

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

923



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 an 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 Stone Hall

other names/site number Cantrell House

2. Location

street & number 1014 Stones River Road NA ☐ not for publication

city or town Nashville (Hermitage) NA ☐ vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Davidson code 037 zip code 37214

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

E. Patrick McHugh

9-30-10

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson W. Beall

11-17-10

Stone Hall
Name of Property

Davidson County, Tennessee
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

4

1

buildings

1

sites

structures

objects

5

1

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: government office

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls Limestone, WOOD

roof TILE, METAL

other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

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Davidson County, Tennessee

OWNERS

Tommy Lynch, Director of Metro Parks
Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation
Parks and Recreation Department
P.O. Box 196340
Nashville, TN 37219-6340

Shain Dennison, Greenways Director
Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation
Parks and Recreation Department
P.O. Box 196340
Nashville, TN 37219-6340

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Davidson County, Tennessee

DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1918, the two story residence called Stone Hall is faced with coursed ashlar limestone, has a hip roof and hip roof dormers sheathed in concrete tile with tile coping, wide eaves, multiple light wood windows with limestone sills, a porch on the east, patio on the west, a tall stone chimney, and bay windows on the façade. Paneled doors, wood floors, plaster walls, the main stairway, two fireplaces, and numerous closets are some characteristic features of the inside. Nashville architect George D. Waller's Colonial Revival design has not been changed over the years. Eversong is a much smaller two story residence constructed of exposed logs with exposed logs and stonework inside. While Stone Hall sits on the crest of a slight hill and overlooks the landscaped yard, Eversong is situated next to the Stones River and has a more natural setting. The property is accessed through a stone gate and a curvilinear drive. An ornamental gate, garden lights, garden statue, mature trees and shrubbery, and outbuildings are other important features of the nominated property.

Stone Hall (Contributing, See Figure 1 and Figure 2.)

The south façade of the house is a symmetrical design with a centered entry flanked by two large bay windows. Capped by low pitch hip roofs covered with tile, the bay windows are composed of five eighteen-light casement windows and three-light fixed transom windows. A single-leaf paneled wood door is surrounded by twelve-light sidelights and a transom with a central four-light section flanked by two-light sections. Above the entry is a low pitch canopy sheathed in tile and supported by large wood sawn brackets. The second story of the façade has paired central multiple light casement windows with a wood flower box, supported by large stones, below. Flanking this are nine-over-one double-hung windows that are arranged in threes. Three symmetrically placed dormer windows with tile covered hip roofs have louvered vents rather than windows. A one story flat roof portico is visible at the southeast corner of the façade. The portico is supported by a heavy limestone column with a triangular buttress on its south side. The columns add an element of Craftsman styling to the house. There is a solid plain wood entablature. Visible on the second story of the portico is a short limestone pier topped by a concrete planter and a simplified wood Chippendale railing.

The same portico noted above is the principal feature on the east elevation of Stone Hall. It is supported by limestone columns, has a solid plain wood entablature, and is capped by a simplified Chippendale railing. The first story of this elevation has two single-leaf French doors leading into the house. Both French doors are protected by wood screen doors and are separated by the limestone chimney. Two twelve-over-one double-hung windows are seen at the north part of the elevation; one is located under the portico. The portico ceiling is wood, the bottom of the entablature is paneled wood, and the floor is concrete. The roof of the first story portico acts as the floor for the second story patio. A similar door and window pattern is on the second story, except the southernmost opening is a twelve-over-one double-hung window. The tall limestone

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chimney extends beyond the roofline and is visible on this elevation. Another concrete planter resting on a limestone pier is on the northeast corner of the second story of the portico. The wood railing extends on this elevation and the rear or north elevation of the portico. There is a small basement window on this elevation.

The north or rear elevation of the house is composed of limestone, weatherboards, and vertical wood boards. At the northeast corner, a narrow one story hip roof porch/sunroom has been enclosed with glass behind vertical board wood slats. Like the rest of the house, the porch roof is covered with tile. The west side of this porch enclosure contains a single-leaf entry. Above the porch, the wall has weatherboard siding and there is a twelve-over-one double-hung window. A narrow brick chimney is seen here. Immediately west of this part, the elevation extends slightly, giving the house an irregular plan. This part is still covered with weatherboard and there are paired twelve-over-one double-hung windows on the first story and paired sixteen-over-one double-hung windows on the second story. Below the windows there are steps that lead to a single-leaf glass and wood basement entry door. The west part of this elevation contains two twelve-over-one double-hung windows on each story. Recently, a modern carport was torn off of this elevation. Today there is a new handicap ramp and a concrete pad. The basement level has a vent where a window would have been.

Comparable in design to the east elevation, the west elevation has multi-light windows, a double-leaf French door entry, and a patio. Four twelve-over-one double-hung windows are located on the second story of the elevation. The first story has three twelve-over-one double-hung windows and double-leaf French doors faced with wood screen doors. The concrete patio has capped limestone piers on its west edge. One pier has a concrete planter and two piers are capped by globe lights on ornamental metal bases.

A six panel (cross and bible) door leads into the entry hall. Molded wood surrounds the entry door and other doorways. The floor is wood and there is a molded wood baseboard, which is seen throughout the house. The dogleg staircase has a newel post resting on the curtail step. The round newel post is delineated in three parts, like a classical column, and is topped with a glass newel cap. Midway up the stair there is a wood window seat/storage bin and a square landing (or angle) newel post. Another square landing newel post is located on the second floor hall and there is an imitation of a newel post at the wall on the second floor. On the first floor, a two-panel single-leaf door at the north end of the hall leads to another small hall that now contains an elevator. A historic globe-shaped glass ceiling light is located in this area. Two single-leaf wood panel doors lead to a closet and the basement.

The southwest parlor on the first floor is entered from the hall through a cased opening. One of the bay windows on the façade provides light to the room. An elaborately carved pier mirror dominates the room. Centrally located between the two windows on the west wall, the mirror frame extends over the windows. Details include anthemions, scrolls, urns, pendants, shells, floral

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patterns, beading, and colonettes on bases. A 1934 photo shows the pier mirror in the room, along with elaborate drapery. The ceiling light is not original, but in the same style as the one in the photo. (See Figure 6.)

The dining room in the northwest part of the first floor can be entered by two single-leaf two-panel doors from the hall or double-leaf French doors from the parlor. Access to the west side portico is from this room through double-leaf French doors.

Another set of double-leaf French doors provides entry to the living room in the southeast corner of the first floor. This is the only room on the first floor with a fireplace. Flanked by single-leaf French doors, the tile fireplace is basic in design with only a heavy wood mantelshelf supported by three heavy, rounded brackets. A mirror acts as an elaborate overmantel and has been there since at least 1953. (See Figure 7.) Bead-and-reel, scrolls, and leaf patterns embellish the mirror. The historic photo shows a different, more elaborate, ceiling light and heavy drapery. On the north wall, a wood door faced with a mirror goes to a half-bath.

The kitchen is accessed through the rear hall and it has a single-leaf door to the enclosed sunroom. Most of the room has been modernized with new cabinets and appliances, but it still has a built-in butler's pantry on the west wall.

A single-leaf glass and wood door on the north wall of the kitchen leads to the enclosed sunroom. The room has a wood floor and is currently used for storage.

Stairs lead to a small hall on the second floor, where there are three main rooms. Doors are two-panel wood and there are wood baseboards throughout the second floor. A bath can be entered from the hall or the large parlor on the east. White tiles extend up to about two-thirds of the wall height, while small white tiles edged with a geometric pattern of blue tiles line the floor. The cabinet and sink are replacements but the tub is historic, as is the built-in medicine cabinet.

The east parlor has the only fireplace on the second floor. The wood mantel has a heavy, plain mantelshelf supported by thick scroll brackets. The fireplace opening and details on the fireplace have Tudor arches. Glazed tiles are inset in the fireplace and on the hearth. A historic ceiling light, composed of two glass bells suspended from a central metal pole is located in the middle of the ceiling. The north side of the room contains a large walk-in closet with shelving and other storage spaces.

Two rooms separated by closets/storage space are located west of the second story hall. There is access to the attic from the closet in the northwest room. This room also has a glass and metal historic ceiling light. The southwest room has a painted glass ceiling light.

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The stone foundation is exposed in the basement. This part of the house has several rooms and closets for storage and a half-bath.

Smokehouse (Contributing)

North of Stone Hall is the former smokehouse, now a guest cottage. "Ye Olde Smokehouse, circa 1917" is on a sign attached to the building. The one and one-half story board and batten building has a steep pitch metal gable roof and a shallow pitch gable roof extension on the north. The gable front south façade has a single-leaf vertical board door with strap hinges. Knee braces support the overhanging eaves and the one story extension is visible from this view. The west elevation contains a six-over-six double-hung window on the one and one-half story part and a six-over-six double-hung window on the one story part. The north elevation now acts as a second façade since it faces a (modern) road and has a single-leaf glass and wood door. Four-over-four double-hung windows flank the door. A shallow pitch gable roof porch covers the entry. There are no openings on the east elevation. A circa 1960 vertical board wood fence extends from this elevation to the east. There are two lamp posts in this part of the property, one historic and one modern.

Inside, the smokehouse is sheathed with horizontal, vertical, and diagonal wood. A living space, bath, and kitchen are on the first floor and an open, dog leg stair leads to a sleeping loft above. Interior doors are three panel. The interior of the smokehouse dates to the 1950s-60s.

Barn (Contributing)

The circa 1918 barn is located northwest of the house and smokehouse. Enclosed with board and batten siding, the barn has a metal gable roof. The transverse crib barn has a one story shed roof extension on the northwest elevation and is entered through large sliding doors. Inside, there are log posts, a loft, feed bins, and storage space.

Shed (Noncontributing)

Southwest of the barn is a one story circa 1955 board and batten metal storage shed. The shed has a garage door on the west.

Eversong (Contributing. See Figure 3)

Eversong is another guest house on the property. The two and one-half story building was moved to the property from a neighboring county in the 1930s. It is located on the banks of the Stones River, southwest of the main house. A hanging sign with "Eversong" stands near the entry to the building. Exposed logs with half-dovetail notching, wood windows, board and batten siding, a metal gable roof, and a stone chimney and foundation are the prominent features of the exterior of

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the house. Several paths and stone walls lead to the house, including a stone path and stone steps that goes to the main entry.

The main door into Eversong is on the northwest façade. The single-leaf wood door has a wood screen door covering it. North of this is a four-over-four double-hung window on the first story and above the door is a two-over-two double-hung window on the second story. Slightly lower than the log part of the house and to the north of it is a shed roof extension covered with board and batten siding. Paired six-over-six double-hung windows are located on the first story and twenty-light fixed windows are on the lowest/basement level. On the basement level of the log part of the house there is a small wood door covering a window.

A stone chimney bisects the northeast elevation. Two-over-two double-hung windows in the board and batten gable field flank the chimney.

Like the northwest façade, the southeast elevation has a single-leaf wood door and screen door. There is a six-over-six double-hung window on the first story, and a two-over-two double-hung window on the second story. Stone steps lead to the door and down to the riverside. The one story extension to the south has twenty-light fixed windows on the first story and paired six-over-six double-hung windows on the basement level. A single-leaf wood door leads into the basement level and there is a small wood door covering a basement window.

Facing the Stones River, the southwest elevation appears to be three stories in height. This elevation reveals the stone basement, which has a single-leaf vertical board wood door. The first and second stories each have two twenty-four-light fixed windows.

Exposed log walls, stone, and wood are used throughout the interior of Eversong. The main/first level has a molded wood fireplace placed in front of the exposed stone. Ceiling beams have decorative beading on them. The bathroom has been modernized with new equipment and pink tiles. An open double-rung wood stair leads to other levels. The sleeping loft has both exposed log and wood siding. There is a built-in clothes closet and a bathroom. A kitchen is located in the basement/lowest level. Part of this level is the exposed foundation. The northeast wall has a wood fireplace mantel with a simple mantelshelf supported by corbelled wood. Other walls are finished in vertical board wood, the ceilings have wood beams, and floors are wood.

Setting (Contributing. See Figure 4.)

Historically, the Stone Hall complex had formal and informal landscaping and, although neglected, much of this remains today. Low stone walls and a low metal fence gate front the circular drive that leads to the main house. Mature trees are in the front yard and low bushes border the façade of the Stone Hall. Two metal planters flank the sidewalk leading to the house. Commemorative plaques have been placed in front of the planters. More formal gardens were located to the north

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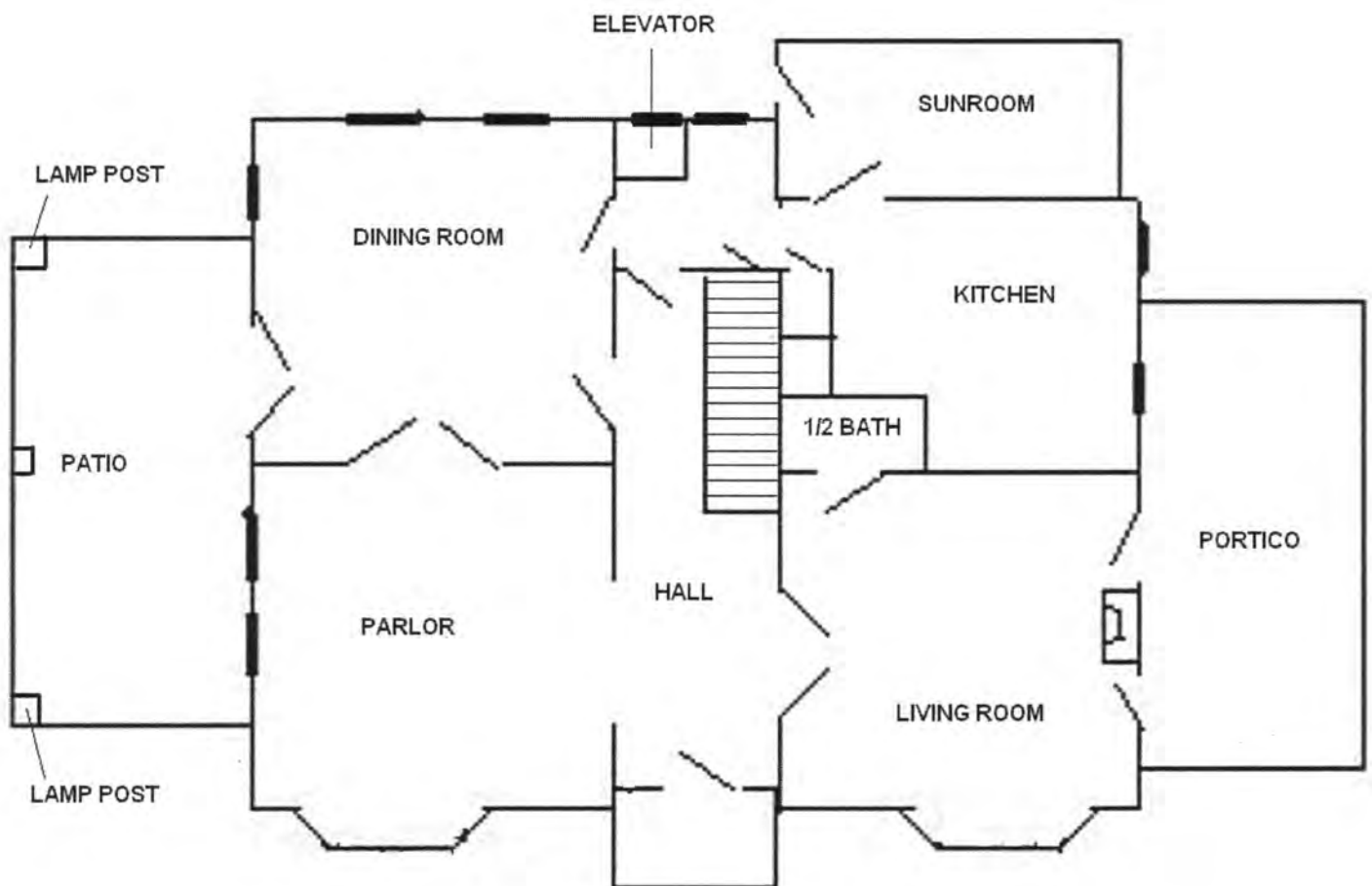
and west of the house. A fountain with statue, shrubs, and a circular pattern of low grasses remain in this area. A tall metal fence gate and two lamp posts are seen west of the house. This would have provided entry into the garden area, as the sign with "Ye Olde Flower Garden, circa 1917" shows. The smokehouse is accessed by a short path from the main house. It has several large trees adjacent to it. A hitching post/step is east of the house. Across a modern road/easement the barn and shed are set back and separate from the living spaces. Unlike the formal design around Stone Hall, Eversong is surrounded by rough stone walls and paths and natural landscaping. An old parking area is adjacent to Eversong, while a short distance away there are a picnic area and sitting areas. New gravel parking spaces have been added near the south entry to the property.

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Figure 1. Stone Hall first floor sketch plan (not to scale) N

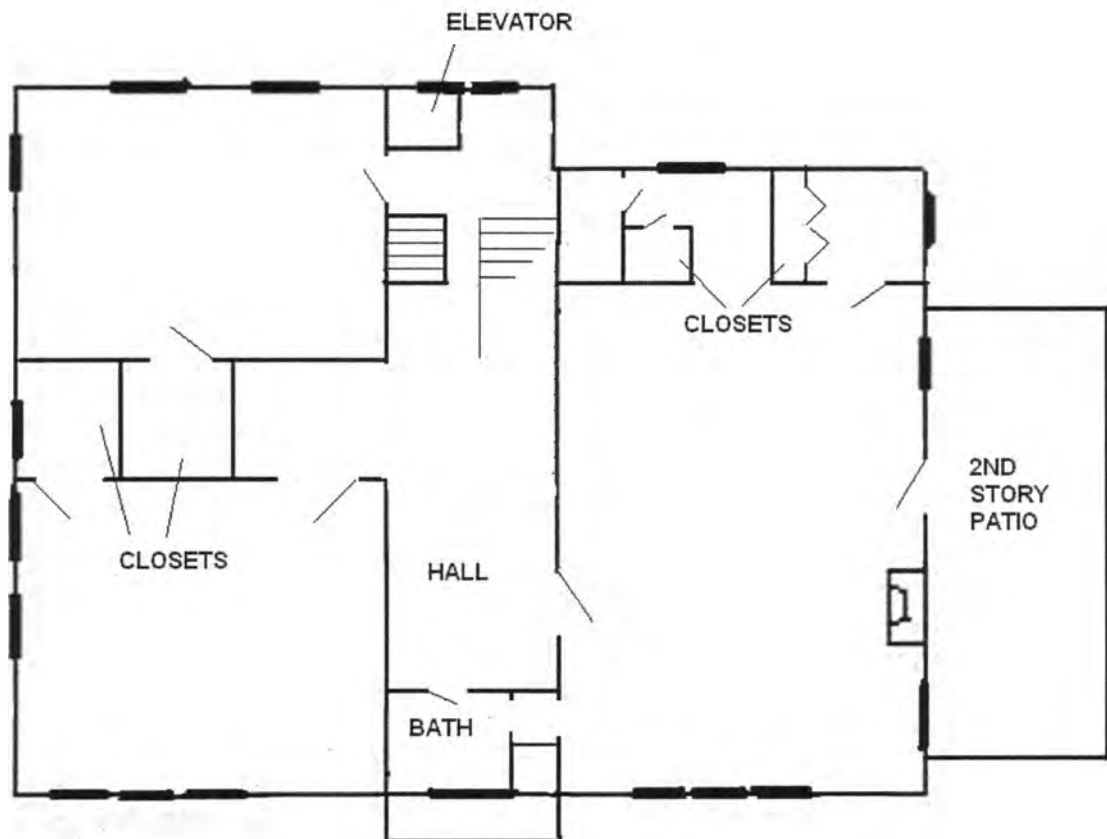


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Figure 2. Stone Hall second floor sketch plan (not to scale) N

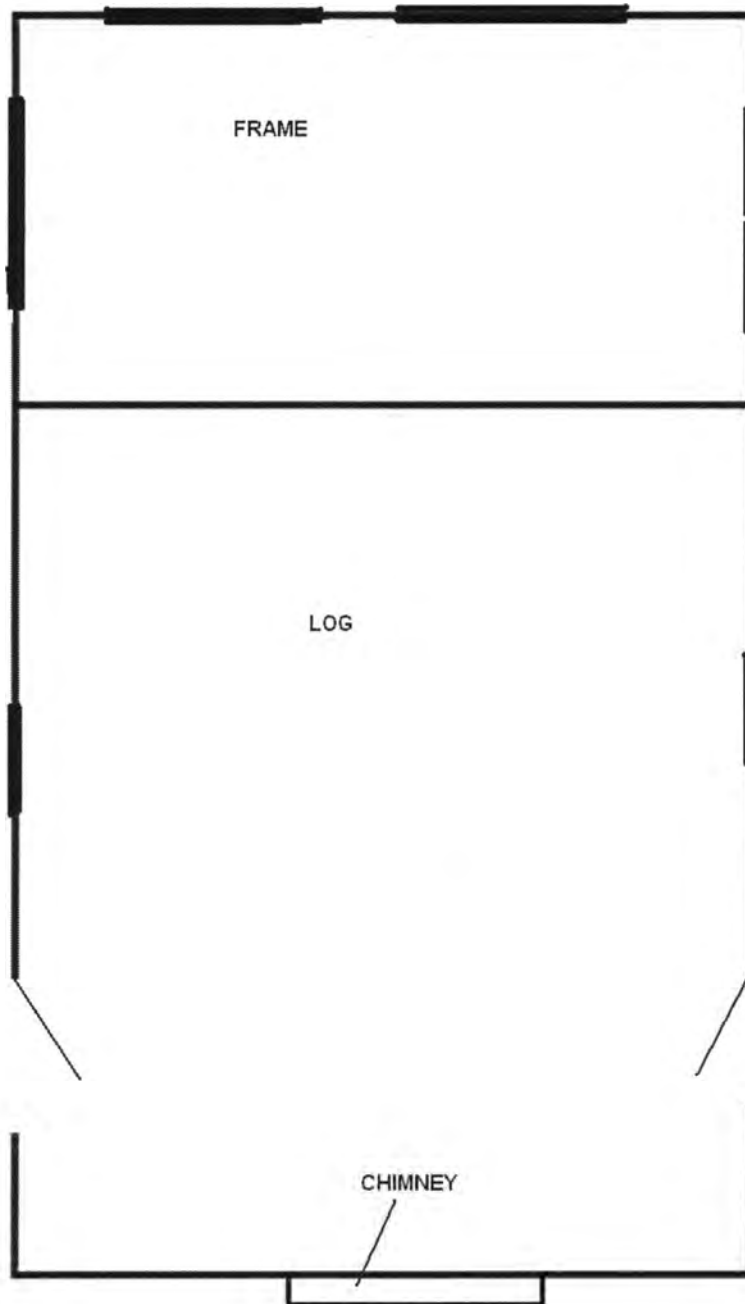


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Figure 3. Eversong first floor sketch plan (not to scale)

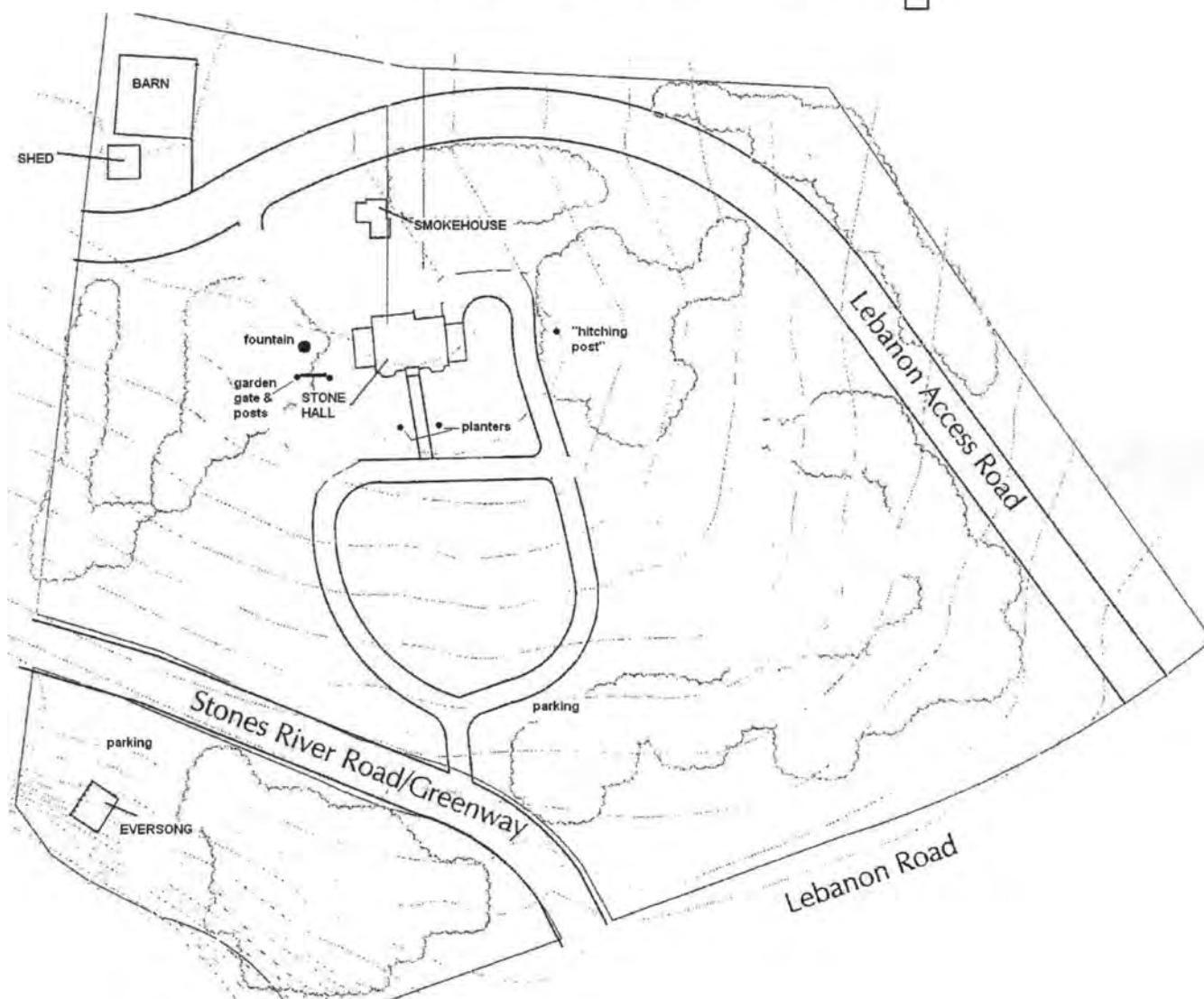


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Figure 4. Site plan (not to scale) N



Stone Hall
Name of Property

Davidson County, Tennessee
County and State

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.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1918

Significant Dates

1918

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Waller, George D.- architect

Hayes, Elly - stonemason

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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:

TN Dept. of Transportation; Metro Historical Commission; Metro Parks

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stone Hall was built in 1918 by Nashville architect George Waller for the Cantrell family. The nomination includes Stone Hall, Eversong, and several outbuildings. The property is nominated to the National Register under criterion C for local significance in Colonial Revival architecture. The Colonial Revival style of the two story house's exterior is seen in the stonework, symmetrical façade design, entry with sidelights and transom, tile roof with hip roof dormers, multiple light windows, and large multiple light bay windows. Inside, the house retains historic woodwork, floor plan, and fireplaces. The portico and some of the interior woodwork add a Craftsman element to the exterior of the house. Eversong represents a different version of the Colonial Revival, the log house. The one and one-half story house has exposed logs, multiple light windows, and an exterior stone chimney that are a twentieth century representation of early colonial houses. The interior of Eversong has its original woodwork and fireplaces. Other outbuildings on the complex and the setting contribute to the significance of the property. Stone Hall and associated resources retain a high degree of integrity.

Architect George D. Waller (1883-1969, see Figure 8) was born in Nashville and married Julia Lashley in 1911. He began practicing architecture in 1912 and his first job was supervising the building of Hume-Fogg High School in Nashville.¹ In 1913 he partnered with Fred W. Hinze to form Waller and Hinze. Over the years, his practice encompassed houses, commercial, and civic buildings. He designed schools in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, and Georgia. Waller was a member of the AIA and the Tennessee chapter of the AIA.² At the time of his death he was a partner in George D. and Raymond Waller Architects and Engineers. Waller is well-known in Nashville for his classical designs; architecture critic Christine Kreyling has characterized Waller as "one of the last of Nashville's architects with a thorough grasp of the ethos of the Grecian style."³

Buildings that Waller designed in Tennessee include the Cannon County Courthouse (NR 4/14/92), the East Junior High School in Nashville (East Nashville High and Junior High Schools NR 1/25/02), the William H. and Edgar Magness Community House and Library in Warren County (NR 11/4/93), and the Crichlow Grammar School and E.C. Cox Memorial Gym (demolished). Other Nashville schools he designed include Litton, Overton, Stratford, and McMurray, as well as the Davidson County Board of Education building. Waller also designed Belmont, Inglewood, Meridian Street, and Waverly Place Methodist churches.⁴ Outside of Nashville, the house called Haynes Haven in Spring Hill is a good example of Waller's classical designs.

¹ The school was designed by William B. Ittner of St. Louis. National Register nomination for Hume-Fogg High School, NR 10/16/74

² Joseph Herndon, "Architects in Tennessee until 1930: A Dictionary." (Master's thesis, Columbia University, May 1975), 191.

³ Christine Kreyling, et. al., *Classical Nashville: Athens of the South* (Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1996), 60.

⁴ George Waller, Architect, Services 2. P.M. Sunday, "Nashville Banner, December 20, 1969. Raymond Waller is George Waller's son.

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Dempsey Weaver Cantrell (1880-1965) and Nora Johnson Cantrell (1882-1959) were married in 1907. Mrs. Cantrell was born Nora Johnson in Wilson County and moved to Davidson County as a child. According to her obituary "She was a poet and authoress and had been poet laureate of the Tennessee Federated Women's club."⁵ She had been named Poet Laureate of the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs in 1939, and was featured on the cover of the May 1948 issue of the *Tennessee Parent-Teacher Magazine*.⁶ Mrs. Cantrell would write her poetry in the cabin she called Eversong. According to local historian Leona Aiken, Mr. and Mrs. Cantrell moved the log building to the property in the 1930s, from Wilson County, where both families were from; "Mrs. Cantrell felt that in this quiet natural beauty place she 'ever had a song in her heart....' To this place she retired to commune with God, Nature, and the Muse."⁷ In 1950 she published *Buoyant Wings*, a book of her poetry. Poems in the book include The Vision, Humility, Buddie, Even I, Trophies, Dogs, Autumn, Daffodils, Fate, and the title poem Buoyant Wings

Rapturously my spirit soars
Beyond the reach of human kind
Unleashed and free of earthly doors.
I seek the realm of the Sublime.
Ah, Peter of his chain was free
At voice of Him who calls to me⁸

Artists and friends of the family also stayed in the log building.⁹ Mrs. Cantrell served as a charter member of the Lebanon Road Garden Club (founded 1929) and as a Chaplain in both the Tennessee Press and Authors Club, and the Nashville Press and Authors Club.¹⁰

For many years, Mrs. Cantrell donated funds for a student poetry contest that was sponsored by the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs. She is noted as the editor of a book of verses by high school students, *Lyrical Tennessee: An Anthology of verse by the Youth of Tennessee*. This volume includes first, second, third place winners, and honorable mentions. After her death, Mr. Cantrell established the Nora Johnson Cantrell Student Poetry Trust. The trust was formed on February 2, 1961, "when thirty-six shares of Standard Oil stock were donated to the TFWC to endow the Fund; coupons are clipped each year for the Poetry Award Fund."¹¹

⁵ "Mrs. Cantrell Hermitage, Dies," *Nashville Tennessean*, December 30, 1959.

⁶ Leona Taylor Aiken, *Donelson, TN: Its History and Landmarks* (Kingsport, TN: Kingsport Press, 1968), 86-87.

⁷ Ibid. Aiken's book says the building came from Wilson County but a more recent plaque at the site states Williamson County.

⁸ Nora Johnson Cantrell, *Buoyant Wings* (S.I.: Inland Press, 1950), 1

⁹ Ibid.; Tammy Allison, "Tennessee Department of Transportation, Historical/Architectural Assessment, Proposed Improvements to Central Pike From State Route 24 (Lebanon Pike) To east of Hermitage Industrial Road, Davidson County." December, 2001, 2.

¹⁰ Aiken, 86-87; 198.

¹¹ Ilene Jones-Cornwell (ed.). *Women in Action: the history of the GFWC Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.* (Nashville: GFWC Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., c1982), 105.

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Davidson County, Tennessee

Mr. Cantrell founded the Southern Woodenware Company in 1903, a large wholesale paper goods company, with headquarters on Second Avenue North near Broadway. He sold the company in 1946 to his son-in-law, Gilbert Merritt, Sr.; following Merritt's death in 1955, Cantrell's daughter Angie Cantrell Merritt assumed the directorship. After Cantrell's death in 1965, Mrs. Merritt sold the company out of the family.¹² Among his many civic activities, Cantrell served on the Davidson County School Board (president 1926-1932), was a member of the Rotary Club, a member of the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, and was a Mason.¹³ Mr. Cantrell was also a member of the founding Board of Directors of the Bank of Donelson, established in 1936, along with R. D. Stanford. (The Bank of Donelson was sold to Commerce Union Bank in 1948.) Both Cantrells were also very involved in a variety of Donelson community organizations, and were heavily involved in the Donelson First Baptist Church, providing the organ and a Missionary Trust Fund for the church.¹⁴

Before having this house built, the Cantrells lived in East Nashville's Edgefield (NR 7/13/77) neighborhood on Russell Street.¹⁵ Following the Great Fire in East Nashville in 1916 that "just missed" the Cantrell's Russell Street home, they decided to build a suburban estate on land owned by Mrs. Cantrell's parents in the Donelson area. Mrs. Cantrell's father lived with the couple until his death circa 1930. The Cantrell's daughter, Angie Cantrell Merritt, recalled in a 1977 interview that her parents "moved into Nashville for several years, but were happier to come back to the country and built this house [Stone Hall] on land my mother's father, J.J. Johnson gave them." The couple hired Nashville architect George D. Waller to design their new house and named it Stone Hall after the home of Cantrell's English ancestors. The stone mason was Elly Hayes. Mrs. Cantrell decided to furnish the house with Victorian-era pieces that reminded her of her happy childhood and their home on Russell; thus the Colonial Revival structure featured a great deal of Victorian-era furnishings, including original light fixtures from the Russell Street house. (Angie Cantrell Merritt Donelson recalled in 1977 that the Russell Street house was demolished in the 1960s "to make way for the expressway.")¹⁶

The Cantrells had one child, a daughter, named Angie Fields, after her grandmother. Angie Fields Cantrell married Gilbert Stroud Merritt in December 1934 at Stone Hall (see Figure 6) and they

¹² Angie Cantrell Merritt Donelson, interview by Mary Wade for Historic Nashville, Inc., East Nashville/Edgefield Oral History Project, 23 March 1977; Nashville Room, Nashville Public Library.

¹³ "George Waller Rites Tomorrow," *Nashville Tennessean*, December 28, 1965

¹⁴ Aiken, 86-87; 151.

¹⁵ Amelia Whitsitt Edwards. *Images of America: Nashville Interiors 1866-1920* (Charleston: Arcadia, 1999), 91.

¹⁶ Eleanor Graham (ed.). *Nashville: A Short History and Selected Buildings* (Nashville: Historical Commission of Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson, 1974), 225. Angie Fields Cantrell Merritt Donelson, "Stone Hall", unpublished paper in files at Metropolitan Historical Commission, 1979. See also Angie Cantrell Merritt Donelson, interview by Mary Wade for Historic Nashville, Inc., East Nashville/Edgefield Oral History Project, 23 March 1977; Nashville Room, Nashville Public Library.

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National Park Service

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Section number 8 Page 15 Stone Hall
Davidson County, Tennessee

had one son, Gilbert Stroud Merritt, Jr., born in 1936.¹⁷ Following her husband's death in 1955, Angie Cantrell Merritt remarried, to John Donelson VII, and they moved to Stone Hall in 1964 (she later married an Ezell). Angie Merritt Donelson recalled that she brought shrubs, flowers, plants, statuary, and garden furniture with her to Stone Hall, and with the help of Geddes Douglas (1902-1993) of Nashville, planted a "lovely garden" off the west terrace of the house, near her mother's "Flower Garden" that lay northwest of the house.¹⁸ Douglas, a chemist and businessman, was the owner of the Douglas Geddes Garden Center in Nashville. He was involved with the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association, Southern Nursery Association, and was a Nashville television commentator. Geddes was known for his irises and the American Iris Society has awarded a Cook-Douglas medal since 1959. A small plaque to the west of the house in a planted area reads:

Oh, I live in a house at the top of a hill,
Where the clouds go drifting by.
And each lovely flower in the garden there,
Lifts its smiling face to the sky.

Although the formal gardens no longer exist as planted, garden gates and statuary as well as some plantings still survive. By 2001, Louise Merritt, a niece of Gilbert and Angie Merritt, lived at Stone Hall.

Stone Hall is located in an area east of Nashville, the Donelson and Hermitage neighborhoods, where early nineteenth century expansion consisted of properties such as The Hermitage (NHL 12/19/60), Belair (NR 5/6/71) and Clover Bottom Mansion (NR 4/3/75). Robert and Arthur Stanford bought the Clover Bottom property in 1918. Arthur was a dairy farmer at Clover Bottom and his brother Robert built new residential developments in the emergent suburban area. Bluefields, Stinson Circle, and Fairview Drive were built as middle class suburban housing beginning in the teens through the mid-twentieth century. In addition, along with his architect father-in-law William Meredith, Stanford built larger end houses known locally as "Millionaires Row" close to Stone Hall. Most of these residences have been lost to more recent commercial developments. Stone Hall is generally considered the best remaining example of early twentieth century classical design in the Donelson and Hermitage neighborhoods.¹⁹

In 2006-2007, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and Greenways of Nashville (with grants from the Memorial Foundation and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and cooperation from the owner, Gilbert Stroud Merritt, III)

¹⁷ Gilbert Stroud Merritt, Jr. is a noted Nashville attorney, lecturer, and judge, appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the US Court of Appeals in 1977; he later served as the Chief Justice of the Sixth Circuit from 1989 to 1996. See <http://www.innsofcourt.org/content/default.aspx?id=346> for additional biographical information for Judge Merritt.

¹⁸ Angie Merritt Donelson, "Stone Hall." The author of the verse is not known.

¹⁹ Stephen T. Rogers. "Clover Bottom Farm: A Tennessee Agricultural Treasure," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* (Fall 2001), 154.

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acquired Stone Hall, Eversong, the associated outbuildings, and surrounding acreage for use as a park and trailhead for the greenway system, venue for public events and rentals for weddings and receptions, and eventual park nature and cultural programs.

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Stone Hall and Eversong
Name of Property

Davidson County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 10 acres +/- Nashville East 311 NW

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	532988	4005031
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	533261	4004849

3	16	533055	4004660
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	16	532879	4004771

☐ 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 Tara Mitchell Mielnik/Historic Preservation Specialist & Claudette Stager/Historic Preservation Specialist
organization Metro (Nashville) Historical Commission & TN Historical Commission date July 2010
street & number 300 Granny White Pike & 2941 Lebanon Road telephone 615/862-7970 & 6532-1550
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37204 & 37214

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name See continuation sheet
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service

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Davidson County, Tennessee

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

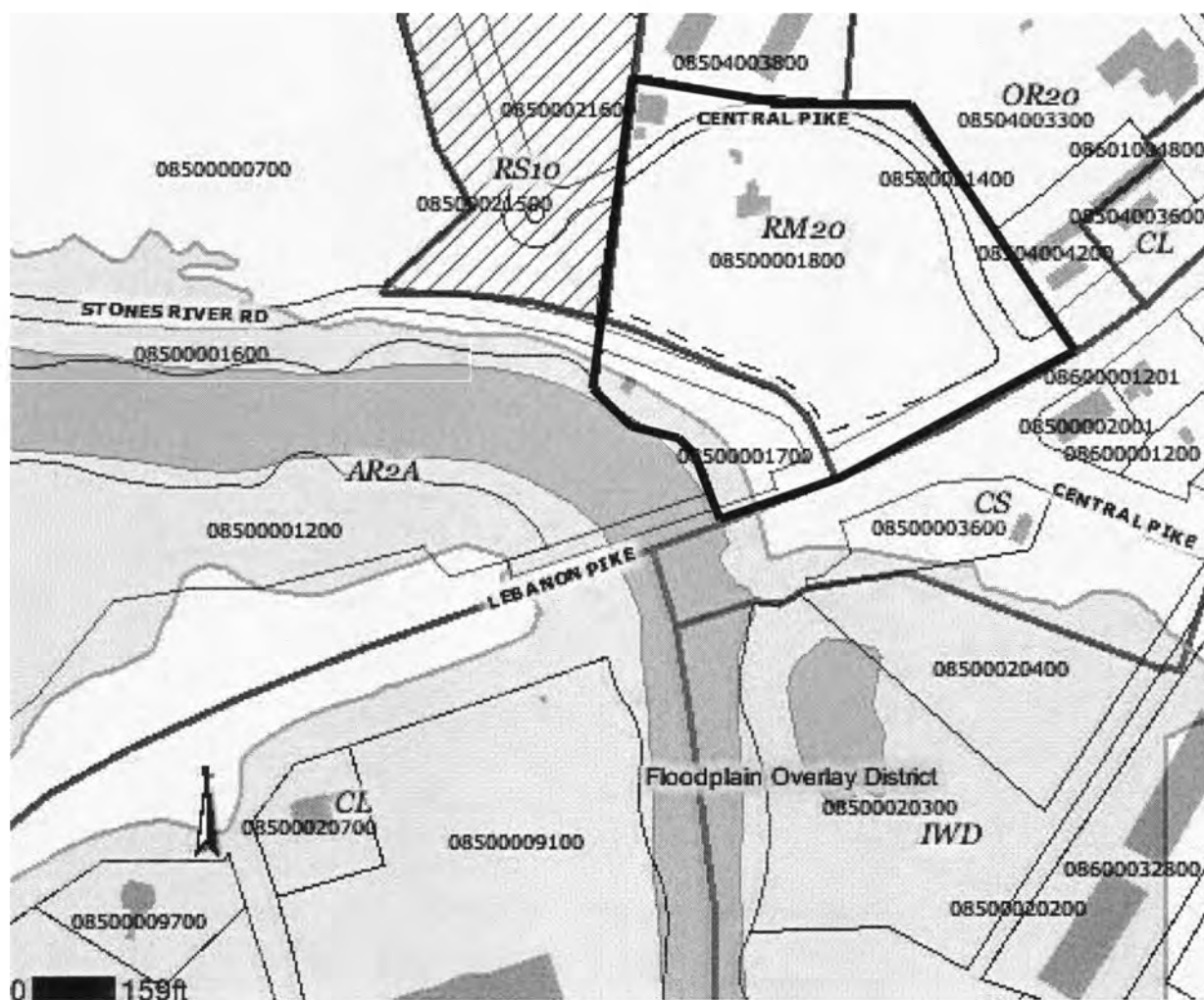
The boundary consists of parcels 08500001800, which contains Stone Hall and secondary buildings, and part of parcel 08500001700, which contains Eversong but excludes the truss bridge on the parcel that is not associated with the property. The parcels and buildings are connected by landscaping and access roads. This is all the land currently associated with the nominated property. The nominated property is surrounded by new development, the river, and a major road. It encompasses approximately ten acres.

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National Park Service

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Figure 5. Tax map with boundary marked.



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National Park Service

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Section number photos Page 20 Stone Hall
Davidson County, Tennessee

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photos by: Tara Mitchell Mielnik and Claudette Stager
Date: July 2010
Digital image: Tennessee Historical Commission

Stone Hall south façade, facing north
1 of 65

Stone Hall façade entry, facing north
2 of 65

Stone Hall façade entry detail, facing northwest
3 of 65

Stone Hall dormer, facing north
4 of 65

Stone Hall south façade and east elevation, facing northwest
5 of 65

Stone Hall east elevation, facing west
6 of 65

Stone Hall east elevation portico column, facing west
7 of 65

Stone Hall east elevation portico light, facing west
8 of 65

Stone Hall east elevation and north (rear) elevation, facing southwest
9 of 65

Stone Hall north (rear) elevation and west elevation, facing southeast
10 of 65

Stone Hall west elevation and south façade, facing northeast
11 of 65

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Davidson County, Tennessee

Stone Hall entry hall, facing south
12 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, entry hall and stairs, facing south
13 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, entry hall and elevator, facing north
14 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, elevator, facing northwest
15 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, stairs, facing northeast
16 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, facing northeast from parlor into hall
17 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, pier mirror and windows in parlor, facing west
18 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, living room, facing east
19 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, living room fireplace, facing east
20 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, door to half-bath in living room, facing northwest
21 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, living room bay window, facing south
22 of 65

Stone Hall, first floor, butler's pantry in kitchen, facing west
23 of 65

Stone Hall, built-in seat on landing to second floor, facing north
24 of 65

Stone Hall, stairs at second floor, facing south
25 of 65

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Stone Hall, second floor, large room on the east, facing northwest
26 of 65

Stone Hall, second floor, fireplace in large room on the east, facing east
27 of 65

Stone Hall, second floor, bathroom, facing south
28 of 65

Stone Hall, basement
29 of 65

Smokehouse, south façade and west elevation, facing northeast
30 of 65

Smokehouse, south façade and east elevation, facing northwest
31 of 65

Smokehouse, west elevation, facing south
32 of 65

Smokehouse, north elevation, facing south
33 of 65

Smokehouse, kitchen area
34 of 65

Smokehouse, living area
35 of 65

Smokehouse, stairs to sleeping area
36 of 65

Barn, facing northwest
37 of 65

Barn, south elevation façade, facing north
38 of 65

Barn, south façade detail, facing north
39 of 65

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Barn, interior
40 of 65

Barn, interior
41 of 65

Eversong, northwest façade and northeast elevation, facing south
42 of 65

Eversong, detail of northwest façade, facing, southeast
43 of 65

Eversong, southeast and northeast elevations, facing, west
44 of 65

Eversong, southeast elevation, facing west
45 of 65

Eversong, southwest elevation, facing northeast
46 of 65

Eversong, main level
47 of 65

Eversong, main level, first floor fireplace, facing, northeast
48 of 65

Eversong, sleeping loft level
49 of 65

Eversong, basement level
50 of 65

Eversong, basement level, fireplace and kitchen
51 of 65

Setting, entry to property, facing north
52 of 65

Setting, near entry to property, facing north
53 of 65

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Setting, near west elevation of Stone Hall, facing northeast
54 of 65

Setting near Stone Hall, from house facing generally northwest
55 of 65

Setting near Stone Hall, from house facing generally north
56 of 65

Setting, looking from Stone Hall to Eversong, facing southwest
57 of 65

Setting near Stone Hall, from house facing east
58 of 65

Setting, garden gate, facing north
59 of 65

Setting, statue by garden gate
60 of 65

Setting, statue in garden area
61 of 65

Setting, sign in garden area
62 of 65

Setting, path by Eversong, facing northwest
63 of 65

Setting, path by Eversong, facing southeast
64 of 65

Setting by Eversong, facing northeast
65 of 65

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Figure 6. Caption on back of photo: Cantrell-Merritt Wedding. December 15, 1934. Picture "Stone Hall." Left-Right- Mary Elizabeth Polk, Barbara Ann Barton Flower Girl, Angie Fields Cantrell Bride, Mrs. Joe Neil Wallach Matron of Honor and cousin of Bride, Sara Hughes Lazell (?) Cousin of Groom.

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Figure 7. Caption on back of photo: Dear Buddie, The photographer came to take a picture of your mother's portrait (?) and I had him snap this to send to you. I enclose book which has the poem you wrote when you were eight years old, judged best in lower elementary in Donelson school. I hope you continue to strive to express the feelings of your heart. Mammy. Nov. 20- 53.

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GEORGE D. WALLER

Figure 8. Photo from the *Nashville Banner*, December 20, 1969

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Stone Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Davidson

DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/29/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/15/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/18/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000923

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 11.17.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.




























































































































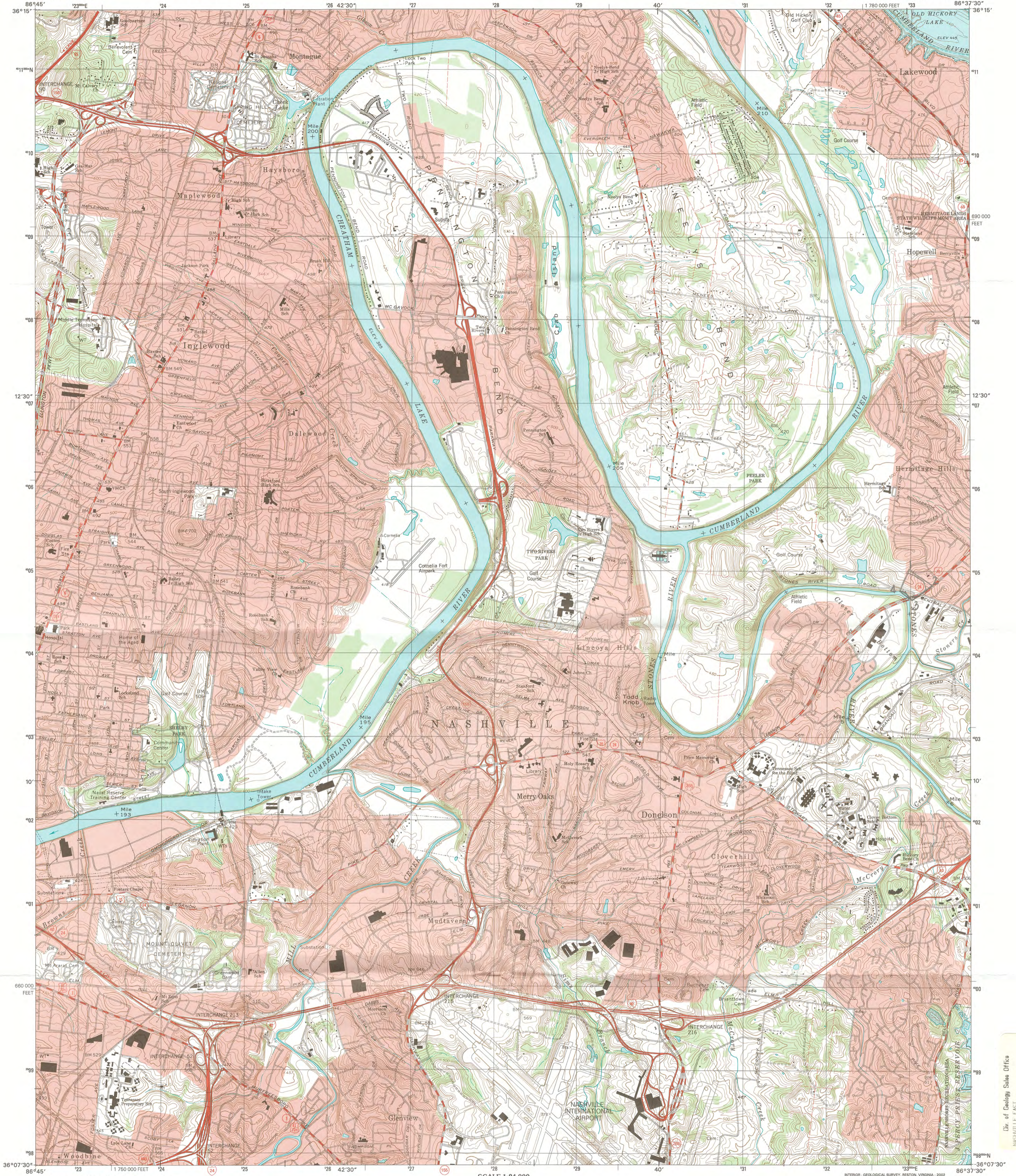
A black and white photograph of a decorative garden sign. The sign is made of a dark material, possibly metal or wood, with a decorative, wavy top edge and a small loop at the top center. It is mounted on a thin metal post. The sign is placed in a garden with tall, thin grasses in the background and foreground. The text on the sign is a poem.

Oh, I live in a house at the top of a hill,
Where the clouds go drifting by,
And each lovely flower in the garden
there,
Lifts its smiling face to the sky.









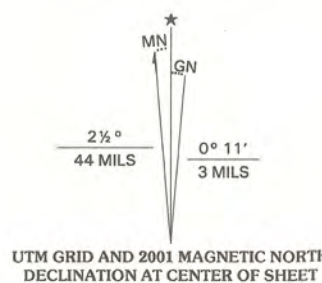
Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Topography compiled 1967. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1997 and other sources. Survey control current as of 1968. Boundaries current as of 2001.

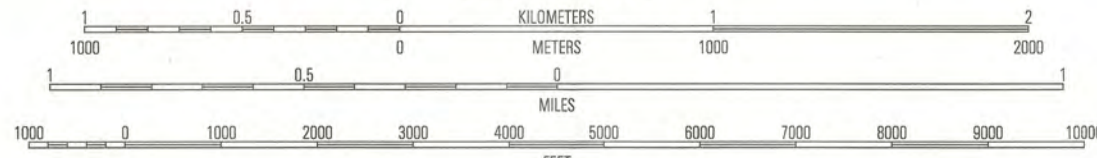
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 16 10 000-foot ticks: Tennessee Coordinate System of 1983. North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject to controlled inundation.

Houses of worship, schools, and other labeled buildings verified 1968. Entire area lies within the Nashville - Davidson Co Metropolitan Government.

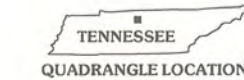


UTM GRID AND 2001 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
AND TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF GEOLOGY,
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

1	2	3	1 Whites Creek
4	5	6	2 Goodlettsville
6	7	8	3 Hendersonville
			4 Nashville West
			5 Hermitage
			6 Oak Hill
			7 Antioch
			8 La Vergne

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLES

NASHVILLE EAST, TN
1997 311 NW

NIMA 3656 11 NW-SERIES V841

Dir. of Geology Sales Office
NASHVILLE EAST
#87411224 LEFT 1997 \$6.00



CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG: Nashville
PROPERTY: Stone Hall
ADDRESS: 1014 Stones River Road, Nashville (Hermitage)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION EVALUATION

NAME OF COMMISSION: *Metropolitan Historical Commission*

DATE OF MEETING: *Sept. 20, 2010*

HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING? *public notice*

☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

SIGNATURE: *C. W. Wilson*
TITLE: *Chairman, Metropolitan Historical Commission* DATE: *09/20/10*

THC STAFF EVALUATION

☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

Stone Hall was built in 1918 by Nashville architect George Waller for the Cantrell family. It is locally significant for its in Colonial Revival architecture. The Colonial Revival style of the two story house is seen in the stonework, symmetrical façade design, entry with sidelights and transom, tile roof with hip roof dormers, multiple light windows, and large multiple light bay windows on the exterior. Inside, the house retains historic woodwork, floor plan, and fireplaces. A second principal building on the property, Eversong, represents a different version of the Colonial Revival, the log house. The one and one and one-half story house has exposed logs, multiple light windows, and an exterior stone chimney that are a twentieth century representation of early colonial houses. The interior of Eversong has its original woodwork and fireplaces. Other outbuildings on the property and the setting contribute to the significance of the nomination.

SIGNATURE: *Claudette Stager*
TITLE: Historic Preservation Specialist

DATE: *8/25/10*

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: September 29, 2010

RETURN FORM TO:

CLAUDETTE STAGER
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442
(615) 532-1550



September 30, 2010

Carol Shull
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
National Register Branch
1201 Eye Street NW
8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the documentation to nominate *Stone Hall* to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, contact Claudette Stager at 615/532-1550, extension 105 or Claudette.stager@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer

EPM:cs

Enclosures