

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY FORM

MAR 03 1988

NATIONAL REGISTER

Title: Historic Resources of Williamson County

Historic Name: Douglass-Reams House (WM-540)

Common Name: Douglass-Reams House

Classification: Building

Owner: J.W. Cross, 2109 Mallory Lane, Franklin, TN 37064.

Location: On Henpeck Lane one quarter mile west of Lewisburg Pike.

<u>Contributing:</u>		<u>Non-Contributing:</u>	
Buildings	1	Buildings	0
Structures	0	Structures	0
Sites	0	Sites	0
<u>Total:</u>	1	<u>Total:</u>	0

Description:

The Douglass-Reams House is a one and one-half story brick residence constructed ca. 1828. The house was built with Federal vernacular detailing and has not been significantly altered. On the main (north) facade is a one-story porch added ca. 1860 with tapered frame posts resting on a stone foundation. The porch has gable returns but no other decorative detailing along the eaves or in the gable fields. The main entrance is composed of original three panel double doors with rectangular paneled surrounds. Over the door is an eight light transom which has been enclosed. Windows are original nine-over-nine sash with brick jack arching and wood sills. At the roof eave is a simple boxed cornice.

The house is of Flemish bond brick construction on all facades. On the east facade is a one-story ca. 1900 frame addition with weatherboard siding. This addition has a shed roof and four-over-four sash windows. On the half story of the east facade is an added door cut into a window opening ca. 1900. This door has a two light transom. The house has exterior end brick chimneys and a raised stone foundation with square vent windows. In the basement of the house are two stone fireplaces.

On the south facade is a pair of double doors and transom which match those on the main facade. There is also a frame door with jack arching at the southeast corner of the house. In the gable field of the west facade are two four-over-four sash windows. The house has a gable roof of metal standing seam. The interior of the house was not accessible for photographs but was designed in a central hall plan. The house is two rooms deep with rooms divided by large folding double doors. Original fluted Federal design mantles and a staircase with a round newel post and balusters are also extant on the interior. There are no outbuildings.

Period of Significance: ca. 1828; ca. 1860; ca. 1900

Area of Significance: Architecture

Criterion: C

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The Douglass-Reams House is a notable example of a brick ante-bellum central passage plan residence. The porch on the house was added ca. 1860 and a shed roof addition was added ca. 1900. No other major changes have occurred to the house since this time and it retains its original form and detailing. The house displays a double pile design and paired exterior end brick chimneys which are rare in the county. The interior displays excellent fluted Federal style mantles and folding doors.

The land on which the house was built was purchased in the early 1800s by John McGee. In 1824, McGee gave a large amount of land to his son-in-law, Thomas Logan Douglass. Douglass bought other nearby properties four years later and began construction of a brick residence. Douglass was born in North Carolina in 1781 and became a distinguished Methodist minister. Douglass was a well known minister in the county and traveled throughout the Tennessee conference. Upon completion of his house Douglass resided here until his death in 1843. Ten years after his death Methodist families constructed a frame church on nearby Lewisburg Pike and named it Douglass Church in his honor. Although the church no longer stands the area is still known as Douglas.

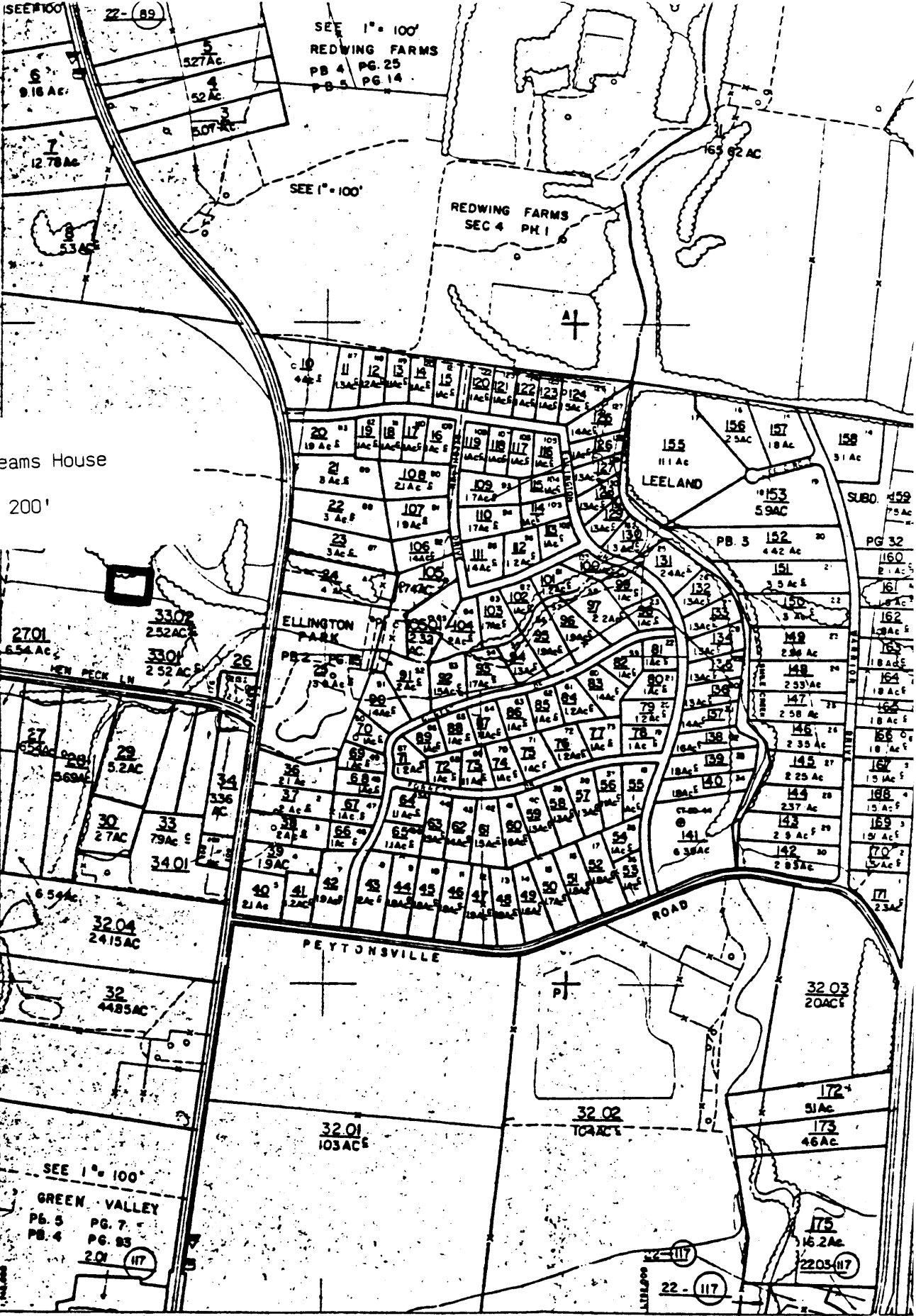
In 1852, the property was sold by the Douglass family to Robert Reams. Reams owned the house during the Civil War and several skirmishes were fought on the property. On one occasion Union soldiers set fire to the nearby kitchen but Reams rose from a sick bed to put out the flames. Reams died in 1867 but the house remained in the Reams family until the early 20th century. In 1920 a tornado demolished the adjacent kitchen and dining room but did not seriously damage the house itself. Few changes have occurred to the Douglass-Reams House since ca. 1900. The house is presently vacant.

Acreage: 1 acre

UTM References: Bethesda Quad/16/513560/3969830

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification: The boundary for the Douglass-Reams House is illustrated on accompanying Williamson County tax map # 106, lot 9. The house sits in an open field on a hill north of Henpeck Lane. The boundary is a rectangular lot with the house in the center. The line runs around the house approximately 25 yards in either direction. The boundary includes sufficient property to protect the historical setting of the site.

Supplemental Bibliographical References: Historic Williamson County, Bowman



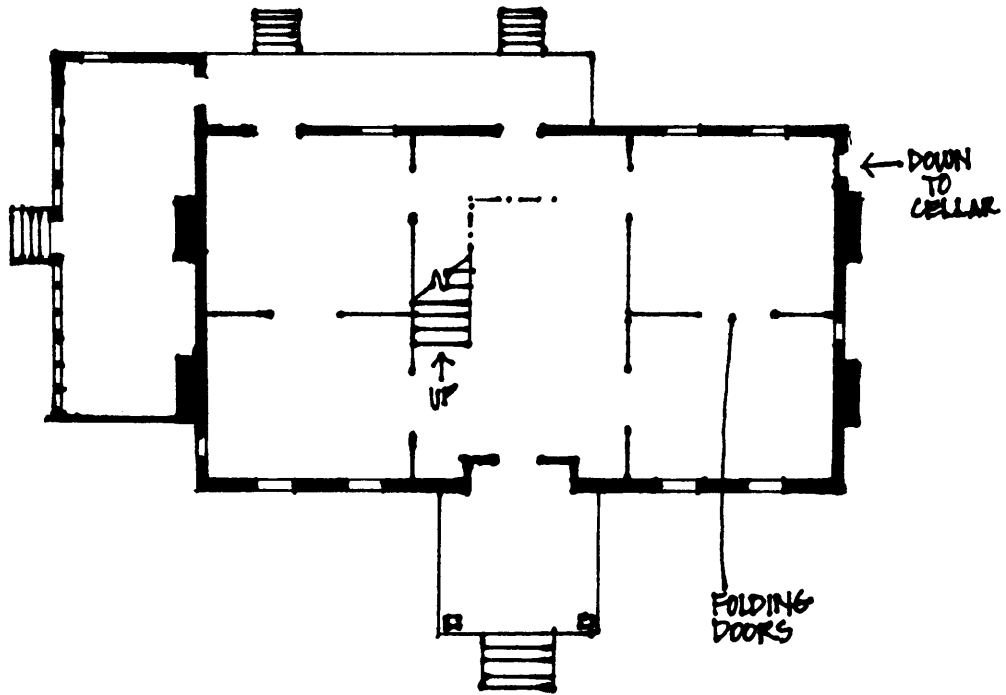
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 Douglass-Reams House
 (WM-540)
 Scale: 1" = 200'

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
 or
 TENNESSEE MAPPING AND ENGINEERING SERVICE, INC.
 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

② PARCEL NUMBER
 + PARCEL MARK
 - INTERIOR TRACT LINE
 --- DISTRICT LINE
 20 SUBD LOT #

#540 DOUGLASS-REAMS HOUSE

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TO
HEN PECK LANE



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N

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TO
FAMILY CEMETERY

NOT TO SCALE