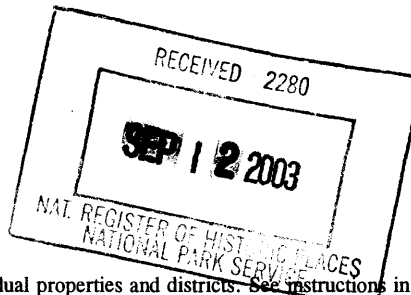


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
other names/site number Belleforest

2. Location

street & number 1418 Chickering Road not for publication N/A
city or town Forest Hills vicinity N/A
state Tennessee code TN county Davidson code 037 zip code 37215

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert P. Hayes/PH 9/14/03
Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, 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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register Edson H. Beall
 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):

Signature of Keeper Date of Action 10/27/03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object |

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count).

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

"Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills"

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Single Dwelling</u> |
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Secondary Structure</u> |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Single Dwelling</u> |
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Secondary Structure</u> |
| <u>RECREATION & CULTURE</u> | <u>Sports Facility</u> |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: French Chateau

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- | | |
|------------|------------------------|
| foundation | <u>STONE</u> |
| roof | <u>CEMENT ASBESTOS</u> |
| walls | <u>BRICK</u> |
| other | <u>WOOD</u> |
| | _____ |

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1935

Significant Dates

1935

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect/Rogers, Herbert

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

- 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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

_ Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House_
Name of Property

_ Davidson County, Tennessee_
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _ 10.7_ acres, USGS Quad: Oak Hill 308 SE_

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	_ 16_	_ 511825_	_ 3991742_	3	_ 16_	_ 511993_	_ 3991605_
2	_ 16_	_ 511967_	_ 3991798_	4	_ 16_	_ 511901_	_ 3991590_

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title _ Philip Thomason_

organization _ Thomason and Associates_ date _ April 23, 2003_

street & number _ P.O. Box 121225_ telephone _ (615) 385-4960_

city or town _ Nashville_ state _ TN_ zip code _ 37212_

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _ Ben Gambill, Jr._

street & number _ 1418 Chickering Road_ telephone _ 615-385-1390_

city or town _ Forest Hills_ state _ TN_ zip code _ 37215_

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
 Davidson County, Tennessee
county and State

DESCRIPTION

The Mrs. Edward B. Craig House is located at 1418 Chickering Road in the incorporated community of Forest Hills. Forest Hills developed as a Nashville suburb in Davidson County in the early 20th century and it became home to many of the city's leading citizens. This area is characterized by large wooded lots and dwellings constructed from the 1920s to the present. The dwelling built for Mrs. Edward B. Craig in 1935 is one of the city's few pre-1955 French Chateau style dwellings. The dwelling is a notable example of this style and retains much of its original design and detailing. With the exception of two, one-story rear wings, the dwelling possesses the majority of its original floor plan and decorative detailing. In addition to the dwelling, an intact servant's quarters building is located to the north of the house. This small building was designed to compliment the main house. At the driveway entrance are original stone piers and a stone wall which extends along Chickering Road. In addition to these buildings, the property also contains a log guest house moved to this location and a modern swimming pool both of which are non-contributing. In front of the dwelling is a large lawn and at the rear are landscaped gardens and mature trees along the hillside.

The Mrs. Edward B. Craig House is a two- and one-half story, stone and brick dwelling designed in the French Chateau style. The house has a rusticated stone foundation, a mansard roof of original cement asbestos shingles, an exterior of stretcher bond brick with random raised stretcher courses, and interior brick chimneys. On the main (west) facade is the primary entrance with original five-panel double doors. This door surround has an ashlar finish with quoins, and voussoirs in the lintel. Flanking the entrance are four-light sidelights.

Windows in the first floor level are original, paired three-light glass and wood design. The second story on the main facade has original paired French windows of five-light glass and wood design. These windows have two-light transoms and original louvered wood shutters. In the central bay on the second story is a balustrade with an original wrought iron railing. Above this window in this bay is a cast concrete pediment with a fleur-de-lis keystone. At the half-story are elliptical paired dormer windows with original paired four-light wood casement windows. At the center bay of the main facade is an elliptical brick wall dormer with a cast concrete rosette. At the southwest corner of the dwelling on the second floor is an incised porch with 1992 cast concrete Tuscan columns and wrought iron balustrades designed to match the original. Leading to this porch are paired French doors with transoms.

On the south facade is an original multi-light picture window and flanking six-light French windows. At the rear or east facade, are two, one-story brick wings. The north wing was built in 1992 and was added to the rear of the kitchen. The south wing was built in 1995 and extends from the library. Both of these wings were designed within similar detailing and brickwork to match the original. These wings have paired, four-light French doors and elliptical transoms. On the north facade of the original portion of the dwelling are two garage bays in the basement level. These garage bays have original paired six-light and six-panel hinged doors. Windows on the side and rear facades are both original and added four-light casement design, or five-light paired French windows with two-light transoms.

On the north facade is an original brick, one-story servant's quarters that is considered a contributing structure. This building is approximately fifty feet north of the north facade of the dwelling and between the dwelling and the servant's quarters is a gravel parking lot. The servant's quarters has an exterior wall brick chimney, mansard roof, and exterior of both brick and stone. Windows in this section are original three-light wood casement design. The entrance on the west facade has an original ten-light glass and wood door. The interior of the building has been remodeled in recent years with added wall, ceiling, and floor finishes. The servant's quarters is now used for storage.

The interior of the house has a finished basement level with two full floors above. The main entrance opens into the basement entry hall which has an original tile floor, textured plaster walls and drywall ceilings. The staircase in the hall has wood treads and risers and an original wrought iron railing and wood handrail. An original hanging wrought iron light fixture illuminates the stairwell. The basement

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Section 7 Page 2

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
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living room has an original mantel of stone, carpeted floors, and plaster walls and ceilings. The walls have an added fabric surface. The first floor consists of a living room, dining room, library, kitchen, sunroom, bar room, two bathrooms and a guest bedroom. Most rooms on this floor have original wood parquet floors, textured plaster walls and plaster ceilings. The living room has an original Colonial Revival influenced marble mantel and hearth. The library has original wood floors, and an original Colonial Revival marble mantel and stone hearth. Paneled wood pilasters on the wall frame the fireplace. Leading to this room are original paneled wood doors. The bar room and sunroom on this floor were added in 1995 and form the south rear wing of the house. The sunroom has a stone floor, cove ceiling, and marble mantel. The dining room has an original mirror on the west wall framed by bound reeds and draped with garland and swag plaster designs. The ceiling in this room has a raised oval plaster medallion. The kitchen on this floor was remodeled in 1992 with added floor, wall, and ceiling finishes and new cabinets.

Bedrooms on both the first and second stories have carpeted floors, plaster walls and ceilings, and added fabric to the walls. The guest bedroom on the first floor has an original stone fireplace. Interior doors are original three-panel solid wood design with original brass hardware. Over the doors are decorative wood panels. On the second floor are four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Two of the bedrooms on the second floor were joined together to create a large master bedroom and bath in 1992. A secondary staircase in the north wing of the house connects the three floors and has wood treads and risers and a wrought iron railing. Bathrooms have original tubs, pedestal sinks, and marble floors.

To the rear of the house is a one-story log dwelling built ca. 1840 and moved to the location ca. 1970 and remodeled into a guest house. This dwelling was originally located in the Warner Park area. The building retains its original log walls but it has been extensively remodeled with added doors, windows, interior details and a wraparound porch. Due to the extent of its alterations this property is included as a non-contributing building. Also on the property is a concrete swimming pool added in 1995 and included as a non-contributing structure. At the driveway entrance is an original stone wall and stone piers which are included as a contributing structure.

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Section 8 Page 3

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
 Davidson County, Tennessee
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mrs. Edward B. Craig House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for its architectural significance as a notable example of the French Chateau style. This style is rarely found in Middle Tennessee, and the Mrs. Edward B. Craig House retains much of its original design and detailing. Also referred to as the French Eclectic style, this residential design featured large hipped or mansard roofs, arched wall dormers, and casement windows. The design was based on French domestic architecture and in America was primarily utilized for architect designed houses of the early 20th century.¹ The Mrs. Edward B. Craig House was designed by New York architect Herbert Rogers and is the most notable example of this style identified in the Forest Hills survey. The house features a mansard roof of original cement asbestos shingles, elliptical paired dormer windows, and paired French doors and windows. The Mrs. Edward B. Craig House meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills."

The dwelling was built as the residence for Mary Crockett Craig, the widow of Edward B. Craig. Edward Burr Craig (1859-1925) was a prominent Nashville executive whose family was well known in the insurance business. He and his brother, along with five other individuals, launched the National Life and Casualty Insurance Company in 1902.² The firm grew into the largest corporation in Nashville and one of the top insurance companies in the nation. The company also founded WSM Radio in 1925, which began the Grand Ole Opry program and encouraged the development of Nashville's country music industry.³

Edward B. Craig died in 1925, and in 1935, his widow, Mary Crockett Craig, had the French Chateau style dwelling constructed at 1418 Chickering Road in Forest Hills, a wealthy suburban area of Nashville. Deed records show that ownership of the property was under Corinne Craig Parrish, Mrs. Craig's daughter, who also lived in the dwelling along with her husband Bert Parrish.⁴ Following Mrs. Craig's death, Corinne and Bert Parrish continued to own the dwelling until 1954, when William H. and Emily Robinson Ewing purchased the property. The current owners, Ben S. and Katie H. Gambill, bought the property from the Ewing estate in 1991.⁵

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, p. 387.

²Obituary, Edward Burr Craig. *The Nashville Banner*, 23 June 1969.

³John Egerton, *Nashville: The Faces of Two Centuries, 1780-1980* (Nashville, TN: PlusMedia Incorporated, 1979), 335.

⁴Warranty Deed, Edwin and Susan R. Warner to Corinne Craig Parrish, July 20, 1935, Deed Book 972, Page 508. (Davidson County Register of Deeds, Nashville, TN).

⁵Warranty Deeds, Corrine Craig Parrish and Bert Parrish to William H. And Emily Robinson Ewing, March 22, 1954, Deed Book 2272, Page 108; Wachovia Bank (Executor of the Will of Emily Robinson Frazier) to Ben S. Gambill, Jr. and Katie H. Gambill, May 29, 1991, Deed Book 8363, page 127. (Davidson County Register of Deeds, Nashville, TN).

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Section 8 Page 4

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
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The French Chateau style is relatively uncommon in Middle Tennessee, and the Mrs. Edward B. Craig House is the most intact example of this style in the City of Forest Hills. The dwelling's rear additions were designed to compliment the original design and does not significantly detract from the dwelling's architectural character. The dwelling also has an associated original servant's quarters that also reflects the French Chateau style. Additional information is located in the accompanying Multiple Property Document, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills."

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 4

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
 Davidson County, Tennessee
county and State

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Egerton, John. *Nashville: The Faces of Two Centuries, 1780-1980*. Nashville, TN: PlusMedia Incorporated, 1979.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 5

 Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
 Davidson County, Tennessee
county and State

VERBAL BOUNDARY

The boundary for the Mrs. Edward B. Craig House includes the entire 10.7 acre lot shown as Parcel 008 on Davidson County Property Tax Maps 144-05 and 144-09. The property is bounded by lot lines on the north, east, and south, and by the right-of-way of Chickering Road on the west.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary for the Mrs. Edward B. Craig House includes all of the acreage historically associated with the dwelling. The property includes the main dwelling, servant's quarters, a log guest house, and original gates and stone wall at the driveway entrance. The lot includes a landscaped front yard and wooded hillside to the east of the house. No other buildings or structures are known to be historically associated with this property.

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Section Photographs Page 6

Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
name of property
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Mrs. Edward B. Craig House
1418 Chickering Road, Forest Hills, Davidson County, TN
Photos by: Thomason and Associates
Date: September, 2002
Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

- Photo No. 1 of 13: Main (west) and north facades, view to the southeast.
- Photo No. 2 of 13: Main (west) facade, view to the east.
- Photo No. 3 of 13: Main entrance on the west facade.
- Photo No. 4 of 13: North facade, view to the south.
- Photo No. 5 of 13: East facade, view to the west.
- Photo No. 6 of 13: Interior, first floor entry hall and staircase.
- Photo No. 7 of 13: Interior, central staircase.
- Photo No. 8 of 13: Interior, dining room.
- Photo No. 9 of 13: Interior, library and mantel.
- Photo No. 10 of 13: Servant's quarters, west and south facades, view to the northeast.
- Photo No. 11 of 13: Non-contributing log guest house, view to the northeast.
- Photo No. 12 of 13: Non-contributing swimming pool, view to the northeast.
- Photo No. 13 of 13: Contributing entry gates and stone wall at Chickering Road, view to the southeast.

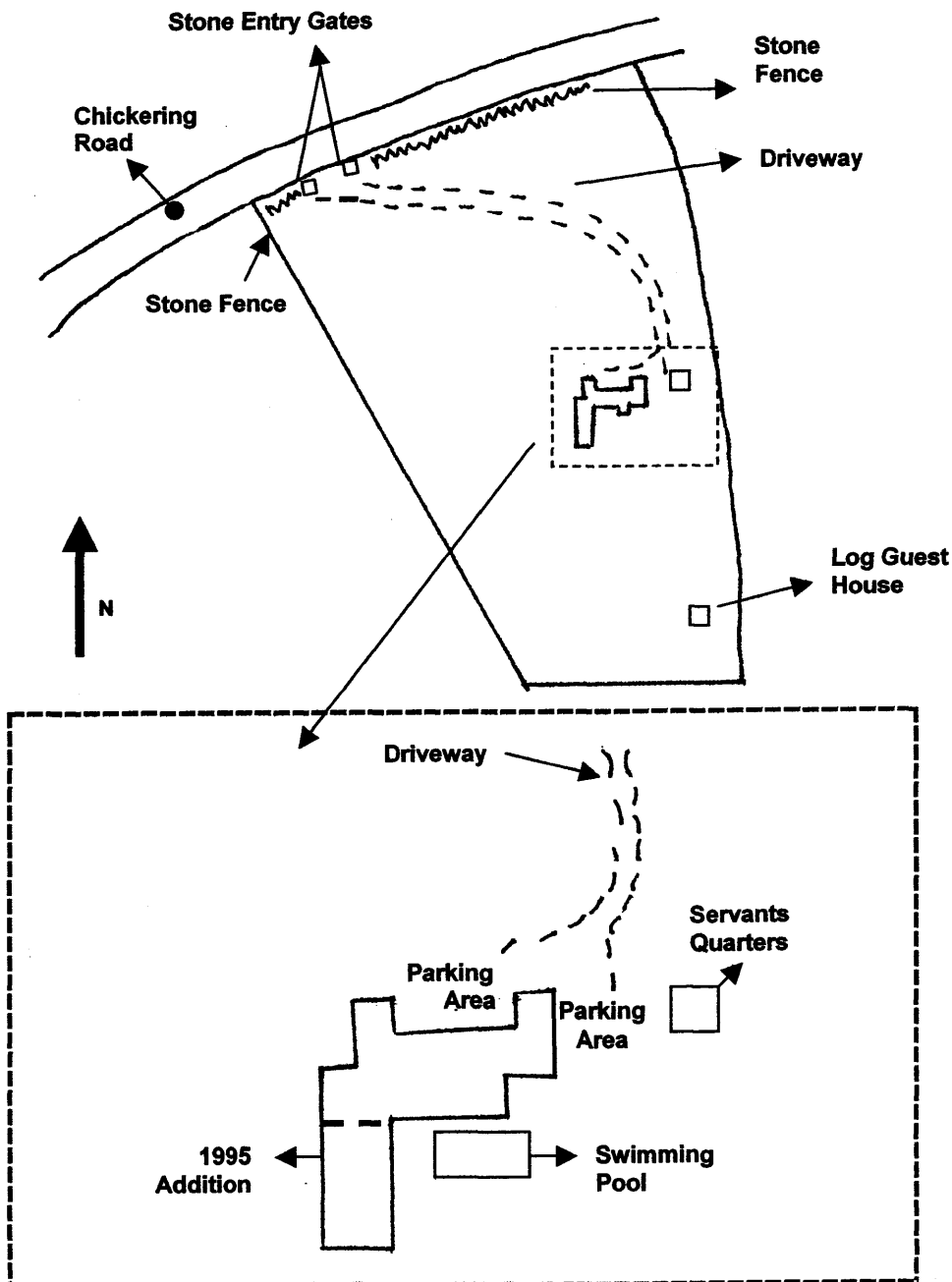
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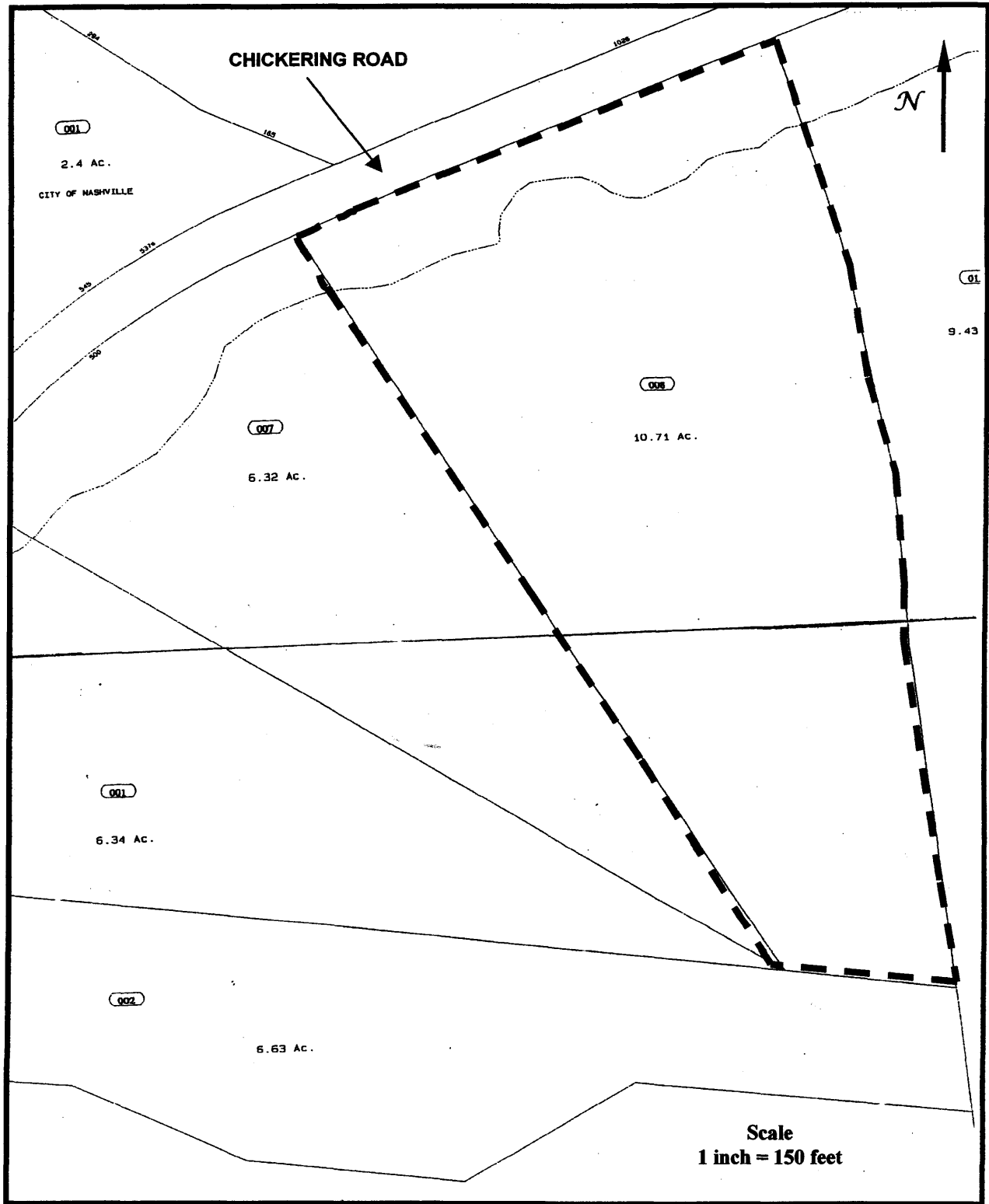
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Section Map Page 7

Craig, Mrs. Edward B., House
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Site Plan - not to scale





**Mrs. Edward B. Craig House. 1418 Chickering Road. Forest Hills, TN
Davidson County Tax Map 144-05 & 09, Parcel 8.**