

IDENTIFICATION	Historic name: <u>John M. Black Cabin</u>	STATUS	Open to public: Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted ___
	Common name: <u>Bratcher House</u>		Visible from road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Address: <u>Big Sewee Creek Road</u> <u>Ten Mile, Tennessee</u>		Occupied: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Owner's name: <u>Claude Bratcher, Jr.</u>		Present use: <u>Private residence</u>
	Owner's address: <u>Route 1, Box 263</u> <u>Ten Mile, Tennessee 37880</u>		Current condition: <u>Fair</u>
	Classification: <u>Building-private</u>		Alterations: <u>Shed addition ca. 1930 across rear elevation. Concrete block piers under porch.</u>
	Tax map reference: <u>Dist. 4, Map 17, Parcel 4</u>		Site features: <u>Located in ghost town of Surprise, adjacent to Surprise Bridge (#7).</u>
	Acreage: <u>.5 acres</u>		
UTM reference: <u>Zone 16 N 3947280</u> <u>E 714350</u>			
HISTORY	Date of construction: <u>1878</u>	SOURCES	Bibliographical data: _____
	Architect/builder: <u>John M. Black</u>		Interview with John Bratcher, Ten Mile, TN., February 27, 1979.
	Original or previous owners: _____ <u>John M. Black,</u> <u>Original owner</u>		Duvall, Glyn D. and Janice Nolen. <u>An Archaeological and Historic Assessment of the Bridge and Approaches over Sewee Creek, Meigs County, TN. 1980</u>
	Original use: <u>Private residence</u>		Form prepared by: <u>Ann Toplovich</u>
	Theme/s: Primary <u>Architecture</u>		Title: <u>Cultural Resource Surveyor</u>
	Secondary <u>N/A</u> Other <u>N/A</u>		Organization: <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u> Date: <u>8/12/81</u>
DESCRIPTION	The John M. Black Cabin, built in 1878, is a 1½ story house of log and frame construction on stone piers. The frame portion of the house is covered by weatherboards while the log section is exposed. A metal gable roof covers the house. Originally a single pen built of logs with half dovetail notching, the Black Cabin was expanded ca. 1900 to a double pen (rectangular) house by the addition of a frame pen (room) to the chimney wall of the log section. A brick chimney is between the pens of this "saddlebag" plan. Later, ca. 1930, a one story shed addition was attached across the rear elevation of the house. The facade (south elevation) features 4 bays; each pen has a window to the west and single leaf door to the east. A one story porch with metal shed roof extends across the 4 bays of the facade and is supported by 6 plain square posts. A small lancet attic window decorates the frame pen.		
SIGNIFICANCE	The John M. Black Cabin is architecturally significant to Meigs County as the best preserved exposed log house in the county. The house also exemplifies the evolution of simple house plans in Meigs County. Built in February of 1878 as a single pen log house, a common form for the less prosperous farmer, the Black Cabin expanded ca. 1900 into a double pen house with the addition of a frame room to its chimney wall. This double pen (2 room) house type is the most common traditional architectural style in Meigs County, and represents a limited rise in affluence. The building of a shed addition across the rear of the house ca. 1930 brought it to its present four room form. The preservation of the workmanship of the exposed log section of the Black Cabin, as well as the easily discerned evolution of the house to its present form, make the Black Cabin significant as an illustration of the county's traditional house types.		

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA

Photographer: Stephen T. Rogers

Date: 2/27/79

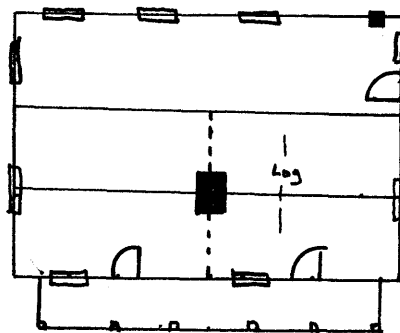
Negatives on file: Tennessee Historical
Commission

Photographer facing: S&E elevation-facing N

Photograph number 8 of 55.

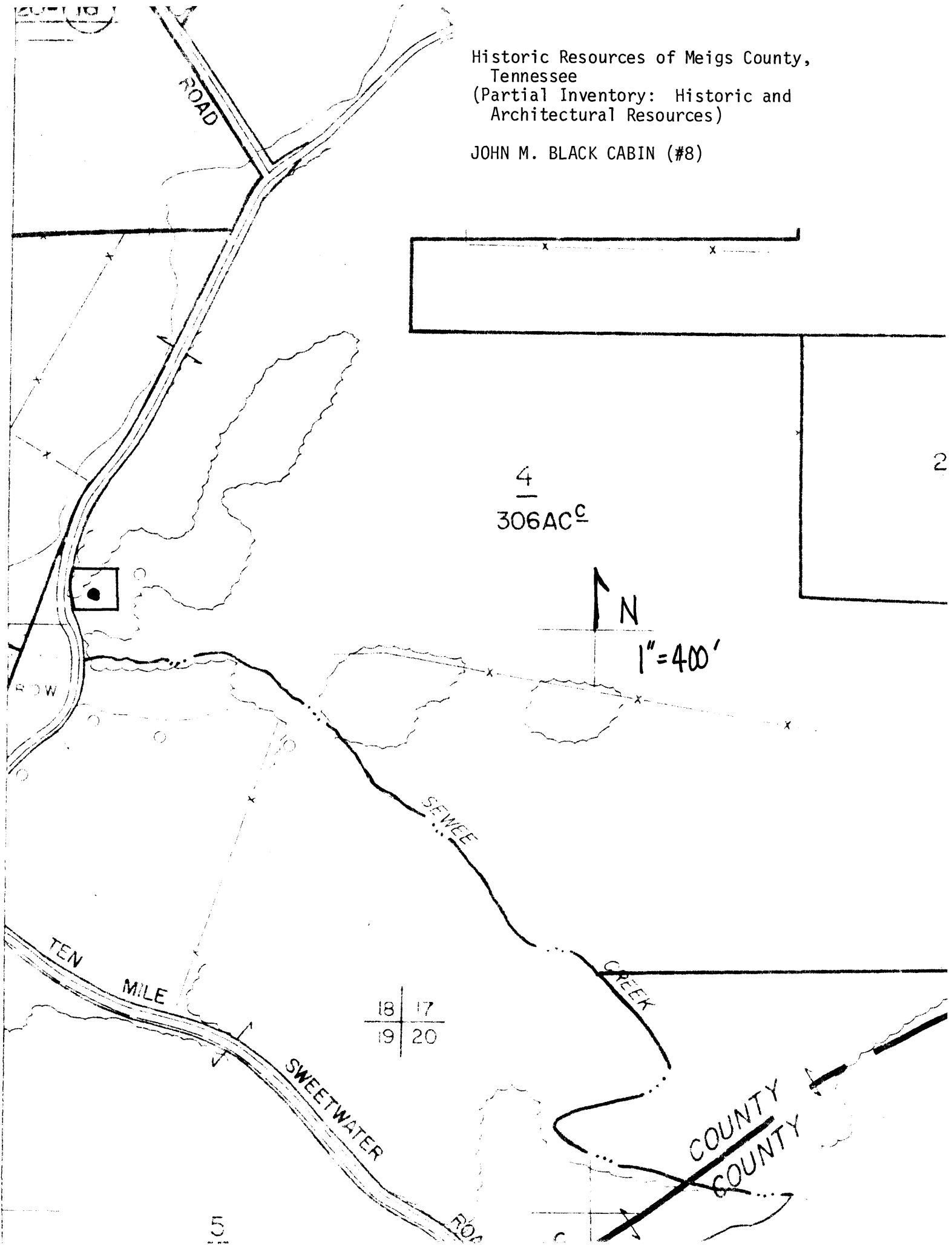
CONTINUATION

SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow



Historic Resources of Meigs County,
Tennessee
(Partial Inventory: Historic and
Architectural Resources)

JOHN M. BLACK CABIN (#8)



**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Historic Resources of
Meigs County, Tennessee

Item number Identification

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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - John M. Black Cabin (#8)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

8. The boundaries begin at a point on the Ten Mile-Sweetwater Road 175 feet north of Sewee Creek, thence east 150 feet, thence north 150 feet, thence west 150 feet to the Ten Mile-Sweetwater Road, thence South down said Road 175 feet to the beginning. The boundary takes the form of a rectangle which encompasses the building and approximately .5 acres. Due to the lack of visual boundaries on the north, east, and south sides, imaginary boundary lines were established to include the house.