

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received MAR 5 1984  
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Ewing Farm

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Franklin Road, Route 4 N/A not for publication

city, town Lewisburg Vic. N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Marshall code 117

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Jack Goodman

street & number 300 Hobbs Road

city, town Nashville N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37215

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marshall County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Lewisburg state Tennessee 37901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A 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 type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

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

The Ewing Farm is a rare extant example of a nineteenth-century farm complex in rural Marshall County, Tennessee. Located two miles northwest of Lewisburg, on the Old Franklin Pike, this complex retains its Greek Revival main house, several of its utilitarian dependencies, separate slave and family cemeteries and a rare type of slave cabin. Major twentieth-century additions and modifications to this complex include a large frame live-stock barn ca. 1935, a Quonset hut type machine shed, and the main house which had vinyl siding placed on it in 1982. Despite these changes, the complex retains much of its historical and architectural integrity.

The main house is a large, two-story, L-shaped, gable-roofed, Greek Revival style structure which faces the Old Franklin Pike. The south facade is three bays wide with a two-story pedimented portico supported by four square columns and two pilasters over the central bay. The main entry consists of a double-leaf, paneled door with a single-light transom situated in a simple architrave surround. The second-story central bay has a similar door arrangement which leads to a small balcony with late nineteenth-century jigsaw balusters. The flanking bays have one large two-over-two double-hung sash type windows, per floor. The windows and doors all have simple pedimented hoods.

The west elevation displays a brick exterior chimney flanked by small garret windows in the gable end, a simple raking cornice and returns. The north elevation of the main house has very little decoration and displays one two-over-two light double-hung sash type window per floor in the east bay. The ell extends from the west bay of the north elevation. Originally one story, the second story was added in the late nineteenth century. The two-story ell has a gable roof and is pierced by a central chimney. A one-story shed-roofed addition was attached to the kitchen and a two-story shed-roofed addition houses upper and lower floor bathrooms. Both were erected in the 1950s. The east side of the ell has a shed-roofed porch.

The east elevation of the main structure is similar to that of the west elevation in that it displays an exterior chimney, raking cornice and returns, and small garret windows in the gable end, but it also has a two-over-two light double-hung sash window on the first floor and two on the second. In 1982 the exterior of the house was sheathed in vinyl siding. The new siding matches the width of the original siding and is a reversible alteration.

The interior of the front section of the main house is laid out in a central hall plan with two rooms per floor. The first floor rooms, the parlor and dining room, both retain their original flooring, wainscoting and Federal style mantels. The house underwent a period of renovation during the late nineteenth century. The original closeted stairways in the rooms were removed and the present, two run, open-well staircase was built. The large, seven-paneled doors leading into the hallway and woodwork in the hall are also from this renovation. The second story contains two bedrooms which retain their original wide plank flooring and chair rails. The first floor of the ell now houses a family room and kitchen. The family room has a brick fireplace and wood flooring. The kitchen has undergone many changes, the last of which was in the 1950s. The only extant early feature is the closeted dog-leg stairway with winders in the northeast corner of the room. The second story of the ell contains the master bedroom. This section was added during the late nineteenth-century renovation.

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Behind the house is a small, frame cistern house. It has board and batten siding, arched window opening filled with lattice work and a pyramid roof. The pump machinery inside is still functional and supplied water to the house until 1982.

The original frame kitchen building was moved to its present location in the 1950s and was attached to the house by a breezeway. It has a gable roof structure and is now used as a garage.

A small fenced in area adjacent to the house contains four small dependencies. Three small frame buildings were used as a saddle house, a storehouse, and the cook's house. The original function of the larger log structure is not known but it is now used as a garage.

Three hundred yards east of the main house stands the only remaining slave house on the property. It is an unusual example of a log building with a central stone chimney which opens into two separate living units. Because of lack of use the building is deteriorating rapidly.

The two cemeteries are located at the rear of the nominated property. The family cemetery is surrounded by a stone fence and all family members associated with the development of the farm are buried there. Other people buried in the cemetery include friends of the family and one slave, "Aunt Dicey." The rest of the slaves were buried behind the fenced in plot. The earlier graves are marked with stones and the later gravestones display only first names. Both cemeteries suffer from lack of attention but the slave cemetery is in worse shape because of its exposed location in a cow pasture.

Twentieth-century structures located on the property include a large, frame, gambrel-roofed, livestock barn located northeast of the main house. It was built by John Ezell ca. 1935. Next to the barn is a large, Quonset hut type structure which now houses machinery.

The growth of the town of Lewisburg has not yet encroached upon the nominated property. The Ewing Farm survives as a fine and rare example of a nineteenth-century farm in Marshall County and because of its fine state of preservation and completeness retains its historical and architectural integrity.

# 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 checked="" 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** 1830, c. 1870s      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Ewing Farm, located approximately two miles northwest of Lewisburg, Tennessee is being nominated under National Register criteria B and C. The historical significance is derived from its association with the Ewing family, members of which helped settle what is now Marshall County prior to 1820. The sixth generation of the Ewing family lives and works on the farm today. The architectural significance is based on the remaining structural evidence of a working farm from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day including a Greek Revival style main house (1830, c.1870s), several domestic outbuildings, one extant slave cabin, and two cemeteries located on the nominated property.

James Ewing and his sister Eleanor came to what was Bedford County, Tennessee from Virginia in the early 1800s. They settled on a tract of land of about one thousand acres and constructed a log house where they lived at the time of the arrival of their nephew James V. Ewing in the mid 1820s. The farm was productive enough to warrant the introduction of slaves by 1822. James Ewing died in 1826 and their nephew helped Eleanor run the farm until her death in 1831.

James V. Ewing was born on February 14, 1805, in Wythe County, Virginia. He was in his late teens when he arrived in Tennessee. He married in 1830 and built the original two-story section of the present house. He was involved in Marshall County government, serving as trustee from 1838 to 1846 and as chairman of the County Court in 1847, 1849-54, and 1856. He was a prominent local farmer and traded land, including town lots, when the city of Lewisburg was being formed. The main house was altered to its present configuration probably in the 1870s.

After his death in 1878, one of his sons Dr. John C.C. Ewing inherited the family farm. Born in 1839, he studied medicine at the University of Nashville Medical School and served in the Confederate Army as a surgeon. He went on to become a very prominent Marshall County physician, farmer and businessman. He died in 1917 and is buried in the family cemetery.

James Oliver Ewing, a nephew, purchased 311 acres of farmland including the homestead from the heirs of Dr. John C.C. Ewing in 1919. Born July 21, 1868, he was raised at the Ewing Farm by his mother, grandparents and uncle, J.C.C. Ewing. He married Helen White Johnson in the early 1890s and opened a hardware store in Lewisburg. Their two daughters, Helen Elizabeth and Anabel were eighteen months old and two weeks old respectively when their mother died in 1897. The family continued to live in Lewisburg and summer on the farm.

Anabel Ewing married John Francis Ezell in the early 1920s. J.O.Ewing remarried, deeded the farm to his daughters and moved permanently to Lewisburg. The older daughter, Helen Elizabeth Ewing, never married and lived with her sister and brother-in-law on the farm.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Goodman, Helen. Personal Interview. 1 August 1983
2. U.S. Census. Marshall County. 1850, 1860.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 18 acres

Quadrangle name Lewisburg, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	5	1	8	8	0	0	3	9	2	6	2	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

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

C 

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

D 

1	6	5	1	7	5	2	0	3	9	2	6	2	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robin Krawitz, Architectural Historian

organization Tennessee Historical Commission date January 23, 1984

street & number 701 Broadway telephone (615) 742-6728

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 L. Hays*

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 3/1/84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 4-5-84

*J. Melvyn Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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The Ezell's daughter, Helen Ewing, married Jack Goodman and moved to Nashville. She inherited the farm after the death of her mother in 1978 and aunt in 1980. Her father lived in the house until his death in 1982. Today the Goodman's twin sons John Ezell and James Dero reside in the main house and run a nursery business as well as the family farm.

This complex of buildings is a fine example of a working farm in use from the 1830s to the present. The main house is a Greek Revival style building from the 1830s which was remodeled to its present appearance in the 1870s. Its original detached kitchen is used as a garage by the present owners. The small frame cisternhousehouses a pump which was functional until 1982. Located in a fenced in area adjacent to the east of the main house are three small frame buildings and one log building now used as a garage. Three hundred yards east of the main house is the one remaining slave cabin, an unusual, double-pen, log structure with a central stone chimney. There is a large frame, gambrel-roofed, livestock barn, ca. 1935 located northeast of the house next to which is a large Quonset hut type structure used to house machinery. The family cemetery, enclosed within a rock wall and a slave cemetery are located at the rear of the nominated property. The high level of its preservation and the completeness of its buildings and other elements make the Ewing Farm a rare surviving example of a nineteenth-century farm in Marshall County.

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is a trapezoidally shape piece of land bounded on the south and west by U. S. Highway 431 (locally known as Old Franklin Pike), on the north by a fence line and on the east by adjoining property lines.

The nominated property consists of approximately eighteen acres of land. This area contains all the properties listed in the nomination and enough land to preserve the historical context of a nineteenth-century farm.

7  
104 A.

6  
107 AC<sup>c</sup>

5-2  
834' 200'

3.75 Ac.

8  
204 Ac.

5-1

50.9

Ewing Farm  
Franklin Road, Route 4  
Lewisburg, Marshall County, Tennessee

Tax Map 1" = 400' N

4.01  
16 AC<sup>c</sup>

4-0  
47 AC

4  
AC