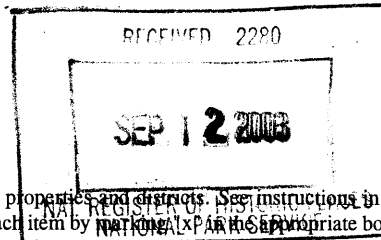


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Pilcher, Dr. Cobb, House

other names/site number Deepwood

2. Location

street & number 5335 Stanford Drive not for publication N/A

city or town Forest Hills vicinity N/A

state Tennessee code TN county Davidson code 037 zip code 37215

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination        request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide X locally. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert Z. Hayes/Dr 9/11/03  
Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
       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 H. Beall \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

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

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   0  

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

"Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills"

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC _____	<u>  </u> Single Dwelling _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC _____	<u>  </u> Single Dwelling _____
RECREATION & CULTURE _____	<u>  </u> Sports Facility _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

   MODERN MOVEMENT: International style \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>  </u> CONCRETE; BRICK _____
roof	<u>  </u> ASPHALT _____
walls	<u>  </u> BRICK _____
	_____
other	<u>  </u> METAL: steel _____
	<u>  </u> GLASS _____

**Narrative Description**

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1936  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1936  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Architect/Warfield and Keeble  
\_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Considerations

N/A

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

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Pilcher, Dr. Cobb, House  
Name of Property

Davidson County, Tennessee  
County and State

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** \_Approx. 1.5 acres; USGS Quad: Oak Hill 308 SE \_

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_16_	_515569_	_3992860_	3	_	_
2	_	_	_	4	_	_

\_ 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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title \_Philip Thomason\_

organization \_Thomason and Associates\_ date \_April, 23, 2002\_

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

city or town \_Nashville\_ state \_TN\_ zip code \_37212\_

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**Additional Documentation**

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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)

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**Property Owner**

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

name \_Tom and Connie Cigarran\_

street & number \_5335 Stanford Drive\_ telephone \_615-665-0807\_

city or town \_Forest Hills\_ state \_TN\_ zip code \_37215\_

United States Department of the Interior  
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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  Pilcher, Dr. Cobb, House    
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county and State

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**DESCRIPTION**

The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is one of the most notable examples of the International style in Davidson County. The dwelling was constructed in 1936 on a wooded lot south of downtown Nashville. Stanford Drive curves around two sides of the house and it shares lot lines with two adjacent parcels. The dwelling was enlarged into its present form in 1988 with rear one-story and two-story wings. This addition complimented the original design and its overall integrity remains intact. The dwelling is sited on the northern slope of a hill and is reached by a curvilinear driveway. The house is surrounded by dense woods and vegetation. At the rear of the house is a swimming pool and landscaped garden.

The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is a two-story, concrete and brick veneer International style dwelling. The house has a concrete and brick foundation, exterior of stretcher bond brick, flat roof of rolled roofing material, and one interior brick chimney. On the main (north) facade is the main entrance with a twelve-light steel and glass door added in 1988. Over the door is an original flat roof concrete canopy. The main entrance is reached by a brick and flagstone staircase.

Windows in the dwelling are original eight-light steel casement design with flanking sidelights and transoms. The main facade has a projecting one-story bay window with steel casement windows. In the basement level of this projecting bay are windows with structural glass blocks. On the west facade is a garage wing with a two-bay garage in the basement. The garage bays have ca. 1970 overhead track wood doors. On the west facade's first floor level is an original single-light glass and wood door. On the east facade are two bays of windows of steel casement and structural glass block design on each floor.

At the rear (south) facade are two wings added in 1988 that were designed with detailing to reflect the original house. These details include steel casement windows and a brick veneer exterior. On the rear (south) facade of the original dwelling is a multi-light steel casement window in the kitchen section, and a narrow fixed steel window at the staircase. The original dwelling's horizontal form is expressed by two belt courses dividing the first and second floors, and by the brick coping at the roofline.

The interior of the house has original plaster walls and ceilings and original wood floors. The main hallway on the first floor features curved walls and an original central staircase with an original wood handrail and diagonal braced railing. The first floor features a living room, dining room, library, kitchen, two bathrooms, and the added master bedroom. The living room has an original Colonial Revival influenced fireplace with a marble surround. New recessed lighting was added to the ceilings in the main rooms and hallway in 1988. The library has added carpet on the floor, and retains an original Colonial Revival influenced marble mantel with vertical fluting. Flanking the fireplace are original bookshelves. Interior doors are solid wood design and some retain their original brass and porcelain hardware. The first floor bathroom has an original tiled tub and pedestal sink.

The second floor of the house has four bedrooms and two bathrooms. The bedrooms have original wood floors and original plaster walls and ceiling. Bathrooms on this floor have been remodeled although one bath retains an original tiled tub and pedestal sink. The master bedroom and bath on this floor were added in 1988.

At the rear of the dwelling is a concrete swimming pool added in 1988 which is included as a non-contributing structure.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for its architectural significance as a notable example of the International style. The International style emerged in the late 1920s and early 1930s with an emphasis on smooth lines and modernistic design. Originating in Europe, this style was a break from traditional building and architects such as Le Corbusier and Walter Gropius brought the style to America's attention.<sup>1</sup> Styles such as Colonial and Tudor Revival were the most popular in Tennessee during the 1930s and few examples of the International style were built. The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is one of two examples of the style in the City of Forest Hills (the other dwelling, the Henry Neuhoff House is also eligible for the National Register). The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House features eight-light steel casement windows, a projecting bay with structural glass block windows, and interior curved walls. The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills."

The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House was constructed in 1936 and designed by the Nashville architectural firm of Warfield and Keeble. This architectural firm was prominent in Nashville during the 1930s, and was in business from 1929 to 1944. The firm's work was especially common in the Forest Hills area, where Keeble also made his home.<sup>2</sup> The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is the only known example of the firm's use of the International style in Davidson County.

The large two-story International style dwelling came to be known as Deepwood for its position nestled at the foot of a hill along a thick grove of trees.<sup>3</sup> The dwelling's modern style made it stand apart from other homes in the Forest Hills community, most of which reflected traditional Colonial and Tudor Revival styles. The dwelling's white curved walls, flat roof, and use of structural glass blocks made it a distinct landmark in its suburban neighborhood.

Dr. Cobb Pilcher (1904-1949), a neurologist at Vanderbilt University, was the original owner of the house. Pilcher was a Nashville native and graduated from the Vanderbilt School of Medicine in 1927. He interned at Brigham Hospital in Boston before returning to Vanderbilt in 1928. He also conducted work in neuropathology at the University of Chicago and neuro-surgery at Washington University in St. Louis. Pilcher became an associate professor of surgery at Vanderbilt and constructed this dwelling as his residence in 1936. He specialized in treating epilepsy, maladies of the nervous system, and the treatment of World War II brain injuries and was recognized worldwide for his achievements. In 1944, he established the William Henry Howe Fellowship at Vanderbilt for neuro-surgical training. Pilcher died unexpectedly at the age of forty-five in 1949 while residing at Deepwood. His death was perceived as a great loss to Vanderbilt and the medical community.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), 469-470.

<sup>2</sup>Frank H. Orr, ed. *Notable Nashville Architecture 1930-1980* (Dallas, TX: Middle Tennessee Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 1989), 76.

<sup>3</sup>Personal Interview with Connie Cigarran, September 12, 2000.

<sup>4</sup>*Nashville Banner*, 8 October 1949.

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Dr. Pilcher's wife, Laura Barbour Howe Pilcher, continued to own Deepwood until her death in 1967. The property was conveyed to the Pilchers' daughters, Laura Barbour Howe Pilcher Escobar and Mary Dudley Cobb Pilcher Saul, who sold the property to Dr. John W. McMahan in 1972. Dr. McMahan sold the property to the current owners, Tom and Connie Cigarran, in 1978.<sup>5</sup> In 1988, the Cigarrans expanded the house with the addition of two rear wings.<sup>6</sup> The firm of Tuck/Hinton Architects designed the additions, and the wings are in keeping with the original design of the house. The Dr. Cobb Pilcher House retains a high degree of its historic architectural integrity and is one of the most intact examples of the International style in Davidson County.

Additional information is located in the accompanying multiple property document, "The Historic and Architectural Resources of Forest Hills."

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<sup>5</sup>Will of Laura Barbour Howe Pilcher, probated August 2, 1967, Will Book 88, Page 467. (Davidson County Probate Office, Nashville, TN); Warranty Deed, Laura Barbour Howe Pilcher Escobar and Mary Dudley Pilcher Saul to John W. McMahan, Deed Book 4636, Page 256. (Davidson County Register of Deeds, Nashville, TN); Warranty Deed, John W. And Catherine B. McMahan to Thomas G. And Constance J. Cigarran, Deed Book 5315, Page 895. (Davidson County Register of Deeds, Nashville, TN).

<sup>6</sup>Personal Interview with Connie Cigarran, September 12, 2000.

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Cigarran, Connie. Personal Interview, 12 September, 2000.

Deed Records. Davidson County Register of Deeds. Nashville, Tennessee.

*The Nashville Banner*. October 8, 1949.

Orr, Frank H., ed. *Notable Nashville Architecture 1930-1980*. Dallas, TX: Middle Tennessee Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 1989.

Will of Laura Barbour Howe Pilcher. Davidson County Probate Office. Nashville, Tennessee. August 2, 1967.



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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The boundary for the Dr. Cobb Pilcher House is that of parcel 47 on Davidson County Property Tax Map 131-13. The parcel is an irregular lot bounded on the north and east by Stanford Drive and on the south and west by property lines. The parcel contains the dwelling and an associated swimming pool.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Dr. Cobb Pilcher House. No other buildings or structures are associated with the property.

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Dr. Cobb Pilcher House  
5335 Stanford Drive, Forest Hills, Davidson County, TN  
Photo by: Thomason and Associates  
Date: September, 2002  
Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

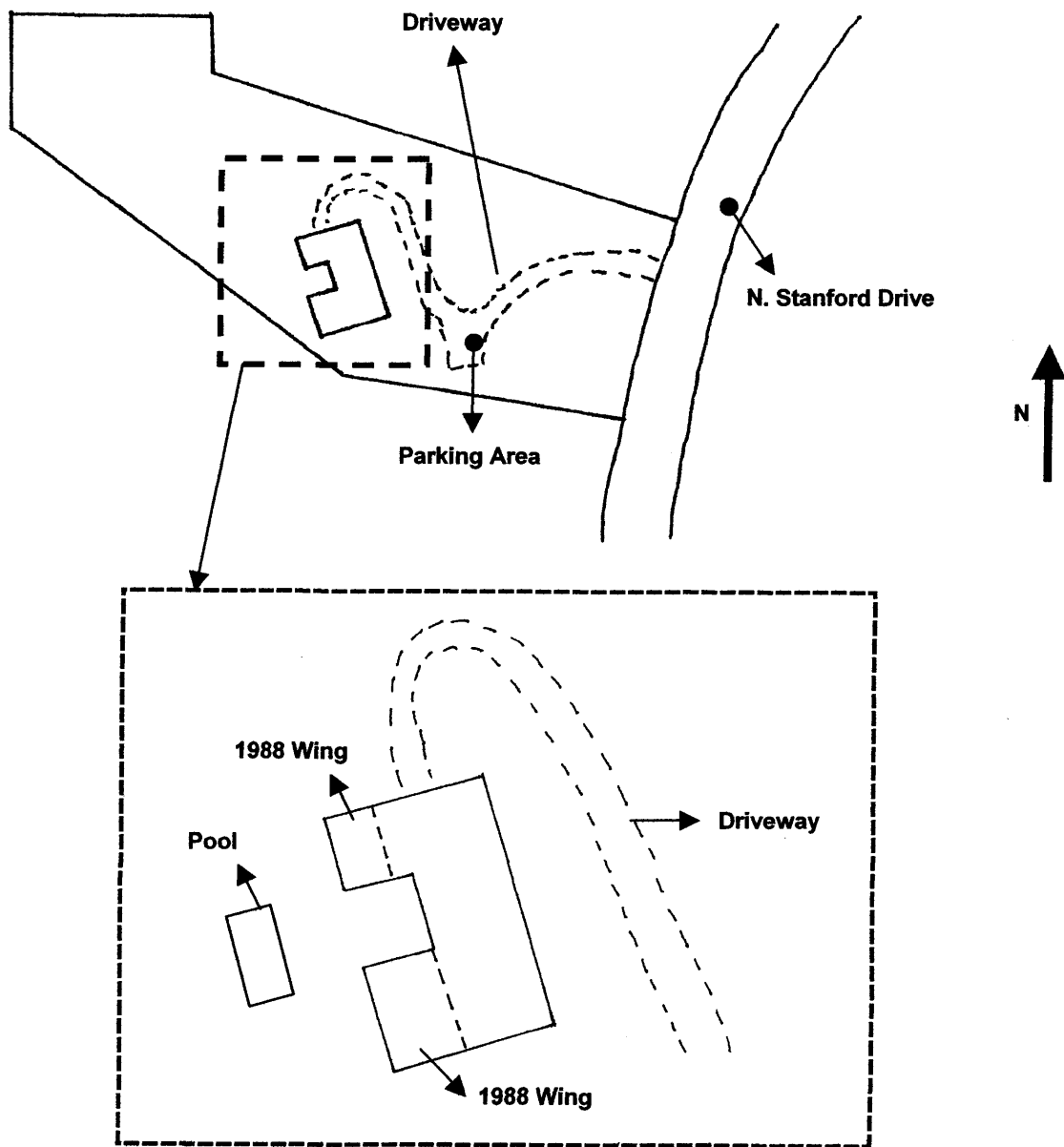
- Photo No. 1 of 12: Historic photo of main facade, ca. 1940.
- Photo No. 2 of 12: Main (north) facade, view to the south.
- Photo No. 3 of 12: Main (north) and east facades, view to the southwest.
- Photo No. 4 of 12: East facade, view to the west.
- Photo No. 5 of 12: South facade, view to the northeast.
- Photo No. 6 of 12: West facade, view to the east.
- Photo No. 7 of 12: Entrance on the west facade.
- Photo No. 8 of 12: Interior, main staircase.
- Photo No. 9 of 12: Interior, living room.
- Photo No. 10 of 12: Interior, dining room.
- Photo No. 11 of 12: Interior, library.
- Photo No. 12 of 12: Non-contributing swimming pool, view to the west.

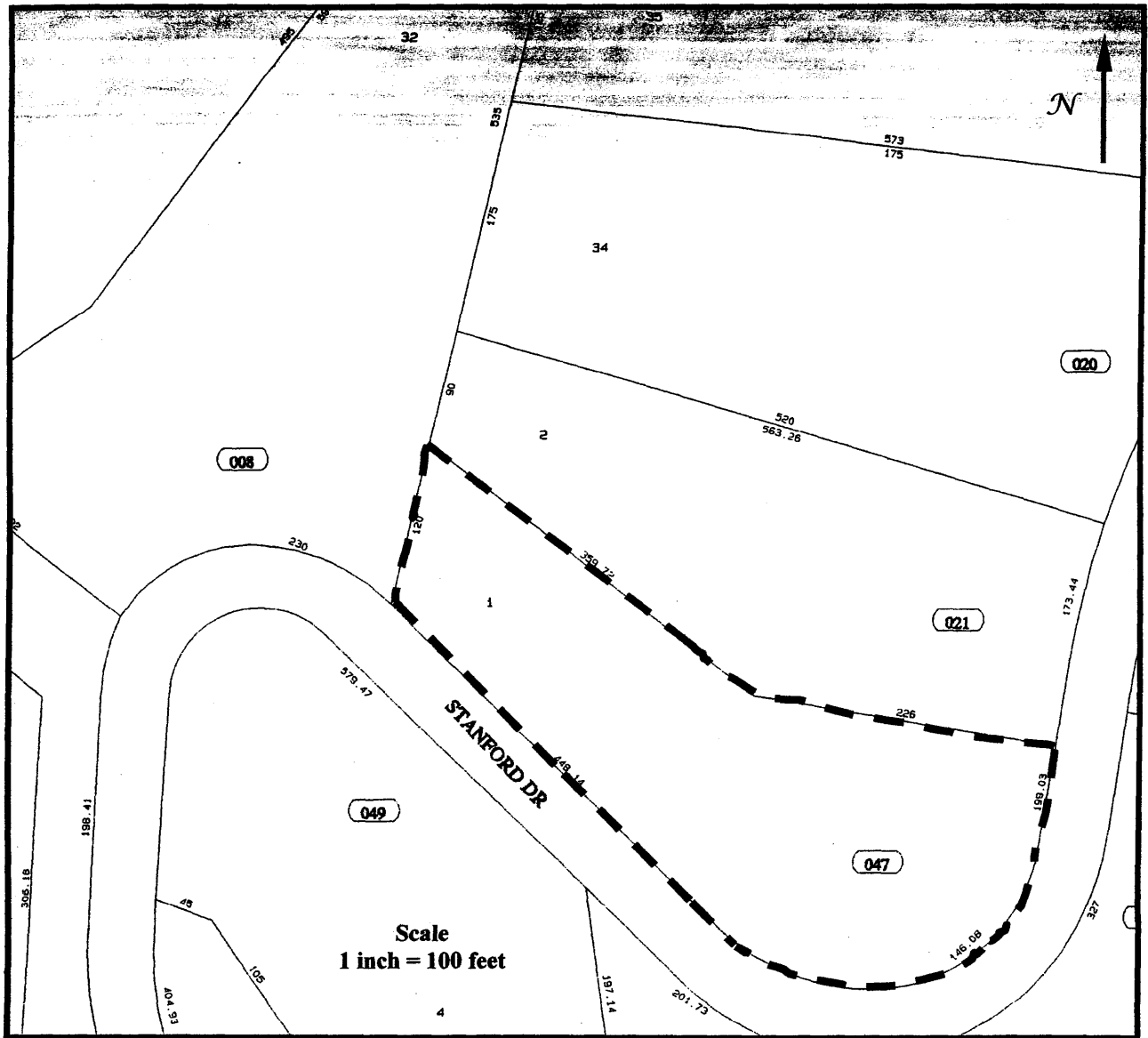
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**Dr. Cobb Pilcher House. 5335 N. Stanford Drive. Forest Hills, TN  
Davidson County Tax Map 131-13, Parcel 47.**