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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Ferrell, Mary Felice, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 2144 Nashville Pike N/A not for publication
city, town Gallatin N/A vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Sumner code 83 zip code 37066

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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.

Albert L. Hryca 2/28/92
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.

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:)

Entered in the
National Register

Shelana Beyer 4/14/92

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Log with Colonial Revival
Influence

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls Log

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located west of the city of Gallatin, the Mary Felice Ferrell House is situated on a two and nine-hundredth acre lot in southwest Sumner County on the on the east side of the Nashville Pike, a major roadway connecting Gallatin with Nashville, Tennessee. The Mary Felice Ferrell residence is a log structure constructed in 1928 by Ms. Ferrell from three different log buildings, one of which is original to the location (building A).

The house is a Colonial Revival log structure constructed in three sections. The main structure is L-shaped and joined with two smaller log structures at the corners of the ell. The entire house is of exposed, hewn logs with half-dovetail notching. The chinking is of boards with masonry daubing. All three sections have gable asphalt shingle roofs and rest on stone foundations.

The facade, or south elevation, is two stories with a side gable roof. There are three visible divisions in the logs of this elevation. The western section is the largest and contains two eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows on each story. All the windows on this elevation are the same. The middle section is approximately one-third the width of the first and contains the entry on the first story and a window on the second. The entry is protected by a one story pedimented portico. Two square posts support the front of the portico, while the rear is supported by rectangular pilasters. There is a rail with simple balusters between the posts and pilasters on either side of the portico. The western portion is half the size of the first and contains one window on each story.

The west elevation is irregular in plan, in that this is where one of the smaller log structures is joined to the ell of the main house creating a three-sided court yard. The gable end of the main structure contains an exterior stone chimney with two six-over-six double-hung sash windows to right (south), one each on the first and second stories. The gable is covered with weatherboard siding and has box cornice returns and square louvered attic vents on either side of the chimney.

The wall on the south side of the court yard has a large window created of four eight-over-eight square double-hung sash windows grouped together, on the first story, while the second story has two rectangular eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows.

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The east wall has two square eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows and a nine-light entry door on the first story with a square eight-over-eight double-hung sash window, a rectangular eight-over-eight double-hung sash window, and a pair of French doors with a wrought iron balcony on the second story.

The northern wall has two vertical board doors on the first story and two square eight-light windows on the second.

The remaining portion of the west elevation is the western wall of the smaller log structure attached to the ell of the larger one. This elevation has two six-over-six wooden double-hung sashes on the first story, while the second story has two square eight-over-eight wooden double-hung sash windows.

The northern elevation is similar in shape to the western elevation. This is a court yard created by two smaller log structures attached to the ell of the larger log building. The eastern portion of this elevation is a two story log structure. However, it was built into the side of a hill so that it is only one story on this side. This portion also is comprised of an attached double carport with a shed roof.

The court yard is center portion of this elevation. The eastern wall is a two story frame addition covered with modern wooden shingles and containing four large modern windows. There is a multi-light entry in the center of this wall. The southern wall is two story log and has a large pair of French doors sheltered by a cast iron balcony. The second story has a small wooden six-over-six double-hung sash window and a pair of multi-light French doors opening on to the balcony. The eastern wall of the court yard is a one story building of log construction with a large brick chimney to the south and a large picture window to the north.

The eastern portion of this elevation is a wooden sided shed addition containing the modern kitchen. There are three multi-light windows on this portion of the northern elevation.

The eastern elevation is in two sections, the two story main house and the smaller one and one-half story log building. The southern portion of this elevation is the gable end of the main structure and contains a stone chimney. The center portion of this elevation is two story log with three multi-light windows on the second story and one large multi-light picture window on the first story. A one story log structure joins the main house

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at this point. It projects to the east and contains two eight-over-eight wooden double-hung sash windows. The remaining portion of this elevation is that of the one and one-half story log building. The upper portion of this building is the weatherboard sided gable end containing one eight-light window. Two-thirds of the lower portion is protected by a one story shed porch supported by square posts with simple square balusters. There are two entries opening onto the porch separated by a small square window. The remaining third of this structure is a large stone chimney and a frame addition containing a wooden six-over-six window.

The interior of the main log building (#2) has a hall containing the stair to the second floor. The stair has a simple rounded handrail supported by plain square balusters. The newel post and the supporting posts, at the points where the stair turns, are turned. The first floor has three large rooms, each with fireplaces. The room to the west of the hall is the living room and has a natural finish vertical board paneling with a simple board mantle at the far end of the room over a large wood burning fireplace. The ceiling has exposed beams. The room to the east of the stair hall is the dining room. This room has plaster walls and simple paneled wainscotting. The dining room fireplace is smaller than that of the previous room and has a dog ear style mantle. To the rear of the dining room and down several steps is the library. The library has similar wall treatment and mantle to the living room. However the ceiling has no exposed beams.

The second floor has the children's bedrooms over the dining room and library while the master bedroom is over the living room. The children's' room to the east has plaster finished walls a simple reeded baseboard and a fireplace. The mantle has colonettes with a reeded panel in the center. The bedroom to the west is similar to the east except that the mantle does not have a reeded panel.

Building #1 is utility and storage space on the first floor with storage space on the second. The second floor is ground level in the rear and the current owners plan for this to be finished off as handicapped accessible rooms for their proposed bed and breakfast.

Building A contains the family den/dining room. The shed addition to the north contains a modern kitchen. As in the library and living room the walls of this building are natural finished vertical board paneling. The main feature of the room is a large fireplace with a wood burning insert, a brick surround and a simple wooden mantel.

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The property contains one contributing outbuilding. It is a single pen one and one-half story log building, with a frame shed addition to the north. The structure is of hewn logs and rests on a stone foundation. The east elevation is missing several log members, although the rest of the building remains intact and, overall, retains integrity. The facade, or south elevation, has two six-over-six windows on either side of a wood panel door. The east elevation has an eight-over-eight window on the first floor and a six-over-six window in the roof gable end.

The Ferrell House is situated on a lot that slopes toward Gallatin Road. The property has several stone retaining walls that date from period of construction. It is probable that these walls were constructed using walls constructed earlier in the area. There is one large stone wall approximately five feet in height bordering the front of the property that was constructed when the road was widened in 1951.

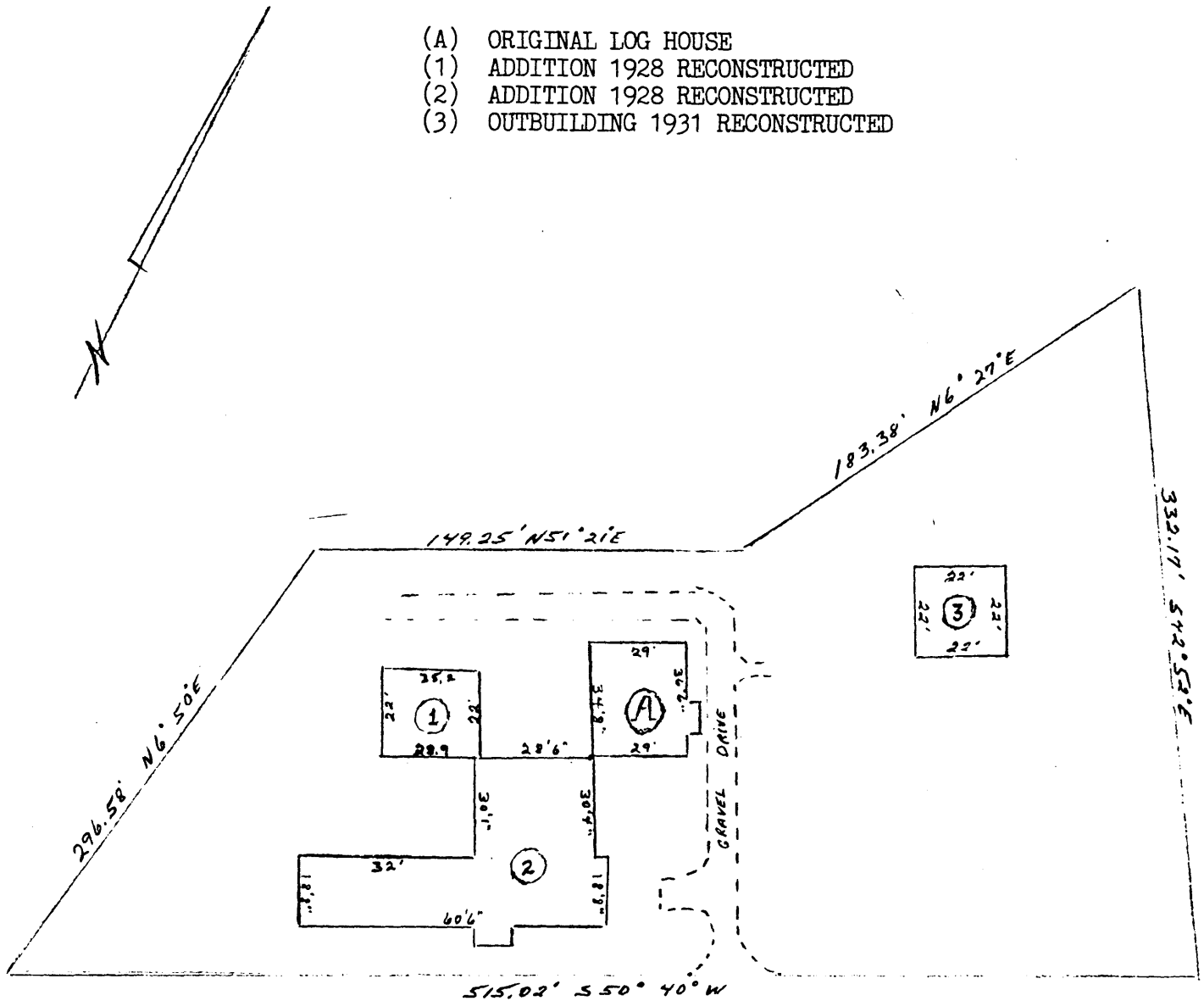
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Ferrell, Mary Felice, House

- (A) ORIGINAL LOG HOUSE
- (1) ADDITION 1928 RECONSTRUCTED
- (2) ADDITION 1928 RECONSTRUCTED
- (3) OUTBUILDING 1931 RECONSTRUCTED



NOT TO SCALE

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

ca. 1928 - ca. 1931

Significant Dates

ca. 1928
ca. 1931

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 Mary Felice Ferrell House is eligible for the National Register under criterion C for its local significance in Colonial Revival architecture and as an excellent example of the historic preservation and interpretation of log dwellings as viewed from the perspective of the late 1920s and early 1930s.

The Colonial Revival period in Southern architecture, especially the later period of the mid-1920s to the mid-1930s, was closely tied to a new interest in historic buildings already manifested in the development of restored colonial landscapes, such as Williamsburg, Virginia, and the emergence of colonial decorative arts as the predominant traditional furniture of the era. Architects who produced Colonial Revival designs, however, had little intention of copying images of the past. Instead, according to architectural historian David Gebhardt, they wanted to use historic images and fabric "as a point of departure for the creation of new variations on an existing theme." The aesthetic sensibility of the age combined with modern functional needs and the availability of new construction materials to "transform the traditional image into something fresh and modern." This new type of building, Gebhardt concluded, ended up "having more in common with other architectural forms then in use than it would with its specific historic source."¹

Colonial Revival designs of the late 1920s and early 1930s, in other words, commented on both the past and the present. As New York city architect Chester H. Aldrich observed in 1929:

¹. David Gebhardt, "The American Colonial Revival in the 1930," Winterthur Portfolio, 22(Summer/Autumn 1987), 110.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Acreage of property 2.09 acres

UTM References

A

1	6	5	4	1	7	3	0	4	0	2	1	6	7	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Hendersonville, TN 310 SE

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carl & Roberta Hancock, Louis M. Jackson (ed), C.V. West, Jennifer Martin
organization N/A/Tennessee Historical Commission/MTSU date January 1992
street & number 701 Broadway telephone 615/742-6728
city or town Nashville state Tennessee zip code 37243

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Today we may design a so called Georgian house, endeavoring to capture the vital old eighteenth century spirit and yet, when we have done it, and provided we have handled the design with freedom and have answered the needs of our present day clients, it will really be an expression of our own time. Later on, years from now, that house may look like 1929. The results of whatever we do shows itself, willy-nilly, the seal of our hand and time.²

The Ferrell House, as the only exposed log Colonial Revival dwelling from the depression era in Sumner County, serves as a very important expression of these general characteristics and principles of the Colonial Revival movement. With its imposing log front facade conjuring up images of such extant buildings in Sumner County as Wynnewood (NR 7/14/71), the house clearly endeavors "to capture the vital old eighteenth century spirit" of frontier life in Tennessee. Colonial details such as urns, pediments, and wainscoting dominate the decorative scheme of the interior. Indeed, the house style that historian James Cruchfield called "glorified pioneer" in his 1976 survey of pioneer architecture in Tennessee.

The original house on the property was an old toll gate house and stagecoach stop, Avondale Station, on the road between Nashville and Gallatin, Tennessee. Ms. Mary Felice Ferrell acquired the property in the 1920s and in 1928 she attached two other log buildings to the toll gate house. Addition #1 consisted of two log pens which were obtained from a farm near Castalian Springs, Tennessee. Addition #2 was a large two story log structure which was transported from the town square in Gallatin, Tennessee to its present location. This structure was used as a general store prior to its purchase by Ms. Ferrell. A third log building (#3) was moved to the site in 1931 from the small town of Cottonwood, Tennessee (see attached site plan).

Ferrell considered her completed dwelling to be a very successful historic preservation project. Due to the presence of moved buildings and the various additions to the original tollhouse, this judgement would not be accepted by preservationists today. However, the additions to the Mary Felice Ferrell House must be seen in the context of the time period in which they were executed. In his ground breaking history of the preservation movement in the United States, Preservation Comes of Age, Charles Hosmer, Jr. surveys several types of preservation efforts implemented in the early twentieth century. Hosmer states that

². Ibid., 109.

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preservation as a discipline was not advanced in the early part of the century and that in the 1920s moving historic structures was not universally viewed as a detrimental action. After all, this was the period of the development of Greenfield Village and Colonial Williamsburg. By today's preservation standards Henry Ford's village consisting of moved buildings is a fine example of resources out of context. At the time, however, Ford saw his recreated village as a way to use objects and buildings from the past to teach history to the public. Even architects at the more carefully based historical recreation at Colonial Williamsburg moved buildings, or tore down nineteenth century historic buildings, in order to recreate the colonial landscape.

Moreover, Ferrell's dwelling also represents another trend present in Southern domestic architecture of the 1920s and 1930s. Some members of the upper and middle classes in the south, who wanted to associate themselves with the conservative values of the colonial period, chose not to have their architects build new Colonial Revival homes. Instead, they opted for the "real thing" and moved historic buildings to the new home sites. Richmond, Virginia, for example, has three interesting examples of this phenomenon. Ashcroft House (NR 7/18/78) is a half-timber Tudor mansion moved from Manchester, England to Richmond in the mid-1920s. Ampthill is a 1732-1750 Georgian mansion by Henry Cary, II. It was moved into a wealthy Richmond suburb in 1929. Wilton (NR 10/21/75), a high-style Georgian house of circa 1750 which sits in another Richmond suburb, was moved from nearby Henrico County in 1933. It became a house museum soon surrounded by mostly Colonial Revival-designed houses. By combining moved historic log buildings to her original log tollhouse, Ferrell created a house that spoke to Tennessee's roots as an agrarian frontier community.

The house's association with Mary Felice Ferrell is also important. Historian William Rhodes has observed that women played an important role in the origins and continued popularity of the Colonial Revival movement in architecture, decorative arts, and antiques. At the same time, they dominated the emerging historic preservation field. Mary Felice Ferrell is an interesting local example of this national trend. Ferrell, known as Mary Felice to her friends, had a reputation in Tennessee and the United States for possessing good antiques. She was also known for her excellent taste and her artist's gift for color. Ms. Ferrell was a certified appraiser of estates and other antiques. She opened her first antique store at the Ferrell Farm after graduating from Howard Female Academy in 1914. She purchased the property being nominated in the late 1920s and began collecting and assembling log structures into what was to become her home between 1928 and 1931.

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The Mary Felice Ferrell House is the only example of a Colonial Revival influenced log dwelling from the late 1920s and early 1930s in Sumner County. The house also is an excellent example of the preservation of log structures and their interpretation as viewed from the perspective of the depression era.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Cullum, Booker T. Interview. September 1991.
- Ferrell, Jordon. Interview. 1986.
- Gallatin Examiner. March 4, 1983, pages 1 & 5.
- Gallatin Examiner. October 6, 1977, page 35.
- Gebhardt, David. "The American Colonial Revival in the 1930s." Winterthur Portfolio, 22(Summer/Autumn 1987).
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- Patterson, Louise. Interview. September 1991.
- Smith, Reid. Majestic Middle Tennessee. Prattville, Alabama: Paddle Wheel Publications, 1975.
- Sumner County Register of Deeds. Book 46, page 398.
- Taylor, Elliot. Interview. June 1991.
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries for the Mary Felice Ferrell House as described in the Sumner County Deed Book 490, page 643 and all of parcel 30 Sumner County Tax Map #146.*

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries for the Mary Felice Ferrell House contain all of the property currently associated with the property. This is sufficient to protect the integrity of the property.

*The tax map for this nomination has the scale 1" = 400'. This scale tax map is prepared by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1" = 400' adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service. To supplement this map, the nomination includes a detailed verbal boundary description.

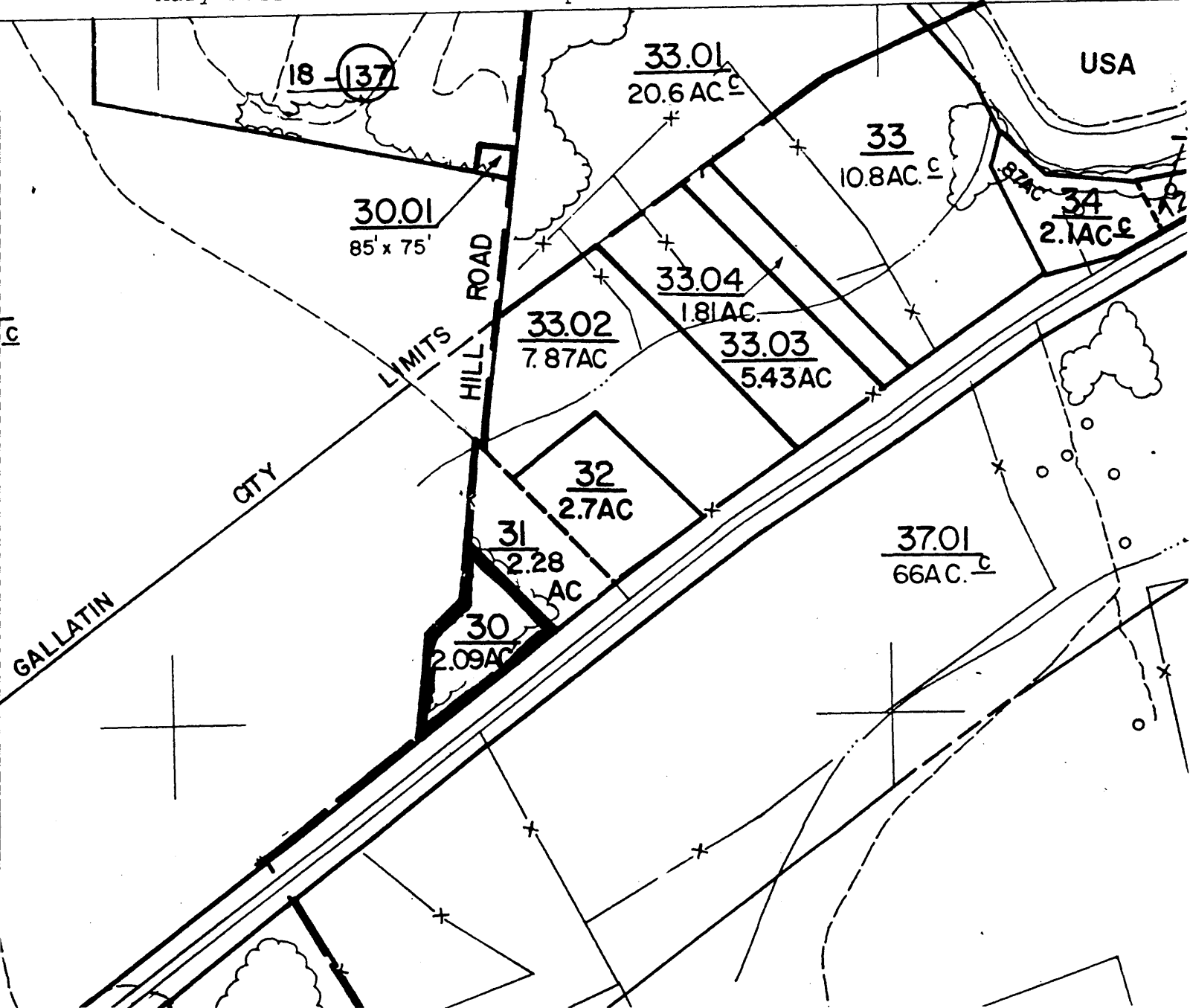
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Ferrell, Mary Felice, House

Mary Felice Ferrell House parcel # 30 scale: 1" equals 400'



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Ferrell, Mary Felice, House

Property Owner:

Carl H. and Roberta W. Hancock
2144 Nashville Pike
Gallatin, Tennessee 37066

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Section number _____ Photos _____ Page _____ 1

Ferrell, Mary Felice, House

Ferrell, Mary Felice, House
2144 Nashville Pike
Gallatin, Tennessee 37066
Photos by: Roberta Hancock
Date: September 1991
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

South facade, west elevation, facing north
#1 of 17

West elevation, facing east
#2 of 17

West elevation, facing east
#3 of 17

South facade, facing north
#4 of 17

South facade, east elevation, facing northwest
#5 of 17

East elevation, facing south west
#6 of 17

North elevation, courtyard, facing south
#7 of 17

Out building, facing northwest
#8 of 17

Interior detail, first floor stair hall
#9 of 17

Interior detail, first floor, west room
#10 of 17

Interior detail, first floor, library mantle,
#11 of 17

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Interior detail, second floor, stair hall
#12 of 17

Interior detail, second floor, west bedroom, mantle
#13 of 17

Interior detail, second floor, east bedroom, mantle
#14 of 17

Interior detail, first floor, dining room
#15 of 17

Interior detail, first floor, den, mantle
#16 of 17

Stone retaining walls, west side of property, facing northwest
#17 of 17