

United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Multiple Property Documentation Form**

JUN 16 1989

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

NATIONAL  
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**A. Name of Multiple Property Listing**

The Historic and Architectural Resources of Blount County, Tennessee

**B. Associated Historic Contexts**

The Settlement and Development of Blount County, 1785-1865

Community and Rural Development in Blount County, 1865-1940

Growth and Development of Maryville and Alcoa, 1865-1940

Industrial Development of Blount County, 1890-1940

**C. Geographical Data**

The geographical boundary of Blount County, Tennessee

☐ See continuation sheet

**D. Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Herbert L. Hays  
Signature of certifying official Deputy State Historical Preservation Officer  
Tennessee Historical Commission

6/8/89  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Amy Schlager  
Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

7/25/89  
Date

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Hist. and Arch. Resources of Blount Co.

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## OUTLINE OF HISTORIC CONTEXTS

1. THE SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF BLOUNT COUNTY, 1785-1865.
2. COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN BLOUNT COUNTY, 1865-1940.
3. GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARYVILLE AND ALCOA, 1865-1940.
4. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF BLOUNT COUNTY, 1890-1940.

### 1. THE SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF BLOUNT COUNTY, 1785-1860

#### **Creation and Settlement of Blount County**

Blount County is located on the eastern edge of the state adjacent to the North Carolina state line. It is bounded on the north by Knox County, on the east by Sevier County, on the southeast by North Carolina, on the southwest by Monroe County and on the west by Loudon County. Blount County contains 571 square miles with a large portion made up by mountainous terrain. Elevations range from 700' in the low lying valleys adjacent to the Tennessee River to over 5,400' on the North Carolina border. The county is well drained with the Tennessee and Little Tennessee Rivers helping to form the southwestern and northern borders. The Little River also flows through the northeastern section of the county and empties into the Tennessee River north of Maryville.

By the last quarter of the 18th century settlement had occurred in numerous areas of upper east Tennessee. In November of 1777, Washington District became Washington County, North Carolina which encompassed all of the eastern section of present day Tennessee. Large tracts of 640 acres were divided throughout this section of the state and in 1778 two tracts were claimed in the area which now comprises Blount County. Blount County remained Indian territory until 1785 and these tracts were not surveyed until the early 1790s. In 1783, Greene County was created from Washington County and the territory which would become Blount County lay within its boundaries. This territory later became part of Knox County in 1792 and remained so until the formation of Blount County in 1795.

On May 31, 1785, the Treaty of Dumplin Creek was signed between the Cherokee Indians and settlers which opened up lands on the south side of the Holston and French Broad Rivers to white settlement. This included much of the area now comprising Blount County and later that year the first white settlers began moving into the hills and valleys. The earliest reference to settlement in the county was the mention of settlers at Houston's Station in 1786 and soon after two Presbyterian churches, Eusebia and New Providence, were formed.

On February 25, 1790, North Carolina ceded what is now Tennessee to the United States and Congress later passed an act setting up the a district government for the territory. Throughout the late 1780s and early 1790s

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fighting occurred in the county between native Cherokees and white settlers. Various forts and blockhouses were erected in the county such as David Craig's Station on Nine Mile Creek, Henry's Station at the Little River and John Craig's Fort near present day Maryville. Fighting between settlers and Indians continued until 1795 when the last skirmish took place in the Chilhowee area.

In July of 1795, the General Assembly of the Territory South of the Ohio River created Blount County which was named in honor of Governor William Blount. Six commissioners were chosen to select a site for the county seat and they chose a fifty acre tract belonging to Captain John Craig near Craig's Fort. One hundred twenty lots were laid out in a grid pattern and were divided by three streets and five alleys. The commissioners were empowered to sell the lots and erect a courthouse. The town was named Maryville in honor of Mary Grainger, wife of Governor Blount.

**Communities and Rural Character**

Maryville was bounded on the west and east by Pistol and Crooked Creeks, on the north by Norwood Street and on the south by Cates Street. Both the courthouse and jail were built along Main Street, however, these were not yet built when the first court convened in September. The court issued permits for mills on streams and rivers in the county, laid out and supervised road construction, levied taxes and other governmental functions. In March of 1796, the court authorized the justices to make a census of taxable property in the county with taxes established per person.

A traveler in 1799 described Maryville as consisting of twenty log and frame houses and the log New Providence Presbyterian Church. A few years later, seven merchants applied for licenses to conduct business in the community. John Craig operated a well known mill on Pistol Creek and supplied grain and lumber for town residents. The community grew slowly in its early years but remained the most prominent town in the county. In 1834, Maryville had a population of 600 residents, three churches, five stores, two tailors and two silversmiths. The town was also an educational center housing the Southern and Western Theological Seminary (renamed Maryville College in 1842). This school was located in several brick buildings along Main Street. Incorporation of the town occurred in 1837 but it was not until 1850 that an official city government was elected with a mayor and aldermen.

The only community to rival Maryville in size and prestige in the early years of settlement was Louisville on the Tennessee River. This port town evolved in the early 1800s and several commercial businesses and an inn opened to take advantage of the river trade. A post office was established at Louisville in 1828 and in 1833 the town contained four houses, one store, several cotton and grist mills and three sawmills. By the late 1830s the business of "Samuel Henry and

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Sons" became prominent shipping goods from Louisville to New Orleans and constructing a large warehouse adjacent to the river. Other commercial activity also increased as numerous steamboats made regular stops at the town and at least six wholesale firms operated in Louisville by the early 1840s. The firms of Arthur Kennedy and Henry C. Saffle were two of the largest in operation and both owned large warehouses next to the river. Salt beef and pork from area farmers were purchased by these firms and shipped downriver on flatboats to New Orleans and clothing and other goods were then shipped back to Louisville via steamboat. This commercial activity resulted in Louisville's prominence second only to Maryville by the mid-19th century.

Another important community of the early 19th century was Rockford located northeast of Maryville on the Little River. The Federal Road from Knoxville to Maryville crossed the river here just beyond the stagecoach stop operated by Thomas McCulloch. A gristmill was established at this crossing by 1817 and in 1845 was sold to Alexander Kennedy who constructed a cotton mill on its site. This cotton mill was the first textile mill established in the county and it later expanded in 1852 and was renamed the Rockford Manufacturing Company. The name Rockford was presumably named after the "rocky ford" at this location. A post office was established in 1854 and several stores and residences were built surrounding the mill. By 1860, the mill was one of the largest textile mills in east Tennessee.

The community of Friendsville was founded by a group of Quakers, also known as Friends, in the western section of the county by 1800. A Friends Church was established in 1808 and a small village was centered around the church and a nearby saw and grist mill operated by John Hackney. Around 1850, town lots were sold and a post office was opened. To meet the demand for education of the county's Quaker community a school known as the Friendsville Academy was opened in 1857.

Despite the presence of these communities the overwhelming character of the county was that of a predominately agricultural economy. Most residents lived on small farms during the early 19th century and this pattern held true until the end of the century. From 1800 to 1820, the best land in the county was claimed or purchased with the population doubling from 5,240 in 1800 to 10,154 in 1820. After 1820, the population of the county basically remained steady increasing only by three thousand residents over the next forty years. The population of the county in the ante-bellum years was predominately white. Only 10% of the population were black slaves or free colored residents in the years prior to the Civil War.

In 1850, the county's population stood at 12,424 of which 11,213 were white, 1,084 were slaves and 127 were free colored. The majority of residents lived on farms or in rural areas with Maryville's population of 500 representing the

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largest town in the county. The 1850 census for Blount County listed one college and one academy with a combined total of 80 pupils. Public schools were also represented with 19 in operation with 1,253 pupils. The Friends, or Quaker, religious denomination was especially active in promoting schools in the county.

In 1850, agriculture continued as the mainstay of the county with only a few manufacturers or industries of any value. Despite fifty years of settlement, only a small amount of the county's land was tilled or improved. Of the acreage in the county 90,987 acres were improved while 761,786 acres were unimproved. This disparity can be explained by the large amounts of mountainous terrain in the south and eastern sections of the county and the limited amount of tillable land elsewhere. Corn and livestock were the dominant sources of farm income. The county produced 621,981 bushels of corn in 1850, far more than any other crop. Wheat, oats, tobacco, potatoes and other vegetables accounted for most of the remaining farm crops with only a negligible amount of cotton produced. Swine and sheep were the predominant livestock raised in the county.

Census data taken in 1860 reveals that most rural residents lived on farms of several hundred acres which averaged approximately 100 or so improved acres. The average cash value of farms ranged between \$2,000 and \$3,500 and large estates of over \$10,000 in value were rare. This size and value of farms was typical of other counties located in the broad Tennessee River valley of East Tennessee but exceeded more mountainous counties such as Sevier and Unicoi.

Very few farms exceeded a real estate value of over \$10,000 in 1860. The largest of these estates were generally located in the more fertile sections of the county and these owners often owned a number of slaves. The largest farms in the District 1 in the west section of the county included George Best (\$11,000), William Howard (\$16,000), Nancy Henry (\$10,000) and Alfred Howard (\$12,000). Farms of this value were found most often in the districts located in the west and northern sections of the county along the bottomland of creeks and rivers. The largest estates in the county were owned by John Taliaferro (\$50,000), John Russell (\$37,200), Williston Cox (\$30,000), James Jackson (\$20,000), and Gilbert Blankenship (\$20,000). The largest real estate and personal property values in the county belonged to merchants and manufacturers such as R.I. Wilson, officer of the Rockford Manufacturing Company (\$138,000), Sterling Lanier, proprietor of Montvale Springs (\$88,400), and merchant Fielding Pope of Maryville (\$90,000).

To serve the rural sections of the county numerous small crossroads communities evolved in the mid-19th century. These communities often formed around a gristmill, sawmill or commercial store established to serve area farmers and residents. Post offices were often opened at a store or residence at the crossroads and the construction of one or more churches was also common.

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These communities served the basic needs of area farmers supplying goods and produce from stores, milling or ginning facilities and centers for socialization and worship. Communities such as Chilhowee, Clover Hill, Miser Station, and Brick Mill are good examples of these early crossroads communities.

The small town of Chilhowee on the Little Tennessee River was founded on the site of an early Cherokee village. A post office was established in 1828 and riverboats operated as far as the town by the 1840s. In 1850, the Chilhowee Spinning and Manufacturing Company was opened adjacent to the river which operated until the Civil War when the factory was forced to close. Roads across Chilhowee Mountain and into North Carolina were constructed and several businesses opened to sell goods to nearby mountain families. During these years an Episcopal Church was built at the town.

Clover Hill was established in 1823 by Elijah Conger who operated a store and tavern at this site which was located on the Maryville and Morganton Road. A large mill was built about a mile away on Baker's Creek in 1849 and the resulting settlement became known as Clover Hill with residents from the original location settling here. The mill was one of the more prominent mills in the area and soon several stores and houses were located here. The Presbyterian Church was moved here in 1850.

One of the oldest settlements in the county was formed around Brick Mill after the construction of a small brick gristmill at this site in 1815. This mill was established by Samuel Henry who operated a lucrative business sending products downriver from Louisville and by wagon throughout East Tennessee. Baker's Creek Church was begun adjacent to the mill and in 1858 a post office was opened by James McKamey. Brick Mill was a center for commercial activity during the early 1800s.

In addition to these communities small settlements also formed in the coves in the county's mountainous southern and southeastern sections. These areas were separated from the rest of the county by rugged terrain and only a few rough roads led into these cove areas. Tuckaleechee Cove, Cades Cove and Miller's Cove are unique valley areas in the county.

Tuckaleechee Cove was settled in the 1790s when John Walker was granted a permit to build a mill on the Little River and over a dozen families were located here by 1800. A Baptist Church was organized in 1802 and a group of Presbyterians also held services in these years. A Methodist Church was organized somewhat later in 1830 and was known as the Campground Church. Roads were soon built to Maryville and Sevierville and a post office was opened in 1833. Several gristmills were built along the Little River as well as sawmills and cotton gins. A distillery was operated by Peter Brickey who lived in a nearby log house. A small ironworks was also operated in the cove for a few years before destroyed in a flood.

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Miller's Cove is a small valley which stretches along the Chilhowee Mountains for a little over ten miles and is divided into two parts by the Little River. The cove was named for Andrew and Alexander Miller who were listed in the 1800 Tax List of the county. Another early settler was John Hess for whom Hesse Creek was named. Hess built a mill in 1796 on the site of the present day John Martin mill. Another important industry was the Amerine forge which was the county's largest ironworks. Located on Hess' Creek in the west section of the cove, this furnace was operated from 1845 to the Civil War by George Amerine and a few slag heaps from this mining operation remain visible. The Miller's Cove Baptist Church was established in 1810 and was the first permanent Baptist Church in Blount County. A Methodist Church was also formed in 1830.

The most isolated valley of the county is Cades Cove, an oval shaped valley surrounded by mountains on all sides. Ownership of the cove was in dispute for a number of years as various families settled in the cove and made land claims. By 1825, several families such as the Tiptons, Cables, Burchfields and Olivers settled in the cove and owned much of the desirable valley land. A post office was established in 1833 and Baptist and Methodist Churches were built during these years. Gristmills, a small iron works and a distillery were operated in the cove by 1840 to serve the area. The cove's isolation caused many early settlers to move and it was not until the mid-19th century that good wagon roads connected the valley with Maryville.

An important function of the first courts was to require citizens to help in building roads throughout the county. Many of these first roads were built to connect mills and to connect with known river fords and crossings. Later roads were built by private companies as toll roads and users were charged fees for their horses, wagons and livestock. In 1821, the Houston family was chartered to build a road from Maryville to the Tuckaseegee River in North Carolina which ran across the mountains. Another road was built by Daniel Foute in 1830 from Maryville across to Chilhowee which was used until the late 19th century. These private roads were also rivaled by several public roads built in these years such as the Knoxville-Maryville Turnpike chartered in 1837.

Support for rail construction in the county began as early as the 1830s. The Hiwassee Railroad, the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, and East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad were all companies which formed and sold stock in Blount County. The most promising railroad movement was the offering for sale of 120,000 shares of stock in the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad in 1854. A railroad tax was levied, directors elected and bonds were issued to support construction of the railroad south from Knoxville through the county. Plans for the railroad continued throughout the 1850s but the Civil War delayed construction until the late 1860s.

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The cool mountains and springs located in the south and southeast sections of the county attracted several entrepreneurs who built large inns and hotels. One of the earliest and most famous was the hotel built by Daniel Foute at Montvale Springs. The hotel was built on Chilhowee mountain near several springs. Foute built a large two-story log hotel in 1832 and constructed a road through Happy Valley which intersected the Unicoi Turnpike. This resort hotel operated from 1832 to 1850 and a post office was established at the hotel in 1837. In 1853, the original log hotel was purchased by Asa Watson who razed the building and constructed a three-story, seven-gabled hotel which gained fame as one of the largest in the southern mountains. The hotel was two hundred feet long with large porches on all sides and dozens of small cottages were built nearby. Guests came to the springs via stagecoach from Knoxville and by the Civil War the hotel was described as "...one of the great watering places of the South". The Montvale Springs Hotel was the only major resort hotel built in the mountains of Blount County prior to the Civil War.

**Religion**

From its earliest settlement the construction of churches was a constant act in the county. The most prominent denominations in the county were the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists. In 1786, the Rev. Archibald Scott organized two congregations at Eusebia in the northeast section of the county and New Providence at Maryville. Log churches were built at both locations and stood until replaced by brick churches later in the early 1800s. Methodist congregations met at various locations throughout the early 1800s and log churches at Logan's Chapel, Louisville and Maryville were all built at an early date but no substantial brick churches were erected until later in the century. Meeting places also called "campgrounds" were also an important part of worship and Carpenters Campground was one of the best known of these early meeting sites.

Baptist congregations formed in the 1790s and the first church was built at Miller's Cove in 1811. This log church was followed by a second church on Six Mile Creek and numerous other churches were built across the county over the next several decades. Blount County was also the home of a large Friends or Quaker congregation. Quakers moved to the county in the 1790s and organized their first church in 1808 at Friendsville. This community became a center for Quaker settlement in the county and by the 1850s an academy for Quaker families was erected. The 1850 census shows the Quakers, Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians were the major denominations in the county. There were six Baptist and Presbyterian churches, five Methodist churches and two Friends churches. Despite the construction of numerous log and brick churches of these faiths, no ante-bellum church building remains extant in the county.

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Local and countywide industries and commerce from the ante-bellum period consisted primarily of water powered grist and sawmills and cotton gins. The earliest court records grant permits for mills along the Little River and other streams and by 1820 there were dozens of log, brick and frame mills in operation in the county. Gristmills were important to grind corn and wheat into flour for consumption or resale, sawmills provided sawn lumber for construction and cotton gins turned raw cotton into bales for clothing. Dozens of distilleries were also established throughout the county with whiskey providing an easily transportable product and valuable source of income for county farmers. Farmers such as Peter Brickey, Daniel Yearout and James Henry produced hundreds of gallons of whiskey yearly from their distilleries.

The only major textile industry in the county was the Rockford Milling Company at Rockford which was organized in 1852. This mill had several dozen employees in 1860 with a value of goods of nearly \$25,000. The only other cotton mill of the period was the Chilhowee Spinning and Manufacturing Company at Chilhowee which was in existence from 1853 to 1860.

The exploitation of natural resources began at an early date with numerous sawmills placed in operation to provide for finished lumber. These early sawmills were small establishments with only a few employees with the machinery driven by water power. Several mills were located at Louisville on the Tennessee River while others were built on the Little River and Little Tennessee Rivers. Large rafts of sawn lumber could then be shipped downstream for sale. By 1860, six sawmills were in business in the county with a total value of products estimated at \$18,000.

Another natural resource which was mined at an early date were iron deposits scattered throughout the county. Although numerous ironworks are described in operation in the early 19th century only a few were of any prominence. The Cades Cove Bloomery Forge was built by Daniel Foute on Forge Creek and remained in operation from 1827 to 1847. The largest and most productive furnace was the Amerine Bloomery Forge on Hess' Creek in Miller's Cove. It was built by George Amerine ca. 1845 and was in operation until the Civil War. The forge was noted in 1856 as producing 15 tons of iron bars during the year. Other minor ironworks were located along Abrams Creek before the Civil War but no longer exist.

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**The Civil War**

The Civil War resulted in family divisions and destruction of property throughout the county. Most residents of the county disagreed with secession and supported the Union cause. In June of 1861, the county voted 1,766 to 414 against secession and Unionist feelings ran high. Troops from west and middle Tennessee were sent to Blount and neighboring counties to enforce the Confederate government in Nashville. To escape impressment into the Confederate armies many young men of the county traveled to the Cumberland Gap area of Kentucky where they were mustered into the Second and Third Tennessee cavalry regiments of the Union army. Residents who were southern sympathizers were placed largely into the Third, 31st, and 37th Tennessee Infantry. The Quakers were prominent during the war for their pacifism and success in smuggling men north from the county to escape Confederate impressment.

Civil War actions in the county consisted of numerous small engagements rather than large conflicts. Confederate troops abandoned the county in September of 1863 and Federal cavalry then occupied Maryville. Later in the year East Tennessee became a battleground as Longstreet's Corps moved up the Tennessee River to engage Burnside's Union army at Knoxville. In November, Confederate General Joe Wheeler surprised a detachment of Union cavalry at Maryville and captured over 100 men. Skirmishing continued throughout the county during the month and in December, General William Sherman marched to Maryville with 25,000 troops to lift the siege of Knoxville. The troops camped in and around Maryville with General O.O. Howard setting up headquarters at the Macklin Kerr House.

Union troops continued to occupy the county until the end of the war but Confederate cavalry raids remained constant threats. In August of 1864, a detachment of Wheeler's cavalry entered Maryville and confronted Union soldiers barricaded in the courthouse. Buildings around the courthouse were set on fire with hopes that the fire would spread to the courthouse and force the soldiers to surrender. Although most commercial and residential buildings near the courthouse burned, the courthouse remained unharmed and it took several cannon balls through the building to induce the soldiers to lay down their arms. Although this was a minor engagement most of the downtown area of Maryville was razed by the fire.

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COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN BLOUNT COUNTY, 1865-1940

Following the Civil War Blount County entered into a slow period of growth which was to last until the end of the century. From 1870 to 1890, the population of the county grew from 14,237 to 17,589. Maryville continued to be the dominant community in the county continuing as its governmental and commercial center. Agriculture was the primary economic source for most residents and manufacturing and industrial development was limited. The coming of the railroad led to the establishment of several new communities and improved transportation. Despite these changes, the pastoral character of the county remained relatively undisturbed until the early 20th century.

The 1870 Census reveals that the population of the county remained primarily white with only 1,456 black residents and the percentage of black residents continued to decrease during the late 19th century. The average size of farms remained less than 500 acres and of the 1,170 farms in the county 442 were between 50 and 100 acres while 440 were between 100 and 500 acres. Only three farms totaled more than 500 acres and no farm in the county reached 1,000 acres. Corn and livestock production continued as the mainstays of the farm economy. Farm ownership remained strong throughout the late 19th century with 83% of the farms in 1890 cultivated by owners with the remainder cultivated under the share cropping system.

Manufacturing continued to be limited during the late 19th century with the majority of manufacturers represented by gristmills and tanneries. In 1870, ten flour mills were listed in operation along with ten leather tanning and curing businesses. The largest industry was the cotton mill at Rockford which employed 42 workers and produced materials valued at \$66,985. One distillery and three small wool factories were also recorded. The overall character of the county remained that of a rural farming region with extensive amounts of woodlands and mountainous terrain. The lowland areas of the west and northern sections of the county were intensively farmed along with the valleys and coves of the mountain regions.

**Community Growth and Development**

The major rivals to Maryville as commercial centers during this period were Louisville and Friendsville. Louisville's best days as a river port were in the pre-war years and a serious flood in 1867 caused extensive damage to the town's business. The construction of the railroad through the county to Maryville also greatly undermined the trade along the Tennessee River. A short boom period between 1875 and 1880 was recorded and shipping of marble became an important factor until the end of the century. In 1891, the population was listed at 500 with five general stores, two hotels, and several other businesses. The completion of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad

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through the county in 1900 effectively ceased most of the traffic along the river and Louisville's era as an important river port ceased. During the early 20th century Louisville remained a quiet community and in 1943 much of the old commercial area was flooded by the impoundment of Ft. Loudon lake. The town continues to display much of its historic character in its residential area and a large portion of the town has been listed on the National Register.

Friendsville grew slowly after the war and was a center for the county's Quaker community. The Friendsville Academy established in 1854 was one of the county's most notable schools and it operated well into the 20th century. In 1891, the town had 250 residents, three general stores, and several saw and flour mills. The nearby marble industry provided jobs and employment for area residents after the early 1880s and in 1900 the Louisville and Nashville Railroad constructed its line through the town. By the early 1900s several one and two-story brick and frame commercial buildings were constructed adjacent to the railroad and the town became the most prosperous community in the western section of the county. In 1915, the People's Bank of Friendsville opened and was the only rural bank formed in the county. This bank occupied a small brick building along College Street and remained in business until forced to close during the Depression.

Many frame residences were also built in the town in the early 20th century. The expansion of the nearby marble industry in these years, railroad traffic and presence of the Friendsville Academy resulted in a small but prosperous community until the mid-20th century. The Friendsville Academy remained in operation until 1975 and U.S. Highway 321 was recently built through the western section of the county and bypassed the town. In the past several decades much of the town's early 20th century commercial buildings have been razed and demolition and alterations to historic residential structures has also been extensive.

Rockford formed in the ante-bellum period around a cotton mill on the banks of the Little River and it continued to be an industrial center into the 20th century. The Rockford Manufacturing Company was re-chartered after the Civil War and in 1874 it was described as the most important industry in the county. A small mill village grew up next to the cotton mill and it employed several dozen workers at the turn of the century. No other industries developed in the town and the Rockford Manufacturing Company was the dominant employer in the town into the 20th century. In recent years expansion of the plant has resulted in a loss of the integrity of its 19th century buildings and of the adjacent residential areas.

The construction of the railroad through the county in the early 1900s led to the establishment of several small communities along its route. Among these were Mint, Mentor and Binfield. Railroad stations were built at these locations

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and small population centers grew around them with schools and commercial buildings. When railroad lines were closed or they ceased to be rail stations, these communities went into decline. Mint is only a crossroads area and no significant historic structures remain at Mentor and Binfield.

Crossroads communities along major road routes also grew during the early 20th century. Prominent settlements of the early 20th century included Ellejoy, Miser Station, and Wellsville. These crossroad centers contained stores, cotton gins, sawmills and other small industries and a cluster of a dozen or so residences. They served as commercial and social centers for area farmers. With improvements in the county's road systems in the early 20th century, towns such as Maryville and Knoxville became more accessible and the small stores and industries at these crossroads centers were closed. No significant structures remain standing at Wellsville or Ellejoy but the Miser Store at Miser Station exists and is one of the few early 20th century rural store buildings remaining in the county.

The most significant impacts to the county's small communities in the early 20th century were the construction of the Alcoa Plant and establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The original section of the Alcoa Plant was begun in 1914 and the power demands of the plant resulted in the construction of several dams on the Little Tennessee River. The community of Calderwood was established in 1912 and served as the construction camp for the dam workers. It was later the site of the building of the Calderwood Dam in 1930. The creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the 1930s resulted in the purchase of the Cades Cove community and much of the land to the east of Townsend. Townsend itself changed from a logging community to a tourist center in the late 1930s as it became one of the gateways to the Smokies. These years also saw an expansion of tourist facilities and summer cabins in the area adjacent to Townsend such as at Kinzel Springs. The tourist industry would become a major part of this area's economy after World War II.

**The Resort Era**

The success of the Montvale Inn in the ante-bellum period led several other entrepreneurs to construct large hotels in Blount County's mountains in the late 19th century. Montvale Springs remained the county's most famous resort in the late 19th century and hundreds of guests flocked to the three-story hotel during the summer season. Expansion of the hotel and adjacent cabins accommodated 500 guests and during the 1870s and 1880s the hotel was a center of social activity in the county. In 1896, the hotel burned and a smaller hotel was constructed in 1901. Known as the Gamble Hotel, this building continued the resort tradition at Montvale for several decades before it burned in 1933. No efforts were made to revive the springs and the remaining buildings were razed or were allowed to deteriorate. In 1949, the property was purchased to

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serve as a boy's camp and only the springs themselves remain from this famous resort complex.

By the turn of the century other resort hotels opened in the mountains to rival Montvale Springs the most important of which were the Mount Nebo Springs Hotel and the Allegheny Springs Hotel. A group of investors formed the Mount Nebo Springs Company in 1876 and purchased land southeast of Maryville on the slopes of Chilhowee Mountain. A large hotel containing 24 rooms was constructed adjacent to a mineral spring. Other cottages were built nearby and the resort featured dancing twice a week, lawn tennis and other amusements. In 1887, the resort was sold to Mrs. Mary Wilson who expanded the facilities and made the resort one of the best known in the county. The resort flourished in the late 19th and early 20th centuries but by the 1920s the business had declined and the buildings were used by individual families for vacation homes. The Mount Nebo Springs Hotel was the last survivor of the 19th century county hotels and was not razed until the 1960s.

The Allegheny Springs Hotel was another well known hotel built on the slopes of Chilhowee Mountain in the southwest section of the county. In 1886, Nathan McCoy built a three-story, sixty room hotel at a cost of more than \$50,000 which could accomodate 300 guests. The hotel had gas lights, electric call bells and a bathhouse with hot and cold water. A wide two-story porch extended around the hotel and it was famed for its views of the valley below. Nearby springs provided guests with iron, sulphur, or freestone water. Despite the popularity of the resort, its elegant furnishings and operation proved too expensive for the owners and in 1895 it was sold in Chancery Court. The hotel was owned and operated by several other businessmen until its final season in 1915. The building was used sporadically for several years until burning in 1932.

Other spring resorts also had periods of fame in the county into the early 20th century. The Melrose Springs Hotel was built three miles west of Mount Nebo Springs on the slopes of Chilhowee Mountain in 1891. This 24-room hotel had nearby springs, fine food and amusements such as croquet and tennis. The hotel closed after World War I and the hotel was dismantled in 1924. At the western mouth of Tuckaleechee Cove, Mr. E.J. Kinzel purchased a large tract of land in 1894 and constructed a summer home. Construction of the Little River Railroad through the area in 1902 led to an increase in visitation to the area and in 1914 a 28 room hotel and 10 cottages were built by the Kinzels which became known as Kinzel Springs. The post office was established here in 1925 and the town was incorporated from 1928 to 1935. The hotel was closed in 1945, later razed, and the lands subdivided for summer homes. Kinzel Springs continues to be a major center for summer homes built in the past four decades. A resort hotel was also built at Wildwood Springs in 1886 which operated until 1925. This building was razed in 1949.

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The only remaining hotel building from this period in the county is the Chilhowee Inn at Walland. This two-story frame building was constructed c. 1911 by the Schlosser Leather Company which operated the inn for employees and guests. The inn enjoyed a reputation for fine food and continued to be operated by the company until it closed in 1931. The building has since been in private ownership and numerous remodelings have occurred to the building rendering it ineligible for National Register listing. No other substantial building or structure remains from the resort era. These resort hotels of the late 19th century were important social centers in the county and provided many jobs for area residents. They also were the forerunners of modern hotels and motels which are located along Chilhowee Mountain and in the Tuckaleechee Cove area. Although no longer remaining, these hotels were an important part of the growth of development of the county. No significant tourist parks or facilities from the 1930s development of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park exists.

**Rural Lifestyles**

Throughout the late 19th into the early 20th century the majority of Blount County residents lived on small farms of 500 acres or less. The topography and heritage of the county was prohibitive for large scale farms or plantations and by the mid-19th century most of the large tracts of land in the valleys and coves of the county had been subdivided into small farms. Farms often contained the primary residence along with one or more barns, a smokehouse, sheds for farm machinery storage, coops and other small buildings. A network of dirt and gravel roads ran throughout the county connecting most farmsteads with crossroad communities or larger towns.

In the decades following the Civil War many new farm houses were built in the county as the population grew and earlier log homes were also frequently replaced. The availability of cheap sawn lumber and balloon framing construction techniques resulted in hundreds of new residences built in the rural areas of the county from 1870 into the early 1900s. In addition to the residences many new outbuildings and barns were also constructed on farms. Most of these were simple frame rectangular plan buildings used for stock or grain storage and are typical forms found across Tennessee. A more distinctive building form used by farmers in the county was the construction of two-story cantilever log barns. This barn type is unique to the mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina and has been studied in detail in recent years. Farmers typically used this barn for livestock storage on the lower level and hay storage on the upper level.

Farmers continued to rely on cereal crops in the these years such as corn and wheat although tobacco and dairy farming became increasingly important. In 1921, the East Tennessee Tobacco Association began an education program for county farmers to grow and produce more burley tobacco and it has continued

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to be a major agricultural product. Mechanization of farm equipment such as tractors began to replace the horse and mule on many county farms. Farmers enjoyed general prosperity from 1900 to the end of World War I but the 1920s and 1930s were years of falling prices and Depression. Many farmers abandoned or sold their lands and moved elsewhere.

This shift away from farming resulted in a more diversified economy for the county. The population of Maryville grew substantially after the construction of the adjacent Alcoa plant and other industrial plants at Townsend, Walland and Rockford lured farmers away for manufacturing jobs. By the 1920s agriculture was declining in importance as the Alcoa plant and other industries gained in prominence. Rights of way for electric power lines were purchased connecting the hydro-electric plants on the Little Tennessee River to Alcoa. The Depression of the 1930s struck another blow to rural residents and the county became under the planning jurisdiction of the Tennessee Valley Authority. These plans had a direct impact on the county in the 1940s when Fort Loudon Lake was formed which inundated seventy-five farms and 2,500 acres in the rural bottom areas of the Tennessee River.

Since the 1940s Blount County has become a county of contrasts. The northern section has increasingly become part of greater Knoxville and large residential developments are located to the north of Maryville. The establishment of the McGhee-Tyson Airport in 1934 to serve the Knoxville area resulted in the expansion of the Alcoa Highway (U.S. 411) and substantial commercialization along its route. The Alcoa plant has continued to expand and now occupies a large plant facility to the north and west of Maryville. Numerous other industries have located to this area as well in past decades.

Despite this development the west, southwest, and southeast sections of the county continue to be largely rural and used for agricultural purposes. Approximately 72,000 acres of Blount County were transferred to the federal government for incorporation into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The establishment of the park has led to growth and development of tourist oriented businesses in Townsend and adjacent areas. Tourism is now an important mainstay of the area's economy. The preservation of open space and the county's rural landscape is a major planning issue as Blount County's industrial and commercial development expands.

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARYVILLE AND ALCOA, 1865-1940

The Civil War caused extensive damage in the downtown area of Maryville and it took a number of years to rebuild. New one and two-story brick and frame commercial buildings were erected in the years following the war and expansion of the residential areas also occurred. Several prominent Quakers from Indiana moved into the community after the war and played a major role in its development. They purchased a large tract of land directly east of the town and platted a residential area centered along Indiana Avenue. The Friends Church was built in Main Street in 1871 to house the town's Quaker congregation. This group was also influential in building the Freedman's Institute, Maryville Normal School and other schools. Several public schools were also opened and operated in Maryville in these years.

Maryville's population grew to several thousand by 1900 and these decades witnessed many changes in the commercial growth of the city. The construction of the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad (later the Knoxville and Augusta) in 1869 had an important impact on the town. By the 1870s many fine stores and businesses were in operation in the town along with various mills and industries centered along Pistol Creek and the railroad. In 1884, the forerunner of the Maryville Times was published and in 1885 the Bank of Maryville was chartered. An 1887 Sanborn Map of Maryville lists the population at 1,800 and displays over thirty businesses centered along Main Street adjacent to the courthouse. The majority of buildings are one and two-story frame and brick commercial structures containing dry goods stores, hardware, drugs, and furniture. Major industries listed in the town are the J.T. Hanna Anchor Woolen Mills, Maryville Woolen Mills and W.T. Parnham Flour Mills along Pistol Creek.

Residential areas of the city extended primarily to the north, east and south of the commercial area. Main Street, Church Street, and High Street contained dozens of residences and some of the city's oldest remaining homes are located on these streets. Development of land along Indiana Avenue resulted in this area becoming a preferred residential section of the city. Sited on a hill next to Maryville College, this area of the city was one of its first "suburbs" and many prominent merchants, professors and businessmen constructed homes here in the 1880s and 1890s.

An important institution of the city was Maryville College, formed in 1819. This school was one of the first colleges in the South to be open to Blacks, Native Americans and women. As one of the few such liberal arts schools in the South the college attracted a number of philanthropists and supporters during the post-war years. The campus was moved from Main Street to a hill on the eastern edge of the town after the Civil War and the first major building of this campus, Anderson Hall, was completed in 1869. The Lamar Memorial Library completed in 1888 and Fayerweather Science Hall, built in 1898 were other main

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campus buildings erected in the late 19th century. Many of the professors and administrators of the college lived on Indiana Avenue and other neighboring streets. In addition to Maryville College, other Victorian era schools included the Freedmen's Institute, Friend's School, and several public schools.

In the late 19th century Maryville continued to modernize with electric power, telephones and other innovations introduced into the city. In 1892, a group of Maryville businessmen formed the Maryville Electric Light and Power Company and constructed a small coal fired hydro and steam plant. This company provided the first electric power to area businesses and residences. The People's Telephone Company began operations in the county in 1896 and brought telephone exchanges to Maryville and other towns.

In 1905, Maryville was a thriving town with a population estimated at 3,000 residents. Most residential development occurred in a four block wide area extending along the ridge line above Pistol Creek and eastward towards Maryville College. Construction of many fine homes continued along Indiana Avenue during the early 20th century in designs reflective of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. Along the northern edge of the town were industries centered around Pistol Creek and adjacent to the railroad line. The Southern Coffin and Casket Company has a large complex of buildings next to the Southern Railroad Depot. Flour and woolen mills continued to operate along Pistol Creek and the Golden Rule Stove Company and Foundry was in business to the north of the creek. Between 1905 and 1909, rail connections in the city increased with a spur line of the Knoxville and Augusta Railroad built southward towards Walland and in 1906 a line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad was completed to Maryville.

The growth of the city in the early 1900s led to re-incorporation in 1907 and the election of a mayor and five aldermen. Actions of the new government included the prohibition of hitching horses along Main Street and the replacement of wooden sidewalks with concrete. A school board was also elected and within a few years required Maryville children to attend school and built the Maryville High School. Despite these advances Maryville continued to retain its small town character until after 1910.

Maryville College also expanded its facilities at the turn of the century as enrollment increased. The Fayerweather Science Hall was completed in 1898 to serve as the school's center for the sciences. Originally two-stories in height, a third story was added to the building in 1913. Bartlett Hall was built in 1901 and served as a meeting hall and gymnasium for students. The need for a new dormitory and infirmary for the school led to the construction of Pearsons Hall and the Ralph Max Lamar Memorial Hospital in 1910. With these two buildings expansion of the campus ended for several decades with the exception of the construction of Thaw Hall in 1923 as a dining hall and dormitory. These

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buildings continue to be used by the college and comprise the oldest section of the campus (Maryville College Historic District).

The appearance of Maryville and its vicinity changed radically after 1910 when the Aluminum Company of America began construction of dams along the Little Tennessee River in North Carolina and selected a site just northwest of Maryville for its industrial plants. The announcement of Alcoa's decision to settle at Maryville was greeted by some with dismay while others looked upon it as an economic boost for the town. Samuel Everett was mayor during these years and his promotion of the Alcoa plant resulted in threats against him and other city officials. A substantial number of Maryville residents feared the impact the Alcoa plant would have on the community as construction commenced in 1914.

Between 1914 and 1920, the community of Alcoa was built on the northwestern edge of Maryville. The earliest buildings constructed by the company included reduction plants, service plants and a mill village of 150 residences. By 1919, the company began operation and in April the City of Alcoa was chartered and a city government was enacted. In addition to the many native Blount countians hired at the plant hundreds of other workers moved to Aloca for employment. These included a large number of black workers who settled in the community of Hall with their own churches and schools. Alcoa actively recruited black laborers and many came from other parts of Tennessee or adjacent states. By 1920, Alcoa contained seven hundred houses with a population of 3,358 residents.

As a result of the Alcoa development commercial activity increased in Maryville. Many new one to three-story brick commercial buildings were constructed in the downtown area which extended southward along Main Street and to the east and west towards Pistol Creek. Sewers were promoted and built during 1916 and a police department and library were organized in 1919. The destruction of the county courthouse by fire led to the selection of a new site off of Main Street and in 1916 a new courthouse was constructed on Court Street to the east of the downtown area. A new Federal post office was also built along Main Street in these years and was one of the most prominent buildings in the downtown area. Residential areas expanded southward along Main Street and Niles Ferry Road and many new blocks were subdivided and platted to the west and east of Indiana Avenue. Large numbers of simple frame workers houses were scattered around the city in addition to the neighboring mill villages at Alcoa.

Additional industries were lured to Maryville in the wake of the Alcoa plant and throughout the 1920s the town grew at a substantial rate. Streets in the city were paved and advances were made in sewer and water services. The downtown commercial area contained over forty buildings including the

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five-story First National Bank building erected in 1921. Most commercial buildings were two-stories in height and contained drug stores, clothing stores, hardware companies, groceries and other businesses. A few industries such as the Babcock Lumber Company continued to build along the railroad line and Pistol Creek and replaced several of the earlier grist mills and woolen mills.

The Depression slowed the town's growth during much of the 1930s but the Alcoa plant and other industries remained open. While a number of Alcoa employees were laid off, many others were given thirty hour work weeks to retain employment levels as high as possible. Some Maryville residents found work in the construction projects of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park although projects in the park section of the county were limited in these years. Another important development during the 1930s was the construction of the McGhee-Tyson Airport between Alcoa and Knoxville in 1934. This airport was to serve the Knoxville metropolitan area and led to commercial expansion along the Alcoa Highway. Expansion and construction of the airport has resulted in the razing of the original airport structures.

With the commencement of World War II the demand for aluminum products for war materials increased. Alcoa underwent a new period of expansion and the population of Maryville gradually increased. Annexation by the city in the 1940s and 1950s extended southward, westward and to the east. In recent decades public projects transformed the appearance of much of the historic downtown area. Remaining industrial buildings along Pistol Creek were razed to make way for a park which meandered to the east, north and west of the downtown area. Roads were built and expanded through the town such as construction of the Lamar Alexander Parkway.

The most significant change in the downtown area was the public funded project known as Now Town. This project was completed in the early 1970s and transformed the downtown area into a shopper's mall with Main Street (renamed Broadway) becoming a serpentine thoroughfare with covered sidewalks and crosswalks. Utility lines were placed underground and many of the historic commercial buildings were covered with new metal facades such as the First National Bank Building. The completion of the Now Town project, however, failed to live up to expectations and the commercial activity in the downtown area has steadily decreased. New shopping centers such as the Foothills Mall have also drawn business away from the older downtown area. Today, the historic commercial section of Maryville retains little of its early 20th century character but interest in restoration of the buildings and a reversal of the Now Town changes is increasing.

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The residential character of the older sections of Maryville have also changed substantially in recent years. Many 19th century residences adjacent to the downtown area have been razed along Church and High Streets and Broadway Avenue and replaced with commercial structures. The Indiana Avenue area to the southeast of the downtown area remains as a significant inner city neighborhood but much of the residential development of the past thirty years has taken place in suburbs to the east and south of the city. Maryville has expanded its city limits several times to accomodate this residential development.

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF BLOUNT COUNTY, 1890-1940**

Very few industries were in operation in Blount County during most of the 19th century. Small gristmills and sawmills were the most prominent industrial buildings and were located throughout the county. Maryville possessed several grist mills and woolen mills along Pistol Creek but large scale industrial development did not occur at the town until the turn of the century. The county's largest manufacturer in the century was the Rockford Manufacturing Company at Rockford which produced cotton yarn and goods and employed between 50 and 100 workers. The original mill complex burned in 1909 and no 19th century buildings survive at the mill site.

After the 1880s, industrial development in the county increased substantially and had a direct influence on the growth and development of many areas and communities. The county's natural resources included ample streams and rivers to supply water power, extensive stands of timber, and fine belts of limestone and marble. Other resources such as gas, oil, coal, iron ore and other minerals are not present in any appreciable quantities and extraction of these resources was limited.

The timber industry in the southern and southeastern mountains expanded rapidly in the late 19th century with the coming of the railroad and general exploitation of the Appalachian Mountain forests. Many companies operated by both locally and nationally based companies began operation in these years. The most significant company to form was the Little River Lumber Company which purchased 100,000 acres in 1901 around Tuckaleechee Cove. The company town of Townsend was created and a railroad line was built into the cove to extract the timber. Most of the marketable trees in the company's holdings were removed over the next several decades and Townsend became a thriving mill town of several hundred inhabitants. The mill closed in 1938 and much of its land was purchased for inclusion into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The John F. Shea residence is the only significant resource remaining from the early days of Townsend. All mill buildings associated with the company have been razed or burned.

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At the western mouth of Tuckaleechee Cove the Schlosser Leather Company was chartered in 1901 to tan hides and manufacture leather. Its main buildings were erected in 1902 on the banks of the Little River and the mill town of Walland formed nearby. Walland contained several dozen residences and stores at its height in the 1910s and 1920s. Most residences built in Walland were one and two-story frame buildings for workers in the Schlosser plant. The most notable of those which remain is the A. J. Fisher House which was the home of the plant superintendent for twenty years. In 1931, the plant's main buildings burned and the company went out of operation. The only remaining mill building at the site is the power plant built in 1909. Less than two dozen residences associated with the plant are extant at Walland and alterations to these properties have been extensive.

Much of the industrial activities in Louisville and Friendsville were the result of the growth of the marble industry in the early 20th century. A band of marble stretches across the western section of the county and quarries worked these areas soon after the Civil War. Large scale production of marble did not occur until the coming of the railroads and improvements in mining machinery in the 1880s and 1890s. The most significant quarry was that opened by the John J. Craig Company near Louisville in 1896. A large mining operation and small mill town was located here for several decades and in the mid-1920s a one-story brick cutting and polishing building was completed along with several residences, a commissary and other structures. Several of these buildings survive along with the quarry site itself and comprise the John J. Craig Quarry Historic District. Marble from this quarry has been used throughout the country and especially for government buildings in Washington D.C. Although the Craig Company is no longer in business, the quarry has remained in operation by other owners.

The influence of the Aluminum Company of America has been felt across the county since the early 20th century. Methods for aluminum extraction were discovered in the 1880s and in 1907 the Aluminum Company of America was formed and began to inspect several sites in the Southeast for the location of its main plant. Blount County was chosen in 1910 because of its ample water resources which were an integral part of the aluminum smelting process. Construction of the Cheoah Dam on the Little Tennessee River and in 1913 a large site northwest of Maryville was purchased for the plant operation.

Over the next two decades the construction of dams on the Little Tennessee River inundated farmland along the western edge of the county. Cheoah Dam was completed in 1919 followed by Santeetlah Dam in 1928 and both were built just over the county line in North Carolina. A construction camp was built by the company at Calderwood for the construction of the dams and several dozens residences were built at the site. In 1930, a dam was built at the Calderwood site across the Little Tennessee River to serve the Alcoa company. In recent

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years most residences and buildings at Calderwood have been razed or altered.

The town of Alcoa became one of the largest communities in the county between 1910 and 1930. Construction of plant buildings began in 1914 and the first 150 worker's homes were begun in 1916. Over the next several years, lighting plants, water and sewer lines and other facilities were added and the town was placed in operation in 1919. The West Plant Office building is the most notable structure to survive from this period. Various expansions of the Alcoa facilities occurred in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1929, the Aluminum Powder Plant was built for the manufacture of aluminum bronze for paint. Increased demands for aluminum products during the late 1930s led to the construction of the North Fabricating Plant and expansion continued to meet the demand for aluminum products during World War II. The North Plant eventually covered fifty-five acres and was the largest plant in the world under one roof. By the end of the war the town contained over 12,000 inhabitants and various sub-divisions were added to the original town plan. Since World War II, the Alcoa Plant has remained a vital industrial force in East Tennessee. Over 6,000 workers remain employed at the plant and many continue to live in the original company housing.

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1. ANTE-BELLUM RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
  - a. Settlement Period, ca. 1785-1830
  - b. Post-Settlement Period, 1830-1860
2. RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE, 1860-1940
3. INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, ca. 1815-ca. 1939.
  - a. Industrial Buildings
  - b. Commercial Buildings
4. RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS
  - a. Religious Buildings
  - b. Educational Buildings
  - c. Public Buildings
5. CANTILEVERED LOG BARNs

1. ANTE-BELLUM RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE

- a. Settlement Period, ca. 1785-1830.

**Description**

Blount County contains a variety of residential building types and forms constructed between 1785 and 1830. From 1800 to 1830 the population of the county grew from 5,587 to 11,028 with most growth occurring in the twenty year span from 1800 to 1820. The majority of fertile lands and valleys were claimed or purchased during these years and hundreds of farms were established. In most sections of the county the topography and soil inhibited large scale farming and small farms with simple frame or log residences characterized the county. Only in a few areas did the richness of the soil permit expansive farms and the construction of stone and brick houses.

Stone buildings in the county from the settlement period are rare and reflect the influence of the Federal style. Details common to stone buildings of this era in both Blount County and East Tennessee include three or five-bay fenestration on the main facade, gable roofs, exterior end chimneys, and jack arching over doors and windows. Only two stone residences are known to have been built during the settlement period, the Samuel Frazier House and James Gillespie House. Perhaps the oldest standing structure in the county is the Samuel Frazier House constructed ca. 1795 near the present site of Friendsville (409). This two-story, three bay house was built in a three room, or Quaker plan which is unusual in the county.

A more ornate stone house from this period is the James Gillespie House constructed in 1802 near Louisville (2443). This two-story, three bay residence is also of limestone construction and features finely crafted jack arching and other detailing such as a datestone on the lintel above the door. To the south

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of the house is a two-story stone springhouse which is the only stone outbuilding remaining from the settlement period in the county (2444). No other buildings of stone construction are known to have been built or exist in the county.

Very few brick residences are known to have been built in the county during the settlement period and the only significant remaining example is the Samuel George House (NR-1/27/82). This residence and drawings of houses now razed reveal that they follow the traditional forms and plans of the period. Most were of Flemish bond construction of three or five bay configuration, displayed gable roofs and exterior end chimneys, were one room deep and often had a rear ell or wing. Federal influenced detailing such as jack arching and dentil molding were common features. Residences built between 1800 and 1830 were constructed of bricks burned in nearby kilns and construction often took a year or more. The only other extant brick dwelling from this period is the Wilkinson House (Louisville Historic District) which was extensively altered with added wings in the late 19th century.

The Federal influenced I-House forms found in the stone and brick houses of the period also was used for timber frame and log structures. These structures are one-room deep, one to two-stories in height, have gable roofs and are three to five bays in width on the main facade. Unaltered residences of frame construction from this period have not survived with one notable exception. The Warner Martin House (1818) near Rockford appears to have been built in a two-story, single cell design and soon after enlarged into its present five bay, I-House design. Of timber frame construction, the original section of the house has been dated to 1793 although its actual date may be somewhat later. No other intact example of timber frame construction from this period has been identified.

Prior to 1830, log construction was common throughout the county and perhaps hundreds of log homes were erected. Despite their prevalence only a small number survive intact to the present. Most log buildings from this period were razed to make way for later homes or were enclosed or altered by later additions. Those which survive share a number of features such as rectangular plan construction, V or half-dovetail notching and were built of hewn logs in single pen and double pen designs. Double pen forms often feature an open breezeway or dogtrot between the two pens. Chinking between the logs were either of mud and rock slats or mud and wood slats and both brick and stone exterior end chimneys were used. Interiors were unfinished or later covered with plaster or tongue in groove siding. Small corner stairs were added for access to the second story or loft area and fireplaces displayed simple mantles.

The best known early log residence is the Thompson-Brown House (NR-12/2/78) in Maryville built ca. 1820. Other examples of settlement period log houses

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include the double pen Tobler Vineyard House (2345) and the single pen Peter Brickey House (78). Other notable log residences from the settlement period of the county are found in the Cades Cove Historic District (NR-7/13/77). Several residences such as the John Oliver House and Peter Cable House are single pen log buildings with stone chimneys and log construction typical of the early 19th century. Other log homes built after 1830 also comprise the district and all buildings in the cove have been restored by the National Park Service as part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

**Significance**

The properties included within the settlement period from ca. 1785 to 1830 are architecturally significant under criterion C for embodying the styles, forms, methods of construction, artistic values, and site and setting of the era. The properties display forms and detailing typical of dwellings built throughout East Tennessee in the settlement period. In addition to their designs and specific details, the dwellings also display the continuance of, or American adaptations of, Old World building forms such as timber frame and log construction. Early settlers from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina brought these construction methods and building forms with them to Blount County. The single pen and double pen log dwelling became the most common early building form and was also adapted for use in brick and frame dwellings.

In addition to the single and double pen plans for log and frame dwellings the Blount County properties also display the use of hall-parlor plans and Three-Room or Quaker plans (also known as Penn plans). These late 18th and early 19th century floor plans are illustrated in the Samuel George House (hall-parlor) and Samuel Frazier House (Quaker) and represent traditions derived from England and Pennsylvania from the 17th century. These surviving dwellings from the settlement period also display fine craftsmanship and detailing representative of the early builders and craftsman of the county.

No properties were identified as having sufficient significance to meet criterion A or B for associations with the settlement period or associations with significant individuals.

**Registration Requirements**

Few unaltered properties remain from the settlement period in Blount County. Because of their rarity, properties may meet registration requirements by having only some and not all of the architectural elements described under significance. All of the properties are important due to their survival and existence and most extant examples of architecture from this period should qualify if they retain sufficient structural design and exterior detailing to identify them as built in this period and evoke feeling and association of the

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era. In several cases original interior detailing has been lost but the exterior design is largely intact such as the James Gillespie House. While original interior features are significant contributive elements to a property's character, their retention is not mandatory for a property to meet registration requirements if the majority of the exterior detailing and form is intact. At a minimum properties meeting registration requirements must display their original form on all but the rear facades, retain original roof forms, fenestration, chimney placement, integrity of materials, and integrity of site and setting. Outbuildings are also contributive to a site if they retain identity to identify them as built during the property's period of significance and evoke feelings and associations of the period.

**b. Post Settlement Period, 1830-1860****Description**

The antebellum years brought a measure of prosperity to many county citizens and fine frame and brick residences were constructed. In Maryville, dozens of brick and frame residences were built during these years but none have survived to the present. In the rural areas of the county, however, several significant residences were built from 1830 to 1860.

The majority of these houses share common forms and detailing. Most are one and one-half or two-stories in height, have three or five bay configuration on the main facade, have one or two-story rear wings, gable roofs and exterior end chimneys. Most are also one-room deep with central hall plans. The central hall is generally the location for the main staircase connecting the two floors. Detailing on most residences is restrained with sidelights and transoms around doors, eave dentils and interior Greek Revival influenced mantles the primary locations for decoration.

Brick construction was known in Blount County in the decades from 1830 to the Civil War. In 1834, six bricklayers were listed in Maryville and several brickyards were in operation. Historic drawings and paintings of Maryville depict numerous brick residences, commercial and public buildings. Unfortunately, no antebellum brick building survives in Maryville and only five brick residences known to have been built between 1830 and 1860 are extant in the county. The most notable of these brick residences is the James Henry House (NR-11/1/74) which was built between 1833 and 1835.

Other examples of brick residences from this period include the Macklin Kerr House (775) near Union Grove, the John Hackney House (524 ) at Friendsville, the John Russell House (636) near Louisville, and the William Henderson House (85) near Louisville. The Macklin Kerr House is a two-story, three bay, central

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passage plan I-House residence built ca. 1860. The John Hackney House is an unusual Four Room Plan which consists of four connected linear rooms with each originally having an outside as well as inside entrance. No other house with this type of floor plan has been inventoried in the county. The John Russell House is a two-story, double pile, five bay, central passage plan I-House built in 1851. The William Henderson House is a two-story, central passage plan residence which retains excellent interior Greek Revival detailing.

Other significant residences of this period are of log and/or frame construction built in the rural areas of the county. The county's only Italian Villa residence is "Meadhaven" which was remodeled into this form in 1855 (Louisville Historic District, NR-12/23/74). The majority of frame residences from this period, however, are simpler central passage plan I-Houses with Greek revival detailing. Examples include the Stephen Porter House (1815), and the Thomas McCulloch House (44) both located near Rockford. The Stephen Porter House also retains the only known ante-bellum brick outbuilding in the county while the Thomas McCulloch House retains a log smokehouse. Log construction continued in these years and the James Montgomery House (736) is included as a representative example of an ante-bellum log farmhouse. The Montgomery House also retains an original log outbuilding.

**Significance**

The hilly and mountainous terrain of Blount County resulted in the great majority of farms to be of several hundred acres or less. Large scale plantations which employed slaves were rare. The architectural expressions of these plantations reflected the Greek Revival style but were generally simpler and more restrained than Greek Revival designs in Middle and West Tennessee. Greek Revival influences can be seen in several Blount County residences such as symmetrical floor plans, rectangular sash windows, entrances with multi-light sidelights and transoms, interior woodwork with architrave molding, and mantles with Doric pilasters. No original porches from this era remain extant on the Blount County houses. The John Russell House and William Henderson House are good examples of these influences and are both significant under criterion C for their architectural significance. Both were built overlooking fertile bottomland on the Tennessee River and also retain their original site and setting. Fertile bottomlands along the Little River supported the prosperous farms of Thomas McCulloch and Stephen Porter and these residences are also significant under criterion C for their Greek Revival influenced interior and exterior designs. No other significant Greek Revival influenced residence exists in the county.

Brick ante-bellum I-House forms and Four Room plan residences are rare in the county. I-House forms feature central passage floor plans with a hall and stairway separating two rooms on both floors. Common features also include rectangular windows, interior end brick chimneys, gable roofs, and minimal

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detailing on the main facades. The interiors often display Greek Revival influenced woodwork although this is generally simpler in design and workmanship than in those with more pronounced Greek Revival derivation. The Macklin Kerr House exemplifies an ante-bellum I-House. Four Room designs consist of four attached single cell rooms which are arranged in a linear fashion. Each room has an outside entrance as well as interconnecting on the interior. Common features include paneled doors, rectangular sash windows, interior brick chimneys and minimal decoration. The John Hackney House is the most representative example in the county. Properties can be significant under criteria B because of their close association with individuals who had pivotal roles in the industrial or commercial development and/or growth of Blount County. The John Hackney House meets this criteria for its association with John Hackney who operated an important grist mill at Friendsville.

Log construction continued until the mid-19th century in Blount County and the James Montgomery House is significant under criterion C as a representative example of ante-bellum log construction. An inventory of the county in 1982 revealed that seventy-two log residences built prior to 1860 existed although most of these had been altered or were enclosed with later additions. These residences illustrated the importance of log construction in the county and its popularity as a building material well into the 19th century. Common features include gable roofs, exterior stone or brick chimneys, hewn log construction with half-dovetail or square notching, chinking of wood slats or rocks and mud, and minimal decorative detailing. Both single pen and double pen variations were noted and late 19th and early 20th century frame additions are also common. A representative single pen design is the James Montgomery House.

**Registration Requirements**

Brick construction which survives from the ante-bellum period in Blount County is very rare and because of its rarity all known examples should qualify if they retain their identity as being built in this period and evoke feelings and associations of the era. Alterations such as later porch additions, rear facade additions, and interior remodeling are common for all known resources. To qualify, properties must retain at a minimum their original form on all but the rear facades or retain their recognizable original form, roof form, fenestration, the majority of their original floor plans, chimney placement, materials, and site and setting.

Frame residences from this period have largely been extensively altered and no longer retain integrity of design, materials, and craftsmanship. The properties which are included for their significance under criterion C are those which have identity as built in this period and evoke feelings and association of the era. Retention of interior details is a significant but not mandatory element to meet

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registration requirements. At a minimum properties must display their original form on all but the rear facades, roof form, fenestration, chimney placement, materials, and site and setting.

Log dwellings from the county's ante-bellum era have also generally lost their integrity due to remodelings or deterioration. Of the log dwellings examined in the county most had lost integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, or site and setting. Other inventoried properties retained their original form but deterioration of architectural elements negated their integrity of feeling and association. Additional inventoried properties displayed additions from the mid-20th century which were less than fifty years old. Properties meeting registration requirements retained sufficient identity as built during this period and evoke feelings and associations of the era. Retention of interior details is a significant but not mandatory element for registration requirements.

Enlargements to original log sections with late 19th and early 20th century frame additions and addition of weatherboard siding over the logs are common for inventoried properties and reflects a common evolution of log dwellings. At a minimum properties meeting registration requirements must display their original form or original form with additions built no later than ca. 1939, display their original form on at least three facades, and retain original roof form, fenestration, chimney placement, materials, and site and setting.

Outbuildings are contributive to a property if they have sufficient identity of the property's period of significance, evoke feelings and associations of the era, or are good examples of a type of building.

No properties were inventoried from this period which were of sufficient significance to meet criterion A. Properties meeting registration requirements under criterion B are those which are associated with persons of particular importance through their influence in commerce or trade, education, religion, or overall, with the growth and development of a particular community or area. The property associated with this person must also retain sufficient architectural character to identify the property as associated with the person's period of significance. Under these requirements only the John Hackney House was identified as meeting criterion B.

**2. RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE, 1860-1940.**

**Description**

During the Civil War the county suffered during its occupation by both Union and Confederate forces. Many farms were pillaged and construction of buildings in the war years was limited. The most serious damage occurring in the county was the destruction of the commercial and residential section around the

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courthouse in Maryville in 1864. While the courthouse survived, all nearby buildings were destroyed by fire including the buildings of Maryville College.

For the next few years development in the county was limited as it struggled to shake off the effects of the war. Maryville College rebuilt its campus on a hill to the southeast of the downtown area and several fine buildings such as Anderson Hall were constructed in the post war years (Maryville College Historic District, NR-9/9/82). An increase in commercial development and population was heralded in 1868 when the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad (later the Knoxville and Augusta Railroad) reached Maryville. Construction in the commercial area and nearby residential areas increased with many buildings displaying the influence of the popular Italianate style. Residences built in this style featured arched windows heads, bay windows, and wide bracketed eaves. Commercial buildings in the downtown area were also built with arched windows and decorative cornices at the roofline. The majority of high style residences constructed in these years were built in Maryville.

In the rural areas of the county hundreds of residences were built in the late 19th century. Over 75% of those inventoried are balloon frame residences built in a variety of floor plans. Many of these are designs common throughout the Southeast such as T-plan, or gable front and wing designs, central passage plan I-Houses, pyramidal roof forms and Cumberland plans. In the coves and valleys of the mountain areas, log construction continued to be important throughout the mid to late-19th century. Most of these are simple one-story single pen log residences built by yeoman farmers on farms of 150 acres or less. Alterations to many of the surveyed frame and log houses have been extensive.

I-House forms with decorative detailing of the period are found throughout the county. Common characteristics are central passage plans, exterior or interior brick chimneys, weatherboard siding, three or five bay configuration, and rear one or two-story ells. A good example of this house form is the John Rorex House (885) at Brick Mill, built ca. 1870 and is a three bay, central passage plan I-House with arched windows influenced by the Italianate style. The Hezekiah Kizer House (558) and James V. Martin House (1390) are also notable examples of three bay, I-House plan designs with elaborate Eastlake and Queen Anne influenced wood decoration. These three residences are the most intact and decorative of I-House forms in the rural areas of the county.

In addition to I-House forms the rural areas also display unique house forms significant for their designs or architectural evolution. An unusual design is found in the Marcus B. Warren House (2389) near Middle Settlement which was built in a gable front design with a flat, deck roof. No other house resembles

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this residence in the county either on its interior floor plan or gable front design and it has not been significantly altered.

Three residences which now have the appearance of I-Houses also exist in the county which display similar architectural evolutions. The Alexander Hamil House (1136), Richard Chandler House (1840), and John McConnell House (571) were originally built in the early 19th century as two-story brick residences. Both the Chandler and Hamil Houses were built in double cell plans while the McConnell House was built in a Three-Room or Quaker plan. All three of these residences were enlarged in the late 19th century with two-story frame additions built at right angles to the original brick section. The resulting "T" plan of these residences is unique in the county and illustrates an interesting use of materials and design in dwelling enlargement. No connection among the houses is known regarding a particular builder and no other examples of this type of enlargement exists in the county.

High style residences in the rural areas of the county were either rarely built or have not survived to the present. Brick construction during this period continued to be rare with most brick construction occurring in Maryville. Several examples of early 20th century T-plan brick residences survive which display simple Colonial Revival influenced detailing. Common features include rectangular windows, hipped roofs, brick pier and Tuscan design porch columns and asymmetrical floor plans. Residences which exemplify this type of construction include the Samuel Yearout House (1963), the James R. Davis House (1771), and the John Hitch House (2352). None of these residences have been significantly altered. High style frame residences were also rarely built in the county in this period. A fine Queen Anne style residence was built at Townsend by John F. Shea at the turn of the century and displays a prominent corner tower (77). No other high style residence was inventoried in the rural sections of the county.

The largest number of high style residences from this period were built in Maryville. This community gradually assumed dominance as a commercial and educational center in the county and its population increased to over 2,000 by the end of the century. This resulted in the growth of a prosperous middle and upper class of merchants, teachers and other professionals. Streets close to the downtown area and Maryville College such as High, Indiana and Broadway became lined with notable examples of Queen Anne, Eastlake, Italianate, and Colonial Revival residences.

Maryville contains a wide variety of Victorian architectural residential styles. The county's only example of the residential Second Empire style was built by David Jones on Broadway and displays a straight sided mansard roof and prominent stone quoining (NR-8/26/82). The Italianate style was more common with two fine brick residences built on High Street in similar plans. Both the

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earlier David Jones House (4089) and Peter Bartlett House (4093) are two-story, three bay, central passage plan residences with arched windows, bay windows, and a central projecting bay.

Several frame examples of the asymmetrical Queen Anne style are located along Indiana Avenue and Broadway. These houses are characterized by high pitched hipped roofs, large porches with milled porch posts, milled eave decoration and projecting bays and towers. The J.C. Barnes House (3835) is the only example of the towered Queen Anne style in Maryville and it retains its original porch and other detailing (Indiana Avenue Historic District). The McNutt-McReynolds House (5) is a fine example of a two-story asymmetrical plan Queen Anne residence with elaborate vergeboard and eave trim. A more restrained design is the J.D. Hershey House (3847) which has a weatherboard and wood shingle exterior and original one-story porch (Indiana Avenue Historic District). Also on Indiana Avenue is the two-story brick, Romanesque influenced E.E. Combs House (3838) which is a rectangular plan residence with large arched windows and prominent roof dormers. Other Queen Anne influenced residences can be found along Indiana Avenue which contains the city's best collection of Victorian era architecture.

After 1900, the Colonial Revival style was popular for new homes and details such as Doric and Tuscan columns, eave dentils, and classically influenced entrance sidelights and transoms of this style were also applied to existing homes. A large Classical Revival residence was built by Samuel H. Dunn on Court Street (3834) featuring paired two-story Ionic columns on the main facade (Indiana Avenue Historic District). Two-story Ionic columns were also applied to "modernize" the Willard-Clark House (21) and the McNutt-Howard House (8). These 19th century, two-story T-plan residences were transformed into their present Classical Revival appearance through the introduction of large porticos on the main facade and are two of the most imposing homes on West Broadway.

After 1910, Maryville expanded in all directions and numerous neighborhoods of vernacular frame homes and Bungalows evolved. One of the best examples of the Craftsman style of the period is the Peter Hood House on Broadway which has wide eaves, a large one-story porch, and original Craftsman influenced interior detailing. The most significant concentration of Bungalow and Craftsman influenced residences are found in the streets to the west of Indiana Avenue such as along Goddard and Stanley Avenues. Most of these Bungalows are one and one-and-one-half-story examples from pattern books of the period. The house at 613 S. Court Street is known to have been built from plans and materials supplied by Sears and Roebuck and others may also have similar origins. In addition to these homes several fine Craftsman influenced houses were built in this area such as the Dr. A.M. Gamble House on Indiana Avenue (3837). The construction of Bungalow and Craftsman influenced residences

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continued in Maryville throughout the 1920s and into the 1930s. The largest concentration of Bungalows are found in the proposed Indiana Avenue Historic District. No other significant concentration of unaltered early 20th century residences have been identified in Maryville or elsewhere in the county.

To the northwest of Maryville the community of Alcoa developed after 1910. From 1916 to 1919, a number of large industrial buildings for the production of aluminum were built as well as a mill village of over 150 residences and several commercial buildings and churches. This village included several standard house forms and were generally one-story frame buildings with hipped or gable roofs and minimal detailing. Additional areas were developed for the mill over the next several decades resulting in hundreds of other small frame homes constructed for workers. While most of these residences exist, alterations and additions have been extensive and the mill villages of Alcoa no longer retain integrity. From 1915 to 1940, few significant residences were built in the county with most prominent Bungalow designs built in the Indiana Avenue district.

**Significance**

Property types nominated from this period of residential architecture are significant primarily under criteria C. Between 1860 and 1915, the town of Maryville grew and prospered along with other communities such as Townsend, Friendsville and Walland. The construction of railroads through the county, increase in timber production and other industries resulted in a period of economic development in many sections of the county. The majority of residences built in these years were frame vernacular designs typical of the South such as I-Houses and T-Plans. High style residences were rarely built in the rural areas of the county and most of the significant architecture was built by the merchants and professors of Maryville. The majority of significant residential architecture from this period can be found in the areas comprising the proposed Indiana Avenue Historic District and Maryville College Campus.

Residences built in the county with Italianate and Queen Anne detailing represent local interpretations of these important national styles of the period. Italianate residences in the county feature asymmetrical floor plans, rounded arch windows with brick or frame hood molding, bay windows and projecting bays, and interior detailing such as milled newel posts, cast iron mantles, and fluted door surrounds. The David Jones and Peter Bartlett Houses are the county's most representative examples of the Italianate style. Queen Anne residences are distinguished by their asymmetrical floor plans, projecting one and two-story bays, corner towers, extensive milled decorative panels at the eaves or porches, and interior detailing such as milled newel posts and paneled woodwork. The McNutt-McReynolds House and the John F. Shea House are the county's most intact examples of the Queen Anne style outside of the Indiana

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Avenue area. The proposed Indiana Avenue Historic District contains several fine Queen Anne residences and the Romanesque design E.E. Combs House.

In the rural sections of the county most of the architecture of the late 19th century are I-House forms with Italianate, Eastlake and Queen Anne detailing. Common details include central passage interior plans, interior paired or interior end brick chimneys, arched or rectangular windows, extensive milled decoration at the porches or eaves, and one-story rear ells. The best representative examples of this form inventoried in the county include the John M. Rorex House, Hezekiah Kizer House, and James Martin House. Of particular interest are I-Houses which are expansions of earlier 19th century brick residences. These early brick houses were altered into their present appearance by the construction of two-story I-House plan wings which were added at right angles to the original sections. This form of building evolution in the use of materials and placement is unique to the county and is also rare in Tennessee. The David Chandler House, Alexander Hamil House, and John McConnell House are extant examples of this building form.

Classical Revival styles built after ca. 1900 are found both in Maryville and in rural sections of the county. Interpretations of high style Classical Revival houses display two-story porticos on the main facade and details such as Ionic columns and pilasters, eave dentils, and modillion blocks. The Samuel H. Dunn House exemplifies this design while the McNutt-Howard House and Willard-Clark House were remodeled into this house form. In the rural areas of the county the Classical Revival style was expressed through decorative detailing applied to asymmetrical T-plan brick residences. This decoration included eave modillion blocks, entrances with multi-light sidelights and transoms, and rectangular sash windows. The Samuel Yearout House, John Hitch House, and James R. Davis House are Classical Revival influenced brick residences constructed in the rural areas and no frame examples of this style were inventoried in the county. The Davis House and Yearout House also retain good collections of frame outbuildings which are contributive to the period of significance.

Craftsman influenced residences were built after 1910 in the county and reflect an emphasis on exposed structural members, large porch areas, and extensive interior woodwork. The most representative of these designs is the Pete Hood House which also displays a unique brick water tower among its outbuildings. Other examples of Bungalow or Craftsman designs can be found throughout the proposed Indiana Avenue Historic District.

Properties can also be significant under criteria A or B because of their close association with individuals or entities which had pivotal roles in the industrial, commercial, or educational development and/or growth of Blount County. The A.J. Fisher House was deemed significant under criterion A for its association with the Schlosser Leather Company complex at Walland. Under criterion B the

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David Jones House, Gideon Crawford House, and John Alexander House were determined eligible. The David Jones House is significant for its association with noted Maryville builder David Jones who constructed a number of substantial brick buildings in the community such as the Blount County Courthouse (burned 1906) and operated a well known brick company. Both the Gideon Crawford House and John Alexander House are notable for their associations with important educators and community leaders. No other properties were considered eligible for consideration under criterion B.

**Registration Requirements**

High style designs such as Queen Anne, Italianate, Classical Revival, and Craftsman/Bungalow constructed between 1860 and 1940 were considered eligible under criterion C if they were: particularly noteworthy examples of an architectural type; retained their original exterior form and plan; retained their original integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; and retained their integrity of site and location. Original interior features are a significant element of properties but are not mandatory if the exterior design retains the above described architectural characteristics. Properties must display at a minimum their original form on all but the rear facades, roof forms, fenestration, chimney placement, materials, and usually their site and setting.

I-House designs constructed between 1860 and 1940 were considered eligible under criterion C if they were: particularly noteworthy examples of an architectural type; retained their original exterior form and plan; retained their original integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; retained integrity of design on all but the rear facades, and retained integrity of site and location. Original interior features are significant elements but not mandatory if a property retains the above described exterior character. Of the I-House forms inventoried in the county those included in the nomination represent those known to be the most architecturally significant examples. Additional information gained in the future may result in additional properties meeting these registration requirements.

Outbuildings are contributive to a property if they are associated with the property's period of significance, retain integrity of design, workmanship, materials, site and setting, and evoke feelings and association of the period.

Residential areas were considered eligible under criterion C as historic districts if an area contained concentrations of pre-1940 architecture which retained integrity of materials, design, and workmanship; if more than 75% of the properties were contributing to the district; if the area demonstrated a unified pattern of growth and development; and if the area possessed clear and definable boundaries. Under this criteria the large area which comprises the proposed Indiana Avenue Historic District was determined to meet eligibility

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requirements. No other area in Maryville or any other community met these registration requirements.

3. Industrial, Commercial Buildings, and Bridges, ca. 1815 - ca. 1939

a. Industrial Buildings, ca. 1815 - ca. 1939

**Description**

From its earliest days Blount County has been the site of a variety of industries. The county is bounded on the northwest by the Tennessee River, on the southwest by the Little Tennessee River and through the eastern section of the county flows the Little River. These tributaries along with numerous streams such as Ninemile and Pistol Creeks provided ample water power for milling industries. Of the dozens of mills built in the county in the 19th and early 20th centuries, four remain in existence and several intact mill sites also exist. The existing mills of the period were generally built in rectangular plans with gable roofs, weatherboard siding, little or no decorative detailing, and are two to three-stories in height. The best preserved mill from the 19th century is the John Cable Mill in Cades Cove (Cades Cove Historic District, NR-7/13/77). This two-story frame mill employs an overshot wheel and was built by John Cable by the 1880s. The mill was extensively rehabilitated in 1936 and 1951 by the U.S. Park Service and it is part of the Cades Cove settlement exhibit.

On Crooked Creek is White's Mill whose present structure appears to have been built around 1880 (124). This two-story mill was probably powered by a turbine wheel but its mill machinery has been removed and it is presently used for storage. In Miller's Cove a two-story mill was built by John Martin in 1900 along Hess Creek at the site of the John Hess Mill of 1796 (1587). This two-story frame building has been somewhat remodeled but retains its original plan, detailing, and machinery. One of the last mills built in the county is the Clover Hill Mill which was erected in 1912 (392). A mill at this location was built in 1849 but the present mill was constructed following a fire. The mill is the county's only full service feed mill in operation and is presently electrically powered.

Several significant mill sites also exist in the county which retain original foundations, mill dams, and remnants of turbines and turbine pits. The sites at Brick Mill (880), Peery's Mill (2203), Shaddon Mill (734) and Hackney's Mill (no survey number) are well preserved and original dams, millraces and foundations exist at all sites. All of these mills have their origins in the early to mid-19th century and were well known mills in their particular communities or areas. These mills remained in operation well into the 20th century. The Pistol Creek

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Dam and Mill Race in Maryville dates from the early 20th century and is a concrete dam and race which was used to power a grist mill and other concerns on the creek (no survey number). No other substantial surface remains exist at other historic mill locations.

Cotton and woolen mills were also important industries of the 19th century, however, no unaltered building associated with these industries remain. The county's lumber industry became prominent in the early 20th century but significant industrial resources remain associated with this industry. The Little River Lumber Company was chartered in 1901 and purchased 100,000 acres of land in the Tuckaleechee Cove area. The community of Townsend was developed around the mill and an office for the mill was constructed in 1905 (NR-11/8/74). This one-and-one-half-story, frame T-plan mill office burned in 1986 and was delisted later that year. All mill buildings have been razed and the only significant property associated with the lumber era at Townsend is the residence built by John F. Shea.

In the western section of the county near Louisville is a belt of marble which has been quarried since the Civil War. At least 24 quarries are known to have been in operation in the area from the 1860s to the present. The use of Blount County marble was especially popular from 1910 to 1930 when many public buildings utilizing decorative marble were erected across the country. These quarries usually had buildings erected adjacent to the quarry pit for cleaning, sawing, polishing, and storage of the marble blocks. One of the most important quarries was the John J. Craig Company established in 1896. This company operated a quarry near Louisville and they constructed a one-story brick storage and polishing building in 1923 (628). In addition to this building the company also constructed several one-story frame residences to house workers nearby. The company remained in operation for many years and the quarry continues to be mined. This small proposed historic district is one of few intact industrial sites remaining in the county.

The community of Walland owes its existence to the formation and operation of the Schlosser Leather Company in the early 20th century. This company was chartered in 1901 to tan hides and manufacture leather and was in operation until the mill buildings burned in 1931. In addition to the large, one-story frame mill buildings, a small village of several dozen residences were constructed which was named Walland. These residences were generally one-story frame, T-plan designs with minimal detailing. A number of these residences remain, most notably the A.J. Fisher House (1425) which was the home of the plant superintendent for twenty years. Another notable structure associated with the business is a two-story brick power plant building erected adjacent to the river in 1909 (1445). This unaltered building is presently vacant and is the only industrial building remaining at Walland. Residences in the mill village have been extensively altered in recent years and less than 50% retain integrity of materials and design.

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Many of the industrial buildings constructed in the 19th and early 20th centuries are simple vernacular designs with little or no decorative detailing. Common features include brick or frame construction with no decorative eave or window treatment, rectangular windows, gable roofs, paneled doors lacking detailed transoms or sidelights, and interiors composed of open space for storage or machinery. Classified as industrial vernacular, these buildings are illustrative of construction methods of the period but rarely allude to high style architectural designs.

An important planned industrial complex was built at the northwestern edge of Maryville in the early 20th century by the Aluminum Company of America. This company selected the Blount County site for its ample water supply needed to power its smelting furnaces. The plan for Alcoa was designed by G.S. Fickes and provided for industrial buildings, commercial and residential areas, parks, schools, and churches. The most notable building constructed during this period was the West Plant Office building erected in 1924 (4008). This one-story brick building housed offices of the plant and continues to be used for office space. The South Plant Office building constructed in 1942 during an important period of company expansion is also notable as the only major Art Deco influenced building in the county (4012). All of the pre-1940 industrial buildings of the company have been altered or razed and most residences in the mill village have been substantially altered and no longer retain integrity of materials and design.

In addition to the plant offices another significant property associated with Alcoa is the Calderwood Dam built on the Little Tennessee River in 1930 (no survey number). This dam is one of the largest concrete arch dams in the eastern United States and was built to provide electric power for the plant's smelting operations.

Only two significant bridges exist in the county. The Southern Railroad Bridge (1912) is a double span Pratt Truss bridge built in 1900 and is the only steel truss bridge which exists in the county. Another important bridge of reinforced concrete was built at Walland ca. 1918. This bridge was erected to provide for a more permanent crossing of the Little River and connected Maryville with the important industrial towns of Walland and Townsend. This bridge is one of eleven concrete arch bridges surveyed in Blount County and was designed by the Luten Bridge Company. No significant Timber Truss or Masonry Arch bridges were inventoried in the county.

**b. Commercial Buildings**

Commercial structures in the county in the 19th and early 20th century were primarily centered in the county seat of Maryville, at the Tennessee River town of Louisville, the railroad town of Friendsville and at scattered crossroads communities across the county. Only in Maryville did commercial development

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continue at a steady pace and retain its dominance as a commercial center. Louisville was an important Tennessee River port of the mid-19th century and numerous warehouses and stores were built adjacent to the river to serve the steamboat traffic. The coming of the railroad assisted in the development of Friendsville and by the late 19th century it was the second largest community in the county with a thriving commercial section adjacent to the railroad tracks. Crossroad stores also were an important part of the commercial life of the county and often general stores selling a variety of goods were built to serve area farmers and residents.

From its beginnings in 1796, Maryville has traditionally been the commercial as well as governmental center of the county. The town's mid-19th century commercial area was destroyed by fire during the Civil War and no ante-bellum commercial structures remain in the downtown area. The construction of the Knoxville and Charleston (later the Knoxville and Augusta Railroad) through the county in 1868 brought new businesses to the town and gradually over the next two decades much of the commercial area was rebuilt. Further building and expansion of the commercial area occurred throughout the early 20th century and the majority of the buildings in the downtown area were built prior to 1935.

Most buildings constructed in the commercial area of Maryville reflect typical designs of the late 19th and early 20th century. The oldest buildings date from ca. 1870 and are of brick construction, two to three-stories in height and were built in rectangular plans with flat, sloping roofs. Those built before 1900 generally reflect the Italianate style and have arched windows, decorative brickwork and bracketed sheet metal cornices. Construction of new buildings continued steadily after 1900 and buildings reflected the Neo-Classical style of the period with pilasters or columns on the main facade and dentilled cornices at the roofline. By 1920, decoration was largely confined to decorative brickwork on upper facades and over fifty brick commercial buildings were located along a five block area of Main Street.

Although the commercial center of Maryville retains many pre-1935 buildings, civic projects of the 1970s resulted in changes and alterations to both the buildings and streetscapes. The Samuel Patton Building is the only commercial building which retains significant upper facade decoration (74). This two-story, ca. 1880 Commercial Italianate structure displays arched windows, a dentilled cornice and decorative metal roof cresting on the main facade. The Patton Building is the only significant 19th century commercial building in the downtown area which displays its original character. Adjacent to the downtown area is the Southern Railroad Depot which retains its original exterior design and is the only rail related building standing on its original site in the county (4).

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For several decades in the 19th century the river port town of Louisville rivaled Maryville in commercial business. From 1835 to 1860 the town was a leading center for trade and commerce in the western section of the county. Large warehouses were constructed along the river for storage and a large wharf extended along 100 feet of the riverbank. Numerous mills, commercial buildings, public buildings and residences were built during this boom period. After 1870, Louisville's commercial activity leveled off and began a slow decline which continued until the end of the century. The construction of Fort Loudon Lake in 1943 inundated most of the historic commercial area of Louisville but the Harpers Brothers General Store, a one-story ca. 1880, false front building, is remarkably unaltered and is a fine example of a late 19th century commercial store (Louisville Historic District). Other commercial buildings spared by the lake have either been altered or razed in recent years.

Construction of commercial buildings in other communities was not extensive and only a few significant examples survive. The one-story brick People's Bank of Friendsville (471) built in 1915 is the only significant commercial building remaining in Friendsville. Its Colonial Revival influenced detailing has not been significantly altered and it served as the town's bank until 1936.

In the rural areas of the county farmers and residents were served during much of the early 20th century by general stores located at crossroad settlements. The stores were generally built at road junctions and sold produce, hardware, clothing, farm implements and other goods. Most of these stores were originally one to two-story frame vernacular buildings with minimal detailing. Almost all of these commercial buildings have been razed in recent years but the G.M. Miser Store at Miser Station is a good example of this type of commercial building (no survey number). Constructed ca. 1925, this building retains its false front design and original detailing. No other unaltered example of a rural store from this period exists in the county.

**Significance**

Industrial buildings of the 19th and early 20th century represent a significant collection of resources associated with the county's growth and development. The earliest remaining industrial sites and structures are grist mills which are significant under criteria A for their importance in 19th century commerce and/or industry. These mills were important industries in the county, employing dozens of workers, and were integral parts of the economic life of many residents. Farmers brought their grain to the mills and received finished products that could then be consumed or sold. Intact mill sites remain at Brick Mill, Peery's Mill, Shaddon Mill, Hackney's Mill and along Pistol Creek in Maryville which retain features such as dams, mill races, foundations and other features.

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The four standing mills are also significant under criteria A for their association with the county's milling industry and as illustrative of the evolution of milling technology. All four mills display their original construction methods and detailing and have not been significantly altered. The John Cable Mill at Cades Cove is the best preserved and is part of the Cades Cove Historic District.

Another notable industry of the county is the marble quarries of the western section of the county. A well known marble belt extends in the hills south of Louisville and marble has been extracted from this area for over 100 years. One of the largest quarries in this area was begun by the John J. Craig Company in 1896. In the 1920s the company expanded its operation and constructed a large brick building for storage and finishing and also several one-story residences for workers. This small complex of buildings is the only remaining resources associated with this industry and are significant under criteria A.

Also eligible under criterion A are buildings that may not at first appear to be directly related to industry such as houses, power plants, and dams which are important because of their primary or ancillary role in the industry. At Walland is a small power plant building and the A.J. Fisher House which are significant under criterion A for their association with the Schlosser Leather Company of the early 1900s. These properties are the only significant unaltered resources related to the operation of the Schlosser Leather Company.

The most important industry to settle in Blount County was the Alcoa aluminium plant of the early 20th century. This company has been the largest employer in the county in the 20th century and its plant is one of the largest in Tennessee. The West Plant Office building is significant under criterion A as an unaltered building from the company's early formation. The South Plant Office built in 1942 is significant under criterion A as representative of the company's massive expansion during World War II. Other associated mill buildings and the adjacent mill village have been extensively altered in recent years and no longer retain integrity.

The Calderwood Dam is significant under criterion C as a notable example of a concrete arch dam and is one of the largest dams of its type built in the eastern United States. The Southern Railroad Bridge is significant under criterion C as is the Walland Bridge. The Southern Railroad Bridge is the only example of a Pratt Truss bridge remaining in the county and the Walland Bridge is the county's most notable concrete arch bridge in existence.

Commercial buildings included in the nomination are significant primarily under criteria A and C for their architectural design and for their association with

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the commercial development of the county. The Samuel Patton Building is significant under criterion C as the only largely unaltered late 19th century commercial building extant in downtown Maryville. Although its storefront has been changed, it retains its original upper facade decoration and detailing. The G.M. Miser Store is significant under criterion A as the only unaltered rural crossroad commercial store remaining in the county. This type of commercial store was often the center of rural communities and they were an integral part of farmer's commercial activities. The Bank of Friendsville is notable under both criteria A as the only rural bank formed in the county and is associated with a period of growth and prosperity for the community. The Southern Railroad depot is significant under criteria A for its association with the county's rail industry of the early 20th century. This passenger depot has not been extensively altered and retains its original exterior design.

**Registration Requirements**

The industrial buildings represented in these property types are the only unaltered examples of their type or are the largest intact concentration of properties. Industrial buildings were considered significant if they possessed integrity of exterior design, integrity of materials, workmanship, feeling and association; if they retained integrity of site and setting; and if they were of particular importance to the growth and development of a community or area. Retention of interior arrangement and details were also important elements for a property's significance, but not mandatory, if the exterior retained the above described integrity. At a minimum industrial buildings should retain their original form on all but the rear facades, and retain original roof form, fenestration, materials, site and setting, and sufficient historic fabric to identify the building from a particular period and evoke feelings and associations of its era.

Concentrations of industrial buildings were considered eligible as historic districts under criterion A and C if they possessed a collection of buildings structures, and sites constructed or created prior to 1940; if they retained integrity of setting and location; and if they were of particular importance to the growth and development of a community or area. Due to technological changes which often impact operating industrial sites the number of contributing buildings, structures, and sites which are contributive to the district do not need to exceed 50% of the total associated with the property.

Industrial sites were considered significant if they retained sufficient surface remains to understand their construction methods and function; retained integrity of site and location; and were of particular importance to the growth and development of a community or area. A building or site for a particular industry (i.e. mills) can both be eligible under these requirements.

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Industrial structures were considered significant if they retained sufficient integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; retained integrity of site and location; were of particular significance for their engineering or construction methods; or were associated with an industry or company which was of particular importance in the growth and development of the county or in their field.

Commercial buildings were considered significant if they possessed integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; retained their original location and setting; and were of particular importance in the commercial growth and development of a community or area. Retention of original interior arrangement and detailing is an important, but not mandatory, factor if the exterior retains the above described character. No intact concentration of commercial buildings eligible as an historic district were identified in the county. The largest concentration of pre-1935 commercial architecture exists in downtown Maryville. However, extensive alterations to both the storefronts, and upper facades of buildings as well as their setting have occurred in recent years and the area presently no longer retains integrity.

**4. Community Buildings, 1872 - 1930****a. Religious Buildings****Description**

Blount County contains a variety of religious buildings which have particular architectural significance. Dozens of frame and brick churches were built in the county in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most of these were simple designs with minimal detailing. However, several were built with distinctive architectural features and retain their original design.

By 1802, the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist denominations were all represented in the county and several log churches were erected by residents. Church construction increased during the early 19th century and dozens of churches and numerous faiths were represented by the Civil War. Despite the construction of many churches during its settlement and ante-bellum period no significant unaltered religious structure or site built prior to 1870 exists in the county.

The oldest brick church in the county is the 1871 Friends Church in downtown Maryville (17). This one-story brick building was designed in an ell plan with Italianate detailing. It features triple hung sash windows and although rear additions have been added it retains its original character and design. An

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excellent Greek Revival influenced frame church was built in 1872 along Cloyd's Creek which replaced an earlier log structure (562). This gable front design retains original doors with sidelights and transoms and a full width portico with simple Doric columns on the main facade. These two churches are the only examples of Italianate and Greek Revival influenced religious architecture in the county.

By the late 19th century the Gothic style influenced religious building construction and a number of frame churches were built with Gothic arched doors and windows. Most of these churches have been altered in recent years but the Bethlehem Methodist Church near Wildwood is a fine example of this type of religious building (2090). This gable front church displays Gothic arching in the windows and door transom and a prominent bell tower on the main facade.

**b. Educational Buildings**

The earliest public schools in the county were built by settlers to provide for their children's education. A few references to these one-room log schoolhouses exist in county records and the Sam Houston Schoolhouse (NR-6/13/72) is a notable example of this type of early school building. Completed in 1794, this log building was erected by Andrew Kennedy and Henry McCulloch for the use of their own and neighbor's children. This log school is thought to be the oldest schoolhouse extant in Tennessee and is also significant for its association with Sam Houston who taught at the school during the term of 1811-12. No other schoolhouse from the settlement period of the county remains.

Schools in the county constructed in the ante-bellum years were primarily private academies and colleges associated with religious denominations. Among the earliest academies chartered in the county was the Porter Academy at Wildwood in 1807, Maryville Female Academy in 1813, Ewing and Jefferson College in 1854, and Friendsville Academy in 1854. The Porter Academy and Friendsville Academy remained in operation well into the 20th century and were well known schools of the county. These schools were two-story brick structures with decorative detailing of the period. No unaltered historic structures are associated with any of these 19th century schools and academies.

Maryville College's present campus was begun after the Civil War and a series of buildings were constructed in the late 19th century as the school expanded. Construction continued well into the 20th century and Maryville College continues to be an important educational institution in the county. Most extant buildings on the campus are two or three-story brick structures with a variety of architectural designs. Other buildings associated with the college are residences which were occupied by professors or other employees of the college. The Gideon Crawford House (3752) is one of the oldest residences located on

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the campus and is a two-story T-plan house built in 1875. Two other residences, the John Alexander House (3766) and Dr. William P. Stevenson House were built near or on the campus in the early 20th century and are associated with important educators of Maryville and the college. Another important building which has survived is the Alumni Gym completed in 1923 (no survey number). This building served as the primary athletic center for the school until a new gym was completed in the 1970s.

Public schools in the county were begun in the 19th century but little funding was allocated during much of the century. In the early 1900s, the statewide promotion for better public schools was embraced in Blount County and a dozens of one-room frame schoolhouses were constructed. These were generally simple, rectangular plan buildings with gable roofs and minimal detailing. Of the eighty to ninety known to have been built during this period all have been razed or altered and no public school has been identified as meeting National Register criteria from this era.

During the 1920s and 1930s many new brick school buildings were constructed in Maryville, Alcoa and other sections of the county. Most of these schools have been razed or vacated in recent years with the construction of new elementary and high schools. The best example of a rural school from this period is the Happy Valley School at Happy Valley (108). This one-story brick school was built ca. 1936 and is presently used as a community center. It has not been altered and reflects the Colonial Revival style.

**c. Public Buildings**

Two notable public buildings were constructed in Maryville during the early 20th century, the Federal Building and Harper Memorial Library. Both buildings were constructed with Colonial Revival detailing of the period and retain their original designs. All other historic public buildings in Maryville such as the jail, city hall, and courthouse have been razed or altered. The Federal Building (83) is a fine example of a Colonial Revival influenced public building of the early 20th century. Completed in 1916, this two-story brick building was constructed in a rectangular plan with prominent arched windows and Doric pilasters on the main facade. At the roofline are cornices and an open balustrade. This building housed offices of the U.S. Government and the Maryville Post Office for many years. Few changes have occurred to the structure and it retains its original character.

The last major public building completed before World War II was the Harper Memorial Library (44). This building was completed in 1931 to house the public library of Maryville and was designed in a Federal Revival style. On the main facade is a large elliptical portico and the entrance features a fanlight transom and sidelights. This building was used as the public library until a new facility

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was completed in 1983. It presently is the offices of the Red Cross.

**Significance**

Churches are significant primarily under criterion C for their architectural designs. Dozens of pre-1935 churches exist in the county, however, most of these lack architectural distinction or have been altered. The Cloyd's Creek Presbyterian Church is the only example of a 19th century Greek Revival religious structure in the county. The Bethlehem Methodist Church is a fine example of a 19th century Gothic Revival design and is the only unaltered example of its type in the county.

Churches can also be eligible under criterion A for their particular importance in the growth and development of the county including substantial roles in education. The Friends Church is significant under this criteria for its associations with the 19th and early 20th century prominence of the Friends denomination in the county. The Friends Church in Maryville is presently occupied by an Episcopal congregation and is the only religious or educational structure associated with the Friends denomination of the 19th century.

Schools were considered eligible under criterion A because of their role in the educational heritage of the county. The Sam Houston Schoolhouse is the most significant public school of the 19th century and it was recognized in 1972 when it was listed on the National Register. Of the many public and private schools and academies built in the 19th century no unaltered structures and sites remain extant. Maryville College does retain much of its 19th century campus and character and these buildings were listed as part of the Maryville College Historic District. Additional buildings such as the Gideon Crawford House, John Alexander House, William P. Stevenson House and the Alumni Gym are also significant under criterion A for their association with the growth and development of the college. Several of these properties are residential property types that happen to be eligible under education.

Public school buildings of the late 19th and early 20th century are represented by the Happy Valley School. During the 1920s and 1930s many new brick schools were built in the county and are illustrative of a period of educational expansion and modernization for county students. The Happy Valley School is eligible under criterion A as the best remaining example of an early 20th century school building in the county and retains its original design and detailing.

Public buildings are eligible under criteria A or C if they are notable examples of an architectural style or were of particular importance in a public role or function in the county. The Federal Building is significant under criteria A and C as the major federal governmental building constructed in the county in the

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early 20th century and for its Colonial Revival design. The Federal Building was the first major governmental building constructed in Maryville and it housed federal offices for including the post office. The Harper Public Library is significant under criterion C for its Colonial Revival design. The building features its original exterior and interior detailing and has not been significantly altered.

**Registration Requirements**

Religious buildings in the county were included in the property type if they were of distinctive architectural form and retained integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; retained original interior form and arrangement; retained integrity of site and setting; and if they were the only building associated with a denomination of particular importance in the growth and development of the county. Buildings of particular importance in the history of a congregation and the county may be included despite alterations such as additions or interior modification if the building retains sufficient identity as built during its period of significance and evokes feelings and association of the era.

Educational buildings included in this property type were selected for their association with the growth and development of the county's educational system of the early 20th century and the growth and development of Maryville College. The buildings were considered significant under criterion A if they were associated with the expansion and improvement of the county's educational resources; if they retained integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association both on the exterior and interior; if they retained integrity of site and location; and if they were associated with individuals significant in the growth and development of the private or public educational system.

Public buildings in this property type were selected under criterion A as examples of public funded buildings remaining from this era which have not been significantly altered. Requirements include construction prior to 1940 and importance as centers of public activity. Public buildings are also significant under criterion C if they retain their integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling and association, and if they retain integrity of location and setting. Retention of original interior detailing is not mandatory for inclusion in the property type if exterior detailing meets the above described criteria.

**5. CANTILEVERED LOG BARNS, Ca. 1870 - ca. 1910****Description**

Cantilevered log barns are a building form unique in the United States to the mountain areas of Tennessee and North Carolina. The exact origins of this form

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continue to be debated as do questions concerning their geographic limitations. Studies have been completed of this building type over the past two decades including an analysis of barns in Blount County by John Morgan. This unique folk construction form is a noteworthy feature of the county's built environment and represents a separate and distinct property type.

The most distinguishing characteristic of the cantilevered log barn is the cantilevered overhanging loft. Most barns in the county are of double-crib design with the cantilever overhanging on all four sides of the barn, although some barns with only front and rear overhangs are common. With the exception of the cantilevered loft construction techniques of these barns are typical of the 19th century. Pine and oak were most commonly used in barn construction and logs were both hewn or left unhewn. Most have half-dovetail or V notching, lack chinking between the logs and are built in rectangular single pen designs. Often two separate log pens were built and joined together under one roof in a double-pen design. Four-pen and five-pen barns were also built in these years although they are less common. Most barns were built with gable roofs with metal or wood shingle surfaces and some were covered with weatherboard siding. Shed additions and attached drive thrus are also common features.

Only a few of the barns inventoried in the county were identified as having been built prior to 1865. Most of those surveyed were dated between 1870 and 1910 with the latest erected in 1932. Log barns are found throughout the county in both the lower elevation hills and in the mountain coves. The first floor of the barn was generally used as a stable for horses and mules while the loft contained hay and feed. With the decline of work horses most are now used for storage or to shelter beef cattle and dozens are now vacant.

Of the 138 log barns in the county, 126 or 90% are of double crib design and of these 90% are of cantilevered design. Examples of this type of barn are the Langston Clark Barn built ca. 1890 (408), the Carl Trundle Barn built ca. 1900 (2054), and the Minnis McCampbell Barn (1267). These barns are of double crib design and share certain characteristics. They have overhangs on each side of the barn, have two rectangular log pens separated by a central runway, and have weatherboard siding on the loft areas.

Only six four-pen log crib cantilevered barns were inventoried in the county and of these the best representative example is the James McCampbell Barn erected ca. 1900. This barn type has four log cribs arranged rectangularly with each crib separated by runways. Two five-pen barns were also inventoried which are similar to four-pen crib barns except for the addition of a fifth crib beyond the rectangular four-crib configuration. The Mary Cochran Barn (396) is a representative example of this form of cantilevered barn. With the exception of

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the number of pens and their placement, these barns share similar characteristics with the two-pen log barns.

**Significance**

The cantilevered log barns of Blount County are a property type distinct to the mountain counties of Tennessee. One hundred and thirty-eight examples were inventoried in the county and represents one of the largest concentrations in the Appalachian Mountains. The origin of this building is still debated but the most popular theory is that it was influenced by the medieval German peasant house in which the first floor was log for warmth and the second story was frame and overhung by means of the cantilever method. Barns of this design were built in the county from its earliest settlement but most extant examples date to the late 19th century.

Cantilevered log barns are significant under criterion C for their architectural design and form. The barns included in this property type are those which are particularly good examples of double, four-pen, and five-pen designs which make up the types of cantilevered barns surveyed. The Langston Clark Barn, Carl Trundle Barn, and Minnis McCampbell Barn are fine examples of double-pen design with overhangs on all four sides. The James McCampbell Barn illustrates the four-pen form while the Mary Cochrane Barn is representative of the five-pen form.

**Registration Requirements**

Double pen cantilevered log barns included in this property type were selected for their integrity of construction and site and setting. Cantilevered double pen log barns were considered significant if they: retained original exterior and interior integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; if they retained integrity of site and setting; if post-1940 additions were limited to only one facade of the building; and if the building continued to be used for farm storage or stock barn as part of an overall farm complex. Under this criteria three barns were selected as the best known representative examples of the double pen form of the over one hundred surveyed. Additional information may result in the identification of other barns which meet registration requirements.

Four-pen and five-pen cantilevered log barns included in this property type were selected for their integrity of construction and site and setting. These forms of cantilevered barns were considered significant if they: retained original exterior and interior integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; if they retained integrity of site and setting; if post-1940 additions were limited to one facade of the building; and if the building continued to be used for farm storage or stock barn as part of an overall farm complex. The barns selected were the only four-pen and five-pen forms which met these registration requirements of those inventoried in the county.

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## G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

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Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

☒ See continuation sheet

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## H. Major Bibliographical References

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☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- ☒ State historic preservation office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency

- ☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other

Specify repository: Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, Tennessee

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## I. Form Prepared By

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SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION METHODS

The survey of Blount County's historic resources occurred in 1982 and 1983 under a matching grant funded by the Tennessee Historical Commission (THC) and the Blount County Historic Trust. The survey was carried out by John Morgan of the University of Tennessee and his assistants in accordance with established guidelines of the THC. During the course of the survey over 4,000 sites, buildings and structures were recorded. Each road that was passable in the county was driven and properties were examined to ascertain age and appearance. No federal lands comprising the Great Smoky Mountains National Park were inventoried. All properties built prior to 1940 were inventoried using THC inventory forms and black and white photographs were taken of all properties. Sites were marked on USGS maps and community maps to pinpoint their location.

Following the survey all of the inventory forms and photographs were filed at the Tennessee Historical Commission in Nashville. In 1988, a matching grant was awarded the Blount County Historic Trust by the THC to fund a Multiple Resource Nomination for the county. Selected to complete the nomination was Thomason and Associates of Nashville, Tennessee. The project director was Philip Thomason who has an M.A. in Historic Preservation from Middle Tennessee State University. Project Assistants were Gail Long and Pam Pendergrass who have completed architectural courses and training at Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee.

Prior to initiating the project an examination of current National Register listings was completed. Individual buildings listed on the National Register include the following:

1. Samuel George House, 1/27/82.
2. Thompson-Brown House, 12/2/78.
3. James Henry House, 11/1/74.
4. David Jones House, 8/26/82.
5. Little River Lumber Company Office, 11/8/74 (Removed in 1986).
6. Sam Houston Schoolhouse, 6/13/72.
7. Anderson and Memorial Halls, 2/20/75 (Memorial Hall removed in 1976).

The following historic districts are also listed on the National Register.

1. Louisville Historic District, 12/23/74.
2. Maryville College Historic District, 9/9/82.
3. Cades Cove Historic District, 7/13/77.

To select properties for the nomination all of the completed inventory forms and photographs of the survey were examined and evaluated for their historical and architectural information. Approximately 200 individual properties were selected for additional on-site analysis and historical research to determine

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their National Register eligibility. These properties were visited by the consultant and additional photographs were taken, buildings and sites were drawn and new descriptions written.

Historical research on the history of the county and on eligible properties was performed by the consultant and volunteers during the course of the project. Volunteers completed deed research for dozens of properties at the Blount County Courthouse. Additional historical research was completed by the consultant at the Blount County Library and Tennessee State Library and Archives. Interviews were held with county historian Inez Burns and Maryville historian Adele McKenzie.

Following the on-site examination of properties and historical research a total of 65 additional individual properties and two additional historic districts appeared to meet National Register criteria. The majority of these properties are residences constructed in the 19th and 20th centuries with commercial buildings, churches, industrial buildings and sites, school buildings and public buildings also represented. Two bridges were also determined eligible to meet National Register criteria.

Because the archaeological resources of Blount County have not been comprehensively surveyed, none are included in this nomination.

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