breezeways and the ‘trot’ definitely left an impression on my young mind. Once I realized that history was to become a life long passion of mine, it did not take much time before I also realized that it was the historic fabric all around me that sparked that interest.

While researching for this work I was astonished to find that an original 1790’s hewn log dogtrot lay beneath the classical façade of the Rome, Georgia Chieftans Museum, which was one of my adolescent favorites. I also have fond memories of lounging and drinking root beer in the cool breezeway of a dogtrot ‘cantina’ (Ponil) as a boyscout on a scorching trek through the Philmont Scout Ranch in northern New Mexico. So, when I began my formal education in the field of historic preservation, which eventually gravitated towards the often forsaken vernacular architecture of the southeast United States, the dogtrot resurfaced for me in a big way.

My research on the dogtrot house type was conducted in the field, through the available literature, and by interview with professionals in the field of preservation. While interning for a survey program called FindIT that documents cultural resources throughout Georgia, my field

survey work focused on rural vernacular architecture. While noting that our Georgia Historic Resources Survey Manual, written by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, contended that most dogtrot houses in the state had been enclosed to resemble the central hallway house type, an intense spark of interest ushered me along the path of inquiry which directly leads to this text.

### **Purpose and Methodology**

The major purpose of this thesis is to answer certain questions about the dogtrot house type that arose while surveying vernacular architecture in Georgia. Why is the Georgia dogtrot house type one of the most romanticized vernacular house types in the state, yet presently, one of the fewest represented in actual material form? On that same strain of inquiry, what is a common evolutionary story of the dogtrot leading up to its introduction into the state of Georgia, and from that time until the present? Also, what is the state of Georgia's most advisable course of action for dealing with the historic fabric of its remaining dogtrot houses?

The dogtrot house type was once one of the most abundant log house types in pioneer era Georgia as well as much of the Upland South. The dogtrot underwent several periods of change – in popular construction methods, details, and alterations - which can be seen as an 'evolution.' Although the dogtrot once enjoyed being one of Georgia's most abundant house types throughout the state's history, it is now one of the most threatened and scarce. Being one of the most important as well as endangered vernacular house types in the state, the dogtrots that still survive should be thoroughly documented if continued preservation is not a realistic option.

The research methodology utilized in this thesis includes the study of many pertinent scholarly and source documents on the dogtrot house type and its history. Also, much of the

research was conducted in the field, both independently and while I was an intern with a survey program. Furthermore, several phone interviews were conducted with professionals in the field of historic preservation.

The Natural, Architectural, and Historic Resource Graphic Information System (NAHRGIS), an online database of Georgia's historic cultural resources, was also used as a research tool to locate Georgia's documented dogtrots.<sup>1</sup> I first worked with the NAHRGIS database in the fall of 2007 as an intern with FindIT, a partnership program that surveys Georgia's historic resources.<sup>2</sup> The data gathered through all of the research methods used for this thesis congeal to provide a good historical overview of the dogtrot as well as its current material condition in Georgia.

### **An Overview**

The dogtrot house type is one of the most romanticized American vernacular house types of popular early twentieth century literature within southern rural settings. Writers, painters, and photographers conjured the images of a hound dog padding through an open breezeway in what was the 'good ole' country life. William Faulkner used the image of a dogtrot house as a symbol of the south's poor social stratum in several of his works: *Absalom! Absalom!*, *Go Down Moses*, "Spotted Horses," *The Mansion*, *The Reivers*, and *As I Lay Dying*.<sup>3</sup> A contemporary of Faulkner, Eudora Welty, often captured the dogtrot house when working as a photographer with the Farm Security Administration in the 1930's, as did others such as Dorothea Lange, Arthur

---

<sup>1</sup> The NAHRGIS online database is jointly funded by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). NAHRGIS was first introduced by the Information Technical Outreach Service (ITOS) in May of 2005. All information about the development of NAHRGIS and FindIT provided by Melissa Roberts who is the head coordinator of the FindIT project, during two phone interviews, June, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> FindIT was founded in December of 2001 as a programmatic agreement between the University of Georgia College of Environment and Design (UGA, CED) and the Georgia Transmission Corporation (GTC).

<sup>3</sup> Ferris, William, *The Dogtrot: A Mythic Image in Southern Culture*. 1986, pp. 72-76.

Rothstein, and Russell Lee.<sup>4</sup> Later, in *Losing Battles*, Welty tied the dogtrot home of character Granny Renfro to days long past.<sup>5</sup> The dogtrot has also been the subject for many southern folk artists for decades now. Theora Hamblett was inspired to paint the dogtrot that had been her childhood home, “and focuses our eye through its central hall with two rooms on either side to the seed house beyond.”<sup>6</sup>

The fact of the matter is that the passage or breezeway, now popularly referred to as the dogtrot in the particular house type, was strictly utilitarian in design. Furthermore, the people who constructed and lived in what is now known as the dogtrot cabin or house would not have recognized that name, because that was not the common nomenclature for the house type in its early years.



**Figure 1.1** Child walking through Dogtrot near Laurel, Mississippi  
([www.oldhouseweb.com](http://www.oldhouseweb.com), from HABS)

---

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ferris, 1986, p. 76.

<sup>6</sup> Ferris, 1986, p. 81.



**Figure 1.2** Classic Dogtrot Homestead  
([www.oldhouseweb.com](http://www.oldhouseweb.com), from HABS)

Most likely, the residents of the early dogtrots would have known their dwelling by one or several of the many descriptive titles such as the ‘open-passage house’, which were used throughout the various regions where they were abundant. Common folk terminology labels this house type with a long list of popular names: ‘double log house, double-pen, two-pens-and-passage, hallway house, three-P, dogrun, possum trot, turkey trot, saddlebag, dingle, and East Texas house.’<sup>7</sup> That being said, the house type in question will be referred to as the dogtrot house type throughout the remainder of this text.

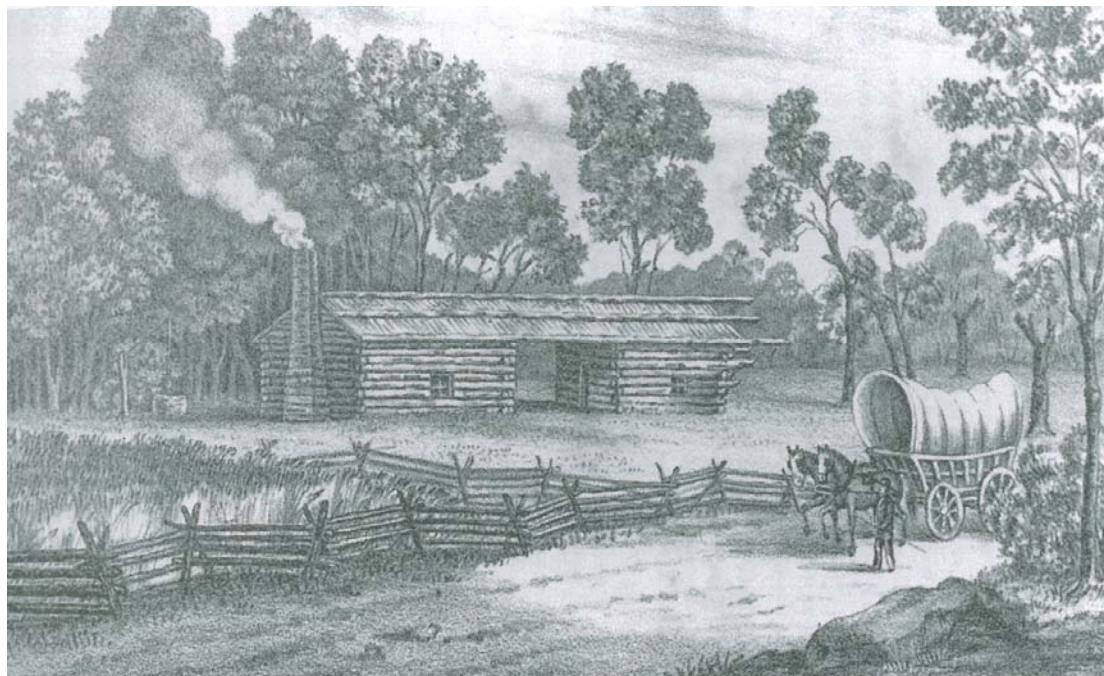
With the probable introduction into North America at sometime around the mid to late 1600’s just south of present day Philadelphia, the dogtrot eventually became one of the most popular hewn and round log house types for American pioneers and backwoods dwellers.<sup>8</sup> As

<sup>7</sup> Jordan, Terry, and Matti Kaups, “Folk Architecture in Cultural and Ecological Context,” *Geographical Review*, vol. 77, no. 1 (Jan., 1987), pp. 53-54.

<sup>8</sup> Jordan-Bychkov, Terry, *The Upland South: The Making of an American Folk Region and Landscape*. 2003, p. 36.



one of the most regularly constructed house types by many of the expansionist pioneer cultures such as the Scotch-Irish, the dogtrot was spread throughout the Upland South in an extremely rapid diffusion. Due to the dogtrot's distinctive plan and its wide dissemination throughout the majority of the country's eastern states south of Pennsylvania, the house type would have been easily recognizable to many travelers during the pioneer era of North America.<sup>9</sup>



**Figure 1.3** Illustration of western Pennsylvania pioneer Dogtrot  
(Jordan, Kaups, 1989, p. 181)

The dogtrot cabin consisted of two pens of equal or comparable sizes separated by an open space, with both pens and the intermittent space covered by a common roof. By researching source documents, it is apparent that one pen of the dogtrot was a living space while the other pen often served as a summer kitchen or one of any number of the utilitarian uses reported. Some of the more common employments of the second pen were as a second apartment or rented inn room, storage room, tavern, work shop, store, office space, jury quarters,

---

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

classroom, or chapel.<sup>10</sup> The dividing breezeway, which was the most distinctive detail of the house type, was also used for several different work related and family activities, as well as storage at the same time. One of my favorite quotes about the dogtrot house comes from an 1888 interview of Alanson A. Haines for a published history of a small township in New Jersey:

After a little time the capacity of their dwellings was doubled, by putting a second house close by, and near enough to have to have one roof cover both, leaving a passageway between. Sometimes this was wide enough for the storing of farm implements or even the running in of a wagon. The doors being opposite, the access was easy from one room to another. These were called double houses and saddle-bag houses. My grandmother described them as common in her youth.<sup>11</sup>

Due to the hot tropical like climate of the states in the south, the dogtrot and its pleasant cooling feature of the breezeway enjoyed a long standing in the popular culture of nearly all southern states.<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>10</sup> Jordan, 2003, p. 37.

<sup>11</sup> Hulan, Richard H., "The Dogtrot House and its Pennsylvania Associations," *Pennsylvania Folklife*. 26(4), 1977, p. 32. Author cites an 1888 source.

<sup>12</sup> Montell, William L. and Michael L. Morse, Kentucky Folk Architecture. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1976, p. 22.

## **CHAPTER 2.**

### **A DESCRIPTION OF THE DOGTROT HOUSE TYPE**

The dogtrot house type was widely constructed using varying building techniques, over a long period of time, throughout many different regions in North America. Accordingly, like many other similar vernacular house types, the dogtrot can be found with a wide array of particular construction methods, materials, and dimensions. The idea goes well with a saying that can be fitted to most any vernacular structure in America: there were as many different kinds of dogtrot houses as there were people who built them.<sup>13</sup> Therefore, I will begin by laying out a basic definition of the dogtrot house type and then continue by describing some of the common and possible variations of the type.

#### **A Definition of the Dogtrot**

The dogtrot house is a double-pen form that is built on a simple trisected floor-plan. The dogtrot consists of two rectangular pens of equal or nearly equal size, commonly ranging from 16' x 16', to 20' x 20', separated by an open passage, ranging anywhere from six to twenty feet wide that runs the depth of the house (See Appendix E). The two pens' doors open onto the open passage normally directly across from each other. Both pens and the breezeway are covered by a common roof. The ridge of the roof travels the width of the house and perpendicular to the open passage. Most dogtrots have a side facing gable roof, although a hipped roof was sometimes used, with two exterior chimneys, one at each gable end, and often with deep eave overhangs

---

<sup>13</sup> An old saying that was not exclusively reserved for the dogtrot, rather any vernacular architecture, which the author remembers from a youth spent around carpenters. There is a very similar saying in Eliot Wigginton's TheFoxfire Book, New York: Anchor Press, 1972, p. 53.

specifically designed to protect the chimneys and foundation. This technique created what some scholars term a ‘hooded’ chimney.<sup>14</sup>

A single rectangular pen was sometimes built first to serve as a small single pen cabin for a time, then once its owners were ready, they could construct the second pen next to the first with enough space between the two for the breezeway, eventually completing the dogtrot by extending the roof over the breezeway and new pen. Some scholars believe that the dogtrot house type was almost never built in two stages that were linked by any significant amount of time. On the contrary, due to both source documents and field research, it is clear that a fair portion of dogtrots were constructed in just such a way.<sup>15</sup> However, I believe that such construction procedures were more prominent in the backwoods regions of the pioneer era, and still in minority to the dogtrots that were built with two pens in one stage. While it is difficult to make definitive conclusions on which construction method was used on historic dogtrots, most likely a survey of the structure will provide clues. Dogtrots built in two distinct stages can commonly be identified by the use of different materials or manufacturing methods between the two pens. Therefore, from what I can ascertain from research, the dogtrot house type can be divided into two sub-types based on their construction method: the dogtrots built in two distinct stages, and the dogtrots built in one deliberate stage.

### **The Open Passage**

The open central hall of the dogtrot is historically known by any number of names such as the passage, hall, hallway, gangway, breezeway, and later, the numerous ‘critter’ variations of

---

<sup>14</sup>Zelinsky, Wilbur, “The Log House in Georgia,” 1953, *Geographical Review*, vol. 43, no. 2, p.180.

<sup>15</sup> Hulan, 1977, p.32, author cites an 1888 source.

the ‘trot,’ such as turkey, possum, pigeon, and dog.<sup>16</sup> The passage is also the most recognizable aspect of the dogtrot, hence the fact that many of the common folk names for the house type are descriptive of the open hall plan. Therefore, the picturesque open passage, along with the house type’s wide dispersal, is an important reason for the dogtrot’s highly romanticized status in the South.

In most surviving cases and early descriptions of the dogtrot house type, the breezeway was raised to be level with the two pens’ flooring. Although, as we have already learned from the above 1888 quote, some dogtrot owners left the breezeway at ground level seemingly in order to drive their wagons beneath the roof. Whether floored or not, residents used the dogtrot’s open passage as if it was another room:

“A few of these dwellings had two cabins with what we called a ‘passage’ between them... I remember one cabin was built with a view to having another put opposite it; hence the roof was extended over the prospective ‘passage,’ and the sills protruded on both sides. The house-wife placed a high-posted bedstead under this roof and hung thick homespun curtains around and over it, and this made a private and pleasant sleeping place for two of the boys.”<sup>17</sup>

The open passage was often used for storage and as an extra bedroom. One of the most important employments of the dogtrot’s open hallway was as a communal space for the residents. Often the family ate dinner in the passage or used it as a sitting room in the hot summer, making music, singing, or story telling for entertainment. Several resources describe the passage as the place where the women would sew together or use the spinning wheel: “One part of it was occupied with meal and flour bags or barrels, and another was used in summer as a

---

<sup>16</sup> Hulan, 1977, p. 27.

<sup>17</sup> Lowery, Kincannon, “Mississippi: A Historical Reader,” Nashville: 1937, p. 70

sitting room; it was also the favorite area for the busy, yet necessary exercise of the great or small spinning wheel...”<sup>18</sup>

The central open passage has more significance than its mere social aspects, or even utilitarian qualities. Several researchers have studied the dogtrot house and its open passage in order to determine whether the design is an inherent physical cooling feature.<sup>19</sup> In the article, “dog trot: a vernacular response,” which reports the results of the research conducted by Aaron Gentry and Sze Min Lam on a circa 1840 dogtrot, the author writes, “Tests were carried out on the actual building as well as a scaled physical model. The results of the study show the geometric disposition and orientation of the dog trot house to be extremely successful in creating passive ventilation.”<sup>20</sup> The dogtrot’s open passage is an architectural feature that passively creates its own breeze. To assume that such a feature was in no danger of losing grace during a time when there was no air conditioning in Georgia’s hot climate, would seem logical. Unfortunately, it would also seem that there is one force that, throughout history, often trumps logic: social trend.

In many of the regions where dogtrots were popular, the houses’ passages have been enclosed so that they now resemble the central hall house type. A popular assumption states that the dogtrot passages began to be enclosed once air conditioning units became available for the lower social classes. Due to source research, field evidence, and interviews with preservation

---

<sup>18</sup> Hulan, 1977 p. 30; Terry G. Jordan and Matti Kaups, 1987, p. 55.

<sup>19</sup> Gentry, Aaron, and Sze Min Lam, “Dog Trot: a vernacular response.” *School of Architecture: Mississippi State University*, MA, p. 1.; Ferris, 1986, p. 81.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

professionals, it appears that the dogtrots' owners began their 'evolutionary' move toward enclosure before air conditioning, and because of social trends rather than any logical reasons.<sup>21</sup>



**Figure 2.1** Dogtrot surveyed in Emanuel County  
Picture by author

---

<sup>21</sup> Glassie, Henry. *Pattern In The Material Folk Culture Of The Eastern United States*. 1969, p. 98. Glassie asserts that the majority of dogtrots have now been enclosed, and he sites “social change” rather than climate; Bill Moffat, interview, May, 28, 2009.



**Figure 2.2** closer view of Emanuel County Dogtrot passage  
Picture by author

### **The Foundation**

Dogtrot houses that utilized a foundation system usually rested on some type of pier system. Fieldstone piers, vertical logs, or square brick piers were common in the hot climate of the South. In hotter climates, a pier system allows better ventilation, which creates a cooling effect. A continuous fieldstone foundation is another common choice for the dogtrot, but tended to be more frequent in the colder northern regions such as the Ohio valley and many mountainous regions. In more contemporary times, dogtrot owners have often replaced deteriorating piers with concrete blocks as a economic and stable solution.



## The Chimneys

The chimney of the dogtrot was constructed from one of more of three common materials: wood, stone, or brick. Early incarnations of the dogtrot contained chimneys constructed with wood and clay daubing. The wood chimneys were normally associated with log construction and made out of logs, as was the structure, or with smaller sticks that provided a sort of frame for the addition of clay daubing. Wooden chimneys proved to be an extreme fire hazard when attached to a wooden structure, risking the demise of the house with one flame.<sup>22</sup> Fieldstone, as well as quarried stone chimneys, proved popular when readily available, also giving the house a form of permanence. Brick chimneys became extremely popular for the dogtrot as it moved further south, and a combination of stone and brick chimney was also present, with the stone forming just the foundation and the brick for the rest of the chimney, or the stone traveling up the side of the structure and the brick as a sort of extension at the top.

---

<sup>22</sup> Shurtleff, Harold R. The Log Cabin Myth. 1939, pp. 37, 90, and 121. Shurtleff provides some great source accounts of house fires due to wooden chimneys, and one instance in 1631 where they were forbidden in one town.



**Figure 2.3** Composite chimney structure, Whitfield County, GA  
Picture by author

### **The Roofing**

The roofing material for the dogtrot ranged from the loose board with ridgepole-and-perlin roofs associated with the early cabin stage, to the more common large wooden shingles and shakes.<sup>23</sup> Earlier, the wood shakes were laid over a framework of poles, and later, rafters were incorporated. As available roofing materials increased over time, dogtrot owners used whatever was popular or efficient, such as various types of metal sheets and asphalt shingles.

---

<sup>23</sup> Jordan, Terry G. American Log Buildings: An Old World Heritage. 1985, p.59.

### **The Porch**

Common to vernacular house types, dogtrots were constructed with a front porch, most notably, the full façade veranda with shed or hipped roof, or the partial vernacular portico with front facing gable roof. Commonly, the shed roof of the porch was at lower pitch than that of the main structure's roof. Shed porches were often added to the rear of a dogtrot in order to create additional space; later on, portions of, or the entirety of the area, was enclosed in order to create extra rooms.

### **The Attic Space**

Many dogtrots demonstrate the smart use of attic space, creating a one and a half story structure. The stairs to the attic space were often located in one of the pens or to one side of the central passage. Lofted attic space was popular as a way to create more living or storage space in the dogtrot without adding to the house's physical floor plan.<sup>24</sup>

### **The Windows**

Most dogtrot houses have one or two windows in the front walls of each pen, and often the same configuration on the opposite rear walls of the house. On the other hand, in some of the earlier log cabins, dogtrots would have one or no windows in the entire structure. As time advanced, it was common to build dogtrots with two additional windows in each gable end, flanking the chimneys. When the cabin did have a window or two, it was often of small

---

<sup>24</sup> Newton, Milton and Linda Pulliam-Di Napoli, "Log Houses As Public Occasions: A Historical Theory." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol. 67 (1977) pp. 369-370.

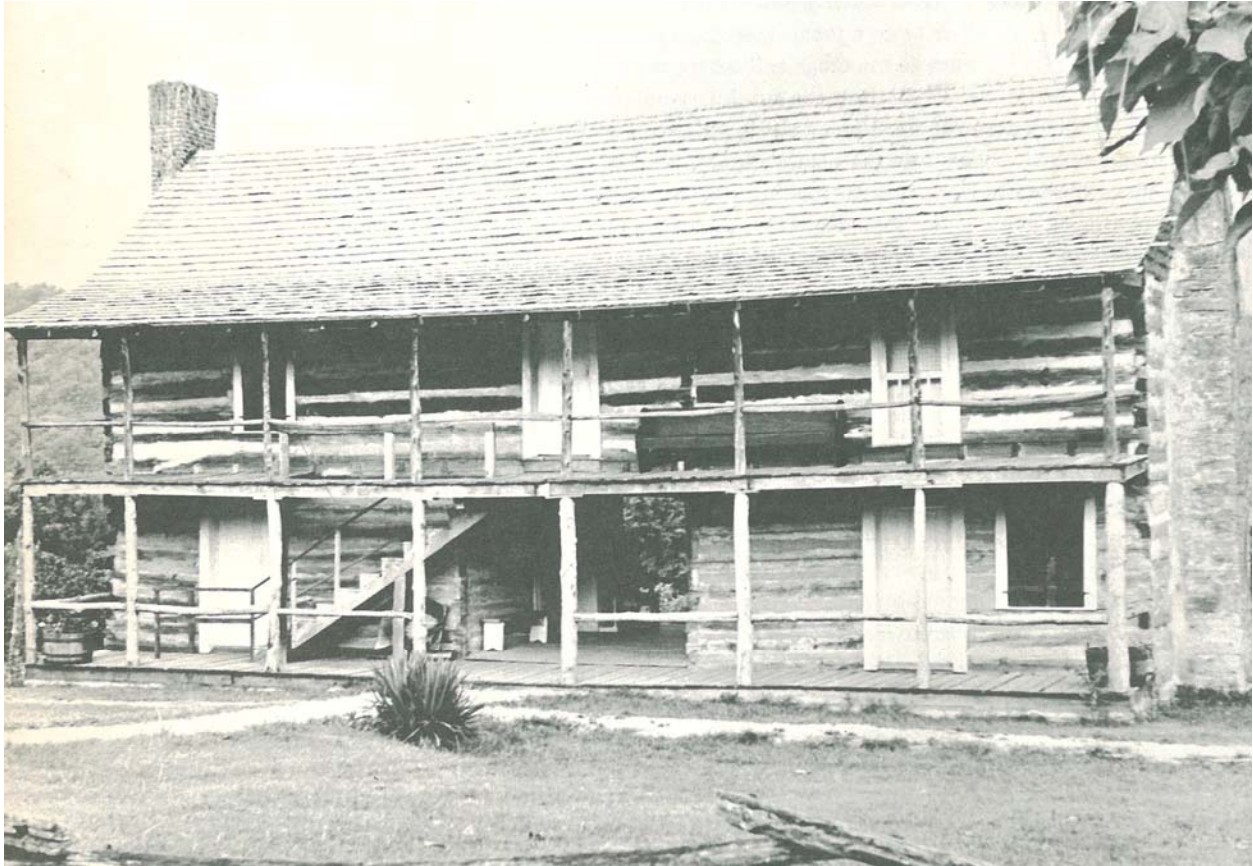
proportions and rudely covered with a wooden shutter or curtain; often, in the southern states the windows in cabins were not covered at all.<sup>25</sup>

### **Possible Additions**

It was very common for a dogtrot's owner to make additions to the house by way of constructing a room to the rear of one, creating an L shaped floor plan, or both of the original pens. There are also instances of a dogtrot's owner inclosing the two portions of the front porch in order to extend the two pens outward while leaving the passage open. In some cases, a dogtrot's owner would create more living space by way of a vertical addition: converting what was a one or one and a half story building into a full two story dogtrot. Another common practice to vernacular house types of the humid southeast was to build a separate kitchen to the back of the dogtrot sometimes connecting the two structures with a covered walkway. By isolating the kitchen from the rest of the building, the dogtrots stayed cooler in the summer time and there was less chance that a kitchen fire would threaten the entire dwelling. Eventually, builders of the dogtrot house erected the building two pens deep, creating a four room plan. There is some contention about whether the four room plan still constitutes the 'true' dogtrot house type, but as long as the plan is symmetrical and does not deviate in too many other ways, I am prone to still label such houses as dogtrots.

---

<sup>25</sup> Price, Beulah M. D'Olive. "The Dog-trot Log Cabin; A Development in American Folk Architecture." *Mississippi Folklore Register*. Vol. 4, (1970), p. 85.



**Figure 2.4** Jacob Wolf house, Norfolk, Arkansas, const. 1809  
(McRaven, 1978, p.70)

### **Log Dogtrots**

There are two distinct types of log construction dogtrot dwellings, the ‘log cabin dogtrot,’ and the ‘log house dogtrot.’ The earlier, simpler dogtrot log cabin sat directly on the ground with dirt floors or some kind of ground covering such as split logs or puncheons. In many such cases, the log structures were considered temporary, and they often later served some sort of agricultural purpose. Many of the temporary dogtrot cabins were reused as a “double-crib” barn once the family moved on to the second-generation house.<sup>26</sup> Remaining physical examples of the dogtrot cabin are nearly non-existent; most surviving dogtrot cabins have been used as some type of agricultural structure for several decades now, and would be nearly unrecognizable as once being

---

<sup>26</sup> Jordan, 1989, p.190-192.

human inhabited structures. Throughout its popularity, the hewn and round log dogtrot was also constructed as a larger formed house, sometimes even two stories tall.

Log dogtrot houses utilized one of the aforementioned foundation systems and were considered a more permanent dwelling. As with most any of the log house types, the construction of the log dogtrot would have utilized the labor of several people.<sup>27</sup> The log dogtrot house was built with round log construction, half-log construction, or one of the hewn log construction methods.<sup>28</sup> Due to the fact that each of the pens in a dogtrot could have been built at different times, by a different set of people, who could have had a different set of skills, log dogtrot houses may have a combination of log construction methods. When the log construction method was used, the dogtrot builder often incorporated some kind of chinking between the cracks in the logs for better insulation. For chinking, builders implemented rocks, pieces of wood, and most likely, some type of daubing of clay or lime mortar.

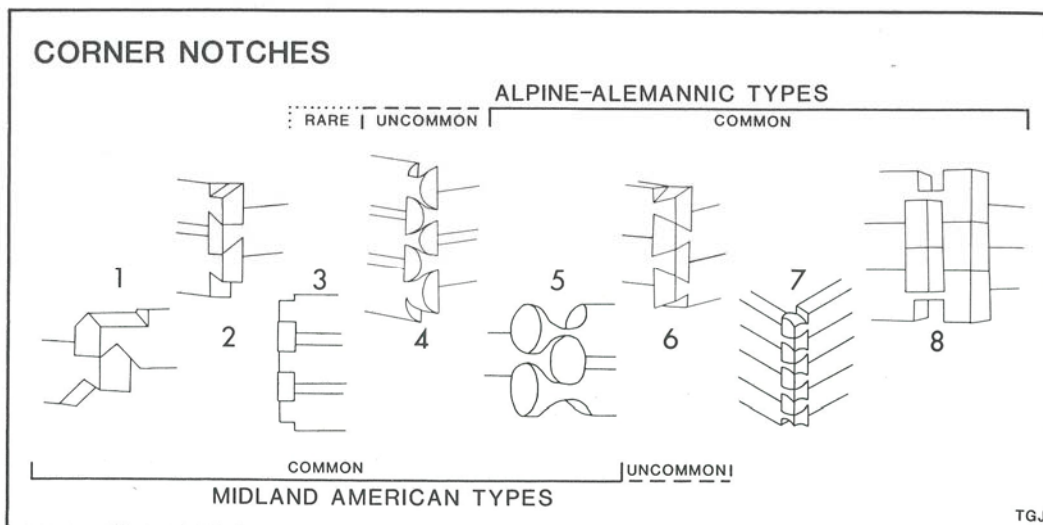
The log dogtrot house incorporated one or more of the many corner notching techniques that traveled south with log buildings. The log dogtrot building had corner notching styles such as the saddle, V, half or full dovetail, square, semilunate, diamond, or double notch. Owners of log dogtrots often covered both the interior with some form of wall covering and exterior with clapboards (board-and-batten siding was also popular) for better insulation, and so that the log walls were hidden from sight.

---

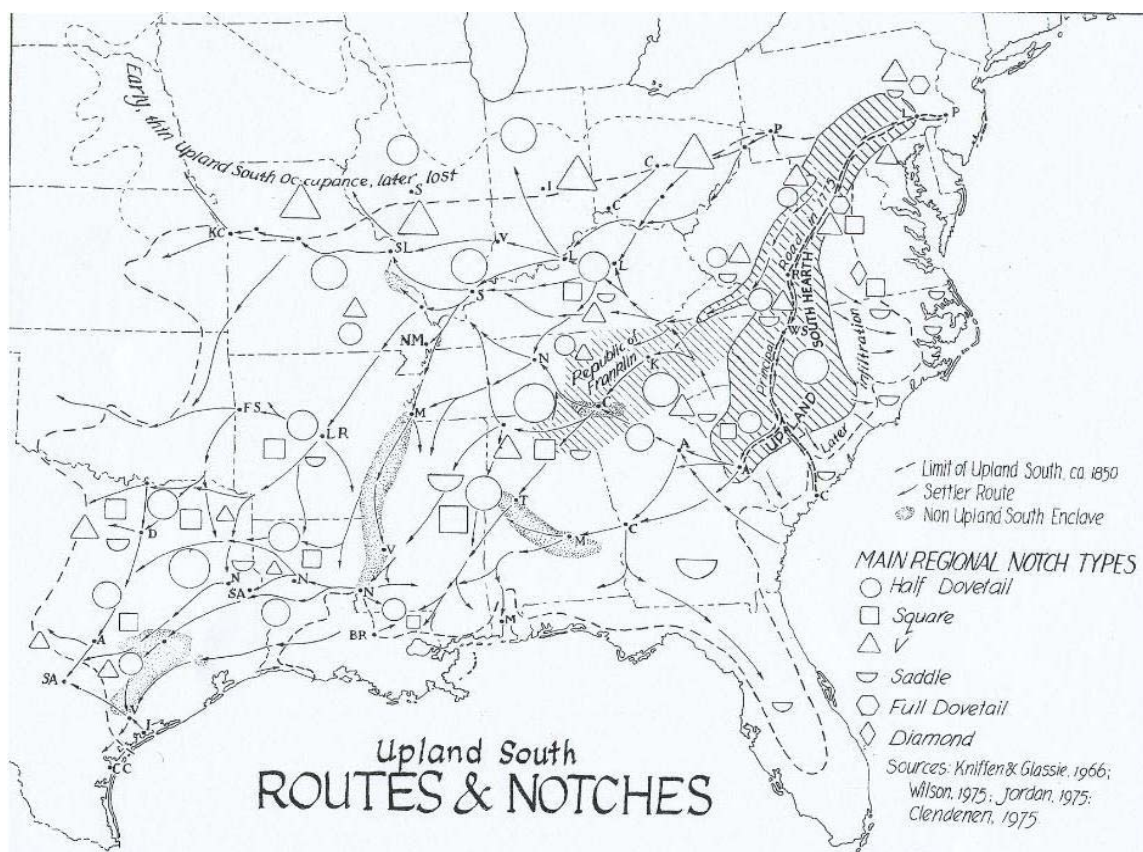
<sup>27</sup> Newton and Pulliam-Di Napoli, 1977. This amazing article on log house construction and the diffusion of ideas through human interaction involves the intense research of many southern dogtrots.

<sup>28</sup> The **round log** construction uses round logs, sometimes with the bark shaved off. Round log construction is the most primitive and least labor intensive log construction method. Furthermore, building with round logs normally left larger cracks between the timbers so would have been the least weather tight method. **Half-log** construction is when the builders split the timber in half and then constructed the structure, normally with the flat side of the logs facing inward. Half-log construction normally utilized the semilunate corner notching method. The **Hewn Log** construction method was the most refined and labor intensive type. By wielding the broad ax, adze, and drawknife, skilled builders would hew away the sides (and sometimes tops) of the logs. The final log product was one of any number of rectangular dimensions that would mean a more uniformed structure with less space between the log members; all in all a more refined building. Of course, chinking and daubing was used with all three methods, along with some form of clapboard sheathing on the exterior, interior, or both.





**Figure 2.5** Diagram of Midland corner notching technology (Jordan, 1985, p. 92)



**Figure 2.6** Upland South routes and notches (Newton and Napoli, 1977, p. 377)

### **Frame Construction Dogtrots**

A very distinct step in the evolution of the dogtrot house was the eventual use of construction methods other than the log construction medium that traveled hand in hand with the house type as it was diffused throughout the Upland South during the pioneer era in North America.

Once the dogtrot had gained its popularity in the sultry southern states for its inherent cooling values, the house type would be translated into the braced frame building construction method. Now this change of construction type and materials is a distinctly different part of the evolution than that of its form or floor plan. The comprehensive evolution of the dogtrot in all probability contains several types of popular changes, which started as variations, and were eventually socially accepted. So, while we must make the distinction between the dogtrot's transition from the hewn log to frame construction methods, with that of the popular practice of enclosing a dogtrot's open passage, they can both be seen as sub-parts of the dogtrot house type's overall evolutionary process.

As standardized lumber from large scale mills and factory produced wire nails became readily available (circa 1880), the dogtrot house (along with most other house types) gradually shifted toward the nailed braced frame (or eastern frame) construction. Eventually, machine manufactured building materials, such as metal hardware, windows, bricks, and various types of roofing became readily available and cost effective for most Americans. The manufactured building materials gradually became incorporated into the construction of most new dogtrots as the framed version of the house type enjoyed widespread popularity throughout the South.

It should be noted that there was a great deal of overlap between braced frame and log construction, so it would be misleading to set any definite dates on when one method ended and



another began. There were no set rules on how to construct a house, and particularly the rural agricultural settings (in which the dogtrot house thrived) tended to preserve at least some aspects of traditional construction methods in vernacular architecture. The braced frame dogtrot houses very often still had hand hewn framing members, such as the sill and corner posts, and still used skilled joining methods such as mortis and tenons. During field work in Georgia, I even came across a dogtrot that had been built in two obviously different stages: it began as a single pen, round log cabin and the second pen was of braced frame construction, while the entire house had been renovated with craftsman style details.



**Figure 2.7** Braced Frame Dogtrot in process of salvage demolition, Emanuel County, GA  
Picture by author

### **CHAPTER 3.**

#### **THE ORIGIN THEORIES OF THE AMERICAN DOGTROT**

Various theories of origin made pertaining to the dogtrot house type permeate the current discourse. In the recent past, the topic became a favorite subject of cultural geographers and architectural historians, as well as folk scholars. When searching for a single story of origin for any particular vernacular house type in the field of architectural history, rarely will there be a unanimously agreed upon single story of origin.

Another point to be considered when researching the emergence of the dogtrot in America is the difficulty of coming to a common house type classification between prevailing scholars. Theoretically, two opposing camps can both be right when one uses each of their exact definitions in turn. Furthermore, the goal of this work is not to attempt the discovery or confirmation of a lone and undisputable origin story for the dogtrot, or its exact line of diffusion into the state of Georgia. Therefore, a general overview of the various theories of the dogtrot's origin and a personal observational discourse in the conclusion section of this text should suffice for the beginning of the house type's history.

To begin with, one must realize that the history of origin and diffusion of the dogtrot house is separate from, yet intimately connected to that of log house construction technology in early pioneer era America. While researching the scholarly writings that deal with the origin of the dogtrot house, it is hard to miss the fact that the dogtrot was one of the most important log cabin and house types in the United States' pioneer era. It has been ascertained and stated by several architectural historians that the easiest way for a pioneer to extend a single pen log cabin

was to build another single pen of equal or similar size separated by a breezeway and extending one common roof, forming a dogtrot cabin. Likewise, for the builder who wished to construct both pens simultaneously, the dogtrot plan would have been one of the easiest ways to do so.

Many scholars cite the fact that in the log construction method, the usable length of the timber at hand dictates the length of the walls<sup>29</sup>. Therefore, due to the natural tapering of trees, an inherent constraint on the reasonable length of continuous log walls. Furthermore, it is extremely time consuming and difficult to splice log walls especially when trying to join a new section onto an older structure.<sup>30</sup>

Many people already know about the crucial influence that the northern European settlers such as the Swedes, Scotch-Irish and the Germans had on log building technology in the early American pioneer era.<sup>31</sup> Thus, it is not surprising that one would look to such cultures when attempting to understand exactly where the dogtrot house type entered the American arena.



**Figure 3.1** A Fenno-Scandian cottage that resembles a dog trot (Jordan and Kaups, 1989, p. 196)

<sup>29</sup> Zelinsky, 1953, p. 187.

<sup>30</sup> Jordan, 2003, p. 36.

<sup>31</sup> Wright, Martin, "The Antecedents Of The Double-Pen House Type," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, vol. 48, no. 2 (Jun., 1958), p. 109.

### **The Lower Delaware Valley**

Throughout the ongoing research of the dogtrot, and more precisely, its theories of origin, the more predominate academics agree that the dogtrot antecedent was established in the pioneer colony of New Sweden in the lower Delaware Valley by the Finnish settlers from northern Europe. Terry Jordan-Bychkov is the contemporary leading proponent of the theory that the dogtrot house type is of Fenno-Scandian origin, and that the structural form was introduced to North America in the lower Delaware Valley in the mid-1600s.<sup>32</sup>

Henry C. Mercer's article, "The Origin of Log Houses in the United States," helped the author become the first historian to make popular the theory that the settlers of New Sweden from Scandinavia were the first to introduce hewn log construction into North America in the year of 1638.<sup>33</sup> The Fenno-Scandian pioneer culture from northern Europe included backwoodsmen who were notably experienced in the skills of log construction due to the fact that their homeland still boasted an abundant supply of available timber. Therefore, the inhabitants of New Sweden had actually left a European region heavily timbered for the east coast of north America which also had dense forests of trees ready to be worked into log construction. While Mercer did not comment in particular on the dogtrot, his 1927 article seemed to lay the ground-work for latter historians to make the connection between New Sweden and the house type.

Martin Wright's 1958 article, "The Antecedents of the Double-Pen House Type," seems to have become one of the most influential texts on the theory that New Sweden was the source of origin for the dogtrot in North America. Martin's work is cited in a good portion of the subsequent written discourse about the dogtrot's origin. Wright was also the first scholar that I

---

<sup>32</sup> Jordan and Kaups, 1987, pp. 60-61.

<sup>33</sup> Mercer, Henry C. "The Origin of Log Houses in the United States," *Old-Time New England*, Vol. 18, (1927), (1) pp. 3-20, (2) pp. 51-63.

have come across to cite Dr. Sigurd Erixon of the Nordiska Museet, Stockholm. Erixon, who some consider one of the foremost authorities on Scandinavian buildings, “instantly recognized a simple sketch of the double-pen and termed it without hesitation a ‘pair-cottage.’”<sup>34</sup> Wright was able to conduct several interviews of Dr. Erixon in June of 1950 and incorporate them into his document. Of course, it goes without saying that any opponent of the Fenno-Scandian source story for the dogtrot could argue that many architectural historians across Europe would jump at the chance to claim a prominent North American house type as the offspring of their nation. Once again, such debate is not the focus of this text, rather an interesting aside.

Richard H. Hulan’s two articles: “Middle Tennessee and the Dogtrot House” (1975) and “The Dogtrot House and its Pennsylvania Associations” (1977) have both become important texts in the debate over the origin of the dogtrot. In the 1975 article, Hulan worked to prove that the dogtrot was already an established house type in the Tennessee Valley by 1825. The above proves important due to the fact that Henry Glassie theorized that the dogtrot house type originated in the Tennessee Valley region around 1825. Hulan examined four dogtrot houses from the region that he could “confidently” date between 1780 and 1810 with the aid of “documentary and graphic evidence.”<sup>35</sup> Also, in the article, Hulan gives, “A few words of advice to dogtrot house hunters who may read this: look past the surface. Look beneath the weatherboarding, if it is a cold climate or a ‘nice’ neighborhood; behind the visible remains, for what lies in books and under the soil; and beyond the physical criteria of the ‘true’ dogtrot.”<sup>36</sup> Hulan’s advice is pertinent to this text, as it is a process that I have had to implement while researching the dogtrot in Georgia. Hulan’s 1977 article started by reiterating the belief that

---

<sup>34</sup> Wright. 1958, p. 113.

<sup>35</sup> Hulan, Richard H. 1975. “Middle Tennessee and the Dogtrot House.” *Pioneer America*. 7(2) p.37.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., p. 44.

definitions of the dogtrot house with strict and exact dimensional criteria could result in “failure to see the dogtrot for the definition.”<sup>37</sup> The article’s main purpose was to better investigate the source region of the dogtrot house as it traced documentary resources from the Middle Tennessee region back to the Ohio River watershed.

Terry Jordan-Bychkov<sup>38</sup> first took up the theory that the American dogtrot has its roots in a Finnish origin with his 1983 article, “A Reappraisal of Fenno-Scandian Antecedents for Midland American Log Construction.”<sup>39</sup> The above article is a highly detailed text on the subject of the origin of North America’s log construction technology, which was the culmination of several months of field research in southern Finland, Soviet Karelia, and Scandinavia. Jordan-Bychkov and Kaups first published their comprehensive origin story for the dogtrot together in the article “Folk Architecture in Cultural and Ecological Context,” within the *Geographical Review*, in January 1987. Interestingly enough, the article was actually meant to demonstrate “the advantages of studying artifacts in their cultural and ecological context.”<sup>40</sup> The two authors chose the American dogtrot double-pen house type as the example. Since the article, Terry Jordan-Bychkov has emerged as one of the foremost scholars not only on the dogtrot house type, but on a compilation of the Upland South’s culture in general. Eventually, in 2003, Jordan-Bychkov expounded on the subject by writing The Upland South: The Making of an American Folk Region and Landscape, which is, to date, one of the most informative works on the vernacular architecture of the Upland South region.

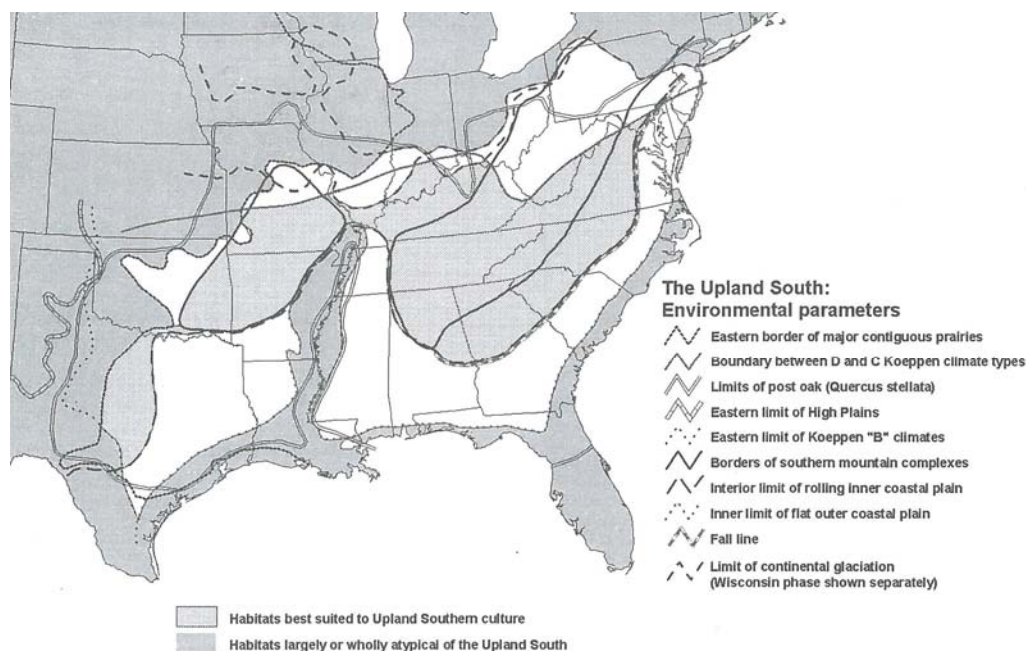
---

<sup>37</sup> Hulan, 1977, p. 25.

<sup>38</sup> Terry Jordan-Bychkov eventually emerged as one of the leading scholars on the subject of vernacular architecture in the Upland South.

<sup>39</sup> Jordan, Terry G. “A Reappraisal of Fenno-Scandian Antecedents for Midland American Log Construction.” *Geographical Review*. Vol. 73, No. 1, (Jan., 1983), pp.58-94.

<sup>40</sup> Jordan, Kaups, 1987, p. 52.



**Figure 3.2** The Environmental Parameters of the Upland South  
(Jordan-Bychkov, 2003, p. 18)

### Southeastern Tennessee

It is curious that Jordan-Bychkov and Kaups in “Folk Architecture in Cultural and Ecological Context,” were actually refuting the methodology of Fred Kniffen’s work, “Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion”.<sup>41</sup> Fred Kniffen, along with Henry Glassie, are the two foremost scholars who worked to develop and advocate the southeastern Tennessee origin theory for the dogtrot. One of the more popular theories of origin for the dogtrot house type defends the southeastern part of the state of Tennessee, or the Tennessee Valley region, as the original source area. Kniffen originally suggested the southeastern Tennessee origin theory in his 1965 article, “Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion,” and Glassie soon took up the idea. In one of Glassie’s more

<sup>41</sup> Kniffen, Fred, “Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion,” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, vol. 55, No. 4 (Dec., 1965), pp. 549-577.

acclaimed works, Pattern In The Material Folk Culture Of The Eastern United States, he laid out his quickly accepted theory:

... [around] 1825, the dogtrot house, loved by writers of local color and travel literature, arose. This one-story house, composed of two equal units separated by a broad open central hall and joined by a common roof... has been attributed to Scandinavian influence and pioneer ingenuity – that logical collision of environment and genius to which the unenergetic scholar ascribes many American cultural phenomena. The dogtrot house is, actually, a subtype of the old hall and parlor house built symmetrically with a central hall..., one of the most common house types in the Southern Tidewater source area from Pamlico Sound in North Carolina through eastern Georgia...in the warmer Tennessee Valley some clever individual(s) hit upon the idea of leaving the hall open to the evening breezes.<sup>42</sup>

The fact that one must remember while studying the southeastern Tennessee origin theory for the dogtrot is that the house type's precise definition is key to this particular theory.

In Glassie's aforementioned book, he discusses what he sees as various misconceptions about what the dogtrot house actually is. In one of the footnotes in the text, Glassie asserts that, "The term "dogtrot"... has been promiscuously used, probably because of its down-home ring. The problem is that, if a type is incompletely described, it will attract to it unrelated examples. The open hall is not the lone definitive characteristic of the dogtrot house..."<sup>43</sup> Glassie's definition reflects what the dogtrot had become in the region as it had enjoyed widespread popularity: the open hall must be floored, and may be 'comfortably' screened in, it can only be one pen deep and one story tall, and its two pens must be of exact equal size and symmetrical in details.<sup>44</sup> Glassie then asserts that once the dogtrot house type's form was established, the dogtrot was carried northward into Kentucky.

One scholar who subscribes to the southeastern Tennessee origin theory for the dogtrot house goes further by seemingly suggesting a possible native American contribution. In his

---

<sup>42</sup> Kniffen, 1965, p. 561; Glassie, Henry, Pattern In The Material Folk Culture Of The Eastern United States. 1968, pp. 89, 96, and 98.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., p. 98.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid, p. 98.



1983 article, “The Europeanization of The Cherokee Settlement Landscape Prior To Removal: A Georgia Case Study,” Richard Pillsbury writes, “On the basis of the relict landscape it is thought that most of the double-pen houses tabulated were probably of the dogtrot form. The dogtrot was a comparatively important type of house among the Cherokee in keeping with this region being an early center of innovation of this housing form.”<sup>45</sup> The article’s research is very informative about the Cherokee’s adoption of the European settler’s way of life, and gives a great account of the distribution of dogtrot houses in Cherokee occupied north Georgia.

---

<sup>45</sup> Pillsbury, Richard, “The Europeanization of The Cherokee Settlement Landscape Prior To Removal: A Georgia Case Study,” *Geoscience and Man*, vol. 23 (1983) p. 65.

## CHAPTER 4.

### THE DOGTROT IN GEORGIA

One of the more interesting and oldest source documents describing the dogtrot house type actually comes from the forests of Georgia. The published journal of Captain Basil Hall of England, titled Travels In North America, In The Years 1827 And 1828 offers a great description of the dogtrot during the frontier period:

“Almost all these forest houses in the interior of the State of Georgia consists of two divisions, separated by a wide, open passage, which extends from the front to the back of the building. They are generally made of logs, covered with a very steep roof, I suppose to carry off the heavy rains. The apartments, at the ends of these dwellings, are entered from the open passage which divides the house in two, the floor of which is raised generally two or three feet from the ground. This opening being generally ten or twelve feet wide, answers in that mild climate the purpose of a verandah, or sitting-room during the day.”<sup>46</sup>

It can be deduced from Hall’s account that the dogtrot house type was already deeply rooted in the vernacular architectural fabric of Georgia’s interior woodlands by the time of his travels.

---

<sup>46</sup> Hall, Basil. Travels in North America in the Years 1827 and 1828. (Edinburgh: Robert Cadell; London: Simpkin and Marshall, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (1830), Vol. 3, 271.



### **The Diffusion of the Dogtrot in Georgia**

The history of the dogtrot house type in Georgia is extremely similar to those in other southeastern states of North America. The dogtrot house type most likely entered Georgia from the northeast as a pioneer log cabin and house type sometime in middle or second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. As stated earlier in the text, the dogtrot house ‘migrated’ hand in hand with the log construction methods of the backwoods pioneer culture while it moved southwest from its source area.

There were two main pioneer routes used by the frontiersmen as they traveled south: the Great Valley of the Appalachian mountain range, and the Fall Line route, which runs roughly parallel to the former, but further east.<sup>47</sup> Due to the topography of eastern North America, pioneer cultures such as the Scotch-Irish and Germans were ‘funneled’ south as they attempted to move west. Both of the major pioneer routes travel through Georgia and on in to Alabama: the Great Valley sweeps through the northwest corner of the state from Tennessee, and the Fall Line route enters in the northeast from South Carolina and crosses the middle of the state as it heads west. Some historians and cultural geographers believe that the actual core area of the American backwoods pioneer culture actually stretched through most of the Great Valley, where it began around Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and reached down to Augusta, Georgia.<sup>48</sup>

It is very probable that the dogtrot house type entered Georgia from both the Great Valley and the Fall Line routes around the same time. Furthermore, an attempt to definitively conclude that one of the routes was first to carry the dogtrot into Georgia would be difficult to prove. So, the dogtrot was diffused through Georgia from the northwest corner southwards via the Great

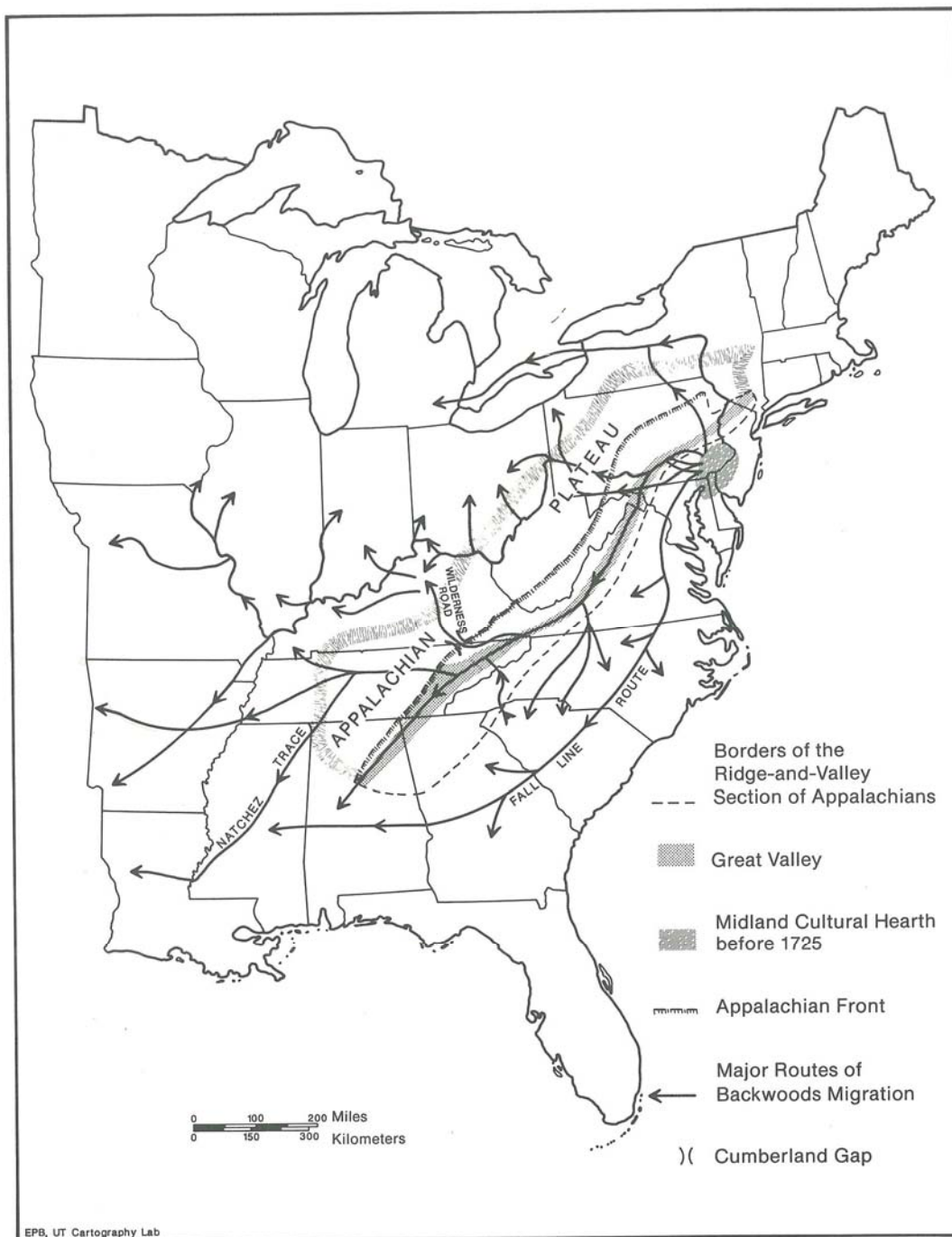
---

<sup>47</sup> Jordan, 1989, pp. 234-6.

<sup>48</sup> Newton, Milton, “Cultural Preadaptation and the Upland South,” 1974, *Geoscience and Man*, vol. 5 pp. 147-8.

Valley, and from the east, traveling west through central Georgia into what is now the state of Alabama.

A map of Georgia, plotted with the known and recorded historic dogtrots, provided by the NAHRGIS online database, corresponds with the concept of dual diffusion streams of the house type. Some of the Georgia counties that bolster high numbers of dogtrots are either in the northwestern corner of the state, or along the route of the Fall Line. The center of Emanuel County, which is the county with the most recorded dogtrots, at seventeen, is right around sixty five miles from Augusta, Georgia, where the Fall Line route enters the state. Furthermore, Emanuel County is even closer to the actual Fall Line route as it travels west just above the county. Of the Georgia counties that have been surveyed, fifty-three of them have recorded dogtrots; the average number of dogtrots in those fifty-four counties is just over three. The trend of Georgia counties within a thirty-mile radius to one of the diffusion streams, and with high numbers of recorded dogtrots, is prevalent. (See Appendix D)



**Figure 4.2** Routes of Backwoods frontier expansion 1725 –1825  
(Jordan and Kaups, 1989, p. 235)

### **The Exiled Lutherans of Georgia**

One of the more interesting story lines pertaining to the origin of the dogtrot house, as well as log construction methodology in Georgia has to do with a group of exiled Lutherans from Austria. In 1732, the local archbishop of the Salzburg Province expelled approximately twenty thousand Protestants from the mountainous regions of the Austrian Alps.<sup>49</sup> In the same year, Oglethorpe and the Trustees of Georgia extended an invitation to a group of the displaced Lutheran families to settle in the new colony. In March of 1734 two hundred of the displaced Salzburger settled along the Savannah River in what is now Effingham County, Georgia where they founded the town of Ebenezer.<sup>50</sup>

The Salzburger had a history of round and hewn log construction coming from the forested regions of the Alps. The saddle and full-dovetail notches, chinks, planking, and wooden roof shingles are all common traits of the Salzburger's log construction methods. Also, the Lutherans commonly built covered bridges as well as four barn types that have become part of Georgia's historic rural landscape.<sup>51</sup>

Jordan tentatively proposes that the American dogtrot was possibly inspired by one of the Salzburger log, open-runway, double-crib barn types.<sup>52</sup> What is termed the type 4 double-crib barn has a very similar floor plan to that of the dogtrot, and by viewing a picture of the barn, one cannot deny the resemblance. The author abandoned the idea in a later publication, which dealt with both the dogtrot and the double-crib barn. After reading the source documents about the

---

<sup>49</sup> Jordan, 1985, p.111-113.

<sup>50</sup> Hurst, John F. "The Salzburger Exiles In Georgia," 1892, *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, vol. 85, pp. 392-4.

<sup>51</sup> Jordan, 1985, pp. 147-9.

<sup>52</sup> Jordan, 1989, p. 184. and Jordan, 1985, pp. 109-113. The fact that the author omits the theory altogether in his 2003 work, which has sections dedicated both to the dogtrot house and the double-crib barn, seems to show that he has completely abandoned the idea.

Salzburgers in Georgia that were cited by the author, it does seem extremely unlikely that the dogtrot derived from the Lutherans' barn, but even the idea of the possibility is enticing.

Although it probably was not the Salzburger barn that inspired the development of the dogtrot in America, there are other important implications dealing with the general acceptance of the dogtrot and log construction methodology in Georgia. Jordan makes a key observation when he suggested that, “[p]erhaps the Fenno-Scandian dogrun house was reinforced in Georgia by the presence of Salzburger type 4 open-runway double-crib barns. This might help explain why dogrun dwellings are so common on the Gulf Coastal Plain, but relatively rare in Atlantic coastal states north of Georgia.”<sup>53</sup> The idea that Georgia settlers, who had just come to embrace the practicality of a Salzburger open-runway double-crib barn, would have been more apt to accept a similar floor plan in a house type when offered a few decades later is conceivable.

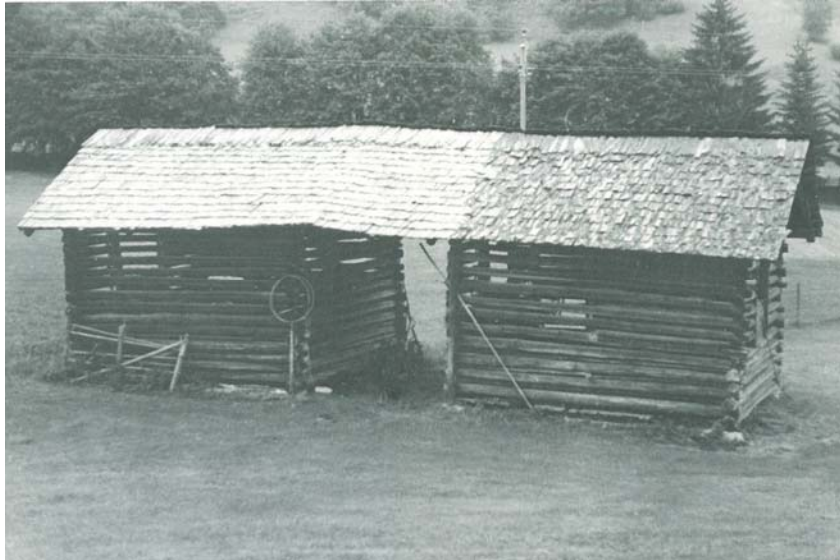


**Figure 4.3** Example of Salzburger type 4 open-runway double-crib barn (Jordan, 1985, p. 111)

---

<sup>53</sup> Jordan, 1985, 112.





**Figure 4.4** Another example of Salzburger type 4 barn.  
(Jordan, 1985, p. 111)

Another important thought that Jordan offers next is that:

“Genealogists know that descendants of the Georgia Salzburgers live throughout much of the South. That presence raises the question whether the role of colonial Pennsylvania in shaping the extended Midland subculture of the interior eastern United States has been overemphasized. Some form elements of Midland American log architecture could possibly have entered the upland South by way of German settlements in Effingham County, New Bern in North Carolina, and the Orangeburg area of South Carolina.”<sup>54</sup>

When there were some well documented settlements, such as the above mentioned, at an early stage in the south’s pioneer era, with records of log constructed structures (the Lutherans of Georgia built log houses too)<sup>55</sup>, then it would seem a faulty assumption to believe that the vast majority of log construction technology in the south was directly linked to Pennsylvania. A more acceptable notion is that there was a great exchange and hybridization of log construction technology in both northern and southern directions in areas close to and along the two aforementioned streams of diffusion (and Georgia was connected with both).

---

<sup>54</sup> Ibid. 112-113.

<sup>55</sup> Hurst, 1892, p. 396-398.

Whatever the source origin of the dogtrot, it most likely made its way into the state of Georgia from the northeast along with log construction methods of the backwoods pioneer culture. There seems little doubt that the first dogtrots in Georgia would have been constructed of logs.

### **The Log Dogtrot In Georgia**

As earlier noted in Hall's 1827 account, the dogtrot house type dominated the large number of log habitations in some of the inland forests of Georgia. Log dogtrots in Georgia were generally made of chestnut, poplar, "oak or pine, according to the local silva," and the actual logs, on average, from around six to fifteen inches in diameter, although eighteen inches or more have been noted.<sup>56</sup> Georgia's log dogtrots consisted of two rectangular pens that often ranged from fifteen to twenty feet across and deep<sup>57</sup> with an open passage that normally ranged from eight to fifteen feet wide. Log dogtrots in Georgia were normally one or one and a half stories, but two story examples have been recorded; the Chieftains museum serves as such an example.<sup>58</sup>

Some of the cruder examples of log dogtrots in Georgia would have been hardly better than barns. Within his two volumes titled, A Journey in the Seaboard Slave States in the Years 1853-1854 the northerner F.L. Olmsted wrote about some of the log dwellings that he encountered in parts of Georgia:

"The logs are usually hewn but little; and, of course, as they are laid up, there will be wide interstices between them – which are increased by subsequent shrinking. These, very commonly, are not "chinked," or filled up in any way; nor is the wall lined on the

---

<sup>56</sup> Zelinsky, 1953, p. 173-4. Wigginton, 1972, pp. 32 and 35.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid. p. 175. Also confirmed through the author's field research.

<sup>58</sup> Cheiftans Museum in Rome, Georgia is two stories and will be discussed further in the text.

inside. Through the chinks, as you pass along the road, you may often see all that is going on in the house; and, at night, the light of the fire shines brightly out on all sides.”<sup>59</sup>

Of course, not all log dogtrots in Georgia at that time would have been so vulnerable to the elements, and some of the inhabitants might have enjoyed the ventilating breeze that penetrated their homes during the summer. It has been cited that in many areas where the frontier culture was central, that the log dogtrots were actually publicly considered a positive status symbol of prosperity; the larger the dwelling, the higher the status.<sup>60</sup> Therefore, since the dogtrots type represented the easiest way to enlarge a single pen log structure, it would have also been the most simple way for a family to improve their social status.

The log dogtrots in Georgia were built using round, hewn, and half round log construction techniques. In Georgia, builders of log dogtrots used several different corner-notching techniques, but the saddle and half-dovetail notching methods seem to have been the most prevalent.<sup>61</sup> The square and full-dovetail notching methods are both common in Georgia. The V, diamond, double, and semilunate notching methods are rare but have been recorded.<sup>62</sup>

---

<sup>59</sup> Olmsted, F.L. 1856, A Journey in the Seaboard Slave States in the Years 1853-1854. (2 vols., New York), vol. 2, p. 10.

<sup>60</sup> Jordan, 1989, p. 192.

<sup>61</sup> It must be mentioned that the survival of historic resource material can be tricky to analyze when attempting to project what and how much of certain materials was actually present. Just because more saddle notched log structures survive today, that does not necessarily mean that they have always been the most abundant. Saddle notched log structures could have been more popular at the end of the log construction method's use. Therefore, more saddle notches survive, not because there have always been more of them numerically, but because they have had less time to deteriorate and disappear. Terry Jordan and Matti Kaup's 1987 article, "Folk Architecture in Cultural and Ecological Context," is an informative work on the topic. Regardless, it seems that the half dovetail and saddle notch were the most prevalent in Georgia.

<sup>62</sup> Jordan, 1989, pp. 147 and 155. I have witnessed all of the corner notching methods mentioned in Georgia, except the V-notch and diamond notch. In the work cited above, Jordan provides maps of where both the V and diamond notches have been observed: he notes 12 counties in Georgia with V-notching, and 2 counties with diamond notching.



**Figure 4.5** half-dovetail notch, Gordon Co., **Figure 4.6** Saddle-notch, Emanuel Co., GA  
Pictures by author

The round and hewn log construction methods seemed to have survived in more cases than the half round log, but as the rudest of the three construction methods, it is very likely that the half round log dogtrotts were more susceptible to demolition, thus becoming some type of barn or agricultural storage. It also seems probable that between the round and hewn log dogtrotts, that the hewn log type has enjoyed a higher survival rate due to its adaptability. When the owner of a hewn log dogtrot wanted to add a clapboard exterior to their house, the relatively flat surface of the hewn log walls made the alteration much easier than on the ‘ridges and valleys’ of the round log wall.

As mentioned above, the log dogtrot house in Georgia very often is hidden beneath a layer of clapboards or some other kind of popular exterior sheathing materials; vinyl siding has enjoyed much success in the hot and humid climate of the south; coincidentally the same climate

where the dogtrot has thrived. For many log dogtrot owners in Georgia, the intent from the beginning was to cover their house with some form of clapboards, which was consistent with popular practice and provided additional insulation. Furthermore, the concealing coat of clapboards that many log dogtrots eventually received is yet another example of one part of the comprehensive evolutionary story that belongs to the house type.

It should be noted that the log dogtrot house in Georgia was often fitted with various types of additions that actually changed the form altogether. Some log dogtrot owners added a large double hearth chimney to the center of the open passage, which transformed the dogtrot into a saddle-bag house. Some of the larger, two story log dogtrots were remodeled to resemble the popular I-house house type, which would have certainly augmented the owner's social status. The log dogtrot in Georgia was renovated in many other ways, often with framed additions, that were also popular trends for the framed dogtrot, which will be discussed in the subsequent chapter.

### **The Framed Dogtrot In Georgia**

The dogtrot's adaptation from a log structure to a framed structure is important to its story of evolution, as well as to its comprehensive history in Georgia. As mentioned earlier in the text, the availability of mass amounts of standardized milled lumber, manufactured wire nails, and other innovative building materials changed the architectural fabric in Georgia's cultural landscape forever. The Georgia dogtrot house, which had already gained widespread social acceptance due to its inherent passive ventilation system along with its adaptive qualities as a log structure, made a quick transition to framed construction.



Prior to the turning point of mass produced building materials, the Georgia dogtrot had already begun its transition into a braced frame house type. One of the earliest dogtrotts in Georgia on record to still have some surviving historic fabric is a circa 1790-1820 braced frame example in Whitfield County. Whitfield County is located in the northwestern corner of the state, directly in the path of the aforementioned Great Valley diffusion stream.



**Figure 4.7** Circa 1790-1820 dogtrot floor system with hewn log sill, Whitfield Co.  
Picture by author

The majority of the structure has been torn down, and lies in a heap of historic rubble just behind the site, but what remains of the historic dogtrot proves very informative. Most of the dogtrot's original foundation and floor system remains. As well, part of one of the original fieldstone and brick composite chimneys along with a historic side addition still stand. The

foundation appears to have once been of fieldstone piers alone, but eventually received fieldstone infill so that it is now continuous.<sup>63</sup> The sill and major floor joists are very likely original, and consist of large,<sup>64</sup> hand hewn log members. It is common to find historic framed dogtrots in Georgia that still incorporated hand hewn logs as the primary members of the floor system.

It is very possible that this Whitfield County dogtrot's original structure above the floor system – now gone – also incorporated hand hewn structural members along with mortis and tenon joining methods. Of course it is hard to tell what exactly stood on top of the remaining foundation and floor system, but the floor plan does give a good indication of the dogtrot's layout. The open passage was about twelve feet across, while the two flanking pens were about twenty feet across and twenty feet deep.

This Whitfield County dogtrot also provides a great example of how many early Georgia dogtrots might have evolved. It appears that the dogtrot's passage was originally open and unfloored.<sup>65</sup> At some point, raised flooring was added to the open passage. Furthermore, the surviving wooden floor planks are tongue-and-groove, and appear to have been added later in the house's history due to the quality of their milling. The side gable addition to the right (east) of the original pen is a fairly rare style of addition, in the fact that most additions to dogtrots in Georgia are incorporated to the rear of the house. The addition is historic but appears to have been built decades after the original dogtrot: it consists of a combination of braced and balloon

---

<sup>63</sup> Distinct larger fieldstones appear to denote the original corner and main foundation piers, while the infill is made up of smaller, less functional fieldstones. Also, what seems to be a split log step leading into one of the pen's doorway was left under the raised floor.

<sup>64</sup> The members range from about 12 x 12 to 16 x 16 inches.

<sup>65</sup> Remnants of what would become the hallway's foundation are historic hand hewn members, but appear to be markedly different from the original foundation members.

framing technologies with mill quality circular sawn members, has shiplap siding, and a historic but modern type roof system.<sup>66</sup>

This Whitfield County dogtrot was probably built with few materials that were considered modern at the time, such as cut nails. As Georgia's vernacular architecture changed around the dogtrot, the house, in turn, changed to reflect the vernacular trends of the time. It appears that such changes in form, materials, and style were a universal theme of the history of many Georgia dogtrots.

### **The Current Status of Georgia's Remaining Dogtrots**

The dogtrot house still has its place in the fabric of Georgia's historic vernacular architecture. Over the course of Georgia's history, dogtrot owners have made countless different kinds of alterations to their homes. While the dogtrot of Georgia endured the numerous adaptations imposed upon its basic form, a handful of popular variations made their way into the vernacular mainstream. Below is a list of some of the most common dogtrot variations in the state of Georgia today. Some of these variations could easily make a dogtrot unrecognizable.

### **The Dogtrot Enclosed With Double Doors**

One of the early variations of the dogtrot in Georgia occurred when the owner enclosed the open passage with one set of double doors on the front façade of the house, and another set of double doors to the rear of the house. In such cases, the dogtrot's central passage could still

---

<sup>66</sup> The **Balloon frame** construction method is popularly attributed to George Washington Snow of Chicago in 1832. Balloon framing is essentially a framing method that incorporates relatively light weight framing members of two inch by four inch studs, which travel the entire height of the building's wall system. Ledger boards (or ribbons) and partition caps replace the heavy drop girt members of the braced frames. Various combinations of balloon and brace framing methods are very common in Georgia circa 1900 on into the 1920's when the Western or platform framing method became popular. The roof system consists of standardized rafters and purloins, with a corrugated sheet metal sheathing.



function as it had prior to the alteration by leaving the double doors open during hotter weather. Bill Moffat, a preservation consultant in the eastern part of middle Georgia suggests that the addition of double doors to the dogtrot's central passage was a common transitional stage for the house type around the time period of 1870 to 1900.<sup>67</sup> The double door alteration to the dogtrot seems a good solution to keeping the elements out during a wet and cold winter, while retaining the passage's pleasant cooling feature during the 'dog days' of summer.



**Figure 4.8** Double door enclosed hall, Marion Co.  
Picture by FindIT

### **The Dogtrot Enclosed With Permanent Clapboards and A Central Front Door**

One of the most prevalent variations of dogtrot adaptation in Georgia essentially transformed the building into a different house type. Many of the dogtrots in Georgia have been enclosed with permanent clapboards over the passage, and a single central door on the front façade. In this case, the altered dogtrot has seemingly evolved into the central hallway house type. Very often, this type of alteration can be identified by a slight to obvious difference

---

<sup>67</sup> From a phone interview with Bill Moffat, May, 28, 2009.

between the dogtrot's original clapboard siding, and the clapboards used to close off the passage.<sup>68</sup> In many cases, when enclosing a dogtrot in this manner, it was popular to incorporate sidelights into the newly constructed partition. From field research and consulting with field professionals, this alteration to the dogtrot was the most common type in Georgia.<sup>69</sup> Furthermore, the permanent enclosing technique appears to have been less a climatic issue, and more likely a social trend.<sup>70</sup>



**Figure 4.9** Dogtrot enclosed with permanent clapboards, Gordon Co.  
Picture by author

### **The Dogtrot Enclosed and Altered to Resemble an I-House**

If the dogtrot house in Georgia was used as a floor plan enlargement technique with the intention of boosting its owner's social status, then the alteration that ultimately resembles an I-House must have been the supreme aspiration. It appears that the I-House of historic times was one of the more popular ways for a family to display their wealth through their dwelling. In

---

<sup>68</sup> Often the actual width of the clapboards are obviously different. Sometime, the overlap of the clapboards or carpentry quality is markedly different. In still other instances, a completely different siding material is used to close off the passage.

<sup>69</sup> Moffat, 2009.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid. Glassie, 1968, p. 98.

many of the recorded instances where a dogtrot was renovated to become an I-House, the original dogtrot was already of the two story variety. Major Ridge, a leader in the Cherokee Nation made just such an alteration to his two story dogtrot.<sup>71</sup> It is possible that some dogtrots first received the addition of a second story, and then, eventually, were altered to resemble an I-House.

Of course there are still several dogtrot houses in Georgia that remain intact with their open breezeway, although it is uncommon. It could be argued that these few pure open passage dogtrots are the only true dogtrots left, therefore the only structures that should be classified and studied under the house type. However, it seems to me that once a dogtrot always a dogtrot, and an altered dogtrot has not been lost, merely evolved. There is a good chance that there are still many unrecorded dogtrot houses in Georgia towns simply hidden from plain view.

---

<sup>71</sup> The above mentioned two story dogtrot, which was converted into an I-House is the same Chieftans Museum of Rome, Georgia that was noted in the forward.



**Figure 4.10** Illustration of Chieftains Museum  
Picture by Paul Ridenour



**Figure 4.11** Chieftains Museum  
Picture by author

### **Field Data On The Dogtrot**

In order to gather a sample of information on the dogtrots in Georgia, I used the NAHRGIS online historic resource database. NAHRGIS contains a searchable list of all properties on the Georgia SHPO's historic resource record. The list is far from complete, since not all of Georgia's one hundred and fifty nine counties have been surveyed, and many of the counties should probably be resurveyed. As a starting point, or general sample of the historic resources in Georgia, NAHRGIS has no equal, especially regarding accessibility.

Currently, according to the NAHRGIS database, there are one hundred and sixty-seven dogtrot sites in a reported fifty-three of Georgia's counties. I chose to conduct the field research in four Georgia counties: Bartow, Emanuel, Gordon, and Whitfield.<sup>72</sup> Gordon and Emanuel Counties appeared to be good selections, due to the fact that they contained the two largest populations of recorded dogtrot sites in the state. Also, Gordon is in the Appalachian foothills where the Great Valley diffusion route entered northwest Georgia, while Emanuel lies just below the Fall Line in the middle eastern part of the state. The two counties represent two distinctly different geographical regions of Georgia. The other two counties, Bartow and Whitfield, were chosen because they both border Gordon County, and were not far from the field operating station.

The objectives of the field surveys were twofold: to record the amount of dogtrots remaining since the counties had last been surveyed, and record the details of these remaining structures. Utilizing the location data provided by the NAHRGIS database, I was able to map

---

<sup>72</sup> While interning with FindIT, I had already surveyed eight additional counties: Banks, Carroll, Elbert, Hart, Marion, Pickens, Schley, and Webster.

out a planned route that included all of the sites of each county.<sup>73</sup> Traveling to each site, I took pictures, filled out a historic resource survey form if the dogtrot was still there, and talked with any locals that were interested in my research. The results of this field research are listed below:<sup>74</sup>

**Table 1: Georgia Dogtrot Field Data**

	<b>Year of last survey</b>	<b>Previously recorded dogtrots</b>	<b>Confirmed Dogtrots</b>	<b>Previously unrecorded dogtrots</b>	<b>Inaccessible Sites</b>
<b>Emanuel</b>	1996	16	14	2	1
<b>Gordon</b>	1990	13	7	1	0
<b>Bartow</b>	1990	5	2	0	0
<b>Whitfield</b>	1994	3	3	0	0

The above table suggests a trend that the dogtrot in Georgia is disappearing in regions where development is widespread, such as Gordon and Bartow Counties, while counties experiencing less development, such as Emanuel, have a higher rate of retention.

---

<sup>73</sup> It would be advisable for the NAHRGIS database to include some sort of disclaimer referring to the fact that some GPS latitude and longitude points given for the sites may be inaccurate. In one case there was nearly a three mile disparity between the points reported on the database and the points on the handheld GPS unit.

<sup>74</sup> The field data presented in the tables is a combination of both the data acquired during the independent field research, along with data from the NAHRGIS database. Data from the NAHRGIS database was used only when the dogtrot site was inaccessible for public field research.

**Table 2: Bartow County Field Data**

<b>Site number</b>	<b>Date of construction</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Construction methods</b>	<b>Current conditions</b>
BR1684	c. 1890	NA	Frame	No longer present
BR1509	c. 1890	NA	Log	No longer present
BR1687	c.1880-1889	NA	Frame	No longer present
BR1696	c.1880	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed w/ recessed entry
BR1887	c. 1836	Pens: 18' wide by 16' deep, central passage around 9' wide	Log w/ semilunate notching	Enclosed w/ central door and clapboards

Bartow County's five recorded dogtrot houses were built between circa 1836 and 1890. The above table shows that only two of the five dogtrots recorded in 1990 are still present today. That means that Bartow County lost sixty percent of its recorded dogtrot houses in the nineteen years between the two surveys. It is worth noting that the remaining log dogtrot had semilunate notching, which is fairly rare in Georgia. Also, both of the two remaining dogtrots in Bartow County have been enclosed with central front doors and clapboards.

**Table 3: Emanuel County Field Data**

<b>Site number</b>	<b>Date of construction</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Construction methods</b>	<b>Current conditions</b>
EM26452	1903	Pens: 15' by 15', central passage around 14' wide	Frame w/ hand hewn sill	Enclosed
EM26848	1897	Inaccessible	Log w/ clapboard	Enclosed
EM26379	c. 1890-1899	Pens: 18' by 18', central passage around 8' wide, two rooms deep	Frame w/ folk Victorian details	Central passage remains open

**Table 3 continued:**

EM26380	c. 1890-1910	Pens: 15' by 15', central passage around 6' wide	Frame	Central passage remains open, rear additions on both pens
EM26376	c. 1880-1899	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed
EM26834	c. 1890	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 8' wide	Frame	Enclosed, full rear shed addition
EMfound1	c.1890-1910	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed, in process of being demolished
EMfound2	c.1890-1900	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 8' wide	Frame	Enclosed at front only, rear additions on both pens
EM26762	c. 1910	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed
EM26661	c.1920-1939	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 12' wide	Frame w/ hand hewn sill and log floor joists	Enclosed, full rear shed addition
EM26639	c. 1900	NA	Log	No longer present
EM26565	c. 1915	Pens: 15' by 15', central passage 10' wide, two rooms deep	Frame	Central passage remains open
EM26103	c.1870-1910	Pens: right (original log) 24' wide by 17' deep, left (added frame) 20' wide by 17' deep	Originally single pen round log w/ saddle notching (c. 1870), addition is frame (1909)	Central passage remains open
EM26098	c. 1940	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed
EM26162	c. 1875-1900	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed
EM27765	c. 1844-1855	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed
EM27793	c.1860-1890	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 10' wide, two rooms deep	Frame	Central passage remains open, full screened porch on front and rear
EM 26122	c.1880-1899	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed



Emanuel County's eighteen recorded dogtrot houses were built between circa 1844 and 1940. Fourteen of the sixteen previously recorded dogtrots in Emanuel County still remain today. Furthermore, two previously unrecorded dogtrots were discovered in the county, while one was completely inaccessible (so it will be left out of the following figures). That means that Emanuel County lost only seven percent of its recorded dogtrots during the thirteen years between the two surveys. Emanuel County actually gained one more recorded dogtrot (due to the two discoveries) than it lost over the past thirteen years. Fifteen of the eighteen recorded dogtrots in Emanuel County were built using frame construction. Also, in five of the remaining sixteen dogtrot houses in Emanuel County, the central passages remain open.

**Table 4: Gordon County Field Data**

<b>Site number</b>	<b>Date of construction</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Construction methods</b>	<b>Current conditions</b>
GO36503	c. 1860-1870	NA	Frame	No longer present
GO36436	c. 1837	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 10' wide	Frame w/ hand hewn sill	Enclosed, classical elements (Doric columns on porch), rear and side additions
GO36457	c. 1860-1874	NA	Frame	No longer present
GO36452	c. 1840-1850	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 10' wide	Originally log w/ half-dovetail notching, additions frame	Enclosed, additions make it a gabled ell house
GO36454	c. 1850-1860	Pens: 20' by 20', central passage 8' wide	Frame	Enclosed, additions make it a gabled ell cottage
GOfound1	c. 1890-1910	Pens: 18' wide by 16' deep, central passage 6' wide	Frame	Enclosed

**Table 4 continued:**

GO36353	c.1950-1959	NA	Frame	No longer present
GO36335	c.1820-1829	Pens: 18' wide by 16' deep, central passage 8' wide	Log w/ half-dovetail notching	Central passage filled w/ large stone chimney (saddlebag)
GO36367	c.1860	NA	Unknown	No longer present
GO36553	c. 1890-1899	NA	Frame	No longer present
GO36294	c.1870-1879	Pens: 18' wide by 16' deep, central passage 8' wide	Frame w/ hand hewn sill	Enclosed, folk Victorian details, full rear shed and gabled ell additions
GO36291	c. 1870-1879	Pens: 18' wide by 16' deep, central passage 6' wide	Frame	Enclosed
GO36405	c. 1850-1859	NA	Log w/ V-notching	No longer present
GO36384	c. 1860-1909	Inaccessible	Frame	Enclosed, additions make it an I-house

Gordon County's fourteen recorded dogtrot houses were built between circa 1837 and 1910. Seven of the thirteen previously recorded dogtrots in Gordon County still remain today, while one dogtrot was discovered. Gordon County lost almost forty seven percent of its recorded dogtrot houses in the nineteen years between the two surveys. Three of the fourteen recorded dogtrot houses in Gordon County were built using log construction techniques. Also, all eight of the remaining recorded dogtrots in Gordon County have been enclosed.

**Table 5: Whitfield County Field Data**

<b>Site number</b>	<b>Date of construction</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Construction methods</b>	<b>Current conditions</b>
WD62945	c. 1790-1820	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 8' wide	Frame w/ hand hewn sill, log floor joists	Foundation and floor system is all that remains
WD63346	c. 1850-1889	Pens: 18' by 16', passage unknown	Log w/ half- dovetail notching	Only one of the pens remain w/ additions on each side
WD63313	c. 1847	Pens: 16' by 16', central passage 10' wide	Log w/ full- dovetail notching	Enclosed w/ fieldstone

Whitfield County's three recorded dogtrot houses were built between circa 1790 and 1889. All three of the previously recorded dogtrots of Whitfield County still remain today. Two of the three recorded dogtrots of Whitfield County were built using log construction techniques. Two of the three recorded dogtrots of Whitfield County have been enclosed, and the other one has been altered so that the open passage no longer remains.

**Table 6: Analysis of Dogtrot Loss**

<b>County</b>	<b># of Dogtrots lost since last Survey</b>	<b>Years since last survey</b>
Emanuel	2	13
Gordon	6	19
Bartow	3	19
Whitfield	0	15
<b>Total</b>		11
<b>Average</b>		16.5

<b><math>16.5 \times 12(\text{months}) = 198 \text{ months} / 11 (\text{dogtrots lost}) = 1 \text{ dogtrot lost every } 18 \text{ months}</math></b>
--

The above table demonstrates that the four sample counties have lost one dogtrot on average every eighteen months. If the sample counties are indicative of Georgia's remaining one hundred and fifty five counties, then the dogtrot house type is steadily disappearing from Georgia's landscape.



**Figure 4.12** An enclosed dogtrot in Schley Co. Georgia  
Picture by author



**Figure 4.13** Closer view of the enclosed passage, Schley Co. Georgia  
Picture by author

## CHAPTER 5.

### CONCLUSION

It seems clear that when the dogtrot house was introduced into the lower Delaware Valley, the passage was originally left open due to the same reason the house type in general was popular in hewn log construction: the above mentioned difficulty of splicing log walls and corners. Due to exceptional field research by Terry Jordan published as “A Reappraisal of Fenno-Scandian Antecedents for Midland American Log Construction” in a 1983 issue of *Geographical Review*, we know that the “pair-cottages”, the Scandinavian antecedents of the dogtrot house, were often eventually enclosed.<sup>75</sup> Therefore, it is probable that the original hewn log dogtrots of the colder north were introduced with the assumption that the builder would construct their dogtrot with the intention of eventually enclosing its passage.

As research has supported, virtually no original dogtrot houses remain with an open passage in what is known as its source region in North America. Continuing along the above path of reasoning, as the dogtrot traveled south with such frontier pioneers as the Scotch-Irish to a warmer climate, examples of the house type began to be left open for utilitarian reasons. So, if the initial intention of permanent floor plan factors into the definition of a house type, then the American dogtrot may have originated somewhere in the southeast as scholars like Kniffin and Glassie believe. While the most likely source of the dogtrot’s antecedent is the lower Delaware Valley, it can be argued, that some part of the lower Appalachian Mountain range was actually the cradle for a newly distinct American dogtrot house type.

---

<sup>75</sup> Wright, 1958, p. 113. Jordan, 1983.

As mentioned earlier, the dogtrot house once played a key role in the settlement of the state of Georgia. While the dogtrot was popular with the pioneers who used log construction techniques due to its ease of expansion, it really began to take root in Georgia once its inherent cooling features were realized. Over time, frame construction techniques were widely utilized for building the dogtrot house type throughout Georgia. As the dogtrot became one of the more popular vernacular house types in the agricultural and forested landscapes within Georgia, the open passage, or dogtrot, became the focal point for family and social interaction. Therefore, the open passage became the most popular feature associated with this house type, which is probably why most of the names that were given to the house are descriptive of that passage. The popularity of the dogtrot in rural landscapes is reflected in the number of authors, diarists, and folklorists who wrote about such settings. Due to its popularity in southern culture, the dogtrot became one of the most romanticized vernacular house types in southern states such as Georgia.

Throughout the time spent conducting field research on the dogtrot in Georgia, I visited fifty-two dogtrot sites in twelve separate counties. In Georgia, as mentioned earlier, the evolutionary process that many dogtrots went through can account for one of the reasons for the scarcity of the house type in its pure, open passage form. Furthermore, it is apparent that the dogtrot in Georgia is disappearing in regions where development is widespread, such as Gordon and Bartow Counties, while counties experiencing less development, such as Emanuel, have a higher rate of preservation. It should be noted that both Gordon and Bartow Counties lie within the Interstate 75 corridor, an area that has witnessed much development in the recent past. While there are no easy solutions that will assure the dogtrot's future preservation in Georgia, it is strongly advised that the State Historic Preservation Office should put the house type at the top of their priority list for preservation and documentation.

Survey programs, such as FindIt, are great for a broad survey of Georgia's historic resources, but a more focused study of Georgia's dogtrots is suggested. The SHPO needs to make the preservation and documentation of Georgia's dogtrot a high priority, and work towards pinpointing the ones that remain unrecorded. One possibility towards achieving this objective would be for the Georgia SHPO to form a partnership with the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, where the Georgia SHPO will assist in identifying endangered dogtrots that can be rescued using funds from The Trust's revolving fund program. Also, the Georgia SHPO should establish a dialogue with border states and compare notes on historic dogtrots, and potentially start collaborations aimed at a more comprehensive documentation effort.

One of the intentions of this thesis is to convince its readers of the importance of the dogtrot in Georgia's history, and to support the idea that the house type is worth further documentation and subsequently preservation. The dogtrot in Georgia has a long and storied history, one that has witnessed many forms of change. As long as there are dogtrots remaining, the story continues, but with every passing year the 'lines' get harder to read.





**Figure 5.1** A kudzu covered dogtrot in Schley Co. Georgia  
Picture by author

## REFERENCES:

- Agee, James and Walker Evans, Let Us Now Praise Famous Men: Three Tenant Families. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1941.
- Allen, George H. "Some European Origins of Early Pennsylvania Architecture." *American Journal of Archaeology* vol. 40 (1936) p. 126.
- Barrow, John. 1849. Facts Relating to North-Eastern Texas, Condensed from Notes Made During a Tour through That Portion of the United States of America. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co.
- Childs, Mark C. "Civic Ecosystems." *Journal of Urban Design*, Vol. 6, No. 1, (2001) pp. 55-72.
- Durham, Walter T. The Great Leap Westward. (Gallatin: Sumner County Library Board, 1969), pp. 89, 99-100.
- Evans, Estyn E. "The Scotch-Irish: Their Cultural Adaptation and Heritage in the American Old West," in Essays in Scotch-Irish History, ed. E.R.R. Green (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1969), p. 69-86.
- Ferris, William, "The Dog Trot: A Regional Home and Its Builder." *Perspecta*, Vol. 17 (1980), pp. 67-73.
- Ferris, William. "The Dogtrot: A Mythic Image in Southern Culture." *Southern Quarterly*. Vol. 25, (1986), pp. 72-85.
- Forman, Henry Chandlee, The Architecture of The Old South: The Medieval Style 1585-1850. New York: Russell & Russell, 1948.
- Gavin, Michael, "Nineteenth Century Hewn Log Architecture in Southern Middle Tennessee: An Artifactual Study." M.A. Thesis. Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, 1995.
- Gentry, Aaron, and Sze Min Lam, "Dog Trot: a vernacular response." *School of Architecture: Mississippi State University*. M.S.
- Glassie, Henry, Pattern In The Material Folk Culture Of The Eastern United States. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia. 1968. p.88-99.
- Glassie, Henry, "The Double-Crib Barn in South-Central Pennsylvania." *Pioneer*

- America*. (1969-1970) Vol. 1 (1) p.9-16, (2) p. 40-45; vol. 2 (1) p.47-52, (2) p. 23-34.
- Glassie, Henry, and Fred Kniffen. "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: A Time-Place Perspective." *Geographical Review*, Vol. 56, No. 1 (Jan., 1966), pp. 40-66.
  - Hall, Basil. Travels in North America in the Years 1827 and 1828. (Edinburgh: Robert Cadell; London: Simpkin and Marshall, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (1830), Vol. 3, 271.
  - Hodgson, Adam, Remarks during a Journey through North America in the Years 1819, 1820, and 1821, (New York: 1823).
  - Hulan, Richard H. 1975. "Middle Tennessee and the Dogtrot House." *Pioneer America*. 7(2): 37-46.
  - Hulan, Richard H. 1977. "The Dogtrot House and its Pennsylvania Associations." *Pennsylvania Folklife*. 26(4): 25-32.
  - Hurst, John F. 1892. "The Salzburger Exiles In Georgia," *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, vol. 85, pp. 392-399.
  - Jordan, Terry G. 1978. Texas Log Buildings: A Folk Architecture. Austin: University of Texas Press.
  - Jordan, Terry G. "A Reappraisal of Fenno-Scandian Antecedents for Midland American Log Construction." *Geographical Review*. Vol. 73, No. 1, (Jan., 1983), pp.58-94.
  - Jordan, Terry G. American Log Buildings: An Old World Heritage. Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press. 1985.
  - Jordan, Terry G. Kaups, Matti. "Folk Architecture in Cultural and Ecological Context." *Geographical Review*, Vol. 77, No.1 (Jan., 1987), pp. 52-75.
  - Jordan, Terry G. Kaups, Matti. The American Backwoods Frontier: An Ethnic and Ecological Interpretation. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press. 1989.
  - Jordan, Terry G., and Jon T. Kilpinen. "Square Notching in the Log Carpentry Tradition of Pennsylvania Extended." *Pennsylvania Folklife*, Vol.40 (I) (1990): p. 2-18.
  - Jordan-Bychkov, Terry G, The Upland South: The Making of an American Folk Region and Landscape. Harrisonburg, University of Virginia Press. 2003.
  - Kniffen, Fred, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 55, No. 4 (Dec., 1965), pp. 549-577.

- Kauffman, Henry J. The American Farmhouse. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc. 1975.
- Lowery, Kincannon, "Mississippi: A Historical Reader," Nashville: 1937.
- Martin, Charles E. Hollybush: Folk Building and Social Change in an Appalachian Community. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1984.
- McAlester, Virginia & Lee, A Field Guide To American Houses. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf) 1984.
- McRaven, Charles, Building The Hewn Log House. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Publishers, 1978.
- Mercer, Henry C. "The Origin of Log Houses in the United States." *Old-Time New England*. Vol. 18, (1927), (1) pp. 3-20, (2) pp. 51-63.
- Montell, William L. and Michael L. Morse, Kentucky Folk Architecture. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1976.
- Morgan, John, The Log House in East Tennessee. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1990.
- Newcomb, Rexford, Old Kentucky Architecture. (New York: William Helburn), 1940.
- Newton, Milton, "Cultural Preadaptation and the Upland South." *Geoscience and Man* vol. 5 (1975): p.143-154.
- Newton, Milton and Linda Pulliam-Di Napoli, "Log Houses As Public Occasions: A Historical Theory." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol. 67 (1977) pp. 360-383.
- Newton, Milton. "Dogtrot House." *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*. Ed. William Ferris and Charles Wilson. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina, 1989.
- Olmsted, F. L., A Journey In The Seaboard Slave States In The Years 1853-1854. New York, (1856) vol. 2, p.9-11.
- Pillsbury, Richard, "The Europeanization of The Cherokee Settlement Landscape Prior to Removal: A Georgia Case Study." *Geoscience and Man* 23 (1983): p.65.
- Price, Beulah M. D'Olive. "The Dog-trot Log Cabin; A Development in American Folk Architecture." *Mississippi Folklore Register*. Vol. 4, (1970), pp. 84-89.
- Semple, Ellen C. 1903. American History and Its Geographic Conditions. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Co.

- Shurtleff, Harold R. The Log Cabin Myth: A Study of the Early Dwelling of the English Colonists in North America. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1939.
- Smithwick, Noah. 1983. The Evolution of a State; or, Recollections of Old Texas Days. Rev. ed. Austin: University of Texas Press.
- Stotz, Charles Morse. The Architectural Heritage of Early Western Pennsylvania: A Record of Building before 1860. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1936.
- Walker, Lester, American Homes: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Domestic Architecture. (New York: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers), 2002.
- Weslager, C.A. The Log Cabin in America. New Brunswick, Rutgers University Press, 1969.
- Wigginton, Eliot, The Foxfire Book: Hog dressing; log cabin building; mountain crafts and foods; planting by the signs; snake lore; hunting tales; faith healing; moonshining; and other affairs of plain living. New York: Anchor Press, 1972.
- Wilson, Eugene M. "Some Similarities between American and European Folk Houses." *Pioneer America*. Vol. 3, (July 1971), pp. 8-14.
- Wright, Martin, "The Antecedents of the Double-Pen House Type." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 48, No. 2 (Jun., 1958), pp. 109-117.
- Zelinsky, Wilbur, "The Log House in Georgia." *Geographical Review*, Vol. 43, No. 2 (Apr., 1953), pp. 173-193.

**APPENDICIES:**

## APPENDIX A:

### Northern European Log Construction Traits (Jordan, pg. 147, 149: 1985)

**Table 6.1.** Origin of Midland American Carpentry Features

Midland Feature	Fenno-Scandian Source Region	Alpine-Alemannic Source Region	German-Slavic Borderland	British Isles	Probable Source(s)
Use of round logs	●	●	○	×	Sweden, reinforced by Alpine Germans
Half-round logs	○	◎	○	×	Canton Bern or Central Sweden
Planking	●	●	○	●	Sweden, Switzerland
Tall, thin planking	●	●	○	●	Black Forest, Swiss Jura, Britain
Two-sided hewing	◎	×	●	×	Sweden, Bohemia
Chinks	◎	●	●	×	Sweden
Chinking	○	○	●	×	Sweden, Bohemia
Full-dovetail notch	●	●	●	×	Sweden, reinforced from eastern Germany
Half-dovetail notch	○	×	◎	×	Americanism, or Silesia or Moravia
Saddle notch	●	●	○	×	Central Sweden, Alps
Semilunate notch	○	◎	×	×	Canton Bern
Diamond notch	◎	×	×	×	Götland province
Square notch	●	○	●	×	Central Sweden
Half notch	○	×	○	×	Central Sweden
V notch	◎	×	×	×	Värmland or Dalsland provinces
Ridgepole and purlin roof	●	●	○	●	Central Sweden, reinforced by British
Raftered roof	×	×	●	●	Britain or Rhenish Germany
Shingled roof	○	●	●	×	Alps
Board roof	●	×	×	×	Central Sweden
Board-covered gable	○	×	●	○	Sweden and Britain, reinforced by eastern Germans

**Key:** ● = very common   ● = common   ◎ = occasional   ○ = rare   × = absent

**Table 6.2.** Origin of Midland American Dwellings, Barns, Fences, and Bridges

Midland Feature	Fenno-Scandian Source Region	Alpine-Alemannic Source Region	German-Slavic Borderland	British Isles	Probable Source(s)
Single-pen house, gable entrance	⊙	○	×	○	Värmland
Single-pen house, square, front and rear eave entrance	×	×	×	●	England (non-log)
Single-pen house, rectangular, subdivided (hall and parlor)	●	×	×	○	Celtic Britain, Sweden
Continental house	×	○	●	×	Rhenish Germany
Dogtrot house	⊙	×	×	×	Sweden
Central-hall house	⊙	○	⊙	●	Sweden, British Isles
Saddlebag house	⊙	×	×	⊙	Britain or Värmland & Dalsland
Cumberland house	○	×	×	⊙	Sweden or Britain
I house	⊙	×	×	●	Britain
Single-crib barn	⊙	⊙	×	×	Sweden, reinforced by Alpine Germans
Double-crib plan	⊙	⊙	⊙	●	British Isles, Sweden, Rhenish lands, Alps
Open-passage double-crib barn	○	⊙	×	×	Salzburg province
Bank barn	●	⊙	⊙	⊙	Switzerland
Eave forebay	⊙	⊙	○	×	Canton Graubünden
Transverse-crib barn	×	○	×	×	Americanism
Four-crib barn	×	×	×	×	Americanism
Pennsylvania barn	○	⊙	×	×	Canton Graubünden
Red color for barns	⊙	×	×	○	Central Sweden or Americanism
Rail fences	⊙	⊙	×	×	Central Sweden or Austrian Alps
Blockhouse (fort)	●	×	×	×	Sweden, British army
Covered bridge	×	●	○	×	Canton Bern

**Key:** ⊙ = very common   ● = common   ⊙ = occasional   ○ = rare   × = absent



## APPENDIX B.

# Historic Resource Survey Form and Pictures from Emanuel County Dogtrot

RESOURCE #: HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM	
1. Name of resource: <u>Found Dogtrot #2</u>	8. Date of construction: <u>Circa 1890-1899</u>
2. Location: <u>On East Side of Cow Ford Bridge Rd.</u> <u>Approx. 2,000 ft. South of Frank Hutcheson Rd.</u>	9. Altered (see item #26)
3. Total number of resources on site: <u>1</u>	10. Addition (see item #26)
4. Number of each kind of resource on site: (answer below) Building <u>1</u> Site _____ Landsc Feature _____ Structure _____ Object _____ (Outbuildings _____)	11. Moved / Destroyed (see item #26)
5. Uses: Current Use (6) & Original Use (7)	12. SHPO Evaluation: appears to meet NR criteria because of <u>may meet NR criteria</u> more information needed (refrain) <u>appears NOT to meet NR criteria because of integrity / age / significance</u>
<b>Domestic / Residential</b> <u>Single dwelling</u> 7 <b>Multiple dwelling</b> Apt bldg Rowhouse Duplex <b>Secondary structure</b> Storage shed Garage / Carriage house Kitchen Privy Wellhouse Springhouse / Ice house Smokehouse Dwelling (secondary) Dairy Greenhouse / Pool house <b>Commercial</b> Business / office Professional / office Bank/savings & loan Retail store / shop General store Restaurant / bar / café Hotel / inn / motel / b&b Department store Warehouse Multiple com'l / shop ctr Professional assn / trade org Market <b>Religious</b> Church / religious structure Church school Church-related housing Campground / arbor / retreat Ceremonial site <b>Educational</b> School College / university Library College-related housing Research facility <b>Agriculture / Food Processing</b> Agricultural outbuildings Barn / shed (mule / cattle / horse / dairy / wagon / machinery / implement) Tobacco Chicken coop Silo / Windmill Corn crib <b>Agricultural storage</b> Cotton / Peanut warehouse Grain elevator Tobacco warehouse <b>Agricultural processing</b> Animal / Fishing facility Agricultural fields Tree farm Irrigation facility	<b>Industrial/engineering</b> Mill / processing / mfg Mill / company housing Waterworks reservoir / dam / water tower / canal Extractive facility or site Communications facility Energy facility <b>Transportation</b> Rail / Road / H2O / Ped / Air <b>Government/Public</b> Fire station Post office City / town hall Jail / prison / police station Public works Courthouse (co / fed) Militia district Gov't office (type) Public housing <b>Entertainment / recreation / cultural</b> Theater / opera hall / cinema / playhouse Museum / gallery Sports facility Outdoor rec / campground / picnic Auditorium Fair / amusement park Music fac. / bandstand Zoo <b>Commem. monument / marker</b> Resort Work of art Bot. / horticultural garden <b>Funerary</b> Cemetery Grave / mausoleum Mortuary / funeral home <b>Military</b> Battle site Fortification Military facility (type) Armory / arms storage Military housing <b>Health care</b> Hospital / Medical Clinic Business / office Spa / springs Nursing home / sanatorium <b>Civic / social</b> Fraternal / patriotic org Club (common interest) Social / civic org. Philanthropic housing Work in progress <u>Vacant/not in use</u> 6 unknown write in / see item #26
	13a. (circle one) <b>High style or elements of style</b> 13b. Style(s) (in alphabetical order) <u>No academic style</u> Art Deco Beaux Arts Classicism Chicago School Colonial revival Craftsman Dutch Colonial revival Early Classical revival English vernacular revival Exotic revival Federal Federal revival Folk Victorian French Vernacular revival Georgian Gothic revival (or) Academic Gothic revival Greek revival High Victorian eclectic High Victorian Gothic International Italian Renaissance revival Italianate Mediterranean revival Moderne Neoclassical revival Prairie style Queen Anne Richardsonian Romanesque Romanesque revival Second Empire Shingle Spanish Colonial revival Stick Stripped Classical Tudor N / A unknown write in / see item #26
	14. Building Type(s) <b>1 to 1 1/2 story types</b> single pen rectantangle square double pen hall-parlor saddlebag 2 doors cent. door central hallway dogtrot Georgian cottage Sand Hills cottage Shotgun / Double shotgun Gabled ell cottage Queen Anne cottage New South cottage Pyramid cottage Saltbox English cottage Extended hall parlor Bungalow Front gable Side gable Hip Cross gable Ranch Side Gable Cottage <b>2 story types</b> I-house Cent hallway Hall parlor Dbl pen Saddlebag Plantation plain Side hallway Gabled ell house Queen Anne house New South house American foursquare Georgian house Split level N / A unknown write in / see item #26
	QUAD: <u>Norristown Junction</u> LAT/LONG: <u>N 32.35602</u> <u>W 082.28479</u>

<b>15a. Floor Plan: (original width)</b> one room square rectangular two equal rooms two unequal rooms  <b>15b. Depth : (original depth)</b> one room two rooms more than two rooms	<b>21. Type of construction: (max 3)</b> balloon frame / platform frame brick bearing stone bearing log mortise-and-tenon / brace frame post-and-beam (wood) metal / steel framing concrete block poured concrete (bearing wall)  concrete frame plankwall framing tile block bearing concrete slab glass block tabby  unknown write-in / see item #26																																																						
<b>16. Plan Shape:</b> rectangular square L / T / U / H / E Greek Cross Latin Cross  <b>17. Number of stories:</b> 1  <b>18a. Façade:</b> symmetrical or asymmetrical  <b>18b. Front door:</b> 1 2 3 or more	<b>22. Exterior Material: (max 6)</b> wood weatherboard / clapboard board-and-batten vertical board novelty siding / shiplap/ drop siding shingles flush board siding beaded tongue&groove half-timbering brick (note if handmade) common / American / running bond / veneer Flemish bond English bond  stone fieldstone / rubble / regular coursed stone random coursed stone rock-faced stone rusticated stone cobblestone / rustic stone panels  log hewn V-notch / square notch half dovetail / dovetail saddle notch  ceramic terra cotta glazed brick / enameled tile block / tile mosaic  metal wrought iron cast iron / pressed tin sheet metal / corrugated porcelain enamel steel write in  concrete conc block / cinder blk decorative concrete blk poured wall cast concrete detail textured concrete prefabricated panel tabby  stucco glass glass block plate glass pigmented sheet glass carrara / prism glass  prism synthetics vinyl / aluminum siding tarpaper / asphalt sheet patterned asphalt asbestos siding permastone masonite siding plastic/fiberglass plywood / particle board insulbrick (composition)  unknown write-in / see item #26																																																						
<b>19a. Roof types</b> gable side front cross multi clipped stepped parapet  shed / pent flat truncated hip / deck-on-hip dome conical complex  hip pyramidal  Unknown write-in / see item #26  <b>19b. Roof materials</b> composition/asphalt shingle metal standing seam pressed shingle pressed sheet corrugated sheet built-up tar and gravel clay tile  slate asphalt roll wood shingle concrete tile  unknown write-in / see item #26	<b>23. Foundation Material: (max 3)</b> <b>Also Note:</b> pier/ pier with infill / continuous brick stone concrete wood metal  unknown write-in / see item #26																																																						
<b>20a. Chimney placement (indicate # of each)</b> gable-end, exterior both gable ends gable-end, interior both gable ends double gable end both gable ends center off-center, ridgetline off-ctr within roof surf  lateral interior lateral exterior multiple random outside add-on three or more chimneys  no chimney observed unknown write-in / see item #26	<b>24. Porch Configurations: (max 4)</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>location</th> <th>stories</th> <th>width</th> <th>material</th> <th>roof</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>verandah</td> <td>Front</td> <td>1</td> <td>Full</td> <td>Wood</td> <td>Shed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>wrap-around</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>recessed</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>portico</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>stoop</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>balcony</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>porte-cochere</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>arcade</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		location	stories	width	material	roof	verandah	Front	1	Full	Wood	Shed	wrap-around						recessed						portico						stoop						balcony						porte-cochere						arcade					
	location	stories	width	material	roof																																																		
verandah	Front	1	Full	Wood	Shed																																																		
wrap-around																																																							
recessed																																																							
portico																																																							
stoop																																																							
balcony																																																							
porte-cochere																																																							
arcade																																																							
<b>20b. Chimney material</b> brick fieldstone coursed stone  cobblestone / rustic stuccoed masonry concrete block  unknown write-in / see item #26	<b>Roof Types: (fill in above)</b> <b>NO PORCH AT ALL (not even a stoop)</b> hip / shed or pent / gable / hood / conical / complex																																																						



**25. Window Types: (max 3)**

	head (flat, etc.)	pattern (6/6, etc.)	shape (rect. etc.)
double hung sash	Flat	6/6	Rect.
single-hung sash			
casement			
fixed			
factory sash			
triple-hung sash			
jalousie			
pivotal sash			

unknown  
write-in / see item #26

**26. Physical Description: (write-in)**

- Great example of dogtrot enclosed w/ clapboards  
↳ obvious difference between clapboards on original exterior walls and the clapboards used to enclose central passage.
- originally had chimneys, one on each gable end.  
↳ no longer present but gable marks indicate them
- Most original piers have been replaced w/ concrete blocks  
↳ a few wooden piers remain, but are not large enough to have been the main original foundation piers.  
↳ possibly original piers would have been larger wooden piers, fieldstone or brick piers.
- passage is 8' wide
- pens are 6' x 16'
- There are two rear shed additions, one to the back of each pen (historic additions possibly add at the same time that the passage was enclosed).  
↳ each addition is ~ 10' x 10'
- Several vernacular decorations:  
↳ turned wooden posts on porch  
↳ flat wooden arches above windows, doors, and passage

**30. Significance (use sparingly):**

architectural type (common / rare)	history
architecture style (common / rare)	development
architectural technique (common / rare)	activity
architectural design	person
craftsmanship	event

NAME: SD

DATE: 4-24-09

**27. Outbuildings: (max 10)** (include # of each kind)

barn	pool house
dairy / milking	privy
granary	root cellar / potato bank
livestock	secondary dwelling
machinery / wagon	seed house
tobacco	silo
blacksmith house	slave / servant house
carriage house	smokehouse
chicken coop	springhouse
corn crib	store
cotton house	sweet potato house
dairy	tenant house
Delco gen shed / gas plant	well house
dovecote	windmill
flower pit	unknown
garage	write-in / see item #26
greenhouse	
guest house	
ice house	
implement shed	
kitchen	
mixed use	
office	

**28a. Landscape Features: (max 10)**

yard setting	informal / picturesque	rural landscape / ag fields
	casual / unplanned	field systems
	designed fencing / walls	fence / hedgerows
	designed planting beds	cemetery
	designed drives / walks	terracing / contouring
	formal / geometric	groves / orchards
	terracing / retaining walls	drainage / irrigation
streetscape	street trees / landscaping	forest / woods
	town / courthouse sq	natural planted
	street furn / fountain	
	artwork / monument	unknown
	ornamental paving	write-in / see item #26
	median	

**28b. Surrounding Resources:**

new	old	mixed old and new
-----	-----	-------------------

**29. Historical Themes: (max 5)**

architecture / agriculture	African Amer. / Native Amer. history
commerce / industry	other minority and ethnic groups
religion / education	engineering / landscape arch
social / cultural devel	planning / military
transportation	exploration / settlement
gov't / politics / law	conservation / public works
recreation / entertainment	arts / letters

**29c. Description(s) of Environment**

town (residential/commercial)	suburban (residential/commercial)
urban (residential/commercial)	vacant lots
rural (agricultural/forested/non-agricultural/crossroads comm)	industrial setting/park
(write-in)	strip development
	designed landscape
	mixed use























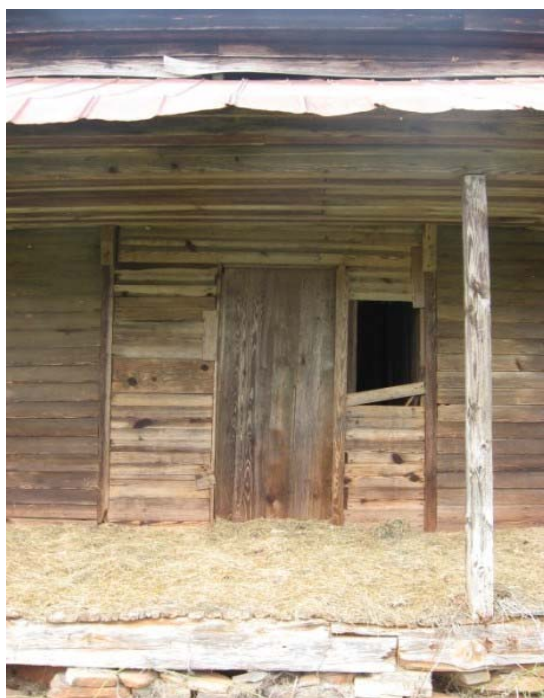


## APPENDIX C.

### Additional Pictures of Dogtrots in Georgia



Banks Co.



Banks Co.





Bartow Co.



Bartow Co.



Bartow Co.



Bartow Co.





Emanuel Co.



Emanuel Co.



Gordon Co.



Gordon Co.





Marion Co.



Marion Co.





Schley Co.



Schley Co.



Whitfield Co.

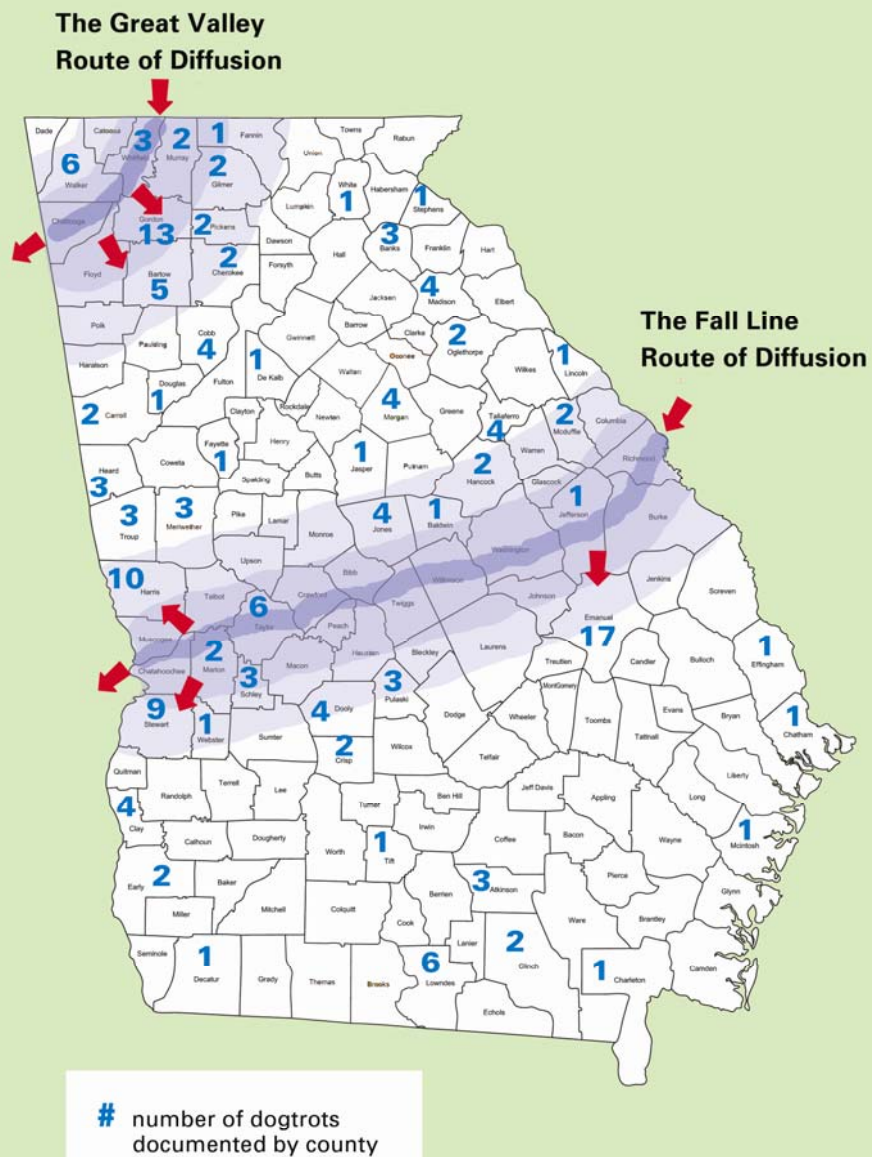


Whitfield Co.



## APPENDIX D.

**Dogtrot Diffusion Map**  
(map designed by Rob Dellenback)



**APPENDIX E.****Various Dogtrot Floor Plans  
(Montell, 1976, p. 90)****Dog Trot Houses**