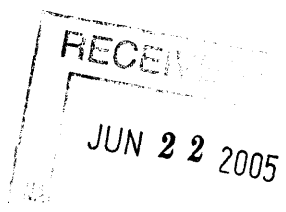


(Oct. 1990)

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 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 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm

other names/site number Rogers-Cunningham Farm

2. Location

street & number 3016 Hickory Grove Road

NA not for publication

city or town Summitville

vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Coffee code 031 zip code 37357

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.)

Herbert Y. Simpson
Signature of certifying official/Title

6/21/05
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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:)

Edson Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

8/5/05

Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm
Name of Property

Coffee County, Tennessee
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	1	buildings
1	0	sites
4	1	structures
0	0	objects
8	2	Total

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

Historic Family Farms in Middle Tennessee

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL REVIVAL

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation WOOD, STONE, CONCRETE
walls WOOD: Weatherboard
roof ASPHALT, METAL
other BRICK, LIMESTONE

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)

AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1847-1954

Significant Dates

1876

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Rogers, Elisha

Criteria Considerations N/A

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

Property is:

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

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:

MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm
Name of Property

Coffee County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 132 acres Morrison; 92 SW

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>594879</u>	<u>3934674</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>594430</u>	<u>3934713</u>

3	<u>16</u>	<u>594301</u>	<u>3933279</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>16</u>	<u>594713</u>	<u>3933267</u>

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 Leslie N. Sharp (description/narrative by Jessica Wilson and Margaret Binnicker)
organization Center for Historic Preservation date April 12, 2005
street & number MTSU, Box 80 telephone 615-898-2947
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

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 Carolyn Ramsey Sullivan
street & number 5031 Bonnahill Drive telephone 615-889-1884
city or town Hermitage state TN zip code 37076

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

Physical Description

The 132-acre Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm is located in rural Coffee County, Tennessee, one mile from Highway 55 and eleven miles north of Manchester, just outside neighboring Warren County. The farm's address is on Hickory Grove Road, which runs in front of the farmhouse and bisects the northern end of the property. Fountain Grove Road runs along most of the eastern border of the property. Developing from the middle of the nineteenth century through the twentieth century, the farm complex is composed of a historic farmhouse, two contributing barns, a grape arbor, fencing, two wells, agricultural fields, and two noncontributing resources. All of the buildings and structures, except the ca. 1850 barn and a 45-acre field, are on the south side of Hickory Grove Road. The farm may be thought of in two distinct sections. The first contains the farmhouse and yard with the secondary structures more closely associated with the workings of the house and its occupants. The second section, which surrounds the first, contains the barns, tool shed, and fields related to agricultural production. This area of central Tennessee's highland rim still retains its agricultural character as exemplified by the Crouch-Ramsey Farm.

The farm house, a weatherboard, L-shaped structure, was built ca. 1876 to incorporate a pre-existing, single-pen log cabin dating from ca. 1847. This house underwent remodeling sometime between 1907 and 1909 and modernization in the 1950s. The house is located southeast of a ca. 1850 barn, the earliest extant structure on the property. A second barn was constructed south of the older one and due west of the house. The original barn burned following a lightning strike in 1924 and a new barn was built on the same site. The road running between the two barns and in front of the house was paved in the 1970s. The yard immediately surrounding the house is bordered by historic fencing—wood posts with wire fencing and picket fencing—that encloses just over three sides of the yard. The grape arbor, well shelter, and doghouse are within the fencing. The 1952 well house and propane tank are just outside the fencing, southwest of the house.

The integrity of the property as a working farm is still intact and clearly represents a typical farm complex found in Middle Tennessee with its extant farmhouse, outbuildings, and field patterns. The following inventory lists and describes the individual components that make up the larger complex.

1. Crouch-Ramsey House, ca. 1847, 1876 (contributing building)

The Crouch-Ramsey House, built by Elisha Rogers ca. 1876 following his purchase of the property, is a one-story L-shaped house covered in weatherboard. It rests upon a sandstone pier foundation, which was in-filled with brick and concrete block in the early 1950s. The house is protected by an asphalt-shingle gable roof. The lightning rods on the roof crest date to the 1950s and were placed there under the direction of Pearl Cunningham Crouch and her daughter Mrs. Nancy Crouch Ramsey. The north (front) facade contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows, located one on either side of a central entrance. The shed roof front porch spans almost the entire length of the north facade and contains a bead board ceiling and historic porch swing on its west end. Six round, turned-wood posts with plain capitals and two engaged posts support the front porch. The 1876 residence built by Elisha Rogers fully incorporates the original single-pen

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Section number 7 Page 2 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

log structure into the west front room of the larger L-shaped dwelling. The original single-pen log structure most probably dates to the ownership of David Barton Bryan, who acquired the property in 1847.

The east facade of the house is dominated by the sandstone and brick chimney, which is flanked on each side by a one-over-one double-hung sash window. Continuing along the east façade on the dining room/kitchen ell is another one-over-one, double-hung sash window into the dining room and two shorter, 1952 two-over-two, double-hung windows opening to the kitchen.

The south façade of the kitchen and dining room ell contains a similar short 1952, two-over-two, double-hung window into the kitchen that used to be a door that led from the kitchen to the site of a smoke house (razed 1990s). A second window in this south-facing part of the kitchen ell leads to the storeroom and is a three-over-one, double-hung window. In the gable end opening into the attic is a modern, six-over-six, double-hung window that the current owner added.

Continuing around the ell on the west façade, the pre-1910 changes can be seen. During this period, the Cunningham's enclosed the L-shaped rear porch that ran along the west side of the kitchen/dining room wing and across the rear or south facade of the house. There is a storeroom off the porch on its south side that contains the fuse box and breakers. The portion of the porch running along the kitchen ell faces west. On the southern portion of the porch is a door with steps leading down into the yard. The section of the porch between this doorway and the main part of the house was enclosed with weatherboard below four aluminum-frame windows.

Along the rear, or south façade of the main block of the house, there are two windows and a c.1908 single-light, door. The smaller of the two windows opens into the 1952 bathroom. It is a one-over-one, double-hung window that was added in 1952. A one-over-one, double-hung window is to the west of the door on the 1952 addition. Around the corner on the west façade of the addition is another one-over-one, double-hung window. On the north or front of the 1950s addition, is an identical pair of one-over-one, double-hung windows. This 1950s bedroom addition projects from the southern end of the west façade.

The west facade of the original house (log portion) contains an exterior central brick chimney. A one-over-one double-hung sash window is located immediately north of the chimney.

The main entrance to the house is from the front porch opening into a central hallway or foyer. This central hallway contains Colonial Revival-style wallpaper from the 1950s, 8-inch baseboards, plaster walls, and oak floors (all present throughout the 1876 portion of the house). The baseboards, plaster and floors date to 1876. The 1950s ceiling tiles conceal original bead board in the hallway. The central hall opens on either side to the two front rooms and to the rear into the ca. 1908 room, formerly the rear porch. Closets were added to either side of the rear portion of the central hallway when the ceilings in the front portion of the house were raised ca.1908 to eleven feet.

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Section number 7 Page 3 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

Ceiling tiles conceal beaded board in the front east parlor and were added in the early 1950s remodeling. Green carpeting now covers the oak flooring in this parlor. Faux graining is present upon two doors connecting the parlor to the central hallway and to the dining room. Faux graining also decorates the simple wood mantle. The fireplace is on the east outside wall, has an exterior, end chimney with a stone lower portion and masonry upper. The fireplace is no longer active. The graining throughout the house is assumed to be from the 1870s.

Across the hallway, the west room's floors and ceiling reveal its original oak flooring and bead board ceiling. Faux graining is present upon the two doors connecting this room to the front and rear hallways. This graining is also present upon a mantle located on the west wall of the front parlor. The fireplace is not functional. Log walls under the weatherboarding on the exterior of this room provide evidence that the 1870s house was built around a single pen log cabin. The exterior, end chimney is brick.

The ell is located on the east side of the house. This ell extends south from the east parlor and contains the dining room and kitchen. The dining room contains its original oak floors, wood baseboards and molding, wood window surrounds, and plaster walls. The ceilings in this portion of the house are just over nine-feet high. The acoustical-tile ceiling dates to 1952. Also in the dining room is the enclosed staircase that leads to the attic. There is a small closet underneath the stair. The portion of the attic over the dining room and kitchen has wood floors and is used for storage. The portion over the central hall is not finished. Evidence of the log single-pen cabin can be seen by crawling over the rafters above the west portion of the house, which may at one time have been used for sleeping.

The kitchen, remodeled in the early 1950s by Pearl Crouch and her daughter Nancy Crouch Ramsey, boasts of indoor plumbing, appliances, wood cabinetry, and vinyl flooring from this period. At this same time, a door on the south wall of the kitchen that led to a smokehouse was removed to allow for more cabinets. The walls and ceilings are plaster. One section of metal cabinets from the 1920s still remains. On the north wall of the kitchen is a circular opening where the flue for the stove once entered the wall. The brick chimney can still be seen on the roof crest of the kitchen and dining room ell.

The hallway between the bedroom and former bedroom, bathroom, and a living/bedroom were once a part of the rear L-shaped porch. Now it is enclosed and incorporated with the rest of the house. The walls in this section of the house are plaster. The low ceiling in the former bedroom has rounded corners where the ceiling and south wall meet. Created out of a portion of the former bedroom space, the bathroom, like the kitchen, has fixtures, plumbing, and vinyl flooring from the early 1950s. The added bedroom on the southwest corner of the house has wood floors, baseboards, moldings, and window surrounds. The walls and ceiling are plaster. The 1950s renovations to the house included the addition of indoor plumbing and electricity.

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Section number 7 Page 4 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

2. Barn, ca. 1850 (contributing building)

Located on the north side of Hickory Grove Road, diagonally across the street from the farmhouse, this front-facing gable roofed log barn is the older of the two on the farm. It consists of a single-pen, square notched log core with early twentieth-century frame sheds on each side and a shallow extension to the rear. The first floor of the central main room of the barn is accessible by a large opening centered on the east (front) facade. The hayloft also has a smaller central opening above the one at ground level. Hardwood weatherboards cover the gable ends of the log portion of the barn. The open shed north of the log portion has a shallow-pitched roof supported by wood posts. The shed addition to the south, covered with vertical yellow poplar planks, has a fully engaged roof that continues the pitch of the main roof. The entire roof structure is covered with galvanized sheet metal in the 5V pattern. This barn dates to the ownership of David Barton Bryan, who built the original log portion of the farmhouse.

3. Barn, 1924 (contributing building)

On the south side of Hickory Grove Road, west of the farmhouse, this four-bay transverse-frame crib barn (with an engaged shed on the south side) consists of a post-and-beam frame covered with vertical hardwood planks on the exterior walls. These hardwoods, indigenous to the area, were cut by a circular saw on the farm site during the time of construction. The roof is covered with galvanized sheet metal in the 5V pattern. The present barn was rebuilt upon an earlier concrete foundation after the original one at this site burned as a result of being struck by lightning. An off-centered facade features a hay hood with a track for moving bales running the full length of the barn just under the ridge. A pair of slatted doors provides access to each of the two side sheds.

4. Fencing (early twentieth century, contributing structure)

The fencing that surrounds a little over three sides of the house dates to several periods during the first half of the twentieth century. The small yard in the front of the house is set apart from the road by a wire fence supported by wooden posts. This wire fence runs across the front of the yard and down both the east and west sides of the yard. In front of the house, the historic metal gate opens to the sidewalk and leads to the front entrance of the house. There is a white picket gate opening east of the house. A white picket fence intersects with the wire fence at the southwest corner of the house to enclose a portion of the rear yard. Another picket fence extends from the wire fence on the east side of the house but does not wrap around the rear yard. There is another section of fencing running parallel to Hickory Grove Road between the yard and the ca. 1850 barn on the north side of the road. While the gate is modern and there have been repairs to the fence over the years, fencing has existed along the road throughout the twentieth century. The other fencing throughout the property has been removed; however, there are some tree and shrub lines that indicate the previous existence of fencing.

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Section number 7 Page 5 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

5. Grape Arbor, ca.1920 (contributing structure)

The grape arbor is on the east side of the house and is made up of two separate shelters (the name for the structure on which the vines grow and wrap around). Each shelter is made up of two vertical wood posts that support a horizontal wood post. Constructed by the Crouches ca. 1920, the grape arbor is simple and functional in its design.

6. Agricultural Fields (contributing site)

The agricultural fields surround the house on both sides of the road. With the exception of the yard immediately around the house and demarcated with the fencing mentioned above, the Crouch-Ramsey property consists of planted agricultural fields. The continued use of this property in agricultural production since the mid 1800s makes the fields a contributing and character-defining feature of the farmstead. Donald Smith, who leases the land from the current owner, plants wheat, soybeans, and corn. According to the current owner Carolyn Ramsey Sullivan, the agricultural field patterns are similar today as to what they would have been at the beginning of the twentieth century.

7. Well Shelter and well, ca. 1900, well dates to mid-1800s (contributing structure)

South of the kitchen ell, the well shelter has a poured concrete, rectangular foundation with a concrete box-like projection for the well that is covered by a concrete slab. The shelter portion is made up of four wood posts near the corners of the foundation. These posts support an asphalt-shingled, gable roof. The roof structure is also wood. This was the original well for the house and dates to the mid-1800s. This well has not been used since the 1950s when the concrete slab covering was poured and the new well was built.

8. Well House and Well, 1952 (contributing structure)

Located southwest of the house just outside of the picket fence, the 1952 well house is a concrete-block structure with an asphalt-shingled, gable roof with exposed rafter ends. There is a plain, plywood door for access. The well was built when indoor plumbing was added and Mrs. Crouch and Mrs. Ramsey remodeled the house.

9. Doghouse, ca. 1975 (noncontributing structure due to date)

The doghouse is wood-frame building with weatherboard siding and an asphalt-shingled, gabled roof with an opening for the dog on the gable end. It is within the fenced portion of the yard, just off the southwest corner of the house.

10. Tool Shed, ca. 1920 (noncontributing building due to condition)

The tool shed is southwest of the farmhouse and overgrown with weeds and vines. It is a wood-framed structure with a side gabled, raised-seam metal roof with off-center front gable dormer with window to provide light. The shed contains an opening for parking farm equipment and space for storing equipment. Not used since the 1950s, this building is severely dilapidated.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

Eight contributing and two noncontributing resources comprise the Crouch-Ramsey Farm, which is set in a rural portion of Coffee County. Other farms surround the property and the setting is agricultural. Changes to the property and the area have been minimal. In the mid-1990s, Carolyn Ramsey Sullivan, the current owner, removed the smoke house and hen house (formerly on the north side of the house) because they were dilapidated and some of the fencing and orchard to facilitate modern farming practices (larger equipment and less diversification). Overall, the farm reads like a working farm that has evolved over the past 150 years.

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Section number 8 Page 7 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

Statement of Significance

The Crouch-Ramsey Farm, located at 3016 Hickory Grove Rd. (one mile from Highway 55) in Coffee County, Tennessee, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A for its agricultural significance and Criterion C for its architectural significance. The Crouch-Ramsey Farm is being nominated under the "Historic Family Farms in Middle Tennessee" Multiple Property Documentation Form. Its historical and architectural significance can be understood within the contexts of "Expansion and the Market Economy, 1850-1900", "Rural Reform and Agriculture, 1900-1945", and "Post-War Transformations, 1945-1960." The Tennessee Century Farms program has recognized the Crouch-Ramsey Farm, which has operated continuously by the same family for over one hundred years. The integrity of the property as a working farm is still intact and clearly represents a typical family farm complex found in Middle Tennessee with its extant farmhouse, outbuildings, and field patterns.

The Crouch-Ramsey Farm is significant in terms of agriculture as an excellent example of a Tennessee family farm. The Crouch-Ramsey farmhouse is significant in terms of architecture as an excellent and intact example of a rural vernacular farmhouse that has evolved over the past 150 years. The logs visible from the attic, faux wood finishes, high ceilings, added rooms, and kitchen cabinets are just some of the intact elements that represent various but important alterations to the house during the historic period. Both the farm and house demonstrate changes made in the name of progress from the early to mid-twentieth century. The farm's physical features and outbuildings reflect movements of change such as the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) push for domestic reform and progressive farming during the early 1900s. In addition, the farmhouse reflects changes made in 1952 by Pearl Cunningham Crouch and Nancy Crouch Ramsey, which were available because of the development of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the national push for rural electrification. These included the adding of electricity, indoor plumbing with an electric water pump, and a modern kitchen.

In 1830, Richard (1803-1888) and Polly Bickel (1807-1882) Cunningham registered a land grant for 250 acres in what was then Warren County. David Barton Bryan bought the property for \$90 in 1847 and was probably responsible for the ca. 1847 log cabin and the ca. 1850 barn. In 1867 Bryan died without a will. His children petitioned the court in 1869 and the larger property was divided. His son W.A.G. Bryan ended up with 132 acres (the tax record reads 130 acres, but the deeds read 132), which he sold to Elisha (1829-1899) and Mary Ann Fults (1837-1880) Rogers for \$1100 in January of 1876. Soon after acquiring the land, Elisha Rogers built a home on the site and moved his wife and at least some of his eleven children to the farm. Rogers incorporated the original log cabin into the much larger L-shape structure that exists today.

In 1893, Elisha sold the house for \$1250 to his son and daughter-in-law, Jessie Rice (1867-1956) and Florence Byrom (1874-1970) Rogers. It changed hands again in 1901 when Thomas Lenoir (1860-1918) and Rebecca Catherine (Kate) Simpson (1860-1948) Cunningham bought the farm for \$1600. They began remodeling the house just prior to 1910. The renovations included raising the ceiling in the central hallway

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Section number 8 Page 8 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

and two front rooms to eleven feet, which is said to have eliminated an existing upstairs and staircase above the front section of the house. Evidence to support this oral tradition is not readily apparent from either the downstairs or the attic. The porch running across the rear of the house was enclosed and divided into several rooms at this time. The Cunningham's grew corn, wheat, oats, and clover. They also raised cattle and hogs.

William Richard (Rich) Crouch (1874-1952) and Pearl Cunningham Crouch (1882-1974), the niece of Thomas Cunningham bought the farm in 1919 for \$8,000. They and their one daughter named Nancy (1902-2001) would spend the rest of their lives on the farm. Throughout the Crouch's ownership, the farm operation underwent significant changes related to the progressive farming movement that was spreading across the region. Demonstration farms appeared in several neighboring towns at this time. These farms encouraged farmers to pursue new agricultural farming methods and diversify crops. Rich Crouch, for example, was beginning to farm lespedeza, a new grass crop, for consumption by livestock. He also farmed a wider variety of crops than any of the former owners: corn, wheat, oats, clover, hay, bean, and soybeans. They also raised cattle, hogs, and chickens. When lightning struck and burned down one of Rich Crouch's barns in 1924, he took this opportunity to improve upon his farming operation even further. He built another barn on top of the former foundation, but incorporated concrete into the newer foundation, as this material hit the progressive farming scene and redefined the technologies of rural architecture. Rich Crouch built an off-centered roof on this barn to allow for an indoor pull-in and metal hayfork to ease the hay loading chores during bad weather.

At this same time, home economics education courses were beginning to reach rural Tennessee farms in the form of programs like 4-H, compliments of the United States Department of Agriculture. These reform programs encouraged the farm wife to improve efficiency and quality within the home. Local agriculture departments provided women with the intellectual resources to start and manage diverse operations within the kitchen and interior portion of the farm. Pearl Cunningham Crouch managed extensive gardens, canned, and raised poultry, selling the eggs for extra income. Evidence of her and then her daughter Nancy's contributions to the farming activities, can be seen by the grape arbor, 1950s house changes, and the landscape of work surrounding the house.

During World War II in the early 1940s, the United States military trained in Tennessee. Several base camps were located in and around Coffee County and most of the military maneuvers took place on local farms. The Crouch-Ramsey Farm, well in this territory, is supposed to have been trodden upon during the military maneuvers. No above-ground evidence of this military training is visible on the property today.

In 1940, Nancy married Henry Ramsey (1900-1985) and lived in Kingsport, where Nancy taught school and Henry worked for TVA building dams. In 1944, they moved back to Nancy's family home to help the aging Rich run the farm. They would spend the rest of their lives in the Coffee County house overseeing the farming operation. After having their daughter Nancy Carolyn in 1944, Nancy returned to teaching and taught in Coffee County while her mother Pearl took care of the baby Carolyn. Nancy's teaching career

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Section number 8 Page 9 Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

lasted over forty years. She taught while helping run the farm. The alterations to the farm after 1950 were overseen by Nancy, although Pearl would remain the owner until her death in 1974.

At first, Henry and Nancy conducted the farm's operation under the direction of Rich and Pearl Crouch. This was a time when gas-powered machinery began to influence agriculture, leading to the end of tenant farming. The Crouch-Ramsey Farm had tenants prior to World War II; however, like the rest of the South, the Crouch-Ramsey Farm did not rely on this system during the second half of the twentieth century. This change is symbolized on this farm by the slow dilapidation of the tenant house, which once stood west of the barns (no above-ground evidence remains of the house which was totally removed by 2000). Upon the death of her husband in May of 1952, Pearl, along with Nancy, took the initiative to electrify and remodel their house. Rich Crouch had been opposed to modernizing the house, although he had allowed the Duck River Electric Membership Corporation to run lines across the property. Pearl became an active participant in TVA's electrification movement when she had electricity, running water, and indoor plumbing added to her house in the 1950s. During her ownership, she and Nancy also upgraded the kitchen with new appliances, vinyl flooring and wood cabinets; added a bathroom into the house within the enclosed porch; and added a bedroom to the southwest corner of the house.

In the 1970s (following the death of Pearl Cunningham Crouch) Henry and Nancy Ramsey inherited the land at a late age and, therefore, leased the land to Frank and Fred Vanetta. During this period, the Vanettas planted corn, wheat, and soybeans; and the Ramseys continued to raise hogs and cattle for the market. Since 1990, Donald Smith has farmed the land under the mandate of its present owner, Nancy Carolyn Ramsey Sullivan, daughter of Henry and Nancy Ramsey. Under this agreement, the farm now produces corn, wheat, and soybeans for the market. There is no longer any livestock raised on the farm, thus the removal of some of the fencing that had been used to contain and separate the animals.

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Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm, Coffee Co., TN

Boundary Description

The 132-acre property is bounded by Fountain Grove Road on the east at the junction of Hickory Grove Road. Forty-five acres are on the north side of Hickory Grove Road and the remaining eighty-seven acres are on the south side. The boundaries are delineated on the attached property tax map (scale is less than 1" = 400' as it is the only scale available) and the attached USGS Topographical Map.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries represent the current legal and historic property owned by the family at this location, as described on the attached tax map.

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Photograph Log

Crouch-Ramsey Family Farm

Coffee County, Tennessee

Photographer: Leslie N. Sharp, Center for Historic Preservation

Date Photographed: February/June 2004

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, TN

- 1 of 36: Northeast corner of house showing north (front) facade, east facade, and fencing; Photographer facing southwest.
- 2 of 36: Northeast corner of house showing east limestone-and-brick chimney and front porch; Photographer facing west-southwest.
- 3 of 36: Southeast corner of house showing east facade, kitchen-and-dining room ell and grape arbor; Photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 36: West facade of kitchen-and-dining room ell, well shelter, and portion of the south facade; Photographer facing northeast.
- 5 of 36: South facade of house and a portion of the west facade of kitchen-and-dining room ell; Photographer facing north.
- 6 of 36: West facade of house and yard, showing fencing, doghouse, well house, and top of well shelter; Photographer facing east.
- 7 of 36: Northwest corner of house and yard, showing west brick chimney, 1950s bedroom addition, and fencing; Photographer facing south-southeast.
- 8 of 36: North (front) facade of house and front yard with fencing; Photographer facing southwest.
- 9 of 36: Front porch and porch swing; Photographer facing west.
- 10 of 36: Looking in the front door into the foyer with the Colonial Revival-style wallpaper; Photographer facing south.
- 11 of 36: Looking from the foyer toward the rear of the house; Photographer facing south.

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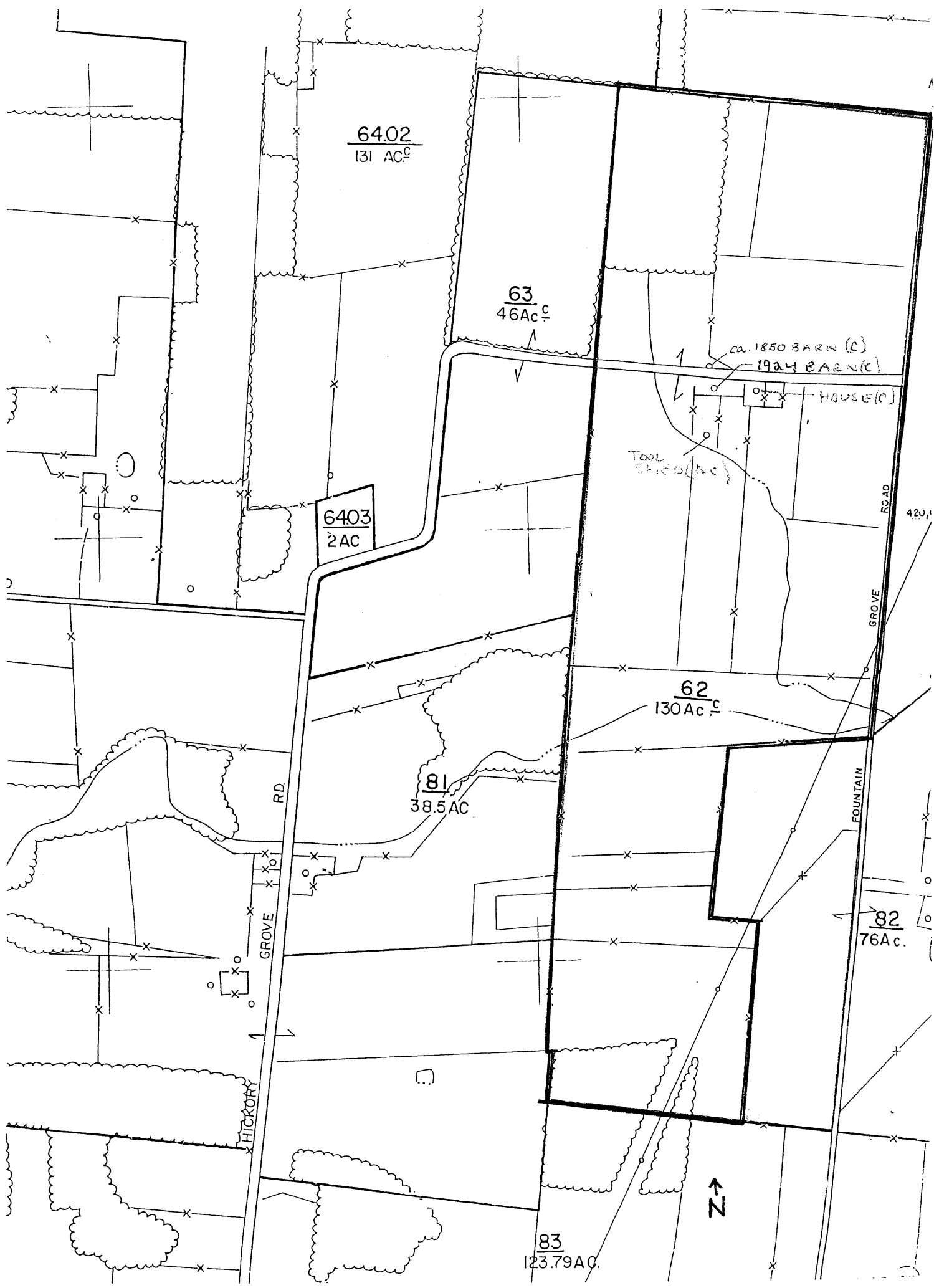
- 12 of 36: Looking out the front door from the former bedroom at the rear of the house; Photographer facing north.
- 13 of 36: East parlor, looking at mantle; Photographer facing southeast.
- 14 of 36: Wood graining on door leading into east parlor; Photographer facing northeast.
- 15 of 36: West parlor/bedroom; Photographer facing north-northwest.
- 16 of 36: West parlor/bedroom, looking at mantle; Photographer facing west.
- 17 of 36: Rear 1950s bedroom addition; Photographer facing southwest.
- 18 of 36: Dining room, showing enclosed stair closet to attic; Photographer facing northeast.
- 19 of 36: Kitchen, showing 1950s cabinetry; Photographer facing southeast.
- 20 of 36: Kitchen, showing connecting doors to rear porch and dining room; Photographer facing northwest.
- 21 of 36: 1950s Bathroom; Photographer facing southwest.
- 22 of 36: Rear porch off of kitchen showing doors to kitchen and storage closet; Photographer facing southeast.
- 23 of 36: Corner of rear porch off of kitchen; Photographer facing northwest.
- 24 of 36: Eastside of front porch and yard looking toward barns; Photographer facing west.
- 25 of 36: West (rear) facades of barns looking toward house; Photographer facing east-southeast.
- 26 of 36: East (front) facade of ca. 1850 barn; Photographer facing west-southwest.
- 27 of 36: Detail of ca. 1850 barn; Photographer facing west.
- 28 of 36: Interior detail of ca. 1850 barn; Photographer facing southwest.
- 29 of 36: East (front) facade of ca. 1924 barn; Photographer facing west.

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- 30 of 36: Front gate, fencing and north facade of house; Photographer facing south-southeast.
- 31 of 36: Fencing, grape arbor, and agricultural fields; Photographer facing south-southeast.
- 32 of 36: Agricultural fields on the north side of Hickory Grove Road; Photographer facing north.
- 33 of 36: Agricultural fields behind house, showing corner of well shelter; Photographer facing south.
- 34 of 36: Well shelter, backyard, south facade of house, picket fencing, and propane tank; Photographer facing northeast.
- 35 of 36: Well house, picket fencing, back yard of house, southwest corner of 1950s bedroom addition, and ca. 1924 barn through the trees; Photographer facing northwest.
- 36 of 36: Tool shed overgrown with trees, south of the house; Photographer facing south-southwest.



64.02
131 AC^c

63
46 AC^c

6403
2 AC

81
38.5 AC

62
130 AC^c

82
76 AC

83
123.79 AC

ca. 1850 BARN (C)
1924 BARN (C)

HOUSE (C)

TOOL SHED (C)

RD.

GROVE

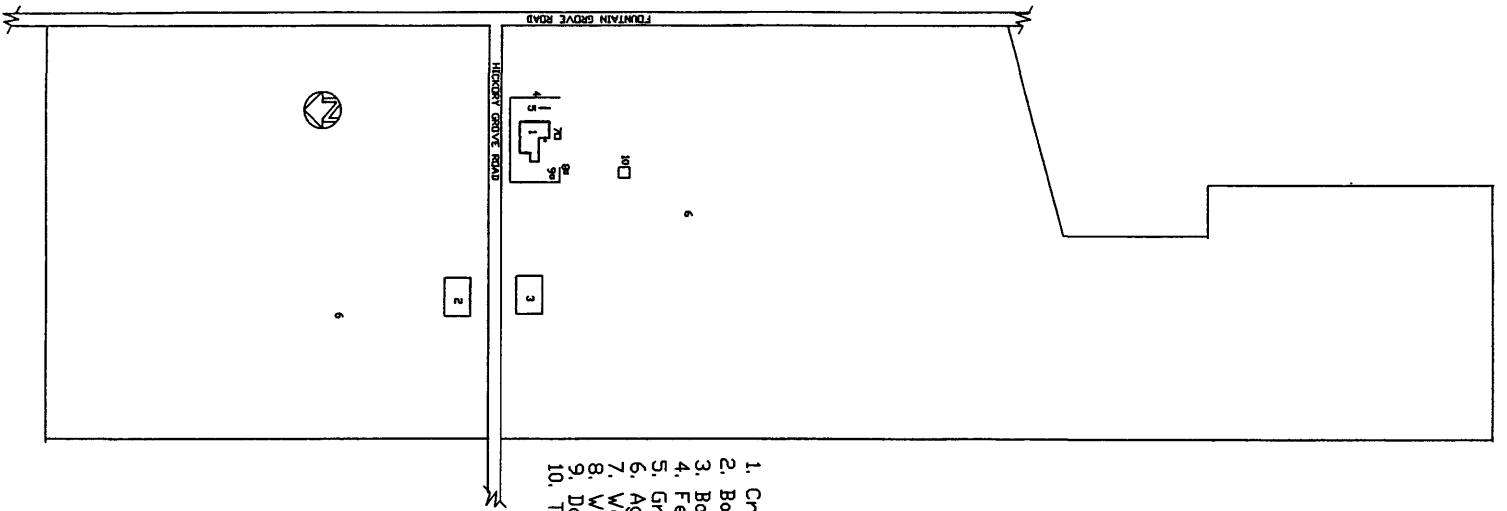
HICKORY

SCAD GROVE

FOUNTAIN

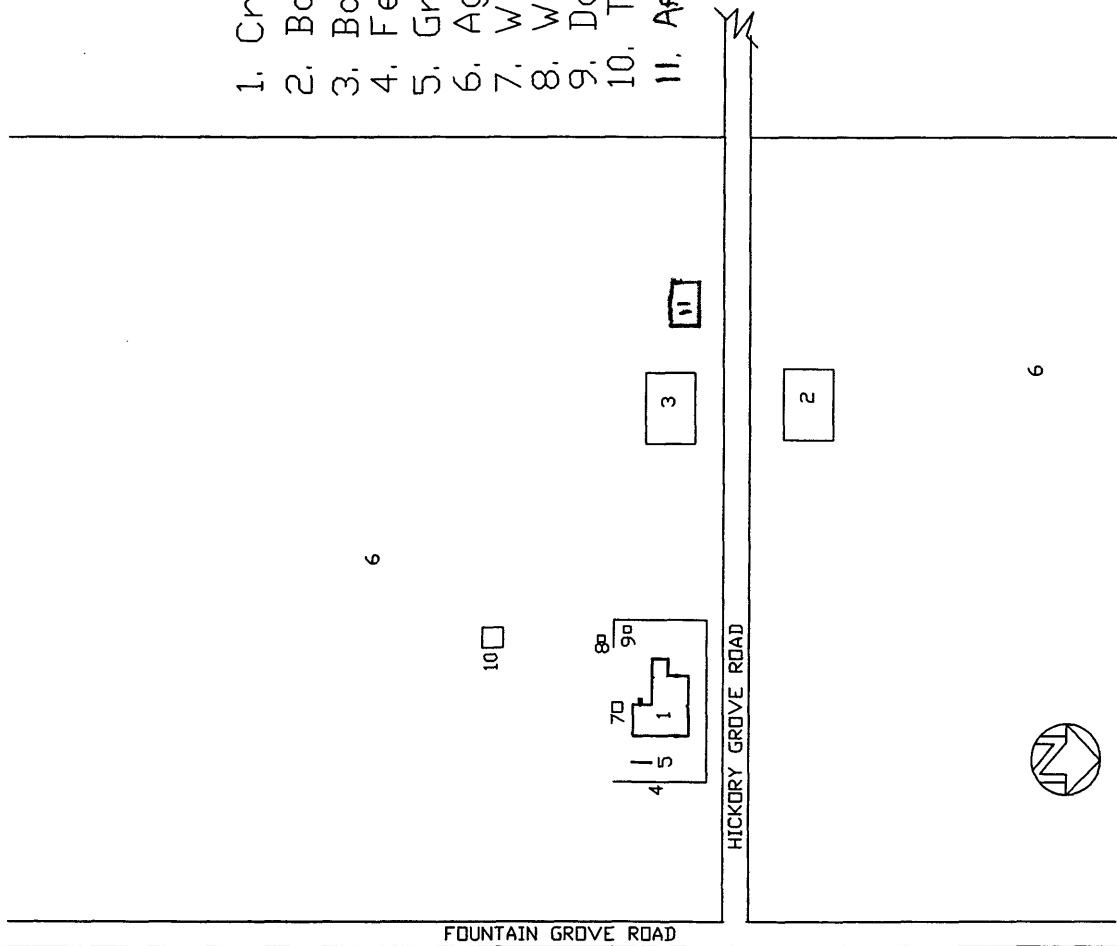
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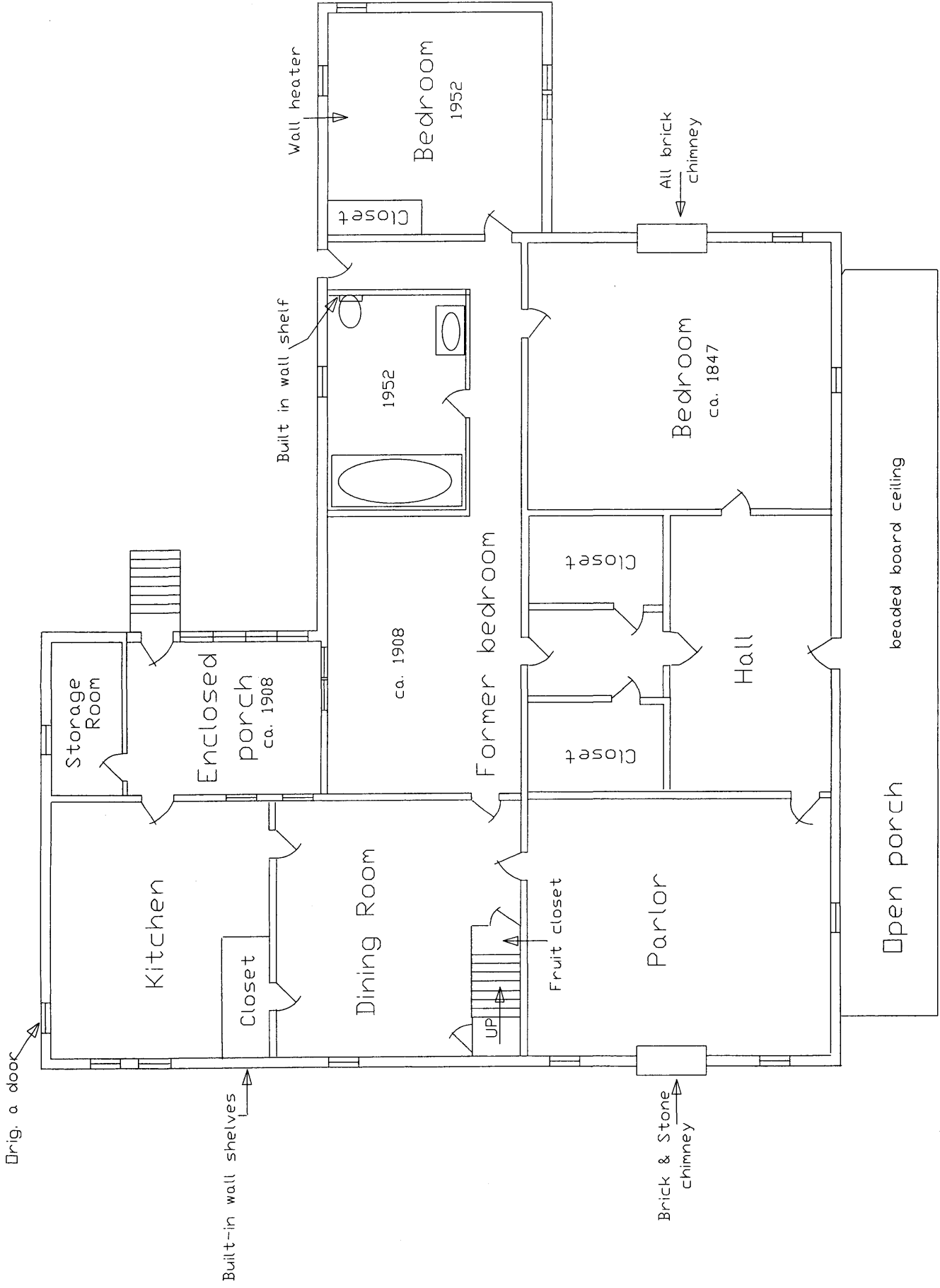
420'



1. Crouch - Ramsey House, ca. 1847, 1876 (C)
2. Barn, ca. 1850 (C)
3. Barn, ca. 1924 (C)
4. Fencing (C)
5. Grape Arbor, ca. 1920 (C)
6. Agricultural fields, (C)
7. Well Shelter, ca. 1900 (C)
8. Well House, 1952 (C)
9. Dog House (NC)
10. Tool Shed ca. 1920 (NC)

1. Crouch - Ramsey House, ca. 1847, 1876 (C)
2. Barn, ca. 1850 (C)
3. Barn, ca. 1924 (C)
4. Fencing (C)
5. Grape Arbor, ca. 1920 (C)
6. Agricultural fields, (C)
7. Well Shelter, ca. 1900 (C)
8. Well House, 1952 (C)
9. Dog House (NC)
10. Tool Shed ca. 1920 (NC)
11. APPROXIMATE location of FORMER TENANT house





CROUCH - RAMSEY FARM
 NOT TO SCALE