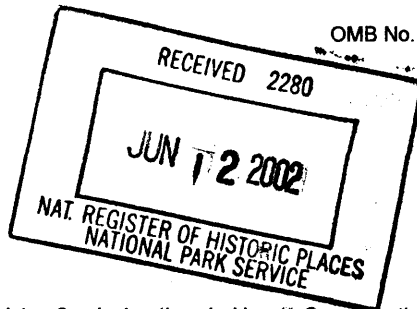


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



OK
809

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 Houser House
other names/site number Jackson-Houser House

2. Location

street & number 2221 Old Troy Road NA not for publication
city or town Union City vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Obion code 131 zip code 38261

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.)

Herbert C. Burger 6/11/02
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Deputy 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:)

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
7.17.02

Houser House
Name of Property

Obion County, Tennessee
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
4	1	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)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE: agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

NOT IN USE

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT shingles

other WOOD; STONE stucco

Narrative Description

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

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** moved from its original location.
- 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)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1928

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Builder: Gorton, O.E.

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: _____

Houser House
Name of Property

Obion County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.84 acres Union City 437 NE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>314320</u>	<u>4033245</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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 Louis Jackson and Claudette Stager
organization Tennessee Historical Commission date April 2002
street & number 2941 Lebanon Road telephone 615/532-1550
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37214

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 Peggye and Wayne Jackson
street & number 2221 Old Troy Road telephone 731-885-5747
city or town Union City state TN zip code 38261

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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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Narrative Description

The Houser House is situated on 5.84 acres on the north side of Old Troy Road, State Route 184, in a rural area west of Union City, Obion County, Tennessee. The one and one-half story Craftsman Bungalow faces south and is surrounded by large trees, shrubs, and foundation plantings. The building has a roughly square floor plan and is topped with an asphalt shingle gable roof. Supporting the roof are stepped brackets. The frame structure is covered with a brick veneer with finished cut stone details. The walls and foundation are contiguous having no visible demarcation. The house rests on a full basement.

The south façade is dominated by an integral L-shaped porch, which is continued partially on the east elevation. Ten steps with stepped brick sidewalls lead to the center of the porch. Square brick columns decorated with diamond shaped stone insets support the porch roof. Above the porch is a central gable roof dormer covered in stucco with false half-timbering. In the dormer is a bank of four wood double hung sash windows. These windows are in the Craftsman style in that they are multi-light over one light. The upper sash is comprised of alternating square and rectangular lights. The portion of the house shaded by the porch contains a central entry comprised of a wood door with beveled lights and a four light transom. On either side of the entrance are three double hung wood sash windows similar to those in the gable. The windows and entry are surrounded with bricks placed on the vertical on the top and placed horizontal on the sides with stone corner blocks.

The west elevation contains a projecting one-story bay with a shed asphalt shingle roof. The bay contains a bank of four wood double hung sash windows. To the north of the bay is a pair of wood double hung sash windows. Further north on this elevation, is a smaller version of the other windows. To the south of the bay is a chimney that is engaged. The bottom portion of the chimney contains a large decorative stone rectangle outlined in headers. All the windows on this elevation are multi-light over one and have brick surrounds with stone corner blocks similar to those on the façade. Over the projecting bay is the stuccoed gable end of the house. Like the front dormer, there is false half-timbering on this part of the house. In the center of the gable is a bank of three multi-light double hung sash windows with a smaller version to the left and right. Stepped brackets support the eaves of the roof.

The north elevation, rear, has an off-center three-quarter length integral porch supported by stuccoed columns. The porch has been in-filled with groupings of three storm windows set between vertical boards. To the west of the porch is a solid masonry wall. Over the porch is a stuccoed gable dormer, which has false half-timbering. The dormer contains a pair of windows similar to the others on this structure. The portion of the house inside the enclosed porch has a single paneled entry door with a multi-light upper portion. To the west of the door is a multi-light

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

wood double hung sash window. To the far west is a door that has been converted to a window. To the east of the door is a pair of smaller windows similar to the others on this elevation. The ell of the front porch dominates the east elevation. Like the west elevation, this is the gable end with the body being brick and the gable end covered with stucco and false half-timbering. Shaded by the porch is an entrance comprised of a paneled door with a nine light upper portion. A transom and sidelights surrounds the door. Just to the right of the entrance is a small wood double hung sash window. The openings on the first floor of this elevation have similar brick trim and stone corner block detailing as the other elevations. Centered on this side of the structure is a projecting bay containing a bank of three wood double hung sash windows. To the north are a smaller window and then the in-filled end of the back porch. The openings of the east gable end replicate that of the west. Like the rest of the structure, the windows of this elevation have multi-light upper sash with a single light lower sash.

On the interior of the structure, the floor plan is arranged such that the front portion of the house has two adjoining rooms. The one on the west contains the front entry and the fireplace of the west elevation. The room opening to the east is used as the family room and has the entrance of the east elevation. A hall does not separate these rooms. There is a central hall running north to south in the rear portion of the house with the master bedroom and bath to the east and the kitchen and dining room to the west. The family room in the front east corner is separated from the master bedroom by a wall containing a fireplace flanked by closets. A door from the hall reaches the closet to the west and the east closet is reached from the family room. The bathroom is entered either from the hall or the bedroom. The dining room is connected to the living room by a pair of French doors. The carpeted open well stairs run three-quarters of the height of the ceiling to the second floor, terminating at a landing with a shorter section the rest of the flight. The simple wood handrail is supported by plain square balusters, three to a step. The paneled newel post rests on a plain square base. The newel post is topped by a square flat cap. Moldings trim both the base and cap. The interior of the in-filled back porch has not been finished and retains the original tongue and groove ceiling and wainscoting.

The second floor contains three bedrooms off a central hall. One bedroom is located in each gable end and one is in the dormer of the south elevation. Unique to this style of house are the walk in closets off the south and west bedrooms. The closets are original to the house and each closet contains a window. The only bathroom on the second floor is off the hall and is located in the northern portion of the east gable end. Throughout the entire structure, the original hardware and woodwork are retained. The majority of the woodwork has its original finish.

A stair underneath the stairs to the second floor reaches the basement. This stair is closed off with a door on the first floor. The plain handrail is supported by simple square balusters. The full basement is devoid of any partition walls and retains its original open floor plan. The basement

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

To the rear (north) of the residence are four outbuildings: a garage, a small barn, a chicken house, and a generator/pump house.

1. The garage, circa 1945 holds two cars and has one single large entrance. The garage has a front facing asphalt shingled gable roof and "masonite" siding covering the structure. Side elevations have paired six over six wood double-hung sash windows. (NC)
2. The small barn, ca. 1928, is of frame construction on a concrete slab. It has a front facing asphalt shingle gable roof with shed roof additions. The barn is covered with weatherboard and has three board and batten single door entrances. (C)
3. The chicken house, ca 1928, is frame construction with a corrugated metal shed roof. The building has a full width shed porch supported by wood posts. (C)
4. The pump/generator house, ca. 1928, was constructed in two sections. A small one-story brick building is attached to a larger story and one-half section built of rusticated concrete block. The brick portion contains a four light window with a stone lintel with an asphalt shingle side facing gable roof. The block section has a wood plank entrance. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 4Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee**Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Houser House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C as an excellent example of a Craftsman Bungalow in Obion County, Tennessee. The large dormers, wide overhanging roof eaves and multi-light windows on the exterior of the Houser House exemplify the Craftsman Bungalow style. Inside, the wood trim, fireplaces and the floor plan are important characteristics of the house. Situated in a rural area just outside the county seat of Union City (1996 population 10,256), most of the outbuildings contribute to the nomination. The property retains a high degree of integrity.

Anthony Houser received a land grant and moved to Obion County from North Carolina in 1841. Pronounced "Hoosier", Hoosier Creek and Hoosier Valley are named for the family. The Reelfoot Packing Company, a major company in the region, named a brand of bacon "Hoosier Valley."¹

The eight brothers of the Houser family were in Obion County by the late nineteenth century. In 1928, O.E. Gorton, the husband of Nell Houser, built the nominated house. Gorton built other residences in the region, including the house at 828 Exchange Street in Union City. The Exchange Street house, now part of the East Main Street and Exchange Street Historic District (NR 11/22/99), is a two story brick residence with Italian Renaissance detailing.² The Houser House design was considered "before its time" and was so well built that people came from all around to look at it.³

Lumber and furniture making were once prominent industries around Union City, but the supply of timber diminished by the 1890s. Much of the rich, loamy land was then put into agricultural use and crops and livestock were raised in the Hoosier Valley and elsewhere near Union City. Grain was shipped from Union City to other southern states and new commercial industries arose in the city to accommodate the increased agricultural production and shipping businesses.⁴

According to *Tennessee: A Guide to the State* by the Federal Writers' Project, Union City had a population of 5,865 in the late 1930s. With roads and rail service into the city, it was a shipping center for the surrounding area and

The town owes its growth to the fertility of the land around it. Crops can be grown year after year without the use of fertilizer. The nearby landowners have large

¹ Slater, page 9.

² East Main Street and Exchange Street Historic District, page 11.

³

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Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

holdings and many specialize in the breeding of cattle and hogs that are fattened on corn.⁵

The Housers owned several hundred acres along Old Troy Road and raised hogs and cattle, fitting into the pattern described in the Federal Writers' Project book. Reynolds Packing Company in Union City established a slaughterhouse and meatpacking business circa 1925. A farmers' co-op was begun by the Farm Bureau in 1937 to aid farmers during the Depression.⁶

Many industries moved into Obion County in the twentieth century, but it still retains a large agricultural base. It ranks first in corn, wheat and orchard production. The county is the second largest producer of soybeans and it ranks third in the state in hog and pigs.⁷

Hazel Houser died circa 1989 and the farm was sold off. All proceeds from the sale of the farm went to the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Union City. The church subsequently built the Houser-Gorton Building with the proceeds.⁸ The current owners, Peggye and Wayne Jackson bought the house in 1989.

The popularity of the Craftsman Bungalow in residential design is usually considered to have begun with the architecture of the California based Greene brothers, who designed some of the early premier examples of the style.⁹ Their buildings were showcased in numerous popular magazines and then builders and lumber companies picked up the designs for use in plan books. The elaborate designs of the Greene brothers were much simplified in the majority of these plan books. Craftsman Bungalows or cottages are the principal style of residence in Union City during the early twentieth century. Low pitch gable roofs with wide overhangs, porches with battered piers and exposed rafters are frequently seen on these houses.¹⁰ The East Main Street and Exchange Street Historic District (NR 11/22/99) contains a number of houses with Craftsman influenced design. Located in the county, the Houser House differs from these in its large scale, interesting floor plan, attention to detail and setting. It has the character defining overhanging

⁵ Federal Writers' Project, page 417.

⁶ McIntyre, page 11.

⁷ West, page 705.

⁸ Jackson.

⁹ McAlister and McAlister, page 454.

¹⁰ McIntyre, page 18.

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Section number 8 Page 6

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

eaves with large dormers, wide brick porch, multi-light windows and stick work in the gables. No Craftsman Bungalows are individually listed in the National Register in Obion County.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 7

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Bibliography

Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University. "East Main Street and Exchange Street Historic District" National Register nomination. May 1998.

Federal Writers' Project. *Tennessee: A Guide to the State*. Nashville: State of Tennessee, 1939; reprint ed., St. Clair Shores, MI: Scholarly Press, 1978.

McAlister, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

McIntyre, Judi M.; Carothers, Cate; West, Carroll Van. "Historic and Architectural Resources of Union City (Obion County), Tennessee. October 1998.

Slater, Margaret. "Addendum to September 2000 Architectural/Historical Assessment and Assessment of Effects, Proposed Corridor 18/Interstate 69 From the Interchange of U.S. 51/US. 412 in Dyer County, Tennessee, to Purchase Parkway in Fulton County, Kentucky." November 2000. Much of this nomination is taken from this report.

West, Carroll Van (ed.). *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History & Culture*. Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society and Rutledge Hill Press, 1998.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 8

Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The nominated property includes the 5.84-acre parcel associated with the property. It is parcel 1.01 on Obion County tax maps 48 and 59. This is all the property associated with house. Adjacent property lines and the Old Troy Road surround the house

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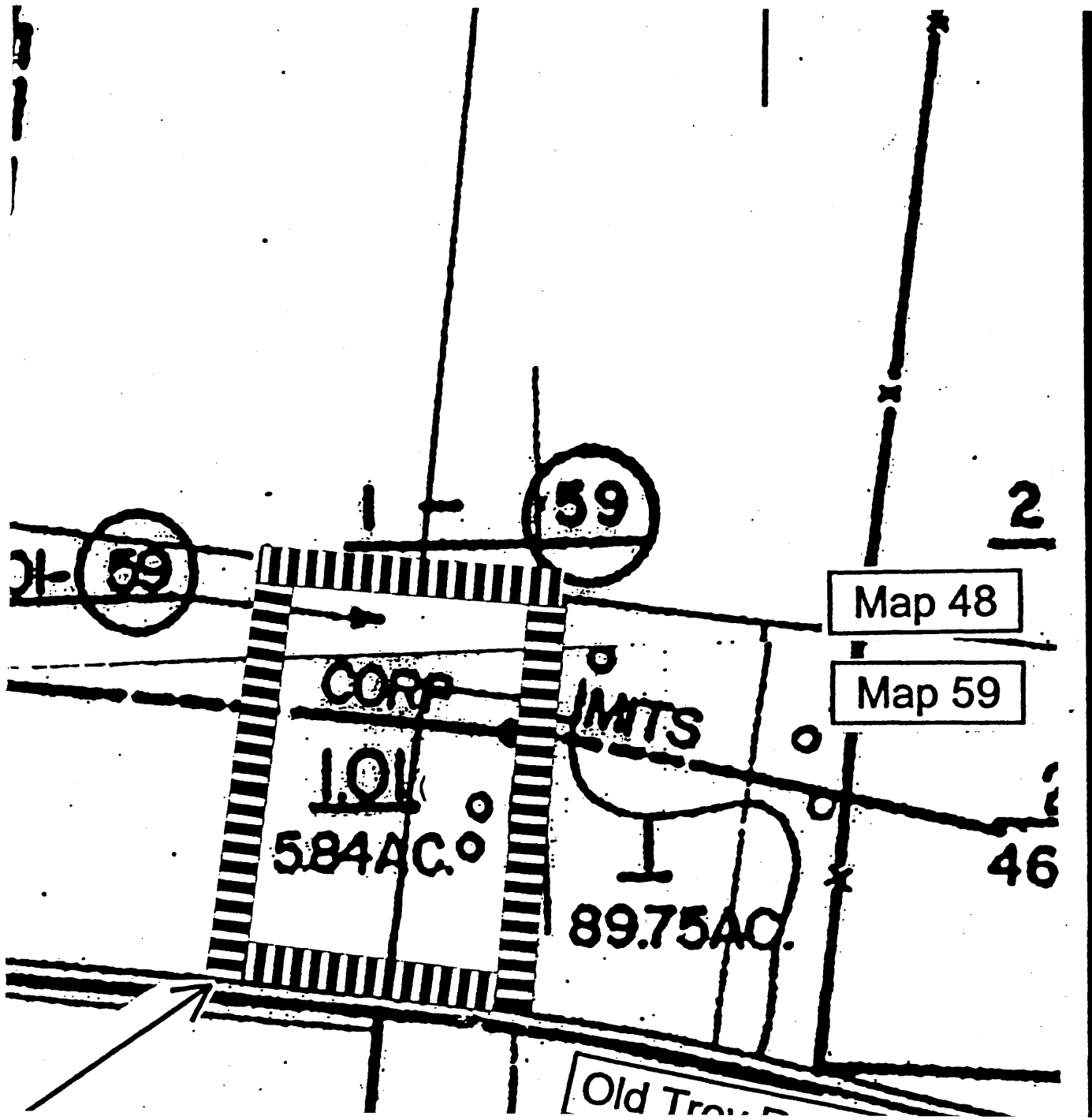
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Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Tax map

Scale 1" = approx. 200'



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Continuation Sheet

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Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Photographs

Photos by: Peggye Jackson

Date: April 2002

Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission

South façade, facing north

1 of 37

South façade, facing north

2 of 37

South façade and west elevation, facing northeast

3 of 37

West elevation, facing northeast

4 of 37

West and south elevations, facing northeast

5 of 37

South elevation, facing northeast

6 of 37

East elevation, facing west

7 of 37

East elevation, facing southwest

8 of 37

East elevation, facing northwest

9 of 37

Façade porch, facing west

10 of 37

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Continuation Sheet

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Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Façade porch, facing west
11 of 37

East elevation porch, facing north
12 of 37

North (rear) enclosed porch, facing south
13 of 37

Interior of enclosed north (rear) porch
14 of 37

Façade door detail, facing south
15 of 37

Entry hall, facing north
16 of 37

Stair detail
17 of 37

Stair detail, looking towards second floor
18 of 37

Dining room, facing north
19 of 37

Family room fireplace, facing north
20 of 37

Kitchen, facing north
21 of 37

Door in family room leading to east porch, facing east
22 of 37

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Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Upstairs hallway, facing north
23 of 37

Upstairs west bedroom, original picture molding
24 of 37

Upstairs east bedroom
25 of 37

Upstairs south bedroom
26 of 37

Original closet built in dormer area
27 of 37

Door detail
28 of 37

Basement
29 of 37

Looking down into basement
30 of 37

Overview of house, garage, barn, pump/generator house, chicken house
31 of 37

Overview of chicken house, pump/generator house, garage, barn
32 of 37

Pump/generator house
33 of 37

Barn and chicken house
34 of 37

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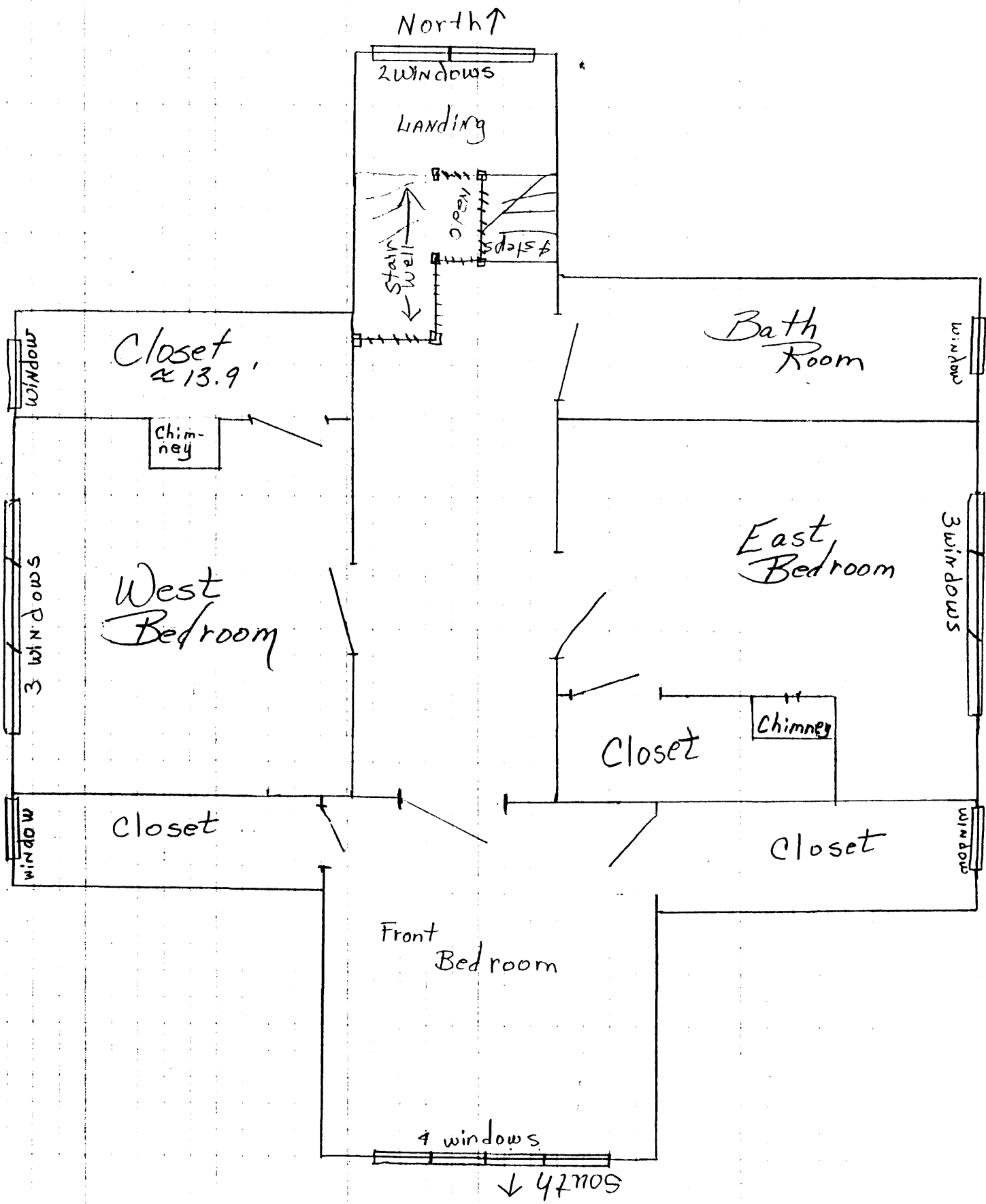
Houser House
Obion County, Tennessee

Chicken house
35 of 37

Rear view of barn
36 of 37

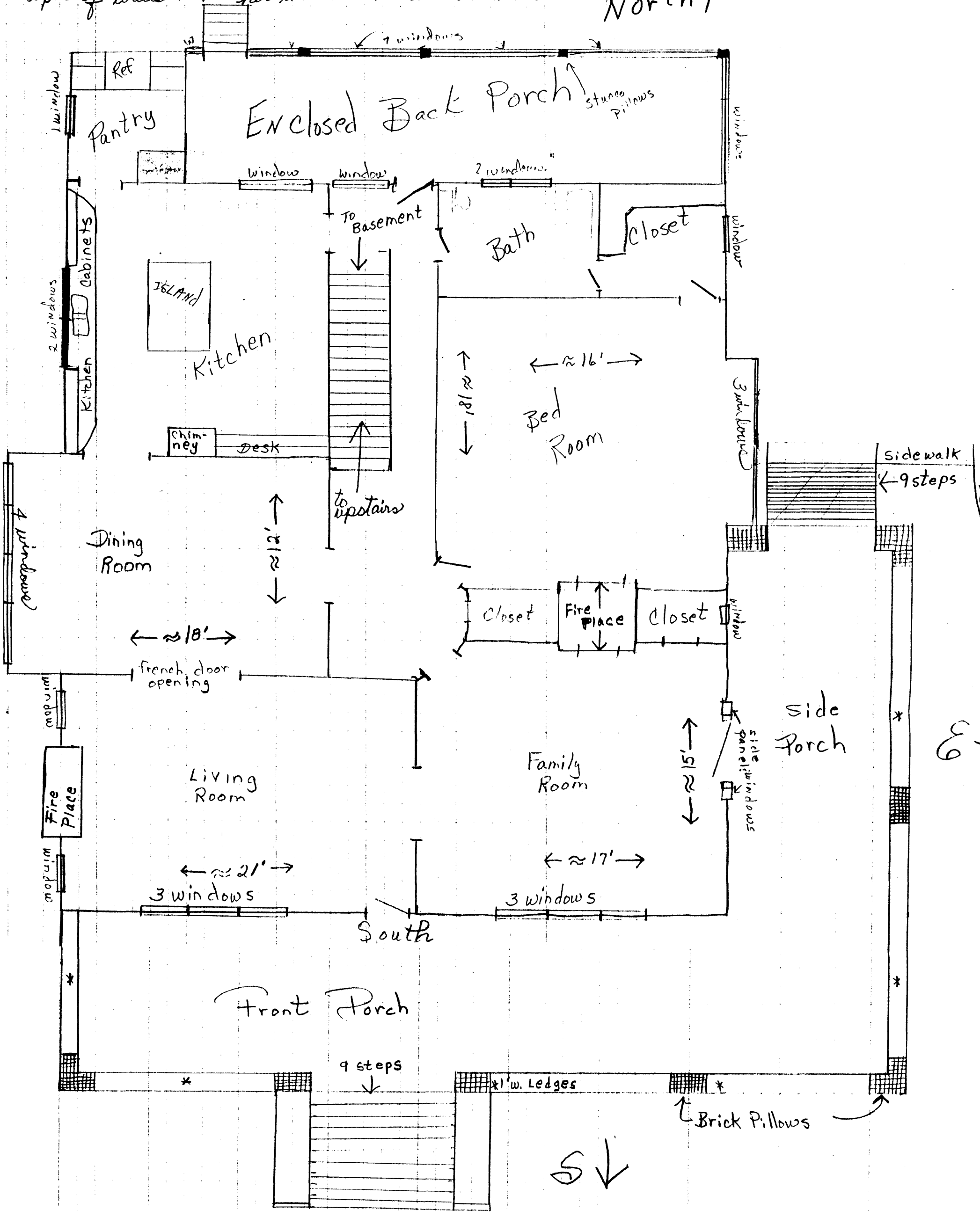
Garage
37 of 37

1 sq = \approx 1 ft



1 sq = \approx 1 ft
depth of walls \approx 9" - not included in measurements

North \uparrow



Main Level