

3-15-1952

## Better Farm Homes Contest Papers

Jimmie Ada Atkinson

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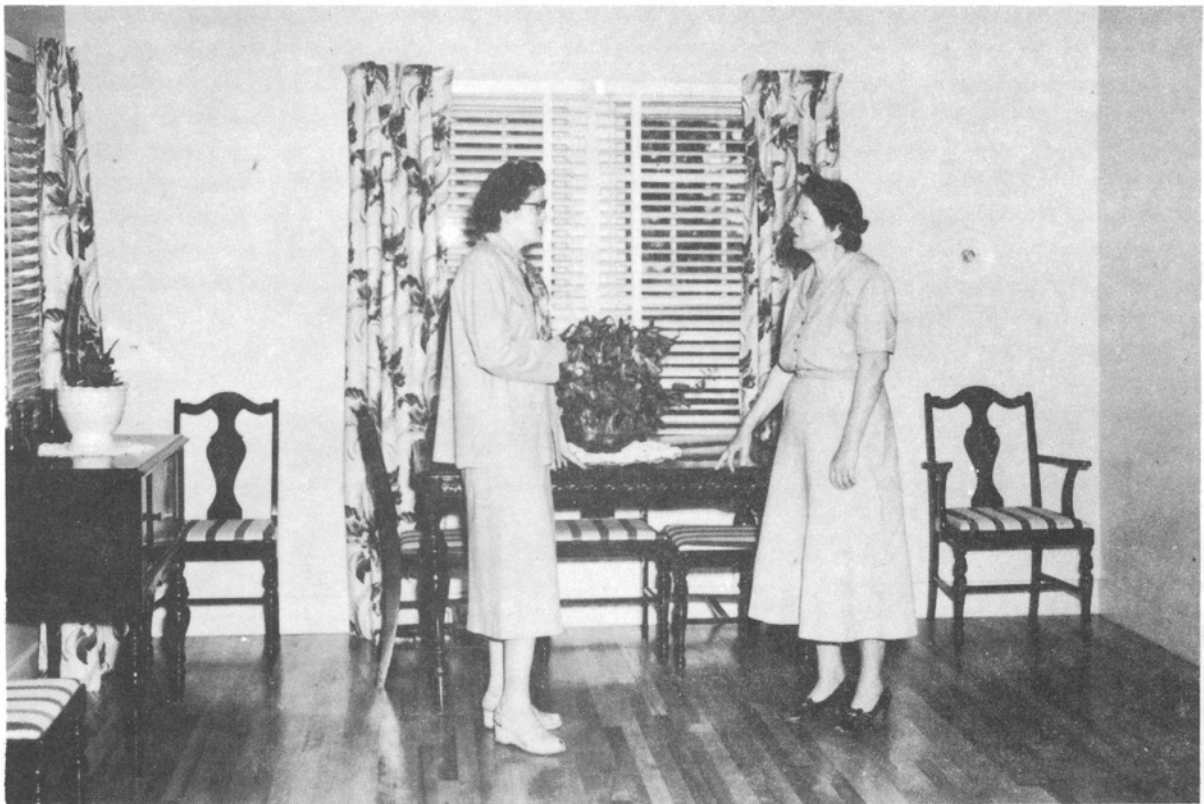
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Name Mrs. Sid Alkerson

County Chickasaw

County or Home Agent Mrs. Norma B. Aradt

# BETTER FARM HOMES CONTEST



IN THE INTEREST OF BETTER FARM HOMES IN MISSISSIPPI  
\$3700 in CASH PRIZES

This contest is co-sponsored by the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio Railroad and a local civic club, a business firm, or an individual in each county participating.

Mississippi Agricultural Extension Service

## BETTER FARM HOMES CONTEST

January 1, 1951 to March 15, 1952

Better Farm Homes Contest for Mississippi farm families in  
36 counties

### AIMS OF THE CONTEST:

- (1) To stimulate greater interest in the love for the farm home by making it more comfortable, more convenient and more beautiful.
- (2) To increase pride in the farm home, the community, the county, the state, and the nation.
- (3) To develop an enduring interest in the better things of farm life.

### RULES:

- (1) The time of the contest shall be from January 1, 1951 to March 15, 1952.
- (2) Any Home Demonstration Club Member in the following Mississippi counties is eligible to enter the contest: Alcorn, Tippah, Prentiss, Union, Lee, Pontotoc, Chickasaw, Monroe, Clay, Webster, Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Lowndes, Noxubee, Winston, Neshoba, Kemper, Lauderdale, Newton, Leake, Scott, Rankin, Hinds, Jasper, Clarke, Wayne, Jones, Perry, Greene, George, Copiah, Marion, Lawrence, Walthall, Calhoun, and Jackson.
- (3) Any first place county winner in 1951 is eligible only for state award in 1952.
- (4) Entries must be filed with the home demonstration agent or county agent not later than September 15, 1951.
- (5) Completed record books are due in County Extension Office not later than March 15, 1952. The 15 best records from each county should be sent to State College not later than April 1, 1952.

- (6) Credit to 1951 county winners, other than first place, will be allowed contestants enrolled in the 1952 Contest. Credit also will be allowed first place county winners of the previous year towards 1952 State Sweepstakes Awards. (See page 8, item 9 on score card for credit allowed.)
- (7) No Sweepstake Winner can re-enter G. M. & O. Contest.

#### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

The G. M. & O. Railroad is cooperating with the Extension Division of Mississippi State College by offering \$3700.00 in cash prizes. In order for residents of any of the 36 counties above mentioned to engage in this contest, it is necessary that there be at least 25 enrollees from that county. Further, before any farm family from a single county can compete for the prize awards, it will be required that at least 15 of the contestants who live in that county complete their record and make a score of at least 600. All of the judging is to be done on a score card basis. The following prizes will be given in each county that qualifies: \$40.00 for the first prize, \$30.00 for the second prize, \$20.00 for the third prize, and \$10.00 for the fourth prize.

#### STATE AWARDS:

Five state sweepstake awards will be given: \$60.00 first place, \$50.00 second place, \$40.00 third place, \$30.00 fourth place, and \$20.00 fifth place. The five highest **scoring** individuals in the state, including first place 1951 county winners, will compete for these state sweepstakes awards. Any first place 1951 county winner can receive only a state award. Any contestant not winning a first place county award in 1951 is eligible to receive both a county award plus a state sweepstake award. For example, a first place county winner (not a previous first place winner in 1951) can receive \$40.00 for her county prize plus \$60.00 sweepstake award for a total of \$100.00.

#### HOME DEMONSTRATION COUNCIL AWARDS:

Four Home Demonstration Council awards will be given to the Home Demonstration Council in the four counties making the highest total score in this contest. Awards will be first place \$90.00, second place \$75.00, third place \$50.00, and fourth place \$25.00. Score for counties to be determined as follows: total enrollment 20%, per cent of completions 20%, and total score of 15 best records 60%.

#### BASIS OF AWARDS:

The final basis of awards will be on:

	Possible Score
(1) Improvement in outward appearance of farm house itself . . . . .	175
(2) Improvement of outbuildings and immediate surroundings . . . . .	150
(3) Improvements inside the home . . . . .	225
(4) Planting and arrangement of grounds . . . .	300
(5) Pictures of house and grounds . . . . .	150
(6) Map of home grounds and floor plans . . . .	150
(7) Story of improvements . . . . .	<u>50</u>
TOTAL SCORE . . . . .	1,200

#### JUDGING OF CONTEST:

The final judging in this contest to give second score and select county first, second, third, and fourth place winners from the best 15 records, is to be done by a committee of at least three persons delegated by the following organizations: The County Farm Bureau, Parent Teachers Association, The County Banker's Association, The County Health Department, Garden Club, County Coordinating Council, Men or Women's Business Clubs, Women's Federated Clubs and other groups that might be suggested by the County and Home Demonstration Agents. The County and Home Demonstration Agents are to have no part in the judging. They are to act in an advisory capacity with their offices being the clearing house for the registration of entrants in the contest determining first score from check sheets, supplying record books, and the turning in of the 15 best record books, including the score card, the final report and story, upon completion to Miss Addie Hester, District Agent-at-Large, Extension Service, State College, Mississippi.

# SCORE CARD TO BE USED IN JUDGING CONTEST

		Perfect: Score	First: Score	Second: Score
(1)	IMPROVEMENT IN OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF FARM HOUSE ITSELF	:	:	:
a.	General architectural improvement and repair of outside of house (Including repair of steps, porch floors, roof, windowpanes, screens, sagging doors and foundation of house) . . . . .	75	30	60
b.	House painted or otherwise surfaced . . . . .	100	10	75
(2)	IMPROVEMENT OF OUTBUILDINGS AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS	:	:	:
a.	Repair of outbuildings, building and repair of yard fences . . . . .	30	20	25
b.	Removal of unnecessary and unde- sirable fences, rubbish, weeds, bill- boards, tumble down shacks, ect. . . . .	40	10	30
c.	Proper location and arrangement of woodpile, chicken coops, wash tubs, wash pot, clothes line, etc. . . . .	40	15	35
d.	Painting, whitewashing or staining outbuildings and fences in harmony with house . . . . .	40	10	30
(3)	IMPROVEMENT INSIDE THE HOME	:	:	:
a.	Water system . . . . .	35	20	20
b.	Heating system . . . . .	15	5	15
c.	House wired (Is rural electri- fication line available? _____) . . . . .	25	15	20
d.	Kitchen sink with running water . . . . .	15	10	10
e.	Built-in kitchen cabinets . . . . .	35	0	20
f.	Pantry for canned goods . . . . .	20	15	15
g.	Clothes closets . . . . .	15	5	10

		Perfect: Score	First: Score	Second: Score
h. Bathroom with running water . . . . .	25	: 10 :	10	
i. Walls painted or papered . . . . .	25	: 2 :	20	
j. Floors finished . . . . .	15	: 2 :	15	
(4) PLANTING AND ARRANGEMENT OF GROUNDS		:	:	
a. Removal of plants detrimental to place . .	20	: 15 :	20	
b. Suitable drainage of yard . . . . .	30	: 20 :	30	
c. Making walks and drives . . . . .	30	: 10 :	25	
d. Grade seed and properly main- tain lawn . . . . .	50	: 30 :	45	
e. Trees planted . . . . .	30	: 10 :	20	
f. Foundation plantings . . . . .	50	: 10 :	25	
g. Border plantings to enclose property and provide privacy and screen service area . . . . .	40	: 10 :	30	
h. Location, selection, and planting of annuals and perennial flowers . . . . .	30	: 10 :	20	
i. Accessories -- pools, garden furni- ture, playground equipment . . . . .	20	: 10 :	20	
(5) PICTURES OF HOUSE AND GROUNDS (Before and After ) . . . . .	50	: — :	10	
(6) MAP OF HOME GROUNDS (Before and After ) Page 11 . . . . .	25	: — :	10	
(7) FLOOR PLAN OF HOUSE . . . . .	25	: — :	15	
(8) STORY OF IMPROVEMENTS . . . . .	50	: — :	20	
(9) 10% OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S TOTAL		: 309 :	700	
		:	309	
		:	391	

EXPLANATORY NOTE: By outbuildings is meant those buildings more or less directly connected with the house and back yard, such as the woodshed, well, smokehouse, chicken house, ect.  
It is suggested that the Final Report should be used as an outline in writing the Story of Better Farm Homes Contest Work.

# FINAL REPORT

Check list of activities in Better Farm Homes Contest to be filled out by contestant

BUILDINGS	Number
House painted or otherwise surfaced . . . . .	_____
Outbuildings painted, stained or whitewashed . . . . .	_____
House repaired or remodeled . . . . .	_____
New buildings added . . . . .	<u>2</u>
Feet of house foundation improved . . . . .	_____
New steps built . . . . .	_____
Old steps repaired . . . . .	_____
Porch floors repaired or painted . . . . .	<u>2</u>
Windowpanes added . . . . .	_____
Screens added . . . . .	_____
IMPROVEMENTS INSIDE THE HOME	
Water system . . . . .	_____
Heating system . . . . .	_____
House wired . . . . .	_____
Kitchen sink with running water added . . . . .	_____
Built-in kitchen cabinets . . . . .	_____
Pantry for canned goods . . . . .	_____
Clothes closets . . . . .	<u>1</u>
Bathroom with running water added . . . . .	_____
Walls painted . . . . .	_____
Walls papered . . . . .	_____
Floors finished . . . . .	<u>2</u>



FENCES	Number
New gates built . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Feet of new fence built . . . . .	<u>258</u>
Feet of poultry fence built . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Feet of old fence repaired or whitewashed . . . . .	<u>          </u>
 GROUNDS	
Bushels of rubbish moved from yard . . . . .	<u>5-</u>
Cords of wood moved and stacked . . . . .	<u>1 cord</u>
Pieces of farm machinery housed or screened . . . . .	<u>all - 5 pieces</u>
Feet of drive built or gravelled . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Clothes line built in back yard . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Suitable drainage of yard . . . . .	<u>good</u>
 LAWN	
Square feet of lawn seeded or sodded . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Times lawn was mowed this year . . . . .	<u>4 or 5-</u>
Feet of wall built . . . . .	<u>          </u>
 PLANTINGS	
Removal of plants detrimental to good arrangement . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Shade trees planted . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Native shrubs planted . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Cuttings made . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Non-native shrubs planted . . . . .	<u>          </u>
Shrubs pruned . . . . .	<u>8</u>

	Number
Feet of hedge planted . . . . .	_____
Screen plantings made . . . . .	_____
Perennial flower beds planted . . . . .	_____
Annual flower beds planted . . . . .	_____
Mixed flower beds planted . . . . .	_____
Rose bushes planted . . . . .	_____
YARD FURNISHINGS	
Outdoor fireplace built . . . . .	_____
Pieces of lawn furniture made . . . . .	_____
Rose or vine trellis made . . . . .	_____
Muscadine or wistaria arbors built . . . . .	_____
Window boxes planted . . . . .	_____
Pot plants grown . . . . .	_____
Rock gardens built . . . . .	_____
Tours made . . . . .	_____
Group meetings held at home . . . . .	_____

Report other work done here:

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Back  
of house before improvement

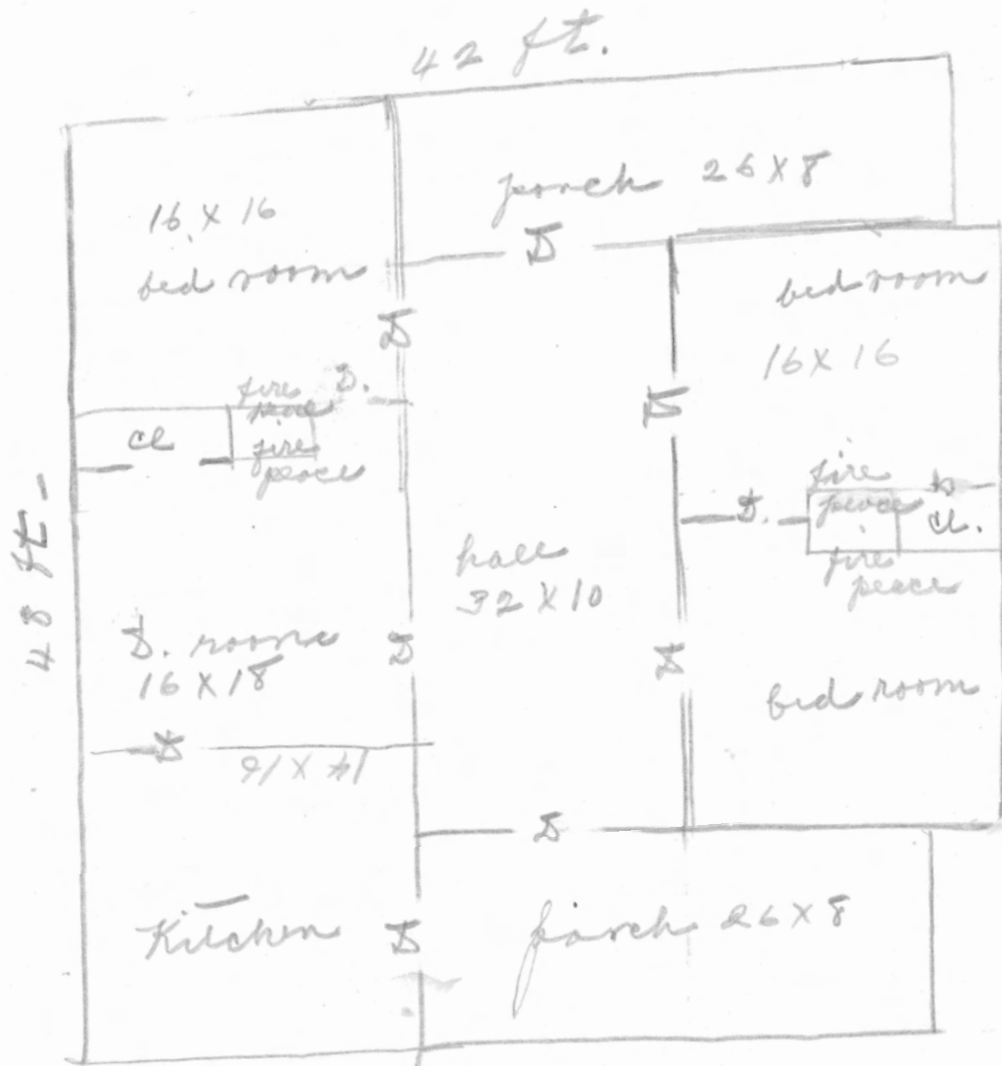


*Kitchen Now*



After improvement

# Floor Plan Before Improvement



Mrs. S. E. Atkinson  
Houston

pool

pool

main house

back  
house area

collon house

Sketch of grounds  
Mrs. S. E. Atkinson's  
Home

ken house

Lot

Garden

brooder

house 2

9

sewers

gate

flowers

toilet

flowers

clothes line

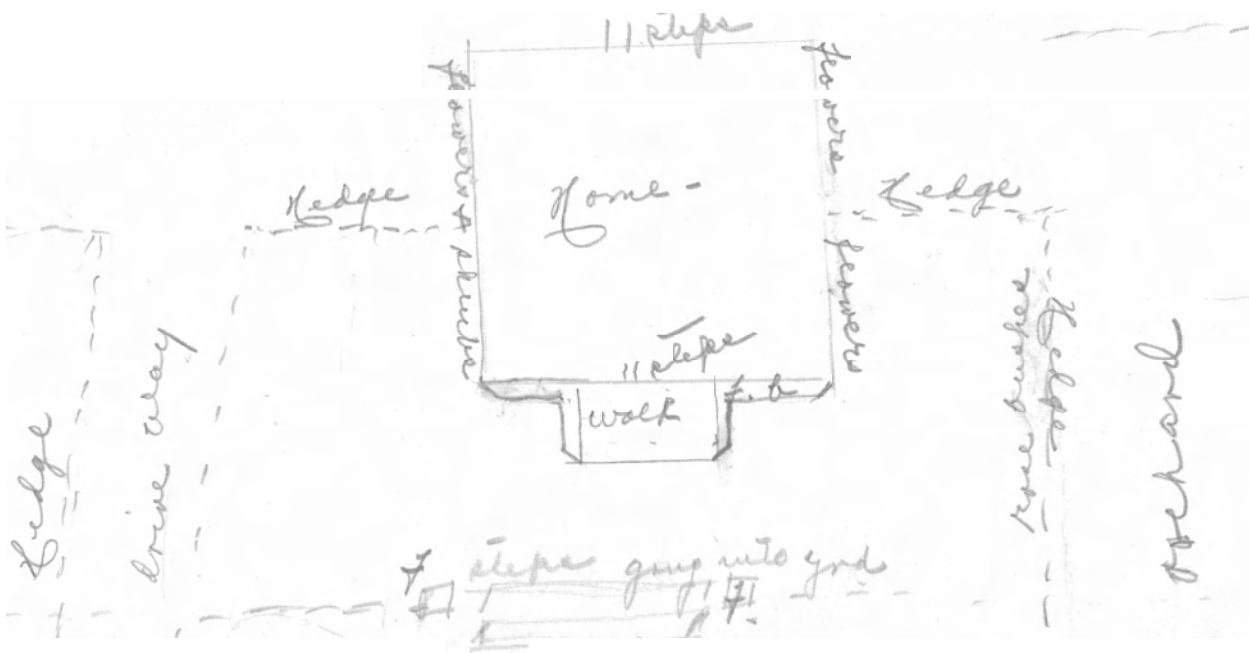
smoke  
house

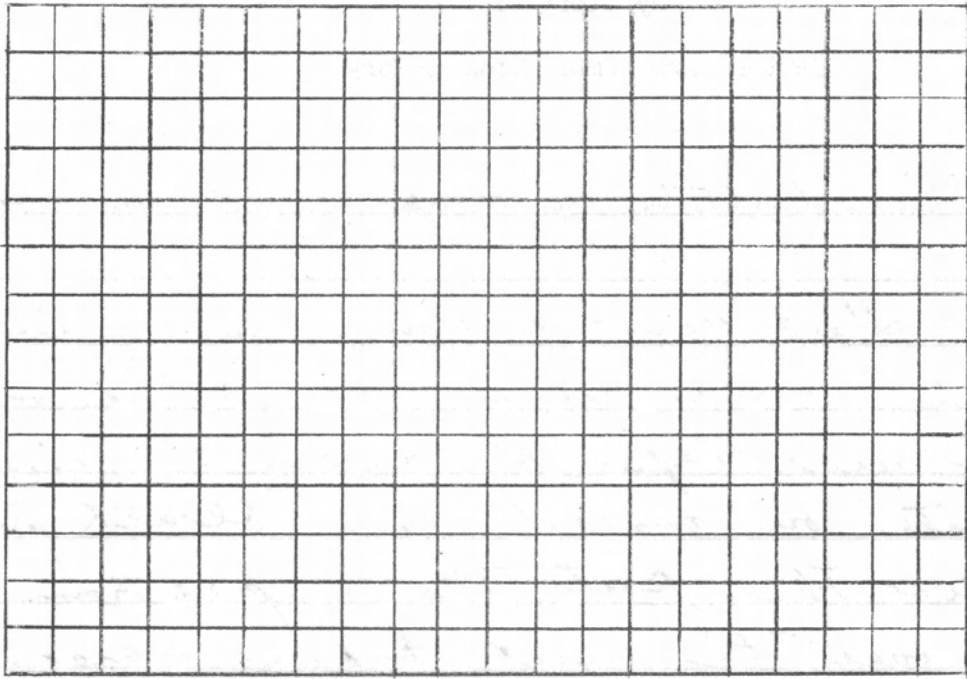
flowers

sewing shrub

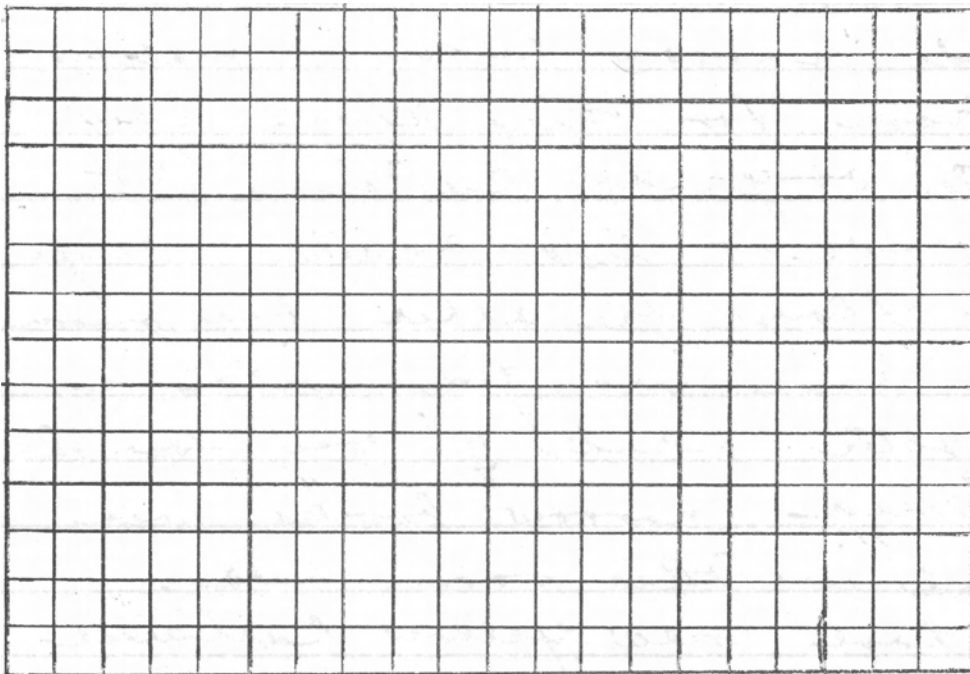
back yard

gate





Before



After

1 square equals 10 feet.



My Story of  
Better Farm Homes Contest Work

Continued Story on Improvements in my home,

Last year we then - toned two more bed rooms, using the same method we used before by putting the linoleum paste on walls, then black paper, we then put the Super-Kem-tone over the black paper which made a nice wall. My guest bed room is done in a beautiful shade of dusty rose with cream ceiling and narrow border to match. I have for this room new white organdy curtains for windows & two scatter rugs for floor. The other bed room is done in gray with a lighter shade of gray for the ceiling - narrow border was used in this room also. I have new yellow curtains

My Story (Cont'd)

For this room, we have new light fixtures for both room mentioned. I have new draperies for the double window in dining room. My kitchen table is covered in inlaid linoleum to match cabinets & walls with a star in center of table. Our front & back porch needed to be repaired so we put in new sills where they were needed, packed flooring, then put mastic cement on floor & mastic tile - in black & maroon. In my bed room we had a closet that had not been finished

(Use additional pages if necessary)

Year 1952

Your Name Mrs. S. E. Anderson are you home owner or tenant \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Louisa R. R. ~~or~~ Box 2 County Chickasaw

Name of Home Demonstration Agent or County Agent Mrs. Hal Ardent

so we got key-wood, ceiled & papered  
same - we put a light in said  
closet.

I in yard I have put out about  
25- buds.

we have built 3 new sheds for  
Cows, pear tools & hen nest.

we have remodel some fence  
& rebuilt some.

Respectfully  
Mrs. J.E. Atkinson,