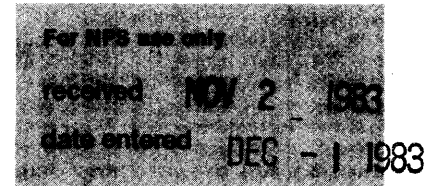


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Hamlett-Smith House

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number Jacks Creek - Mifflin Rd. N/A not for publication

city, town Jacks Creek vic.  vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Chester code 023

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <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 Martha E. Smith

street & number Route 1, Box 55

city, town Luray N/A  vicinity of state Tennessee 38352

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Chester County Register of Deeds

street & number Chester County Courthouse

city, town Henderson state Tennessee 38340

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date N/A N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in rural Chester County near the community of Jacks Creek, the ca. 1867 Hamlett-Smith House is a one-story Greek Revival frame building. The house shows a combining of Greek Revival and West Tennessee vernacular influences on a relatively small farm house. The most distinguishing features of the building are two small porches with slender, square Tuscan colonettes. The interior has most of its early features, including original wallpaper in one bedroom. The house retains a high degree of its architectural integrity.

The Hamlett-Smith House has a pyramidal roof of composition shingles which replaced an early metal roof which was damaged in a 1945 tornado. The weatherboarding is made of blue poplar, and the interior framing is white oak. The eaves have a simple box cornice and no gutters. There are exterior brick chimneys on the east, west, and south facades. Although the foundation is basically open with brick piers, there is a cellar with brick and plaster walls and a dirt floor under the dining room.

The three-bay front (north) facade has a simple Greek Revival porch with slender, square Tuscan colonettes. The rear wall of the porch has Tuscan pilasters and is covered with flush, horizontal boards. The entranceway has a transom, sidelights, and a single leaf door. The windows flanking the porch are six-over-six, double-hung sash with a simple cornice and louvered shutters. There are Doric pilasters at the corners of the north and east facades. The east facade is almost identical to the north facade except for the presence of an exterior chimney.

The south (rear) and west facades have been somewhat altered over the years. The wing on the west facade is the kitchen which originally was separated from the house by a breezeway. However, in 1918 the north end of the breezeway was walled in by the addition of a bathroom along the north side of the kitchen. Later two porches near the southwest and southeast corners of the building were enclosed with screen and windows. There are also some recent metal awnings on the rear of the house.

The interior of the Hamlett-Smith House has a central north/south axis hall and a side hall leading to the east porch. The five rooms arranged along this T-shaped hallway are plastered and have 14' ceilings. All of the floors, moldings, mantels, and doors are made of heart pine. Except for the Tudor arches of the mantels, the woodwork is basically Greek Revival in design. Of particular interest is the original Neo-Grec wallpaper in one bedroom, which is still in good condition.

To the rear of the house are several nineteenth-century frame buildings that include a smokehouse, well house, hay barn and mule barn, as well as an early log corn crib. The two-story smokehouse still has the poplar wood trough used in preserving meat. More recent structures on the nominated property are a tractor/tool shed, a gasoline pump installed in 1918 (the first in Chester County), and the one-story, metal communications building, which was moved in the 1950's from the 1938 WPA Emergency Landing Air Field which was across the road from the house.

# 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/humanitarian
<input 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 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** ca. 1867 **Builder/Architect** Joel Flippant Hamlett

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The ca. 1867 Hamlett-Smith House is nominated under National Register criteria B and C for its local architectural significance and its association with Joel Flippant Hamlett, a prominent Chester County farmer in the last half of the nineteenth century. The Greek Revival building is one of the oldest houses remaining in Chester County, a section that was settled later than other parts of the state. The details and plan of the house are unique in the area.

The Hamlett-Smith House is located approximately 3 miles from the Jacks Creek Community. The history of the area dates back to the early 1820's. Jacks Creek was first located in the Fifth Civil District of Henderson County and the Hamlett-Smith property was located in Henderson County until 1882 when Chester County was formed.

The property on which the house stands was originally owned by the Trice family. John Calvin Trice was one of the principle owners of the property. John C. Trice and his wife Elizabeth (Crook) Trice came from North Carolina and Kentucky respectively. John was born in 1804 and Elizabeth in 1806. John Trice came to Henderson County ca. 1822 and ca. 1828 married and settled near Jacks Creek. He and his wife had four children, one of whom, Florina, married Joel F. Hamlett.

Rev. S.E. Reid, author of A Brief History of Chester County, Tennessee, 1924, stated, "The late Joel F. Hamlett, of the 2nd District, was a pioneer in the farming who was 40 to 50 years ahead of his time. He was a man of wealth and refinement and his extensive experiments were of great value to his community. (Peace to his ashes.) And as a result of his leadership there grew up around him some of the best farmers in the County."

Joel and Florina Hamlett had two children. Their son Joel F. (Jody) was born at the house in 1873. A daughter Elizabeth (Ms. Bess) was born in 1878. After Florina Hamlett's death in 1907, the children sold the farm to William Lee Smith, Sr. of Reagan, Tennessee. William Smith and his wife Martha Elizabeth Benson Smith had six children. Their daughter Martha Eliza Smith now owns the house and the surrounding farm land. At the age of 83 Miss Smith is still an active farmer.

Joel F. Hamlett designed and built the Hamlett-Smith House around 1867. Its variation of the Greek Revival style is unique in the Chester County area. The only known example in southern West Tennessee which is even closely similar is the house called "Chez Sol En Jin" (1850-56) in the LaGrange Historic District (Nat'l Reg., 1975). The two porches with their delicate square colonettes, Greek Revival doorways, and corner-board pilasters create a skillful architectural design. Except for the rear of the building, the house is also noteworthy for the unaltered state of its exterior and interior. The number and completeness of the early outbuildings associated with the house also contribute to its architectural significance.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property five acres

Quadrangle name Jacks Creek, TN

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	3	6	2	0	0	0	3	9	2	8	1	1	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

See Continuation Sheet

### 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 Cathryn C. Holland, Community Development Coordinator

organization SW Tennessee Development District date 8/12/83

street & number 416 East Lafayette telephone 901-422-4041

city or town Jackson state Tennessee 38301

# 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.

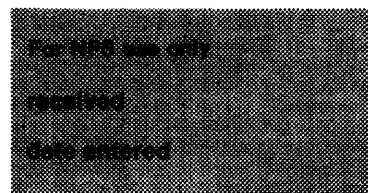
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historic Commission date 10/26/83

For NPS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Enclosed is the  
National Register  
date 10/26/83  
Attest: [Signature] date  
Chief of Registration

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

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



Continuation sheet Hamlett-Smith House

Item number 9

Page 2

Chester County Deeds Book, 1913, Vol. 18, pp. 215-227.

Chester County Tax Lists.

The Goodspeed Publishing Company History of Crockett and Chester County, pp. 867-868.

A Brief History of Chester County, Tennessee, S.E. Reid, 1924, p.6, pp. 21-22.

"Henderson Centennial Celebration Souvenir Program", 1960, p. 15.

"Chester County, Tennessee, 1882-1982", Souvenir Program, 1982, Article on Jacks Creek, Tennessee.

1850 Census - Tennessee, Vol. 3, pg. 97.

1850 Census - Tennessee, Vol. 6, pg. 241.

1880 Census - Tennessee, Vol. 15, pg. 28.

1900 Census - Tennessee, Microfilm, Chester County, pg. 33.

"Chester County Independent", May 12, 1938, pg. 1; July 28, 1938, pg. 1; September 1, 1938, pg. 1; August 10, 1939, pg. 1, pg. 4; August 24, 1939, pg. 4.

Letters from Elizabeth Hamlett Gillespie to Martha E. Smith.

Interviews with family members, neighbors, and local historians:

Joe M. Frye

Frank Rowsey

Luke Trice

Emma Inman Williams

James Williams

Mattie Trice Tillman

Louis Jones

Interviews with black neighbors:

Luke Trice

Minnie Trice

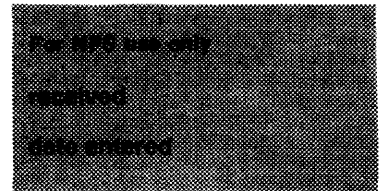
Marshall Trice

Caroline McCorkle Trice

Allie Trice

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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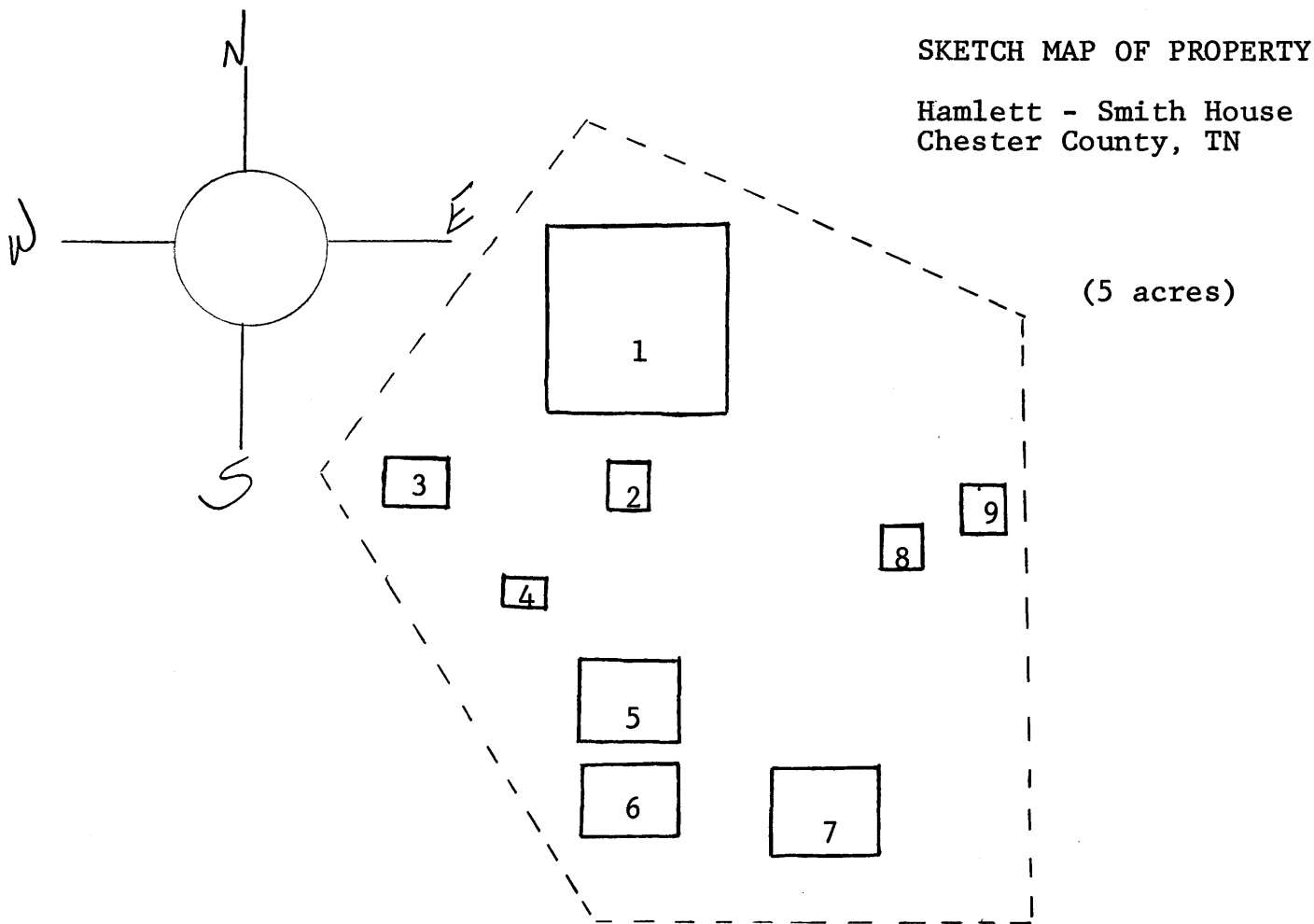
Continuation sheet Hamlett-Smith House

Item number 10

Page 2

Verbal boundary description

The nominated property is pentagonal in shape and is bounded on the north by Jacks Creek Road, on the east by an adjoining property line, and on the other three sides by imaginary lines enclosing the house and original outbuildings (see tax map). The amount of land being nominated is the minimal acreage needed to protect the historical and architectural integrity of the house and its outbuildings.



EXISTING BUILDINGS

1. Hamlett - Smith House
2. Well House
3. Smoke House
4. Storage Shed
5. Hay Barn
6. Mule Barn
7. Log Corn Crib
8. Airport Communications Center Building (moved from across the road in the 1950's)
9. Tractor Shed

Hamlett-Smith House  
Jacks Creek - Mifflin Road  
Vic. of Jacks Creek, Chester County,  
Tennessee

Site Map

24  
113.5Ac  
100.0Ac<sub>c</sub>

23  
113.0Ac  
107.0Ac<sub>c</sub>

22  
100.0Ac  
112.0Ac<sub>c</sub>

3-79

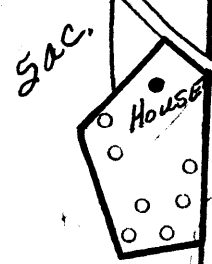
M. E. Smith

JACKS CREEK - MIFFLIN RD.

Hamlett-Smith House  
Jacks Creek - Mifflin Rd.  
Vic. of Jacks Creek, Chester Co., Tennessee

Tax Map

1" = 400'



23-17

24-17

22-17

21