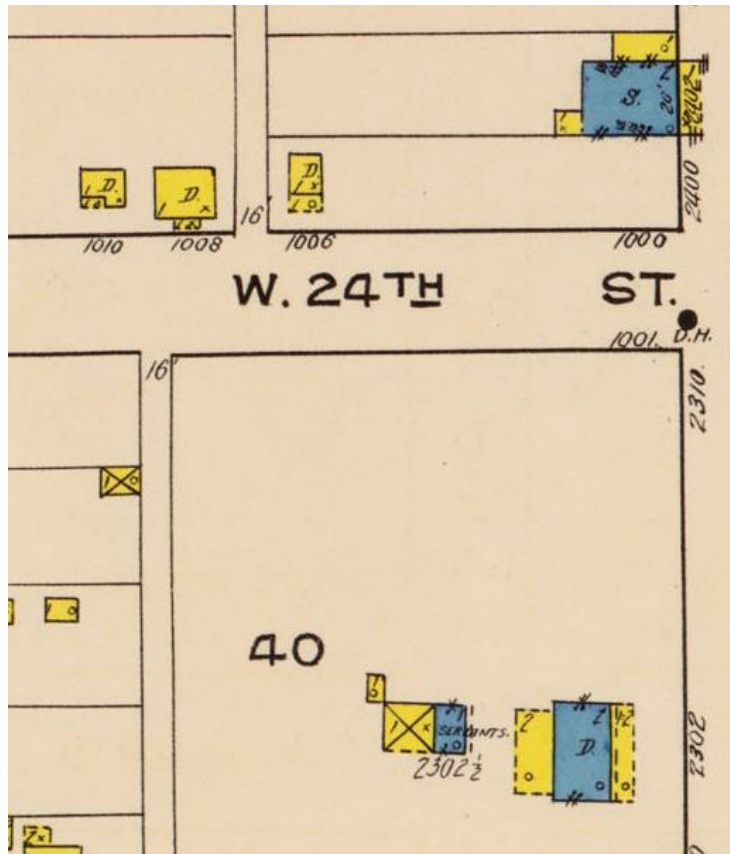


Neill-Cochran House Museum Slave Quarters Project
City of Austin Heritage Grant Application 2022

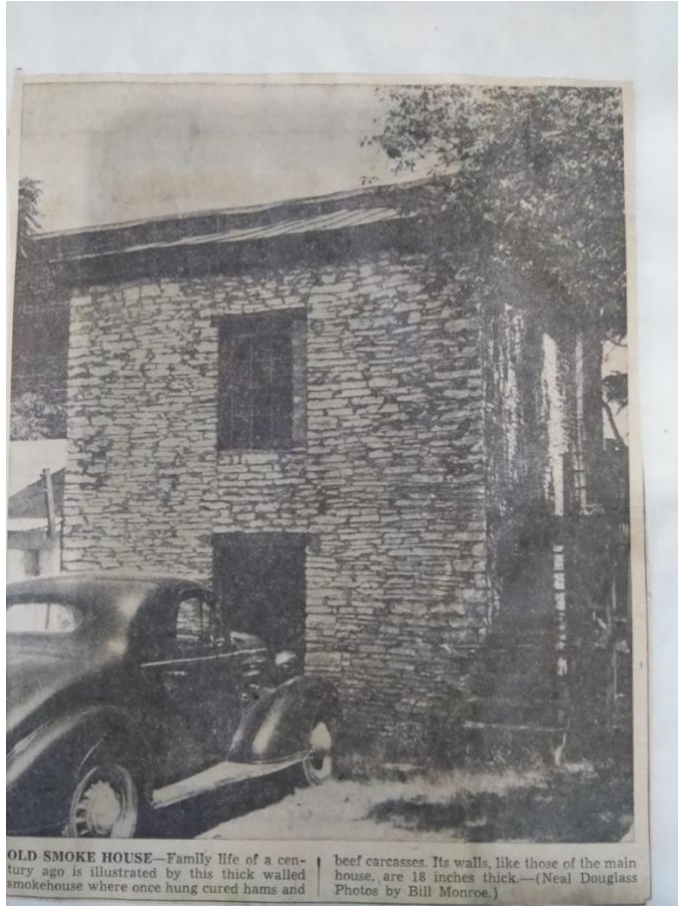
Though the main house at the NCHM historic site is well documented, few historic photographs of the Slave Quarters exist.



Both the main house (right) and the Slave Quarters (left) appear in Lot 40 in the 1920 Sanborn map. The masonry structure (identified by its blue color) is labeled "servants." You also see that a garage had been attached to the side of the structure – that building is no longer standing, but a modern storage facility was built in approximately the same footprint, though detached from the Slave Quarters, in the 1970s.



This photograph from c. 1960 soon after the NSCDA-TX acquired the property shows the back of the main house (you see the 1900 addition) along with the Slave Quarters to the left, and the carport that the Cochrans constructed just to the west of the Slave Quarters.



This photograph, also c. 1960 and reproduced in the *Statesman* shows the building at a period of time when the south-facing second floor door had been closed in to create a window. You can see that the space was originally larger, to accommodate a door, as it does today.

You can also see that a stairway runs up the east façade to the door opening from that time period.



Contemporary view of the Slave Quarters from the southeast. The east façade window and 2 south façade doors are visible from this angle, along with the exterior staircase.



View of the roof and chimney from the west side. The chimney in the background is from the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs next door. The Slave Quarters chimney is in the foreground and has almost entirely deteriorated.

Work will be completed to restore, stabilize, and cap the chimney.



The metal roof has not been addressed in decades. We will conduct necessary repair and then will add a protective coating.



The first floor door has been cut down and altered over time as the elements have warped it. The door will be completely replaced, including the hardware, which has failed.

Wood trim and the structural lintel will be repainted to protect all wood surfaces.



Wood fascia beneath the roof needs to be stripped and repainted to protect the original fabric.



Detail of the first floor window, including wood rot at the bottom left corner.



The first floor wood window has deteriorated over time and requires repair and repainting.



While this photograph c. 1893 (just after the Cochrans moved into the home) shows the front of the main house and not the Slave Quarters, the image is suggestive of the larger property and the way the site was run at this time.

The property was fenced with white palings, it was well-shaded with trees around the main house, and you see a man standing at the head of the single horse buggy who likely was responsible for care for the horse as well as for the

buggy as well. The *Reckoning with the Past* project will bring forward the stories of people like this unnamed coachman who worked and in some cases lived at the NCHM site from 1856 onward.



Rufus Howard is one of the individuals the NCHM will include in new interpretive materials. You see Mr. Howard, who worked on the grounds of the NCHM as well as at UT-Austin and who lived nearby in Wheatville, standing on his cart and holding the reins to control his donkey. UT records show that Mr. Howard hauled materials to and from campus during the 1920s and 1930s as the University expanded.

The photographer is facing east, and the 1900 addition to the main house is visible behind Mr. Howard and his cart. The Slave Quarters building stands unseen to the viewer's left outside of the camera's field of vision.