



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130
PHONE: 832-6621



ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE
Nomination Form

COUNTY Winston

NAME: Present Blake House Historic Ingle Residence

LOCATION: Street and Number No street names in Double Springs; however on main street on west side of courthouse
Town (Give directions if rural) Double Springs, AL 35553

A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM

CATEGORY: Building Structure Object Site District

USE: Present Unoccupied Historic Ingle-Blake Home

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

Owner's Name Winston County

Mailing Address Winston County Courthouse, Double Springs, AL 35553

Attn: County Commissioners

INTEGRITY: Original Site Moved When? _____

From where? _____ (Give details in significance.)

CONDITIONS: Excellent Good Fair Ruins

THREATS: No Yes By What? County Commissioners have offered to highest bidder for removal

RESTORATION WORK: Being considered Underway Completed Not planned

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open land Woodland Scattered buildings
High building density Commercial Industrial
Residential Rural

Acreage _____

For all categories other than a district and object give a site plan with a North arrow. Show related buildings.

For a district give a verbal boundary description and attach a sketch map of the district.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Why is this landmark significant? (X) associated with events, persons, or movements
Local (X) State () National ()
() a good example of a type or style of structure
() other

Explain: (Briefly state why the above is true) First house built in Double Springs. County seat was removed from Houston, AL, in 1884; Town of Double Springs was laid off by commissioners and lots auctioned in 1886. Andrew Ingle bid and was awarded title to 16 lots including the subject lot. He was principally responsible for town location and was called by the late John Bennett Weaver (probate judge-historian) the Father of Double Springs.
Date of Construction or Period of major importance. 1886

Architect or Builder (Give name and biographies, if known)

Andrew J. Ingle, builder and principal contractor of the first permanent courthouse built of native stone on opposite street

Give a complete but concise history of the Landmark. Include information on important people and events associated with the landmark. (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

The home was the Ingle home until 1896 and later occupied by Bart J. Cowart, State Senator, and later by the Thomas Blake family, (MD) then by his widow and sons Robert Blake, MD, and Malcolm Blake, MD

State sources of information, giving full bibliographical data:

Winston: An Antebellum and Civil War History of a Hill County of North Alabama by Donald B. Dodd and Wynelle S. Dodd (Vol IV (1972)
of Carl Elliott's Annals of NW Alabama County Deed Books, County Courthouse

DESCRIPTION: PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LANDMARK MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM.

Complete as directed below for each category.

BUILDING:

Number of stories 2 Foundation Conventional/Brick Basement none

Wall Material: (Note changes from one floor or wing to another)
(clapboard, brick, stone, wood shingle, board and batton, stucco over wood or brick, metal, logs)

Clapboard with stone fireplaces at each end.

Structural System: (If known)

Wood frame (X) Load-bearing masonry () Iron or Steel ()

This is a simple, unpretentious contry carpenter house of two stories with rock chimneys at each end. It contains six rooms and bath with an added closed-in porch at the south side.

1883
When the county seat of Winston was removed from Houston, Alabama, (where it had been since 1850) the county commissioners and Andrew J. Ingle selected the site of Double Springs as the county seat, in 1883 because it was nearer the center of the county after Cullman County was formed from Winston and Blount Counties.

The County Commissioners offered lots for auction to the highest bidders, and Andrew J. Ingle was awarded 31 lots for the sum of \$340. Deed to Andrew Ingle was May 21, 1885. He then built the Ingle-Blake home in 1886. He was the contractor for the new Winston County jail constructed of native stone in 1893, for which he was paid \$12,000. A local newspaper recorded November 9, 1893 that work was progressing well on the new courthouse. Local papers refer to a \$70,000 annex in 1939-30 and an annex in 1911 for \$4,000.

John Bennet Weaver, local probate judge for many years and Representative in the legislature as well as the region's leading historian, called Andrew J. Ingle "Father of Double Springs." He was (Andy Ingle) the leading merchant of the town.

Andrew J. Ingle died in 1896 and the house was sold to Bart Cowart, State Senter and merchant. In 1910 Bart J. Cowart and wife sold to Thomas M. Blake, M. D. the house and lot for \$1700. It was the property of the Blake family until recently when Dr. Blake's son Thomas M. Blake, Jr. sold the house to the county with the promise that the house would not be torn down. (Deed Book 17, p. 472.)

References for these facts are: Local newspapers for the era, Winston County Deed books, and Winston: An Antebellum and Civil War History of a Hill County of North Alabama (1972) by Donald B. Dodd and Wynelle S. Dodd (Annals IV of NW Alabama)

1st permanent
courthouse and the jail

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Roof Type: (Gable, Gambrel, Mansard, Flat, Hipped, Combination) Gable

Roof Covering: (Wood shingle, Asphalt, Tile, Metal, Slate) Asphalt

Roof Trim: (Cornices, bargeboard, brackets, etc.) None

Porches: Front (type and description) Front porch along 7/8 of front;

Side porch (south side) as later addition. Small backporch windowed in

Rear (type and description) Small backporch

Side (type and description) See above

Doors: Main entrance (location, description) Door at main entrance at center
with two side doors

Other entrances (location, description)

	4	windows	on	front	first	floor
	4	"	"	"	"	second floor
Windows: Types and number of each floor of facade	4	"	"	"	north side	1st floor
	2	"	"	"	north side	2nd floor
Types and number per floor for sides and rear	2	windows	on	south side	1st fl	
Back porch has two windows	2	"	on	"	"	2nd fl
4 windows on back side 1st floor	2	"	"	west side	1st fl	
3 " " " " 2nd floor	2	"	"	east side	2nd fl	

Interior: Describe mantels, stairways, wainscoting, plasterwork and any unusual features.

Interior walls of wood siding covered with wallpaper. Primitive wooden mantel in north side; brick mantel in south side

Plain stairway to second floor at center entrance.

Other: Use this space to describe any additions, alterations, outbuildings or other features of the structure and its surroundings.

Front porch in poor condition.

On an additional sheet make a sketch of the floor plan of the building, showing dimensions if possible.

THIS IS NOT REQUIRED!

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

- STRUCTURE: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the structure. (See examples)
- OBJECT: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the object. (See examples)
- SITE: On a separate sheet of paper give the present description of the site and how the site is believed to have looked during its period of importance.
- DISTRICT: On a separate sheet of paper give a general description of the district. Also needed is a numbered list of the structures in the district corresponding to the sketch map. This listing should include a name for the structure, a date of construction, a brief description, a statement of why the structure is significant, if it is.

A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED AND PHOTOGRAPHS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM

Map: A U.S. Geological Survey Map is preferred, but if you are unable to obtain one a county highway map may be used.

Photographs: Black and white, glossy finish, 5 x 7, or 8 x 10, is preferred.

FORM PREPARED BY

Name (Mrs.) Wynelle S. Dodd Date January 31, 1981
Address P. O. Box 451 Telephone 489-2475
Town Double Springs, AL 35553
Organization Secretary, Free State of Winston Historical Society

For Alabama Historical Commission use only

STAFF COMMENTS:

MAP REFERENCE: MAP _____

U. T. M. Reference
 Zone Easting Northing

Thematic Category _____

Added to ALABAMA REGISTER _____

NATIONAL REGISTER Potential

CLIPPING SERVICE
P.O. BOX 4540
MONTGOMERY, AL 36101

NORTHWEST ALABAMIAN

Haleyville, Alabama

BI-WEEKLY

David B.

MAR -9 -81

The Ingle-Blake House

513

Dear Editor:

The Winston County Commissioners have advertised for bids on removal of the historic Ingle-Blake house, the first house built in Double Springs, for the purpose of building a "Facilities Building" including a jail on the site.

The Free State of Winston restraining order to prevent destruction of the house, which was granted by Judge Bobby Aderholt on February 17, 1981, with instructions for the Commissioners and the Society to meet in an effort to resolve the disagreement.

On February 13, 1981, the Alabama Historical Commission in Montgomery placed the home on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in response to a nomination to the Register made by the Free State of Winston Historical Society.

On February 25, 1981, in a meeting with the Commissioners, members of the Free State of Winston Historical Society were advised by the Commissioners that the nomination to the Historical Register was obtained by "deception," that they had never heard of Andrew J. Ingle and that the issue would be taken to the Su-

preme Court if necessary to implement plans to destroy the house and erect the county facility there.

The Free State of Winston Historical Society has circulated petitions to oppose the plans of the County Commissioners, and found that a great majority of citizens of the county want to preserve the home.

When Cullman County was created after the Civil War from old Winston and Blount Counties, the county seat of Winston at Houston no longer was located near the center of the county, and the County Commissioners under the leadership of Andrew J. Ingle selected the site of Double Springs in 1883 as the new county seat.

The town was laid off in lots, and on July 23, 1883, a public auction was held, at which time Andrew J. Ingle was the successful bidder on 31 lots, including the lot on which the Ingle house now stands.

A wooden two-story courthouse had been constructed at Double Springs, but it burned in 1891; and in 1893 Andrew J. Ingle became the contractor of the new county courthouse of native stone, the center of the structure which still stands.

Andrew J. Ingle commenced building his home in 1885, and by 1887 it was completed as the first home built in Double Springs.

John Bennett Weaver, beloved Probate Judge and Representative in the State Legislature, called Andrew J. Ingle "the father of Double Springs."

Andrew J. Ingle died in 1896, and after his death the home was occupied by R. L. Blanton, Circuit Judge and later by Tom Denson of the noted Denson family of Fa-So-La music.

Later it was occupied by Bart Cowart, local businessman, later elected to the State Senate.

In 1910 the property was purchased by Thomas Blake, MD, the town's first medically qualified physician. His family lived in and owned the home until his son Malcolm Blake, MD, recently sold it to the county.

The Free State of Winston Historical Society is dedicated to preserving this landmark for future generations, and we believe the majority of Winston County's citizens will support their position.

(Mrs.) Wynelle S. Dodd
P.O. Box 451
Double Springs, Al 35553

March 9, 1981

The Northwest Alabamian

Editorial Page

The Ingle-Blake House

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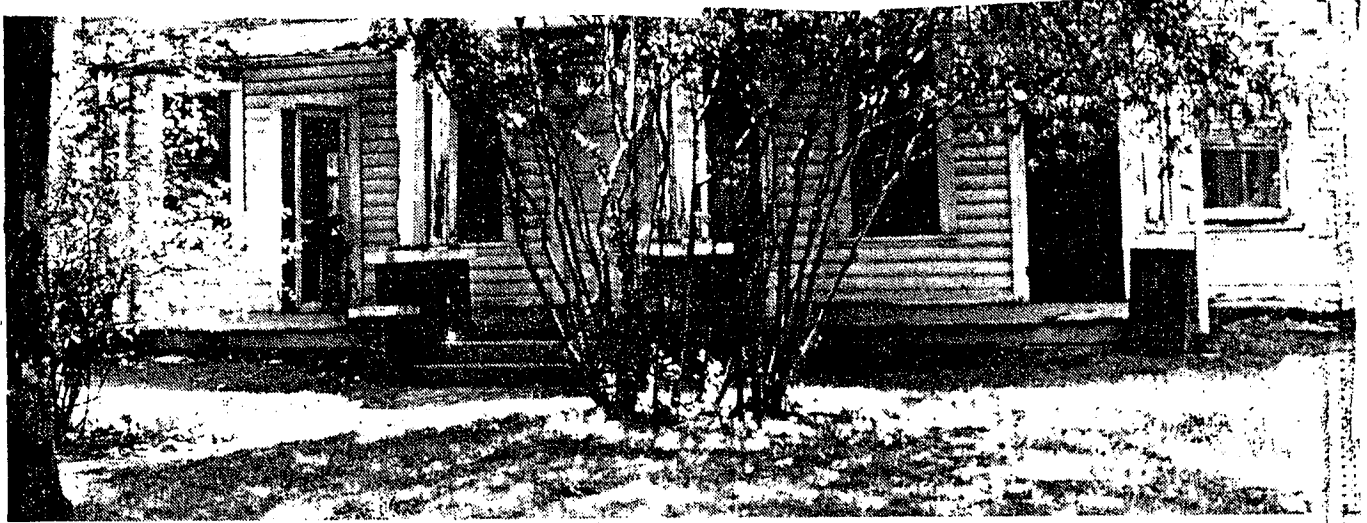
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P.O. Box 451
Double Springs, AL 35553



THE OLD BLAKE HOUSE in Double Springs is being turned into a Historical place by the Winston County Commission.

Land was purchased from Dr. T.M. Blake by the county in hopes of building a new jail behind the Old Blake house.

New Jail Plans Underway In Double Springs

Winston Co. Times

8/3/78

The Winston County Commission has set in motion a plan in which it hopes will eventually mean a new jail and courtrooms for the county.

Idas Neal, chairman, stated that the commission had applied for a federal grant several months ago, but it might be some time before they have a definite yes or not.

They hoped to build a new jail and new courtrooms.

The commission recently purchased land across from the courthouse on which they plan to build the new jail. The land was purchased from Dr. Malcolm Blake and the old Blake House is included in that purchase. Neal stated that the commission had acquired approximately three acres of land.

Neal further stated that the old Blake House would be kept for historical reasons, and the commission hoped that it could be left at its present location.

The Blake House was built in the 1800's and through the years, it housed some of Winston's most noted citizens, including three of it's most noted and respected doctors, the Blakes.

AUTO FOR SALE--1972
Malibu, one owner, two-door hardtop, radio, heater, power steering, air conditioning, extra clean, priced to sell, phone 489-5750.

"Most people judge men only by success or by fortune."
La Rochefoucauld

Answer to Guess Who picture: Left to right-front row: Emerald Camp, deceased, Sitting, Mrs. Coral Christensen of Gardendale, and Mrs. Pearl Lovett of Double Springs, Back row: L-R Opal Adkins, deceased, and Ruby Moody, deceased, Mr. and Mrs. George Adkins ran the newspaper in Double Springs.

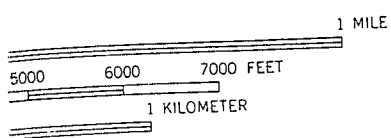
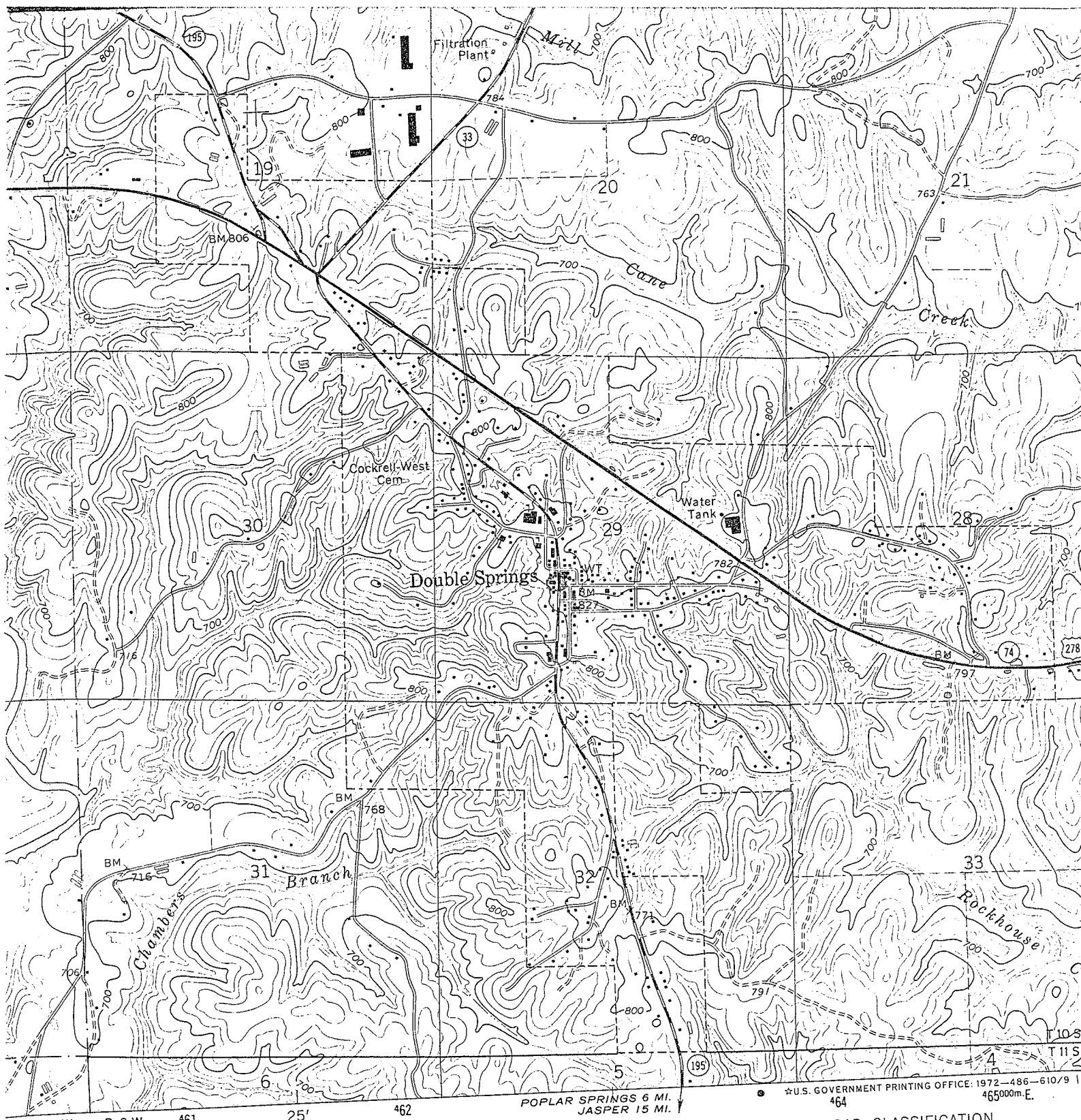


Double Springs News

By Betty Lester

Hi to all of you. I hope you enjoy this second edition of the Winston County Times! Listen, let's all help to make this newspaper a success. Anytime a business makes good in Double Springs, it

recently in Mobile where he is confined in the hospital. Bobby Jack has really been a fighter, you know, but he has many many months of healing ahead before he's well. We want to wish him the best, and he's so determined, I know



- ROAD CLASSIFICATION
- Primary highway, hard surface
 - Secondary highway, hard surface
 - Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
 - Unimproved road
 - Interstate Route
 - U. S. Route
 - State Route

DOUBLE SPRINGS,
N3407.5—W8722.5/7

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