

Historic Resources of Old Hickory
Old Hickory Historic District
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Location: Bordered by Hadley Avenue and Jones Street on the west, Eighth Street on the north, Riverside Drive on the east, and 15th Avenue on the south.

Owner: Multiple

Classification: District

Description:

The Old Hickory Historic District contains the original "Permanent Village" boundaries associated with the 1918 DuPont Powder Plant in Old Hickory, Tennessee. All buildings in the district are residences with the exception of the First Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Eighth and Jones Streets. This district includes examples of every house type constructed for the planned community of Old Hickory. There are ten house types in the district which reflect the Colonial Revival, Bungalow, and Vernacular styles of the early 20th century.

Within the district boundaries are 316 buildings of which 276 are contributive and 40 are non-contributive. Almost all of the houses in the district were originally sided with asbestos shingles, but very few still exhibit this type of exterior sheathing. The majority of structures have added frame or vinyl siding. Buildings are considered contributive if their basic plan and details are intact. Non-contributive buildings are those which have been significantly altered in plan and appearance.

Acreage: Approximately 43.2 acres

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundaries of the district follow the original boundary of the Old Hickory "Permanent Village" platted in 1918. These boundaries are shown on accompanying Davidson County Tax Maps 53-3 and 44-15. Areas to the north, west and south of these boundaries contain the Florence and Denver house types which were constructed in the late 1920s and 1930s. Many of these have been significantly altered and are not considered eligible for inclusion in the district. The district is bounded on the west by Hadley Avenue and Jones Street, on the north by Eighth Street, on the east by Riverside Drive and on the south by Fifteenth Street.

UTM References: A. 16/531600/4012960 B. 16/532000/4012960 C. 16/532230/4012120 D. 16/531760/4012130. (Goodlettsville Quad).

Statement of Significance:

The Old Hickory Historic District contains a grouping of 316 buildings which were part of a planned company community of the early 20th century. The area contained within the boundaries of the historic district are the only residential properties which remain extant from the development of the DuPont Powder Plant in 1918. The history and evolution of the district is unique in the Middle Tennessee area. The district retains its original architectural character and integrity of setting and location.

The area presently encompassed by the historic district was originally farmland during the 19th and early 20th century. In 1917 this site and adjacent land was

purchased by the U.S. government for the construction of a gunpowder plant which was to be erected by the DuPont Company of Philadelphia. This plant was to produce smokeless gunpowder for the allied war effort during World War I. In March of 1918 ground was broken for the construction of the plant.

In addition to the plant itself workers began construction of housing, governmental and recreational facilities to serve the community's projected population of 35,000. Because of fear of sabotage security considerations demanded that the community be as insular as possible. All needs of the workers regarding housing, shopping, eating facilities and recreation were to be supplied by DuPont.

To meet the demand for housing DuPont officials constructed hundreds of homes, duplexes and apartments. West of Hadley Avenue a "Temporary Village" was constructed which was composed of frame structures with an exterior sheathing of "rubberoid", an asbestos compound. These buildings were constructed to provide only temporary housing during the operation of the plant. These buildings were later razed or moved and none of these structures remain extant. East of Hadley Avenue the "Permanent Village" was constructed which consisted of more substantial frame one and two-story structures. They were designed to house the upper echelon workers and management for the plant.

Within the permanent village ten distinct house types were built. These ranged from very simple one-story vernacular homes to ornate three-story Colonial Revival homes for the managers. Influences of the Bungalow and Dutch Colonial styles are also found in the designs of the permanent village. These houses were constructed with the most modern of electrical, plumbing and kitchen facilities. Each house type was given a distinctive name such as "Florence", "Ketchum", "Haskell" and others. Many shared common elements such as large porches on the main facade, multi-light windows, exposed rafters and asbestos shingled exteriors. The layout of the permanent village followed a grid pattern with the exception of Riverside Drive which followed the contours of the bluff overlooking the Cumberland River. On most blocks houses were grouped six to a block and were oriented towards the street.

By the end of December of 1918 over 300 houses had been built in the permanent village and were occupied by workers of the plant. With the closing of the plant in 1919 all of the original residents moved away from the village and the houses were left vacant for several years. In 1923 the DuPont Company returned to the site to erect a rayon plant. Houses in the permanent village were rehabilitated with new paint, wallpaper and other repairs. When the houses were once again habitable workers of the new DuPont plant were assigned homes in the village with DuPont responsible for their management and upkeep.

From 1923 to 1946 the homes in the village continued to be owned and managed by the DuPont Company. DuPont had a large maintenance staff which would paint the homes every several years, make repairs where needed and even change light bulbs. This arrangement ended in 1946 with the decision of DuPont to sell the homes to the workers rather than continue the management of the

village. Since 1946 homes in the village have been owner occupied with alterations of the structures reflecting the desires and tastes of the occupants.

Today the permanent village remains as the only example of a planned company town in Middle Tennessee. There have been no major intrusions into the area and the streetscapes of the village are much as they were in 1918. Almost all of the structures no longer exhibit their original temporary asbestos siding and exteriors are composed of a variety of materials including frame, wood shingle, vinyl and metal siding. Despite changes to the structures over past decades the original design and appearance of most structures is evident. Of the 316 structures in the village only 40 are considered non-contributive. The Old Hickory Historic District has retained its integrity of setting and location and is a unique historical and architectural resource of Tennessee.

House Types

1. The Haskell: The Haskell is a two-story frame house with a gable roof oriented toward the street. On the main facade is a one-story shed roof porch supported by paired rectangular columns with Doric motif capitals. Windows are six-over-six light sash. Beneath the roof and porch eaves are exposed rafters. Above the second-story windows is a frame belt course, and in the gable field is a rectangular attic window. The main doorway is of frame and glass with three rectangular frame inset panels and a fixed glass panel. A porch railing of rectangular wood posts and spindles was present on each porch, but many of these have been removed or altered. On the first floor of the house are a living room, a dining room and a kitchen. Three bedrooms and a bath are on the second floor.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 805 Hadley; 2. 807 Hadley; 3. 901 Hadley; 4. 903 Hadley; 5. 909 Hadley; 6. 911 Hadley; 7. 800 Lawrence; 8. 804 Lawrence; 9. 806 Lawrence; 10. 900 Lawrence; 11. 902 Lawrence; 12. 801 Lawrence; 13. 809 Lawrence; 14. 901 Lawrence; 15. 905 Lawrence; 16. 907 Lawrence; 17. 800 Cleves; 18. 802 Cleves; 19. 808 Cleves; 20. 810 Cleves 21. 801 Cleves; 22. 805 Cleves; 23. 807 Cleves; 24. 811 Cleves; 25. 900 Cleves; 26. 904 Cleves; 27. 906 Cleves; 28. 910 Cleves; 29. 901 Cleves; 30. 903 Cleves; 31. 909 Cleves; 32. 800 Jones; 33. 804 Jones; 34. 806 Jones; 35. 810 Jones; 36. 900 Jones; 37. 902 Jones; 38. 908 Jones; 39. 910 Jones; 40. 901 Jones; 41. 905 Jones; 42. 907 Jones; 43. 1001 Jones; 44. 1005 Jones; 45. 900 Clarke; 46. 906 Clarke; 47. 910 Clarke; 48. 903 Clarke; 49. 909 Clarke; 50. 1000 Clarke; 51. 1004 Clarke; 52. 1006 Clarke; 53. 1010 Clarke; 54. 1003 Clarke; 55. 1007 Clarke; 56. 1202 Clarke; 57. 1208 Clarke; 58. 1210 Clarke; 59. 1201 Clarke; 60. 1203 Clarke; 61. 1209 Clarke; 62. 1211 Clarke; 63. 1303 Clarke; 64. 1309 Clarke; 65. 1401 Clarke; 66. 1403 Clarke; 67. 1409 Clarke; 68. 1411 Clarke; 69. 1002 Birdsall; 70. 1004 Birdsall; 71. 1006 Birdsall; 72. 1008 Birdsall; 73. 1106 Birdsall; 74. 1103 Birdsall; 75. 1109 Birdsall; 76. 1200 Birdsall; 77. 1208 Birdsall; 78. 1210 Birdsall; 79. 1203 Birdsall; 80. 1209 Birdsall; 81. 1302 Birdsall; 82. 1308 Birdsall; 83. 1305 Birdsall; 84. 1307 Birdsall; 85. 1402 Birdsall; 86. 1408 Birdsall; 87. 1204 Overton; 88. 1206 Overton; 89. 1302 Overton; 90. 1308 Overton; 91. 1309

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Overton; 92. 1403 Overton; 93. 1409 Overton; 94. 1402 Turner; 95. 1408 Turner; 96. 1405 Turner; 97. 1407 Turner.

Locations - (Non-Contributive): 1. 811 Hadley; 2. 810 Lawrence; 3. 811 Lawrence; 4. 908 Lawrence; 5. 910 Lawrence; 6. 803 Lawrence; 7. 911 Lawrence; 8. 911 Cleves; 9. 911 Jones; 10. 1007 Jones; 11. 1011 Jones; 12. 904 Clarke; 13. 1005 Clarke; 14. 1009 Clarke; 15. 1200 Clarke; 16. 1104 Birdsall; 17. 1202 Birdsall.

2. The Georgia: The Georgia is a two-story frame structure designed in the Dutch Colonial style. The house features a gambrel roof with a second-story shed roof dormer on the main facade. Also on the main facade is a one-story porch supported by rectangular posts with Doric motif columns. Beneath the eaves of the house are exposed rafters. Windows are six-over-six light sash. At the doorway on the main facade are sidelights. The interior has a living room, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor with three bedrooms and a bath on the second. Beneath the house is a half basement.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 803 Hadley; 2. 905 Hadley; 3. 907 Hadley; 4. 802 Lawrence; 5. 808 Lawrence; 6. 904 Lawrence; 7. 906 Lawrence; 8. 805 Lawrence; 9. 903 Lawrence; 10. 909 Lawrence; 11. 804 Cleves; 12. 806 Cleves; 13. 803 Cleves; 14. 809 Cleves; 15. 902 Cleves; 16. 908 Cleves; 17. 905 Cleves; 18. 907 Cleves; 19. 802 Jones; 20. 808 Jones; 21. 809 Jones; 22. 811 Jones; 23. 906 Jones; 24. 903 Jones; 25. 909 Jones; 26. 1003 Jones; 27. 1009 Jones; 28. 800 Clarke; 29. 802 Clarke; 30. 804 Clarke; 31. 806 Clarke; 32. 808 Clarke; 33. 902 Clarke; 34. 908 Clarke; 35. 905 Clarke; 36. 907 Clarke; 37. 1002 Clarke; 38. 1008 Clarke; 39. 1001 Clarke; 40. 1011 Clarke; 41. 1204 Clarke; 42. 1206 Clarke; 43. 1205 Clarke; 44. 1207 Clarke; 45. 1301 Clarke; 46. 1311 Clarke; 47. 1405 Clarke; 48. 1407 Clarke; 49. 1108 Birdsall; 50. 1105 Birdsall; 51. 1107 Birdsall; 52. 1204 Birdsall; 53. 1206 Birdsall; 54. 1205 Birdsall; 55. 1207 Birdsall; 56. 1300 Birdsall; 57. 1303 Birdsall; 58. 1309 Birdsall; 59. 1403 Birdsall; 60. 1200 Overton; 61. 1210 Overton; 62. 1304 Overton; 63. 1306 Overton; 64. 1303 Overton; 65. 1400 Overton; 66. 1404 Overton; 67. 1404 Turner; 68. 1406 Turner; 69. 1403 Turner; 70. 1409 Turner.

Locations - (Non-Contributive): 1. 809 Hadley; 2. 904 Jones; 3. 1102 Birdsall; 4. 1310 Birdsall.

3. The Florence: The Florence is a one-story vernacular frame house with a gable roof. The house rests on a brick pier foundation. On the main facade is a small projecting porch with simple rectangular porch posts and spindles. The original doorways were of multi-light design but many of these have been removed. Adjacent to the doorway are nine-over-one sash sidelights. Windows in the house are nine-over-one light sash. Beneath the roof eaves are exposed rafters. The interior of the house features a living room, dining room, three small bedrooms, a kitchen and a bath.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 1205 Jones; 2. 1207 Jones; 3. 1301 Jones; 4. 1303 Jones; 5. 1309 Jones; 6. 1311 Jones; 7. 1100 Clarke; 8. 1104 Clarke; 9. 1106

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Clarke; 10. 1101 Clarke; 11. 1103 Clarke; 12. 1304 Clarke; 13. 1306 Clarke; 14. 1400 Clarke; 15. 1402 Clarke; 16. 1404 Clarke; 17. 1406 Clarke; 18. 1408 Clarke; 19. 1003 Birdsall; 20. 1104 Overton; 21. 1106 Overton; 22. 1305 Overton; 23. 1307 Overton; 24. 1301 13th Street.

Locations — (Non-Contributive): 1. 1304 Jones; 2. 1308 Jones; 3. 1310 Jones; 4. 1102 Clarke; 5. 1108 Clarke; 6. 1110 Clarke; 7. 1109 Clarke; 8. 1410 Clarke; 9. 1407 Birdsall; 10. 1405 Overton; 11. 1009 Birdsall.

4. The Denver: The Denver is a one-story frame vernacular house with a hipped roof. The Denver features a large front porch with rectangular porch posts and spindles. The main doorway features a multi-light door flanked by nine-over-one sash sidelights. Windows are nine-over-one light sash. Beneath the roof eaves are exposed rafters. The interior of the house contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bath.

Locations — (Contributive): 1. 1203 Jones; 2. 1209 Jones; 3. 1300 Jones; 4. 1302 Jones; 5. 1305 Jones; 6. 1307 Jones; 7. 1105 Clarke; 8. 1107 Clarke; 9. 1300 Clarke; 10. 1302 Clarke; 11. 1308 Clarke; 12. 1310 Clarke; 13. 1005 Birdsall; 14. 1007 Birdsall; 15. 1400 Birdsall; 16. 1404 Birdsall; 17. 1410 Birdsall; 18. 1100 Overton; 19. 1102 Overton; 20. 1108 Overton; 21. 1110 Overton; 22. 1407 Overton.

Location — (Non-Contributive): 1. 1201 Jones; 2. 1211 Jones; 3. 1406 Birdsall.

5. The Cumberland: The Cumberland is a "Foursquare" Colonial Revival style two-story frame house. The Cumberland features a hipped roof and rests on a brick pier foundation. On the main facade is a one-story porch with rectangular posts which rest on a solid frame railing. The porch posts feature inset rectangular panels and vertical frame designs on the capitals. The main doorway is of frame with multi-light inset glass panels. Windows on the first floor are six-over-one sash. Beneath the eaves are exposed rafters. The first floor interior has an entrance hall, living room, dining room and kitchen. On the second floor are four bedrooms and a bath.

Locations — (Contributive): 1. 901 Clarke; 2. 911 Clarke; 3. 1305 Clarke; 4. 1307 Clarke; 5. 1001 Birdsall; 6. 1011 Birdsall; 7. 1100 Birdsall; 8. 1110 Birdsall; 9. 1304 Birdsall; 10. 1306 Birdsall; 11. 1202 Overton; 12. 1208 Overton; 13. 1300 Overton; 14. 1310 Overton; 15. 1401 Turner.

Locations — (Non-Contributive): 1. 801 Hadley.

6. The Arlington: The Arlington is a two-story frame vernacular house with a gable roof. On the main facade is a large one-story porch supported by Tuscan columns with Doric motif capitals and a rectangular spindled railing. The main entrance features a frame and multi-light paneled door flanked by nine-over-one sash sidelights. The windows are six-over-one light sash. Beneath the eaves are exposed rafters. The house also displays a large exterior brick chimney. On the interior the first floor has a living room, dining room, den and kitchen while the

second floor has four bedrooms and a bath. A later version of this house displays a jerkinhead or clipped gable roof instead of a gable roof.

Locations — (Contributive): 1. 807 Lawrence; 2. 807 Jones; 3. 800 Clarke; 4. 810 Clarke; 5. 1000 Birdsall; 6. 1010 Birdsall; 7. 1101 Birdsall; 8. 1111 Birdsall; 9. 1201 Birdsall; 10. 1211 Birdsall; 11. 1301 Birdsall; 12. 1311 Birdsall; 13. 1401 Birdsall; 14. 1301 Overton; 15. 1311 Overton; 16. 1402 Overton; 17. 1406 Overton; 18. 1408 Overton; 19. 1401 Overton; 20. 1411 Overton; 21. 902 Riverside; 22. 1400 Turner; 23. 1410 Turner; 24. 1411 Turner; 25. 806 Riverside.

7. The Ketchum: The Ketchum is a two-story vernacular frame house with a gable roof. The house features a flaired roof eave on the main facade which reflects the Dutch Colonial style. The projecting roof eave encloses a one-story porch supported by round Tuscan columns with Doric motif pilasters. Between the columns is a railing with rectangular spindles. On the second story is a shed roof dormer with two sets of triple six-light casement windows. Beneath the roof eaves are frame knee braces. Windows are six-over-one light sash. On one of the secondary facades is an exterior brick chimney and a rectangular bay window. On the first floor interior is a living room, dining room and kitchen. The second story contains three bedrooms and a bath. Adjacent to the house is a one-story garage with servant's quarters.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 800 Riverside; 2. 904 Riverside; 3. 1000 Riverside; 4. 1002 Riverside; 5. 1004 Riverside; 6. 1204 Riverside; 7. 1300 Riverside; 8. 1302 Riverside; 9. 1304 Riverside; 10. 1400 Riverside; 11. 1402 Riverside; 12. 1404 Riverside; 13. 1406 Riverside; 14. 1500 Riverside.

Locations - (Non-Contributive): 1. 900 Riverside; 2. 1006 Riverside.

8. The Wellford: Only one Wellford was constructed in the village but it is one of the more interesting designs in Old Hickory. This house was built to house the naval officers who commanded the patrol boats on the Cumberland River. The Wellford is a two-story vernacular frame house with a jerkinhead roof and large shed roof dormer on the second story. An open porch on the first floor is recessed within the house with the second floor above. The porch is supported by Tuscan columns with Doric motif capitals. Windows are six-over-six light sash. On the main entrance is a frame door with multi-light sidelights. On the interior of the first floor is a living room, dining room and kitchen. On the second floor are six bedrooms and a bath. Adjacent to the house is a one-story frame garage with servant's quarters.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 1100 Riverside.

9. The Bay Tree: Along with the Davis the Bay Tree is the largest structure built in the village as a single family residence. The Bay Tree is a two-and-one-half story frame structure built in the Colonial Revival style. Over the main entrance to the house is a large segmental pediment supported by curved brackets. Flanking the panelled door are Doric motif pilasters. On a

secondary facade is a one-story porch with rectangular brick columns and a frame railing. Windows on the first floor are ten-over-one sash. At the roofline are gable dormers with multi-light sash windows. The house has a gable roof and rests on a concrete foundation. On the first floor is a living room, dining room and kitchen. On the second floor are three bedrooms and a bath and on the half story is a large bedroom. Adjacent to the house is a one-story frame garage with servant's quarters.

Locations - (Contributive): 1. 1102 Riverside; 2. 1202 Riverside.

10. The Davis: The Davis is the largest and most ornate house constructed in the village. The house is two-and-one half stories in height with a gambrel roof and concrete foundation. Built in the Colonial Revival style, the Davis was constructed with bevelled pine siding instead of the composition shingle siding. Over the first floor on the main facade is an overhang supported by large brackets. The main entrance has a six panelled door with a keystone over the doorway. On a secondary facade is a one-story porch supported by round and square Tuscan columns with Doric motif pilasters. On the roof of the porch is a frame balustrade. Below the second story eave is a row of dentils. Windows are six-over-six light sash. On the half story are three gable dormer windows with multi-light tracery windows.

The first floor interior contains a living room, dining room and kitchen. On the second floor are four bedrooms, a sun room and bath and on the half story are three bedrooms and bath. Adjacent to the house is a one-story garage with servant's quarters. In addition to the early Davis design a "Special Davis" was built in the 1920s at 810 Riverside. This design follows the same general plan of the Davis but lacks dormer windows, has a gable rather than gambrel roof and lacks some of the decorative detailing.

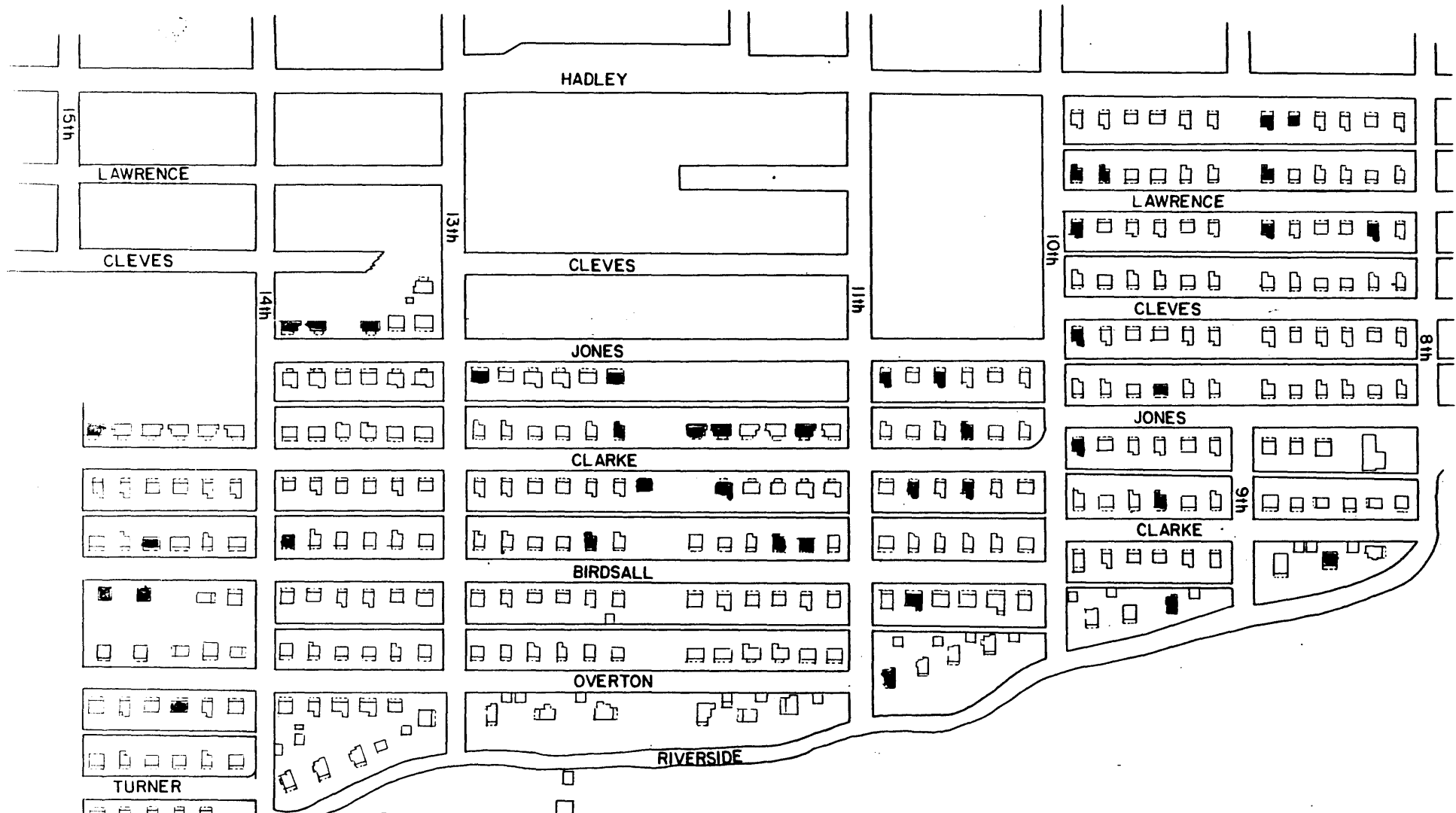
Locations - (Contributive): 1. 810 Riverside (Special); 2. 1104 Riverside; 3. 1200 Riverside; 4. 1203 Riverside.

Individual Structures in the District - Contributive

1. First Presbyterian Church, 803 Jones Street: The First Presbyterian Church is a Late Gothic stone structure built in 1927. It displays Gothic arching and lancet windows. The building also displays a large square tower with rounded arch windows.

Non-Contributing Structures in the District:

1. 1405 Birdsall: ca. 1940 frame house.
2. 1408 Riverside: ca. 1950 brick house.
3. 1410 Riverside: ca. 1950 frame house.
4. 1113 Clarke: ca. 1940 brick house.



Old Hickory Historic
 District.
 Old Hickory, TN
 Contributing Properties
 Non-Contributing
 Properties