

Bratton House Recalls By-Gone Days

**Dwelling Was Built
By Slaves Before
War Between States**

BY ELIZABETH REED

The third house at Brattonsville was built just before the War Between the States. Built by slave labor as a store and dwelling, it is still an imposing structure.

The round front porch columns are in pairs and were formed of bricks with plaster cover. The front porch floor was made of flat stones laid without mortar. The front part of the house shows where two doors were placed originally—one was the entrance to the store and the other led to the family living quarters. Soon the younger members of the family insisted that the store should not be in the building and the present long wooden store building nearby was erected.

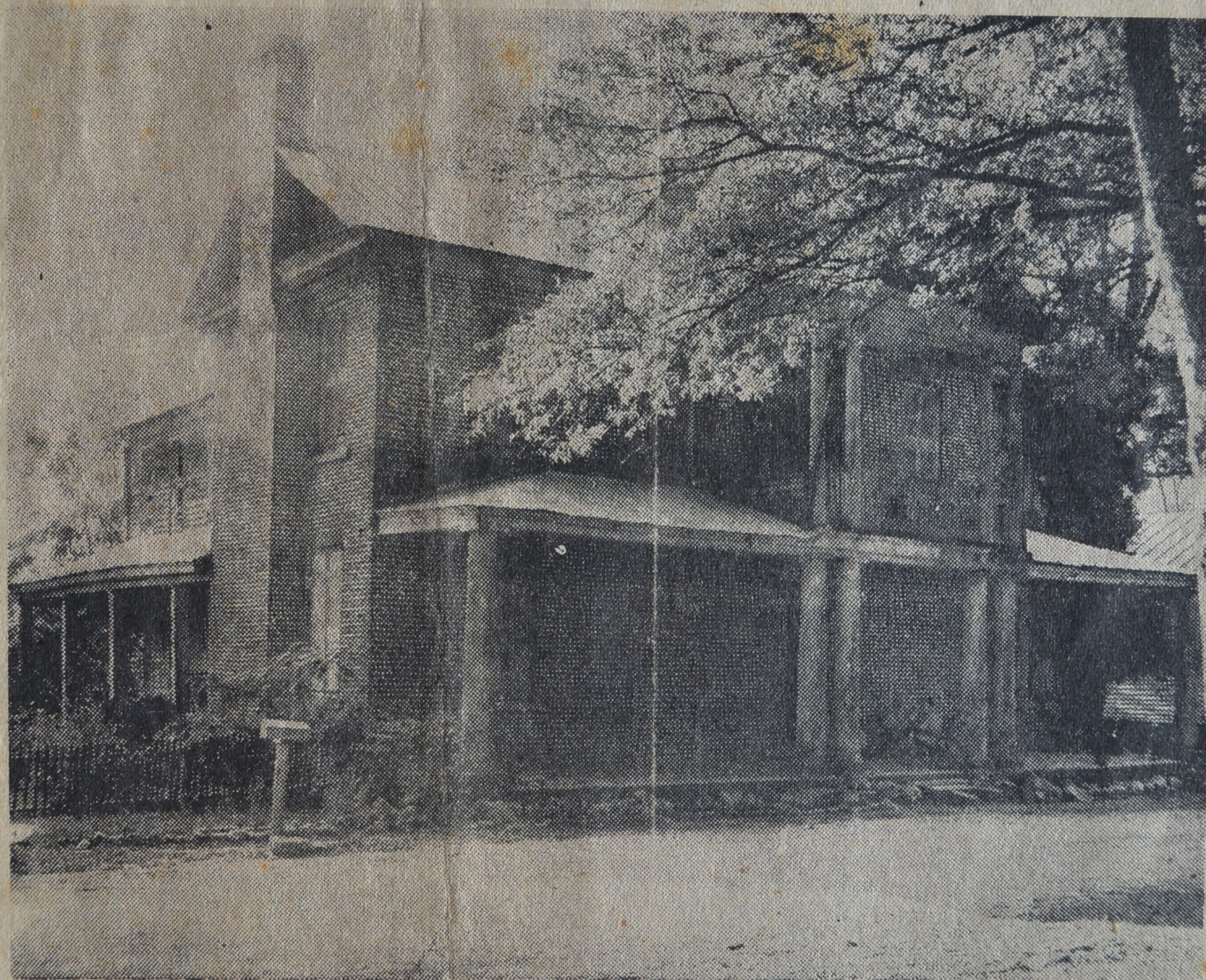
The original plaster in the large rooms is still in good condition.

The stairway ascends from a hall uniting the brick section with the two story wooden wing added later than the main part. The stairrail is of walnut and a delicate carving ornaments each stair rise both in the Homestead and the brick house.

Underneath the home is a full sized basement probably used for storage in the early days of the home.

Mrs. R. M. Bratton of York was born in the Revolutionary house but was removed to the brick house when nine days old. She lived there until 1898 when she married

The "Brickhouse" At Brattonsville



Slaves on the Bratton plantation at Brattonsville built this house, one of the three there.—Staff photo by Roberts).