

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property _____

County and State _____

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable) _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 73001835; 14000087

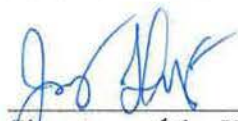
Date Listed: 2/23/73; 3/26/2014

Property Name: Blountville Historic District, Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase and Boundary Decrease.

County: Sullivan

State: TN

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper3-26-2014_____
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Areas of Significance

The nomination is hereby amended to delete COMMERCE, POLITICS, RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY, TRANSPORTATION, AND PLANNING as areas of significance. None of the areas are addressed or supported in the narrative.

The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

FEB - 7 2014

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin No. 16 to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Blountville Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease)

Other names/site number N/A

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

2. Location

Street & Number: Roughly bounded by Blountville Cemetery, Great Stage Road, Massengill Rd., and Blountville Bypass

City or town: Blountville State: Tennessee County: Sullivan

Not For Publication: ☐ N/A Vicinity: ☐ N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

☐ national ☒ statewide ☒ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Claudia L. Spivey
Signature of certifying official/Title:

1/30/14
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting Official:

Date

Title:

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

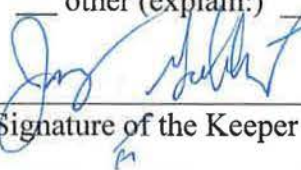
Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:)


Signature of the Keeper

3-26-2014
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

Private ☒
Public – Local ☒
Public – State ☐
Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

Building(s) ☐
District ☒
Site ☐
Structure ☐
Object ☐

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
3	2	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
6	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 39

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC

COMMERCE/TRADE

GOVERNMENT

Current Functions

DOMESTIC

COMMERCE/TRADE

GOVERNMENT

7. Description

Architectural Classification

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

OTHER: Log building, I-House, Folk Victorian, Ranch House, Minimal Traditional House

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD: Log; BRICK; STONE; METAL

Narrative Description

Listed in the National Register in 1972, the Blountville Historic District is located in downtown Blountville, Tennessee, and contains many of the buildings that have made Blountville the commercial and political center of Sullivan County life since 1795. Now updated with larger and more precise boundaries, the 111-acre district contains 35 contributing (C) properties and 12 non-contributing (NC) properties. It contains a variety of property types, including the Sullivan County Courthouse, dwellings, commercial buildings, a former inn, three churches, a cemetery, and undeveloped pastures associated with troop movements during the 1863 Battle of Blountville. With a history that stretches back to East Tennessee's early settlement era, the district contains a variety of architectural styles from the late eighteenth century through the mid-twentieth century, including log buildings, Classical Revival, Federal, Folk Victorian, and Ranch houses. The earliest buildings associated with the founding era of Blountville include the circa 1785 Old Deery Inn and the circa 1795 Anderson Townhouse. Other antebellum buildings include the circa 1800 Federal-style Dulaney House-Anderson Hall, the 1853 Sullivan County Courthouse, and several vernacular dwellings. More recent

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

contributing resources date from the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries, including the district's churches and a number of Ranch houses.

In addition to its architecture, the Blountville Historic District is characterized by its environmental setting, topography, and transportation networks. Blountville is located in the Valley and Ridge geographic region of upper East Tennessee, just west of the Unaka Mountains that lie on the border of Tennessee and North Carolina. The town is located in a shallow valley defined by low hills on the north and steeper ridges on the south. Running through the bottom of this valley in the center of town is Muddy Creek, which historically provided water power for a local grist mill. The Blountville Cemetery, which marks the western boundary of the district, is located on a broad hilltop that overlooks the town. From the cemetery, the landscape runs down across Muddy Creek before steadily rising up to the western boundary of the district at Massengill Road.

The primary transportation corridor through the district is Highway 126, which passes through town in a southwest-northeast direction. Also known as the Great Stage Road, the highway was built in 1795 to connect the Great Valley of East Tennessee with western Virginia and contributed to the early growth and development of Blountville. Today, brick sidewalks along each side of this road within the district contribute to the district's historic feeling. Many of the sidewalks in the district are original, while some date to the 1950s, and the sidewalk in front of the Deery Inn and Rutledge House was reworked in 2002. Highway 394, built in 1999, intersects with Highway 126 near the center of the Blountville Historic District and provides access to Interstate 81 just north of town. Blountville Boulevard passes through the north side of the district. It is a bypass road off of Highway 394 that arcs through the eastern end of town. Smaller cross streets that pass through the district include Anderson Road, Church Street, and Massengill Road.

Historic preservation efforts in the Blountville Historic District began in 1940 with the restoration of the Old Deery Inn by Mrs. Joseph A. Caldwell, and continue with the Old Deery Inn and Museum (a nonprofit group). Other properties were well-maintained through the years and continue to contribute to the historic character of the district. Blountville adopted local Historic Zoning and Conservation Overlay Zoning districts in 2003 and 2005, respectively. These ordinances ensure that the district retains good physical integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The original Blountville Historic District nomination did not include a precise inventory of contributing and non-contributing properties. Additionally, the original district boundary did not follow parcel lines and was represented with a rough rectangle drawn around the town. The updated boundaries of the Blountville Historic District now include eight newly-listed contributing properties and exclude 62 properties that were haphazardly included in the original rectangle. The removed properties have lost the qualities for which they were listed through demolition, new construction, and alterations. The newly-listed contributing properties are identified in the following inventory.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

PROPERTY INVENTORY

1) 125 Anderson Road. Circa 1970.

This circa 1970 house has an asphalt-shingle, cross-gable roof, board and batten siding, and a concrete block foundation. (NC)

2) 240 Blountville Bypass. Williams House. Circa 1850.

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

The Williams House is a two-story vernacular frame house with a front-gable metal roof, weatherboard siding, a stone foundation, and L-shaped plan. It has a one-story wraparound porch with wood turnposts. There are original two-over-two double-hung wood sash windows and a recessed entrance on the south façade. (C)

3) 247 Blountville Bypass. Circa 1950.

This circa 1950 Ranch House has an asphalt-shingle hip roof, synthetic siding, and a concrete foundation. The north façade has a tripartite picture window and offset main entrance. There is an external brick chimney on the west elevation. (C)

4) 248 Blountville Bypass. Earnest House-Presbyterian Manse. Circa 1850.

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

The circa 1850 Earnest House-Presbyterian Manse is a 1.5-story vernacular house with brick exterior, a metal side-gable roof, brick exterior, and stone foundation. There is a 3/4-length dormer window across the south elevation of the roof that contains three pairs of three-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. There is also a 3/4-length one-story front porch on the south elevation with wood turnposts and a metal roof. The porch covers a central entrance with transom and sidelights. The house has original six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows throughout. There are four interior-end brick chimneys. Just northwest of the house is a non-contributing garage/outbuilding with a metal side-gable roof and vertical plank siding. (C)

5) 114 County Hill Road. Marsh/Harper House-First Baptist Parsonage. Circa 1850.

The two-story vernacular Marsh/Harper House-First Baptist Parsonage has frame construction, a metal side-gable roof, weatherboard exterior, a stone foundation, and T-shaped plan. There is an interior brick chimney in the main front portion of the house. The façade features a one-story, full-length porch with wood columns

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

and an offset entrance. There is a two-story projecting bay on the west elevation. The house has original one-over-one wood sash windows, though most of the glass has been broken. There is a one-story rear ell on the north elevation with metal gable roof and interior brick chimney. The house is in severely deteriorated condition with holes in the roof, missing weatherboard siding, broken windows, and structural damage. (C)

6) 126 County Hill Road. Circa 1950.

This is a one-story Ranch house with a gable-front-and-wing design. It has an asphalt-shingle cross-gable roof, synthetic siding, and a concrete block foundation. A partial-width front porch has metal columns and covers an offset entrance and tripartite picture window. There is a non-contributing carport building immediately north of the house in the backyard. (C)

7) 130 County Hill Road. Circa 1950.

This is a one-story Minimal Traditional house with a side-gable, asphalt shingle roof and synthetic siding. There is a projecting front gable over the offset entrance and a pair of three-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. (C)

8) 144 County Hill Road. Balthis House. Circa 1870.

This is a one-story Gothic Revival cottage that has a cross-gable roof with stamped-metal shingles and synthetic siding. It has a central, one-story concrete porch with milled wood turnposts. There is a central entrance flanked on the west side by a picture window and on the east by a one-over-one double-hung wood sash window. (C)

9) 146 County Hill Road.

This property contains a single mobile home. (NC)

10) 148 County Hill Road.

This property contains a single mobile home. (NC)

11) 152 County Hill Road. Rogers-Frazier House. Circa 1850.

This house is located on the north side of Cemetery Hill Road, just east of the Blountville Cemetery. It is a two story I-house with a side-gable, asphalt shingle roof and a full-length, one-story front porch with square columns. There are exterior end brick chimneys on both the east and west elevations. It has a combination

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

of weatherboard and asbestos siding. There are side-by-side front entrances and double-hung wood sash windows throughout, with various configurations including one-over-one and three-over-one. (C)

12) No Address, County Hill Road. Blountville Cemetery. Circa 1800 to present.

The circa 1800 Blountville Cemetery is located on the western boundary of the Blountville Historic District. Located on a broad hilltop that overlooks the town, the approximately 4-acre cemetery is accessed via Blountville Cemetery Road, which winds around and creates a loop and parking area on the rear (north) side of the cemetery. The cemetery was established by the Blountville Presbyterian and Baptist churches, which were deeded the land from local landowners, including William Deery. The four corners of the original cemetery were marked by three cedars and a cypress tree, and two of the cedars and the cypress tree still stand. The Presbyterian Church was originally located in the center of the cemetery, indicated today by cut stone steps that remain at its southern edge. The Baptist Church was located near Muddy Creek. Both churches later relocated to their current properties in the center of town.

The cemetery is irregular in shape and bordered on the east and west by dwellings that front County Hill Road, and on the north by undeveloped and partially wooded areas. There is no uniform boundary fence around the cemetery. There is a wrought-iron fence around a section of the cemetery's west end. The cemetery contains 821 graves arranged in semi-formal rows that run from north to south. Grave markers are not uniform in type and are found in tablet, ledger, and obelisk designs, most of which are commercially made. Markers are composed of polished and unpolished marble and limestone and are arranged in an east-west orientation, with the majority of inscriptions facing east. Some of the newer markers installed in recent decades have inscriptions that face west. The cemetery does not contain clearly marked family burial plots or plot enclosures, though some family plots are grouped together in an informal manner. The cemetery includes unmarked burials but their precise locations have not been identified. The cemetery contains numerous mature boxwoods and cedar trees that are associated with certain burials. The cemetery is regularly maintained and its overall condition is fair, though many of the older grave markers are broken or in deteriorated condition.

Many notable people are buried there, including William Deery, a successful merchant and former owner of Blountville's Old Deery Inn. Also buried there is John Rhea, at-large representative of Tennessee in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1803-1815 and again from 1817-1823. During the Battle of Blountville, the Union troops of Col. John W. Foster planted their artillery in the cemetery and fired on the Confederate line east of town. (C)

13) 3311 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Circa 1890.

This is a 1.5-story Folk Victorian house with frame construction, weatherboard exterior, a stone foundation, and irregular plan. The hip roof has front and side gable portions and it is covered with embossed metal shingles. There is a single gable-roof dormer on the façade. The front of the house features a wraparound porch with columns and an offset entrance with transom and sidelights. There is one interior stone chimney and two interior brick chimneys. The windows are replacement one-over-one vinyl sash windows. (C)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

14) 3319 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Raymond Massengill House. Circa 1920.

The Raymond Massengill House is a two-story Dutch Colonial-style frame house with an asphalt-shingle gambrel roof, weatherboard siding, and a rectangular plan. There is a shed-type dormer on the south façade and a full-length one-story porch with paired columns. The windows are primarily six-over-six double-hung wood sash. There are two external end brick chimneys. (C)

15) 3327 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Circa 1950.

This is a one-story Ranch house with an asphalt-shingle hip roof, asbestos shingle siding, and a rectangular plan. The south façade features a tripartite picture window on the east end, an exterior stone veneer chimney, an offset entrance, and one-over-one metal sash windows. There is a carport on the west end of the house with metal columns. (C)

16) 3341 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Massengill House. Circa 1900.

The Massengill House is a two-story, gable-front-and-wing, Folk Victorian house with an asphalt shingle roof, weatherboard siding, and a stone foundation. There is a one story rear ell portion with a gable roof. There are two interior brick chimneys. The house retains its original two-over-two double-hung wood sash windows throughout. The south façade has a partial width front porch with wood turnposts and decorative trim. (C)

17) 3351 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. The Chapel at Fellowship Park. 2007.

The Chapel at Fellowship Park is a 2007 replica of the original 1843 First Baptist Church of Blountville. Immediately northeast of the replica chapel is a covered pavilion. East of the chapel is a non-original log building. (NC)

18) 3358 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Blountville Baptist Church. 1955, 1966, 1991.

The present Blountville Baptist Church was built in three phases, including the 1955 Education Building (the side-gable portion that adjoins the rear of the sanctuary), the 1966 sanctuary, and the 1991 Family Life Center on the rear (south end) of the building. The present church replaced the former 1912 church building that was in the same location. (NC)

19) 3361 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Circa 1950.

This is a one-story, wood frame Minimal Traditional house with an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof, synthetic

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

siding, concrete block foundation, and a rectangular plan. It has a central portico-covered entrance flanked by two one-over-one replacement vinyl windows. There is a central interior brick chimney. (C)

There is a circa 1960 one-story garage in the rear yard of with a metal front-gable roof and a single overhead garage door. (C)

Just north of the garage is a tool shed with weatherboard exterior and gable roof. (C)

20) 3369 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Tipton House. Circa 1790.

The Tipton House is located just east of Anderson Hall. It is a two-story, hall-and-parlor vernacular log house with a side-gable roof, four exterior brick-encased stone chimneys, a symmetrical three bay façade with a central entrance, weatherboard exterior, and a stone foundation. There is a rear ell addition of log construction. The house was built by Colonel John Tipton and is reputed to be the second oldest in Blountville after the Anderson Townhouse. (C)

21) 3378-3381 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Dulaney House-Anderson Hall. Circa 1800.

Anderson Hall is the only brick dwelling in the Blountville Historic District. Like the Old Deery Inn, the house played a key role in the Battle of Blountville as frightened citizens took refuge from the artillery fire in its sturdy stone basement. Anderson Hall is a fine example of early Federal brick residential architecture in Tennessee. The two-story home has a side-gable metal roof, interior end chimneys, and a stone foundation. A two-story entrance portico with square columns dominates the symmetrical three-bay façade. The porch entrances on the first and second floors both feature pedimented door surrounds with fanlights. The façade portico is flanked by nine-over-nine double-hung wood sash windows on the ground floor and six-over-nine double-hung wood sash windows on the second floor. There is an original brick ell on the rear of the house with a portico-covered entrance on the west elevation, and a non-original two-story porch on the rear (north) elevation. (C)

22) 3382 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Miller-Haynes House (The Cannonball House). 1848.

The Miller-Haynes House is known today as The Cannonball House due to the damage it received from Federal artillery during the Battle of Blountville. It is a two-story, frame I-house with a side-gable roof, exterior brick chimneys on either end, a full-length one-story porch, and weatherboard siding. There is a one-story rear ell with a covered porch. The house has six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows. At the time of the battle, the house was owned by Matthew Taylor Haynes, a devoted Confederate. Union artillery shells struck the west side of the home and lodged in the chimney on the east side, giving the house its nickname of "The Cannonball House." Shrapnel holes from the bombardment are preserved behind transparent display panels on the west side of the rear addition. (C)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

23) 3389 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Fain-Taylor House. Circa 1800.

The Fain-Taylor house is on the north side of Highway 126 immediately east of the Rutledge House. It is a two-story vernacular log dwelling with a hall-and-parlor floor plan. It has a side-gable wood-shake roof, weatherboard siding, a stone foundation, two exterior end brick chimneys, and a rear ell portion that contains a cellar, kitchen, and bedrooms. The façade features a side entrance with stone steps and a wood portico. The ground floor of the façade has two twelve-over-eight double-hung wood sash windows and the upper floor has three six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows. The house was built around 1800 by Phillip Snapp, who moved to Blountville from the Shenendoah Valley of Virginia in the late eighteenth century. During the Battle of Blountville the property was home to William G. and Elizabeth Taylor, parents of local historian Oliver Taylor, who wrote "Historic Sullivan." It was later owned by members of the Fain and Barger families. (C)

24) 3390 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Blountville Methodist Church. Circa 1930.

The Blountville Methodist Church is a Classical Revival-style building with a brick veneer exterior. The north façade features a pedimented portico with four Doric columns and a cupola above. There is a central pedestrian entrance with molded surround and transom light. There are arched stained-glass windows on the east and west elevations with decorative keystones and stone lintels. (C)

25) 3391 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Rutledge House. Circa 1800.

The Rutledge House is on the north side of Highway 126 immediately east of the Old Deery Inn. It is a two-story vernacular log dwelling with a side gable metal roof and weatherboard siding. The asymmetrical façade features a ground floor entrance, three six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows, and a second floor entrance that at one time led out to a two-story porch that was removed. The house is owned by Sullivan County and managed by the Sullivan County Historic Preservation Association, which completed a restoration of the building in 2009. The restoration included tearing off a later frame addition on the west elevation, removing the two-story front porch, and installing a new roof and composite siding. Built circa 1800, the Rutledge House was the home of John C. and Sallie Rutledge during the Battle of Blountville. Rutledge was the Sullivan County Clerk until his death in 1870. (C)

26) 3396 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Anderson Townhouse. Circa 1795, 1840.

The Anderson Townhouse is a two-story vernacular log dwelling on the south side of Highway 126 across from the Old Deery Inn. It has an exposed log exterior, a side-gable wood shake roof, exterior end brick chimney, and a stone foundation. The circa 1795 front portion has a symmetrical three-bay façade with a central entrance and six-over-six double-hung wood windows. The rear one-story ell addition was built circa 1840 on the stone foundation of the original detached kitchen, which burned. (C)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

27) 3397 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Old Deery Inn. Circa 1785, circa 1801.

The Old Deery Inn was recorded for the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) in 1962 (Survey Number HABS TN-167) and was individually listed on the NRHP in 1972. It is a two-story Federal-style building with a side-gable metal roof, beaded poplar weatherboard exterior, and a stone foundation. The inn was built in a progression of three sections: a circa-1785 two-story hewn log house (east section), a circa-1801 two-story frame inn and general store (west section), and a later three-story stone section on the rear (north) elevation. These three sections contain 18 rooms, two attics, and three cellars. The building has four chimneys and seven fireplaces. There are three entrances on its asymmetrical façade, with the main entrance in the original easternmost log portion that has decorative wood surrounds with transom and sidelight windows. There are thirteen windows on the façade that are nine-over-six double-hung wood sash with decorative keystone moldings and wood shutters. The cornice features dentil molding.

The Old Deery Inn was purchased in 1940 by Mrs. Virginia Caldwell who restored the building and moved other endangered buildings from the region to the Inn's rear yard. Mrs. Caldwell is considered Blountville's historic preservation pioneer who helped encourage other local property owners to preserve their buildings. (C)

Outbuildings

There are six historic outbuildings in the rear yard of the Old Deery Inn, including two original brick buildings built by William Deery and four that were moved there in the 1940s by Mrs. Caldwell.

a) The first original building is the circa 1810 brick kitchen, a single-room building with a wood-shake side-gable roof, Flemish bond brickwork, and a continuous stone foundation. There is an exterior end brick chimney. The kitchen has a central wood entrance flanked by two six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows. The west and north walls were rebuilt in 1940. (C)

b) The second original outbuilding is the circa 1800 slave quarters. This saddlebag-type building has a metal side-gable roof, Flemish bond brick construction, and a continuous stone foundation. The building has two interior living quarters separated by a brick chimney and fireplace. There are two wood entrances and fixed 9-light wood windows. (C)

c) The 1790 King Ironworks Cabin was originally located near Bristol, Tennessee, but was moved to this site in 1950. The one-story, single-pen log cabin has a wood-shake side-gable roof and continuous stone foundation. There is an exterior brick chimney on the north elevation and it has six-over-six wood sash windows. The logs are joined at the corners with V-notch joints. (C)

d) The circa 1800 Granny Cabin was moved to this location from nearby Hawkins County, Tennessee, and given its current name by Mrs. Caldwell. It is a one-story, single-pen dwelling with three logs per elevation, a puncheon floor, and a continuous stone foundation. The cabin has a wood-shake side-gabled roof that extends over the entrance to make a covered porch. There is an exterior stone chimney on the north elevation. (C)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

e) The Fain Law Office is located on the north side of the Slave Quarters. This small frame building originally stood across Great Stage Road from the Old Deery Inn and served as the office of attorney John Fain in the late-nineteenth century. It was moved here by Mrs. Caldwell after 1948. It is a one-story frame building with a side-gable metal roof, weatherboard exterior, and a stone pier foundation. The central entrance is flanked by two six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows. (C)

28) 3399 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Blountville First Presbyterian Church. 1935, 1968.

The Blountville Presbyterian Church is a Classical Revival style building with a front-gable metal roof, brick veneer exterior, concrete foundation, and a rectangular plan. The north façade features a pedimented portico with Doric columns, with the steeple and cupola on the above roof. The rear portion of the church is the 1968 Education Building, which houses a fellowship hall, kitchen, library, and classrooms. (C)

29) 3408 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Barr House. Circa 1895.

The Barr House is a two-story vernacular frame dwelling with a side-gable metal roof, synthetic siding, and a rectangular plan. There are two interior brick chimneys. The symmetrical, three-bay façade has a central entrance covered by a metal awning. The entrance is flanked on the ground floor by two pairs of one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows; the second floor has three two-over-two double-hung wood sash windows. It was restored with wood clapboard siding per Sullivan County's Historic Design Guidelines. (C)

30) 3411 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Sullivan County Courthouse. 1853, 1866, 1953.

This property contains five buildings, including the Sullivan County Courthouse, the 1870 Old Jail/Sheriff's Home, a covered pavilion, and two circa 2000 metal buildings used by the county sheriff's office. The Sullivan County Courthouse was built in stages over a one hundred year period from 1853 to 1953. The original 1853 portion, the interior of which was rebuilt in 1866 after the Civil War, is a Greek Revival-style building with load-bearing brick masonry exterior walls. The symmetrical five-bay façade is dominated by a two-story portico supported with four Ionic columns. The portico shelters three pedestrian entrances that feature full-glass French doors with transom lights and stone lintels. There are second-floor porches extending out over each of the three ground-floor entrances. Brick pilasters separate each of the façade bays and define all of the building's corners. Dentil molding defines the portico's cornice and is carried on throughout the building's cornice. The nearly pyramidal metal roof rises up to a domed wood cupola. Modern two-story annex wings with flat built-up roofs were added to the east and north sides of the courthouse in 1953. Both annexes have predominantly brick veneer exteriors with cast concrete trim and horizontal bands of one-over one metal windows grouped in sets of four. (C)

The 1870 Old Jail/Sheriff's Home is located on a hill behind the courthouse and adjacent to Highway 394. It is a two-story building with a metal hip roof, brick exterior, and a rectangular plan. The south façade has a central entrance with transom and side lights, with another entrance on the second floor directly above the

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

first. These entrances are flanked on either side by pairs of original four-over-four wood-sash windows. There is an interior brick chimney on the building's east end. (C)

On the northeast corner of the property are two circa 2000 metal buildings used by the Sullivan County Maintenance Office. They have metal gable roofs, metal siding, and concrete slab foundations. (NC)

31) 3412 & 3416 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. BB&T Bank.

This is a modern drive-in bank built circa 2000. (NC)

32) No Address, Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Snow House/Sullivan County Offices. Circa 1900.

The Snow House, now home of several Sullivan County Offices, is a two-story Folk Victorian frame house with a front-facing gable-end and dormer window. The house has an asphalt-shingle cross-gable roof, vinyl siding, and an irregular plan. There are two interior brick chimneys. It has replacement windows and decorative non-functioning shutters on the façade. There is a circa 1950 one-story brick storefront addition on the east elevation of the house that houses the Sullivan County Department of Archives and Tourism. (C)

33) 3441 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Originally known as the Blevins House (circa 1930), the building was completely renovated in 1965 into a funeral home with brick exterior. The chapel portion was added in 1968. The interior of the building retains its original floor plan and woodwork. (NC)

34) 3446 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Modern commercial building (NC)

35) 3449 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Eanes House. Circa 1850

The circa 1850 Eanes House is a two-story frame vernacular house with a side-gable metal roof, synthetic siding exterior, and a symmetrical three-bay facade. There are two interior brick chimneys. It has a central entrance with sidelights and one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. There is a full-length wrap-around front porch with square columns. The rear portion of the wrap-around porch was enclosed at an unknown date. (C)

36) 3450 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Joseph Rogers House. Circa 1850.

The Joseph Rogers House is a wood frame vernacular house with a metal side-gable roof, two-over-two double-hung wood sash windows, weatherboard siding, and a rectangular plan. The symmetrical façade has five bays with a central entrance and full-length porches on the first and second stories, which are not

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

original. The house was built on a steep hillside, so there are two stories facing the street and three stories facing the rear. (C)

37) 3454 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Old Mill House. Circa 1873.

Located on the south side of Great Stage Road and the east side of Muddy Creek is "The Old Mill House," associated with a former grist and saw mill at the site. The two-story frame house's location on a steep hill shows just one story facing the street but two stories in the rear. It has a metal side-gable spraddle roof. The original full-length wood front porch is now enclosed with a full-length band of one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows and stone veneer exterior. The remainder of the house is clad in weatherboard siding. There are two interior brick chimneys. (C)

38) 3463 Great Stage Road/Highway 126. Circa 1940.

This is a circa 1940 one-story commercial building with a metal gable roof, concrete block exterior, and rectangular plan. The rectangular façade has two entrances and original casement windows. Behind this building near the center of the parcel is a circa-1800 log barn, moved from its original location on Devault Bridge Road in Sullivan County. (C)

39) 1552 & 1564 Highway 394. Brown House. Circa 1900.

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

The Brown House is a two story Victorian farmhouse with an asphalt-shingle cross-gable roof, weatherboard exterior, and a stone foundation. There is a one-story wraparound porch on the south and east elevations. There are two interior brick chimneys. There is a two-story non-contributing garage with second-floor apartment on the south side of the house, adjacent to the driveway. (C)

40) 1560 Highway 394. 1998.

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District

This parcel contains a modular home built in 1998. (NC)

41) 1568 Highway 394.

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District

This parcel contains garden plots but no buildings. (NC)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

42) 1586 & 1588 Highway 394.

This parcel contains circa 2000 modern commercial buildings. (NC)

43) 1570 & 1590 Highway 394.

This parcel contains circa 2000 modern commercial buildings. (NC)

44) 214 Massengill Road. Circa 1960.

This is a one-story Ranch house with an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof, brick veneer exterior, and a rectangular plan. The west façade features a two-car garage and recessed entrance. There are one-over-one replacement windows throughout and an interior brick chimney. (C)

45) No Address, Parcel 082051 03500, Highway 394

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

Located northeast of the intersection at Highway 394 and Blountville Boulevard, on the north side of the Blountville Historic District, is this 17.75-acre undeveloped pasture that is associated with flanking movements of Union troops during the 1863 Battle of Blountville. Not included in the original district boundaries, this parcel is included in the updated boundaries because of its association with the battle. (C)

46) No Address, Parcel 082051 04500, Highway 394

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

Located on the west side of Highway 394 is this 19-acre undeveloped pasture that is associated with flanking movements of Union troops during the 1863 Battle of Blountville. Not included in the original district boundaries, this parcel is included in the updated boundaries because of its association with the battle. (C)

47) No Address, Parcel 082051 04400, Highway 126

*This property is newly listed in the Blountville Historic District.

Located immediately north of the Blountville Cemetery is this 15-acre partially wooded pasture that is associated with flanking movements of Union troops during the 1863 Battle of Blountville. Not included in the original district boundaries, this parcel is included in the updated boundaries because of its association with the battle. (C)

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

MILITARY

COMMERCE

POLITICAL

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

TRANSPORTATION, AND URBAN
PLANNING

Period of Significance

Circa 1785-1963

Significant Dates

September 21-24, 1863 – Battle of
Blountville

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Blountville Historic District, located in Blountville (population 3,074 as of the 2010 census), Sullivan County, Tennessee, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce, Military, Political, Religion/Philosophy, Transportation, and Urban Planning. It was also listed under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. This updated and amended nomination provides new boundaries for the district along parcel lines and adds additional historic context on its architectural and military significance. The district meets National Register Criterion A at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Military for its association with the 1863 Battle of Blountville during the Civil War. The district also meets National Register Criterion C at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Architecture for its collection of well-preserved buildings from the late eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The period of significance for the district is circa 1785-1963, which begins with the date of construction for the earliest building in the district and includes resources dating through the mid-twentieth century. Significant dates within this period of significance include September 21-24, 1863, when Union and Confederate forces clashed in the town during the Battle of Blountville.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Blountville Settlement and Early Development

Sullivan County was founded in 1779 as one of the first settled areas in upper East Tennessee. Blountville was later established as the county seat in 1792. The town was built on a 30-acre tract of James Brigham's 600-acre plantation, which he obtained by a North Carolina land grant. Town commissioners were selected to formally accept the land and build a log townhouse, known today as the Anderson Townhouse, in which they conducted business to establish Blountville.¹ The town was named after William Blount, the first governor of the Territory South of the Ohio River and a resident of what is now East Tennessee. In 1793, the town was platted into 33 lots along what were known as Main Street (now Great Stage Road) and Franklin Drive, which were gradually sold off until the 1830s.² These original lots now form the core of the Blountville Historic District.

During the early nineteenth century, Blountville was an important stagecoach stop on the Great Stage Road that linked the eastern portion of Tennessee to the western part of Virginia. This, coupled with Blountville being the county seat, allowed the small town to flourish. Many of the town's early settlers were from western Virginia and they brought with them architectural customs that shaped the town's early development, including traditional hall-and-parlor log dwellings. Like the Anderson Townhouse and other early homes, the county's original 1795 courthouse was of log construction. By the 1830 census, Blountville had a population of 209 people, including ten mechanics, one lawyer, and one physician. The town at that time contained one Methodist and one Presbyterian church, six stores, and two taverns. Education was

¹ Muriel C. Spoden, "Historic Sites of Sullivan County," The Sullivan County Historical Commission and Associates (Kingsport, TN: Sullivan County Court, 1976), 115.

² Oliver Taylor, "Historic Sullivan: A History of Sullivan County, Tennessee" (Blountville: Oliver Taylor, 1909), 139.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

provided by the Blountville Jefferson Academy for boys, established in 1806, and the Blountville Female Academy, established in 1837.³

By the 1850s, the town's growing population had a professional base of doctors, lawyers, innkeepers, clergy, and various merchants and craftsmen.⁴ The county's second courthouse, built out of brick in 1825-1828, supplied Blountville's main street and inns with visitors and attorneys from throughout the county and region. Among its original stock of log buildings, residents built new wood frame houses along the town's main street. The local economy benefited from the completion of the nearby East Tennessee & Virginia Railroad, which connected Knoxville with Bristol, Virginia. Begun in 1851 and completed in 1858, the railroad helped link Blountville to communication and trade networks in both northern and southern states.⁵ By the eve of the Civil War, Blountville was described as "truly a 'city' of culture and wealth" and "the center of an enlightened citizenship."⁶

Architectural History

Blountville's early development in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century produced buildings that reflected both the vernacular forms and higher-style architectural fashions of the time. This era is represented by the district's many log and frame buildings, as well as those in the Federal and Classical Revival styles. These early buildings define much of the overall character of the district, though it also contains contributing examples of Folk Victorian and other styles associated with the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Twentieth-century buildings also contribute to the character of the district, including Neo-classical churches and several Minimal Traditional and Ranch houses from the 1950s and 1960s.

There are four log or partial-log buildings from the town's settlement era in the core of the Blountville Historic District, including the original circa 1785 section of the Old Deery Inn (Inventory #27, Photograph #14), the circa 1795 Anderson Townhouse (Inventory #26, Photograph #19), the circa 1800 Rutledge House (Inventory #25, Photograph #16), and the circa 1800 Fain-Taylor House (Inventory #23, Photograph #16). These were built according to traditional hall-and-parlor plans imported by settlers from Virginia and all but the Anderson Townhouse were covered with weatherboard siding.⁷

The two-story log Anderson Townhouse is the district's best known log building and is reputed to be the oldest dwelling in Blountville. Built by Colonel John Anderson, it was owned and used by Blountville's first Town Commissioners while they established the town. Col. John Anderson was a Revolutionary War veteran and one of the first justices of Washington County, Virginia, from which Sullivan County was

³ Spoden, 116.

⁴ Rhea Anderson, "Sullivan County, Blountville, Citizens, Homes and Reminiscences," in *Publications of the Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia*, Bulletin Number Eleven, January 1944, 199; Taylor, 140.

⁵ Knox County Genealogy & History, "The East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad," <http://knoxcothn.org/research-aids/51-businesses/223-the-east-tennessee-and-virginia-railroad>. Accessed March 22, 2013.

⁶ Anderson, 199.

⁷ James Patrick, "Architecture in Tennessee, 1768-1897" (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 60.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

formed in 1779. He was appointed a justice of the first Sullivan County Court in 1780 and served as the county representative at the First Constitutional Convention of the State of Franklin. Many of Blountville's leading citizens owned the Anderson Townhouse through the years, and it was also owned at different times by both the Presbyterian and Methodist churches in town. The Methodist church sold the house in 1974 to the Sullivan County Court, which supervised its restoration and adaptive reuse in 1975.⁸

Vernacular building traditions continued to shape Blountville in the early nineteenth century as the availability of sawn timber lead to the emergence of frame construction techniques that replaced log construction. A house form that is well represented in Blountville is the I-House. This two-story, side-gable house with exterior brick chimneys and a symmetrical façade was a common mid-nineteenth century house type found throughout much of Tennessee and the surrounding region. This house type is represented by the circa 1850 Rogers-Frazier House (Inventory #11, Photograph #5) and the 1848 Miller-Haynes House (The Cannonball House) (Inventory #22, Photograph #18). A variation of the I-House type with interior brick chimneys is represented by the circa 1850 Snapp-Greenberry-Rogers House (Inventory #5) and the circa 1850 Joseph Rogers House (Inventory #, Photograph #24).

Other buildings in Blountville display elegant features of the Federal and Classical Revival styles. The district's finest example of Federal residential architecture is the Dulaney House-Anderson Hall (Inventory #21, Photograph #12), built circa 1800 by Dr. Elkanah Dulaney, who also purchased the Anderson Townhouse across the street in 1804. Dr. Dulaney used the house as his townhouse for his medical practice, and he also owned a farm house called Medical Grove (demolished) just west of Blountville on what is now Highway 75. Dulaney served in the State Legislature from 1819 through the 1830s. The home was later named Anderson Hall by descendants of William S. Anderson, who bought the property in 1891. The two-story Anderson Hall is the district's only brick dwelling and features the hallmarks of Tennessee's early Federal architecture, including a symmetrical three-bay façade, a central two-story pedimented porch, and pedimented door surrounds with elliptical fanlight transoms.⁹

The Federal style is also represented by one of Blountville's best known historic landmarks, the Old Deery Inn (Inventory # 27, Photograph #14). The Old Deery Inn was built in three stages, starting with the original circa 1785 log house portion on the building's east end. The 1961 Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation of the building states that this original log house section was perhaps built as early as 1764. The inn was a major landmark during the nineteenth century when it was a tavern and inn for travelers along the Great Stage Road between Virginia and East Tennessee.

The Old Deery Inn property was first owned by Walter James, who later sold the original log building and property to William Deery in 1801. Deery was an Irish immigrant who rose to prominence as a merchant and slave owner who operated stores in Virginia and Tennessee, including this building in Blountville. Deery added the second portion on the west end of the house, including an inn and general store, shortly after

⁸ Spoden, 125-128.

⁹ Ibid., 134-135.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

he acquired the property. He then added the rear limestone kitchen and dining area with porches on both sides and bedrooms above.¹⁰

Deery died in 1845 and his estate remained in litigation for the next half century. Gideon and Mary Cates, who renamed the inn Cates Hotel, were two of several people to lease the inn through the late nineteenth century. The inn survived the Battle of Blountville virtually unscathed while the courthouse and a dozen surroundings buildings burned. In fact, at the time of the battle, the town's residents took refuge in the inn's stone basement. In 1940, the dilapidated inn was purchased by Mrs. Virginia Caldwell, Blountville's historic preservation pioneer, who restored the building and moved other endangered historic buildings to the rear of the property. A list of these buildings is included in the inventory section. The Old Deery Inn, and the Rutledge House next door to it, are now owned by Sullivan County and managed by the Sullivan County Historic Preservation Association.¹¹

The Classical influence in architecture is reflected in the Blountville Historic District's premier civic building, the Sullivan County Courthouse (Inventory #30, Photograph #15). Preceded by a 1795 log building and later an 1828 brick building, the Sullivan County Courthouse was built in 1853 at the end of the Greek Revival era.¹² The building's interior and roof burned during the 1863 Battle of Blountville and were rebuilt within the remaining original brick walls in 1866. The courthouse was again remodeled in 1920 with a new roof and cornice line and construction of the columned portico on the south façade. A block-shaped brick jail was built on a rise behind the building in 1870 and was later used as a residence for the sheriff, now commonly known as the Old Sheriff's Home (Inventory #30, Photograph #21).¹³

The Civil War and the 1863 Battle of Blountville inflicted devastating effects on Sullivan County and Blountville's economy that lasted well into the twentieth century.¹⁴ As a result, the Blountville Historic District contains few surviving examples of late nineteenth-century building styles aside from a handful of Folk Victorian buildings. Located at 144 County Hill Road on the west end of the district is a modest one-story Victorian Gothic cottage built circa 1870 with a distinctive central front gable and porch (Inventory #8, Photograph #4). The Massengill House (Inventory #14, Photograph #9), located at 3341 Great Stage Road/Highway 126 on the east end of the district, is a two-story example of the upright gable-front-and-wing Folk Victorian house type. The 1898 Brown House, which overlooks the district from its hilltop location on the west side of Highway 394, is a 2.5-story upright gable-front-and-wing Folk Victorian house (Inventory #39).

¹⁰ Historic American Building Survey, "Old Deery Inn," documentation completed in 1961, available at <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/tn0146/>, accessed March 19, 2013; Ellen Beasley, "Old Deery Inn," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1972.

¹¹ Spoden, 129-131.

¹² Marcus Whiffen, "American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles" (Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 1992), 39.

¹³ Ibid., 122-124.

¹⁴ C.R. Groseclose and Martha C. Marshall, eds., "Entering a New Century: Sullivan County, Tennessee, 1895-1905" (Blountville: Sullivan County Historical Society, 1986), ix, 32.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

As Blountville and Sullivan County entered the twentieth century, they struggled to overcome the economic stagnation that followed the Civil War and the national depressions of 1873 and 1893.¹⁵ Most of the county's households were still engaged in agriculture, though more residents than in any previous time had moved to find industrial jobs in the booming towns of the "Tri-Cities" of Kingsport, Bristol, and Johnson City. As a small town located in the middle of the Tri-City area, Blountville's population shrank from 1,465 in 1900 to approximately 1,200 in 1930.¹⁶ During this time, few new buildings were constructed in the Blountville Historic District. A single circa 1940 commercial building on the west end of the district, next to Muddy Creek, features concrete-block construction and intact original casement windows. The community's local Methodist and Presbyterian congregations managed to construct new Neo-classical church buildings during the Depression, with the Blountville Methodist Church built circa 1930 and the Blountville Presbyterian Church built in 1939.

Amidst the economic stagnation that afflicted Blountville and Sullivan County in the early twentieth century, there were new developments that would help fuel later growth in the post-World War II period. The city of Bristol, which straddles the Tennessee and Virginia line in the northeast corner of the county, was an industrial and retail shopping center for the surrounding region. To the west, the town of Kingsport was established in 1917 and grew into the county's second hub of industry, railroads, and shopping. In 1937, Bristol, Johnson City, and Kingsport partnered with Sullivan County to build the McKellar Tri-City Airport just south of Blountville. The airport opened the region to commercial flights and contributed to local economic development. In 1942, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) began construction of the South Holston Reservoir Dam, which was completed in 1950.¹⁷ As it had done throughout the Tennessee Valley region, the TVA had a major impact on Sullivan County by providing affordable electric power, improved river navigation, and transformation of the Holston River into a recreational resource.

After World War II, the Tri-Cities region experience continued industrial growth and economic development. From 1930-1960 Sullivan County's population grew from 51,087 to 114,139 people.¹⁸ Blountville's location near the center of the Tri-Cities area helped it benefit from this growth as residents increasingly found jobs in nearby cities but continued to live in the historic seat of Sullivan County. The Blountville Historic District contains a number of dwellings that were built in the 1950s and 1960s, including two contributing Minimal Traditional houses and four contributing Ranch houses. In 1953, the Sullivan County Courthouse received a new three-story wing on its east side and a two-story wing on its north side. The wings contribute a mid-century Modern component to the Blountville Historic District with their flat roofs, smooth brick wall surfaces, and bands of horizontal windows.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Federal Writers' Project, "The WPA Guide to Tennessee" (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1986), 308.

¹⁷ Joe Tennis, "Images of America: Sullivan County" (Arcadia Publishing, 2008), 7, 20-21.

¹⁸ U.S. Population Census, 1930, 1950.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Military History

The Battle of Blountville

On the afternoon of September 22, 1863, Union and Confederate forces squared off for the brief but fiery Battle of Blountville in Sullivan County, Tennessee. The battle was a part of the larger struggle late in the war for control of upper East Tennessee, which contained transportation, communication lines, and other resources that were vital to the Confederate war effort. Confederate forces had successfully controlled the area for much of the war despite the pro-Union sentiment shared by most of its residents, but the threat of Union attack increased dramatically after General Ambrose Burnside occupied Knoxville early that September. Burnside dispatched troops north to engage the Confederates and destroy railroad lines and bridges. Under the command of General James Shackelford, who was sent by Burnside to Morristown, Colonel John W. Foster marched his forces toward Zollicoffer (now called Bluff City), to engage the Confederates stationed there under Colonel James Carter. After skirmishing on September 21 near the Shipley's Ferry crossing of the Watauga River, the Union gained reinforcements and turned north to Blountville, where the Confederates stationed their battery on the high ground east of town. Foster arrayed his artillery on Cemetery Hill on the west end of town, with Blountville itself caught directly in the deadly crossfire. The Union's overwhelming numbers and firepower led to a Confederate defeat and, after heavy shelling, the destruction of many of Blountville's homes and businesses. Despite the destruction, several of Blountville's buildings from the era survived. Though it is considered a minor battle in the overall history of the war, the clash left a permanent mark on the built environment of Blountville and in the hearts and minds of its people.

East Tennessee in the Civil War

East Tennessee was a critical area of military strategy during the Civil War and has earned recognition by scholars as the "keystone" of the Confederate arch. In 1863, the Confederacy had two great armies located in Virginia and Tennessee, separated from one another by the Appalachian Mountains. The one major transportation route for communication and supplies between the armies was the East Tennessee, Virginia, & Georgia Railroad, which connected Virginia with the states of the Mississippi Valley. Natural resources and agricultural lands of the Great Valley of East Tennessee, vital to the Confederate effort, were near this rail line. The raw materials needed for armaments were abundant in the area, including copper, niter, and huge salt works in nearby Virginia. The Knoxville Arsenal stored and commissioned the manufacture of locally produced arms that were used throughout the Confederacy. In addition, the area's farms were one of the Confederacy's chief supplies of food, especially pork and corn.¹⁹

The railroad became an early military target when East Tennessee citizens loyal to the Union devised a strategy in cooperation with the Union military to destroy bridges and trestles along the line. Local groups of

¹⁹ Digby Gordon Seymour, "Divided Loyalties: Fort Sanders and the Civil War in East Tennessee," (East Tennessee Historical Society, 1968, revised third edition 2002), 12; Taylor 1909, 210.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

loyalists organized in the vicinity of each bridge and planned a coordinated attack that occurred on November 8, 1861. The successful attack, in which many bridges were burned, was supposed to be followed by a Union invasion of East Tennessee from Kentucky. The invasion never materialized, to the dismay of the area's Union sympathizers, leaving them at the mercy of local Confederate groups. Fearing a widespread pro-Union uprising, pro-Confederate forces rounded up Unionists responsible for the bridge attacks and tried and executed many of them.²⁰ In response, local pro-Confederate militias were organized to protect the region from invading Union troops, especially its railroads, bridges, and telegraph lines.²¹

Though the planned Union invasion of East Tennessee did not materialize in 1861, the Union occupied most of the remainder of Tennessee early in the Civil War. After Confederate defeats at Forts Henry and Donelson on the Tennessee River, Nashville was occupied by the Union in February 1862, the first Confederate capitol to fall in the war. Later that spring, Union victories at Shiloh on the Tennessee River and the occupation of Memphis solidified the Union control over Middle and West Tennessee. In contrast, the Confederacy maintained control of East Tennessee for the first two years of the war, due in no small part to its rugged topography, which prevented the easy movement of a large invading force. Still, the Union always recognized East Tennessee as a region of strategic importance and continued to send raiding parties of cavalry into East Tennessee, such as those of 1862 that destroyed bridges over the Holston and Watauga Rivers.²²

It was not until 1863 that President Lincoln and his commanders implemented a coordinated campaign to take control of East Tennessee. It was during this campaign that the Battle of Blountville occurred. In January of 1863, General Ambrose Burnside took control of the Army of the Ohio and made rapid plans to wrest control of the region. Just as Union General William Rosecrans moved to occupy Chattanooga in the south, Burnside organized his 15,000 troops in Kentucky and marched into upper East Tennessee. On September 3, 1863, with most confederate troops in the area withdrawn to defend Chattanooga, Burnside easily entered and occupied Knoxville, eagerly received by cheers of the city's many Unionist citizens. From there, Burnside detached his commanders to the south and east, and with victories like that at the Battle of Blue Springs near Greeneville, solidified his control of the region.²³

Unionists in East Tennessee

The reception that Burnside received when he entered Knoxville revealed the considerable pro-Union sympathies among the region's people, a result of the area's unique geography and culture. Bookended on the east and west by highlands, East Tennessee in the nineteenth century was thinly populated by small valley farms that raised primarily grain and livestock for local consumption. In this isolated area, separated

²⁰ Samuel D. Smith and Benjamin C. Nance, "A Survey of Civil War Era Military Sites in Tennessee" (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archaeology, Research Series No. 14, 2003), 61.

²¹ Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Buel, eds., "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War" (New York: Castle Company, 1956), 475.

²² Larry H. Whiteaker, "Civil War," in "The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture," Carroll Van West, ed., <http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=265>, accessed April 3, 2013; Johnson and Buel, 476.

²³ Smith and Nance, 64-65.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

from the rest of the state and the South by the Cumberland and Appalachian Mountain ranges, East Tennessee developed an agricultural economy that differed from the rest of Tennessee and other Deep South states of the Confederacy. Because of this disconnect from the economic and political institutions of the Deep South, most East Tennesseans remained loyal to the Union.

Research shows that the region's pro-Union citizens were mostly older yeoman farmers who lived in the rural areas of the region, away from towns and major transportation routes. Many owned slaves but in much smaller numbers than in the other state sections. With the best farmland located in the narrower bottoms of the Tennessee River system, slavery was confined mostly to the lowland counties of the region's valley floor. Even in the counties where slavery played a significant role, there was only a fraction of the slave numbers found in Middle and West Tennessee.²⁴ Historian W. Todd Groce's analysis shows that the delegates to the May 1861 Union convention in Knoxville:

...had developed a distinct distrust of Middle and West Tennessee, regions they perceived as being dominated by men of wealth, large slaveholdings, and the Democratic party. They also nourished a growing sense of resentment toward Nashville, which they believed had fallen under control of the plantation districts... this sense of isolation and loss of influence greatly accounted for East Tennessee's stand against the secessionist wave that swept across the rest of the state after President Lincoln's call for troops to suppress the 'rebellion.'²⁵

An 1861 state referendum on secession showed only a handful of counties in the region supported separation from the Union, including Sullivan County, where Blountville is located. This situation gave the area both military and political importance as Lincoln sought not only to sever railroad and communications but also "liberate" the area's Unionists and add them to his forces.²⁶

Still, as the example of Sullivan County's support for the Confederacy suggests, it would overstate the case to say that all of East Tennessee's residents were devoted to the Union. Groce argued that "East Tennessee possessed a large, vocal, and determined Confederate minority in 1861."²⁷ Indeed, 81 Confederate cavalry, infantry, and artillery companies were raised in the region. Through an examination of these companies' enlistment and census records, Groce outlined the social and economic characteristics that tended to separate the area's Confederate minority from the pro-Union majority. East Tennessee's Confederates tended to be wealthier than their Union counterparts and were drawn from the commercial and professional ranks. Groce stated, "Rebel leaders in the Tennessee highlands were primarily young farmers, merchants, and lawyers who resided in towns and villages along major transportation routes. The evidence strongly suggests that the economic interdependency forged closer ties between East Tennessee townsfolk, especially merchants and

²⁴ Seymore, 3-4, 7.

²⁵ W. Todd Groce, "The Social Origins of East Tennessee's Confederate Leadership," in "The Civil War in Appalachia: Collected Essays," Kenneth W. Noe and Shannon H. Wilson, eds. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press), 33.

²⁶ Seymour, 7, 12.

²⁷ Groce, 31.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

lawyers, and their clients and business partners in the Deep South and Virginia, and as a consequence, oriented them toward the Confederacy.”²⁸ Sullivan County residents later argued that their Confederate allegiance was responsible for the Union’s destruction of their courthouse and other buildings during the Battle of Blountville.

Sullivan County in the Civil War

By 1861, Secessionist sympathy was so widespread in Sullivan County that one local history work noted the county was nicknamed “The Little Confederacy.”²⁹ The county, with most of its residents in and around the seat at Blountville, benefited from its location on a major transportation route and a small but educated group of merchants and professionals. It also had a number of slave owners on the eve of the Civil War. The 1850 census listed 234 slave owners on the county rolls.³⁰ Although not located in the more fertile Great Valley, the county was originally settled by slave owning Virginians, who brought that state’s model of exploiting slave labor in agriculture and industry. By the time of the secession crisis, Sullivan County shared many of the Confederate characteristics detailed in Groce’s work and, in the 1861 state referendum, voted strongly for separation from the Union with 1,586 voting for and 627 against. The county then raised 20 units for the Confederacy, including three cavalry units, 11 infantry units, and six of reserves. In contrast, it raised only five Union fighting units, four cavalry and one infantry.³¹

The Battle of Blountville

After Major General Ambrose E. Burnside occupied Knoxville in early September 1863, he mapped out an aggressive campaign to take control of East Tennessee. Burnside’s particular goals were securing the railroad; capturing major towns like Bristol; and ultimately taking the salt-works in nearby Saltville, Virginia. The ensuing Union campaign and Confederate resistance led to the Battle of Blountville at the end of the month. The battle began with a four-hour artillery duel on September 22 that ended with a Union cavalry charge and Confederate retreat that evening. After a brief occupation of Blountville by the Union, the battle concluded two days later with a Confederate ambush of Union troops at nearby Hamilton Hill. The main part of the four-hour battle involved the Union artillery forces on Cemetery Hill on the west side of Blountville versus the Confederate artillery on the plateau east of town, near the present intersection of Great Stage Road and the Blountville Bypass. The battle was not a crucial turning point in the history of the Civil War, but its history sheds light on the larger Union strategy to take East Tennessee and choke the Confederate war effort.

With Knoxville occupied by Major General Burnside since the beginning of September, and overwhelming numbers of Union troops massing for a fight at Chattanooga, the Confederacy’s continued hold on East

²⁸ Ibid. 41

²⁹ Homer H. Smith, “Memoirs of Homer H. Smith” (Blountville, TN: Blountville Bicentennial Commission, 1948), 83.

³⁰ Holston Territory Genealogical Society, “Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee: Volume One, 1779-1992” (no publisher), 50.

³¹ Smith 1948, 82; Holston Territory Genealogical Society, 62; Seymour, 7.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Tennessee was precarious in the autumn of 1863. Burnside quickly dispatched General James Shackleford to lead military attacks along the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad in upper East Tennessee with a force of about 20,000 troops headquartered in Morristown.

Opposing Shackleford was Confederate Major General Samuel Jones, who was appointed by Jefferson Davis to take charge of the Department of Southwestern Virginia, which included all of the area east of Knoxville. When Jones arrived in the area, he found that there were only two Confederate brigades, or a little over 3,000 troops, left in the region. The rest were earlier ordered by General Braxton Bragg to reinforce Chattanooga's defenses. At his headquarters in Zollicoffer (present day Bluff City), just southeast of Blountville, Jones received reinforcements that brought his number of troops up to about 6,000. With this relatively meager number, he planned to obstruct the Union advances along the railroad until the outcome of the impending battle at Chattanooga was decided. He had some success in this effort and blocked Union advances at Carter's Depot and Telford's Depot in Washington County.³²

As Shackleford's superior numbers struck out from Morristown, Jones' early advantages were soon overcome. Ordered to wait for reinforcements and prevent an advance on Saltville, Jones pulled his forces back from Jonesborough to the line of the Holston and Watauga Rivers. From Morristown, Shackleford dispatched Colonel John W. Foster for offensive actions along the railroad, including the goals of capturing Greeneville and Bristol. Foster flanked Jones' forces in Zollicoffer and arrived in Bristol on September 19, where he "occupied the town without resistance, except by a force of 400 cavalry, which were driven out of town after a severe skirmish. I tore up the railroad, and burned the bridges, 2 miles above town." From Bristol, Foster reported to General Burnside that he was aware of Jones' Confederate forces in Zollicoffer and that he planned to attack the next day. Foster's strategy was urgent and clear, he would engage the enemy and hold them in position until Burnside could send enough reinforcements to overwhelm and capture them. "Please bring up re-enforcements as speedily as possible," Foster wrote, "No time should be lost."³³

The day that Foster occupied Bristol was the same day that the war reached Blountville. Local resident Fanny A. Fain wrote in her diary that, just as her family was preparing for harvest time and the upcoming winter, "lo & behold, a very sudden & unexpected Yankee Raid was made through our town on Sept 19th, a little after sun-up. From that time to this we have had nothing but war troubles and soldiers in our town all the time." These Union raiders proceeded north to Bristol to join Foster causing general havoc in the area by burning stores and a small bridge near the town before falling back to Blountville that night. Fain wrote that the invaders arrested several people in Bristol and jailed them overnight in the Blountville courthouse, and the next morning arrested several more Blountville citizens.³⁴

³² Shane A. Smith, "A Fire in the Valley: The Civil War Battle of Blountville, Tennessee," manuscript on file at the Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, 1994, 3-5; Rhonda Eaton, "The Battle of Blountville," in "The Treasures of Sullivan," manuscript on file at the Sullivan County Archives (Sullivan County Historical Society, 1980), 44; Taylor, 211.

³³ Official Records, "War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series 1, Vol. 30, Part II (Washington D.C.: General Printing Office, 1890), 592-5931.

³⁴ Fanny A. Fain, "Fanny A. Fain Diaries, 1863-90," manuscript on file at the Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, 1863, 5.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

On September 20, with arrested Blountville citizens in tow, the Union moved out toward Zollicoffer to engage the forces of Major General Jones. The two armies skirmished outside of town for several hours before the Union troops were driven back to the Blountville area, with many proceeding on to Jonesborough and Greeneville. Both sides worked to reinforce and fortify their numbers for an impending battle. On the morning of September 20, Fain wrote that the Confederate cavalry under Colonel James Carter were “in hot pursuit” of the Union forces, moving in and out of town all day.³⁵ The next morning, Carter’s men found the Union troops near Hall’s Ford on the Watauga River and engaged them in a lengthy skirmish before falling back to Blountville.³⁶

Major General Jones hatched a plan to attack the Union troops at Blountville and then, with a phony retreat, try to draw the Union troops toward Zollicoffer where they would be ambushed by the main Confederate force. Under Jones’ command, Colonel Carter established a line of battle that was described as “the plateau east of town” with four pieces of artillery.³⁷ Foster advanced and set up his opposing line of artillery on Cemetery Hill on the west, with a commanding view of downtown Blountville and the Confederate forces just beyond. The number of forces now pitched for battle included 1,257 Confederates and about 2,500 Union troops.³⁸

Meanwhile, the local populace was just sitting down to their midday meal, largely unaware of the impending battle. They had witnessed uniformed men crisscrossing the town in the recent days, and so this day seemed no different. One account stated “the first gunfire in Blountville took place at ‘Medical Grove,’ the ancestral home of the Dulaney’s on the Airport Road [present Highway 75].”³⁹ This home no longer stands but a local relic collector has found artifacts associated with the battle in its front yard. Shortly after the action at Medical Grove, the artillery battle in town began in earnest. When the cannons started roaring, many surprised and frightened residents and their children fled for safety into the cellars of the Cates’ and St. John’s homes, today known as the Old Deery Inn and Anderson Hall. Other people, like Fanny Fain and her family, chose to flee the town for a friend’s house. She wrote, “on the way there we met nothing but pickets & soldiers throwing fences in every direction, preparing for fighting, & the fight did come.”⁴⁰ People fled in the midst of the fight, with cavalry, shells, and bullets flying across their paths. Local sources reported that many women and children went through the place known as Brown’s Meadow on the south side of town and escaped beyond the hills and out of danger.⁴¹

This first phase of the battle began at noon and lasted until about four o’clock in the afternoon. Caught directly in the explosive artillery crossfire, the courthouse and many homes and stores in Blountville on either side of the Great Stage Road were set ablaze and burned to the ground. The store, hotel, and home of

³⁵ Ibid., 6.

³⁶ Smith 1994, 7; Taylor 211-212.

³⁷ Taylor, 211.

³⁸ Smith 1994, 7; Eaton 44.

³⁹ Eaton, 44.

⁴⁰ Smith 1994, 8; Fain 1863, 7.

⁴¹ Belle Gardner Hammond, “Many Buildings Were Burned in Blountville Civil War Battle,” Sullivan County News, October 3, 1985, news clipping on file at the Sullivan County Archives.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Reverend Noah Calton Baldwin were destroyed in the flames, which caused him to remark that he had “passed from a state of affluence to one of indigence” in the space of a single afternoon.⁴² Most reports stated that Union shells struck the courthouse, burning its interior contents completely and leaving only the brick exterior walls intact. “A shell from the Union guns entered the courthouse, setting it on fire,” recalled Mrs. Walter E. Allen, “and soon all the best portion of the town was destroyed.”⁴³ Eliza Rhea Anderson Fain wrote in her diary of her brother’s report of “the courthouse and jail both destroyed... The next day the courthouse setting all in flames and was burnt he says intentionally as they [the Union troops] could have avoided it if they wished.” Fain then acknowledged the county’s wide-ranging support for the Confederacy and had “no doubt Blountville was one of the marked spots.”⁴⁴ On the other hand, Colonel Foster’s later account claimed the Confederates’ own artillery was responsible for the courthouse destruction: “the shells of the enemy set fire to the town, and a great portion of it was consumed.”⁴⁵ This assertion was mirrored in a report by a member of the 5th Indiana Cavalry who recalled the town “on fire, and mostly consumed, from the rebel shells.”⁴⁶

Meanwhile, Union sharpshooters roosted in the belfry of the Methodist Church to harass the Confederate line. Local tradition maintains that once the Confederate command was informed of the sharpshooters’ location, local residents asked that the church bell not be harmed when fired upon. Confederate Captain Davidson, a distinguished marksman who had gained renown at Manassas, then reportedly “sent one ball just above and one just below the bell,” taking the sharpshooters out of the battle.⁴⁷ While no great numbers of residents were injured or killed during the battle, the fire and destruction ensured that they bore the brunt of the two armies’ conflict long after it was over.

After four hours of artillery barrage during which “the hills and woods echoed and reechoed with the sound of the roaring cannon,” Colonel Foster ordered a charge of three cavalry columns against the Confederate line. He sent the 65th Indiana Mounted Infantry, flanked against the right side of the Confederate line, the 5th Indiana Cavalry in the center, and the 8th Tennessee Cavalry on the left. The Confederates recognized the overwhelming force headed their way and began their planned retreat toward Zollicoffer and the additional forces waiting there. The likely route of retreat was along the present Blountville Boulevard through the hills lining the south of town. The Union troops, “seeing the enemy give way, raised a shout, put spurs to their horses and made chase. Colonel Butler charged on after them, capturing one 24-pound gun and one wagon.”⁴⁸ Reports differ on the number of casualties suffered on both sides, but they were not great. Colonel Foster reported six Union dead and 14 wounded. Others reported only three Confederate dead and about 10 wounded, with 50 taken prisoner.⁴⁹

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ S.A. Cunningham, ed., “The Battle of Blountville, Tenn.”, in *Confederate Veteran* (October 1928) Vol. XXVI, No. 10: 384-385.

⁴⁴ John N. Fain, ed., “Sanctified Trial: The Diary of Eliza Rhea Anderson Fain, a Confederate Woman in East Tennessee” (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004), 91.

⁴⁵ Official Records, 593.

⁴⁶ Frank Moore, ed., “The Rebellion Record: A Diary of American Events” (New York: D. Van Nostrand, 1864), 509.

⁴⁷ Cunningham, 384.

⁴⁸ Moore, 509.

⁴⁹ Official Records, 593; Cunningham 384.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

With the first phase of the battle over, the Union troops settled into a two-day occupation of Blountville during which they looted what was left of the town and tended to their dead and wounded. Local doctors, Nat T. Dulaney, Sr. and J.J. Ensor, aided the Union surgeons, who set up hospitals in the Methodist Church and the Holston Institute. On September 24, the Union forces moved out toward Zollicoffer and the reinforced Confederates who awaited them. The Confederates attacked the advancing Union troops from Hamilton Hill, which overlooks the road and the Beaver Creek bridge midway between Blountville and Zollicoffer, and after several hours fight the Union troops were driven back to Blountville. Once there, the Union forces began an evacuation of the town and headed out through Carter's Depot on their way back to Knoxville. With the Confederates battered after their retreat and subsequent stand at Hamilton Hill and the Union on the march back to Knoxville, the Battle of Blountville concluded. The residents of the badly damaged town were left to gather what little food was left and rebuild their lives.⁵⁰

⁵⁰ Smith 1994, 10-12; Eaton, 45; Taylor, 213; Cunningham, 384.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

Anderson, Rhea

- 1944 "Sullivan County, Blountville, Citizens, Homes, and Reminiscences," in *Publications of the Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia*. Bulletin Number Eleven, January 1944. On file at the Sullivan County Archives.

Cunningham, S.A., ed.

- 1928 "The Battle of Blountville, Tenn." in *Confederate Veteran* (October 1928) Vol. XXVI, No. 10: 384-385.

Eaton, Rhonda

- 1980 "The Battle of Blountville," in *The Treasures of Sullivan*. Sullivan County Historical Society. Manuscript on file at the Sullivan County Archives.

Fain, Fanny A.

- 1863 *Fanny A. Fain Diaries, 1863-90*. Manuscript on file at the Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University.

Fain, John N., ed.

- 2004 *Sanctified Trial: The Diary of Eliza Rhea Anderson Fain, a Confederate Woman in East Tennessee*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee.

Federal Writers' Project

- 1939 *The WPA Guide to Tennessee*. Reissued 1986. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press.

Groce, W. Todd

- 1997 "The Social Origins of East Tennessee's Confederate Leadership," in *The Civil War in Appalachia: Collected Essays*. Edited by Kenneth W. Noe and Shannon H. Wilson, Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press.

Groseclose, C.R. and Martha C. Marshall, eds.

- 1986 "Entering a New Century: Sullivan County, Tennessee, 1895-1905." Blountville: Sullivan County Historical Society.

Hammond, Belle Gardner

- 1985 "Many Buildings Were Burned in Blountville Civil War Battle." *Sullivan County News*, October 3, 1985. Article on file at the Sullivan County Archives.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property	County and State
------------------	------------------

Historic American Building Survey

- 1962 "Old Deery Inn." Electronic document, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/tn0146/>, Accessed March 19, 2013.

Holston Territory Genealogical Society

- 1993 *Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee: Volume One, 1779-1992*. No publisher listed.

Johnson, Robert Underwood and Clarence Clough Buel, eds.

- 1956 *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*. New York: Castle Co.

Knox County Genealogy & History

- 2013 *The East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad*. Electronic document, <http://knoxco.tn.org/research-aids/51-businesses/223-the-east-tennessee-and-virginia-railroad>, Accessed March 22, 2013.

McMasters, Kristen

- 2009 *KOCCA (Military Terrain Analysis) – Cheat Sheet*. National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Moore, Frank, ed.

- 1864 *The Rebellion Record: A Diary of American Events*. New York: D. Van Nostrand.

Official Records

- 1890 *War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Series 1, Vol. 30, Part II: 592-593. Washington, D.C.: General Printing Office.

Patrick, James

- 1981 *Architecture in Tennessee, 1768-1897*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press.

Seymour, Digby Gordon

- 2002 *Divided Loyalties: Fort Sanders and the Civil War in East Tennessee*. East Tennessee Historical Society. Originally printed 1968, revised second edition 1968, revised third edition 2002.

Smith, Homer H.

- 1948 *Memoirs of Homer H. Smith*. Reprinted 1992 by Blountville Bicentennial Commission.

Smith, Samuel D. and Benjamin C. Nance

- 2003 *A Survey of Civil War Era Military Sites in Tennessee*. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archeology, Research Series No. 14.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Smith, Shane A.

1994 *A Fire in the Valley: The Civil War Battle of Blountville, Tennessee*. Manuscript on file at the Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University.

Spoden, Muriel C., ed.

1976 *Historic Sites of Sullivan County*. Blountville: The Sullivan County Historical Commission and Associates. Fourth Printing, 1993.

Taylor, Oliver

1909 *Historic Sullivan: A History of Sullivan County, Tennessee*. Blountville: Oliver Taylor. Reprint, Johnson City, Tennessee: Overmountain Press, 1988.

Tennis, Joe

2008 *Images of America: Sullivan County*. Arcadia Publishing.

U.S. Population Census, 1930, 1960

Whiffen, Marcus

1992 *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Whiteaker, Larry H.

2009 "Civil War" in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*. Carroll Van West, ed. Nashville, TN: The Tennessee Historical Society.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	X	State Historic Preservation Office
X	previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<input type="checkbox"/>	University
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 111 acres **USGS Quadrangle** Blountville 197-SE

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84:

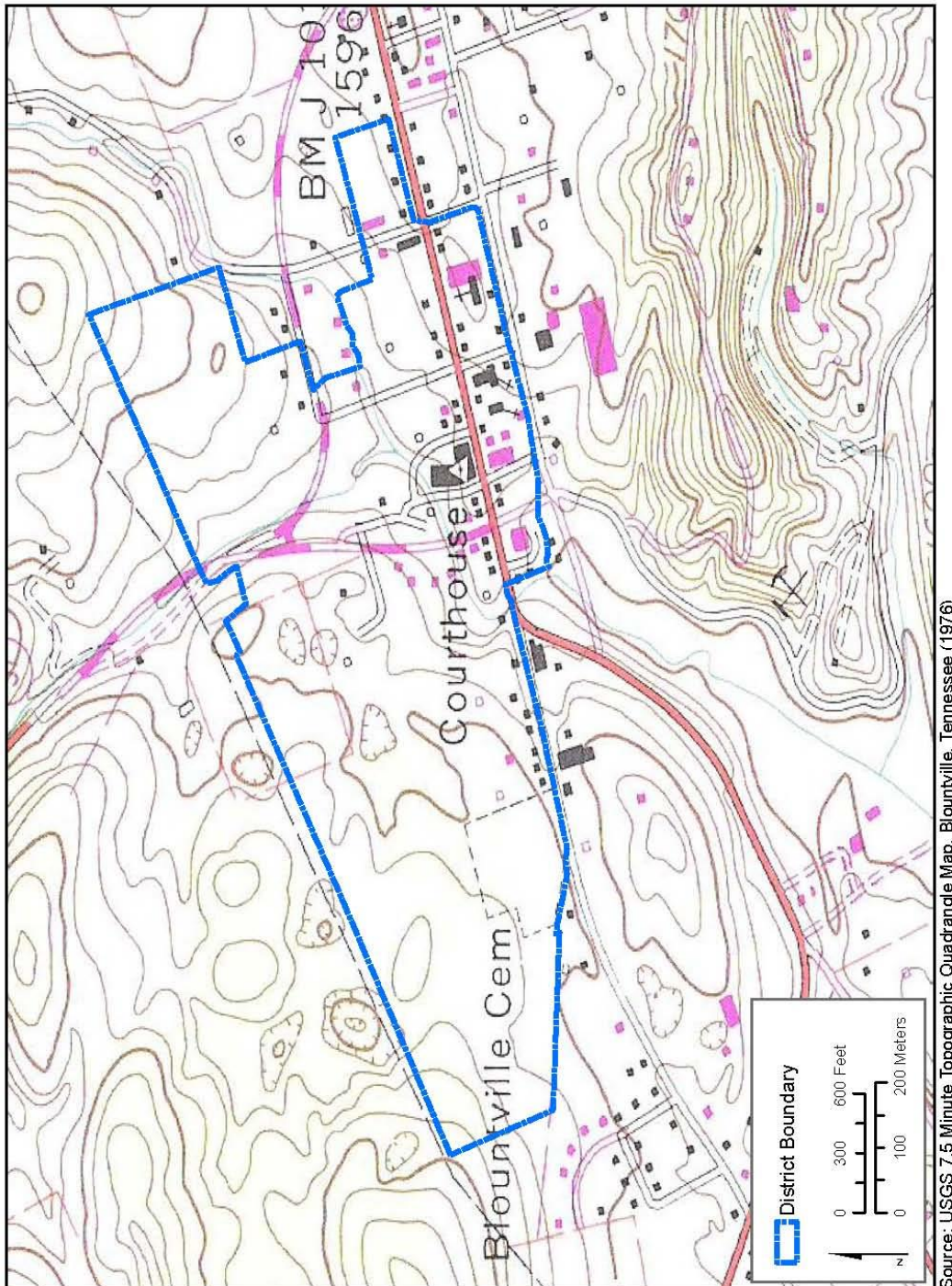
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.538842 | Longitude: -82.324591 |
| 2. Latitude: 36.532873 | Longitude: -82.323026 |
| 3. Latitude: 36.531310 | Longitude: -82.332304 |
| 4. Latitude: 36.534277 | Longitude: -82.333774 |

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State



Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The original 1972 nomination represented the district's boundaries with a simple rectangle drawn around the district and no verbal boundary description. This nomination updates the boundaries of the district according to county tax map parcel lines to include all historic properties included in the original nomination. Additional parcels are also added to the boundaries along Highway 394 and Blountville Boulevard on the north side of the district, including two undeveloped pasture parcels that are associated with troop movements during the 1863 Battle of Blountville. The updated district has an irregular boundary that is illustrated on the attached district boundary map.

Boundary Justification

The updated boundaries of the Blountville Historic District were drawn along county tax map parcel lines to include all properties included in the original 1972 National Register nomination that retain historic integrity. Additional parcels located on the north side of the original district were added to the district because of their significant association with troop movements during the 1863 Battle of Blountville.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name

David Price

Organization

New South Associates, Inc.

Street & Number

118 S. 11th Street

Date

March 15, 2013

City or Town

Nashville

Telephone

615-262-4326

E-mail

dprice@newsouthassoc.com

State

TN

Zip Code 37206

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. should be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Blountville Historic District

City or Vicinity: Blountville

County: Sullivan

State: Tennessee

Photographer: David L. Price

Date Photographed: April 9, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 0001. 240 Blountville Bypass, Williams House, View North.
- 0002. 247 Blountville Bypass, Earnest House-Presbyterian Manse, View North.
- 0003. 114 County Hill Road, Marsh-Harper House-Old Baptist Parsonage, View Northeast.
- 0004. Streetscape View, North Side of County Hill Road, View Northeast.
- 0005. 152 County Hill Road, Rogers-Frazier House, View Northwest.
- 0006. Blountville Cemetery, View East From Entrance Drive.
- 0007. 3111 Great Stage Road, Façade, View Northeast.
- 0008. 3319 Great Stage Road, Raymond Massengill House, Façade, View Northwest.
- 0009. 3341 Great Stage Road, Massengill House, Façade, View North.
- 0010. Streetscape View Down Centerline of Great Stage Road, View West.
- 0011. Streetscape, North Side of Great Stage Road, View Northwest.
- 0012. 3379 Great Stage Road, Dulaney House-Anderson Hall, Façade, View North.
- 0013. Streetscape, North Side of Great Stage Road Including (L-R): Old Deery Inn, Rutledge House, and Fain-Taylor House, View Northwest.
- 0014. 3397 Great Stage Road, Old Deery Inn, Oblique View Northwest.
- 0015. Outbuildings at Old Deery Inn Including (L-R): Smokehouse, Brick Kitchen, King Ironworks Cabin, and Granny Cabin, View Northwest.

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property	County and State
0016. Streetscape, North Side of Great Stage Road Including (L-R): Sullivan County Courthouse, Old Deery Inn, Rutledge House, Fain-Taylor House, Dulaney House-Anderson Hall, View Northeast.	
0017. Streetscape, South Side of Great Stage Road Including (R-L): Blountville Presbyterian Church, Anderson Townhouse, and Blountville Methodist Church, View Southeast.	
0018. Streetscape, South Side of Great Stage Road Including (R-L): Anderson Townhouse, Blountville Methodist Church, Cannonball House, and Blountville Baptist Church, View Southeast.	
0019. 3396 Great Stage Road, Anderson Townhouse, Façade, View South.	
0020. Streetscape, South Side of Great Stage Road Including (L-R): Cannonball House, Blountville Methodist Church, Anderson Townhouse, and Barr House, View Southwest.	
0021. 3411 Great Stage Road, Old Jail-Old Sheriff's Home, Oblique View Northwest.	
0022. Landscape View, Rear of Sullivan County Courthouse and Adjacent Historic Buildings, View Southeast.	
0023. Streetscape, Non-contributing Properties at 1586-1588 and 1570-1590 Highway 394, View West.	
0024. Streetscape, South Side of Great Stage Road Including (L-R): Rogers House and the Old Mill House, View Southwest.	
0025. 3463 Great Stage Road, Oblique View Northwest.	
0026. Streetscape, South Side of Great Stage Road Including (R-L): Non-contributing BB&T Bank, Blountville Presbyterian Church, Barr House, Anderson Townhouse.	
0027. Landscape View, Pasture Land Associated with Union Troop Movements During 1863 Battle of Blountville Located Northwest of Blountville Cemetery, View Northwest.	

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Site Plan

New South Associates, Inc.
October 2013

Blountville Historic District
District Inventory Map, Overview



See attached oversized map

Blountville Historic District (Additional
Documentation, Boundary Increase,
Boundary Decrease)

Sullivan County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

Photo Key

New South Associates, Inc.
October 2013

Blountville Historic District
Photograph Key Map, Overview



See attached oversized map

































SULLIVAN COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Welcome to Historic Hammondsport



















TRAIL BLAZER
USHED STONE

Fernando's
BLOUNTVILLE
Music & Art Center





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Blountville Historic District (Boundary Increase, Decrease)

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Sullivan

DATE RECEIVED: 2/07/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/27/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/14/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/26/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000087

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3-26-2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Clarifies original Arbitrary Boundaries, Expands to include
major portions of the associated battlefield. Expands POS
to include Post WWII development
SLR Removes unsupported Areas of Significance*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A&C

REVIEWER J. Gabbart DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
www.tnhistoricalcommission.org
E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov
(615) 532-1550, ext. 105
<http://www.tn.gov/environment/history>



January 31, 2014

Carol Shull
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
National Register Branch
1201 Eye Street NW
8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the documentation to nominate *Blountville Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease)* to the National Register of Historic Places. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the *Blountville Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease)* to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, please contact Christine Mathieson at (615) 532-1550, extension 125 or Christine.Mathieson@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:cm

Enclosures(4)

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG: Sullivan County
PROPERTY: Blountville Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease)
ADDRESS: Multiple Addresses, Blountville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION EVALUATION

NAME OF COMMISSION: Sullivan County Historic Zoning Commission
DATE OF MEETING: 12-19-2013
HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING?
☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

Updated documentation to support & supplement existing 1972 NR

SIGNATURE: 
TITLE: Steve Godsey, Mayor, Sullivan County

DATE: 12-19-13

THC STAFF EVALUATION

☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

The Blountville Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce, Military, Political, Religion/Philosophy, Transportation, and Urban Planning. It was also listed under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. This updated and amended nomination provides new boundaries for the district along parcel lines and adds additional historic context on its architectural and military significance. The district meets National Register Criterion A at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Military for its association with the 1863 Battle of Blountville during the Civil War. The district also meets National Register Criterion C at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Architecture for its collection of well-preserved buildings from the late eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century.

SIGNATURE: 
TITLE: Historic Preservation Specialist-National Register

DATE: November 15, 2013

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: January 14, 2014

RETURN FORM TO:

**CHRISTINE MATHIESON
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214**

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG: Sullivan County
PROPERTY: Blountville Historic District (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease)
ADDRESS: Multiple Addresses, Blountville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION EVALUATION

NAME OF COMMISSION: December 19, 2013
DATE OF MEETING: S.C. Historic Zoning Commission
HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING?
☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

① documentation
② no opposition
③ re-affirming existing 1972 NR

SIGNATURE: *A. Torbett*
TITLE: Ambre Torbett, Certified Local Government Coordinator

DATE: 12/20/2013

THC STAFF EVALUATION

☒ ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
☐ NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

The Blountville Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce, Military, Political, Religion/Philosophy, Transportation, and Urban Planning. It was also listed under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. This updated and amended nomination provides new boundaries for the district along parcel lines and adds additional historic context on its architectural and military significance. The district meets National Register Criterion A at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Military for its association with the 1863 Battle of Blountville during the Civil War. The district also meets National Register Criterion C at the local and state levels of significance in the area of Architecture for its collection of well-preserved buildings from the late eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century.

SIGNATURE: *Christine Mathieson*
TITLE: Historic Preservation Specialist-National Register

DATE: November 15, 2013

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: January 14, 2014

RETURN FORM TO:

CHRISTINE MATHIESON
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214