

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY FORM

TITLE: Historic Resources of Grundy County

COUNTY: Grundy

SITE: 17

HISTORIC NAME: Marugg Company
COMMON NAME: Marugg Company
ADDRESS: 35 Depot Street
Tracy City, Tennessee

OWNER: Charles and Edwine Baggenstoss
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 326
Tracy City, Tennessee 37387

HISTORIC USE: Industrial/Commercial CURRENT USE: Industrial/Commercial
CATEGORY/BUILDING TYPE: Industrial
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c.1904 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Silica Roofing
and Construction

ORIGINAL SITE: yes MOVED: N/A DATE: N/A
ORIGINAL OWNER/SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS: Martin Marugg

HAS THIS PROPERTY BEEN DETERMINED ELIGIBLE? no DATE: N/A

CONTRIBUTING:		NON-CONTRIBUTING:	
buildings	1	buildings	0
structures	0	structures	0
sites	0	sites	0
objects	0	objects	0
TOTAL	1	TOTAL	0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Parcel #18. See Map #17. The boundaries for the Marugg Company include the property historically associated with the building.

ACREAGE: less than one acre

UTM REFERENCE: Tracy City, Tennessee 9SW
16/614780/3902530

SUPPLEMENTAL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

PREPARED BY: Elizabeth A. Straw, Historic Preservation Specialist
ADDRESS: Tennessee Historical Commission
701 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

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DESCRIPTION:

The Marugg Company is a simple rectangular shaped, poured concrete and frame building located near the center of Tracy City on Depot Street. The concrete is scored to look like concrete blocks. The main or east facade of the building faces Depot Street and contains two sets of double frame doors surmounted by four light transoms and concrete lintels. The office entrance located on the north end of the east facade has wood panel doors with single pane lights. The transom over this entrance is partially boarded up. A single door is located on the south end of the east facade. Three narrow four vertical light windows are spaced between the doors. A concrete watertable extends along the east and south facades.

The south facade contains a raised double leaf delivery entrance and a twelve light window. Both the delivery entrance and the window have concrete lintels. A second delivery entrance has been added at ground level. There are two basement windows on the south facade.

The west facade contains no openings and is plain concrete with no scoring. The north facade contains two windows identical to those on the east facade. A raised parapet with concrete coping is on all but the north facade. The exterior of the building is covered with a thin concrete stucco coat that is scored to look like concrete blocks. On the west corner of the south facade is a cornerstone inscribed with "Silica Roofing and Construction Company".

The interior of the building is divided into three rooms. The northern most room is the smallest and serves mainly as office space. The walls appear to be plastered and have beaded wainscotting. The room contains a large Diebold Safe that was retrieved from the 1935 bank fire and a large china cabinet. The center room serves as a storage room and is divided from the south room with a slanted board wall. The center room also contains an early boiler. The south room is the largest room and serves as the work room for producing the hickory handles for the scythes. The post and lintel roof truss system and the poured concrete walls are readily visible. The room contains some of the original manufacturing equipment including the handle presses.

SIGNIFICANCE:

CRITERIA: A

CONSIDERATION: N/A

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Commerce/Industry

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE/SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1904-1937

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

The Marugg Company is nominated under National Register criterion A for its significance in commerce and industry in Grundy County. The Marugg Company, which specializes in the mailorder business of scythes, may be one of the oldest extant mailorder businesses in the

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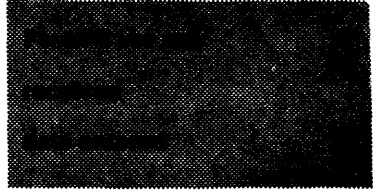
SITE: 17

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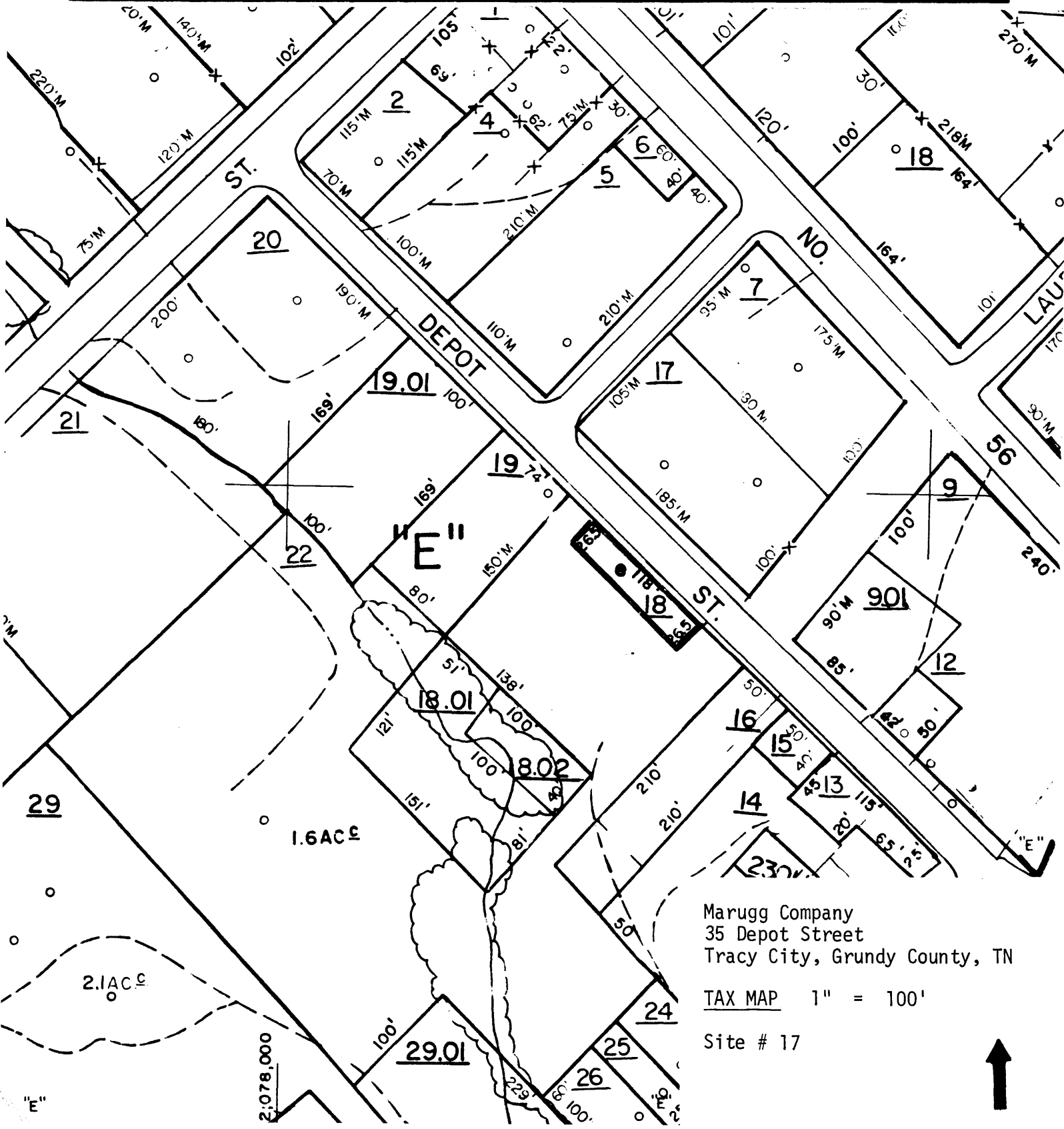
state. The Marugg Company was founded in 1873 by Martin Marugg, one of the early Swiss settlers of Gruetli. The Marugg Company, which specialized in Austrian scythes and other cutting-edged hand tools, was started in Gruetli. The company moved to Tracy City around 1891 and in 1904 the current building was constructed. The building was, and still is, used for both the manufacturing of handles and the mailorder business. In its 82 years of existence the business has undergone very few changes. Although the variety of tools sold by mail order has greatly decreased over the years, the company continues to offer to customers the same type of scythe that it originally offered and continues to manufacture the handles with the early machinery and boiler. The Marugg Company continues to do business with customers from all over the United States and Canada.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



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Marugg Company
35 Depot Street
Tracy City, Grundy County, TN

TAX MAP 1" = 100'

Site # 17

