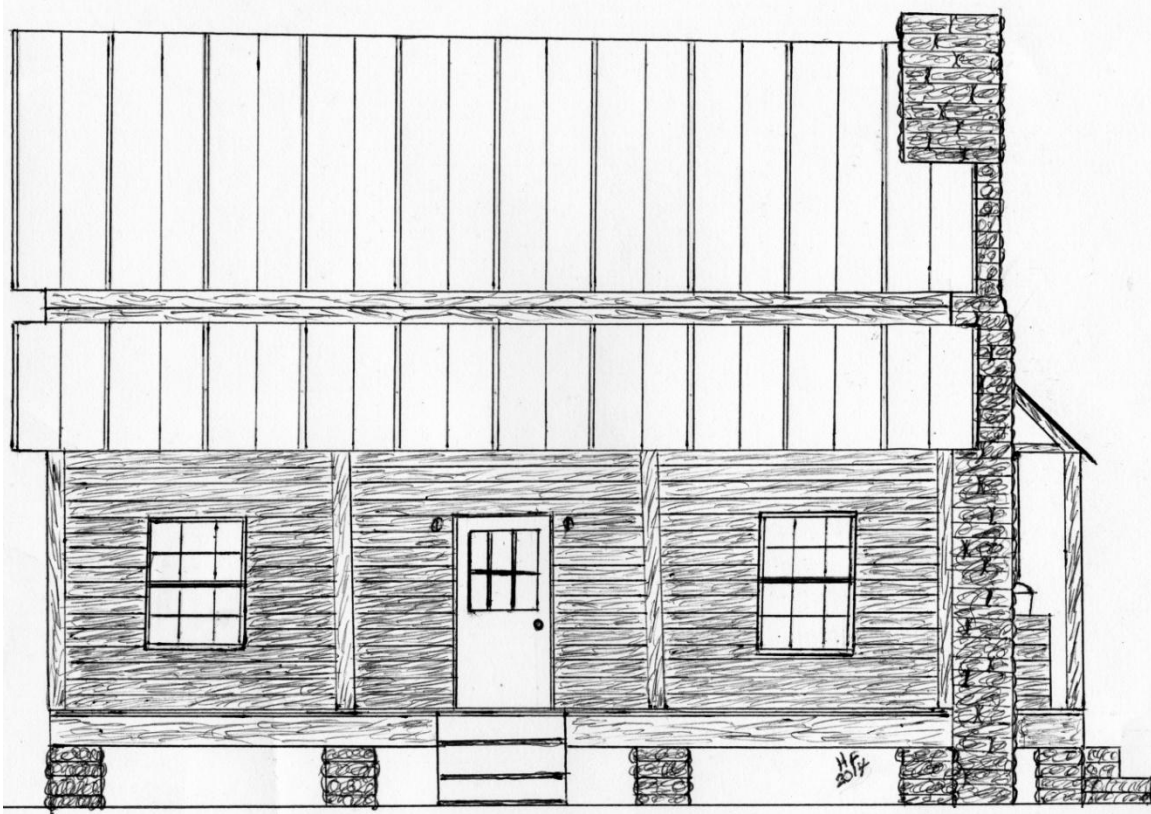


Ben Farmer House Site



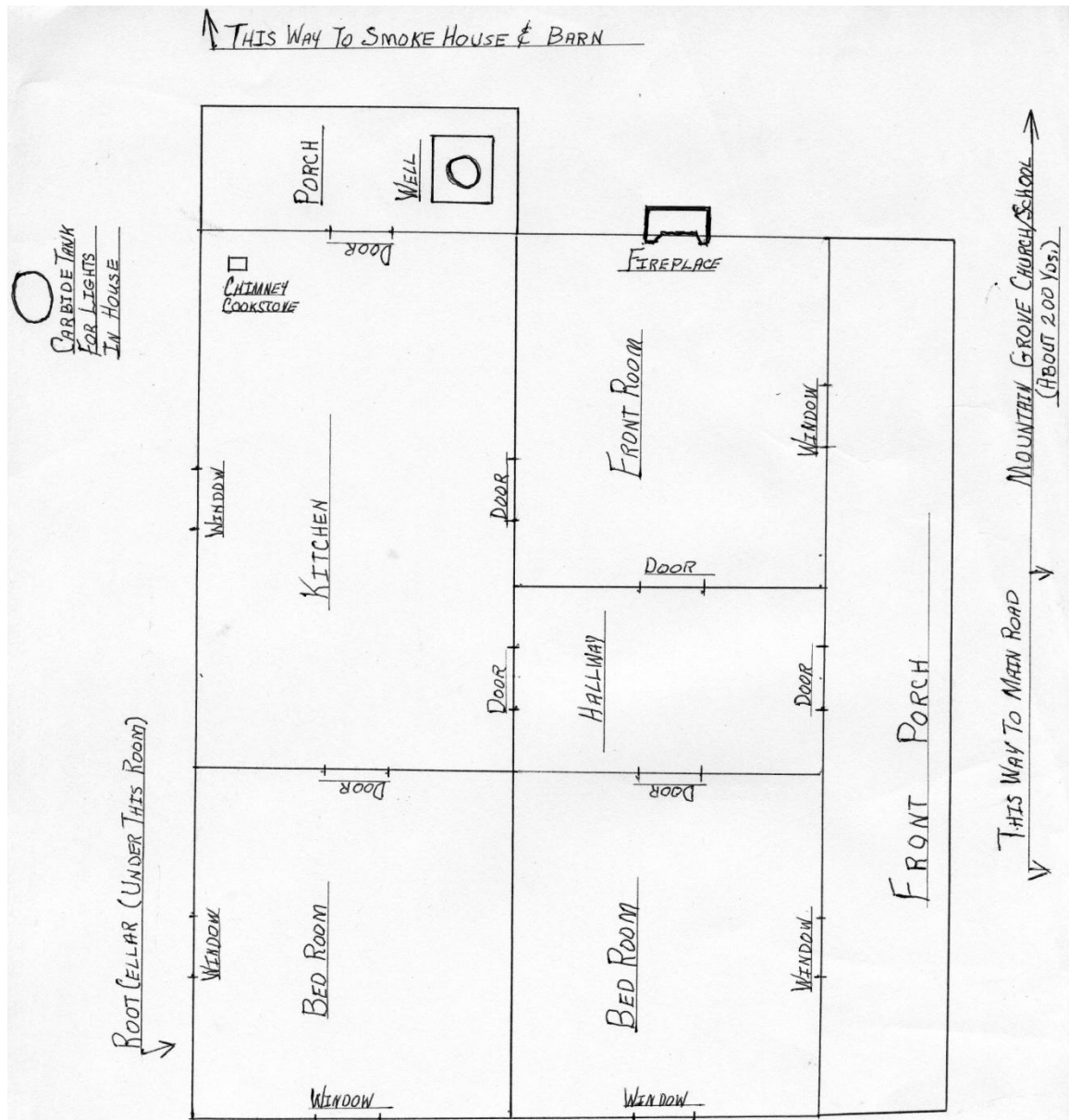
[This is an Adopt-a-Site location!](#)

[This Booklet Placed Here By Ben Farmer Family](#)

Welcome to the house site of my Grandparents. Please leave this historical data booklet at site for others to view. This booklet is available for viewing or downloading at our website: <http://www.farmermountainfarmers.com/> . Ben Farmer's great grandparents and grandparents first came to this area in 1839 where they lived the rest of their lives and are buried. Ben was born about one mile east of this site at what is now known as George Farmer house site. George was Ben's brother. Ben lived out his life in and around this area, which is known as "Lake Russell Wildlife Management Area," except for the few times that he thought life would be better elsewhere but each time he was drawn back. This area tends to have that effect with its natural beauty.

Howard Farmer

Site Layout



BEN & BEULAH FARMER HOME PLACE WHICH WAS LOCATED IN MOUNTAIN GROVE COMMUNITY. THEIR ORIGINAL HOME, WHICH WAS ACROSS ROAD FROM THIS, WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE. TWO OF THEIR SIX CHILDREN WERE BORN IN ORIGINAL HOME AND THE OTHER FOUR HERE.
THE SKETCH OF THIS SITE WAS MADE BY BEN & BEULAH'S GRANDSON AS DESCRIBED BY HIS AUNT "BEA" AND FROM INSPECTION OF SITE.

This house was constructed by Ben Farmer after the one, located across road from this one, where he and his wife Beulah, son Burch and daughter Bertha were living

when it burned down. After house burned they probably moved to the original log house built on this tract of land until this house was built. No house was ever rebuilt on the site that house burned. The log house was eventually turned into a wagon shed and corn crib. Ben and Beulah's other four children, Bea, Howard, Hubert and Ernest, were born in this house. This house had gas lights in each room and two on front porch, one on each side of door. This gas was generated by the carbide tank and piped into house. Granules of carbide would, as needed, drop from hopper in top of tank into water in bottom of tank causing a chemical reaction which created the gas. There was a lever on outside of tank, connected to a stir arm on inside of tank, used to stir mixture to get maximum use of carbide granules. From time to time a white paste like sludge would build up in bottom of tank and would have to be cleaned out. Nothing was ever thrown away that could be used and this included the white paste like sludge. It was used to paint the fireplace, sometimes the inside walls of house, rock walls including house pillars and even sometimes the tree trunks in yard. The only source of heat for this house was from the fireplace and cook stove. In the summer windows were raised to let air circulate through rooms for cooling. A root cellar was located under rear bedroom. It had rock walls with rock steps leading down from outside back of house. This is where canned fruits and canned vegetables were stored. Butter and milk was lowered into the water well in a bucket to keep them cool in the summer time. This bucket was in addition to the one used to draw up water. After the acquisition of this property by the Federal Government the house was torn down and reassembled on a farm near Banks and Franklin Counties border in Prospect Church community. It mirrored the original house except for no entrance hallway, kitchen porch, no carbide lights and no root cellar. This house has since been torn down since my dad and I visited it. As far as I know there are no photographs existing of this reconstructed house. There were photographs of the original house but I have not been able to locate any of them. A number of years after the original house was disassembled and moved, the Stephens County Government initiated a project to fill up all of the abandoned water wells located throughout the county. The water well at this site was filled in due to that project. That accounts for the push pile and bulldozer grade. The push pile is where water well was located. Any of the remaining chimney rock along with dirt from front side of where house stood was pushed into water well for fill.

Families That Lived Here

Ben Farmer family – about 1910 to 1920

Jake Farmer family – 1920 to 1930

Benjamin H Rich family -1930 to about 1935

Clark Simmons family – about 1935 to 1938

Land Records

Land grant from the State of Georgia to Enoch Brady in 1835

Obtained by Ray Whitfield in 1851

Obtained by J.B. Hulseby in 1854

Obtained by James Farmer in 1855 (Note: This was Ben Farmer's grandfather)

Obtained by W.V. Watkins before 1906

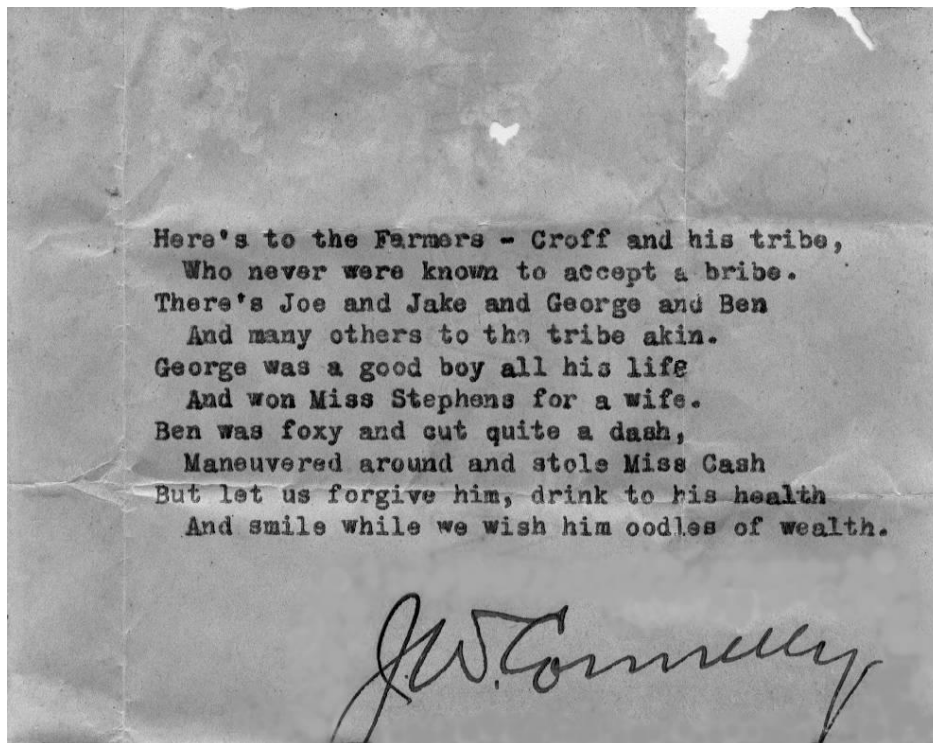
Obtained by Benjamin Franklin (Ben) Farmer in 1906 (Note: Ben and his bride, Beulah Cash, probably rented this property from W.V. Watkins before purchasing it and moved here when they married in January 1905.)

Ben Farmer sold this property to his brother Jake in 1920 but a deed was never recorded. Jake told Ben that he couldn't pay for the property and gave the property back to him in 1922. In 1922 Ben sold the property to three of his brothers, J.H. (Joe) Farmer, J.M. (Messer) Farmer and George Farmer. Jake continued to live in this house until 1930. This house was then rented to Benjamin H. Rich. The 1930 census list him only as being a farmer but he was also the preacher and teacher at Mountain Grove Church and school. In 1938 Clark Simmons was renting this house at the time of acquisition by the federal government from George Farmer.

Ben Farmer Family



Left to Right: Bea, Hubert, Ben, Howard, Beulah, Burch, Bertha and Ernest



This was found and rescued from trash pile in a very old house