

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 20 1977

DATE ENTERED NOV 25 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC ******

Charlotte Courthouse Square Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Designated buildings and sites adjacent to the Public Square NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Charlotte

___ VICINITY OF

Sixth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Tennessee

47

Dickson

43

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

___ PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

___ BUILDING(S)

___ PRIVATE

___ UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

___ STRUCTURE

BOTH

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

___ EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

___ OBJECT

___ IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ NO

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple ownership

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Charlotte

___ VICINITY OF

Tennessee

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds, Dickson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Charlotte

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Tennessee Historical and Architectural Survey

DATE

1973

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Nashville

Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

The Charlotte Courthouse Square Historic District refers to lots from the original 1804 town plat map. The main focus for the historic district is the Public Square where the courthouse is located. The district comprises some twenty-two architecturally and/or historically significant buildings and sites dating from the earliest period, 1804, to sometime before the 1920s. Retaining their original architectural character, few of these historic public, commercial and residential buildings have undergone any significant major alterations which would destroy their architectural value. There are six non-historic buildings within the district area.

The current population of some 610 inhabitants has served to help stabilize the economy of the town, consistent with the earlier antebellum period when Charlotte was the county seat, a thriving trade center. This town, built on the public square plan, has retained the same purpose, the same scale, social environment, and population density of a typical rural town in Tennessee during the nineteenth century.

The majority of these churches, residences, public and commercial buildings meet the criteria for historic designation, and as a group they represent the historic heritage of the community. The Charlotte Courthouse Square Historic District contains the following sites and buildings:

#1. Collier-Cook House (Lot #5, Humphrey Street)-ca. 1853, one and one-half story frame and weatherboard clad residence

#2. B. A. Collier Store (Lot #14, Public Square)-ca. 1849, Classic Revival style, one story frame and weatherboard clad building with masonry foundation wall, basement. Used for storage.

#3. Hickerson Hotel (Lot #15, Public Square)-ca. 1853, two-story frame and weatherboard clad building with additions extending out to the back side. Used for a residence and for apartments.

#4. Hickerson Shoe Shop (Lot #15, Public Square)-1876, two-story frame and weatherboard clad building. Used for apartments.

#5. McNeilly House (Lot #16, Public Square)-1840, one-story plan with open basement at the back. Style changed by recent additions. Used as a residence.

#6. Voorhies-James House (Lot #22, Public Square)-1806, two-story brick with ell shape plan. Used as an antique shop with additions at the rear for the residence

#7. Dickson County Courthouse (Public Square)-1806 site; 1833, two-story brick building with wings added to each end.

#8. Christopher Columbus Collier House (Lot #23, Public Square)-1830, two-story frame and weatherboard clad building fronted by a veranda. Used for an antique shop.

#9. Old Masonic Lodge Hall (Lot #23, Public Square)-1830, two-story frame and weatherboard clad building fronted by a veranda porch. Used for apartments and offices.

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- #10. L. L. Leech Building (Lot #29, Public Square)-1849, three-story brick revival style building, presently used by the Masons.
- #11. Charlotte Drug Store (Lot #29, Public Square)-1910, one-story brick building. Used as a drugstore.
- #12. Office Building (Lot #30, Public Square)-ca. 1900, classic revival style, one-story frame and weatherboard clad building. Used as the city mayor's office.
- #13. Leech and Mallory General Merchandise Store (Lot #30, Public Square)-1860, one-story frame and weatherboard clad building with store front facade. Used as a grocery store.
- #14. Methodist Church (Lot #35, Spring and Dickson Streets)-ca. 1902, one-story frame and weatherboard building.
- #15. Isaac Bower's Store (Lot #36, corner of Spencer Alley)-ca. 1880, two-story frame and weatherboard clad building. Used as the Charlotte Cafe.
- #16. Charlotte Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Lot #38, Spring and Clark Streets)-ca. 1850, one-story brick church
- #17. Old Charlotte Mercantile Company and Post Office Building (Lot #38, Public Square)-ca. 1900, one-story frame and weatherboard clad building with pressed tin roof. Vacant.
- #18. Dickson County Jail (Lot #39, Public Square)-ca. 1830-1940annex. Two-story brick vernacular style building with cement block annex.
- #19. Charlotte Spring (Corner of Lot #40, Spring and Robertson Streets)
- #20. Residence (Spring at Clark Street)-ca. 1900, one and one-half story residence, frame and weatherboard clad with jigsaw cut trim at the front.
- #21. Hicks Motor Company (Lot #47, Spring at Clark Street)-ca. 1920, brick and cement block building with an auto showroom window. Used for a service station with an old "Desoto-Plymouth" sign at the front.
- #22. Rook-Leech House (Lot #49, south side of Spring Street at the lower end of Robertson Street)-ca. 1860, two-story frame and weatherboard clad vernacular style building fronted by a wide, two-story veranda porch. Used as a residence.

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Non-historic Buildings included in the Charlotte Courthouse Historic District

- ✓ #23. Hickerson residence (Lot #13, Spencer Alley)-ca. 1950, frame and weatherboard clad building, site of the former Colonel Grigsby House.
- ✓ #24. Marsh residence (Lot #15, Public Square)-ca. 1930, frame and weatherboard clad residence.
- ✓ #25. Post Office Building (Lot #29, Public Square)-ca. 1960, one-story brick post office building.
- ✓ #26. The Village Square Clothing Shop and Roy Register's Watch Repair Shop (Lot #37, Public Square)-ca. 1930, one-story brick store, former site of the Priestly House
- ✓ #27. Dickson County Office Building (Public Square at Spencer Alley and Clark Street)-1977, three-story brick office building built on the site of a former hotel
- ✓ #28. Dickson County Bank Building (Lot #38, Public Square)-ca. 1920, brick bank building, recently remodeled with a new facade.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1804 to present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Charlotte was established in 1804 as the county seat for Dickson County, created in 1803 from the western part of Davidson County. Realizing the rich agricultural and mineral resources of the Highland Rim country west of Nashville, James Robertson explored Barton's Creek to the north of Charlotte and he established the first iron furnace industry there before 1790. Other early settlers in this area include Montgomery Bell, James R. Napier, Anthony VanLeer and others who were destined to become prominent leaders in state politics and the development of industry and agriculture in Middle Tennessee.

Beginning in 1804 the first town lots were offered for sale by the county commissioners who used the profits to build the first courthouse. The present antebellum courthouse is the oldest courthouse in the state of Tennessee still in use. Charlotte developed rapidly as an enterprising trade center, located on the main stagecoach routes between Nashville, Clarksville and Memphis. The town lots centering around the Public Square were quickly bought-up for shops, offices and residences. Before the first courthouse was built on the square, the principal gathering place was Molton Dickson's general merchandise store located on the square. The scene of public rallies and sales, these events were attended by settlers from all across the region.

As early as 1806, Nashville newspapers carried advertisements for the various commercial establishments in Charlotte. That year the first post office opened; John Holland opened a general store and John Spencer was granted license to open an "ordinary" or saloon in his new home on Public Square. The county court met quarterly and around that political body centered much of the political, economic and social life of the citizens of the area. The holding of court was always a signal for gatherings. The whole village turned out to greet stages arriving from Nashville and Clarksville. The "court weeks" were the busiest times for the local tradesmen, innkeepers and merchants.

Many historically prominent men came to Charlotte on business including Andrew Jackson. Before 1812, Thomas Hart Benton practiced law in Franklin and he, too, became a frequent visitor to Charlotte.

Charlotte was a thriving community before the Civil War; however the antebellum prosperity never completely returned after the onset of the economic hardships which followed the Union occupation. With the building of the railroad networks across Tennessee, local business moved elsewhere leaving Charlotte comparatively unchanged.

Most of the present historic buildings date from the 1830s since a tornado of that year leveled all but two structures in the town, including the first courthouse. The Voorhies-James House (6) and one other building were the only structures of the 1806 period left standing. Residents and property owners quickly rebuilt the courthouse and other buildings on the remaining foundations.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Corlew, Robert E. A History of Dickson County, Tennessee. Nashville: THC 1956.
 Corlew, Robert E. an unpublished history of the Charlotte Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
 Harper, Herbert L. "Antebellum Courthouses of Tennessee," Tennessee Historical Quarterly,
 Spring 1971.
 "Charlotte," the Nashville Tennessean Magazine.
 "Charlotte Church," Dickson County Herald. November 21, 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	4,6,9	5,8,0	4,0	0,3	7,6,0	B	1,6	4,6,9	6,7,0	4,0	0,3	5,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	1,6	4,6,9	3,5,0	4,0	0,3	4,7,0	D	1,6	4,6,9	2,5,0	4,0	0,3	6,4,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property being nominated includes lots 5, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, public square, 24, 29, 30, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 46, 47, and 49 on the 1804 plat map. Beginning at the north corner of lot #5 the boundary runs southeast along Humphries Street for 1/2 block; then northeast to the north corner of lot #16; then southeast to the southeast corner of lot #30; then northeast to the north corner of lot #40, continuing southeast across Spring Street to the east corner of lot #49; then southwest to the south corner of lot

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gail Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

May 1977

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Herbert L. Harper

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

6/15/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Rettig

DATE

11/25/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

DATE

11-23-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Most of the early vernacular style buildings of the nineteenth century period are located on the square. The majority of these buildings reinforce the village environment, a scale and architectural heritage unique to this county seat which is representative of the nineteenth-century era in Tennessee. There are a total of six non-historic buildings located on the town lots around the square included in the Charlotte Courthouse Square Historic District. None of these structures detract from the historic environment of the place.

Dickson County Courthouse (7) is the oldest remaining courthouse in Tennessee still in use. It is one of seven courthouses built before the Civil War to have survived with varying degrees of alterations.

Dickson County was formed in 1803 and was named for William Dickson who was at that time a Nashville physician and statesman in the Congress. The first county court met March 19, 1804, in a log house three miles north of Charlotte, and in August 1804, the legislature appointed a commission which included Montgomery Bell and four other well known citizens to decide upon the location of the courthouse, jail and stocks. They were authorized to purchase forty acres of land to proportion as town lots for sale and to use the proceeds to erect the public buildings. Charles Stewart offered to donate fifty acres of land to establish the town and his offer was accepted by the commission primarily because of the abundant supply of water from the spring located on this land. A man named Ash was engaged to survey the hillside property and lay out the plat for town lots. The name Charlotte was chosen in honor of Charlotte Reeves, the wife of James Robertson, founder of Nashville. The 1804 blueprint of the town plat shows the public square being the largest tract of land, surrounded by fifty-nine regular shaped lots deep to the southeast, and four lots deep to the southwest, intersected by streets running at right angles in each direction from the square. The sale of these lots was slow and the court met at Robert Nesbit, John Nesbitt or John Spencer's homes for the first four years. In 1806 bids were issued for the courthouse construction. The courthouse was built on the public square; however records for the 1806-1812 period have been lost and details concerning the exact date of completion, which was before 1812, are not available. It has been estimated the cost of construction was approximately \$10,000.

On May 30, 1830, a violent tornado struck Charlotte and almost completely destroyed the town. Among the casualties were the courthouse and jail, both completely demolished. Court sessions were held in the schoolhouse until a new courthouse could be built. In 1831 a tax was levied and George Smith, John Montgomery, John W. Napier, Abram Caldwell, Minor Bibb, Molton Dickson, William Hogins, and Augustine Roberts were appointed commissioners to agree on a plan for the second courthouse. The present building was erected on the foundation of the original courthouse. The jail was rebuilt with materials from the former courthouse, and the new courthouse was completed in 1833 by Phillip Murry, the builder. In 1834 a fence was erected, the old wall repaired, stone steps built to

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each door, and shade trees planted around the public square.

The rectangular shaped, two-story brick structure had four rooms downstairs and a courtroom upstairs. There were identical entrances on each of the four sides with halls crossing in the center of the building. The roof was crowned with a bell tower and cupola. These original features remain.

Charlotte was a flourishing town during the antebellum period when the public square was a favorite spot for state political leaders to meet voters of Dickson and surrounding counties. Other courts were held in the old courthouse and a court of law and equity is said to have been held in Charlotte in the early 1800s and attended or presided over by Andrew Jackson. The town was experiencing rapid growth during the 1830s when a bill was introduced to move the state capitol to Charlotte. When the matter was brought before the state legislature the town received a sizeable number of votes but failed to win a majority. The Civil War and its aftermath resulted in a general state of depression and Charlotte was never again able to revive antebellum growth qualities. For several decades the citizens ardently tried to secure a railroad for the town. When these attempts failed nearby towns were connected to the rail transportation network and they eventually captured business, industry, and economic growth away from the former trade center. The courthouse has survived many attempts to have the county seat moved to a more metropolitan setting. Concerned citizens living in and around Charlotte were convinced that moving the courthouse would result in their town becoming little more than a ghost town.

As years passed the courthouse needed repairs and the court meeting in 1830 appropriated \$30,000 for repairing, improving, and enlarging the original building. Several changes were made to the courthouse when wings were added to either end. This addition provided space for five offices downstairs, a witness room, jury room, and another office upstairs. The original courtroom and judge's chamber were extended into the wing on the northeast side and the original wood staircase was removed and replaced by the installation of twin staircases at either side of the central hall, connecting the first floor to the hallway and rooms on the second story. Restrooms and a heating system were located in the basement. The deep red hand-made brick could not be matched and the original building was bricked over the match the new construction. In 1955, several thousand dollars were appropriated by the court for the repair and beautification of the courthouse and public square surrounding it. Completed in 1977, there is a new county office building. Court meets in the courthouse building and most of the county services have been moved into these new quarters.

The Dickson County Jail (18) is located on Lot #38. The old jail, a frame structure, was blown down by the 1830 storm and the present brick building was constructed from the brick used for the original courthouse. The jail was enlarged to its present form beginning in the 1940s.

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Beyond the Dickson County jail is the Charlotte spring (18). The spring is located on Lot #40, southeast of the public square. It is a cave spring enclosed by an eight foot square stone masonry wall. The site of an early Indian camp, it flows down the hillside and empties into Jones Creek which flows through the narrow valley southeast of town.

An important landmark in Charlotte is the Charlotte Cumberland Presbyterian Church (16) organized in 1837 and built in the 1850s. It was financed largely by donations from L. L. Leech, Benjamin Corlew, and Clark Larkins. The building was constructed of brick fired in James Dickson's kiln and built by donated slave labor. The church building is located on town lot 38, at the corner of Spring and Clark streets. It seats 300 persons and was used for town meetings. Services are held in the church on Sunday mornings and for special events throughout the year.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church, an outcome of the Great Revival of 1800, was first organized in Dickson County. For the following years activities of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination shifted away from Charlotte and Dickson County, and it was not until the 1820s that the first church was erected in Dickson County. Many religious denominations built churches in the town but the Cumberland Presbyterian congregations continued to organize camp meetings and later, various congregations met at the primitive log churches in the vicinity of Charlotte. In December 1837, a separate Cumberland Presbyterian congregation made plans to construct a church at Charlotte. The major part of the church construction was completed during the 1850s, but the interior was still being worked on when Fort Donelson fell to the Union forces in 1861. In November 1863, two Federal regiments had moved into Charlotte and had established their headquarters in the courthouse. They used the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for the unit's field hospital.

The church was repaired in 1949 and at that time extensive work was done including the installation of central heating and the conversion of the old slave gallery for Sunday School rooms. The church is furnished with the original poplar wood pews and some original furniture. The former steeple was destroyed by lightning and the present bell tower houses a bell salvaged from a burned steamboat, the Sarah Blayden, which had plied the Cumberland River to Nashville.

Buildings located on the northwest and northeast sides of the courthouse are fronted by tree shaded lawns; buildings on Spencer Alley and on the southeast side of the square are fronted by sidewalks. Traditionally these lots contained residents and commercial buildings or a combination of these uses in one structure.

The old Hickerson Hotel (3) was built in 1853 on Lot #15. The former building was destroyed by the 1830 storm. The first building was a store owned by Tom Overton. It was bought by Mr. Hickerson as a residence and became a hotel on the stagecoach route to Clarksville before 1876. The frame building had many additions. The old smokehouse and meal room were located at the back behind the kitchen and dining room,

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with the guest rooms at the front opening out to the two-story veranda facing the square. Mr. Overton had a store in one downstairs room at the front corner. The building was used for General Green's headquarters during the Civil War occupation, and it gained later fame for its excellent dining room. Food was prepared by an ex-slave who began the custom of ringing the hotel bell thirty minutes prior to each meal. The Hickerson Hotel was well patronized and widely known before the old kitchen and dining room were torn down and the guest rooms were turned into apartments in the 1920s.

Traditionally the earliest buildings on the square were designed for double use as residences and rooms for shops or offices. The Vorhies-James House (6) is the earliest remaining building in Charlotte. Built in 1806-12, it is the only building from the first construction period to have survived the 1830 storm. The two-story brick, ell shaped plan features Flemish-bond brick patterning across the front and Clark Street side and 12/12 light, double-hung sashes and plain doorways with rectangular shaped four-light transoms. This house was the residence of Jacob Vorhies, who came from New Jersey about 1820. He was a well educated man who helped establish the first school for classical studies. Vorhies was a merchant and landowner, and he represented the district in state government, serving in the senate from 1841 to the start of the Civil War. He married the daughter of Field Farrow, who had been a county commissioner in 1804. Farrow lived in a house built on the back of the same lot. The two-story brick house was designed for a store and residence. The first floor rooms in the ell were separate from the living quarters, with the main entrance being located to the left side of the door to the residence, facing the public square.

Like many residents in Charlotte, the Colliers were merchants. The Collier-Cook House (1) was built in 1853 by William Clements Collier, on Lot #5. The original plan had an open pass-through with the house being divided into two sections across the front. The upstairs section and present architectural design was added in 1929. There is a smokehouse built of yellow poplar, and the stables were located across the alley to the north. The house was occupied by troops during the Civil War occupation. The Collier family had stowed their gold and belongings behind bricks in the fireplace for safekeeping. The Collier-Cook House has remained in the same family for all the years since 1853. The descendants own Lot #14 on the square.

The B. A. Collier Store (2) was built in 1849 by Oscar Caldwell, who built several buildings on the square. Located on the corner of Humphrey's Street and the square, this building shared Lot #14 with the first tavern built in Charlotte. This saloon and inn building burned along with several other buildings, the latter's shop and some offices. Mr. Grigsby had a garden there and the northwest side of the lot is vacant where the old buildings once stood. The B. A. Collier Store has a basement enclosed by stone masonry foundation walls. It is divided into two rooms with the "counting room" and fireplace at the back. All of the original counters and some of the original

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furnishings and merchandise remain. This building is being used to store antiques and family possessions at the present time.

The Hickerson Shoe Shop (4) is located adjacent to the Hickerson Hotel. Mr. Hickerson was a shoemaker by trade, and he built the frame building which was one room wide and two rooms deep. He had wood bins for the wooden shoe molds. The second story was added after 1876 as an addition for the hotel. The second story had an outside staircase and there were passageways added to connect the building to the hotel and dining room in the main building. These features have been removed in recent times and the building is used for apartments at the present.

One of the most remarkable landmarks in Charlotte is the Leonard Lane Leech General Merchandise Store (10). It was the tallest building in Charlotte when it was built in 1849. It was known briefly as the Earnest store and is presently the Masonic Lodge.

Located on Lot #29, the building faces the courthouse from the corner of Spencer Alley and Dunning Street. Mr. L. L. Leech came to Dickson County from Pennsylvania. He was a schoolmaster and ran the post office for a time. He took great pride in building the three-story building, which was a general merchandise store with a grocery department, piece goods department, and hardware section. Charlotte was a thriving trade center then and the store had a scale for weighing truckloads of goods. The hand-carved lintel stone over the entrance is designed with symbolic forms relating to the merchandise. Most of the original features of the building remain, including the doors, cedar and poplar wood window pediments, interior staircases and fireplace in the old counting room at the back. There was an outside staircase at the rear and the first two floors were open to the public with the top floor used for a storeroom and for offices.

Several early commercial buildings in Charlotte are still in use. One of the largest of these is the Isaac Bowers Store (15), now the Charlotte Cafe, located on Lot #36. This frame building was built by Isaac Bowers in the late 1880s. Isaac Bowers moved to Charlotte from Wilson County. For many years he and Mr. Sizemore operated a general merchandise store and drugstore in the building. In later years there was a large millinery shop on the first floor with apartments on the second floor. The building had two rooms and a counting room on the first story with a store room above and it has more recently been changed to its present form.

The Charlotte Mercantile Company (17) was built ca. 1900 on the site of a former saloon. Located on Lot #38, this building was the millinery shop with the post office located on the left side. The old mail slots are still in the facade wall. The first public telephone in Charlotte was also located in this building.

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Leech and Mallory General Merchandise Store (13) is located on lot #30 on the square. This building was built before the Civil War. At one time there was an undertaker's establishment in the back and a "coffin house" on the side. Captain Mallory operated a saloon where the porch is located on the right side of the building. It was used for an antique shop until recently and it is now a grocery store.

The one-story building on the left iside of the Leech and Mallory Building is presently being used as the city mayor's office (12). This building was a lawyer's office and barber shop. It is two rooms deep with a classic style portico porch, similar to other buildings that once graced the square.

The Old Masonic Lodge (9) is located on Lot #23 facing the square. Built around the time of the Civil War, this building has housed a variety of uses. It was the Billy Hickerson and John Ferbee broom shop and the original post office when the Masonic Lodge was located across the second floor.

On the southwest side of the square is the Charlotte Drug Store (11), a one-story brick building located on Lot #29, the site of the first post office building constructed of frame and weatherboard ca. 1910-1912. The present building was built ca. 1920 as a restaurant.

Fronted by a deep, tree shaded lawn, the Marsh House (24) was built between Lot #15 and #16 on the square. This residence has little historic value since it was constructed ca. 1930. In this same category, the Hickerson residence (23) on Spencer Alley is located on Lot #13, the site of the former Colonel Grigsby House, built in 1820-30. This two-story frame house featured the center hall plan with one-story end wings at each side and a pillared portico at the entrance. Four public or commercial buildings on the square are the new county building (27), the Dickson County Bank (28), the post office (25), and the Village Square Clothing Shop and watch repair shop (26).

The one-story brick post office building is located on the southwest side of the square. Constructed in the 1960s it is one of four buildings featuring contemporary design. The Dickson County Bank Building was built ca. 1920, but it has more recently been remodeled in contemporary style with new brick veneer. This building is located on Lot #38 on the southeast side of the courthouse. The Village Square Clothing Shop and Watch Repair Shop are located in the same building which was built ca. 1930. This lot was the former site of the Priestly House, built ca. 1830-1840.

A new addition to the square is the Dickson County Building built in 1976-77. This two-story brick building has an open lower floor at the back slope of the lot. The main entrance faces courthouse square. All of the various county offices have been moved there; the sheriff's office, general sessions court, and rooms designated for

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a museum remain in the old courthouse building. The office building occupies the site of the old Charlotte Stagecoach Inn which was torn down in 1913.

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#49 continuing northwest to the west corner of lot #49, continuing southwest on Spring Street to the north corner of lot #47; then southeast to the east corner of lot #47; then southwest to the south corner of lot #46, turning northwest to Spring Street; then southwest on Spring Street to Dickson Street. From this point the boundary runs northwest 1/2 block to the west corner of lot #35, then northeast for approximately 1/2 block to the west corner of lot #36; then northwest to the west corner of lot #13, turning northeast for 1/2 block to Spencer Alley; then northwest on Spencer Alley for 1/2 block to the west corner of lot #5; then northeast to the point of beginning.

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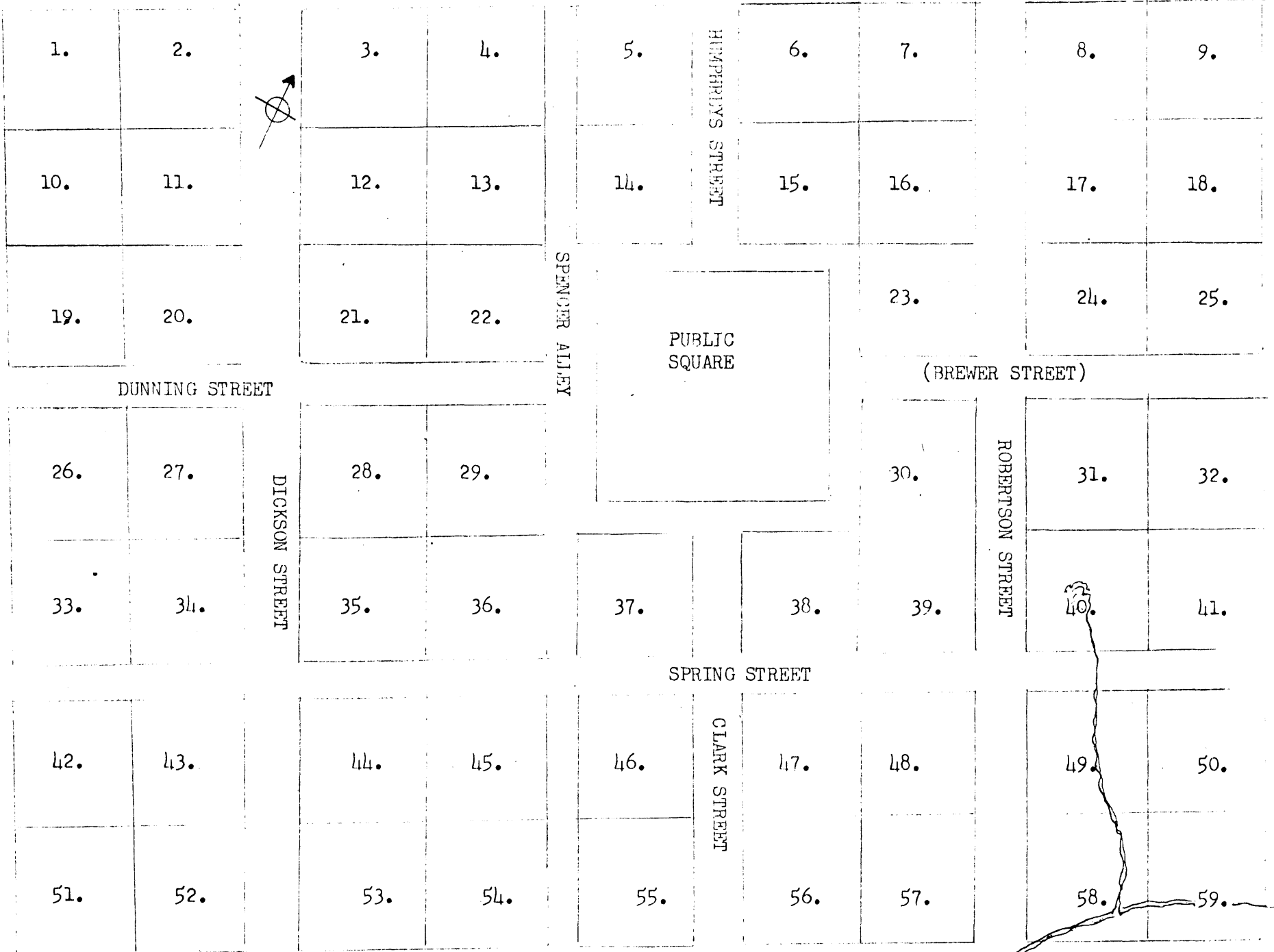
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Property owners in the Charlotte Courthouse Square Historic District

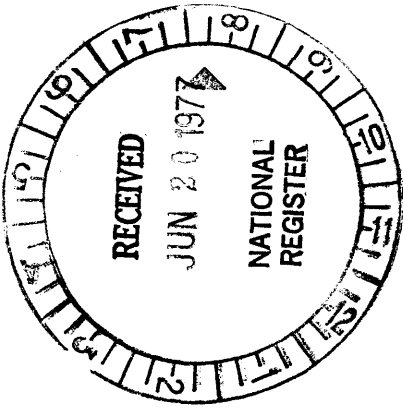
Miss Barbara Spann Village Square Clothing Shop Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mr. Charles Burt Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Ray Register's Watch Repair Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Dr. Mary B. Cook Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Dickson County Bank ATTN: Mr. Sparks Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mrs. Hershel Heath Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Dickson County Office Building Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mrs. H. McMillan, Postmaster U. S. Post Office Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Bernadine Berry's Grocery Store Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Dr. Robert Elliot Charlotte Drugstore Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Judge William Leech City Mayor's Office Building Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mr. V. T. McClelland, Jr. Masonic Lodge Building Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Sheriff Doyle Wall City Jail Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mrs. Virginia Adcock Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Mr. Graham Hicks-Mr. George Sensing Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mrs. Madlyn Hickerson Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Mrs. Sylvis Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Mrs. Dora Marsh Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Judge William Field Dickson County Courthouse Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Charlotte Methodist Church Dickson Street Charlotte, Tennessee 37036
Charles and Wilbur Marsh Public Square Charlotte, Tennessee 37036	Hicks Motor Company Spring Street Charlotte, Tennessee 37036

EAST STREET

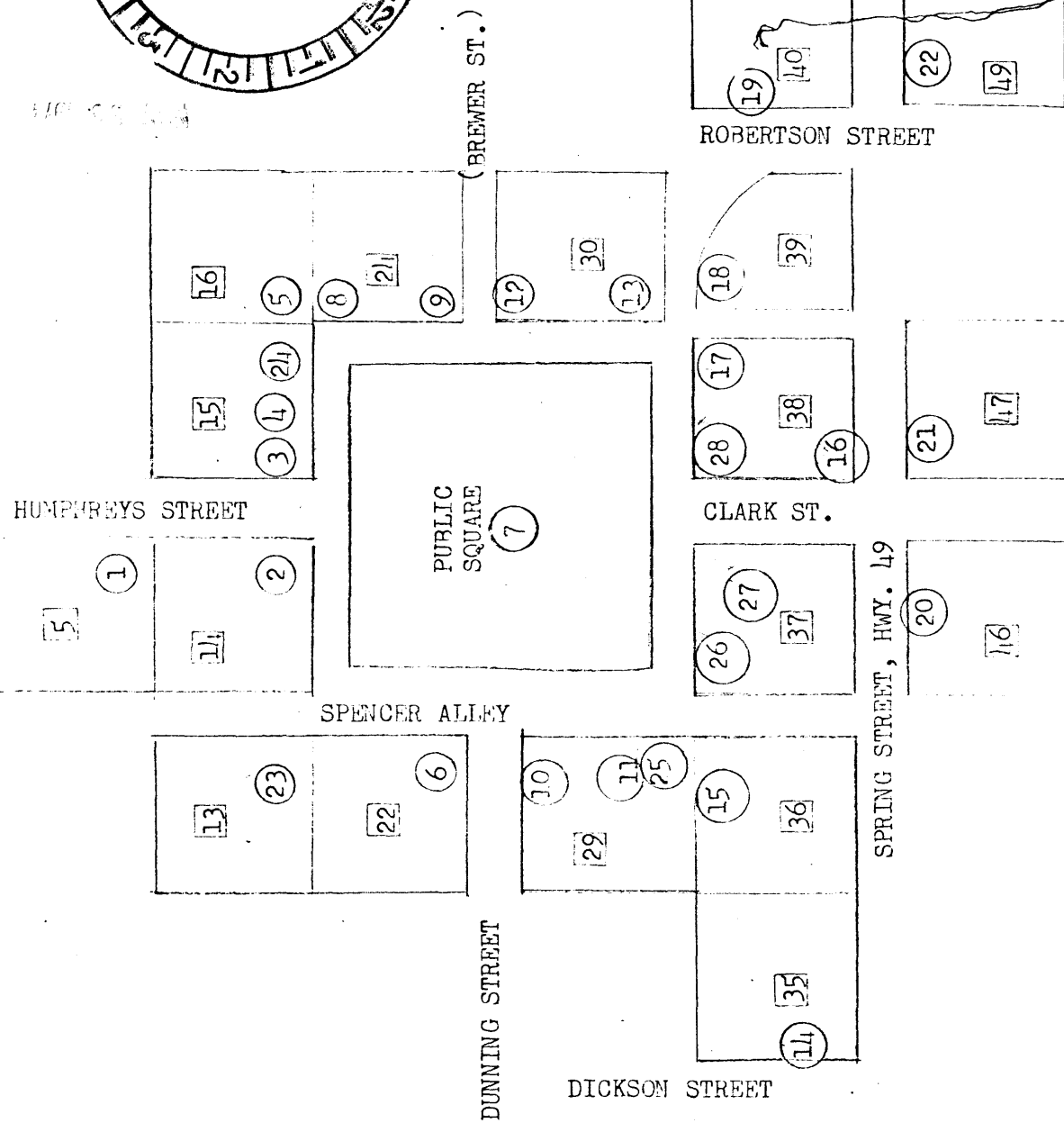


EAST STREET

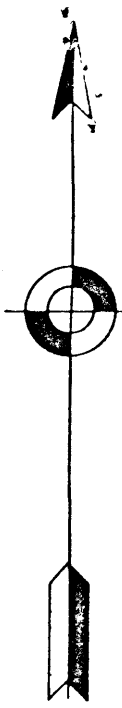
Town Plat for Charlotte, Tennessee in 1801.



100-50-104



CHARLOTTE COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

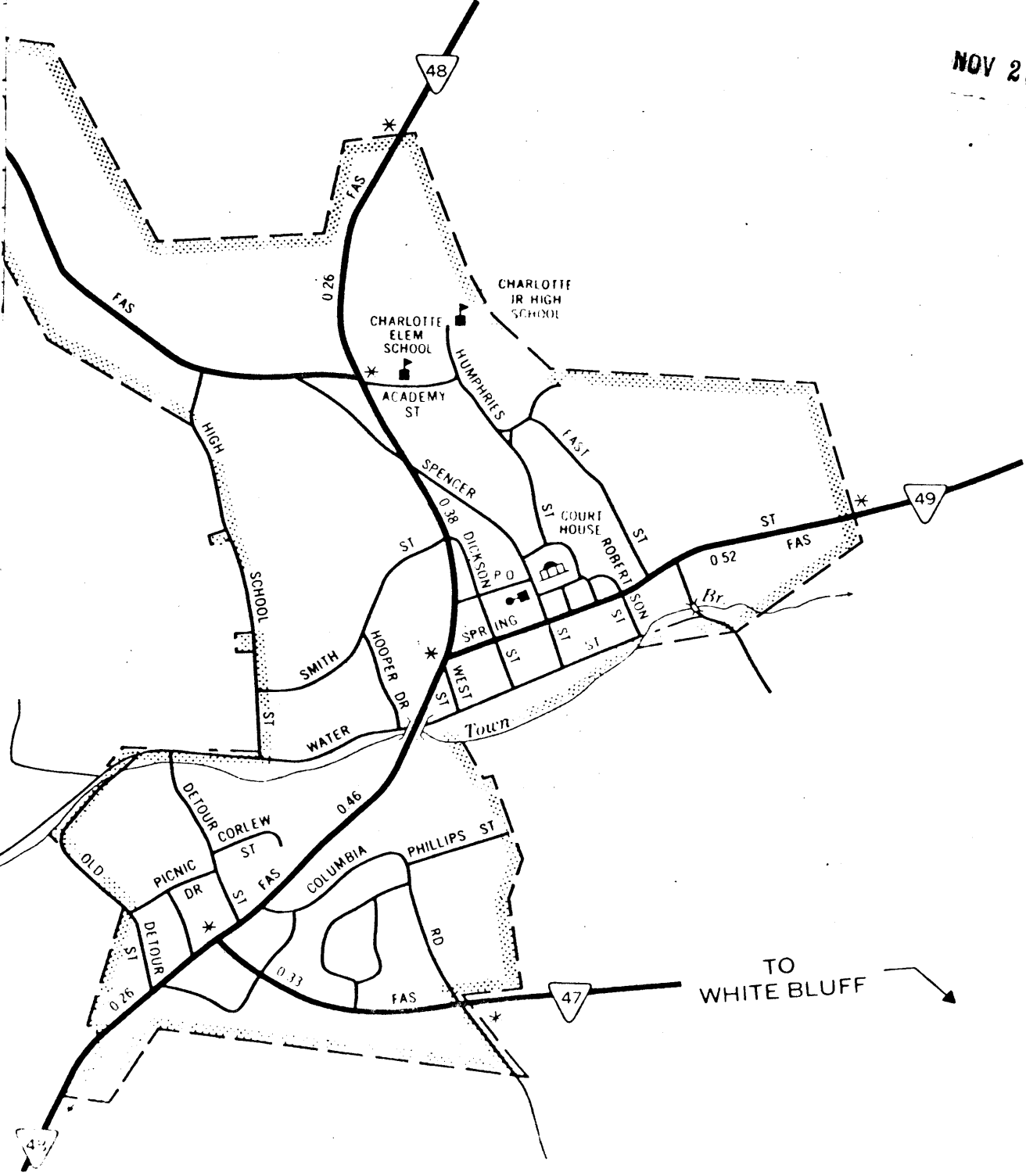


NOV 25 1977

TO CLARKSVILLE

TO ASHLAND CITY

TO WHITE BLUFF



Map