

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **MAY 29 1987**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hufstedler Gravehouse

and/or common Pinckney's Tomb

2. Location

street & number Hurricane Creek Road N/A not for publication

city, town Linden vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Perry code 135

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Charles Petty

street & number Hurricane Creek Road

city, town Linden vicinity of state Tennessee 37096

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Perry County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Linden state Tennessee

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hufstedler Gravehouse is located in the Hufstedler family cemetery, three miles southeast of Linden in Perry County, Tennessee. The cemetery is located in a second-growth forest at the end of Sassafras Stand Ridge on a steep bluff overlooking a bend of the Buffalo River, just above the Washplace Ford. Access to the site is by foot or jeep trail across private property. The Hufstedler Gravehouse is an unusual style gravehouse in the south central Tennessee region. The gravehouse was originally an open burying ground that was surrounded by a low stone wall at an early unknown date, a large wooden gable roof was constructed circa 1885 on top of the stone wall.

The gravehouse structure is supported by a cut limestone wall of double stone thickness, laid without mortar and topped by a course of stones laid in a diagonal fashion. The structure is square in configuration with each wall 26'3" long. On top of the approximately forty inch high wall is mounted a gable roof that is 10'4" in height. Sills of hewn log beams are placed on top the stone wall, and are connected at the corners by lap joints. A tie beam runs through the center of the gravehouse at sill level. The wooden beam roof rafters are laid on top of the sills and toenailed there, then lap jointed at the ridge and topped by wide roof sheathing boards. The gable roof is covered with standing seam tin. The north and south gable ends are covered with random width poplar siding attached to the framing members with cut nails. On the north side, a little to the east of center is a vertical batten door reached by four stone steps built into the stone wall. There are no steps on the interior. The gravehouse shows some signs of deterioration, especially on the east wall where several of the stones have fallen.

The gravehouse apparently contains eight graves. Most of the graves are identified by fragments of dry-rotted wood markers. One grave, that of Josephine Whitwell (1861-1901), is identified by a stone marker.

Located outside the gravehouse to the southeast are several more graves. At least five graves are marked with stone marker. A broken stone close to the structure marks the grave of Lula May Pevahouse, infant daughter of Eliga and Margaret Pevahouse. A little to the southwest is the grave of Margaret J. Pevahouse (1833-1932), and to the east of this grave is another marked burial, that of Pauline Armstrong (1914-15), child of I. N. and M. M. Armstrong. This stone faces north-south, unlike the others, and may have been moved or relocated. Two footstones to the north of this grave mark other burial sites.

The property includes one contributing structure and one non-contributing site.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1885 **Builder/Architect** Hufstedler, Pinckney, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hufstedler Gravehouse, commonly known as Pinckney's Tomb, and sometimes referred to as the Rock Wall Cemetery, is nominated under National Register criterion C, exception D, for its significance to Perry County in folk architecture. The Hufstedler Gravehouse is one of the largest known gravehouses in middle Tennessee and is an unusual wooden frame structure mounted on top of the cemetery's old stone surrounding wall.

Information in family records indicates that these persons were buried in the gravehouse:

Louisa Moore Hufstedler (twin)	died 30 June 1864
Robert E. Lee Hufstedler (twin)	died 3 May 1865
Nathaniel Moses Randel	died 2 November 1887
Mahalia Marcum (Markham) Randal	died 6 October 1889
Pinckney Hufstedler	died 3 March 1895
Egbert Med Whitwell	died 7 October 1896
Josephine Hufstedler Whitwell	died 15 July 1901
Louisa Jane Randel Hufstedler	died 26 January 1923/24

Louisa Jane Randel (1831–1923/24), was the second child of Nathaniel Moses (Nacy M.) Randel and Mahalia Marcum Randal (sic), and married Pinckney Hufstedler in 1847 at the age of 16. Robert E. Lee Hufstedler, Louisa Moore Hufstedler, and Josephine Hufstedler Whitwell were Pinckney and Louisa's children, and Egbert Med Whitwell was Josephine's husband. The last burial in the gravehouse was that of Pinckney Hufstedler's widow, Louisa Jane Randel Hufstedler, who died in either 1923 or 1924. Local custom states that Pinckney Hufstedler, builder of the gravehouse, had a strong aversion to the possibility of water getting into the graves, and constructed the gravehouse for this reason.

Gravehouses are unusual but not entirely uncommon in the south central Tennessee region. They are distinguished from mausoleums in that the structures are constructed over the graves of the dead, not as structures built to contain the remains themselves. Their construction in rural cemeteries may be a folk manifestation mimicking the more elaborate tombs of the well-to-do.¹ In Tennessee, most gravehouses date from the late nineteenth century. Gravehouses in this area take on a variety of forms, with one of the most common forms resembling a picket fence surmounted by a gable roof (Parker Hill Cemetery, Cannon County; Percy Cemetery and Fellowship Cemetery, Rutherford County). Other forms include gravehouses with brick walls and gable roof (Manchester City Cemetery, Coffee County).

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Linden, Tennessee, 32 SE

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	4	2	5	3	0	0	3	9	3	5	9	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries include the Hufstedler Cemetery as shown on the tax map. The includes enough property to protect the historic integrity of the gravehouse.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Quin, Preservation Planner

organization South Central Tennessee Devel. District date April 1987

street & number Post Office Box 1346 telephone (615) 381-2040

city or town Columbia state Tennessee 38402

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 5/22/87

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Alvora Bryan
Keeper of the National Register

Register date 6-25-87

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

Hufstedler Gravehouse

The Hufstedler Gravehouse is the only known surviving gravehouse in Perry County and is the largest known structure in the region. Structures of this size are uncommon; other documented surviving gravehouses in the south central Tennessee region contain only one or two graves, and were usually built following burials, not in preparation for them. The Hufstedler Gravehouse is an excellent and unusual example of two forms of cemetery architecture combined into one; cemetery walls and gravehouse structures. Although many early cemeteries are surrounded by stone walls and several contain small gravehouses, this is the only documented gravehouse to combine the both forms of burial practices. The Hufstedler Gravehouse remains unaltered and retains its historic integrity. Although signs of deterioration are beginning to show, residents in the local community have recently cleaned the cemetery and rehung the door on the gravehouse.

¹ Nick Fielder. "Gravehouses: Mortuary Folk Architecture". The Courier, Vol. XXI, No. 1, October 1982.

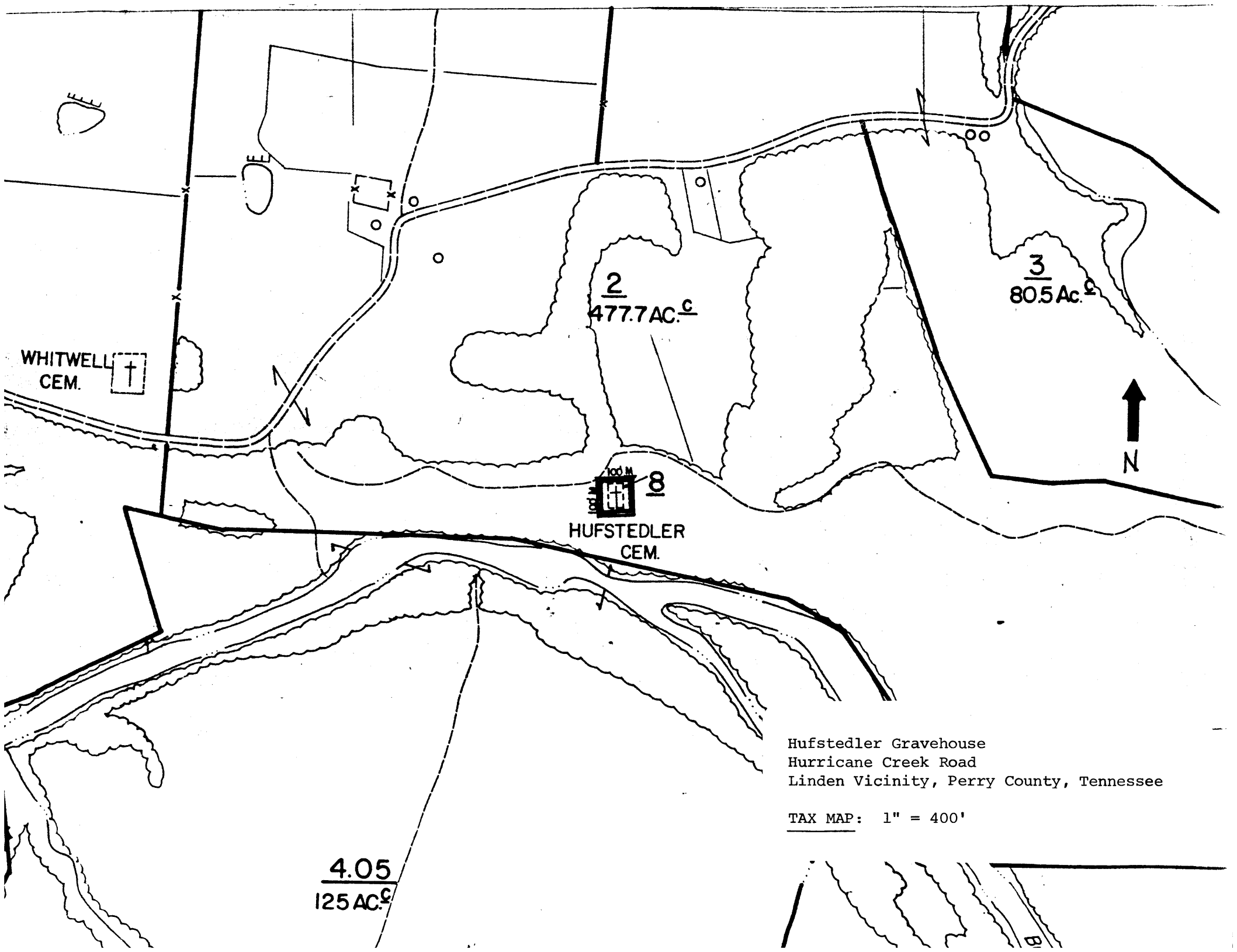
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
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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Ball, Donald B. "Observations on the Form and Function of Middle Tennessee Gravehouses." *The Tennessee Anthropologist*. Vol. II, Num. 1, Spring 1977.
- Fielder, Nick. "Gravehouses: Mortuary Folk Architecture." The Courier (publication of the Tennessee Historical Commission), Vol. XXI, No. 1, October 1982.
- Garrett, Jill. "Historian Discovers Odd Indoor Cemetery in Perry." The Daily Herald (Columbia, Tennessee), 21 April 1985, C-1.
- Glaser, Lena Jo Kelly to G. F. Fielder, 10 August 1985.
- Interviews with Billy F. Tucker, Dorothea Hudson. Linden vicinity, 1985.



WHITWELL
CEM. 

2
477.7 AC. ^c

3
805 AC. ^c

 8
HUFSTEDLER
CEM.


N

4.05
125 AC. ^c

Hufstedler Gravehouse
Hurricane Creek Road
Linden Vicinity, Perry County, Tennessee

TAX MAP: 1" = 400'