

Carrithers Family

This is believed to have been the first hotel and boarding house erected in Point Smith (Riverton). It was part of the expansion plan of Henry D. Smith, and was built about 1847. It contained 20 rooms, plus a huge parlor where the guests could convene in the evening to smoke and talk. It also had a "cook house" detached from the main building, where meals were prepared.

When Federal troops occupied this area during the Civil War (1862-1865)), they confiscated the building and used it as their headquarters. It was allowed to fall into decay, and was even used to stable cavalry horses. It was finally burned to the ground.

We cannot identify the people in this picture, or the date when it was made. However, it would be my guess the picture was made soon after the building was completed, and that the bearded man in the foreground is Henry D. Smith. Note the little black slave boy with his hat in his hand.

