

PH0691241

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 7 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 30 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Shackle Island Historic District
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Shackle Island Road at Long Hollow Pike
CITY, TOWN
Hendersonville X VICINITY OF
STATE Tennessee CODE 47 COUNTY Sumner CODE 165
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Fourth

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Ownership (see continuation sheet)
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Hendersonville X VICINITY OF
STATE Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Register of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER
Sumner County Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
Gallatin STATE Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Tennessee Historical and Architectural Survey
DATE
1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Tennessee Historical Commission
CITY, TOWN
Nashville STATE Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Shackle Island community consists of a few scattered commercial buildings located adjacent to Drake's Creek on the east side of New Hope Road and on Long Hollow Pike at the point where New Hope Road and Shackle Island Road converge at the Drake's Creek Bridge.

The area in which this district is located extends north one-half mile on New Hope Road and along two and two-tenths of a mile span of Long Hollow Pike, west from the Robert Taylor House (3) to the Taylor-Montgomery House (6). All of the buildings are houses with the exception of the Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and all six buildings face Long Hollow Pike. The William Montgomery House (1) and the Daniel Montgomery House (2) are located one-half mile north on New Hope Road. The Robert Taylor House is located on the south side of Long Hollow Pike, east of the Drake's Creek Crossing. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church (4) is located on the north side of the road, one-half mile from the crossing. The Kirkpatrick House (5) is located on the north side of Long Hollow Pike, eight-tenths of a mile west of the crossing, and the Taylor-Montgomery House is on the south of Long Hollow Pike, approximately nine-tenths of a mile west of the crossing.

The Shackle Island community is in a rural section of Sumner County, west of Gallatin and five miles north of Hendersonville. The area is built up with farms, and two new housing developments have been built at the east and west boundaries of the area described. A new county school is under construction on the east side of the church property. (The present Shackle Island School is located across the pike from the church.) The Drake Creek crossing is the site of the former Dorris Feed Mill, ca. 1900, now the Shackle Island Feed Mill. On the west side of the crossing are several frame buildings which include a vacant store and several farm buildings which are no longer being used. Warsham's Store is located on the east side of New Hope Road, south of the turn-off to the Daniel Montgomery House. The frame building was built in 1900 and is presently used as a warehouse for the new grocery annex built on the north end. North of Warsham's Store is an auto repair shop.

Old Brick (1), built in 1804 for William Montgomery, is located west of Drake's Creek and New Hope Road. This house is surrounded on all sides by open farmland. The main entrance faces south, and the driveway enters the property from New Hope Road. The lane is lined with tall pecan trees and runs between the house and a spring branch that borders the property on the south. All of the farm buildings are located to the west of the landscaped yard. With the exception of a frame addition attached to the back of the kitchen, the property seems unchanged from earlier days.

The tall, rectangular shape house has a one-story brick wing attached at the right end. Built on coursed, hand-dressed limestone foundation walls, the two-and-one-half-story building is constructed of hand-manufactured brick, and the lower wall sections are twice the depth of the upper wall sections for the second story. The first floor plan is one room in depth with a transverse hall

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1. William Montgomery House

Mr. and Mrs. John Scott
Route 1, Box 204
Hendersonville, Tennessee

2. Daniel Montgomery House

Col. and Mrs. H. S. Bastion
Route 1
Hendersonville, Tennessee

3. Robert Taylor House

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Stone
Route 2, Box 456
Hendersonville, Tennessee

4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Rev. Alfred Bennett
Route 1, Box 192
Long Hollow Pike
Hendersonville, Tennessee

5. Kirkpatrick House

Mr. and Mrs. Porter Garrett
Route 1
Hendersonville, Tennessee

6. Taylor-Montgomery House

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Eidson
Route 1
Hendersonville, Tennessee

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running from front to back. There are 20' x 22' rooms at either side of the hall. The room on the east end is the parlor. The chamber on the west side of the hall opens to the wing on the west end of the house. Window ledges and casings are set 15" deep on the interior side. Doorways are 36" wide, 10½" deep, and 76" tall. First floor ceilings are ten feet tall. All of the hand-carved doors are held together with wood pegs, built in the cross-and-bible design; the exterior doors are of double thickness. Chair rails are 26½" above the floor, four inches wide, three-and on-half inches deep; baseboards are three-and-one-half inches high. The east end wall of the parlor is paneled and features hand-carved presses and mantelpiece. The fireplace is set slightly off-center. There is an unfinished basement under the two-story section of the house. In the attic William Montgomery raised silkworms. All structural walls are several courses thick and brick constructed. Beams, joists and rafters are hand-hewn yellow poplar. Rafters are marked with Roman numerals and held in place by seven-inch wood pegs to form the gable roof. Interior walls are painted and finished with plaster over lath.

Dated February 20, 1804, the contract between Montgomery and Robert Taylor deeded 200 acres of land to Taylor which was paid in part by his labor on Montgomery's home.

The floors all ploughed and grooved. The two lower ones plained on the upper side, the upper one rough. The under-side of the two upper floors faced suitable for ceilings. Seven windows of fifteen lights each 10 x 12 in the lower story and three outside doors, two of which to have sash over them for glass, to be divided into two rooms and a passage with communication doors. The upper story to be divided in the same way and a small room at one end of the passage. Nine windows of twelve lights each 10 x 12, two pairs of stairs from the lower to the upper story. One pair from there to the garret or roof loft. One pair from the lower to the cellar. One outside cellar door and four windows - cornished roof...in a near plain workmanlike manner about the stile of Sumner County Court House. Montgomery finding all materials on the spot except the shingles which Taylor is to get. Montgomery haul them. Also, a kitchen joining said house 10 feet square one story high, both floors ploughed and grooved otherways rough. Two outside doors, two windows, a pair of stairs, roofed and finished - the above to be done in time to suit the mason work and all finished in as short a time after the walls are up as one steady hand could reasonably do it.

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On the back of the one-page handwritten agreement, Montgomery noted: "Two small windows in each gable to be put in and one small one between house and kitchen. Should said Montgomery want any additional work done to the said house that does not seem included or intended by the general description said Taylor to do it and have one dollar and a half per day for it provided Montgomery shall not want more than will amount to fifty dollars more."

The contract called for the sale of 200 acres by Montgomery to Taylor for one thousand dollars. Taylor would pay \$475 by labor on the house, \$35 by cash on signing the contract, \$300 by cash on Christmas and \$190 by cash on the Christmas following. He was to get possession of the land at once. It was identified as "the plantation Montgomery formerly lived on, on Drake's Creek."

The original kitchen had a 20' wide stone fireplace with both outdoor and indoor ovens for winter and summer baking. A few yards away stood an array of small buildings: a wash house, bee house, buggy houses, a smokehouse, a well house and slave quarters. The construction on "Old Brick" was completed in 1804. Montgomery later divided the second floor into rooms for his two doctor sons.

Montgomery had a tannery and a watermill on the creek for grinding corn. He built a large stone barn that was banked on one side. Only the foundations of this barn and the old stone-walled springhouse remain. Steps for the kitchen door are mill stones from the mill which was one of the very first water-powered mills in the county. A small wood cabinet built under the staircase was used as a community post office. This case is still in the house but it was moved to the kitchen room. The large stone fireplace in the same room has been rebuilt and the kitchen was enlarged by the frame addition added to the north side.

More functional than purely decorative, the Pennsylvania style is evident in the sturdy construction and plain, orderly design. The broad plastered wall surfaces are handsomely off-set by the delicately-carved chair rails, mirror rails and paneled casings around the deep-set doors and windows. The bare wood floors are the original poplar floors and the hand-carved woodwork has been painted or varnished over. Staircases are built into the corner and enclosed at the top section or closeted. The main staircase has a plain railing with tapered balusters set two to a rise. The straight flight of steps ascends the left side wall where quarter-turn spaced winders replace the usual landing. A closeted staircase in the adjoining first story chamber is built into the northwest corner. The lower steps project out into the room. This section has a closed stringer and squared railing and balusters and the underside of the upper run is paneled underneath with vertical planks.

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Built on the site of an Indian mound, the Daniel Montgomery House (2) is located on the crest of a knoll, east of Drake's Creek. Daniel Montgomery built this house on the property east of "Old Brick" on the plantation owned by his father. The one-and-one-half story, Federal style limestone masonry building was finished by Robert Taylor who designed the graceful staircases, hand-carved mantels, and fine Federal style doorway. The Montgomery's owned this house until it was sold to the present owner in 1964.

Constructed with high foundation walls, the rectangular shape plan is 42' deep and 60' wide, divided through the center by a reception hall 12' wide and 42' long with rooms that are 21' x 24'. Joists and girders are hand-hewn timbers 26' long. The hand-dressed, coursed limestone, masonry bearing walls are 24" thick across the sides and 27" thick at the end walls. The enclosed chimneys are bridged across the gable ends, and there are six fireplaces--two on the second story and one in each of the two rooms which are located on either side of the hall. The front steps were originally designed in one straight flight leading directly to the entrance. The hand-carved stone lintel and glass in the fan light and side panels are original. This doorway has been compared to a similar one that Thomas Jefferson designed for John Adams.

The main entrance faces south and the original entrance for the basement is located on the outside at the east end wall. The basement rooms are the same size as the first story rooms and the windows have iron bars. The earthen floor has been paved with cement.

First story floors are ash and second story floors are 10" wide yellow poplar planks. There are board ceilings and the interior walls are finished with plaster over lath, then wallpapered. Some original hardware and sterling silver door knobs remain on the doors which are mortised and held together with wood pegs. The painted woodwork was originally grained and stippled with color. Each mantel is a different design. The cove molding in the hall was added by the owner who has also taken the doors off of the presses in the parlor and left these cabinets as open bookcases.

Originally, the house had three chambers built under the eaves, and the second story was divided into two sections, separated by a partition wall built of 6" x 6" yellow poplar studs covered with boards to match the 8' canted ceilings. There was a built-in cabinet in the hall chamber where the middle dormer is located. The east section includes a chamber on the east side of the sleeping room hall. The north end of the hall is open for the staircase well. A second staircase was located in the northwest chamber. This staircase led to the large "girls" dormitory room built under the eaves, across the west side of the house. The present owner has removed this staircase and cut a new doorway through the partition wall. He has added three dormers across the front and two dormers across the rear elevation.

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By 1964 the original stone masonry kitchen house had been dismantled. The kitchen was located beyond the west end wall, connected to the house by a covered walkway. The present owner built a kitchen in the addition he added at the back and cut through the bearing wall for a new doorway where a window was located. This window was used to replace the door on the west end wall. The only original outbuilding still standing is a large stone barn on the lot beyond the old stone springhouse.

The Robert Taylor House (3) is located on the side of a hill, one quarter of a mile south of Long Hollow Pike, and one-and-one-half miles east of the Montgomery houses. Surrounded by farmland, the east section of land has been sold for a new housing development.

The main entrance faces east. The rectangular shape principal mass is constructed of hand-dressed coursed limestone, one room in depth, composed of two distinct levels of land. This unique split-level design is one-and-one-half stories tall at the south end. This section is composed of a parlor and transverse hall and a second story chamber built under the eaves. The adjoining section is composed of two rooms with a basement. This one story section is built adjacent to the hall. The gable roof is built on queen post trusses, forming a continuous line extending across both sections. There are balanced chimneys on each end, one of which is enclosed and one which projects out from the north wall.

Robert Taylor chose the finest materials for constructing and finishing this house. Like other houses he built, the coursed limestone masonry bearing walls are laid with care. Obviously the work of a skilled stone mason, they measure precisely four feet thick at the gable ends and two feet thick across the sides. For added strength, the hand-dressed, squared stones are patterned as headers and soldiers running through the wall. Built on solid rock, there is no sign of settlement in the building.

The weather-struck joints are recent, as are the shutters and carved door enframements. An additional bedroom has been built in the frame addition at the back.

The Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church (4) was built in 1828. Robert Taylor worked on the new building to replace the former log meeting house used by the first congregation of the Beech Presbyterian Church. William Montgomery deeded the land for the church to the trustees, and he designated the new building should be built for permanence of stone or brick and surrounded by a wall of the same materials. The church was built of coursed limestone quarried from a nearby hillside and transported to the site by slave labor.

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The symmetrical, three-by-five bay design is one-and-one-half stories tall with sturdy 3' thick, coursed limestone bearing walls which have survived two fires in 1940 and in 1951. Twice rebuilt, the present building has few changes to detract from the original plan which is similar to the old style Pennsylvania meeting house. The building has deep set transoms, casement-type windows, and matched, double-leaf paneled doors. The two main entrances are on the south wall facing Long Hollow Pike. At the west gable end is a recessed porch facing the cemetery and garden. There is an attached section built across the north wall and a new Sunday School and fellowship wing at the east end. This wing extends forward forming an ell at the front. The staircase on the west porch leads to the Masonic room above the church. Triangular shape, pediment style hoods are recent additions. The Sunday School wing has recently been refaced with limestone to match the color of the original construction.

The interior of the church is divided into six sections by the crossing of three transverse aisles. Five of these sections are for straight-backed pews, aligned in rows surrounding the raised, canopied platform for the pulpit and choir stalls. This centered platform is located on the north wall and is fronted by the carved wood altar placed in the aisle and flanked at either side by doors leading to the north addition and four rows of pews at each end. The original ceiling has been replaced by acoustical tile. The wood floors are carpeted in the aisles and the walls are plastered over with masonry with beaded oak wainscot. The pews and pulpit are original. An addition, adjacent to the sanctuary, contains a long hall with entrance to various rooms and to the basement. The new wing at the east end has sixteen Sunday School rooms, a kitchen, and fellowship hall on the lower level. The congregation has added the "Historical Room," furnished with antiques. In 1976, the wing was redesigned and chair rails and the staircase from an old house in the area were added. A new manse was built in 1961, adjacent to Long Hollow Pike. The Beech Church Cemetery is located across the west side of the church yard.

The Kirkpatrick House (5) is a large, two-story frame farmhouse with an attached portico porch and huge stone chimneys built on each gable end. The house is located on the north side of Long Hollow Pike, adjacent to the road. The present owner has taken care to preserve all of the original features of the house. The property is now known as "Meadow Green Farm."

This house began as a very large, two-story log house with an open pass-through built through the center. Like other houses in Shackle Island, it had two separate second-story sections. This house is constructed of large, hand-hewn logs and was eventually weatherboarded-over and the central dog-trot enclosed for the center hall. The graceful portico porch was added to

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front. When a staircase builder came to the area, the owners had a grand staircase built in the entry hall. The building is one room deep, and each room is heated by fireplaces built in the limestone chimneys at each end and in the service wing which was built on the west side. The one-story wing extends out to the back, a typical design for this style house in Tennessee. A shed addition was added across the back wall. There are closeted staircases and built-in cabinets in the rooms in the front section of the house and the original mantels and floors remain.

The Taylor-Montgomery House (6) is located on the south side of Long Hollow Pike, approximately one mile southeast of the New Hope Road-Shackle Island Road crossing. The two-story front section is built of very large, hand-dressed coursed limestone masonry. Robert Taylor was the builder and the cornerstone date "1824" is carved into the stone lintel over the front entrance. The house sits high on the foundation wall and there is a large basement with an earthen floor below the main section with wide stone steps, now enclosed in the new two-story wing which was built across the south elevation. The original three-by-five bay plan was designed with symmetrical facade, centered entrance, and shingle-clad gable roof, balanced by huge square-shaped stone chimneys at each end. The windows are 9/6 light, double-hung sash and there are tiny attic windows in each gable. The portico and door enframements were added by the present owner. There was no porch at the entrance when the house was built and the four columned portico replaced an earlier porch of a plainer design. When the house was built it had a detached kitchen located at the back. A one-story frame and clapboard service wing was added in 1897. This addition formed a "T" shape with the original building and porches were added to each side. The present owner enclosed the porches and added a second story to enlarge the wing. He cut new doorways through the limestone masonry walls and built a wide staircase in the wing, leading to the second floor sitting room. He also built additional bedrooms, a new kitchen, and a dining room.

The present owner has restored the 1824 section and the original materials have been preserved. Robert Taylor built the house and designed the interior. Colonial in character, there are two rooms on each story. The partition walls are built of single-ply, beaded board siding. The main entrance is centered on the front and there is no entry hall. This design provides for the main entrance opening to the west room, that section being larger than the adjoining east room. The two, second-story chambers are the same dimensions and originally there was no innerconnecting doorway between with each section being connected to the room below by steep closeted staircases built into the southwest corners of the rooms. A similar staircase with pie-shape winders is built

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from the west chamber to the attic. First floor rooms have ten-foot ceilings and ash flooring. Twelve-inch wide yellow poplar wood flooring was used for the second story. Each of the four rooms have large stone-faced fireplaces fitted with the original hand-carved mantels. A new doorway has been cut through the partition wall dividing the two upstairs rooms, and there is a new doorway from the east room to the wing.

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Inventory of Historic Structures ✓

1. William Montgomery House (Old Brick) - New Hope Road - 1804 - Georgian type, patterned after the Pennsylvania style; two and one-half story built of hand-made brick laid in the Flemish bond pattern.
2. Daniel Montgomery House (Greystone) - New Hope Road - 1828-1832 - One-and-one-half story, Federal style house built of coursed limestone; features bridged end wall chimneys, full basement, and a Federal style doorway.
3. Robert Taylor House - Long Hollow Pike - 1822 - Patterned after the Pennsylvania style and built of coursed limestone; features split-level plan built across two levels of ground.
4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church - Long Hollow Pike - 1828 - Pennsylvania meeting house style, built of coursed limestone; recent Sunday school wing extending to the front.
5. Kirkpatrick House - Long Hollow Pike - 1780s-1830s - Two-story log house covered over by frame and weatherboarding; typical Tennessee vernacular style farmhouse with a long service wing extending to the back.
6. Taylor-Montgomery House - Long Hollow Pike - 1813-1824 - Two-story Pennsylvania vernacular style house built of coursed limestone; the attached two-story wing is a recent addition built over a frame addition added in 1897 to replace the original detached kitchen.

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shackle Island Historic District is a discontinuous compound site composed of six well-preserved separate buildings, being nominated together as they represent integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. The historical significance of this district dates from the first period of settlement in Sumner County, 1804-1835, and each building represents a distinct architectural style, characteristic of type, period and method of construction, the work of a master craftsman, Robert Taylor.

Passing from generation to generation, the buildings included in the Shackle Island Historic District reflect an attitude for permanence and functional design. Decorative features are executed with great attention to detail. Designs are conservative and show a minimum concern for stylistic effects. When a particular style was desired, it was executed with precision and an economy of means. The majority of materials were found in the local area or manufactured on the site. When subsequent owners required additional space, they added rooms rather than remodel or change original features.

Sumner County was created by the State of North Carolina in 1786, from lands originally part of eastern Davidson County. Veterans of the Revolutionary War, anxious to claim land in the western territory, traveled the great wagon road which led west from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley, across the Carolinas and from Fincastle, Virginia to the Cumberland region.

The 1795 census shows Sumner County with nearly twice the population of Davidson County and Nashville. Gallatin, the county seat, and Cairo, on the Cumberland River, were the two major trade centers. The population centered across the southern part of the county where planters found rich bottom lands in the Cumberland basin.

Drake's Creek, a tributary of the Cumberland, flows south from the first ridge of the highland rim that divides Sumner County into two distinct geographic halves. With good access to the river and to the overland route, the county continued to grow rapidly until 1828 when the main overland route shifted further south.

As the county population grew, the settlement pattern was typical--a widely dispersed rural population whose economy was based on agricultural production. Accumulating large amounts of land, the early planters established large plantations and farms in the valley regions, and the late settlers moved up into the steep ridge land. Growing more prosperous, the first settlers provided

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Durham, Walter T. Old Sumner-A History of Sumner County, Tennessee. Nashville: Parthenon Press, 1972.
 Durham, Walter T. The Great Leap Westward, Gallatin, Tennessee: Sumner County Library Board, 1969.
 Bennett, Alfred. "Old Beech Church" The Cumberland Presbyterian Church Journal, January 29, 1963.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12

UTM REFERENCES see continuation sheet

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gail Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

January 1977

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Herbert L. Harper

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

2/3/77

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Chas. Adams
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1-30-78

DATE

1-24-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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many necessary services and the county became dotted with small rural communities where the first mills were located. These mills were the center of activity for the local population. Agricultural products were processed, bought, and sold, and the farmers provided many services the community required.

William Montgomery's plantation at Drake's Creek became the focal point for the Shackle Island community. Leaving his home in Danville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, William Montgomery (1762-1838) arrived in Sumner County on September 12, 1782. A Revolutionary War veteran, he had served in the Pennsylvania militia. Montgomery was authorized by the government to make land surveys in Middle Tennessee. He took much of his pay in land and enlarged his original 640 acre grant to over 6,000 acres reaching from Tyree Springs to Saint Johns Church, north of Hendersonville.

Montgomery settled on Drake's Creek in 1786. He built a log house and in 1804 he contracted Robert Taylor to build his permanent home, "Old Brick" (1). This stately house is one of the earliest remaining brick buildings in Middle Tennessee, and the architectural design shows the transition of the Pennsylvania style that Montgomery and other early settlers on Drake's Creek preferred.

As the Montgomerys became prosperous, prominent citizens in the county, the business activities of William and Daniel Montgomery contributed much to the growth and development of this part of the country. An energetic farmer, William Montgomery advertised his grafted apple trees, nursery stock, and stock breeding services in the 1814 Nashville newspapers. He established one of the first grinding mills in the county and later added a fulling mill, sawmill, distillery, gristmill, general store, and blacksmith shop with a wagon repair shop.

William Montgomery was no ordinary adventurer when he came to Middle Tennessee in 1782. Born September 21, 1762, he was the son of William and Margaret Montgomery. At the age of fourteen he had served in the Pennsylvania militia regiment commanded by his father, and he had fought in the Revolutionary War. His father was a prominent citizen who served in the Pennsylvania legislature and in Congress. He established a woolen mill at Danville, Pennsylvania, in 1809.

William Montgomery filed his Revolutionary War grant for property on Drake's Creek in 1786. In 1788 he married Jane McMillan of Robertson County and built a log house for his family to live in. The Montgomery's had nine children. According to legend, three of their sons were killed by Indians while tending their father's orchard. A fourth son, Daniel, settled in Shackle Island and he became a business partner to his father and leading citizen in the Shackle Island community.

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During his lifetime, William Montgomery saw many changes take place on the land he had come to Tennessee to survey. He represented Sumner County in the first General Assembly of the new State of Tennessee in 1798. Montgomery served in both houses of state government from 1796 to 1819. Montgomery owned property in Gallatin and donated it for the first chartered school. He served in the Sumner County state militia, retiring with the rank of major in 1810. When he died in 1838, he was buried in the Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church cemetery. The Montgomery's sponsored the organization of Beech Church in 1798, and the church graveyard is located on land Montgomery deeded to the church trustees.

"Old Brick" was one of the first of several fine homes built in Sumner County at a time when Indian raids were still a common occurrence on Drake's Creek. The Montgomery slaves manufactured brick for the house on the site. The headers were used for the decorative Flemish bond pattern on each elevation. These brick ends have a glaze measuring one-half inch in depth. At some point in the construction of the house, William Montgomery contracted Robert Taylor to do the finishing work. Taylor was a master at his trade and the work he accomplished is fully described in the 1804 contract which has been carefully preserved by his descendants.

A carpenter and cabinetmaker, Taylor designed the hand-carved mantelpieces, case presses, wall paneling, staircases and woodwork. Executed with great attention to detail, the interior design is highlighted by the handsome woodwork. These hand-carved designs are not repeated in any of the other houses Taylor built in Shackle Island.

When Robert Taylor came to Tennessee around 1800, carpenters and craftsmen found a good market for their skills. Landholders demanded craftsmen of all trades for building public buildings and for building and furnishing their fine homes. Perhaps as an added incentive to move west, some who came here had the opportunity to acquire land in exchange for their labor. The Taylors were able to acquire property on Drake's Creek, and they owned slaves for their farm in Shackle Island. Robert Taylor built several fine homes in Shackle Island and examples of his carpentry work and furniture show he was one of the most skillful craftsmen and cabinetmakers living in Middle Tennessee during this period.

The Daniel Montgomery House (2) is located on the east side of Drake's Creek opposite the William Montgomery House. Robert Taylor was contracted to build the house on land formerly owned by Daniel Montgomery's father. Daniel Montgomery served in the second Seminole War, and he held the rank of Colonel in the Tennessee Volunteers from Sumner County. Montgomery was a prominent citizen. He was a mule-breeder and he raised, traded, and exported his stock to customers as far away as Mississippi. According to an account book in 1837 Daniel shipped a load of mules to his brother William Montgomery in Canton, Mississippi, who

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sold them to customers in that area. In 1839 Daniel Montgomery gave a section of his land for the first district school which was located near the creek where the present school was built. The schoolhouse was the first district school built in the county. It was financed by subscription and pledges for a specified number of days work, a typical method employed to finance district schools in those days. Montgomery's records show he paid the schoolmaster for the education of his children.

When "Greystone" was completed in 1830, it was one of the finest homes in the county. A beautifully proportioned building, it is widely recognized for the excellent quality of craftsmanship and fine execution of architectural detail. It remains an outstanding example of the transitional, Federal style architecture of the period, and it is one of the finest antebellum stone houses built in Tennessee. The Montgomery family owned the house until it was sold to the present owner in 1964. This house has been well cared for and changes that have been made do not detract from the architectural character or significance.

Robert Taylor and his brother Benjamin Taylor came to Tennessee from Lenoir, North Carolina. Robert Taylor was living in Wilson County in 1804. On February 20, 1804, he entered into an agreement with William Montgomery to accomplish the finish work on the large brick house Montgomery was building on Drake's Creek. By this contract, Taylor was able to acquire 200 acres of land for his own. The Robert Taylor House (3) was built on this land in 1822.

Robert Taylor married Margaret K. Patrick and they raised seven children. A son, Alexander K. Taylor is credited with the "A.K.T. 1822" inscription on the front wall of the old homeplace. Taylor and his brother were both members of the Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and are buried in the church cemetery. Descendants of the Taylors sold the Robert Taylor House to the present owner who has preserved many original features of the house.

Robert Taylor was a fine cabinetmaker. The plain design, mirror-topped chest, signed by Taylor, was singled out as one of a few pieces featured in the September, 1971 issue of Antiques magazine. An exhibit sponsored by the Tennessee Fine Arts Center displayed Taylor's single-drawer dressing stand. Other antique pieces made by Taylor are owned by his descendants.

Robert Taylor was a farmer and slave owner. He was an elder in the Beech Church. Birdtown, built adjacent to the Taylor property, was built by Taylor's slaves after the Civil War. This unique village was an attempt to provide housing for the former slaves. A low stone wall and a few gaunt chimneys are all that remain to mark the site.

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The Robert Taylor House is one of the most unusual stone houses built in Tennessee for this period. The fine quality of stone masonry construction is like other buildings he worked on in Shackle Island. Apparently the same crew worked on each building. The unusual split-level design Taylor used for his own house is rarely seen in Tennessee. The house has been well cared for and the majority of original hardware, hand-carved walnut woodwork, mantels and walnut paneled doors have remained in the original grained finish. This house is the best example of Taylor's skill and sensitivity for proportion and design craftsmanship.

The Beech congregation was organized as a Presbyterian Church in 1798. The Rev. Hugh Kirkpatrick and his wife, Isabella, along with William and Jane Montgomery and Mrs. Frances Ketring were charter members. According to the earliest Sessions book, elders serving in 1831 were Robert Taylor, James Kirkpatrick, Benjamin Taylor, Christopher Ketring, Alexander Hogan, Alexander K. Taylor, Andrew H. Guthrie and Thomas Hudson. Two more elders, William Smith and Samuel Kirkpatrick were ordained in 1838 and James K. Taylor in 1850.

The founder, Thomas Craighead, was born in Sugar Creek, North Carolina, and ordained in 1780. In 1785 he came to Nashville where he served as an early pastor of First Presbyterian Church. William McGee served as pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church, north of Gallatin, before becoming the first pastor of Beech Presbyterian Church. In October 1810 William McGee and his congregation united with the Cumberland Presbyterian movement.

The "camp meetings" were a unique part of the great revival which swept across the American frontier of 1800. The camp meetings at Beech were held on the land which William Montgomery and Francis Ketring sold to the trustees for fifty cents. People came from distant communities and camped in the grove of Beech trees that stood immediately in front of the present building. Methodists and Presbyterians both worshipped in the old log church situated on the campground. In 1828, the Cumberland Presbyterians decided to erect a new building. They rejected the gift of another site and chose to build near the campsite because of the cemetery which was nearby. In 1828-1830, the stone building was erected on land just back of the campground (4). Robert Taylor was the builder, and laborers were paid twenty-five cents a day. The stone walls are three feet thick and have survived the fires of 1940 and 1951. The pews and pulpit are original furniture of the sanctuary.

The church cemetery was deeded to the church in 1799; in the cemetery are the graves of John McMurtry and Francis Ketring, who fought in the Revolutionary War. There are also several graves of veterans of the Confederate Army as well as some interesting box tombs.

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The Kirkpatrick House (5) is located on the north side of Long Hollow Pike, west of Beech Church. The exact date of construction for this house is undetermined; however, it is one of the earliest houses in Shackle Island. The land was first deeded to Frances Ketring who owned the property in 1799 when a portion of land was deeded for the Beech cemetery. The Kirkpatricks owned the land when a second part was deeded to expand the area of the cemetery.

This well-preserved farmhouse is a classic example of the early Tennessee vernacular style architecture, and it clearly shows the transition of the typical log house to the more affluent, weatherboarded, classic revival style which has been called the "glorified pioneer style." Like many houses in Tennessee, houses dating from the first period were changed by owners who added stylized details to an otherwise purely functional building.

It is very likely Robert Taylor worked on this house. The huge, square limestone masonry chimneys are like the chimneys in the Taylor-Montgomery House. Inside there are hand-carved gase presses and a beautifully proportioned staircase. This staircase was built in the enclosed dog-trot by a traveling staircase builder. Like most of the old houses in Shackle Island, there was a separate closeted staircase to the west end chamber and there was no innerconnecting door between the two upstairs sections.

The Taylor-Montgomery House (6) is located on the south side of Long Hollow Pike, west of the Kirkpatrick House. Reminiscent of the sturdy, stone farmhouses of Pennsylvania, the plain style was preferred by the first settlers in Shackle Island. The front section of the house was built by Robert Taylor and finished after 1822 and before 1824. Similar in many ways to the William Montgomery House, this house lacks the formality that William Montgomery achieved in his design. The structural walls are constructed of large stones, quarried on the property. The limestone masonry work is like the construction found in all of the buildings Robert Taylor worked on and the interior plan is colonial in character.

According to the deeds, Benjamin Taylor bought the land from Francis Ketring in 1813. The house remained in the Taylor family for one hundred and thirty-seven years. The present owners bought the property in 1960. The house was restored, and the 1824 section is furnished with American antiques, including some original pieces that were left in the house.

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Verbal boundary descriptions:

1. William Montgomery House

The property being nominated is approximately rectangular in shape, contains two acres, being bounded across the northeast, extending from the southeast corner on the creek 208.7' to the northeast corner along New Hope Road; thence on a line extending southwest 417.4' to the northwest corner; thence crossing the back of the property on a line extending 208.7' southeast to the southwest corner; thence turning to continue on a line 417' northeast long the creek to the point of beginning.

2. Daniel Montgomery House

The property being nominated is approximately square, containing two acres in total area, being approximately 300' on all sides. The house being in the center of this area.

3. Robert Taylor House

The property being nominated is approximately a two-acre square, being bounded across the front by the lane, being approximately 300' on each side, the house being in the center of the area.

4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church

The property being nominated is approximately rectangular in shape, containing two acres total, being bounded across the east on a line extending 208.7' along the drive east of the church to the northeast corner; thence 417.8' to the northwest corner in the graveyard; thence 208.7' south to the southwest corner; thence 417.8' to the point of beginning.

5. Kirkpatrick House

The property being nominated is approximately rectangular in shape, containing approximately two acres with the house centered, bounded across the front by Long Hollow Pike 208.7' to the southeast corner; thence 417.8' on a line to the northeast corner; thence 208.7' to the northwest corner; thence 417.8' to the point of beginning.

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The Shackle Island Historic District is composed of six discontinuous buildings being nominated together because of their integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship.

Rather than including all the land between the buildings, two acres at each building are being nominated for a total of twelve acres.

The UTM reference points to the buildings are listed below, numbered according to the system used throughout the nomination:

1. 16/534240/4025590
2. 16/534580/4025740
3. 16/536710/4024920
4. 16/533560/~~4025030~~ 40 24-990
5. 16/533210/4024820
6. 16/532970/4024700

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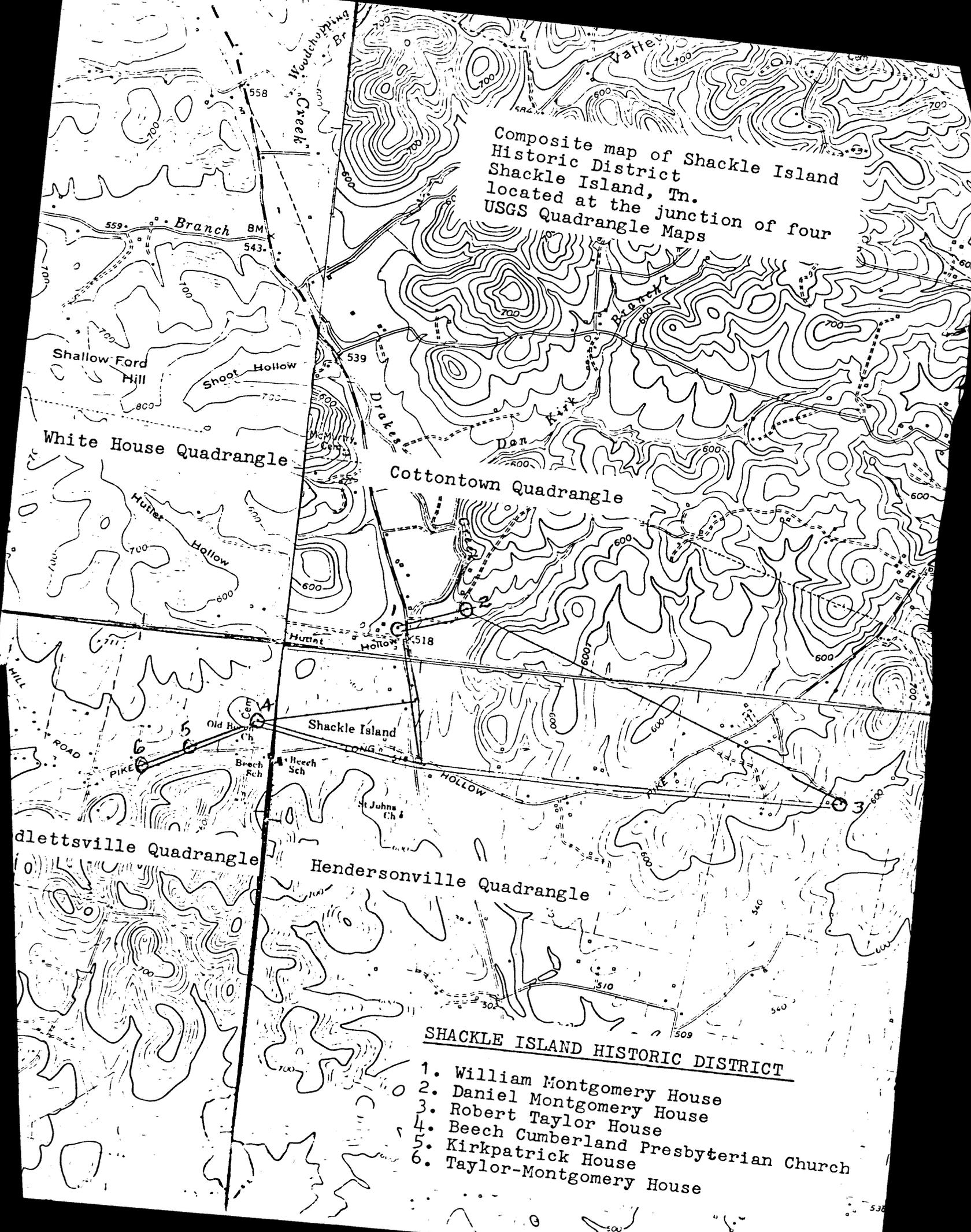
6. Taylor Montgomery House

The property being nominated is rectangular in shape, containing two acres, bounded on a line at Long Hollow Pike extending southwest 208.7' to the northwest corner; thence 417.8' on a line to the southwest corner; thence returning up the creek 208.7' to the southeast corner; thence 417.8' to the point of beginning.

The two acres for each of the six historic buildings are described in the verbal boundary descriptions above. This area includes all of the significant outbuildings, where they are still extant. There are a total of twelve acres for the entire district being nominated.

The reason for nominating this type of discontinuous district rests on our evaluation of the rural areas and land between each site. Rather than include all of the adjacent rural farmland, two acres of the owners' property, surrounding each building, including some significant outbuildings, is sufficient to represent the historic character of the district.

Composite map of Shackle Island
Historic District
Shackle Island, Tn.
located at the junction of four
USGS Quadrangle Maps

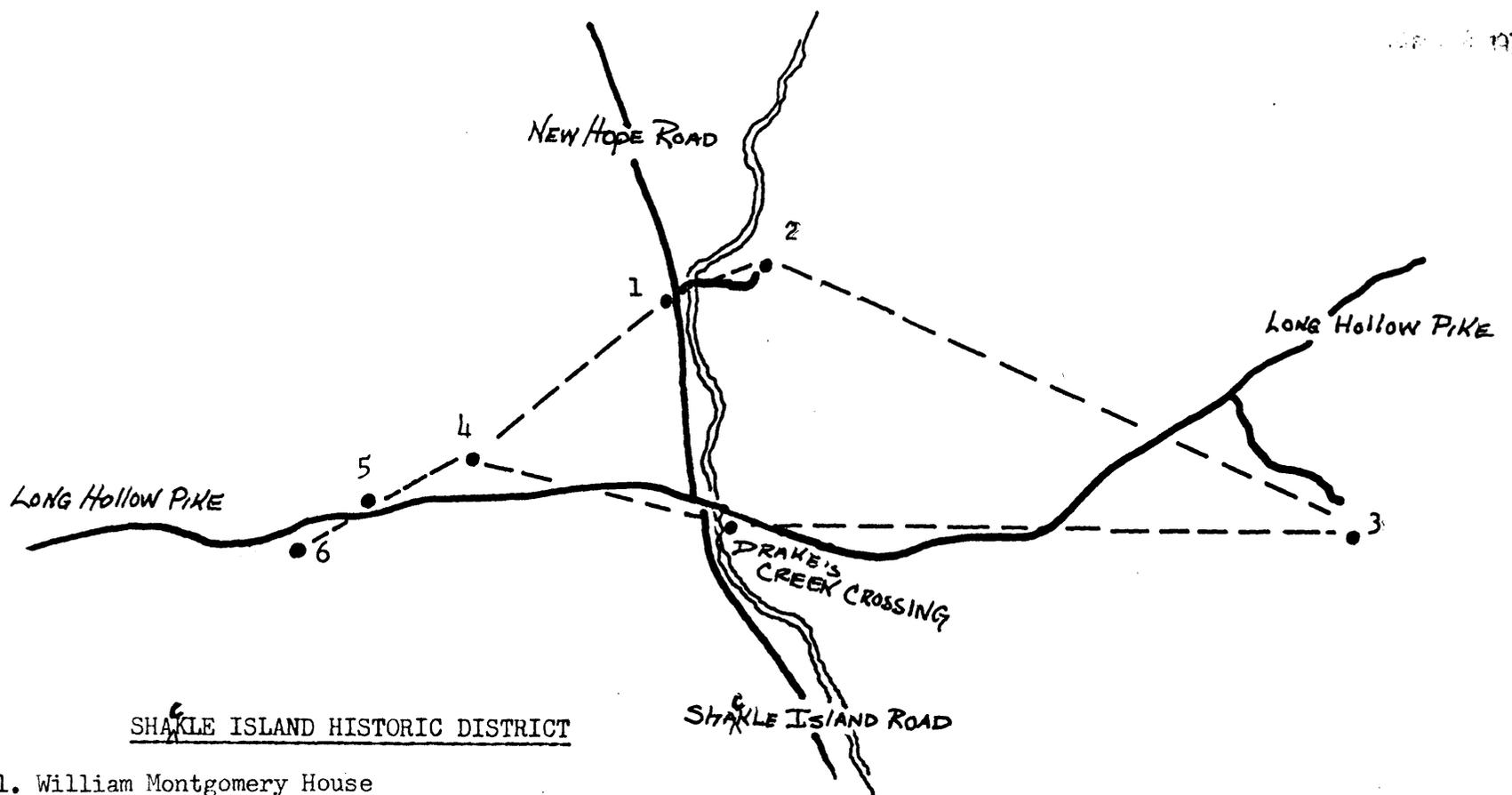


SHACKLE ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. William Montgomery House
2. Daniel Montgomery House
3. Robert Taylor House
4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church
5. Kirkpatrick House
6. Taylor-Montgomery House



1970



SHACKLE ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 1. William Montgomery House
- 2. Daniel Montgomery House
- 3. Robert Taylor House
- 4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- 5. Kirkpatrick House
- 6. Taylor - Montgomery House

SHAKLE ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. William Montgomery House
2. Daniel Montgomery House
3. Robert Taylor House
4. Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church
5. Kirkpatrick House
6. Taylor-Montgomery House

Scale: approximately
1 inch - 2,000 feet

