

Gantt House
c. 1880

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Sources – Gantt House

Cadenhead, Frances Jameson. *Seasons of Fran's Kith and Kin: Accenting Jameson, Gantt, Hyde & Sheffield Families*. Baltimore: Gateway Press Inc., 2004. (Copy in the Georgia Room at the Cobb County Central Library.)

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Gantt¹ House² c.1880³

John D. Gantt came to Cobb County in the 1850s with his parents and siblings⁴, and married in 1858⁵. Although the family's farm was destroyed during the Civil War⁶, they rebuilt⁷ and continued to acquire land⁸. Years later, the family built this house, which featured 6 rooms, 2 porches and 4 fireplaces⁹. After John's passing in 1903,¹⁰ the property remained in the Gantt family¹¹. John's son Jasper eventually became sole owner¹² and in 1922 owned approximately 195 acres¹³. Jasper died in 1937 without heirs¹⁴. The land that included the house was sold in 1950¹⁵, but the vast majority of the estate was eventually developed into the surrounding subdivisions¹⁶.

¹ Cadenhead, 234. She states the name was spelled with one T until John recorded his son Omer's name in the family bible using two Ts. After that everyone in the family started spelling the name with two Ts. This is supported by earlier census and deed records showing the name Gant, and later records showing the name Gantt as well as Temple's cemetery data on P. 855-6 which showed the name spelled with two Ts.

² The address for the house provided by the Cobb County Planning Division is 3031 Lower Roswell Road. The Tax Assessor's website showed this address to be in District 16, Land Lot 1270. Plat Book 7, Page 108 illustrated the property of the J.L. Gantt estate on March 1, 1948. At that time the estate consisted of approx. 186.53 acres, including Land Lots 1251 and 1270. The house and outbuildings are shown to be in Land Lot 1251, just above the boundary line between the two. The revised engineers' drawing of Unit Three of the Gant Quarters subdivision dated September 20, 1976 shows that the majority of the out parcel where the house is located is in Land Lot 1270.

³ The Tax Assessor website states the year built was 1892, but the actual date is not known, so this author made an educated guess. Deed Book C Page 237 showed that John acquired Land Lot 1270 in 1873. The 1880 census showed that John was the head of a family with a wife and 10 children. Cadenhead (234-5) described their former house as a log cabin with two bedrooms that were separated from the general room and kitchen by a hallway.

⁴ Cadenhead, 224-5; 1850 census showed the family of William and Rosanna Gant resided in DeKalb County. The 1860 census showed them living in Cobb County.

⁵ Cadenhead, 234. The 1860 census showed that John and wife S.A. (Salena A.) had a 1 year old child.

⁶ Cadenhead, 244 referred to Newt Gantt (brother of John) returning home from the war to find his farm in ruins. Temple's data on veterans (539, 573) supports this. She mentioned Jasper L. (brother to John and uncle to his namesake and future owner of the house) and William N. (Newt) Gantt as having served.

⁷ Cadenhead, 244.

⁸ Deed Book C, page 237 (1873 purchase of Land Lot 1270).

⁹ Cadenhead, 235.

¹⁰ Temple, 856.

¹¹ Deed Book DD, page 208 (covered 1904 sale of Land Lots 1270 and 1251 from the J.D. Gantt estate to W.N. and J.L. Gantt).

¹² Deed Book LL, page 252 (1908 sale of LL 1251 and 1269 from W.N. Gantt to W.M. and J.L. Gantt); Deed Book 72, page 99 (1922 sale of land lots including fractions of 1251 and 1270 from Will M. Gantt to Jasper L. Gantt).

¹³ Deed Book 72, page 99.

¹⁴ Cadenhead, 237 reported that he never married. The 1910, and 1920 census data showed that Jasper was the head of a household consisting of two sisters (spinster?) and a nephew. The sisters were also included in the 1930 census, but the nephew was not.

¹⁵ Deed Book 219, page 50 (1950 sale of land, including the pertinent sections of Land Lots 1251 and 1270 applicable to the location of the house, from the Jasper L. Gantt estate to Mrs. Virginia W. Howe.)

¹⁶ September 20, 1976 (revised) engineers' drawing of Unit Three of the Gant Quarters subdivision on file in the Deed Room. It includes Land Lots 1270 and 1251 among others, and shows numerous subdivided lots as well as the present 1-acre sized out parcel where the house is situated.