

TN, Meigs County, Decatur (Meigs County MRA),

IDENTIFICATION	✓ Historic name: <u>Hastings-Locke Ferry</u> (Meigs County) Common name: <u>Washington Ferry</u> Address: <u>W of Decatur TN Highway 30 at Tennessee River</u>	STATUS	Open to public: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Visible from road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Present use: <u>Transportation</u> Current condition: <u>Good</u> Alterations: <u>Ferry ramps now covered by asphalt</u> <u>river level raised by 7' by inundation of</u> <u>Chickamauga Lake</u> Site features: <u>N/A</u>	
	Owner's name: <u>Multiple (See Continuation</u> Owner's address: <u>page)</u> Classification: <u>Site/Object - public</u> Tax map reference: <u>District 3, Map 35-Meigs Co.;</u> <u>District 3, Map 78-Rhea Co.</u> Acreage: <u>9.1 acres</u> UTM reference: _____ Meigs County: <u>Z16/E692380/N3934530</u> Rhea County: <u>Z16/E691910/N3934520</u>			
	Date of construction: <u>ca. 1807</u> Architect/builder: <u>N/A</u> Original or previous owners: <u>Conley Hastings,</u> <u>original; John Locke, Robert Locke, Richard</u> <u>Locke, Solomon Henry and Sons</u> Original use: <u>Transportation</u> Theme/s: Primary <u>Transportation</u> Secondary <u>Exploration/Settlement</u> Other <u>N/A</u>		SOURCES	Bibliographical data: <u>Meigs County Court</u> <u>Minute Book, Vol. I, pp. 19, 21, 57, 58, 214.</u> <u>Rhea County Court Minute Book, Vol. C., pp. 111,</u> <u>131, 210. Lillard, Stewart. Meigs County,</u> <u>Tennessee, 1975. TVA, Floodplain Management</u> <u>Branch, 1982.</u> Form prepared by: <u>Steve Rogers</u> <u>Ann Toplovich</u> Title: <u>Cultural Resource Surveyors</u> Organization: <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u> <u>Nashville, Tennessee</u> Date: <u>9/20/82</u>
	Description: <u>The Hastings-Locke Ferry, the landings, boat and barge and water passageway, is located among</u> <u>farmland and stands of trees on State Route 30 at the Tennessee River. The ferry crosses the</u> <u>tail waters of Chickamauga Lake between Meigs and Rhea Counties. The approaches and landings</u> <u>of the ferry are asphalt and descend from SR 30 to the river's edge. The approximately .3 mile</u> <u>route of the ferry crosses the Tennessee on an east-west axis. The original water level of the</u> <u>river has been raised approximately 7 feet by the inundation of the lake in the early 1940s -</u> <u>from 676'MSL to 683'MSL. The area of the ferry's landings are essentially on the original</u> <u>locations, but over 170 years of high and low water have led to landings up- and down-river</u> <u>from present landings by approximately 50 yards. (These strips of land flanking the current</u> <u>landings are included within the nominated boundaries.) The ferryboat now used is a flat-</u> <u>bottom, steel hull barge built by Sherman and Reilly, Inc. of Chattanooga in the 1940s.</u>			
	Significance: <u>Established ca. 1807 by Conley Hastings, the Hastings-Locke Ferry was closely tied to the</u> <u>development of transportation in the newly opened Indian territories of Southeast Tennessee.</u> <u>The ferry was one of many ferries on the Tennessee River and its tributaries, and was vital to</u> <u>the movement of people and supplies between the town of Washington, first county seat of Rhea</u> <u>County, and the Cherokee territory east of the Tennessee. The ferry was taken over by the</u> <u>Locke family about 1820. In April 1839, John Locke, early settler and surveyor of Meigs County,</u> <u>bought one ferryboat and chains from the estate of Robert Locke; this reference to chains may</u> <u>indicate that the operation was then a current ferry. Ownership of the ferry was later trans-</u> <u>ferred to Solomon Henry and Sons who operated the ferry through the 1870s and 1880s. The</u>			

**PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA**

Photographer: Stephen T. Rogers

Date: 5/4/79

Negatives on file: Tennessee Historical  
Commission

Photographer facing: See Continuation below

Photograph number 38, 38A, of 55.  
and 38B

**CONTINUATION**

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA continued

Photographer facing:

#38 facing west

#38A facing east

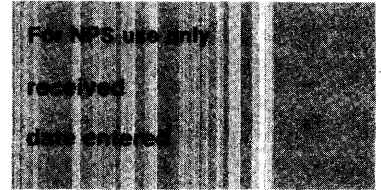
#38B facing west

**SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow**

'See Continuation Sheet'

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

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



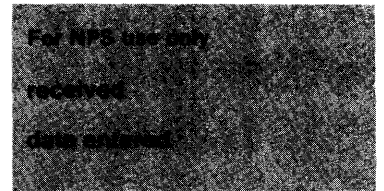
Continuation sheet Historic Resources of Meigs County, Tennessee      Item number      Description      Page 2

MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30)

The barge can transfer up to six cars across the river; a small boat is attached to the barge midship and pivots in either direction to power the barge across the river.

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

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



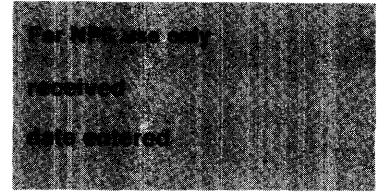
Continuation sheet Historic Resources of Meigs County, Tennessee Item number Significance Page 2

MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30)

ferry's original appearance has changed little, despite the creation of Chickamauga Lake in the 1940s, chiefly because the ferry is located on the lake's tail waters, where the water level is only 7 feet higher than the original level. The Hastings-Locke Ferry survives as one of only four ferries still operating on the Tennessee (one of only 5 ferries known in the state), and continues to be a vital link in the main east-west route between the county seats of Decatur and Dayton. The ca. 1940 ferryboat (boat and barge) is included in this nomination as an essential (contributing) element of an operating ferry. However, if either boat or barge is taken from service as a ferry, it is suggested that the vessel should be removed from listing as it would no longer be considered a contributing element of a ferry.

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Historic Resources of  
Continuation sheet Meigs County, Tennessee      Item number      Identification      Page 2

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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30) -Owners Name and Address

OWNERS:

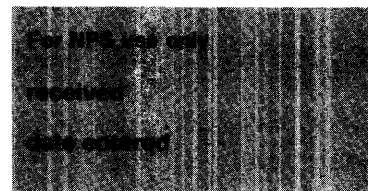
Mr. and Mrs. Grover J. Aikman  
Route 1, Washington Road  
Dayton, Tennessee 37321

Robert Macon Waters  
Route 2  
Decatur, Tennessee

Robert Farris, Commissioner  
Department of Transportation  
Suite 700, Polk Building  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

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

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



Historic Resources of

Continuation sheet Meigs County, Tennessee      Item number      Boundaries      Page 2

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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30)

Boundaries-Hastings-Locke Ferry

The boundaries begin at a point on the east bank of Tennessee River 150 feet north of the intersection of the center line of Tennessee Highway 30 with said river, thence east 50 feet, thence south 300 feet, thence west 50' to the river, then west across said river approximately .4 mile to a point on the west bank of said river that is 150 feet south of the intersection of the center line of Tennessee Highway 30 and the Tennessee River, thence west 50 feet, thence north 200 feet to a creek drainage, thence east 50 feet to the west bank of said river, thence east across said river approximately .4 mile to the beginning. Due to a lack of property lines or visual boundaries, arbitrary boundary lines were established to include the water passageway, and both the current and historic landing sites. The water passageway is a trapezoidal-shaped lane approximately .4 mile long, 300 feet in width on the east end, tapering to 200 feet wide on the west. The boundaries include .3 acre of land on the Meigs County side and .1 acre of land on the Rhea County side. Total acreage of land and water is approximately 9.1 acres.

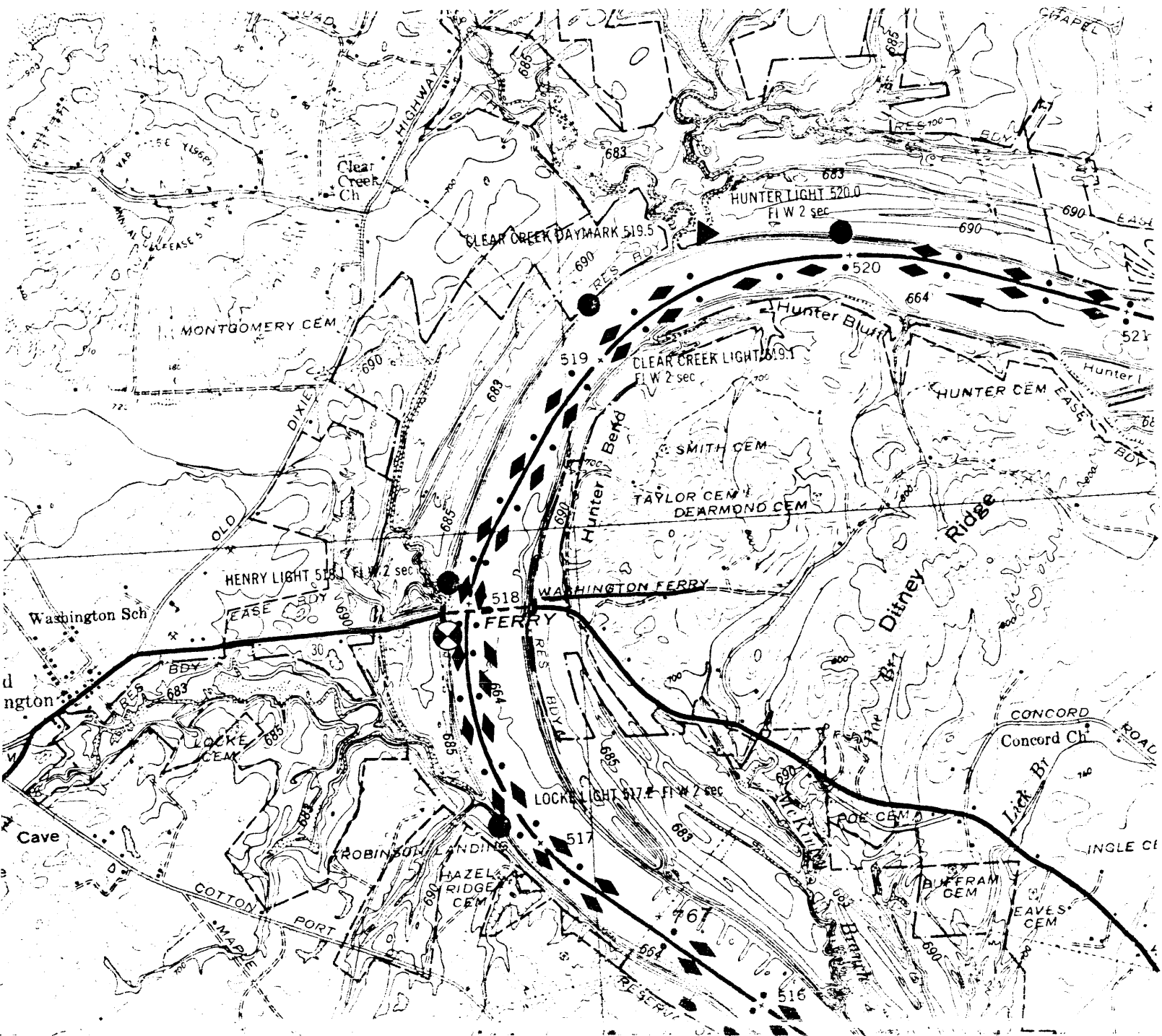
United States Department of the Interior  
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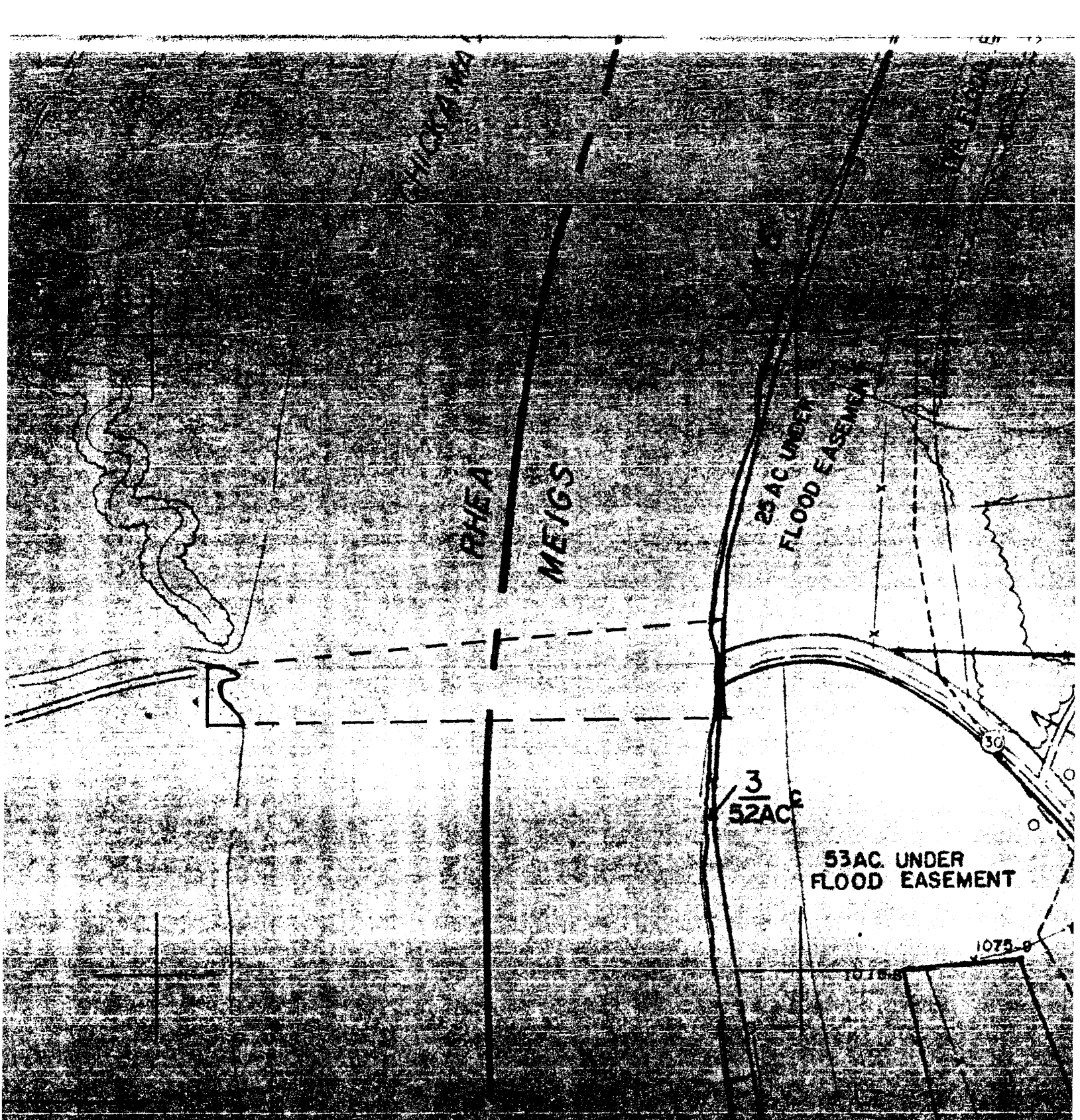
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Continuation sheet Historic Resources of Meigs County, Tennessee Item number Site Plan Page 2

MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION -  
Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30)





Historic Resources of Meigs County,  
Tennessee

(Partial Inventory: Historic and  
Architectural Resources)

Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30)



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Historic Resources of

Continuation sheet Meigs County, Tennessee

Item number 7

Page 4a

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date entered

The Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30) and Blythe Ferry (#35) were not included with the Meigs County multiple resource nomination originally submitted (listed 7/6/82). The ferries were withheld while further research on ownership and property boundaries was conducted relative to the effect of changes in water level at the ferry landings.

Also deleted from the multiple resource nomination were the photographs of the Hastings-Locke Ferry (#30-photo 38 of 55) and the Blythe Ferry (#35-photo 43 of 55). These photographs are included with the ferry nominations at this time. (This continuation sheet should replace the original continuation sheet for item #7, page 4a.)