

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only
received JUL 28 1982
date entered

1. Name

historic Thomas Hardin Perkins House

and/or common Meeting-of-the-Waters (preferred)

2. Location NW of Franklin, TN

street & number Del Rio Pike

N/A not for publication

city, town Franklin vic. X vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Tennessee code 047 county Williamson code 187

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Leigha (Mrs. Lester, Jr.) Carroll; Martha (Mrs. Perkins) Trousdale; Carol (Mrs. Sam, Jr.) Woolwine

street & number Route 12, Del Rio Pike

city, town Franklin N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37064

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Williamson County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Franklin state Tennessee 37064

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Meeting of the Waters is a practically unaltered Federal style, two-story brick house constructed in the years from 1800-1809 and located in the vicinity of the rural Forest Home Community near Franklin in Williamson County. Named Meeting of the Waters for its nearness to the junction of the Big Harpeth and West Harpeth Rivers, the grand plantation house is situated on flat open farmland directly east of the West Harpeth River and northeast of the rivers' junction. The house faces south toward a sharp curve in the Del Rio Pike.

Meeting of the Waters is ell-shaped and has a brick chimney at each gable end of a low-pitched, asphalt shingle roof. The facade, facing south, is five bays wide. The first story of the facade displays a central entranceway flanked on each side by two 9/9 rectangular windows with flat radiating voussoir brick lintels that are painted white in contrast with the reddish-brown Flemish bond bricks of the facade. The upper story has five matching windows, one above each window and the door of the first story. The central entranceway consists of a wide double-leaf wood door with side lights and a tracery rectangular transom, set within a denticulated entablature surround head and Doric pilasters. Leading to the entranceway is a small central bay brick platform porch. A plain boxed cornice trims the roof eaves.

Meeting of the Waters has a brick pattern of Flemish bond on all sides of its front section, except for the rear (north) side which is laid in common bond bricks. The side elevations of the front rectangular section of the house (east-west axis) have closed verges at the roof eaves and each elevation has two small square attic vents which flank the chimney. No structural openings are found on the west side elevation of this section of the house other than these attic vents; however, the ghosts of two original second story windows that have been bricked in (date unknown) can be seen. On the opposite side, or east elevation, of this section of the house, the wall runs flush with the east side elevation of the ell. In addition to the attic vents on this elevation are a second-story window located on the north side of the chimney and a first-story window situated directly below.

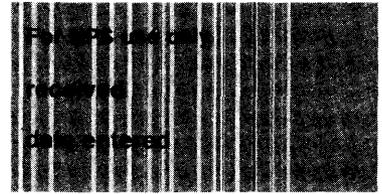
The common bond brick rectangular two-story ell (north-south axis) has a gable end brick chimney and closed verge roof eaves on the north elevation. The four bay east side elevation of the ell on the first story has two 9/9 rectangular windows at the southernmost bays and a single-leaf door with a tall six-light rectangular transom and flat lintel at the north bay. On the second story above are two matching windows located in the two northernmost bays. A plain boxed cornice trims the roof eaves of this elevation and the opposite, or west, side elevation. The ell's west side elevation is three bays wide. On the first story a single-leaf door is located at the southernmost bay and two 9/9 rectangular windows are located at the center and northernmost bays. Three like windows are found on the second story. All windows and doors of the ell each have plain flat stone lintels capped with horizontal (header) brick surround heads.

The rear, or north, elevation of the front section of the house is three bays wide also. A single-leaf wood door at the easternmost bay leads from the house's central hallway and is flanked to the west by two 9/9 rectangular windows which match those of the facade. Situated on the second story above each of these three bays is a matching window. This elevation has a plain boxed cornice across the roof eaves.

Like the exterior, the interior of Meeting of the Waters is practically unaltered and retains a high degree of historical integrity. The interior has a room-central hallway-room plan on both stories in the front section of the house. The ell has one room on each story and a hallway with staircase that divides the rooms of the ell from the southeastern rooms

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National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet

Meeting of the Waters

Item number 7

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of the front section of the house. Original flooring, mantels, staircases, and molding around doors and windows remain unchanged. In the southeastern second-story bedroom of the house a bath has been built into a corner of the room, and the rear first floor room of the ell has been modestly remodeled into a kitchen. The original kitchen appears to have been separate from the house; the date of its removal is unknown. No significant outbuildings remain within close proximity to the house and therefore none have been included within the nominated boundaries.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1800–1809 **Builder/Architect** Thomas Hardin Perkins/builder

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Meeting of the Waters, a two-story brick Federal-style plantation house constructed from 1800–1809, is nominated under National Register criteria B and C. The house is significant for its association with several important members of the Perkins family who were early settlers of Williamson County and influential in shaping the early nineteenth-century political, social, and economic development of the county, Thomas Hardin Perkins, "Bigbee" Nicholas Perkins, and Nicholas Edwin Perkins. Furthermore, the house is architecturally significant as an excellent, virtually unaltered example of Federal-style architecture in Williamson County and Middle Tennessee.

Thomas Hardin Perkins (1757–1838), builder of Meeting of the Waters, was born in Halifax County, Virginia, the son of Nicholas and Bethenia Hardin Perkins. In 1778 he married Magdalen O'Neal (1763–1835), the daughter of William and Elizabeth Stiver O'Neal. As an officer in the War for American Independence, Thomas received a considerable acreage in Williamson County, Tennessee. Shortly after his arrival in Williamson County around 1800, Thomas began the nine-year construction of his home, Meeting of the Waters. He lived at the house until his death in 1838; then sometime afterwards one of his five children, Mary O'Neal Perkins, and her husband moved to the house from the house they had built nearby, named Montpier.

Mary O'Neal Perkins had married in 1808 "Bigbee" Nicholas Perkins, her cousin who had come to the county with the same party of kinsmen as her father had to make permanent settlements. "Bigbee" Nicholas Perkins (1779–1848) was a planter, prominent lawyer, and state legislator who became known as the man who recognized the fleeing Aaron Burr and assisted in the arrest of Burr, wanted for treason by the U.S. Government. "Bigbee" Nicholas and his wife made Meeting of the Waters their home until their deaths. They and some of their eleven children are buried in a cemetery near the house.

In the will of "Bigbee" Nicholas Perkins, Meeting of the Waters was left to his son, Nicholas Edwin Perkins (1821–1871). In 1848 Nicholas married Martha Thomas Maury, a granddaughter of Abram Maury, the founder of Franklin. They continued to operate the plantation and owned Meeting of the Waters throughout the Civil War years.

Next, the house was inherited by Edwin Maury Perkins, who married Caro Sidway. The house is currently owned by their children, making it one of the few land grants in the county still in possession of the original owner's descendants.

Meeting of the Waters remains as one of the oldest and finest of the houses in Williamson County associated with the extensive, prominent Perkins family. The house is an excellent example of the Federal style with its austere five bay facade, and it remains practically unaltered with original extremely fine interior finishes such as Federal period molding around doors and windows, mantels, wainscoting, staircases, and flooring.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bowman, Virginia McDaniel: Historic Williamson County Old Homes and Sites, Nashville: Blue and Gray Press, 1971, pp.97-98

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 10

Quadrangle name Leipers Fork, TN

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	6	5	0	7	2	1	0	3	9	8	0	3	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries are outlined in red on the accompanying property assessor's map. The boundaries were selected to include an approximate ten acre tract of land on which the house sits. The West Harpeth River is a natural boundary on the east side of the house; the Del Rio Pike is

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shain T. Dennison, Architectural Historian

organization Tennessee Historical Commission

date May, 1982

street & number 701 Broadway telephone 615-742-6716

city or town Nashville

state Tennessee 37203

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert E. Byers

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 7/23/82

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Delores Byers

Entered in the National Register

date 8/26/82

Keeper of the National Register

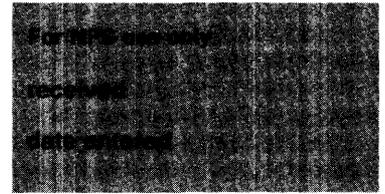
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

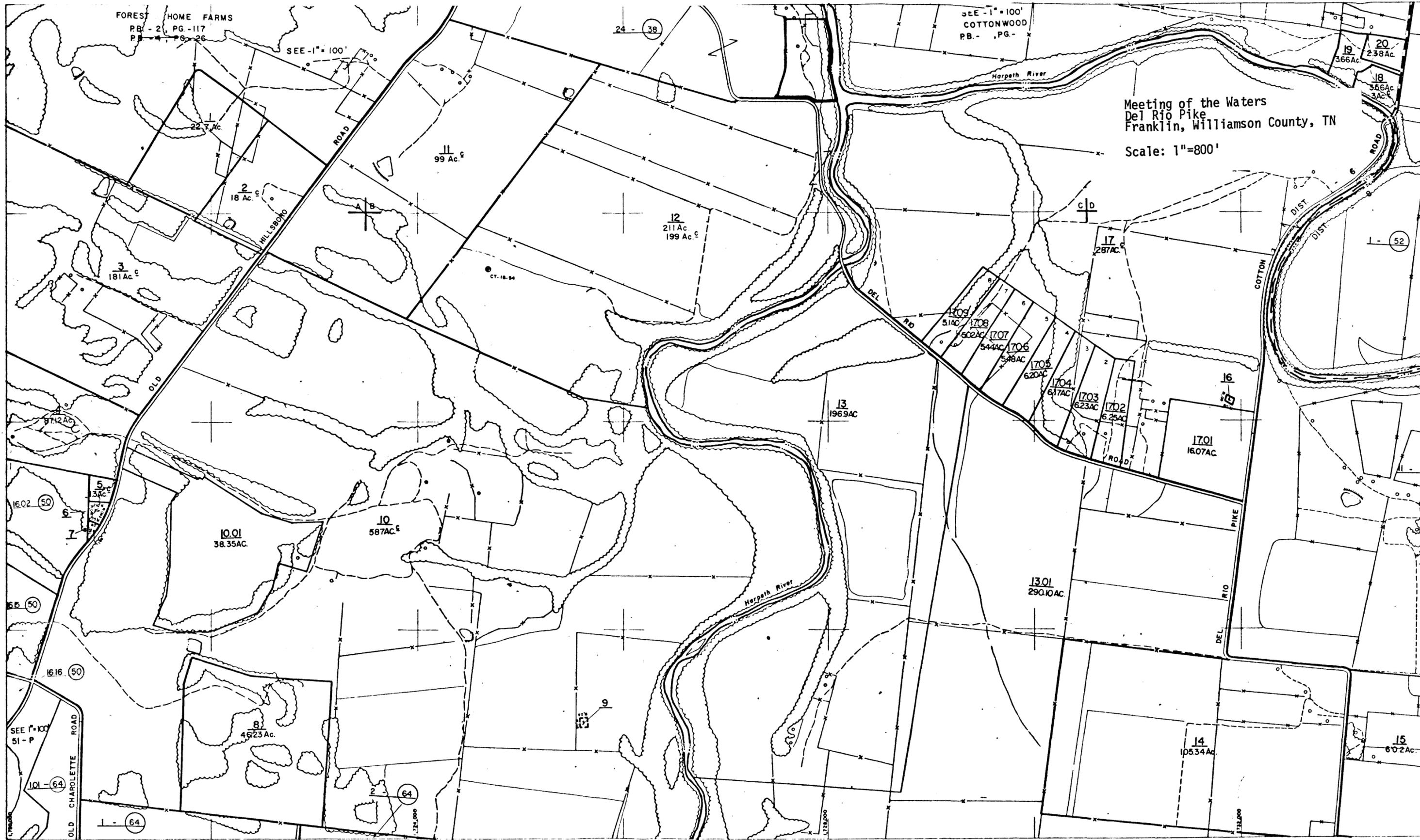
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a visual boundary to the south, the edge of a wooded area in the rear yard serves as a northern boundary, and the western boundary follows the fence line as shown on the map.



Meeting of the Waters  
 Del Rio Pike  
 Franklin, Williamson County, TN  
 Scale: 1"=800'

PREPARED FOR  
**TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION**  
 BY  
**TENNESSEE MAPPING AND ENGINEERING SERVICE, INC.**  
 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE  
 AND  
**WILLIAMS-STACKHOUSE AND ASSOCIATES**  
 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

- 5 PARCEL NUMBER
- 6 PARCEL HOOR
- 7 INTERIOR TRACT LINE
- 8 DISTRICT LINE
- 29 SUBD LOT NO
- 10 PARCEL OUTLINE
- 1200 TOTAL ACREAGE
- 13 SECTION CORNERS
- 17 (20) PARCEL'S CONTROLLING MAP NO
- 18 IMPROVEMENT
- 19 FENCE
- 21 CEMETERY
- 22 CHURCH
- 23 SCHOOL
- 24 WOODED AREA
- 25 POND
- 26 CREEK
- 27 STATE LINE
- 28 CO LINE
- 29 CORPS LIMITS
- 30 TRANSMISSION LINE
- 31 ROAD
- 32 RAILROAD
- 33 RIDGE LINE

50	51	52
53	54	55

- REVISIONS -		
1 - 79	6	11
2 - 81	7	12
3	8	13
4	9	14
5	10	15

WILLIAMSON CO. TENN.		MAP NO
<b>MIDDLE GRAND DIVISION</b>		<b>51</b>
SCALE 1"=800'	DISTRICT	
DATE OF FLYING MAY, 1966		
DATE COMPILED NOV, 1966		