

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 marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 Fruitvale Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Located along Fruitvale Road surrounding its intersection with Edward Williams Road, and directly southeast of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad

N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Fruitvale

N/A ☐ vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Crockett code 33 zip code 38336

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

E. Patrick McEntyre, Jr.

9-21-2012

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson R. Beall

11-14-12

Fruitvale Historic District  
Name of Property

Crockett County, Tennessee  
County and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

9

buildings

sites

1

structures

objects

10

0

Total

### Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

### Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional

GOVERNMENT: post office

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: specialty store

OTHER: storage

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Folk Vernacular, Commercial Vernacular

OTHER: No Style

OTHER: Hipped Cottage

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete, Brick

walls Brick, Wood

roof Metal, Asphalt

other Brick, Wood, Metal

### Narrative Description

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

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## Summary Paragraph

The Fruitvale Historic District, situated directly east of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad (L&N) (formerly the Memphis & Ohio Railroad), surrounds the intersection of two rural roads - Fruitvale Road and Edward Williams Road. This unincorporated, rural village (population 65) sits approximately three and one-half miles between the town of Bells to the southwest and Gadsden to the northeast. The approximate 1.95 acres of land encompassing the proposed historic district is comprised of nine buildings, as well as one contributing structure, a wood plank crop scale. The buildings include two commercial structures, a historic barber shop, blacksmith shop, potato barn, fertilizer/pea shed, crusher house, bunk house/pipe house, and tractor shed. With the exception of the blacksmith shop which was reportedly constructed c.1890, the remaining resources in the nominated property are early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century folk and commercial vernacular, and agricultural-related construction associated with the height of Fruitvale's success as an agrarian-based shipping and trading center for surrounding farmsteads and villages. While three of the buildings reflect modest, rural commercial vernacular stylistic elements, the remainder do not adhere to any particular style. Building types represented within the historic district include a hipped cottage and front- and side-gabled commercial and agricultural construction. All buildings and the structure located within the Fruitvale Historic District are contributing resources. The setting and surviving architecture of the Fruitvale Historic District retain a high degree of integrity and are reminiscent of the late-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century agrarian-based, market villages in Crockett County.

## Narrative Description

The terrain of the Fruitvale Historic District and the surrounding area is relatively flat. Land immediately surrounding the rural district is primarily agricultural with a few residential properties located directly to the east along Edward Williams Road. The northern boundary of the historic district runs along the east property line of the L&N Railroad corridor. The Fruitvale Historic District is accessed via three rural country roads. The principal road leading through the village is Fruitvale Road which runs in a north-south direction and curves to the northwest at its north end before crossing the L&N railroad. The railroad corridor and crossing, while not included within the boundary of the nominated district, significantly contribute to the historic setting and feeling of Fruitvale as a rural agricultural trading center (Photo #8). Edward Williams Road, running east to west, connects with Fruitvale Road at the center of the village creating a small, three-way intersection. Fred Boyd Road, not included within the proposed district, connects to Fruitvale Road on the opposite side of the railroad crossing and forms a semi-circular road connecting to Highway 79 at two locations. Fruitvale's location along these transportation routes, particularly the railroad, as well as its equal distance between Bells and Gadsden, played an important role in the development of Fruitvale as a trading center for the surrounding villages and farmsteads.

Fruitvale Road and Edward Williams Road are relatively narrow, paved country roads. Dirt and gravel siding ranging between three to eight feet wide in various locations runs along either side of Fruitvale Road from the railroad crossing south to the intersection with Edward Williams Road (Photos #3 & #5). A larger dirt and gravel area is situated directly south of Boyd's Store and presently serves as a parking area (Photo #1).

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Historically, these dirt areas were likely used for the loading and unloading of goods exchanged in the village. A concrete sidewalk runs immediately adjacent to the façade of the Norville Store (Photo #10) and a brick sidewalk is located in front of the Boyd Store (Photo #11). The sidewalks are the only indication of historic planned landscaping within the district. Historically, gasoline pumps (not extant) were installed on the sidewalk and automobiles would pull up alongside for fuel. Each sidewalk extends only the width of the building. A paved driveway leads from Fruitvale Road to the Boyd Farm Office Building (Resource #7). Another small driveway leads from Edward Williams Road to the rear loading bay of the potato barn (Resource #8).

Commerce-related buildings are more or less oriented toward Fruitvale Road. The two, brick store buildings (Resources #1 & #2) are set back from Fruitvale Road approximately ten feet; however, individual sidewalks and a dirt and gravel area separate each building from the road (Photo #5). The potato barn and Boyd Family Farm Office have a 30-foot setback, while the pea shed is setback nearly seventy-five feet from the curvature of Fruitvale Road (Photo #3).<sup>1</sup> The blacksmith shop, located on the west side of Fruitvale Road is setback approximately thirty-five feet. While not considered a commerce-related structure, the large tractor shed situated south of the blacksmith shop also fronts Fruitvale Road and has a setback of nearly forty-five feet. Agricultural-related buildings not associated with the direct exchange of goods include the pipe house and crusher house which are located southwest of the Boyd Store, behind the blacksmith shop within a grassed area. These buildings, along with the crop scale are oriented to the north, facing the railroad. A dirt and grass drive extends from the parking area south of the Boyd Store west towards a larger grassed area between the agricultural buildings, the rear of the commercial buildings, and the railroad corridor to the north. This grassed area once served as the heart of the village where the trading, packaging, and shipping of agricultural goods from Fruitvale and surrounding farmsteads were carried out each day. Historically, a railroad switch extended from the south side of the principal track and led to a large frame fruit shed (*see* Continuation Sheets, page 20 & 24) situated along the track. Unfortunately, due to the shed's location within land owned by the railroad, and a rapid decline in agriculture and commerce, the village was forced to tear down the building in 1965.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to the non-extant fruit shed, four frame bunk houses were also located within Fruitvale through the 1950s, two of which were situated within the nominated historic district.<sup>3</sup> These buildings were used to house workers from outside of town who traveled to Fruitvale to work as "pickers" on the Boyd family farm or with the packaging and shipping of crops in town. With the exception of the pipe house (Resource #3) which was formerly used as a bunk house, these buildings were torn down around the same time as the fruit shed due to a significant decline in available work and farmhands. Despite the loss of the fruit shed and a

<sup>1</sup> Based on its current setback and alignment with the potato barn and office, it is possible that Fruitvale Road led directly north rather than curving to the northwest before crossing the railroad. The 1959 topographic map shows Fruitvale Road as its present configuration.

<sup>2</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> According to a recent sketch map (*see* continuation sheets) of Fruitvale depicting the building's in the village c. 1950, drawn by Bill Emerson, there were two other bunkhouses located directly adjacent to the nominated district. One was situated directly behind the potato barn, the other southeast of the office. According to Myrtle Rose Emerson, the latter was initially constructed as a meat house, but due to the large number of "migrant workers," it was used as a bunk house.



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bunk house, the integrity of the village was not compromised. The surviving buildings and rural setting of the historic district continue to reflect the village's late-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century prominence as a railroad and agricultural-inspired commercial and shipping center for the surrounding region.

## INVENTORY

The two commercial buildings (Resources #1 & #2) and the potato barn (Resource #8) are of brick construction while the remaining resources are wood frame construction. The remaining six buildings are wood construction with weatherboard, board-and-batten, or metal siding. Roof types represented within the district are primarily front- or side-gabled. The Norville Store (Resource #1) contains a hip-and-gable roof, while the Boyd Store (Resource #2) features a flat roof. The Boyd Farm Office (Resource #7) has a hipped roof. The three brick buildings reflect modest commercial vernacular design, each with a stepped parapet or false front. The Boyd Office building is the only example of a hipped cottage located within the district. The remaining frame structures are more or less open floor plans and lack architectural stylistic elements.

The following resource inventory consists of the resource number; historic name (if known); address (if known); property owner; date of construction; and general building type or style followed by a detailed exterior building description. Due to the importance of the Boyd Store to the village, as well as its uniqueness and overall integrity, an additional description of the interior of the store is provided. There are no non-contributing resources located within the historic district.

1. Norville General Store. 17 Fruitvale Road. c.1930. Commercial Vernacular.  
The Norville General Store is a one-story, American bond brick building with a hip-and-gable roof. The asphalt shingle roof features overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. An interior brick chimney is situated within the roof slope near the northwest corner of the building. The three-bay (W, D, W) east façade contains a stepped brick false front of American bond coursing. Each step of the false front is capped with either concrete or a brick header course. A metal shed awning supported by square wood posts extends from the façade over a narrow concrete sidewalk. The façade entry features a modern replacement, two-leaf, multi-paneled door. Windows are replacement six-over-six, double-hung synthetic sash with original brick sills. The present windows and doors were installed in 2010. A full-length, frame shed addition constructed in c.1955 is located along the west (rear) elevation. (C). (Photos #5 and #10).
2. J.O Boyd General Merchandise/Fruitvale Post Office (Boyd Store). West Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1915. Commercial Vernacular.  
The Boyd General Merchandise store is a one-story, American bond brick building with flat roof and parapet stepping down towards the rear. The three-bay (W, D, W) east façade consists of an original, double-leaf entry door with single pane and inset wood panel below, and a single light fixed transom above. An iron pilaster is located on either side of the entry door. A maker's mark on each pilaster indicates that they were built by the Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Company and are original to the building. Adjacent to each pilaster is situated an original, inset fixed storefront window with wood surround, two-light fixed transom above, and paneled wood apron. Wood benches are wedged between the window surround above the aprons. A metal shed awning extends above the storefront

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followed by three, inset rectangular brick panels. Centered within each panel is a metal grate vent. A brick sidewalk runs the length of the façade. The south elevation contains a one-over-one, double-hung wood sash window with wood frame, brick sill, and brick-arched lintel. There are no openings on the north elevation. The rear (west) elevation contains a centered, double-leaf wood plank door with two-light fixed transom and rounded brick-arched opening. A wood plank deck with metal shed roof supported by square wood posts extends the width of the rear elevation. An interior inspection of the building suggests that a window matching that on the south elevation was located on either side of the rear door. These windows were reportedly filled in with brick c.1995 due to a growing number of break-ins to the store.<sup>4</sup> The rear half of the building was severely damaged by a tornado in 2002 and has since been restored. Portions of the north, south, and west elevation walls reflect replacement exterior brick as a result of the restoration.

## Interior

The interior of the Boyd General Merchandise is an open, single-room plan with hardwood floors, bead board ceiling, exposed brick walls, and modest wood baseboards.<sup>5</sup> A large degree of the historic fixtures of the building survive including the large wood and glass display counters, two rolling track ladders, telephone and booth, and post office cubicle (Photos #12-14). The telephone, although not original to the building, appears to be a modified Western Electric No. 317 wall phone first introduced in 1907 and remaining in production for 30 years.<sup>6</sup> The Fruitvale Post Office (Photo #14) occupies the front corner of the store in an eight-foot by ten-foot space. The post office counter, or cube, including its hutch, is approximately eight feet in height. The front of the counter is bead board sided and contains a small sliding wood window with brass mail slot below, multiple brass-covered mail boxes, and two-leaf glass cabinet door that opens to additional open mail boxes labeled with individual numbers. The opposite side of the post office hutch contains a sorting countertop for the postmaster. The entire Post Office cube and counter is original. Despite necessary restoration efforts as a result of the 2002 tornado, both the interior and exterior of the Boyd Store retain excellent integrity and continue to evoke a sense of early-20<sup>th</sup> century general stores in a rural crossroads community. (C). (Photos #11 - 14)

### 3. Bunk House/ Pipe House. West Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1925. Front-Gabled Building.

The former bunk house is a one-story, front-gabled frame building with metal siding on the north, south, and east elevations and board-and-batten siding on the west elevation. The roof is covered in metal sheeting and has overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends. The building sits on tapered concrete piers. The north façade features two doors constructed of vertical wood planks. A wood porch with metal shed roof supported by square wood posts is centered on the façade. A single boarded-up window is located on the east elevation. Originally constructed as a bunk house to accommodate an overflow of workers and their families who came to Fruitvale for temporary work on the Boyd farm, the building was later utilized as a pipe house for the storage of large drainage

<sup>4</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 27, 2012.

<sup>5</sup> The majority of the floorboards and ceiling have been replaced as part of the post-2002 restoration.

<sup>6</sup> Antique Telephone History, "Western Electric Model 317 Wall Phones," <http://antiquetelephonehistory.com/we317.html> (accessed May 9, 2012).

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pipes for farms and buildings in Fruitvale.<sup>7</sup> The building is currently used as a storage shed. (C). (Photo #15).

4. Crusher House. West Side of Fruitvale Road. 1939. Side-Gabled Building.  
The crusher house was constructed in 1939 when electricity came to Fruitvale as the corn crusher required electricity to operate.<sup>8</sup> The crusher house is a one-story, side-gabled frame building with metal siding and roofing. The low-pitched roof has slight overhanging eaves. The building sits on tapered concrete piers. The north façade features a centered, wood plank sliding door with a metal shed awning above a wood entry stoop. A small, boarded-up window is located on both the east and west elevations. A small ell, shed extension is located on the south elevation. Sometime during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the crusher house was expanded upon to house an overflow of workers and their families who came to Fruitvale to work on the Boyd farm.<sup>9</sup> The historic corn crusher and associated equipment survive within the interior of the building. (C). (Photo #16).
5. Tractor Shed. West Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1940. Post-and-Frame Shed.  
This building is a frame shed with interior wood posts and an open façade on the east. Rear and side elevations are framed and contain metal siding on the exterior. A metal shed roof awning extends across the façade. A shed addition runs along the full length of the rear. Interior flooring is dirt. The building is used as a storage shed for tractors and other large-scale farming equipment. (C). (Photo #17).
6. W.Z. Williams Blacksmith Shop. West Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1890.<sup>10</sup> Side-Gabled Building.  
The blacksmith shop is a one-story, side-gabled, rectangular building featuring board-and-batten siding and a metal roof. A full-length, historic shed addition is situated along the rear (west) elevation. Centered on the façade are two, board-and-batten sliding doors. Another sliding, board-and-batten door is located on the south elevation of the rear addition. The blacksmith shop once contained large machines with wide belts used for drilling and sawing logs (not extant). The base of the historic brick chimney and forge survives in the interior of the building. While much of the building consists of replacement materials, including the siding and foundation, the core of the blacksmith shop is historic. (C). (Photo #18).
7. Barber Shop/J.O. Boyd Office. 80 Fruitvale Road. 1918. Hipped Cottage.  
The building is a one-story, hipped roof, rectangular cottage with beveled siding and asphalt roofing. The building sits on a brick pier foundation with later infill brick. The low-pitched roof features overhanging boxed eaves. Windows are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash with wood frame and metal storm windows. The west façade is three-bays (W, D, W) with a centered entry door. The wood door features a large, fixed glass pane with three, inset wood panels below. A centered, hipped porch runs the majority of the width of the façade and features a modest balustrade of square wood

<sup>7</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 27, 2012.

<sup>8</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*



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banisters and railing. The porch roof is supported by turned posts. Brick steps lead to the porch. A single, off-centered window is located on the north and south elevations. Two are situated on the rear (east) elevation. The interior space is a single room with narrow room along the rear. A barber shop operated in the building until the 1930s when it became the office of the J.O. Boyd farming operations.<sup>11</sup> An historic barber shop sink remains installed in the center of the main room. (C). (Photo #19).

8. Potato Barn. East Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1920. Front-Gabled Building.  
One-story, front-gabled, American bond brick building with a commercial vernacular-style, brick false front. The false front is stepped, with each step capped with concrete. A brick soldier course is situated below the concrete capping. The building sits on a concrete foundation and features asphalt roofing with slightly overhanging boxed eaves. An interior brick chimney is situated within the north roof slope. The three-bay (W, D, W) west façade features a centered, modern replacement two-leaf, multi-paneled wood door with a two light transom. Flat-headed, six-over-six, double-hung metal sash window replacements with historic brick sills occupy the first and third bays of the façade. Above each is located a rectangular, open vent. The south elevation features an off-centered window matching those on the façade. There are no fenestrations on the north elevation. The east elevation is vinyl sided and consists of a large, metal garage/loading bay door. Historic windows located on either side of the garage bay are in-filled with brick. (C). (Photos #20 and #21).
9. Pea/Fertilizer Shed. East Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1925. Front-Gabled Building.  
One-story, front-gabled building with corrugated metal sheet siding and roofing. The building rests on tapered concrete piers. The west façade features a single sliding door of vertical wood boards. A small wood stoop and steps lead to the entry door. A metal shed awning extends above the stoop. There are no fenestrations on the north and south elevations. The rear (east) elevation contains a single window within a wood frame. Above the window is a small metal awning. A second window on the east elevation is located within the gable. Both are presently covered with metal and/or plywood. (C). (Photo #22).
10. Crop Scale. West Side of Fruitvale Road. c.1920. Wood plank structure.  
The crop scale consists of a wood plank 'bridge' over a wide ditch. Wood posts and much of the metal hardware used to weigh carts and/or wagons before and after crops and livestock were loaded have collapsed and lie adjacent to the wood plank bridge. Despite the ruinous state of the crop scale, it continues to reflect the importance commercial agriculture had on Fruitvale throughout the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. (C). (Photo #9).

<sup>11</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson. Email message to author, June 26, 2012.



**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.**Criteria Considerations** N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.☐ **B** removed from its original location.☐ **C** a birthplace or 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.**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

c.1890-1962

**Significant Dates**

c.1920

**Significant Person**

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography**

(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:

Myrtle Rose Emerson – Bells, Crockett County, TN

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## Statement of Significance

The Fruitvale Historic District, located in eastern Crockett County, Tennessee is eligible at the local level for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the areas of commerce and community planning and development as the county's best surviving representation of a rural, railroad-inspired, agrarian-based village that developed into a center of trade and shipping for neighboring farmsteads. Although Fruitvale was established during the mid- to late-19<sup>th</sup> century, it was due to the business and agricultural endeavors of James "Ollie" Boyd throughout the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, that the Fruitvale community experienced its most significant period of growth and prosperity. Today, the entire Fruitvale Historic District remains in the Boyd family. Fruitvale is also eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance as it exhibits modest, folk vernacular commercial- and agricultural-related resources indicative of rural market villages established throughout the late-19<sup>th</sup> century to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century alongside significant transportation routes. With no modern intrusions, the architecture and surrounding setting of the Fruitvale Historic District remain intact, well-preserved reflections of these agrarian-based villages that emerged across the rural landscape of Crockett County during this period. Fruitvale's earliest surviving resource, a blacksmith shop, dates to c.1890 with later commercial and agricultural-related resources dating between c.1920-c.1940. The period of significance of the Fruitvale Historic District is c.1890 with the construction of the blacksmith shop to 1962, in keeping with the fifty-year marker. A significant date of c.1920 encompasses the years of construction of multiple commercial and agricultural buildings reflective of Fruitvale's most significant period of growth and development.

## Narrative Statement of Significance

Crockett County encompasses approximately 265 square miles of primarily rural agricultural land in West Tennessee. The county was formed from portions of Dyer, Gibson, Haywood, and Madison counties in 1871 and named in honor of the famous Tennessean and defender of the Alamo, David Crockett. The county seat, centrally located within the newly formed county, was appropriately named Alamo. Prior to the formation of Crockett County, the region had a well-established agricultural foundation, due in large part to the completion of the Memphis & Ohio Railroad (M & O) across the eastern portion of the future county in the latter years of the 1850s.<sup>12</sup> Opening up new trade possibilities for the areas, the M & O connected the region to the larger cities of Memphis, Nashville, and Louisville, Kentucky. The railroad traveled in a northwesterly direction through the region, crossing miles of agricultural land, and a growing number of farmsteads and small developing villages. In order to take advantage of the ease of transportation and shipping made possible by the presence of the railroad, towns such as Bell's Depot (now Bells) and Gadsden, located six miles apart, emerged along the rail lines as trading and shipping centers for the region. While both communities were settled prior to the arrival of the railroad, the erection of depots in each allowed for their rapid development as commercial and shipping centers. Despite the lack of a depot, the small village of Fruitvale, situated half-way between Bell's Depot and Gadsden along the track, also emerged as a trading and shipping center during the early years of the railroad.

<sup>12</sup> "Crockett County," *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*. <http://www.tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=332>  
Accessed June 5, 2012.

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Among the earliest recorded settlers to arrive in the area which would become Fruitvale were the Williams and Jackson families. During the 1830s, Nathaniel Williams acquired 635 acres in District 9 of Madison County, the center of which was situated approximately 1.25 miles east of the current site of Fruitvale's commercial and trading center. The community was initially known as Jackson Hollow, after one of the early pioneers to the area.<sup>13</sup> Throughout the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the growing village was referred to as "The Switch," suggesting that the M & O Railroad, completed during the 1850s, had erected a railroad switch, or turnout, from the south side of the track to create a stop-over in the village. Despite the lack of a railroad depot, the switch allowed for the shipment and trade of crops and other goods to and from the village. The switch also provided means for the quick export of perishable items such as fruit and vegetables. As such, the rural village became a center for the production and distribution of goods produced in the surrounding areas. By the 1870s, "The Switch" soon became known as "Fruitvale," due to the large quantities of produce exported from town.<sup>14</sup> On May 6, 1893, the growing community of Fruitvale established its first Post Office with Robert Newton Raines (1854-1931), son of one of Fruitvale's earliest settlers, Elisha Jackson Raines, serving as the town's first postmaster until 1901. The establishment of the Fruitvale Post Office, as well as the significance of the name of the village itself, confirms the presence of an active agricultural, commercial and shipping center.

By the turn-of-the-century, Fruitvale was a well-established, albeit small, agrarian-based commercial and shipping center along the Louisville & Nashville Railroad (L & N).<sup>15</sup> Evidence of its establishment as a commercial and trading center for the surrounding farmsteads by the late-19<sup>th</sup> century is a receipt dated July 9, 1896 for a transaction between Fruitvale resident, postmaster, and businessman, R.N. Raines and the Dyer Fruit Box Manufacturing Company for the purchase of fruit shipping boxes (see Figure 3). A 1900 article in the *Alamo Signal* indicates that T.P. Taylor, a new resident to the Fruitvale area, intended to open a general store and would accept "country produce in exchange for groceries."<sup>16</sup> It appears that Mr. Taylor was unsuccessful in his business endeavor in Fruitvale as indicated in a 1903 Directory of Fruitvale printed in the *Alamo Signal*. The 1903 Directory listed the following businesses operating in Fruitvale: Marlow Bros. Groceries; Nelson, Raines & Scarborough Groceries; J.R. Jackson & Co. Dry Goods and Groceries; W. Z. Williams Blacksmith; R.W. Riggins & Co. Sawmill; and Express Agent, R.N. Raines. According to the directory, the village contained a telephone connection and telegraph office, the latter open "through June and July, fruit shipping season."<sup>17</sup> According to longtime resident, Myrtle Rose Emerson, the three general stores listed on the 1903 directory were not operating in buildings currently surviving in the Fruitvale Historic District.<sup>18</sup> However, Mrs. Emerson confirmed that the W.Z. Williams Blacksmith shop, constructed c.1890, is the same building presently standing in the village (Resource #6). The Express Agent reportedly operated out of the Post Office, located at the Marlow House (not extant) during this time. The R.W. Riggins

<sup>13</sup> Mrs. C. C. James, "Fruitvale," in *Crockett County Courthouse Centennial, 1874-1974* (Crockett County Historical Society).

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> The L & N Railroad acquired the M & O c.1870.

<sup>16</sup> Mrs. C. C. James, "Fruitvale," in *Crockett County Courthouse Centennial, 1874-1974* (Crockett County Historical Society).

<sup>17</sup> Business directories from the *Alamo Signal*, Supplement and Trade Edition, 1903. <http://tn-roots.com/tncrocket/business.html> accessed June 19, 2012.

<sup>18</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 27, 2012.



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& Co. Sawmill was reportedly located behind the present stores (Resource #1 and #2). There is no record as to when the sawmill ceased operations and was torn down. Long-time resident Joe Silas Emerson has no recollection of the sawmill as late as 1940, indicating that it was no longer extant by this time.<sup>19</sup>

Successful farming operations in and around Fruitvale, coupled with the convenience of railroad shipping between nearby towns and beyond, allowed Fruitvale to flourish by the late-19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly as a center for the trade of perishable items such as fruit and vegetables requiring swift shipping and transport. During the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a large wood frame fruit shed (not extant) was constructed parallel to the railroad switch. Empty railroad cars pulled directly up to the fruit shed and were filled with boxes and crates containing a variety of crops and other goods. Wooden scales (Resource #10) were constructed c.1925 to weigh goods for shipment. Crops shipped from Fruitvale included cotton, sweet potatoes, red potatoes, tomatoes, beans, corn, and a variety of fruit. Coal was also shipped to Fruitvale in large quantities.<sup>20</sup>

Among the residents of the Fruitvale area during the early-to-mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, James Ollie Boyd (1880-1971), known to most as "Ollie," was paramount to the growth and success of the community. The Boyd family was early settlers to the nearby Center Church and Community situated approximately 6 miles north of Fruitvale.<sup>21</sup> Ollie Boyd arrived in Fruitvale in 1895 as a teenager and was appointed postmaster in 1906, a position he held for 45 years until his retirement in 1951. The same year he became postmaster, Ollie and his brother, Oscar Boyd (1888-1966) opened a grocery business (not extant) in Fruitvale.<sup>22</sup> One of the single-most important events contributing to Fruitvale's growth and success during the early-to-mid-20<sup>th</sup> century occurred on February 7, 1916 when the Raines family sold three parcels of land within the center of the growing village to Ollie and Oscar Boyd.<sup>23</sup> The Boyds quickly began construction on a number of buildings in town, the first and most prominent of which was the brick, J.O. Boyd General Merchandise store (Resource #2) completed by 1918. Upon its opening, the Fruitvale Post Office relocated to the store. The store also provided the only telephone in the community, as well as two gasoline pumping stations in the front (not extant).

Oscar Boyd sold his shares of the three parcels of land, including the general store, to his brother, James Ollie, in 1920.<sup>24</sup> J.O. Boyd continued to expand his businesses in Fruitvale. Across Fruitvale Road from the store, J.O. Boyd built and operated a barber shop (Resource #7) c.1920. The building served as such until sometime during the 1930s when J.O. Boyd began using it as his personal office in which to operate his expanding farming, shipping, and commercial businesses.<sup>25</sup> In addition to the general store and barber shop, Ollie Boyd also constructed a potato barn and pea/fertilizer shed (Resources #8 and #9) during the 1920s. These buildings were utilized for the storage, packaging, and shipping of goods that did not require immediate shipment such as produce. During these years, Ollie Boyd also acquired considerable land

<sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup>Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012.

<sup>21</sup>Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, July 4, 2012.

<sup>22</sup>Mrs. C. C. James, "Fruitvale," in *Crockett County Courthouse Centennial, 1874-1974* (Crockett County Historical Society).

<sup>23</sup>Crockett County Deed Book W, Page 669, 1916.

<sup>24</sup>Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012; Crockett County Deed Book I, Page 482, 1920.

<sup>25</sup>Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012.

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holdings surrounding Fruitvale's shipping center, establishing a successful 1,200-acre farm on which he produced an abundance of crops, hogs, sheep, and cattle.

The majority of crops and livestock produced on Ollie's farm would be stored in the fruit shed or his potato barn (Resource #8) and packaged for shipment or sale in his store. Ollie frequently sent a large truck to nearby villages and farmsteads, to haul migrant workers to Fruitvale. Ollie assigned the workers various jobs, either in the fields as "pickers," or in the potato barn, pea shed, or fruit shed to package and ship crops and other goods. Ollie housed the workers, and oftentimes their families, in the many bunk houses that he erected in Fruitvale (see Figure 1). One of these bunk houses survives and presently serves as a pipe house and storage shed (Resource #3). Due to the success of his expanding operations by the 1930s, Ollie converted the barber shop into an office to manage and administer farm work and business sales.<sup>26</sup>

While Ollie Boyd seems to have been involved in nearly every facet of Fruitvale's agriculture and economic growth, surrounding farming operations significantly contributed to the success of Fruitvale as well. Prior to advances in farming technology and equipment throughout the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, surrounding farmsteads were relatively small and subsistence-based. However, the successful packaging and shipping operations, and general stores of Ollie Boyd, and R.N. Raines before him, among others, made it possible for the surrounding farmsteads to participate in expanding market-based agriculture. Farmers came to Fruitvale to sell and ship their goods, as well as to purchase necessities for their farms and homesteads. Profits made by the sale and shipment of their crops allowed for the expansion of farming operations, and, in turn, the continued growth of Fruitvale.

Shipping of the produce and other goods was oftentimes a community affair, particularly during the summer months when the fruit and vegetables required rapid harvest and shipment on ice. Fruit tickets were provided to "pickers" and were based on the quantity of produce collected. Each ticket was issued by the individual farm on which the "picker" worked during the harvest (see Continuation Sheet, Figure 4). Tickets were then exchanged for money at the end of the day at the fruit shed.

By 1920, Fruitvale's population was approximately 200.<sup>27</sup> As a result of the growing population and activity of Fruitvale, Mr. L. H. Norville erected a grocery store (Resource #1) in Fruitvale directly adjacent to Boyd General Merchandising (Resource #2) in 1929.<sup>28</sup> According to an article in the *Jackson Sun*, "...back then, there was enough customers to keep them both going."<sup>29</sup> As late as the 1930s, Highway 76 (presently Highway 79/US 70) was completed running nearly parallel to the L & N Railroad across West Tennessee.<sup>30</sup> The introduction of the highway provided additional means of transportation from the surrounding farmsteads to Fruitvale. The highway provided an opportunity for farmers with trucks to personally ship their

<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>27</sup>Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, July 4, 2012.

<sup>28</sup>Dolores Ballard, "Tennessee Treasures," *The Jackson Sun*, January 29, 1995.

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>30</sup>Department of Highways and Public Works, *Road Condition Map of Tennessee Showing the designated Trunk Line System of State Highways*, 1938, in the University of Alabama Digital Maps Collection, <http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/index.html> (accessed June 17, 2012).

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crops directly to Bells and Gadsden rather than stopping at Fruitvale. Despite the competing highway, railroad packing and shipping operations were well-established and highly efficient at Fruitvale and do not appear to have suffered as a result.

With the introduction of electricity to Fruitvale in 1939, Ollie Boyd constructed the village's first electric-powered corn crusher facility (Resource #4). The corn crusher made possible the "efficient fattening of beef cattle and hogs for the Memphis market."<sup>31</sup> Shortly thereafter, Boyd constructed a large tractor shed (Resource #5), the final building to be erected in Fruitvale.

Following World War II, like so many other rural communities across the United States, Fruitvale began a steady decline as its residents and farm workers left for larger towns and cities. Despite the declining population, the village remained active through the 1950s, continuing the processing, packaging and shipping of crops and other goods. Despite Ollie Boyd's retirement as Postmaster in 1951, the General Store continued to operate under the management of his son, Q.W. Boyd and his sister, Mrs. Geneva Emerson. Malcom Emerson, husband to Ollie Boyd's daughter Maggie Lou (1907-1971), took over the position of postmaster.<sup>32</sup> Ollie Boyd, with the help of his family continued to manage his large farming operation as indicated by Joe Silas (son of Maggie Lou Emerson) and Myrtle Rose Emerson who worked in the fields in 1955.<sup>33</sup> The end of Fruitvale's years as a center for agricultural trade and shipping is evidenced on the 1959 topographic map which shows a declining number of bunk houses and tenant houses that were reportedly there in the early years of the decade (*see* Continuation Sheet, Figures 1 and 2).

By 1965, the shipment of agricultural goods had dramatically slowed, with coal being the most profitable trade item. The large fruit shed, situated alongside the railroad switch, was located within property owned by the railroad and Fruitvale was required to pay a monthly rent. Due to substantial profit loss by 1965, the building was torn down.<sup>34</sup> James Ollie Boyd passed away in 1970, leaving his land and business holdings to his daughter, Maggie Lou. Upon her death in 1971, the same holdings were willed to her sons, Joe Silas Emerson and Bill Emerson. The brothers continue to own the land and buildings erected in Fruitvale by their grandfather, James Ollie Boyd.<sup>35</sup>

In 1980, the railroad switch was removed, forever ending the railroad shipping era of Fruitvale.<sup>36</sup> By 1990, the federal government was imposing restrictions on the sale of gasoline thereby resulting in the end of fuel sales in front of the Boyd store. By 1993, it was believed that the Fruitvale post office was the smallest in the State, serving a meager 30 customers.<sup>37</sup> With the highly diminished number of customers in Fruitvale, the Norville family store changed its focus from a general store and grocery to a high-tech TV satellite

<sup>31</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, August 20, 2012.

<sup>32</sup> Mrs. C. C. James, "Fruitvale," in *Crockett County Courthouse Centennial, 1874-1974* (Crockett County Historical Society).

<sup>33</sup> Myrtle Rose Emerson, email message to author, June 20, 2012.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>37</sup> "Fruitvale Post Office Serves County for 100 Years," *Crockett County Sentinel*, May 12, 1993.



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installation provider as late as the 1990s.<sup>38</sup> The store remained in the Norville family until 1998 when it was purchased by present owner and long-time Fruitvale resident, Bill Emerson. Since its construction, members of the Boyd and Emerson families, including Q.W. Boyd, Ada Boyd (Ollie's sister-in-law), Geneva Emerson, and Malcolm Emerson, continuously maintained and operated the Boyd General store until it finally ceased operations in 1999.

In 2002, the once active commercial and shipping center of Fruitvale was dealt a major blow when a tornado destroyed a large portion of the vacant Boyd General Merchandising store and crop scale. Despite the damage, the tornado proved to be a positive turning point for Fruitvale as the Emerson family took it upon themselves to restore the historic buildings surviving in town. Although it did not suffer damage as a result of the tornado, present owner, Bill Emerson restored the Norville Store in 2010 and it presently serves as a photography shop. The following year, restoration of the Boyd General Merchandising store was complete.<sup>39</sup> Despite these efforts, however, the Fruitvale Post Office, located within the Boyd store since its 1918 construction, officially closed in 2010.

Buildings surviving within the district reflect a range of modest, vernacular architecture typical of small, rural villages developed throughout the late-19th to early-20th centuries. Fruitvale's earliest resource, the blacksmith shop (Resource #6), constructed c.1890, reflects the necessity in the community of such services of this time, if not earlier. The c.1920-1925 construction of Boyd General Merchandising, the barber shop, crop scale, potato barn, pea/fertilizer shed, and bunk houses attest to the growth of agrarian-based trade and shipping in the village. The 1928 construction of the Norville Store, competing with Boyd General Merchandising, further attests to the strength of the village as larger quantities of supplies, merchandise, and food were deemed necessary to accommodate the growing needs of farmers frequenting Fruitvale. The construction of the corn crusher in 1938 signifies an important event in Fruitvale – the introduction of electricity. With technological advances in farming equipment, a tractor shed was constructed c.1940, being the last building erected within the Fruitvale Historic District.

Although Fruitvale was established during the late-19<sup>th</sup> century, it was due to the business and agricultural endeavors of James "Ollie" Boyd throughout the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, and his later generations, that the Fruitvale community expanded to become a successful center of trade for the surrounding farmsteads. Today, all of the surviving buildings located within the Fruitvale Historic District remain in the Boyd family. Fruitvale survives as an intact, representative example of a small, rural, railroad-inspired village developed to serve the needs of surrounding farmsteads. While other villages within the region emerged in a similar fashion throughout the late-19th to mid-20th century, Fruitvale is the best surviving example of a community in Crockett County that retains the majority of its historic buildings and has not been compromised by modern development. Fruitvale's surviving resources and well-preserved setting are reminiscent of its most significant period of growth and development. Furthermore, the variety of commercial and agricultural-

<sup>38</sup> Dolores Ballard, "Tennessee Treasures," *The Jackson Sun*, January 29, 1995.

<sup>39</sup> While undergoing restoration, the business aspect of the Fruitvale Post Office was relocated to the Boyd office across the street. The Post Office counter and booth survived the tornado and remained in the store while restoration was underway. Upon the completion of the restoration of the Boyd General Merchandise, the Post Office returned to its historic location.

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related buildings demonstrates the important interplay between agriculture, commerce, and transportation crucial to the establishment of such communities throughout the late-19th to mid-20th century.

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Fruitvale Historic District  
Name of Property

Crockett County, Tennessee  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ~1.95 Bells, TN 430 NE

### UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	316303	3957748
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	316416	6957835

3	16	316451	3957775
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	16	316390	3957685

☐ 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.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jaime L. Destefano  
organization Tennessee Historical Commission date August 2012  
street & number 2941 Lebanon Road telephone 615-532-1550 x.125  
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37243

### Additional Documentation

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

### Property Owner

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

name Joe Silas Emerson  
street & number 398 Jones Road telephone 731-663-2252  
city or town Bells state TN zip code 38006

name Bill Emerson  
street & number PO Box 268 telephone  
city or town Bells state TN zip code 38006

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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## Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated historic district encompasses approximately 1.95 acres of land situated southeast of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. The district includes all of tax parcels 074-052.00, 074-049.06, 074-053.00. A portion of parcel 074-049.00, which includes land on both the east and west side of Fruitvale Road, is also included within the boundaries of the nominated district. Beginning at the southwest corner of parcel 074-049.06, the boundary travels in a northeasterly direction approximately 500 feet along the railroad right-of-way to a modest treeline located within parcel 074-049.00. The boundary continues in a southeasterly direction approximately 220 feet, following the treeline, to East Williams Road. The boundary continues along East Williams Road in a westerly direction approximately 55 feet before turning southward approximately 75 feet and crossing to the south side of East Williams Road. The boundary then continues in a westerly direction approximately 150 feet to a point located on the west side of Fruitvale Road. After following Fruitvale Road in a southerly direction approximately 270 feet, the boundary then continues westerly approximately 110 feet across a portion of parcel 0074-049.00. Continuing in a northwesterly direction approximately 170 feet, the proposed district boundary meets a point along the southern edge of parcel 074-049.06. From this point, and following the southern boundary of parcel 074-049.06 in a westerly direction approximately 100 feet, the proposed district boundary returns to the point of beginning.

## Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

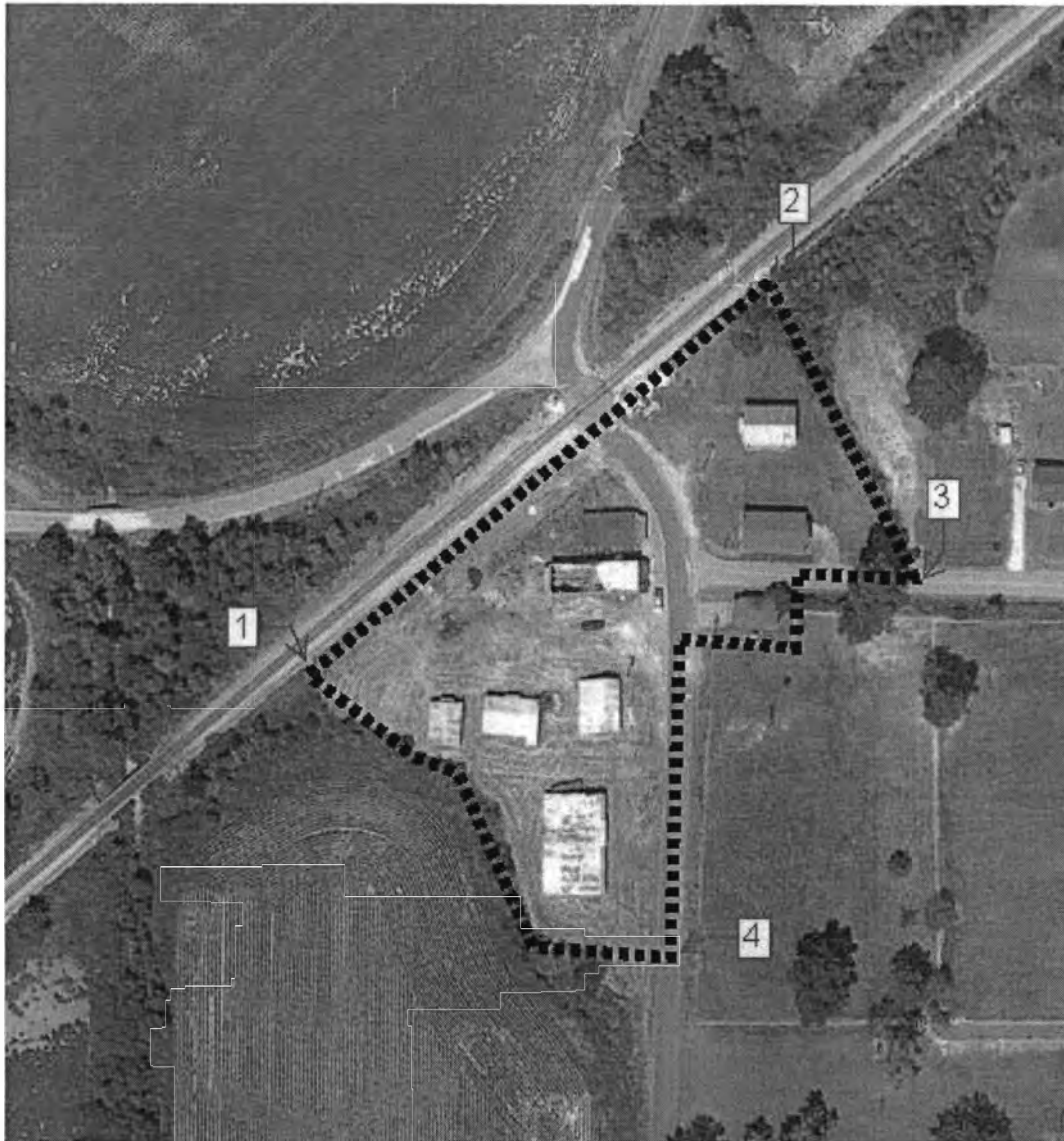
Boundaries were drawn to include all buildings associated with Fruitvale's historic commercial and trading center. Due to the large acreage of parcel 074-049.00, which consists primarily of agricultural land, only a small portion was included within the proposed boundaries. This portion includes contributing building and land immediately surrounding each.



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~500 Feet

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**Name of Property:** Fruitvale Historic District  
**City or Vicinity:** Fruitvale  
**County:** Crockett **State:** Tennessee  
**Photographer:** Peggy Nickell  
**Date Photographed:** March 2012  
**Digital Negative:** Tennessee Historical Commission

#1 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing north.

#2 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing northeast.

#3 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing southeast.

#4 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing northwest.

#5 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing southwest.

#6 of 22

Overview of Fruitvale Historic District. Photographer facing southeast.

#7 of 22

Streetscape view from Fruitvale Historic District down Fruitvale Road. Photographer facing south.

#8 of 22

Overview of railroad corridor and crossroads. Photographer facing northeast.

#9 of 22

View of crop scale (Resource #10). Photographer facing northwest.

#10 of 22

View toward Norville Store (Resource #1). Photographer facing west.

#11 of 22

View toward Boyd General Merchandise and Fruitvale Post Office (Resource #2). Photographer facing northwest.

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# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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Interior view of Boyd General Merchandise and Fruitvale Post Office (Resource #2). Photographer facing east.

#13 of 22

Interior view of Boyd General Merchandise and Fruitvale Post Office (Resource #2). Photographer facing northwest.

#14 of 22

View of historic Fruitvale Post Office located in Boyd General Merchandise (Resource #2). Photographer facing southeast.

#15 of 22

View toward bunk house/pipe house (Resource #3). Photographer facing southeast.

#16 of 22

View toward crusher house (Resource #4). Photographer facing southeast.

#17 of 22

View toward tractor shed (Resource #5). Photographer facing southwest.

#18 of 22

View toward W.Z. Williams Blacksmith Shop (Resource #6). Photographer facing southwest.

#19 of 22

View toward Barber Shop/J.O. Boyd Office (Resource # 7). Photographer facing northeast.

#20 of 22

View toward potato barn (Resource #8). Photographer facing northeast.

#21 of 22

View toward potato barn (Resource #8). Photographer facing northwest.

#22 of 22

View toward pea/fertilizer shed (Resource #9). Photographer facing northeast.



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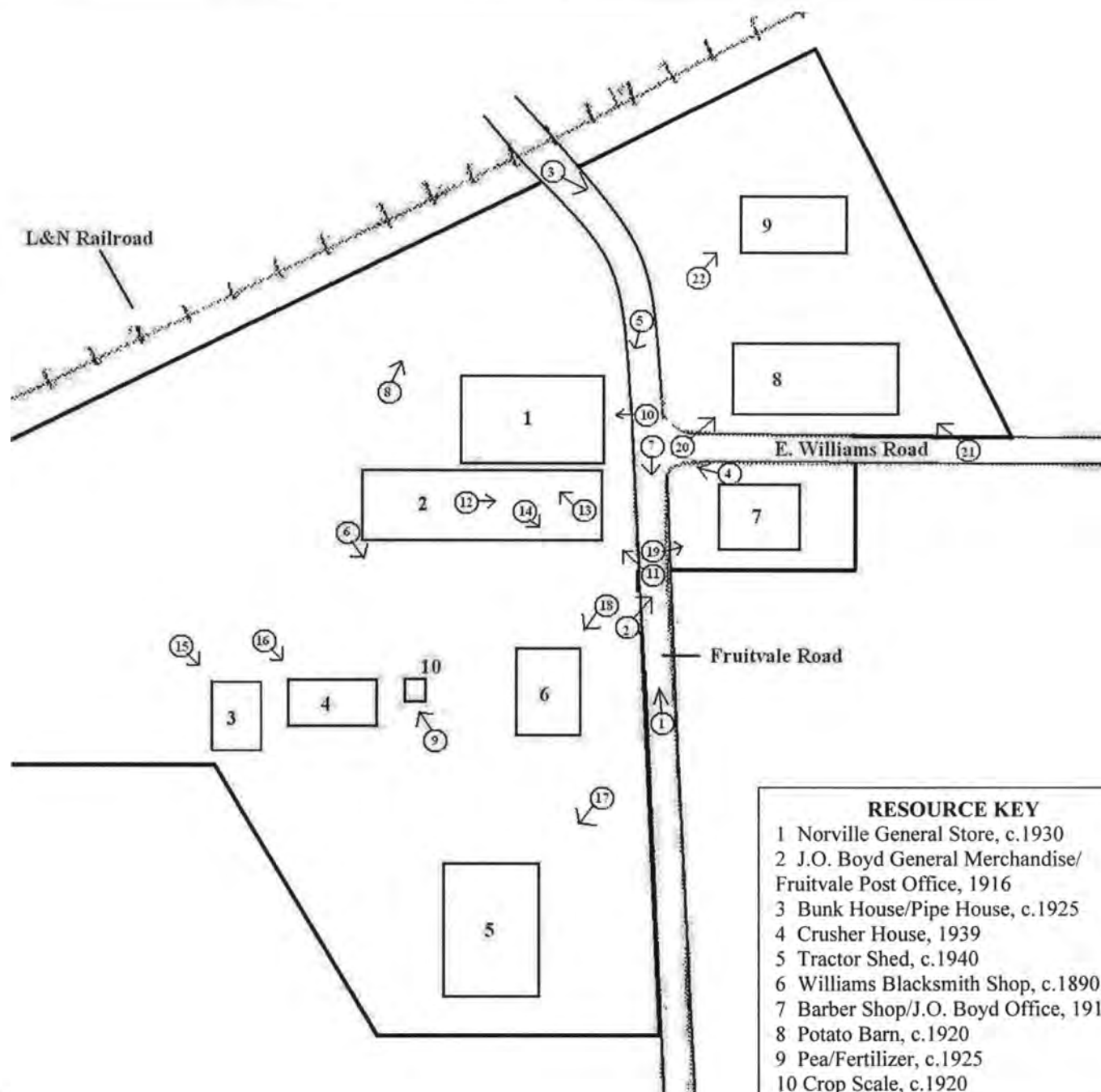
Section number

SITE  
PLAN

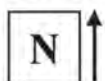
Page

20

Fruitvale Historic District  
Crockett County, Tennessee



NOT TO SCALE



## RESOURCE KEY

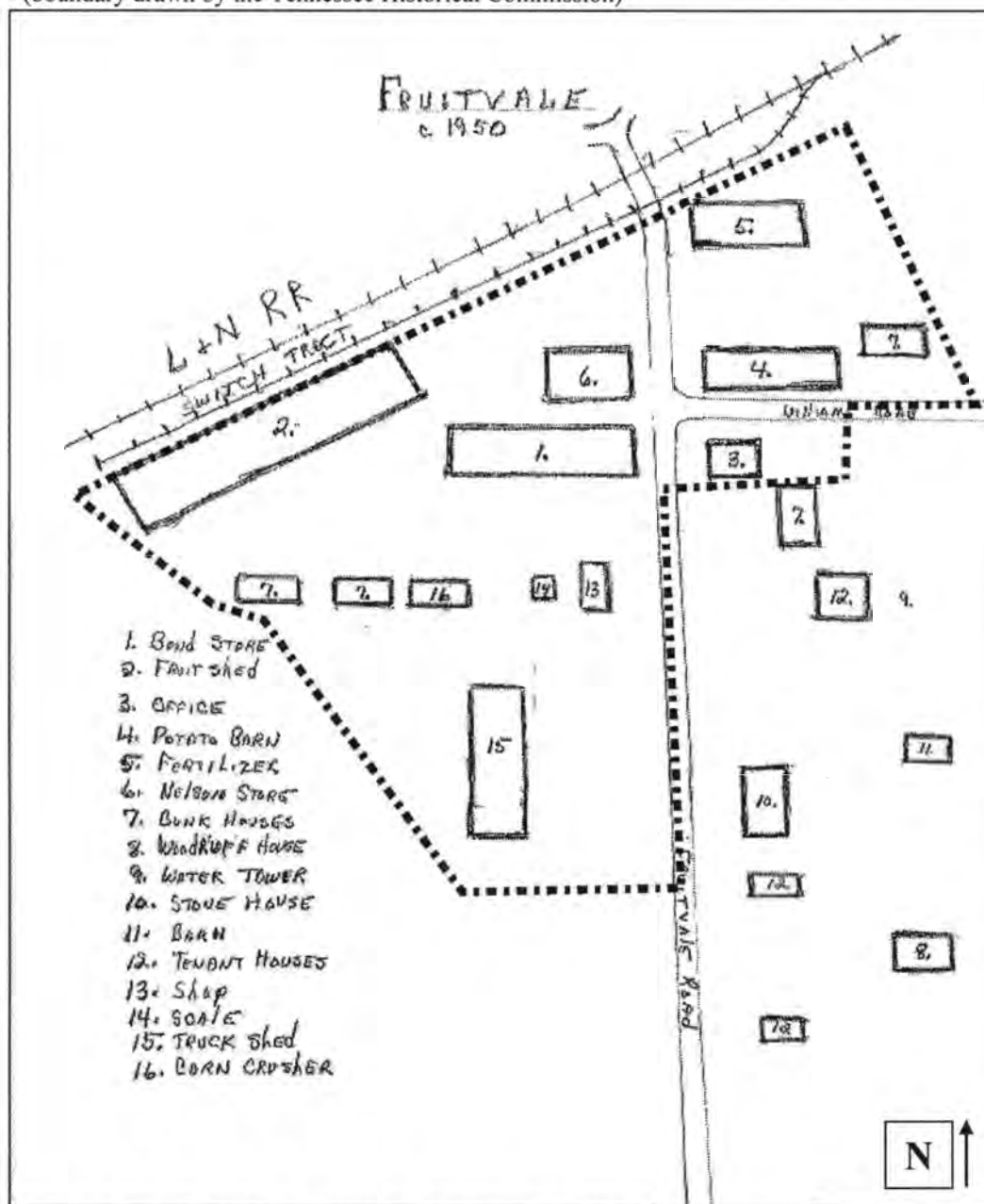
- 1 Norville General Store, c.1930
- 2 J.O. Boyd General Merchandise/  
Fruitvale Post Office, 1916
- 3 Bunk House/Pipe House, c.1925
- 4 Crusher House, 1939
- 5 Tractor Shed, c.1940
- 6 Williams Blacksmith Shop, c.1890
- 7 Barber Shop/J.O. Boyd Office, 1918
- 8 Potato Barn, c.1920
- 9 Pea/Fertilizer, c.1925
- 10 Crop Scale, c.1920

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Figure 1: Sketch map of Fruitvale c.1950 (Drawn c.2010 by Bill Emerson) showing boundaries of nominated historic district (boundary drawn by the Tennessee Historical Commission)



Source: *Fruitvale 38336: A Novel*, By Bill Emerson, 2010

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number FIGURES Page 22 Fruitvale Historic District  
Crockett County, Tennessee

Figure 2: 1959 USGS Topographic Map showing structures in and around Fruitvale at the close of the 1950s

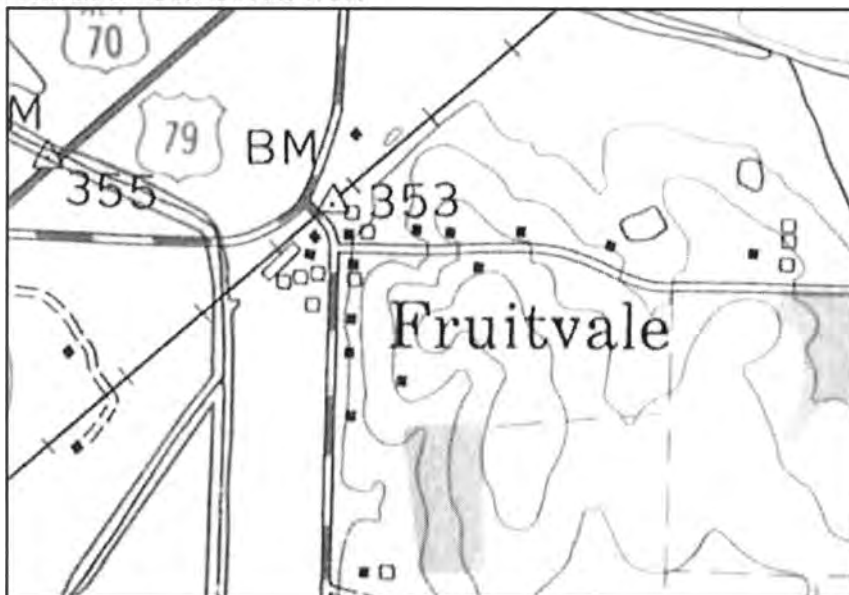


Figure 3: Receipt between R.N. Raines and Dyer Fruit Box Manufacturing Company, 1896

STATEMENT, 1896  
Dyer, Tenn. July 9 1896  
*R.N. Raines*  
In Account With  
Dyer Fruit Box Manufacturing Company.

DUE		PAID	
Jan 4		Feb	
Mar 25		275	
30		200	
June 2		201.50	
" 11		7.20	
" 23		240	713.45
June 22	By Cash	50.79	
	" Cash	198.57	
	" Cash	72.50	321.56
			391.59

Source: *Ancestors...and the Seeds Still Grow...*, By Myrtle Rose Leggett Emerson, 2011



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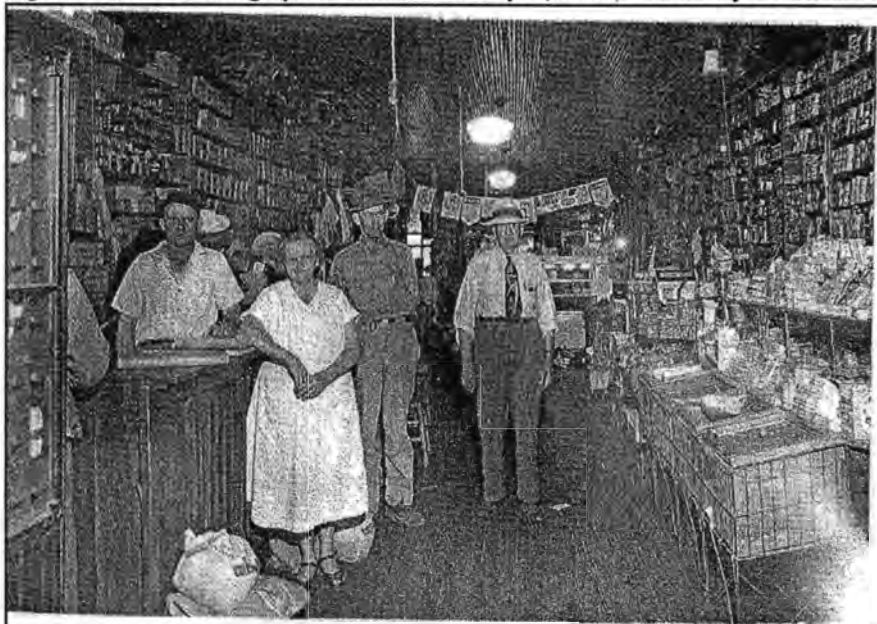
Section number FIGURES Page 23 Fruitvale Historic District  
Crockett County, Tennessee

Figure 4: Fruit Tickets



Source: *Ancestors...and the Seeds Still Grow...*, By Myrtle Rose Leggett Emerson, 2011

Figure 5: c.1970 Photograph of James Ollie Boyd (center) inside Boyd General Merchandise (Resource #2)



Source: *Ancestors...and the Seeds Still Grow...*, By Myrtle Rose Leggett Emerson, 2011

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Figure 6: c.1950 Photograph of the Fruitvale community and agricultural fields.  
The old fruit shed is visible in the distance



Photograph provided by Myrtle Rose Emerson

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Fruitvale Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Crockett

DATE RECEIVED: 9/28/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/13/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/14/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000943

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 11.14.12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



























*Real Life Captured.*  
[www.laurabaileyphotography.com](http://www.laurabaileyphotography.com)























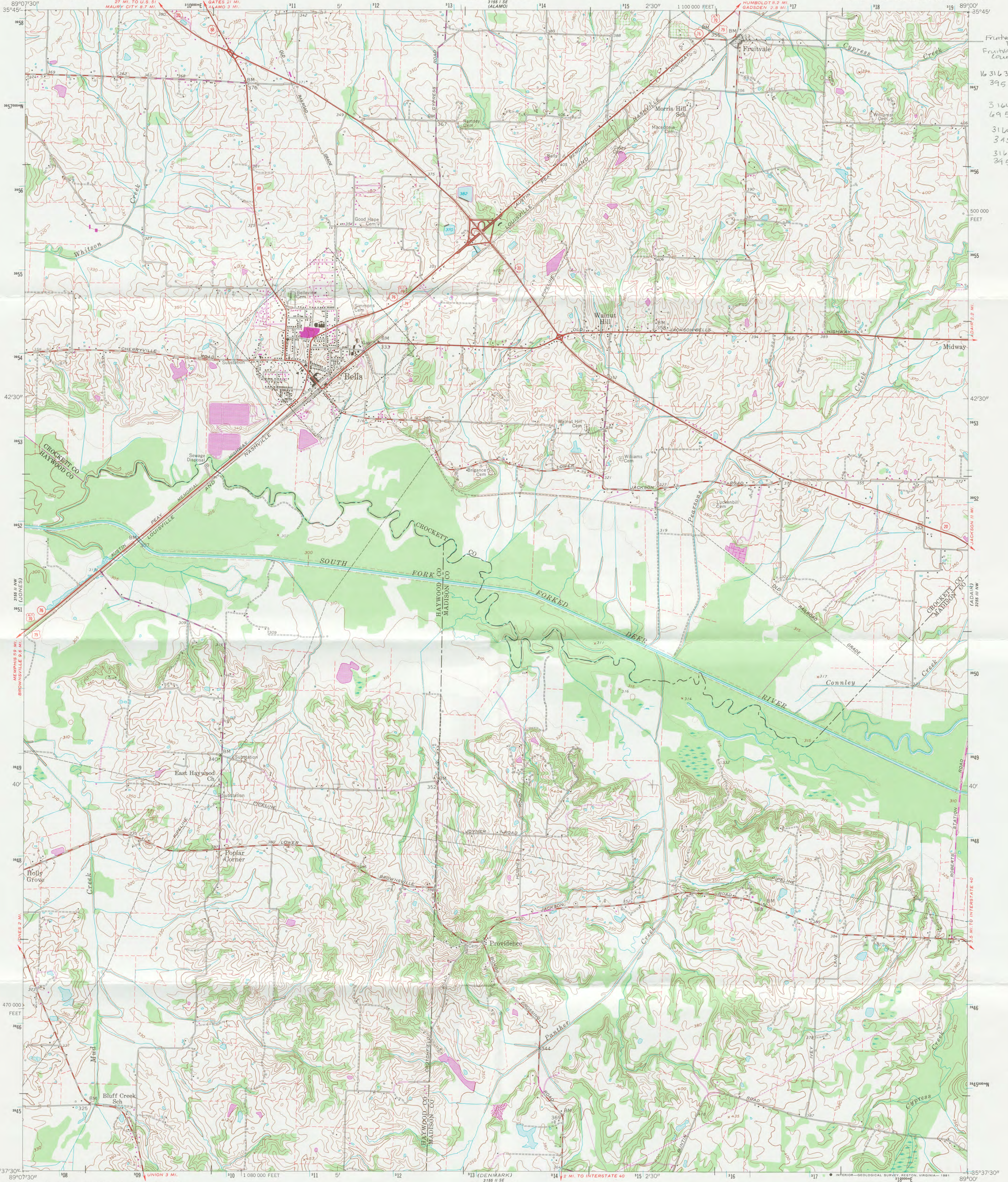








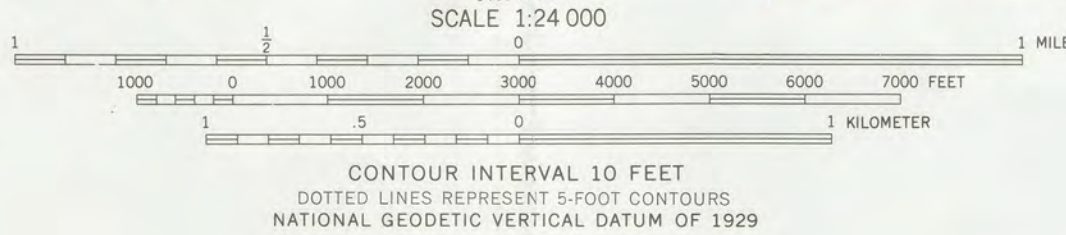




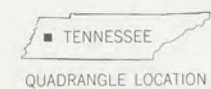
Fruitvale Historic District  
Fruitvale, Crockett County, TN  
16 316 303 E  
395 7748 N  
3 16416 E  
69 57835 N  
316451 E  
395 7775 N  
316390 E  
395 7685 N

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, USCE, and TVA  
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1956. Field check 1959  
Polyconic projection  
10,000-foot grid based on Tennessee coordinate system,  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 16, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 6 meters south and  
6 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1975 and other source data. This information not  
field checked. Map edited 1981



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND TENNESSEE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



\$ 4.25

BELLS, TENN.  
N3537.5-W8900/7.5  
1959  
PHOTOGRAPHED 1981  
DMA 3155 II NE-SERIES V841

430 NE





**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
2941 LEBANON ROAD  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442  
(615) 532-1550



September 21, 2012

Carol Shull  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service  
National Register Branch  
1201 Eye Street NW  
8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the documentation to nominate the *Fruitvale Historic District* to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, contact Jaime L. Destefano at 615/532-1550, extension 125 or [Jaime.Destefano@tn.gov](mailto:Jaime.Destefano@tn.gov).

Sincerely,

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.  
State Historic Preservation Officer

EPM:cs

Enclosures