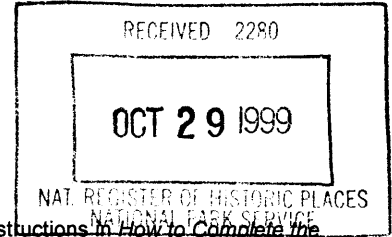


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Maxwell - Kirby House
other names/site number William Maxwell House, Matthew Kirby House, Jack Stroud House, Co. Survey #3657

2. Location

street & number 8671 Northshore Drive not for publication N/A
city or town Knoxville vicinity N/A
state Tennessee code TN county Knox code 093 zip code 37922

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 L. Hays 10/27/99
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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Maxwell - Kirby House
Name of Property

Knox 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	
2	3	buildings
1		sites
2		structures
		objects
4	3	Total

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

Historical and Architectural Resources of
Knoxville and Knox County, Tennessee

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

- Domestic: single dwelling
- Domestic: secondary structure
- Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
- Landscaping: garden

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic: single dwelling
- Domestic: secondary structure
- Agriculture/Subsistence: Well house and reservoir
- Landscaping: garden

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Colonial Revival Influence

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt shingle

other wood, rock walls

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 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
 LANDSCAPING ARCHITECTURE
 SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

circa 1830 - circa 1920

Significant Dates

circa 1830, 1886, circa 1920

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

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:

Knoxville - Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission

Maxwell - Kirby House
Name of Property

Knox County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 13 acres

Bearden 138 NE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>767120</u>	<u>3975250</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>767341</u>	<u>3975050</u>

3	<u>16</u>	<u>767210</u>	<u>3974890</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>16</u>	<u>767020</u>	<u>3975030</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 Ann K. Bennett, Senior Planner

organization Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission date July 25, 1997

street & number 403 City County Building, 400 Main Avenue telephone (423) 215-2500

city or town Knoxville state TN zip code 37902

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 Dr. and Mrs. Alexander P. Osmund

street & number 8671 Northshore Drive telephone 423/691-7424

city or town Knoxville state TN zip code 37922

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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Section number 7 Page 1

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Maxwell - Kirby House sets on a rise, facing southeast, at the end of a long gravel drive that travels north and west from Northshore Drive, about ten miles from downtown Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee. The house is in a cleared and landscaped yard, surrounding by rolling terrain that is heavily forested. Included in this nomination is an original log barn, in extreme disrepair, located southwest of the house. Also included in the nomination is an original pump house and rock water reservoir with stone benches, located to the southeast of the house. The yard consists of approximately thirteen acres. The front yard, originally landscaped, is tiered. As the present owners cleared the undergrowth, they found marble walkways, walls and benches, which are contributing.

The Maxwell-Kirby House is located near the old Lowe's Ferry Road. Historically, this section of the Lowe's Ferry Road led south to the Tennessee River and was once heavily traveled, but now is abandoned. When bridges caused the ferry's abandonment and rail and later automobile transportation caused traffic to proceed in an east-west rather than north-south direction, this section of Lowe's Ferry Road was abandoned. These changes occurred at the end of the nineteenth century.

Free-flowing springs located on the property, known as Maxwell Springs, are an important feature to the site. These springs were used for many years, both by Native American and Anglo-American travelers in the period of early settlement in Knox County. Maxwell Springs were used by the owners of the Maxwell-Kirby House as a steady and constant water source.

The original front section of the Maxwell - Kirby House is constructed with heavy timber framing, and its construction date is circa 1830. The date is based on information of heavy timber frame construction common in Knox County at that time. Robert A. Maxwell, son of William Maxwell, extensively remodeled the house in 1886 by adding a rear addition to substantially enlarged the structure. Strips of newspapers from 1886 were found under the lap siding during the 1996 remodeling. The rear addition of the house is of frame construction and is two stories. The front of the house consists of three bays with a gable end roof, and is two stories in height. Weatherboard siding covers the house. The house has a cross gable roof covered with asphalt shingles.

The original portion of the house was probably built circa 1830 by the Scott family, when heavy timber frame construction was common in Knox County (see *Historical and Architectural Resources of Knoxville and Knox County, Tennessee* MPL 1994). Evidence of brick fireplaces and piers exists under the oldest portion of the house in the crawl space. Evidence has also been found to suggest that the heavy timber frame construction supplanted an even earlier structure in the same location. While the Scott family was clearly associated with the construction of the heavy timber frame section, no records have been found to suggest who might be responsible for the construction of this earlier structure.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

The east elevation, facade, is dominated by a full length, two story porch supported by four simple square monumental columns. The facade has three discernible bays. The bays on the right or north and on the south or left have paired six over six wooden double hung sash windows on the first and second floors. The first floor of the central bay contains the entrance. The entrance is comprised of a single six paneled door. The door surround is composed of simple pilasters supporting a plain cornice. On the second floor over the door is a single six over six wooden double hung sash window.

The south elevation is comprised of three bays as well; however, these bays are not as discernible as the ones of the facade. The bay to the right or east is the gable end of the original 1830's main part of the house. This bay contains a stone end chimney flanked by four six over six wooden double hung sash windows, two on each floor. There is a wide cornice board in both gable ends of the original 1830 sections of the house. The central bay contains four six light wooden casement windows grouped together on the second floor from the 1886 addition. The first floor contains an entry protected by a one story gable porch that projects slightly out past the bay to the right. The porch is supported by two simple square posts. The door contains cross panels in the lower portion and a nine light window in the upper section, flanking the door are two ten light side lights. The entry and porch are from the 1966 additions to the structure. The bay to the left contains a one story hipped roofed porch supported by two square posts.

The rear or west elevation contains basically two bays. This elevation is the gable end of the 1886 addition to the main part of the house. This addition created a T-shaped floor plan. On the second floor of this bay are paired six over six wooden double hung sash windows. The first floor of this bay contains a semi circular bay comprised of four six over six wooden double hung sash windows. The bay to the left, added to the house circa 1920, contains three pairs of six light wooden casement windows giving the appearance of a sleeping porch. The first floor of this bay contains two square six over six wooden double hung sash windows.

The north elevation also has three bays. The bay to the right, circa 1920, has five pairs of six light wooden casement windows, continuing the second floor sleeping porch of the west elevation. To the left of this bay is a window air conditioner under a wooden six light window. Under the window opening is an entrance protected by a shed roof supported by simple brackets. The door of this entrance has a six light window in the upper portion and panels below. The central bay is a gabled addition that projects out slightly from the bay to the right but is flush with the bay to the left. The gable contains two single light triangular windows from the present owners rehabilitation of the upstairs bathroom from the early 1988. On the second floor are two six over six wooden double hung sash windows and on the first floor a lone six over six wooden double hung sash window which is centered within this bay. The bay to the left is the original 1830 gable end of the main portion of the house. In the gable end is a louvered triangular attic vent. Centered on the

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

first and second floors of this bay is a six over six wooden double hung sash window on each level.

The interior of the original front section of the house retains a circa 1830 Georgian style mantel and original door and wood trim. The floors throughout the house are oak and typical of the 1880s, and were probably added during the 1886 remodeling. Doors throughout the original section of the interior are panel and frame doors with four panels. The interior staircase was moved to the rear of the original 1830's structure during the 1886 remodeling. The stairwell is composed of simple square banister and larger square newel post. The stair hall on the first and second floor connect the original 1830's section to the 1886 and circa 1920 additions to the house. The dining room in the 1886 rear addition features a bay window with beaded wood trim, and three six-over-six windows. Walls throughout the home are plaster and lathe. In the basement, dug in 1886, can be seen the remnants of a brick fireplace foundation under the original circa 1830 portion. In the 1920's addition the second story sleeping porch and the first floor kitchen were added to the rear 1886 addition. The 1920s addition contains the casement windows and French doors.

The pump house, located about twenty feet northwest of Maxwell Springs, is still used to provide water for the main house. It is built of wood frame construction, and features a reversible sand filter. Four-over-four wood windows, now boarded over, are still present. The pump house, has a concrete floor that was probably added circa 1920. It is of frame construction with weatherboard siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingle roof covering. It is entered through a panel and frame door with four panels. (C) Nearby Maxwell Springs has a rock wall lined reservoir (C) and small dam (C) spilling into the stream created by the spring. Lining the path to the spring are stone benches and walkway that lead into the landscaped paths leading up to the house. (C)

To the southwest of the main house is a barn that is in very poor structural condition built circa 1888. (NC). Flanking the farm lane that leads to the barn are two sheds that were built by the current owners, 1995, out of wood siding from the barn. The sheds have gable ends, metal roofs, and wood sided and both are non-contributing (2 NC).

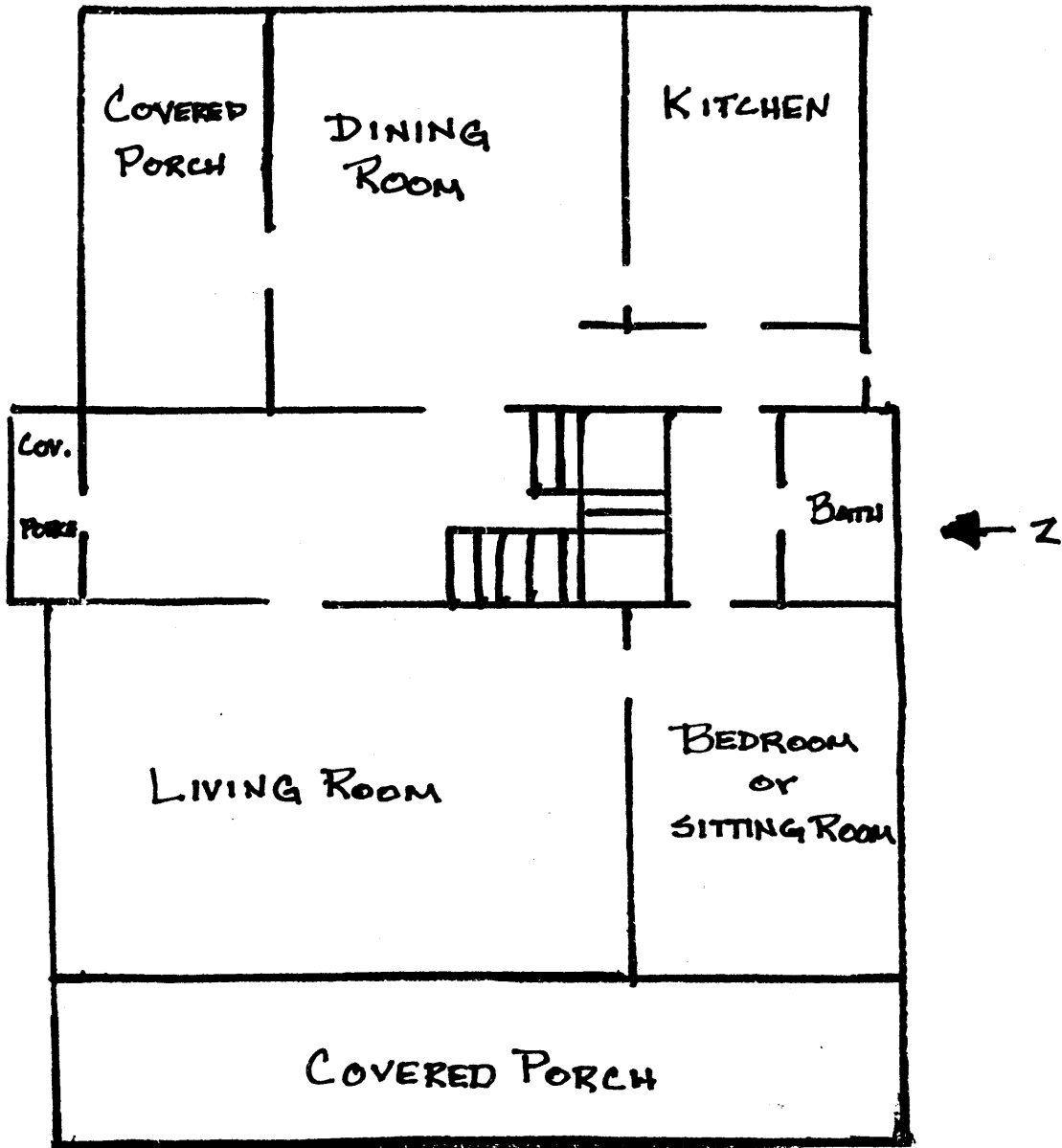
Running northwest from Northshore Drive up to the house, the front yard has rock walls and terrace areas denoting the landscape plan established in the 1890's. The pathways and terraced areas are planted with many of East Tennessee's native plants which make a visual connection between the house and the springs. Circa 1920 the landscaping underwent improvement and much of this is still in evidence including several plantings of rhododendron.

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee



FIRST FLOOR

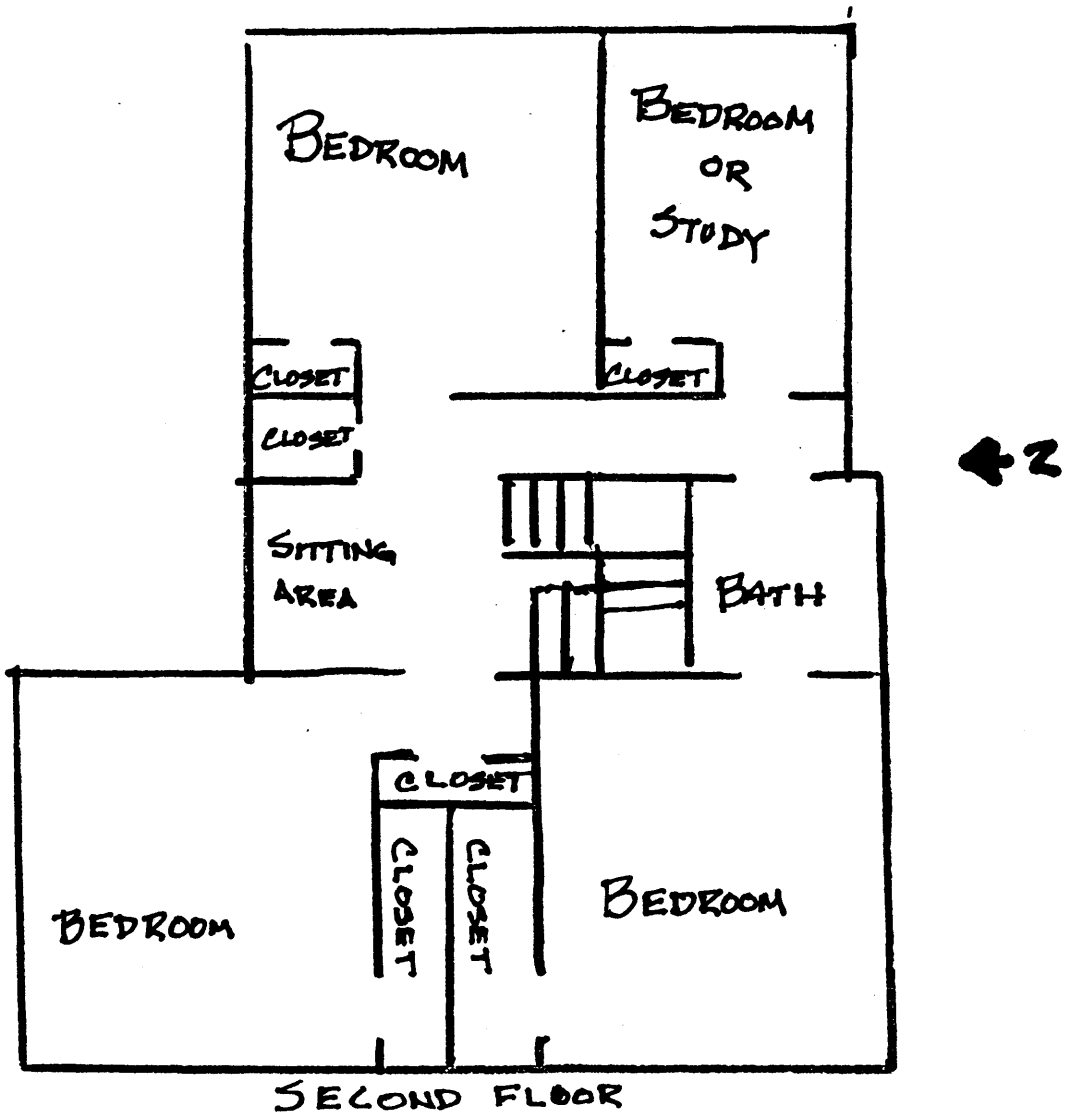
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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee



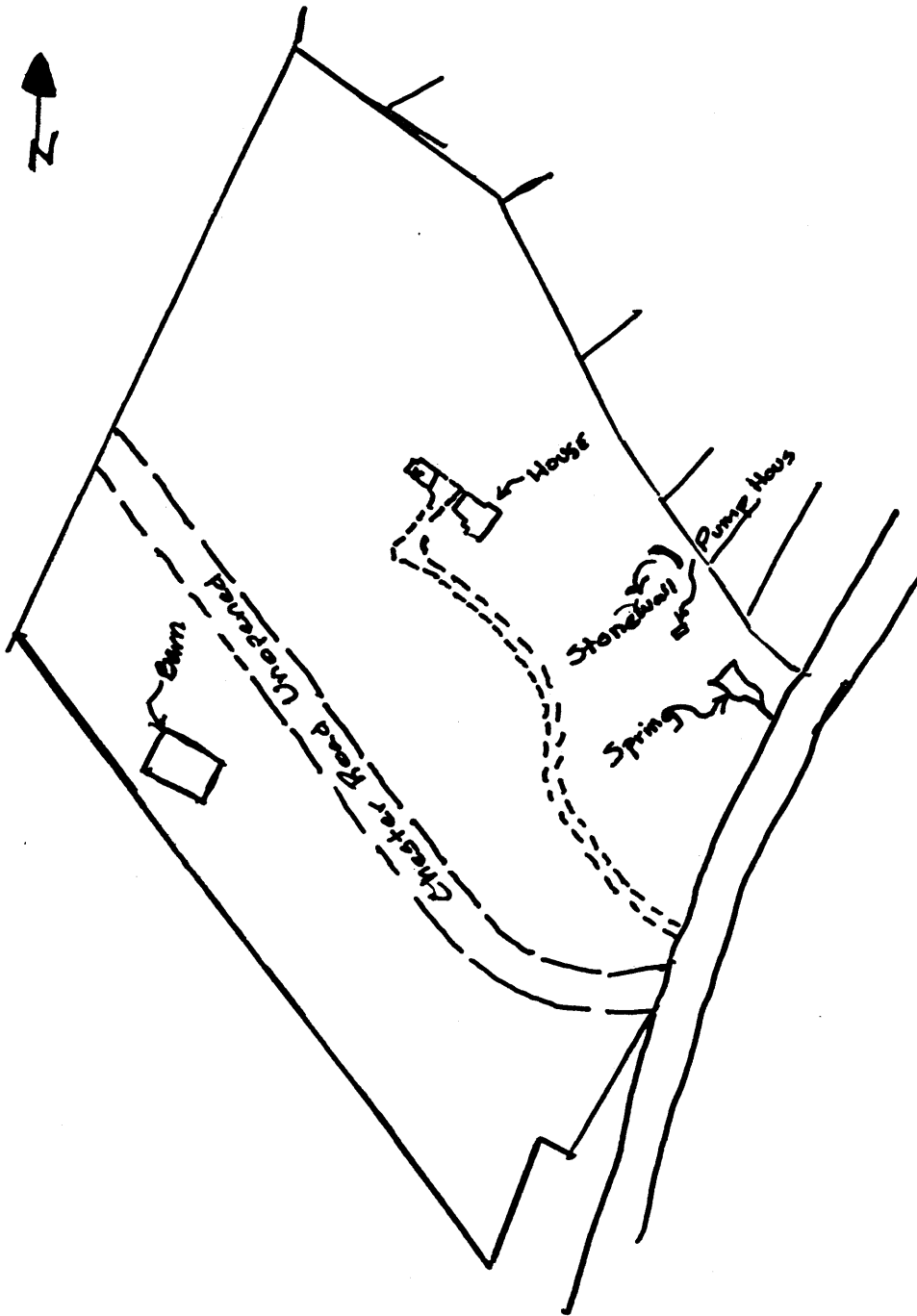
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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee



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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Maxwell - Kirby House (Knox Co. Survey No. 3657) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for settlement patterns and C for local significance in architecture and landscaping as determined by the registration requirements of the *Historical and Architectural Resources of Knoxville and Knox County, Tennessee* MPL 1994. The Maxwell-Kirby House is an good example of an early circa 1830's heavy-timber framed structure that has evolved into a house with Colonial Revival detailing. This house represents several trends in architectural styling from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries

The earliest history of the Maxwell-Kirby House is somewhat clouded in uncertainty; however, much is known of this early structure. William Newton Maxwell purchased the property in two tracts of 143 and 53 acres on February 12, 1847, from Thomas Scott. Maxwell was living in neighboring Blount County at that time with his wife and large family. William Maxwell married Mahala Scott of Knox County on January 25, 1838. The Scott family were early settlers to the area, and undoubtedly built the original portion of the Maxwell-Kirby House circa 1830. It seems very likely the property Maxwell purchased in District 11 in 1847 for \$400 contained Mahala Scott's girlhood home. Census and tax records are somewhat confusing, but they seem to indicate Maxwell moved his family from Blount to Knox County by 1852, beginning a seventy year association with the property.

Over the course of the next twenty-five years, William Maxwell continued to enlarge his farming operation until he acquired 300 acres of land. With 100 improved acres, Maxwell raised a variety of wheat, corn, and oats. Maxwell and his family prospered, and operated the farm without the assistance of slave labor. The Maxwell's raised cattle, sheep, and hogs in a diversified farming arrangement. William Maxwell was a good representative of the early settlement pattern in the western end of Knox County as discussed in the *Historical and Architectural Resources of Knoxville and Knox County, Tennessee* MPL 1994. The lure of fertile land and a good stable water source made this three hundred acre property especially promising. The property's location along a early major thoroughfare that connected with the river traffic was ideal for transporting agricultural products to larger markets. The location and setting of the structure hearken to that early period of river transportation dependence.

In May 1883, an aging William Maxwell started to divest some of his assets, and operation of the Maxwell farm passed to William's son Robert Allen Maxwell. Born in April 1847, Robert grew to manhood on his parent's farm, and continued to live there all of his adult life. Robert married Eliza Stinnett on December 23, 1878, and raised a large family. The Stinnett family was prominent in the area, and the nearby Stinnett Post Office served as a central gathering point for this section of Knox County. By 1886, Robert Maxwell enlarged the house making changes to accommodate his growing family.

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

During the 1883 division of the farm, William Maxwell also deeded to his son James N. Maxwell, 99 acres on the family farm. After William's death in circa 1890, his widow Mahala went to live with her son James.

Robert A. Maxwell lived on the farm until his death. Around 1920, the property was sold to Matthew W. Kirby. Kirby evidently made changes to the house, and lived there for a time. Kirby, a farmer, operated a dairy farm in this area, but also was involved in the real estate business. He soon rented the house to a succession of families. The only known family name that survives as a renter from that time is that of Dempster.

In 1966, the Maxwell - Kirby House was sold by Matt Kirby to Jack Stroud. The side porch and entry were added to the structure at this time. Jack Stroud, and later his widow Hazel, lived in the house for approximately twenty years before selling it to the present owners. The present owners have done some remodeling and restoration work, retaining the 1920's changes made to the house and preserving the extensive additions and remodeling completed in 1886.

Located on the nominated property are several substantial springs. Known historically as Maxwell Springs, this area was a popular stopping place on the Lowe's Ferry Road. The springs area was used as a camping grounds for travelers who sought a safe resting spot, and served as a picnic area for locals seeking the cool spring waters. The rock-lined reservoir with easy access for watering horses and the drinking water was cold and clear. Several of the older workmen, employed during the 1988 renovation because of their skills in working with plaster and old houses, related childhood stories of stopping with their fathers at the Maxwell Springs to drink and water horses before traveling on into Knoxville.

The area around the spring was also known as a stopping ground for Native Americans. Prehistoric artifacts discovered near the springs give testimony that various prehistoric cultures were attracted to the springs. This aspect of the site's prehistory and significance has not yet been assessed, and awaits professional evaluation and testing. Additionally, Civil War period artifacts have also been reportedly found by relic hunters using metal detectors around the spring. Given the spring's proximity to Lowe's Ferry, and its location along a major road system, it seems likely Maxwell Springs served as a camp site for troops throughout the Civil War.

Another element associated with the Maxwell-Kirby farm is the Maxwell Cemetery. Located along the north side of Northshore Drive approximately half a mile south of the farm is the Maxwell family burying grounds. While outside the boundary of this nomination, this cemetery also contains the remains of the Scott family. Today the cemetery stands in need of preservation as new subdivisions continue to be developed nearby. Grave markers have been allowed to fall or are missing, and general landscaping of the grounds is needed.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

The Maxwell - Kirby House, with its Colonial Revival styling and setting, is significant for its architecture. As urban development proceeds rapidly in western Knox County, few houses from the nineteenth century have remained. The Maxwell - Kirby House is representative of the traditional evolved farmstead, that grew with the changes in the families requirements. This property is the most unaltered of the two comparable properties remaining on Northshore Drive, and is one of very few in the western part of the county. With its historical associations and setting, and its significant nineteenth century architectural features, the Maxwell - Kirby House provides an increasingly rare glimpse into a pre-twentieth century residential architecture in this section of Knox County.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 10

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 Population Census - Knox and Blount counties.
1850, 1860 Slave Census Knox County
1860, 1870 Agricultural Census - Knox County
Knox County Deed Records
Knox County Marriage Records
Knox County Chancery Court Records
Map of Knox County 1895
Osmund, Dr. Alexander P., Interview with Pamela Dishongh. July 1992.
Osmund, Mrs. Alexander P., Interview with Nancy Jane Baker. June 1998.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 11

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

10. GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Verbal Boundary Description

All of Parcel 22, CLT Map No. 145, Knox County Records.

Boundary Justification

This parcel contains the Maxwell - Kirby House and the land associated with the house 1886.

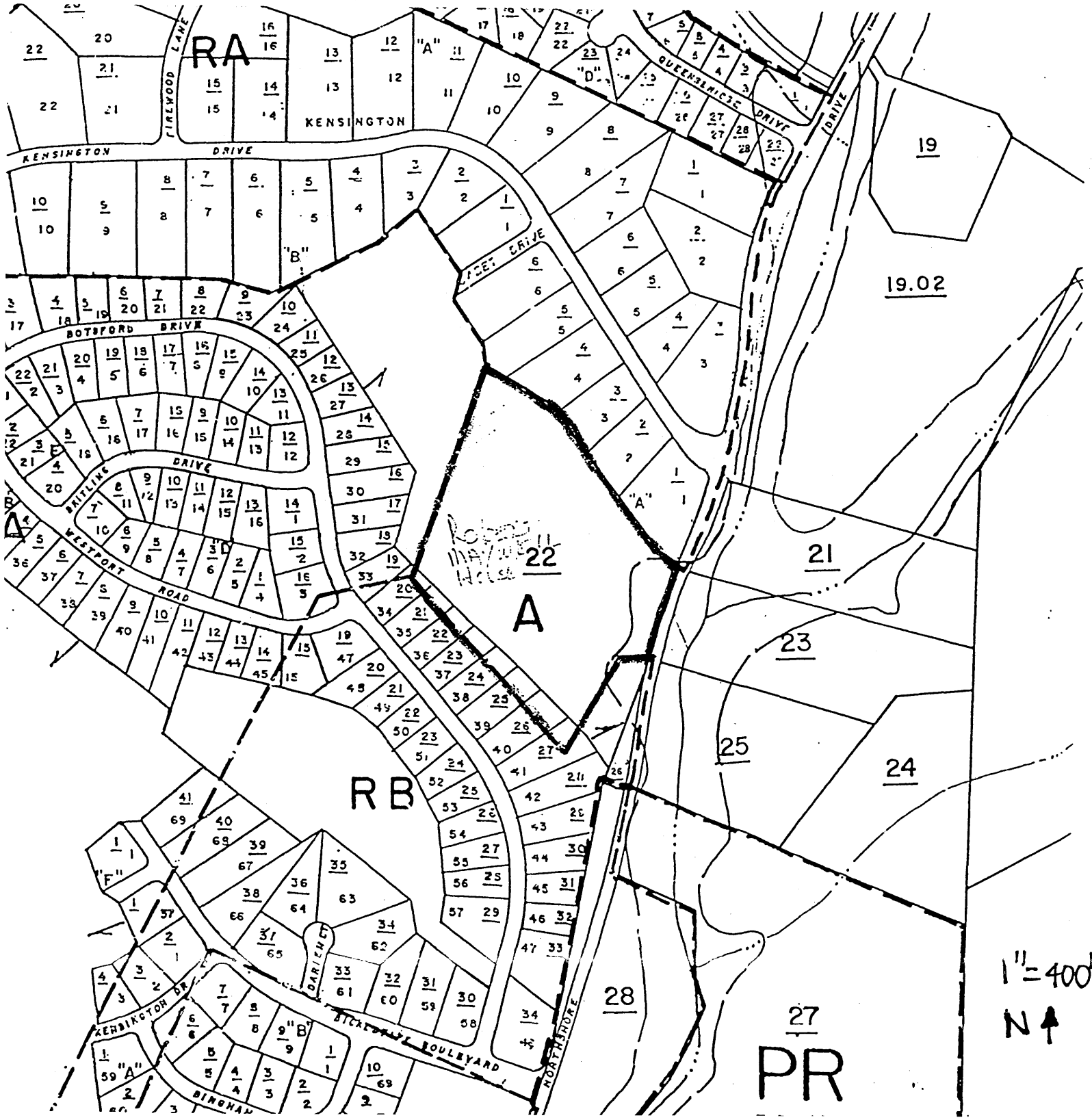
The tax map for this property has the scale of 1" = 400'. The Tennessee Board of Equalization prepares this scale map for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1" = 400' adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee



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Continuation Sheet

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

PHOTOGRAPHS

Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee
Photographs by: Nancy Jane Baker
Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

Facing northwest, southeast facade
1 of 22

Detail of the front door;
2 of 22

Facing northeast, southwest elevation;
3 of 22

Detail of chimney on southwest elevation;
4 of 22

Detail of the 1920 door, southwest elevation;
5 of 22

Facing southeast, northwest elevation;
6 of 22

Facing southwest, northeast elevation;
7 of 22

Detail of northeast elevation;
8 of 22

Parlor, fireplace mantel
9 of 22

Interior front door, detail
10 of 22

Detail of woodwork around fireplace, window and baseboard
11 of 22

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Continuation Sheet

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Maxwell - Kirby House
Knox County, Tennessee

Interior of 1920's side entry
12 of 22

Kitchen
13 of 22

Detail of staircase
14 of 22

Upstairs bedroom fireplace and windows
15 of 22

Detail of second floor old section slanted ceilings and door
16 of 22

Detail of sleeping porch windows
17 of 22

Interior of the 1988 bathroom rehabilitation, detail of windows
18 of 22

Farm lane and shed
19 of 22

Stone bench part of landscaping
20 of 22

Stone dam and spring
21 of 22

Reservoir
22 of 22