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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Gillespie, James, House
other names/site number Gillespie, James, House (BL-2443)

2. Location

street & number On Lowes Ferry Road, one mile north of Louisville not for publication
city, town Road intersection - Louisville vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Blount code 009 zip code 37777

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Hist. & Arch. Resources of Blount Co.
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Herbert L. Taylor
Signature of certifying official Deputy State Historical Preservation Officer Date 6/8/89
Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)
Albert Lopez Entered in the National Register 7/25/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single DwellingDOMESTIC/Secondary Structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/Not In Use**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stonewalls Stone/ Woodroof Asphaltother Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The James Gillespie House is a two-story stone, three bay, Federal influenced residence built in a rectangular plan in 1802. A rear two-story frame ell was added ca. 1900 at the northwest facade. On the main (east) facade is a ca. 1920 gable roof, one-story porch with fluted columns. The main entrance has a ca. 1900 single light glass and frame door with a leaded glass transom. Over the door is original jack arching and a stone lintel inscribed with "J. G. 1802". Windows are ca. 1900 two-over-two sash with shutters and original jack arching and keystones. The house has a stone foundation, exterior end stone chimneys and a gable roof of composition shingles. At the base of the stone section is a stone water table extending approximately two feet from the face of main block.

The frame addition has a gable roof of metal standing seam, shiplap siding, two-over-two sash windows and an interior brick chimney. Door openings have been covered with plywood. A one-story porch located in the ell has been removed. At the rear (west) facade of the stone section is a small ca. 1950, one-story frame addition. Also on this facade at the southwest corner is a door leading to stone steps and cellar. The interior appears to have been remodeled ca. 1900 into its present central hall plan but further interior examination was not possible.

At the rear of the house are two outbuildings: a one-story frame, ca. 1910 garage with a gable roof of metal standing seam and vertical board siding (NC); and a ca. 1802, two-story stone spring house. This building is in poor condition and has lost its roof and consists the four stone walls of randomly laid rusticated limestone blocks. Several rectangular openings with wood vents exist but no other original exterior or interior detailing survives (C).

 See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1802

Significant Dates

1802

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The James Gillespie House is significant under criterion C as an example of an early 19th century Federal influenced stone residence. Stone buildings from the settlement period in Blount County are very rare with only the Gillespie House and Samuel Frazier House (BL-409) in existence. Both are three bay, rectangular plan residences but the Gillespie House has more refined detailing such as jack arching and keystones over the doors and windows. Around 1900, the interior appears to have been altered into its present central passage plan and new windows and a rear two-story frame addition added. Despite these alterations the original exterior form and design of the house remains intact. The property is also significant for the existence of the two-story stone springhouse which is the only ante-bellum stone outbuilding identified in the county.

In 1794, James Gillespie received a land grant for 534 acres in Blount County from North Carolina. Gillespie's land grant was located along the Tennessee River and included some of the most fertile farmland in the county. Gillespie and his brothers John and Robert moved to this area soon after and began farming the bottomlands along the river. In 1802, a two-story limestone residence was completed as James Gillespie's residence. This residence was built in a rectangular plan, three bay form with interior end stone chimneys. In addition to the residence a two-story stone springhouse was built just to the west of the house to enclose a constant spring. Gillespie was a prosperous farmer for several decades and also operated an iron forge at the present site of Louisville for a few years. This forge site is presently under Fort Loudon Lake and no visible remnant remains.

Gillespie sold his house and land in 1837 to David Hume and moved to Shelby County, Tennessee. Hume lived in the house for only two years before being shot and killed after a domestic dispute. Hume's widow and family continued to occupy the house until it was sold in 1853 to Absalom Matlock. Matlock was also a well known farmer who was an original trustee of nearby Ewing and Jefferson College. The Matlock family owned the house until its sale in the

See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

James Gillespie House

Section number 8 **Page** 2

Hist. & Arch. Resources of Blount County

1880s to John Lee Griffitts who occupied the house until the 1920s. It is believed that the rear frame addition and changes to the windows and porch occurred during the Griffitts ownership. Since the 1920s several different familys have owned the house but it is presently vacant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Blount County Deed Records. 1800 - 1989. Blount County Courthouse, Maryville, Tennessee.

Burns, Inez E. History of Blount County, Tennessee: From War Trail to Landing Strip. Tennessee Historical Commission, Mary Blount Chapter DAR, 1957.

Morgan, John. Blount County Cultural Resource Survey. Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, Tennessee.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 2.75 acres.

UTM References

A

1	6
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7	6	3	0	8	0
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3	9	7	0	1	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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Louisville Quad

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the James Gillespie House is illustrated on accompanying Blount County tax map 15, lot 5, which is drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'. The property is bounded on the north by a fenceline, on the east by the western right-of-way of Lowes Ferry Road, on the south by a line which is located approximately 100' south of a fence line, and on the west by a See continuation sheet fence line and line which extends south 100' to intersect the south boundary line.

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the James Gillespie House includes the house, adjacent yard and two related outbuildings. The boundary is drawn to exclude modern outbuildings located to the north of the house..

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip Thomason

organization Thomason and Associates date 3/30/89

street & number P.O. Box 121225 telephone 615-383-0227

city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37212

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Section number _____ Page 1 Hist. and Arch. Resources of Blount Co.

James Gillespie House
Lowes Ferry Rd., Louisville Vic., Blount County, TN
Photographs By: Thomason and Assoc.
Date: Fall, 1988
Location of Neg: THC

View: Southeast facade.
Photo # 1

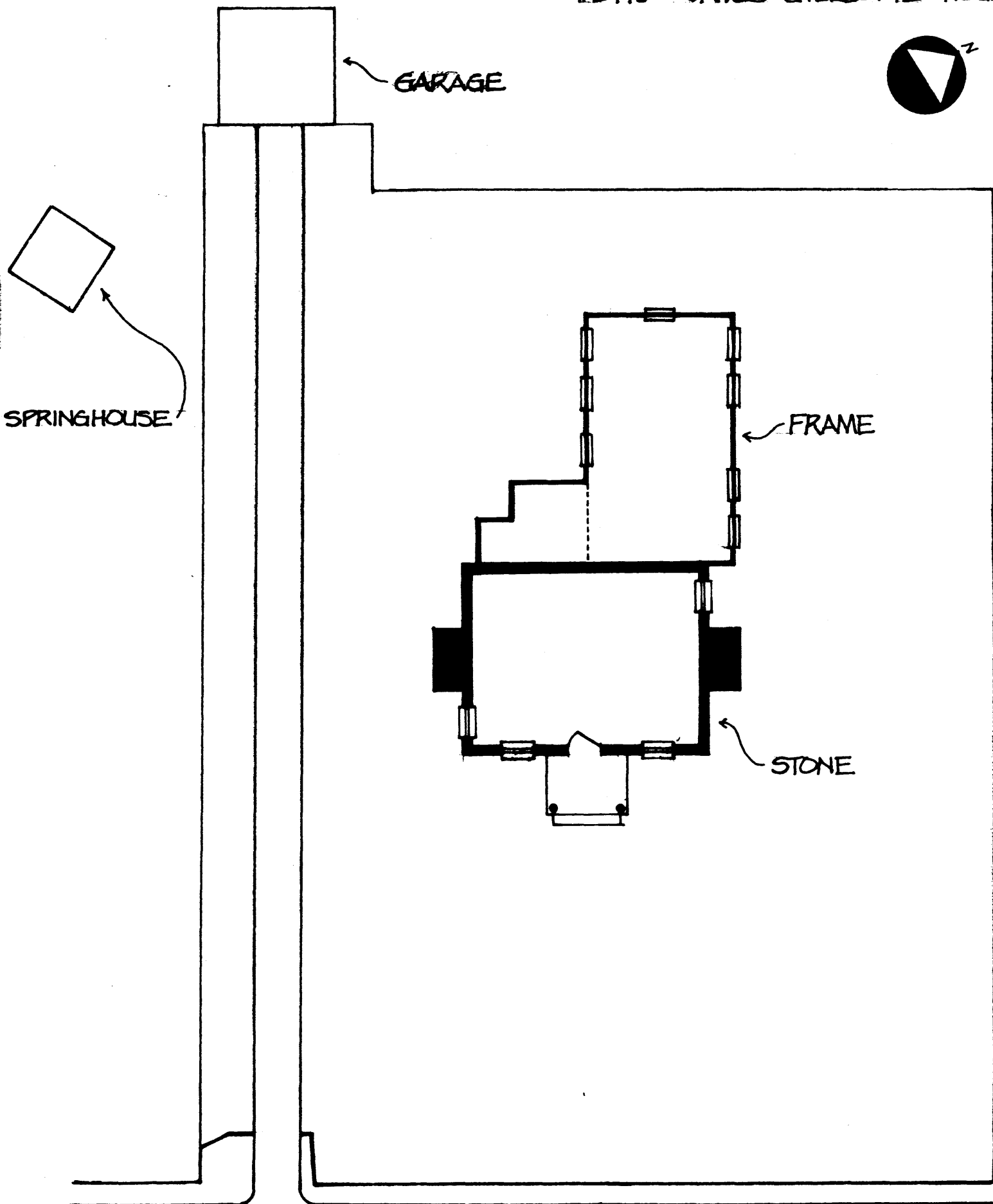
View: Northeast facade.
Photo # 2

View: Northwest and southwest facades.
Photo # 3

View: Springhouse.
Photo # 4

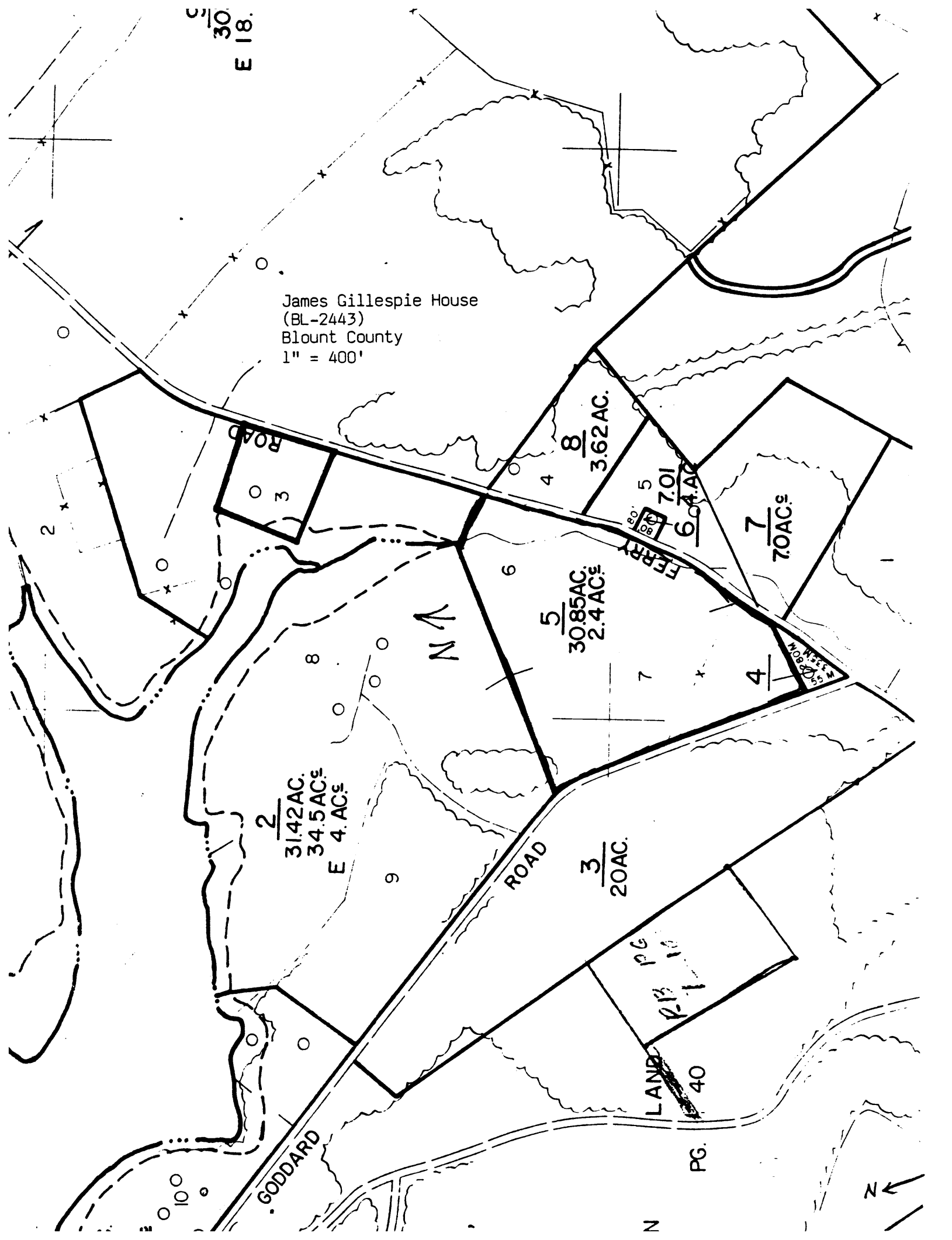
View: Shed.
Photo # 5

#2443 - JAMES GILLESPIE HOUSE



C 30
E 18.

James Gillespie House
(BL-2443)
Blount County
1" = 400'



ROAD

3

8
3.62 AC.

4

5
7.01
6.4 AC

7
7.0 AC

5
30.85 AC
2.4 AC

FERRY

NA

2
31.42 AC.
34.5 AC.
E 4 AC.

8

9

3
20 AC.

7

4

GODDARD ROAD

LAND PG 40

PG 40

N PG.

