

OCT 06 1988

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name DeBow, James R., House
other names/site number Vinewood

2. Location

street & number State Highway 25 N/A not for publication
city, town Hartsville vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Trousdale code 169 zip code 37074

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	5	1 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		2 structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		objects
		5	3 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Robert L. Byers 10/3/88
Signature of certifying official 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.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Arlene Byers Entered in the National Register 11/3/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone
walls BRICK

roof Slate
other wood porch

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The James R. DeBow House is a two story brick Italianate style house with an attached one story kitchen. Situated on gently rolling farmland that fronts the old Ft. Blount Trail, now State Highway 25, in Trousdale County, the house was built for James DeBow, a wealthy farmer. Construction on the house began in 1854, however, the Civil War delayed completion of the house until 1870.

The house is built in an "L" plan with each ell three bays by one bay. The house rests on a foundation of large blocks of cut limestone with cast iron ventilation grills. The same stone was used to make the steps to the south (front) and west entrances. The exterior brick walls are laid in five row common bond, three bricks thick and are composed of brick fired on the property. The south (front) side of the west ell has a hipped roof, but the north and east sides have a gable roof. The roof is covered with its original slate roofing tiles which were imported from England. The hexagonal shape slate tiles are gray and creme colored arranged in an intricate diamond pattern. The boxed cornice displays a wide entablature and overhanging eaves supported by paired brackets typical of the Italianate style. The house has four original chimneys that are no longer in use and the roof retains the original cast iron lighting rods.

Twelve of the fifteen original windows on the DeBow House are round arch windows with two over two sash. Two windows located on the south facade are surmounted by round arch window hoods. The windows in the one story kitchen and pantry portion of the house have segmental arches. All windows, with the exception of the two hooded windows, retain their original shutters. The two hooded windows appear to have never had shutters. Because all millwork was done at the building site, no two windows are identical in size, differing in dimensions by several inches. The windows average eleven feet in height and four feet seven inches in width.

On the south (front) facade of the house is a two story wooden porch and balcony located in a narrow ell created by the west wing. The porch columns are square with beveled corners and rounded brackets. The balustrade on the balcony is of sawn mill work. Three pieces were recently replaced using the weathered originals as patterns. The round arch main entrance and the identical balcony door directly above it are flanked by round arch sidelights with hinged panels that could be opened for

See continuation sheet

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ventilation. A secondary entrance located on the west facade is a round arch door covered with a one story portico with columns and brackets identical to those on the front porch. In the 1950s the wood deck of the west entrance was replaced with a poured concrete slab. An outside entrance to the east front room was added in the 1920s. A small cellar, fifteen by fifteen feet, with dirt floor lies under the east front room. The cellar may be entered only by an outside entrance located on the east facade.

The DeBow house has had a one story addition built onto the rear of the house. The addition was added in 1945 when a one story frame porch was removed. The addition is brick veneer with modern square windows and doors that do not match the originals. A fifth chimney is located on the north wall of the addition. The rear addition is the only major structural alteration to the original exterior and does not compromise the house's overall integrity. Prior to the addition, which added a den, breakfast room and bath, entry to the original one story pantry and kitchen was through the open back porch.

The overall floor plan of the houses consists of an L-shaped central hall with three rooms on each floor in the main portion of the house. The first floor consist of two parlors and a dining room and the second floor has three bedrooms. Ceilings on the first floor are thirteen feet and on the second floor are thirteen and a half feet. All interior trim work is hand milled. Baseboards are twelve inches in height with beading. All doors are paneled with matching trim around the panels. A pocket door, originally leading to the back porch, now leads to the 1945 addition. The door's mechanism has never been replaced or repaired. The curved staircase connecting the two floors has a walnut railing and an turned balusters. The stairway baseboard also curves to match the bend in the stairs, rather than making a 45 degree angle with mitered corner. A similar curve in the baseboard is found at the top and bottom of the stairs. All of the original mantels remain in the house, three are cast iron and four are wood. The cast iron mantel in the front west room retains its original faux marble paint. The cast iron mantles generally display a round arch openings surmounted with a center modillion. The wood mantels in the house are relatively simple in design, however, the mantel in the east downstairs room is the exception. This mantle has two eight foot columns and a mirrored panel insert.

Alterations on the interior are minimal. The addition of a bath in the upstairs hall along with the addition of two closets are the only changes to the house's original interior. The 1945 addition added a den, breakfast room and a bath to the first floor. The addition allows movement from the

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dining room to the pantry or kitchen without leaving the house. Prior to 1945, although the pantry and kitchen are connected to the house, entry was possible only by leaving the house and walking along a covered porch. No other changes in the floor plan, room functions, or decorative elements have been made.

There are seven outbuildings located on the James R. DeBow property. Four outbuildings contemporary with the house are contributing. The four contributing outbuildings include: A small two room cabin, with board and batten siding that sits to the north (rear) of the house, and two barns and a workshop, also with board and batten siding, to the east of the house. The two barns and workshop have stone foundations and hand hewn log beams. Individual boards on the shed and barns are random widths, some are as wide as twenty-eight inches. The workshop was used as the mill shop during the construction of the house and for storage of farm equipment in the intervening years.

The three non-contributing buildings include a tool shed and a chicken coop, dates of construction unknown, that stand to the east and north of the house respectively and a smokehouse located directly to the north (rear) of the house. The smokehouse was built circa 1870, but was significantly altered in 1945 with the addition of a garage and apartment. Although the smokehouse retains its original equipment, alterations have made it a non-contributing structure.

A handmade wrought iron fence that was imported from England has recently been taken from an outbuilding, repaired and replaced in the front of the house. The fence has no welds and was original to the house.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1854-1870

Significant Dates

1854-1870

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The James R. DeBow House is being nominated under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. The DeBow House, known as "Vinewood" to local residents, is the only example of Italianate architecture known to exist in Trousdale County. (A partial survey of the county completed in 1979 shows no other Italianate houses.)

James R. DeBow descended from French Huguenot settlers from the Hudson River area in New York state. His grandfather, Frederick DeBow received a settlement from the United States Government for service in the American Revolution and settled in the Hartsville, Tennessee area. James R. DeBow inherited the land from his father and in 1854 construction on his house was started. Construction of the house was halted during the Civil War by military action in the vicinity and by possible financial strain created by Union occupation. It is known that the Union Army used the partially completed house as a hospital, possibly for wounded from Morgan's raid on Hartsville in 1862. The DeBow House was eventually completed in 1870.

In June of 1870 Trousdale County was officially created by combining parts of Smith, Macon, Sumner and Wilson Counties. James R. DeBow had been active in creating the county, pushing for its passage and drawing up the boundary lines. According to local tradition, the meeting to draw the boundary lines for Trousdale County occurred in the front parlor of the DeBow House. By September, the political process had selected ten county commissioners of which James R. DeBow was chosen as the first Chairman of that group.

In the late 1800s James A. Andrews, a merchant from Hartsville, acquired the house. In 1904 Noel Coleman Winston, a district sales representative for wood burning cook stoves, purchased the house from Andrews. Winston along with his wife, Mary Bell Woodbury, successfully operated the large farm until his death in the mid 1940s. Winston was a member of the school board for ten years and an avid gardener. It was Winston who gave the house the name Vinewood. Noel Coleman Winston was also largely responsible for the construction of a bridge over the Cumberland River in Trousdale

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Goodspeed. Goodspeed's History of Tennessee. Columbia, TN: Woodard and Stinson Printing Co., 1887.

Maggart, Sue, and Sutton, Nina. Smith County History. Curtis Media Corporation: Dallas, TX, 1987.

Oliver, Carol. "A Visit to Vinewood", Hartsville Vidette. Hartsville, TN, May 20, 1976.

Thomas, Dr. James. A History of Sumner County. Sumner County Historical Society, Gallatin, TN, 1987.

Interviews: Sara Bradshaw, August 22, 1987 and November 13, 1987.
Jim Carter, September 1, 1987.
Virginia Winston Foley, October 8, 1987 and May 12, 1988.
 See continuation sheet

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
- Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 3 acres

UTM References

A

1	6
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5	7	8	8	2	0
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4	0	2	6	7	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Hillsdale 317 NE

Verbal Boundary Description

The James R. DeBow House fronts State Highway 25, lying to the north of said roadway. To its east, west and north lie farmland, also owned by the present owner of the home. On these three sides a white board fence and a wire fence separate the yard and barn area from the actual farmland. The fences encompass the three acres in the projected National Register listing. The home lies one mile east of the Hartsville city limits.

See continuation sheet

See enclosed Tax Map.

Boundary Justification

The area included in these boundaries encompass the home, its immediate yard area and the barn yard adjacent to the home. This three acre area represents the "estate" as it was upon its completion in 1870 and is sufficient property to protect the James R. DeBow House.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John L. Oliver Jr.
organization Trousdale County Historical Society date September 1988
street & number 205 Church Street telephone 374-2201 / 374-2530
city or town Hartsville state TN zip code 37074

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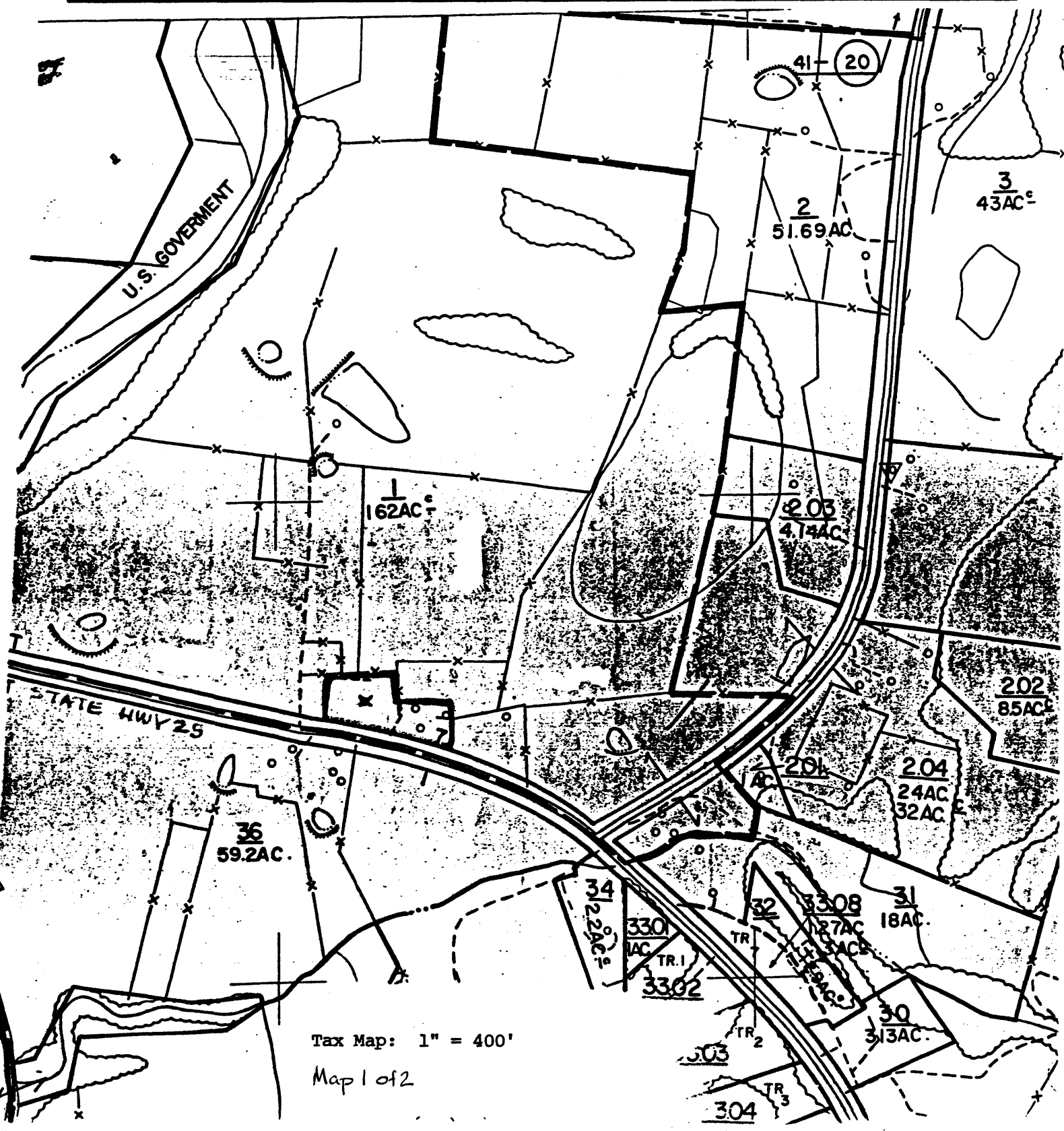
County after a school teacher drowned after his car drove off the ferry. The resulting bridge (replaced in 1982 with a modern concrete span) was named in his honor.

The James R. DeBow House is important to Trousdale County for its significance in architecture as the only know example of Italianate architecture in Trousdale County. The DeBow House retains its integrity of site and materials. The house exhibits classic examples of the Italianate style from window hoods, paired cornice brackets, hipped roof and millwork. Although many houses in the county predate it or were built during the same era, none were constructed in this style. The majority of extant houses constructed in Trousdale County during this time period are variations of the Greek Revival style. The DeBow House's pristine condition and unique design have continued to make it a landmark since its completion in 1870. Only one other property in Trousdale County is listed in the National Register, the Hartsville Depot (NR 7/3/80).

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Tax Map: 1" = 400'

Map 1 of 2

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DeBow, James R., House
State Highway 25
Hartsville vicinity, Trousdale County, Tennessee
Photo by: John Oliver
Date: October 17, 1987
Neg.: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

South facade, facing north
#1 of 26

West facade, facing east
#2 of 26

Rear of house showing addition, facing southwest
#3 of 26

Detail of balcony and millwork, facing north
#4 of 26

Detail of south entrance, sidelights and limestone steps
#5 of 26

Detail of west facade porch with original Italianate posts and millwork
#6 of 26

Detail of window hoods on south facade
#7 of 26

Detail of cornice
#8 of 26

Detail showing limestone foundation and cast iron ventilation grill
#9 of 26

Detail, cast iron fireplace mantel with original faux marble paint
#10 of 26

cast iron fireplaces in upstairs bedroom
#11 of 26

Wood mantel in parlour
#12 of 26

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Wood mantel in the dining room
#13 of 26

Pocket door
#14 of 26

Detail of interior door
#15 of 26

Detail of staircase showing the walnut balustrade and curved baseboard
#16 of 26

Detail of staircase showing curved baseboard trim and balustrade
#17 of 26

Detail of baseboard at top of stairs
#18 of 26

Detail, original cast iron fence.
#19 of 26

Cabin
#20 of 26

Workshop and large barn
#21 of 26

Date: August 1988

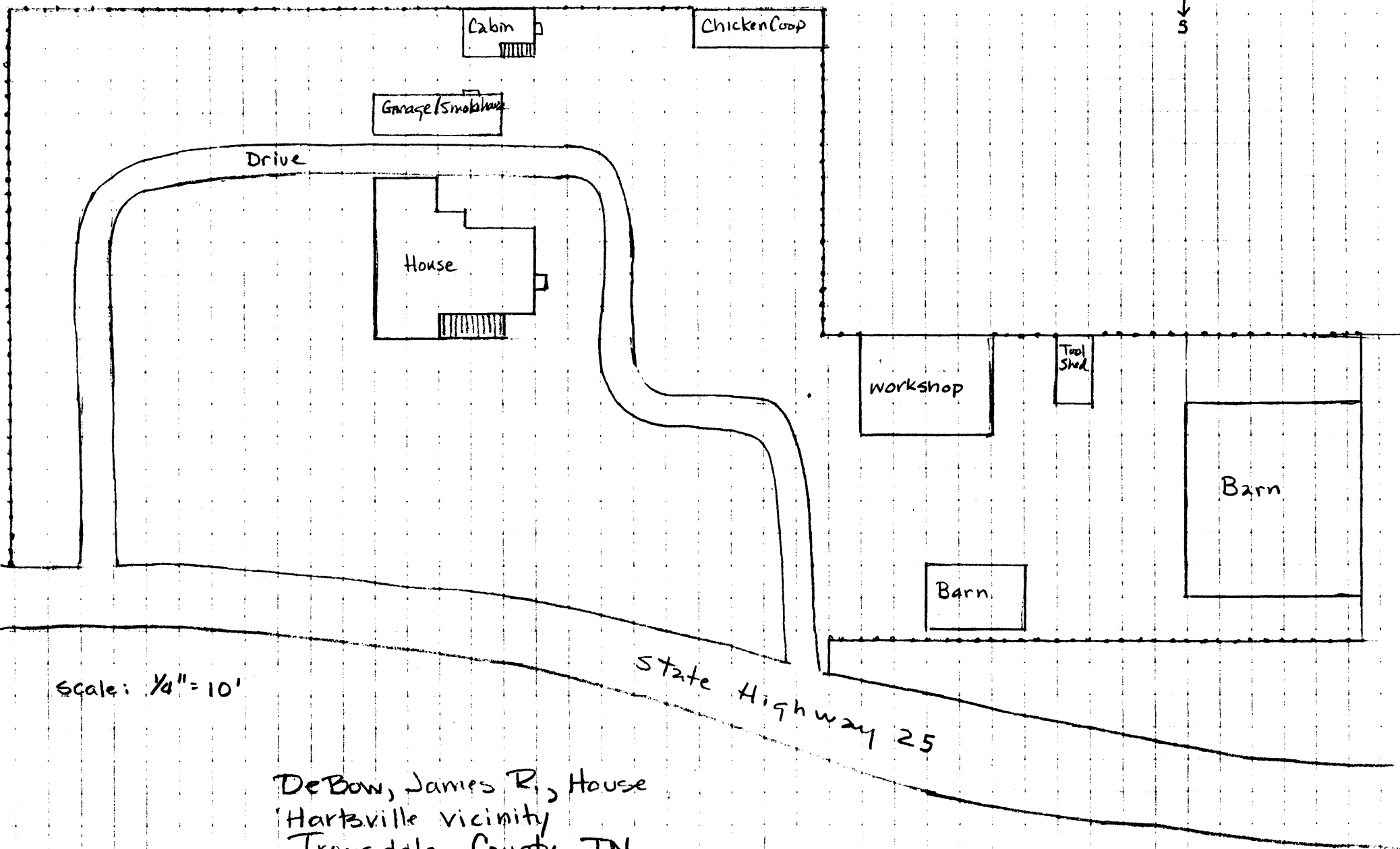
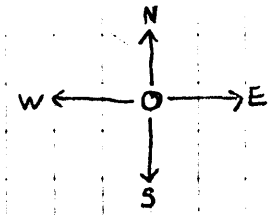
East side of smokehouse/garage, looking west
#22 of 26

Front of chicken coop, looking northeast
#23 of 26

Tool shed, looking northwest
#24 of 26

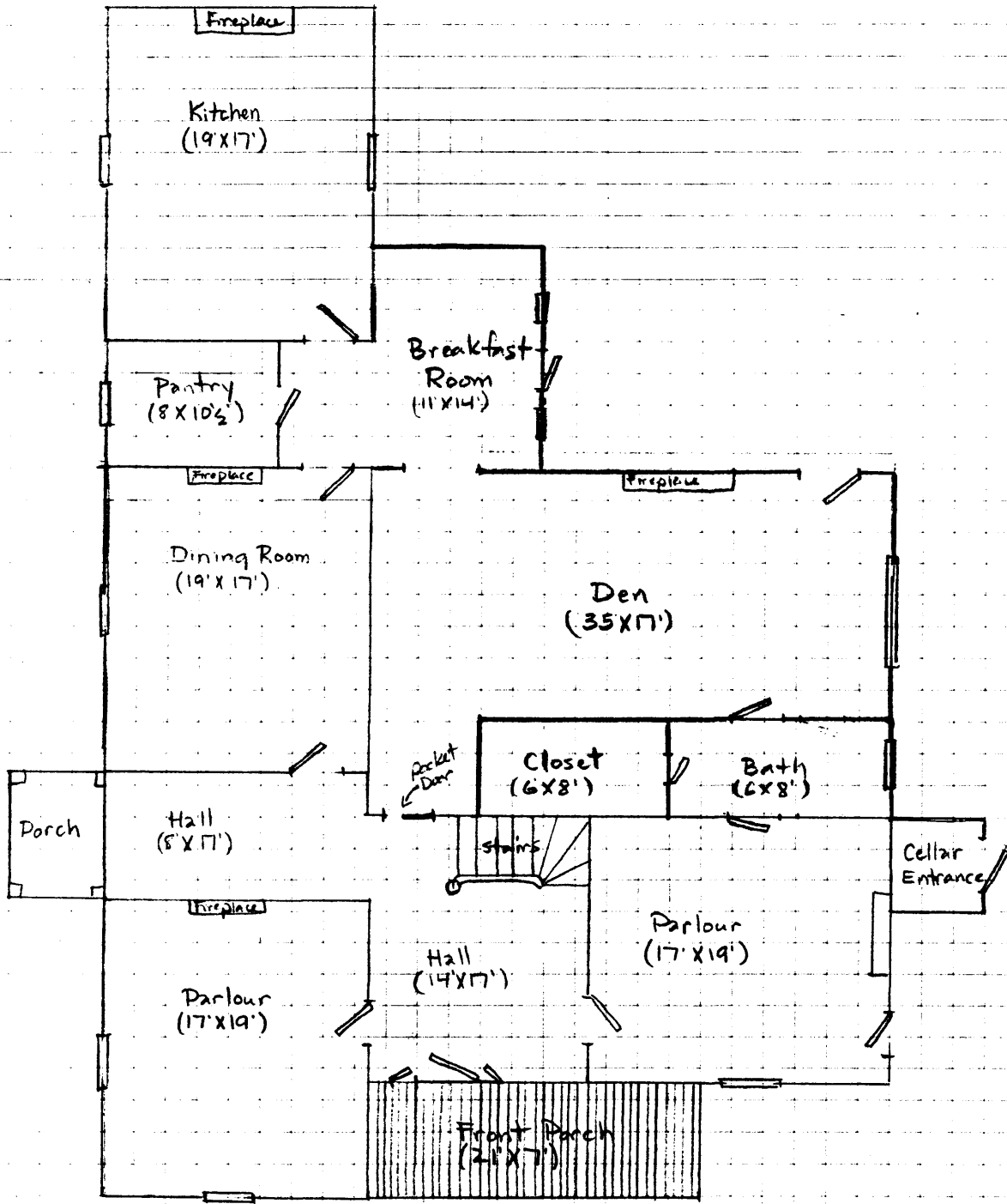
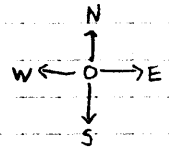
Large barn, used for hanging tobacco, looking east
#25 of 26

Small barn used for equipment storage, looking southeast
#26 of 26



Scale: $\frac{1}{4}'' = 10'$

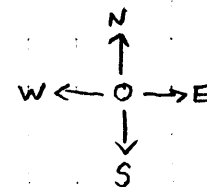
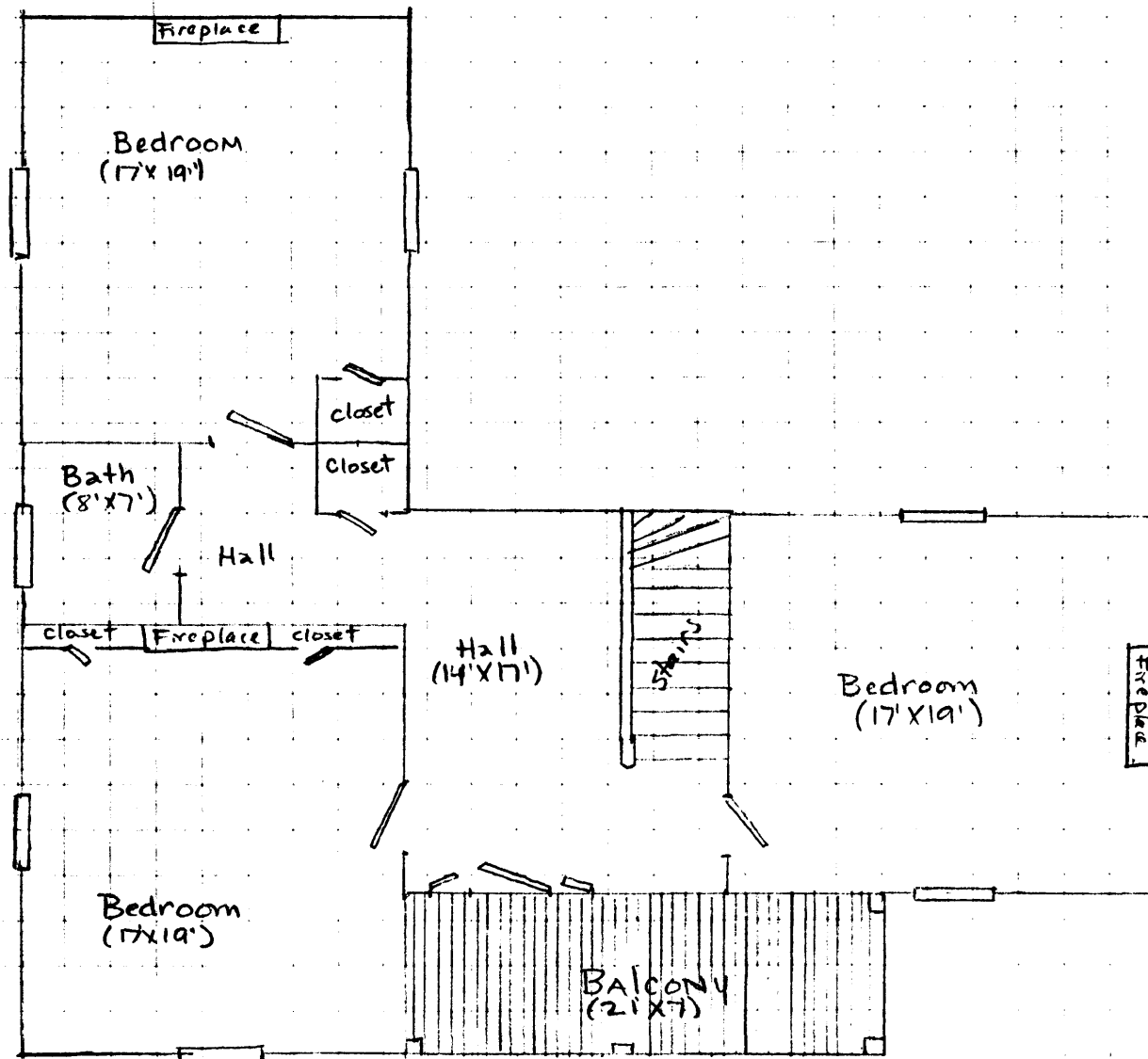
DeBow, James R., House
Hartsville vicinity
Trousdale County, TN
Map 2 of 2



Scale: one block = two feet

Downstairs Floor Plan

DeBow, James R., House
Hartsville vicinity,
Trousdale County, TN
Figure 1 of 2



Scale $\frac{1}{4}'' = 2'$

Upstairs Floor Plan

DeBow, James P., House
 Hartsville vicinity
 Trousdale County, TN