



**JOSEPH SCALES HOUSE**  
Cox Road  
Triune, Tennessee

Property #212

*Joseph Scales House: ca. 1845 I-House in rural Williamson County*

The Joseph Scales House is a two-story frame, central-passage-plan residence with Greek Revival detailing constructed ca. 1845.

Joseph Scales was born in 1798 and moved with his parents to Williamson County in the early 1800s. He married Frances Webb in 1819 and settled on a farm in the eastern section of Williamson County. The Scales originally lived in a log residence until they constructed their frame home. Built in a traditional I-House plan with rooms flanking the central passage, the Scales' home typifies the style built by successful farmers of the period.

Scales operated a medium-size farm for many years and raised nine children. In 1859, he was listed as owning 300 acres of land and seven slaves. Joseph Scales died in 1870 and the property was eventually sold to C. W. Daniels in 1887.

The Joseph Scales house retains most of its original interior and exterior detailing with the exception of the portico on the main facade. This portico was replaced in 1925 after a tornado blew down the original columns. The replacement portico was designed to match the original in shape and scale. This porch has vernacular square columns and railings with square balusters. The main entrance has the original double doors, four-light sidelights and an eleven-light transom. The second story central bay has a single frame door with sidelights and transom as well.

The interior retains its original form and detailing, including Greek Revival influenced

mantles, paneled wainscoting beneath the windows in the main rooms and original staircases. Of the rooms on the second story, only one room was accessed by the main staircase. The upper east room was reached by a separate staircase through the east room of the first floor. This design was used to separate the boys' and girls' accommodations.

The property contains a number of ca. 1900 outbuildings, including sheds, barns and a privy. These contribute to the house's setting as a working farm. In front of the house are frame gateposts which were made from the original portico columns blown down in 1925.

The Joseph Scales House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

