

RECEIVED

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY FORM

MAR 03 1988

Title: Historic Resources of Williamson County

Historic Name: Allison, William, House (WM-232)

Common Name: Allison Heights

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

Classification: Building

Owner: James Morel, Box 82, College Grove, TN 37046

Location: On Hwy 31A two miles south of College Grove.

<u>Contributing:</u>		<u>Non-Contributing:</u>	
Buildings	1	Buildings	0
Structures	0	Structures	0
Sites	0	Sites	0
<u>Total:</u>	1	<u>Total:</u>	0

Description:

The William Allison House is a two-story brick residence constructed between 1827 and 1832. The house was built in a central passage plan with a two-story rear ell. On the main (east) facade is a one-story porch added ca. 1913 with Ionic columns, terra cotta capitals and dentil molding. This porch replaced a small one-story porch which originally enclosed the main entrance. The main entrance has original seven paneled double doors with multi-light sidelights resting on frame lower panels. The door surround and transom bar display fluted molding. Above the door is a stone lintel with square corner blocks and inset star designs.

Windows in the house are original nine-over-nine, six-over-nine and six-over-six sash. Above the windows on the main facade are stone lintels with rectangular corner blocks and inset star designs. Windows on the side and rear facades have smooth stone lintels without decoration. Some windows also retain original wood shutters but most shutters have been removed. The main facade of the house is laid in Flemish bond brick while the side and rear facades are of five course common bond. On the north facade is an original nine panel frame door.

The residence has exterior end brick chimneys, stone foundation and gable roof of composition shingles. Adjacent to the chimneys are small elliptical attic windows with original fanlight design. At the rear (west) facade is a one-story shed roof addition added ca. 1860 with nine-over-nine sash windows and weatherboard siding. This facade also has a small ca. 1940 porch with an added cedar post column. The interior of the house was not accessible but according to the owner the interior of the house has not been altered and features its original doors, moldings, mantles and woodwork. At the rear of the house is a ca. 1830 log structure which is inaccessible and not included in the boundary. No other significant outbuildings remain near the residence.

Period of Significance: 1832; 1893-1897; ca. 1913

Area of Significance: Architecture/Politics/Government

Criterion: B and C

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The William Allison House is a notable central passage plan ante-bellum brick residence with Federal influenced detailing. The house was altered ca. 1913 when a one-story porch was added across the main facade but since this time few alterations have occurred to the residence. The house features excellent craftsmanship in the entrance and window detailing. The house is also notable through its association with Thomas .F.P. Allison who served two terms as the Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture.

James Allison moved to Williamson County as early as 1800 when he began purchasing land on Grove Creek in the College Grove area. Allison died in 1821 and left half of the estate to his son, William Allison. William Allison began the construction of this two story brick house in 1827 and completed it in 1832. Upon its completion the house was one of the most imposing in the College Grove area with excellent detailing in the doors and windows.

William Allison died in 1834 and the house and 850 acres were later inherited by his sons, James and Thomas F.P. Allison. Thomas F.P. Allison joined the Fourth Tennessee Cavalry at the beginning of the Civil War, was eventually promoted to major and survived to return to Beechwood. He purchased his brother's share of the estate and was a prosperous farmer during the late 19th century. In these years the house was renamed Allison Heights.

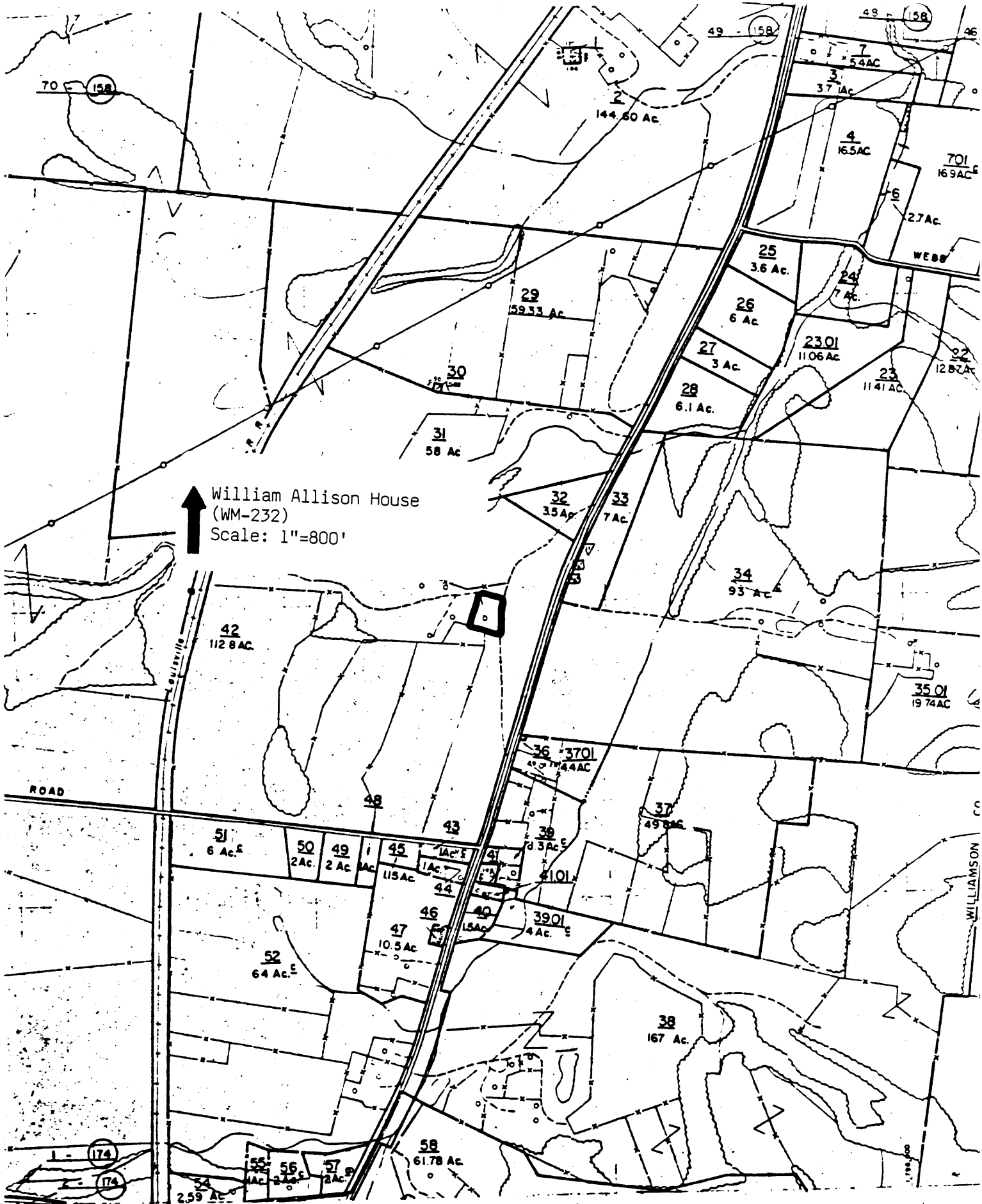
Major Allison served in the Tennessee Legislature from 1871 until 1873 and was Commissioner of Agriculture from 1893 until 1897. During his term Allison was noted for his innovations in promoting the use of fertilizers across the state. Allison was also chief of the Agricultural Department at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897. After his death in 1913, his widow sold the house to Robert P. Thurman. Thurman removed the original portico and added the present front porch. Since this remodeling very few changes have occurred to the house and it retains its original architectural character.

Acreage: 1 acre

UTM References: College Grove Quad/16/528000/ 3957540

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification: The boundary for the William Allison House is illustrated on accompanying Williamson County tax map # 162, lot 42. The boundary is drawn to include the house and to exclude modern outbuildings to the west. The boundary is defined by fence lines on the west and south and by a gravel drive to the east and north. The boundary is sufficient to protect the historical setting of the site.

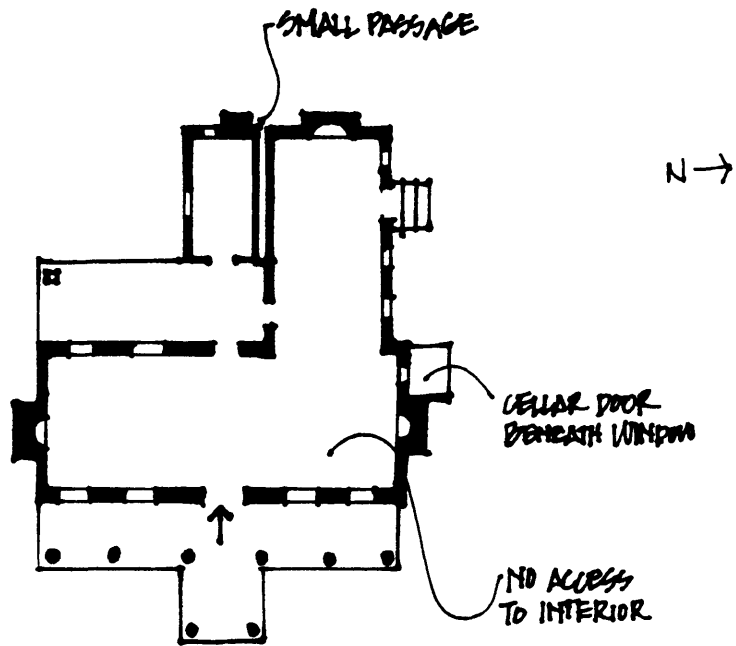
Supplemental Bibliographical References: Historic Williamson County, Bowman



William Allison House  
 (WM-232)  
 Scale: 1"=800'

ATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CE, INC \_\_\_\_\_  
 & PART NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 PLOT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 INTERIOR TRANSFER \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE LINE \_\_\_\_\_  
 FENCE CENTERLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TRANSMISSION LINE \_\_\_\_\_  
 GREEN STATE LINE \_\_\_\_\_  
 BLUE CENTERLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
 RED CORNER LINE \_\_\_\_\_

#172 WILLIAM  
ALLISON HOUSE



NOT TO SCALE