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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: WILLISTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: Multiple (see attached list)

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Williston

vicinity: N/A

state: Tennessee

code: TN

county: Fayette

code: 047

zip code: 38076

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  locally. (\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Hayden  
Signature of certifying official  
Deputy SHPO, Tennessee Historic Commission

10/25/95  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau





**8. Statement of Significance**

**APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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

**ARCHITECTURE**

**EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT**

**PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE**

ca. 1845 to ca. 1945

**SIGNIFICANT DATES**

N/A

**CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS N/A**

Property is:

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

**SIGNIFICANT PERSON**

N/A

**CULTURAL AFFILIATION**

N/A

**ARCHITECT/BUILDER**

Various/unknown

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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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See continuation sheet.

**PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A**

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:**

State historic preservation office                       Local government

Other state agency     University

Federal agency     Other

-- Specify Repository: Tennessee Historical Commission

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property: Approximately 200 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing				Zone Easting Northing				Macon and Somerville Quadrangles
1	16	284460	3893760	2	16	284080	3892260	
3	16	283200	3893620	4	16	283340	3893820	

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: John Linn Hopkins

Organization: Hopkins & Associates

Date: January, 1995

Street & Number: 974 Philadelphia Street

Telephone: (901) 278-5186

City or Town: Memphis

State: TN      Zip: 38104

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**PROPERTY OWNER**

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Name

MULTIPLE

Street & Number N/A

Telephone N/A

City/Town N/A

State N/A

Zip N/A

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Section number 7

Page # 1

WILLISTON HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Williston, Fayette County, TN

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

OCT 30 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The Williston Historic District comprises the historic core of the City of Williston, a rural incorporated community population ca. 427, 1990 figure) in the south-central portion of Fayette County, Tennessee, located at the intersection of State Highway 193 (Walker Avenue; Macon Road) and State Highway 76. The district is situated atop a ridge which divides the Wolf River and Loosahatchie River drainage basins.

The topography of the district is gently rolling in nature, and has a landscape character that includes densely wooded areas, open fields and meadows as well as developed farmsteads, residential and commercial lots. The qualities of open space and low-density development are important attributes of the district's setting, where pastures and farm fields lie adjacent to residences and commercial buildings even at the district's center. Other than the limits of vistas caused by its hills and wooded areas, there is a nearly seamless transition from the rural townscape of Williston to the extended landscape of surrounding farms and forests.

The district possesses an irregular pattern of roadways which reflects the informal development of its community plan, with Walker Avenue (Macon Road) and Railroad Street forming its principal axes. The shape and sizes of lots within the district also reflect an informal approach to land subdivision. Lot sizes run from the smallest fractions of an acre, to nearly fifty acres in size.

Buildings within the district also vary widely, reflecting the changing tastes of rural Fayette County in its building periods of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Residences include examples of traditional building types such as single-pen cottages, saddlebags, center hall plan cottages, composite cottages, four-squares, Capes, cubical cottages and side L-plan cottages. Architectural styles applied to these traditional forms include Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Craftsman influences. Historic commercial buildings, though few in number, include examples of traditional single- and double-unit, three-bay storefront types. The religious buildings in Williston include good examples of an Akron plan, and a center aisle plan sanctuaries.

Prior to this nomination, two properties in Williston were listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the Crawford General Store (NR 7/8/1975) and the Crawford's Experimental Farm (NR 3/14/1991). Both properties are included within the boundaries of the proposed district.

All of the properties within the corporate limits of the City of Williston were inventoried to evaluate the location and extent of historical development in Williston prior to 1945, the close of the historic period of its significance. The area proposed for nomination best represents this period of development. An inventory of the properties contained within the Williston Historic District follows. For the sake of brevity, the abbreviation "DHSL" is used instead of

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"double-hung sash light", and "DH" is used for "double-hung"-- the latter referring to non-historic window treatments. Forty-seven properties and one site are inventoried which contribute to the historical character of design, workmanship, feeling and association in the district; these are identified as (C). There are thirty-three buildings which were constructed in the time since the close of the historic period, or which have been so altered so as to have lost their integrity of design, workmanship, feeling and association, which do not contribute to the significance of the district; these are identified as (NC). There are some buildings which have witnessed substantial, non-historic alterations, but may possibly retrieve their contributing status following a careful rehabilitation. These structures are identified (NC\*), and are included as non-contributing properties within the overall resource count.

Apart from the buildings of the district, there are other contributing resources which reinforce the historical characteristics of the rural setting of the district. These resources have been inventoried as the "General Landscape Characteristics" of the district (#046), and have been included within the resource count as one contributing site.

INVENTORY OF STRUCTURES

HOTEL STREET

001 65 Hotel Street (C) Iverson Walker Farm

One-story, three-bay, frame center hall plan cottage with rear ell and Greek Revival and Italianate influences, built ca. 1855-60. Complex gable roof with two front-facing gable ends, box cornice and frieze, covered with asphalt shingles. Gable ends contain polygonal bay windows. Exterior wall surfaces covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 4/4 DHSL with peaked lintels. Partial-width, hip-roofed porch supported by replacement wood columns. Entrance contains double doors with two semi-circular arched panels over two rectangular panels.

- a. Tenant House, ca. 1920-25. One-story, four-bay, frame saddlebag with Craftsman influence, side gable roof covered with sheet metal, weatherboard siding, 4/4 DHSL, four-light, two-panel doors. (C)
- b. Barn, ca. 1900-10. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof with shed-roofed wings, open sides. (C)
- c. Carriage House/Garage, ca. 1910-20. One and one-half story, three-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, weatherboard siding, 2/2 DH replacement lights, open doorways. (C)
- d. Barn, ca. 1900-10. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof with rear shed roof covered with sheet metal, Board and batten siding. (C)

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002 150 Hotel Street (C)

One and one-half story, five-bay, frame modified Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1940-41, with side additions ca. 1970-75. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have vinyl siding. Windows are 6/6 DHSL, some in pairs. One-bay, gable-front porch with segmental arch, supported by wrought iron replacement posts. Entrance contains a six-panel door. Side carport addition with side gable roof supported by box columns.

003 290 Hotel Street (C) Hugh F. Crawford House

Originally built as one-story, three-bay, frame center hall cottage with Greek Revival influence built ca. 1840-50, altered to two-stories with Craftsman influence ca. 1910-15. Complex hip roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have vinyl siding. Windows of first floor have 6/6 DHSL with peaked lintels; windows of second floor have 6/6 DHSL in plain reveals. First floor has original partial-width, shed-roofed porch supported by box columns; second floor has one-bay, gable-front porch supported by box columns, added ca. 1910-15. Entrance contains a four-panel double-door topped with a multi-light transom.

- a. Airplane hangar, ca. 1975-80. One-story, three-bay, pole frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, sheet metal siding. (NC)
- b. Workshop, ca. 1975-80. One-story, three-bay, metal-frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, sheet metal siding. (NC)

004 420 Hotel Street (C) Crawford's Experiment Farm NRHP 3/14/1991

One-story, three-bay, center hall plan cottage with Greek Revival influence, built ca. 1848-49. Side gable roof with box cornice and frieze, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have weatherboard siding. Windows are 6/6 DHSL. One-bay, gable-front open-pedimented portico supported by box columns. Entrance contains a multi-light door surrounded by multi-light transom and sidelights.

- a. Office, ca. 1867. One-story, one-bay, frame, gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, weatherboard siding, 6/6 DHSL, four-panel door, triangular transom. (C)
- b. Kitchen/Servant's quarters, ca. 1848-50. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof with asphalt shingles, weatherboard siding, 6/6 DHSL, four-panel doors. (C)
- c. Barn, ca. 1940; modified ca. 1985. One-story, five-bay, frame, gable roof with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (NC)
- d. Crib, ca. 1850. One-story, one-bay, gable roof, board and batten siding. (C)



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005 470 Hotel Street (NC)

One-story, nine-bay, brick-veneered ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1960-65. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 9/6 DH metal-frame sashes. Partial-width, shed roofed porch supported by columns with Doric capitals. Entrance contains fan light, four-panel double-door.

006 505 Hotel Street (NC)

One-story, five-bay, brick-veneered ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1989. Hip roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 6/6 DH metal frame sashes, some in pairs. Entrance contains a six-panel door.

007 520 Hotel Street (C) Dr. John Crawford House

Two-story, four-bay, cast block and frame modified four-square with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1912. Complex hip roof with box cornice and shed dormer, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have rough-faced cast stone block on first floor; second floor covered with squared shingles. Windows are 1/1 DHSL; a polygonal bay window is featured on the side facade. Partial-width, L-plan porch supported by columns with Doric capitols. Entrance contains a single-light door.

a. Garage and carport, ca. 1960-65. One-story, three-bay, frame side gable roof with asphalt shingles, exterior plywood siding. (NC)

008 545 Hotel Street (NC)

One-story, five-bay, brick-veneered ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1984. Complex gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 6/6 DH metal-frame sashes, some in pairs. Partial-width, gable-front porch supported by simple posts. Entrance contains a six-panel door.

009 560 Hotel Street (C) Garvin House

One-story, five-bay, frame L-plan cottage built ca. 1845-50 with Greek Revival influence, modified ca. 1920-25 with a second symmetrical projecting gable-front wing. Complex gable roof with box cornice and cornice returns, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have vinyl siding. Windows are 6/6, 4/4 and 1/1 DHSL; some with peaked lintels. Entrance contains a four-panel door with 1/2 length multi-light sidelights.

a. Shed, ca. 1930-35. One-story, one-bay, frame, shed roof with asphalt shingles, board and batten siding. (C)

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Hotel Street, continued:

## 010 575 Hotel Street (C) Morton House

One-story, three-bay, frame center hall plan cottage with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1918. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with sheet metal. Exterior walls have weatherboard siding. Windows are 4/4 DHSL. Partial-width, shed-roofed porch supported by box columns. Entrance contains a single-light, single-panel door.

- a. Shed, ca. 1930-35. One-story, one-bay, frame, shed roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)

## 011 600 Hotel Street (C) William N. Crawford House

One-story, three-bay, frame side L-plan cottage with Italianate and Queen Anne influence, built ca. 1865-70. Complex gable roof with box cornice and cornice returns, covered with asphalt shingles. Front-facing gable end contains a polygonal bay window. Exterior wall surfaces have weatherboard siding. Windows are 4/4 and 6/6 DHSL. Partial-width, hip roofed porch supported by turned posts with scroll sawn brackets. Entrance contains a double door with two semi-circular arched lights over two rectangular panels, flanked by 1/2 length, multi-light sidelights.

- a. Servant's quarters, ca. 1880-90. One-story, one-bay, frame single-pen cottage, gable roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding, shed roofed porch supported by simple posts, single-light replacement door. (C)

## 012 605 Hotel Street (NC)

One-story, three-bay, frame modified Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1950. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with asbestos siding. Windows are 8/8 and 6/6 DH replacement sashes. Partial-width, gable-front porch with box columns spanned by segmental arches. Entrance contains a four-light, four-panel door.

- a. Garage/carport, ca. 1980-85. One-story, two-bay, frame, gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, exterior plywood siding. (NC)

## 013 635 Hotel Street (C) Dr. Lynch House

One-story, three-bay, frame saddlebag with Italianate influence, built ca. 1870-75, modified with Craftsman influence ca. 1915-20. Hip roof with plain projecting eaves and scroll sawn fascia, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with asbestos siding. Windows are 3/1 DHSL, some in pairs. One-bay, hip-roofed porch with scroll sawn fascia, supported by built-up pierced piers. Entrance contains a six-light, two-panel door.

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Hotel Street, continued:

014 650 Hotel Street (NC)

One-story, five-bay, prefabricated frame mobile home, built ca. 1970-75. Flat roof, covered with asphalt roofing. Exterior wall surfaces have metal siding. Windows are 1/1 DH metal-frame sashes. Entrance has a three-light door.

- a. Carriage house, ca. 1870-75; altered ca. 1990. One-story, one-bay, frame single pen with additions, gable and shed roofs with box cornice and cornice returns covered with asphalt shingles, 2/2 metal frame replacement sashes, exterior plywood siding, replacement door. (NC\*)

RAILROAD STREET

015 5750 Railroad Street (C) Morton Farm

One and one-half story, three-bay, frame, double-pile cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1916. Complex hip and gable roof with plain projecting eaves, and hip-roofed cross-roof airplane, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Partial-width, gable-front porch supported by box columns on brick bases. Entrance contains a single-light, three-panel door topped with a single-light transom.

- a. Carport, ca. 1980. One-story, two-bay, pole frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal. (NC)
- b. Barn, ca. 1920. One-story, three-bay, sheet metal roofing, board and batten siding. (C)

016 5795 Railroad Street (C) Holeman Place

One and one-half story, three-bay, frame center hall cottage with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1910. Side gable roof with plain eaves, shed dormer with three 4/4 DHSL, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces have vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Full-width, shed-roofed porch supported by box columns. Entrance contains a single-light door topped with a multi-light transom and 1/2 length sidelights.

- a. Playhouse, ca. 1960. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, weatherboard siding, 2/2 DH metal frame sashes, four-panel door. (NC)

017 5825 Railroad Street (C) Colebank Farm

Two-story, three-bay, cast stone block masonry four-square with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1908. Hip roof with box cornice and hip-roofed dormer, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 2/2 DH metal frame replacement sashes. Full-

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Railroad Street, continued.

width, flat roofed replacement porch supported by wrought iron posts. Entrance contains a single-light, three-panel door.

a. Barn, ca. 1930. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable and shed roof covered with sheet metal, sheet metal siding. (C)

018 5845 Railroad Street (NC)

One-story, seven-bay, frame prefabricated mobile home, built ca. 1960. Flat roof covered with built-up asphalt roofing. Exterior walls have sheet metal siding. Windows are 2/2 DH metal-frame sashes. Entrance has a single-light door.

019 5865 Railroad Street (NC)

One-story, five-bay, brick veneered center hall cottage with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1988. Side complex gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 9/6 DH metal frame sashes. Entrance contains an oval single-light door.

020 5870 Railroad Street (NC)

One-story, four-bay, brick-veneered ranch house with Modernist Traditional influence, built in ca. 1960. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 2/2 DH metal frame sashes. Entrance contains a nine-light, two-panel replacement door.

021 5895 Railroad Street (C) Arthur Morton House

One and one-half story, four-bay frame center hall plan cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1920. Side gable roof with box cornice, gabled dormer with 6/6 DHSL, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Full-width, flat-roofed porch supported by box columns on brick bases. Entrance contains a single-light, two-panel door topped with a single-light transom.

022 5910 Railroad Street (C)

One-story, three-bay, frame center hall cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1940. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with aluminum siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Entrance contains a single-light, three-panel door.

023 5925 Railroad Street (C) Williston Baptist Church

One-story, three-bay, stucco veneered church building with Craftsman influence, built, ca. 1928. Gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Square steeple with a gablet on each face, rising to a square spire. Windows are 6/6 DHSL.

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5925 Railroad Street, continued:

Entrance covered with gabled hood supported by angle brackets, and contains a three-light replacement double-door topped with a multi-light transom.

- a. Sunday School Building, ca. 1980. One-story, three-bay, brick veneered, gable roof with asphalt shingles, 2/2 metal frame windows, single-light commercial double-door. (NC)
- b. Parsonage, ca. 1957. One-story, four-bay, brick-veneered ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, gable roof, 2/2 DH metal frame sashes, side undercut carport supported by box columns, three-light door. (NC)

024 5935 Railroad Street (C)

One-story, four-bay, frame saddlebag with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1910; side one-bay gable-roofed addition ca. 1930. Side gable roof with plain eaves, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHS. Full-width, shed-roofed porch supported by wrought iron replacement posts. Two entrances each contain single-light, three-panel doors.

025 5970 Railroad Street (C) Barron Farm House

One-story, three-bay, frame composite cottage with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1910. Complex pyramidal hip and gable roof with box cornice and enclosed gable end, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHS. Partial-width, L-plan porch supported by columns with Doric capitals. Entrance contains a single-light, three-panel door topped with a single-light transom.

- a. Garage, ca. 1920. One-story, one-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)
- b. Carriage Barn, ca. 1910. One-story, three-bay, complex gable roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)
- c. Storage Shed, ca. 1910. One-story, one-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)
- d. Equipment Shed, ca. 1910. One-story, three-bay, frame, shed roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)

026 6051 Railroad Street (NC) Country Corner Grocery

One-story, three-bay, exposed log frame commercial building, built ca. 1980. Side gable roof with exposed rafter tails, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 1/1 DH metal frame sashes. Partial-width, shed-roofed porch supported by skinned log piers. Entrance has a single-light, single-panel door.

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Railroad Street, continued.

## 027 6055 Railroad Street (NC\*) Williston Auction Barn

One-story, six-bay, frame, two-unit commercial building with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1890, modified with side one-bay addition, ca. 1960. Shed roof behind plain parapet with box cornice, covered with asphalt roofing. Exterior wall surfaces have aluminum siding. Full-width, shed roofed porch canopy supported by simple posts. Street level has two, center-door storefronts with six-light, two-panel and board and batten doors, flanked by 1/1 DHSLS. The side addition has a board and batten door.

## 028 6060 Railroad Street (C) Walker House

One-story, four-bay, frame modified T-plan cottage with Queen Anne and Colonial Revival influence, built in ca. 1900. Complex gable roof with box cornice, frieze and enclosed gable ends, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSLS. Full-width, U-plan, hip-roofed porch supported by turned posts. Entrance contains a single-light, two-panel door topped with a multi-light transom and flanked by multi-light sidelights.

## 029 6065 Railroad Street (C) Bank of Williston (U.S. Post Office)

One-story, three-bay, load-bearing brick masonry commercial building with Italianate influence, built ca. 1911-12. Flat roof behind plain parapet with sheet metal cornice and corner brackets, covered with asphalt roofing. Street level has a storefront with a center single-light replacement door topped with a single-light transom, flanked by single-light display windows above two-panel bulkheads and topped with two-light transoms. Entrance bay flanked with cast iron pilasters marked "C. L. Mesker & Co., Evansville, Ind.".

## 030 6075 Railroad Street (NC) Accent Beauty Shoppe

One-story, four-bay, brick veneer and concrete block commercial building with Neo-Victorian Revival influence, built ca. 1970-75. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Full-width, shed-roofed porch supported by turned posts with scroll sawn brackets. Street level has one large and one small multi-light display window; entrances are solid metal doors.

## 031 6110 Railroad Street (C) Parsonage, Williston Methodist Church

One-story, three-bay, frame Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1941. Side gable roof with flush eaves, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 6/6 DHSLS, some in pairs. One-bay, gable-front porch supported by paired box columns spanned by a segmental arch; one-bay undercut side porch supported by box columns. Entrance contains a multi-light door,

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Railroad Street, continued.

032 6130 Railroad Street (C) Williston Methodist Church  
One-story, three-bay, load-bearing brick masonry Akron-plan church with Gothic Revival influence, built ca. 1916. Complex hip and gable roof with closed gable ends, box cornice and frieze, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are Gothic-arched with tracery, containing stained glass lights; some are Gothic/1 DHSL with stained glass. Entrance contained in two-story square tower covered with hip roof, containing a stained glass-light, one-panel double-door topped with a Gothic arched stained glass transom.

a. Sunday School building, ca. 1960-65. One-story, three-bay, brick-veneered masonry, hip roof covered with asphalt shingles, 1/1 DHSL. (NC)

033 6275 Railroad Street (NC)  
One-story, seven-bay, frame prefabricated mobile home, built ca. 1960. Flat roof covered with built-up asphalt roofing. Exterior walls have sheet metal siding. Windows are 2/2 DH metal-frame sashes. Entrance has a single-light door.

034 6430 Railroad Street (NC)  
One-story, three-bay, frame double-pile cottage with no influence, built in ca. 1960. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with asbestos siding. Windows are 2/2 DH metal frame sashes. Entrance has a single-light door.

**WALKER AVENUE** (a.k.a. Macon Road, Tennessee Highway 193)

035 15130 Walker Avenue (C) former Methodist Church Parsonage  
One-story, three-bay, center hall plan cottage with added Craftsman influence, built ca. 1879 and modified ca. 1910-15. Side gable roof with box cornice and cornice returns, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 6/6 and 2/2 DH metal-frame replacement sashes. Partial-width, hip-roofed porch supported by battered box piers raised on brick bases. Entrance has a three-light, one-panel door flanked by 1/2 length multi-light sidelights.

036 15160 Walker Avenue (C) Parker House  
Two-story, three-bay, frame I-house variant with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1900-05. Hip roof with gabled vents and box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Partial-width, hip and flat roofed porch supported by brick piers. Entrance contains a single-light door topped by a two-light transom and flanked by 1/2 length multi-light sidelights.

a. Barn, ca. 1920-25. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable and shed roofs covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding. (C)

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Walker Avenue, continued.

## 037 15205 Walker Avenue (C) Morton House

One-story, three-bay, frame composite cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1914. Complex hip and gable roofs with enclosed gable ends, gable dormer, and box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Partial-width, hip roofed porch supported by battered box piers on brick bases. Front and porch side entrances contain single-light doors.

a. Garage, ca. 1950-55. One-story, two-bay, frame, hip roof covered with asphalt shingles, exterior plywood siding. (NC)

b. Shed, ca. 1950-55. One-story, one-bay, frame, hip roof covered with asphalt shingles, exterior plywood siding. (NC)

## 038 15245 Walker Avenue (NC)

One-story, four-bay, brick-veneered Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1962. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 6/6 DHSL, some in pairs. One-bay, gable-front porch supported by wrought iron posts; side two-bay carport supported by wrought iron posts. Entrance contains a three-light door.

## 039 15265 Walker Avenue (NC)

One-story, three-bay, brick-veneered Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1950-55; side, two-bay carport extension ca. 1970-75, partially enclosed. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Windows are 2/2 DH metal frame sashes. One-bay, undercut porch beside gable-front vestibule, supported by wrought iron replacement posts. Front and side entrances contain solid doors.

## 040 15295 Walker Avenue (C)

One and one-half story, four-bay, frame composite cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1910-15. Complex hip and gable roof, with hip and gable dormers and box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with aluminum siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL, some in pairs. Partial-width, L-plan, hip-roofed porch supported by battered box piers on brick bases. Front and side porch entrances contain single-light doors.

a. Garage, ca. 1910, altered ca. 1950-55. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable and shed roofs covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding, carport extension to front. (NC)



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Walker Avenue, continued.

## 041 15300 Walker Avenue (NC)

One-story, three-bay, frame Cape with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1945-50; modified with side gable, two-bay carport extension ca. 1980. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 6/6 DHSL. One-bay, gable-front porch supported by wrought iron replacement posts. Entrance contains a six-panel door.

## 042 15360 Walker Avenue (C) Crawford General Store NRHP 7/8/1975

One-story, three-bay, frame commercial building with Italianate influence, built ca. 1860, with side, one-story, three-bay side addition with Italianate influence, built ca. 1865-70. Gable and shed roofs behind plain parapet with cornice and paired brackets, covered with sheet metal. Full-width, hip-roofed porch canopy supported by plain posts with angle brackets. Street level has two, center door storefronts with original sixteen-light fixed display windows, single-panel bulkheads, six-light, one-panel double doors and multi-light transoms.

a. Former Williston Depot, ca. 1855. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, board and batten siding, board and batten doors. Discontinued for use by the Southern Railroad, sold and moved from the Town Square area to this site ca.1900 for use as a storage building. (C)

## 043 15465 Walker Avenue (C)

One-story, three-bay, frame cubical cottage with Craftsman influence, built ca. 1912. Hip roof with hip dormer and exposed rafter tails, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior walls covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 1/1 DHSL. Full-width, undercut porch supported by wrought iron replacement posts. Entrance contains a single-light, single-panel door.

a. Storage Shed, ca. 1920. One-story, two-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, Masonite siding, five-panel door. (C)

## 044 15485 Walker Avenue (NC)

One-story, four-bay, frame ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1980. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with vinyl siding. Windows are 6/6 DH metal-frame sashes, some in pairs. Full-width, undercut porch supported by turned posts. Entrance contains an oval single-light door.

## 045 15535 Walker Avenue (NC)

One-story, three-bay, frame ranch house with Colonial Revival influence, built ca. 1985. Side gable roof with box cornice, covered with asphalt shingles. Exterior wall surfaces covered with exterior plywood siding. Partial-width, gable-front porch

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15535 Walker Avenue, continued.

supported by box columns. Windows are 2/2 DH metal frame sashes. Entrance contains a single-light door.

a. Barn, ca. 1985. One-story, three-bay, frame, gable roof covered with sheet metal, sheet metal siding. (NC)

046 General Landscape Characteristics (C)

The district possesses notable characteristics of its landscape which greatly contribute to its integrity of setting. These characteristics include landscape elements in the public domain, such as narrow, gently curving roadways lined with shallow, grassy ditches and embankments; the absence of poured-in-placed curbs and gutters, concrete sidewalks, stoplights and similar urban "improvements" is a notable trait in itself, reinforcing the rural character of this community. Landscape characteristics in the private domain include: boundary features (board and barbed wire fences, hedgerows), landforms (embankments, lawn terraces, ponds, creeks, wooded areas, meadows, low hills); farm/work complex features (barn yards, stock pens, orchards, pecan groves, crop fields, grazing pastures); circulation networks (paved and unpaved drives, walkways, laneways, farm roads); and, residential features, such as mature yard trees (such as oaks, maples, sycamore, tulip poplar and cedars), ornamental plantings (evergreen shrubs, ornamental shrubs, flowering plants), and vegetable gardens.

Another important feature of the district is the former railroad bed of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad spur line, which is still a visible feature which roughly divides the community into halves east and west. Large portions of the railroad embankment and/or road cut are still visible through the community. The contribution of these elements to the diverse character of setting are counted as one single contributing site in the overall count of the district's resources.

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Williston, Fayette County, TN**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Williston Historic District is being nominated for listing upon the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in areas of exploration/settlement, and architecture.

Under criterion A in the area of exploration/settlement, the Williston Historic District possesses significance for its ability to demonstrate the broad patterns in the history of settlement in Fayette County during the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries. The community's development can be traced to the late 1830s and early 1840s, at the time when the forests of Fayette County were being cleared for the development of massive cotton farms. The development of the Memphis & Charleston spur line through Williston to Somerville in ca. 1852-53 lays testimony to the value of the cotton crop and political importance of the planters of Fayette County in the regional economy of West Tennessee. Though Williston never became a large community, resources in the district represent its growth and maturity as a small trade center and rail head, serving the needs of the surrounding farms in the cotton-based economy of the latter-half of the nineteenth century and its decline in the early decades of the twentieth century.

Under criterion C in the area of architecture, the Williston Historic District possesses significance for its notable collection of traditional house types and styles. The building types and architectural styles in evidence in Williston reflect fashions in architectural taste during periods of economic boom in Fayette County. The buildings of the community are significantly enhanced by their historic setting, where large-lots, open fields and small farm complexes reflect qualities of a rural landscape.

The early history of the development of Williston as a community can be traced to the establishment of large-scale farms in the area by Henry Willis (n.d.), Job Walker (1786-1851) and Franklin Crawford (n.d.). The Willis and Walker farms were roughly divided north and south by the Macon Road (Walker Avenue); the establishment of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad spur line through the Williston area generally divided both the Willis and Walker farms east and west (Crawford 1995). In the early 1850s, post offices were established at Willis Station and at Walker Station, which were combined soon after as a single post office called "Williston". This place name in general use by 1857 (Ayres 1858:24), though references to "Willis' Station" persisted as late as 1869 (Freeland 1990:8.2)

The importance of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad spur through Williston cannot be understated. As early as 1835, the planning for the ill-fated LaGrange and Memphis Railroad was intended to connect the new and rich farm lands of the lands south of the Wolf River in Tennessee and Mississippi with the brokerage houses of Front Row

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in Memphis (Cotton Row Historic District NR 8/1/79). In spite of massive capitalization of the railroad by the landed interests of LaGrange (LaGrange H. D., NR 4/4/75), to the south of Williston, and entrepreneurs like John C. McLemore (1790-1864) of Memphis, the railroad completed but seven miles of track before going bankrupt, a result of the financial panic of 1837 (Weaver 1990:23-24). With the renewal of interest in establishing a great railroad link between the Mississippi River and the Atlantic Ocean that followed the Commercial Convention of 1845, the Memphis & Charleston Railroad opened in 1857, completing the task begun by the LaGrange and Memphis Railroad two decades before (Harkins 1982:60-61). The spur line was completed in 1853, not to serve only cotton farms of the area surrounding LaGrange, but also the equally important farms which had developed north of the Wolf River in the areas surrounding Williston and Somerville, the county seat.

The small station at Williston was the only regular stop for the railroad in Fayette County between Somerville and Moscow, its terminus and connection with the main line of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. Its location at the intersection of the Somerville-LaGrange Road and the Macon Road, the only east-west road leading to Memphis, caused Williston to develop as a modest trade center for the surrounding farms. Though described as merely a post office in 1860 (Mitchell 1860:312), Williston was able to boast about 150 residents in 1876, along with "a Methodist church, an academy and a number of artisan's shops" in the area surrounding its small depot (Polk 1876:400-401). Among these were the W. H. Crawford & Co. General Store (#042), the Deener & Dobbins grocery, the S.E. Gaither dry goods store, the Wilson Hotel, the Wilson grocery and liquor store, J.S. Skidmore's furniture store and undertaker's parlor, the wagon making shop of J.Q. Somers, and the smithy of J. Tomlinson. Most of these businesses were located in Williston's small commercial district, in the place of existing businesses or on the currently vacant lot to its immediate north.

Williston's cluster of merchants served both its community and the much larger farms which surrounded the town on all sides. Among these were the Walker and Crawford families (joined by a marriage in the 1850s), who owned the 328 acre "Crawford's Experiment Farm" on Hotel Street (#004), among other farmlands, who were mainstays of the community throughout the nineteenth century-- a role that continues to this day for the family. The Experiment Farm was responsible for producing locally-significant improvements in agricultural science and production, including high-yield cotton and corn crops (Freeland 1990:8.3). Other families like the Gaithers, the Mortons the Wilsons and others joined the Walkers and Crawfords as merchants, farmers, or both. Some of these families maintained small farms at the edge of the settlement, while the Walkers and Crawfords maintained a small amount of acreage in the town and worked larger farms in the outlying areas beyond Williston (Crawford, 1995).

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The first three decades of Williston's growth are still well-represented in the surviving building stock of the community. Apart from the Crawford's Experimental Farm (ca. 1848-49) and the Crawford General Store (ca. 1860), other surviving properties include the Iverson Walker Farm (ca. 1855-60, #001), the William N. Crawford House (ca. 1865-70, #011), the Dr. Lynch House (ca. 1870-75, #013), and the former Methodist Church Parsonage (ca. 1879, #035) are reasonably well-preserved examples of center hall cottages, saddlebag cottages and side L-plan cottages built commonly in this period. The Hugh F. Crawford House (ca. 1850, #003) also survives from this period, though it was greatly altered with the addition of a second floor in ca. 1910-15.

The growth of Williston as a community and as a trade center reached a point of equilibrium by the ca. 1880s, and actually began to decline slightly in population from this point through the end of the 1930s. The population stabilized at about one hundred residents from ca. 1890 through ca. 1930. The leveling of growth and the reduction in population in Williston was reflective of to the region-wide decline of cotton-based agriculture at the end of the century, and the adaptation by large-scale farmers from small-field production to mechanized, large-field production beginning in the 1910s. The devastating effects of the boll weevil were felt beginning in the late 1880s in West Tennessee, resulting in the heavy devastation of the cotton crop by ca. 1920. At the same time, the tenant farm system was beginning its slow decline, as mechanization allowed farmers to raise crops on larger fields by employing fewer people. Diversification of crops from cotton to other cash crops, such as soybeans and wheat, and the development of livestock production, including dairying and cattle ranching, helped to stabilize the local farm economy, though at more modest levels than in previous decades. Evidence of this transformation can be seen in the landscape of the Morton Farm (#015; 5750 Railroad Street), with its ca. 1935 erosion control ponds and the notable lack of hedgerows between fields. Outside of the perimeter of the house lot and a small creek flowing across the axis of the land, the organizational pattern of the farm is provided only by barbed wire fences separating pastures from the crop fields.

All of these changes in the dynamics of the local economy were felt in Williston and are reflected in its building stock. Some merchants and farmers were able to prosper amidst change if they were able to adapt. Williston experienced something of a modest building boom in the period of ca. 1900 to ca. 1930, as evidenced by the number of the structures surviving today from this period. Examples of buildings surviving from this later period of Williston's development include the Dr. John Crawford House (ca. 1912, #007), the Morton House (575 Hotel Street, ca. 1918, #010), 5750 Railroad Street (ca. 1916, #015), 5795 Railroad Street, #016), the Walker House (ca. 1900, #028), and 15465 Walker Avenue (ca. 1912, #043). The Williston Methodist Church (ca. 1916, #032) and the Williston Baptist Church (ca. 1928, #023) are good examples of small town churches from this period and represent the level of prosperity in the Williston community at this time.

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Some of the Williston families, such as the Walkers, were able to prosper through the sale of remote rural farm lands as well as "in-town" lots. The Barron House (ca. 1910, #025) is a well-preserved example of one of these small farmsteads, carved out of a larger lots by the Walker family. Other Williston families who owned outlying cotton farms sold their properties and moved to town to farm smaller places, more convenient to the railroad and to Williston's academy. The Bank of Williston (#029), begun in 1911-12 and financed by local residents, was able to spur local investment in the growth of the community until its collapse during the Great Depression (Crawford 1995). The onset of the Great Depression caused the closing of the rail spur line to Moscow, having been effectively replaced in ca. 1932 as a transportation route by State Highway 76, connecting Moscow with Somerville (Crawford 1995).

Patterns of Land Division

The history of Williston's development through time is reflected in its land division pattern, which remains as an important aspect of its significance as a rural community. The pattern of historical land division, which includes surviving parts of large-scale farms, small-scale farms, and individual residential-scale lots, are all integral parts of this character.

Prior to ca. 1850, when Williston was first settled by the Walker, Crawford and Willis families, the Macon Road extended into the area from the west, turning north on what is now Allen Road, running east on Hotel Street to approximately the intersection with Railroad Street, and then north and east with railroad street until it crossed State Highway 76 (See Map 1). The Macon Road continued east for approximately one mile until it joined the Somerville to Moscow Road, a roadway now largely abandoned (Crawford 1995). The lands to the south and west of today's Walker Avenue and Railroad Street formed the Willis Farm; north of Walker Avenue and east of the northern portion of Railroad Street was purchased by Franklin Crawford in 1848 (Deed Book N:405). To the east of the railroad was the Iverson Walker Farm, extending north and south of Walker Avenue. As a roadway, Walker Avenue from its intersection with Allen Road running east to the railroad was established after ca. 1852-53. Walker Avenue east of the railroad was not opened until ca. 1900. Hotel Street to the east of the railroad was originally a drive leading to the Iverson Walker and Hugh F. Crawford houses (#001 and 003); it was extended as street to connect with Walker Avenue after ca. 1900.

Beginning in ca. 1850-55, the Williston area began to be divided into smaller tracts as land speculators were drawn to the area by the pending development of the railroad (see Map 2). The Walker family retained its land holdings to the east of the railroad north and south of Walker Avenue, with the exception of a three-acre parcel across Hotel Street from the Iverson Walker Farm, which had been purchased and developed with a house by Hugh F. Crawford in ca. 1850 (Crawford 1995).

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Devotion Davis, one of the speculators, had purchased a strip of land off the north end of the Willis Farm fronting the south line of Walker Avenue to the west of the railroad. Another speculator, George W. Morris, had acquired the rectangular block bound by Allen Road, Hotel Street, the railroad and Walker Avenue in ca. 1855. Over the next two decades, both Davis and Morris sold subdivided portions of these properties to tradesmen and merchants who sought to move to the new commercial center developing around the railroad at Williston.

By ca. 1870, the nucleus of the Williston community and its subdivision pattern were partially established (see Map 3). The Morris and Davis properties had been divided into an irregular pattern of lots ranging in size from 0.05 to approximately 5.0 acres; re-subdivisions of a few of these parcels occurred later in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The commercial lots facing railroad between Walker Avenue and Hotel Street are survivors of this period. The Dr. Lynch House at 635 Hotel Street (#013) is one of the surviving houses built in ca. 1870 by the community's first doctor on one of the larger lots in the Morris subdivision area. The vacant 3.0 acre parcel facing Walker Avenue immediately to the west of 15300 Walker Avenue (#041) was purchased from Devotion Davis by John Tomlinson for his small farm and homesite in ca. 1870; Tomlinson is recorded as the town's blacksmith in 1876 (Polk 1876:400-401), which he operated on this site. This site is now vacant of structures and is overgrown, but it does retain evidence of its house site and outbuildings, fences, and hedgerows, thus retaining integrity of its landscape elements.

The Crawford and Walker families also subdivided portions of their holdings in this period. However, the pattern of division of these lands was slightly different than the wholesale approach carried out by Morris and Davis. Divisions of the Crawford and Walker tracts separated valuable small lots facing the roads and streets of the community, but larger fields lying to the rear were retained by the families for their cotton farming activities. By example, a portion of the Hotel Street frontage of the Crawford's Experiment Farm was sold or deeded by gift to William N. Crawford for the development of his homesite in ca. 1865-70 (600 Hotel Street, #011), as was the lot for the Dr. George Patterson Home, on the site of 650 Hotel Street (#014).

The Walker family created similar out parcels along main roads, including the two lots facing Railroad Street north of the Hugh F. Crawford House (290 Hotel Street, #003). The vacant parcel immediately to the north was sold and developed for the Williston Academy in ca. 1870; the parcel to its north (6340 Railroad Street, #034) was the site of the John Crawford House, also built in ca. 1870 (Crawford 1995). Though neither of these buildings remains today, their sites retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the community's historic pattern of land division. It should be noted at this point that vacant parcels like the John Crawford House, the John Tomlinson House site, the Dr. Patterson House site and others, serve as important parts of the rural landscape of the district but have not been evaluated

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for their archaeological significance, though features of their development (building piers, wells, gardens, orchards, etc.) remain recognizable today.

The pace of change in the development of the land pattern of Williston cooled somewhat over the period of ca. 1880 to ca. 1900 with the decline in cotton-based agriculture. A new period of development did not begin again until ca. 1900, when the viability of the rural economy was revived. At this time, the heirs of the of the early Walker and Crawford families, notably Thomas A. Crawford, began again to subdivide portions of their farm holdings for sale to the next generation of new residents in the Williston community. Following the extensions of Hotel Street and Walker Avenue to their intersection near State Highway 76, the former Walker Farm south of the new portion of Walker Avenue and east of Railroad Street was sold in parcels ranging from 1.0 to 25 acres. The Crawford family also sold off portions of its property facing Hotel Street, as did the Willis family heirs with their property along the west side of Railroad Street. Some of these smaller lots created in this new period included the Dr. John Crawford House lot at 520 Hotel Street (#007) in ca. 1912, and the Walker House lot at 6060 Railroad Avenue (#028); and the Morton House lot at 15205 Walker Avenue (#037), resulting from the re-subdivision of an earlier, larger lot in this block.

The break-up of the large Walker and Willis holdings also created small farm lots ranging up in size from 5.0 to about 25.0 acres. The smaller farms added to the previous landscape character of the community with more intensively-developed land patterns in the areas surrounding house and barn lots. A well-preserved example of this land use pattern is the Barron House and Farm developed in ca. 1910 (5970 Railroad Street, #025), which retains four principal barns and outbuildings, fruit groves and pecan orchards, barn lots and house gardens. Pastures and farm fields historically associated with this farm are located well to the rear of the property, adjacent to and behind neighboring properties subdivided facing road frontages. Another example of the small farm of this period, though not as well-preserved, is the Colebank Farm at 5825 Railroad Street (#017). This property retains its house lot, one of its original barns, its barn lot, pecan grove, and field fence lines, though the field areas themselves are becoming overgrown with brush due to neglect. A third example is the Morton Farm located at 5750 Railroad Street (#015), developed in ca. 1916. Informant evidence suggests that this farm was developed for small-scale cattle ranching and cotton production, related as well to leased fields outside of Williston in the surrounding countryside (Crawford 1995). The character of this farm is different than its neighbors, in that there are no barns, orchards, or barn lots, and there were likely none originally. However, fence lines, stock ponds, and other features of this landscape remain in place on the remainder of the property.



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The prosperity of the ca. 1900-1920 period in Williston again tailed off during the Great Depression, and the character of the town and its related agrarian landscapes became to change once more. There have been re-subdivisions of formerly larger lots (e.g.: #008, 545 Hotel Street and #006, 505 Hotel Street); farms and some earlier home places have gone out of existence and a few have seen newer houses raised on their sites (e.g.: #038, 15245 Walker Avenue and #039, 15265 Walker Avenue). In spite of these changes, the integrity of the landscape remains legible as a significant part of Williston's character of place and setting. Significant portions of the landscape which made up the Crawford's Experiment Farm and the Walker Farm remain readable, including the divisions of their house lots from barn lots, laneways, hedgerows and field lines. Large portions of the Walker Farm remain marked on the land and on property tax maps as separate parcels, though the title to the land itself has been re-assembled by various inheritances under the ownership of the descendants of the Walker and Crawford families. The houses, outbuildings, field divisions, hedgerows and other landmarks of the earliest large-scale farms remain represented in the community, along with the small house lots subdivided from them in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

The landscape also still retains the mark of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad spur line, best represented by the vacant depot strip in front of the town's commercial strip and a linear strip of land deeded to private ownership after the railroad closed in ca. 1930 (6275 Railroad Street, #033). Though no longer marked on any map, the railroad embankment remains as a landform feature in front of the properties along the west side of Railroad Street to the south of Walker Avenue. Evidence of the later uses of the land also remain preserved in the form of small house lots early twentieth century small farm enterprises. Some of these farms remain in use today, others lie fallow but with recognizable features that shaped their landscapes.

Today, Williston is experiencing another period of growth which is resulting in the restoration of neglected properties and new opportunities for the redevelopment of important features of the town long past, such as its commercial district. Recognition by National Register listing of the importance of this rural place and the important aspects of its landscape will increase awareness and appreciation of its value to the history of Fayette County and the State of Tennessee as a whole.

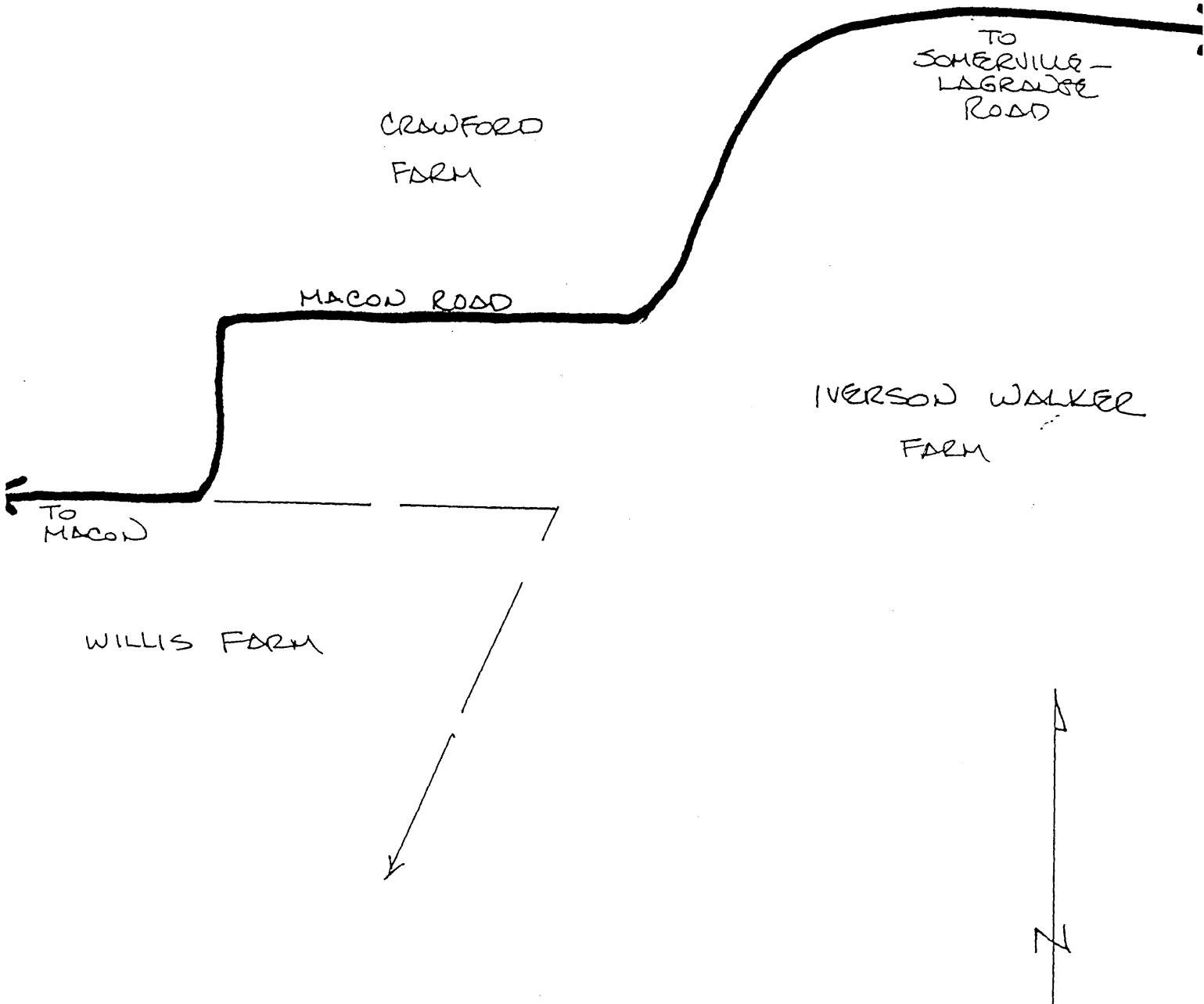
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MAP 1

Road and Land Pattern  
Williston, Tennessee  
Ca. 1840-50



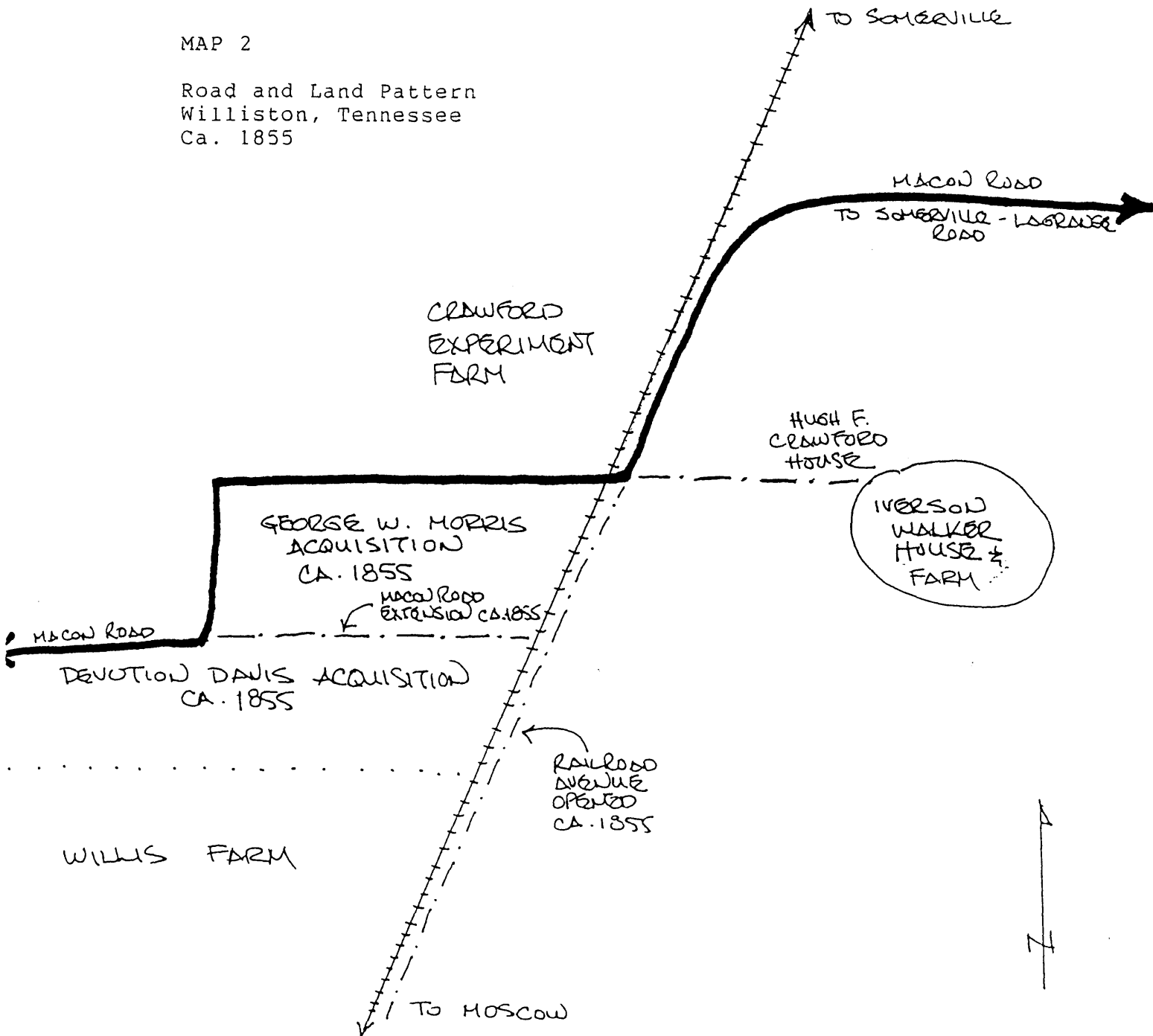
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MAP 2

Road and Land Pattern  
Williston, Tennessee  
Ca. 1855



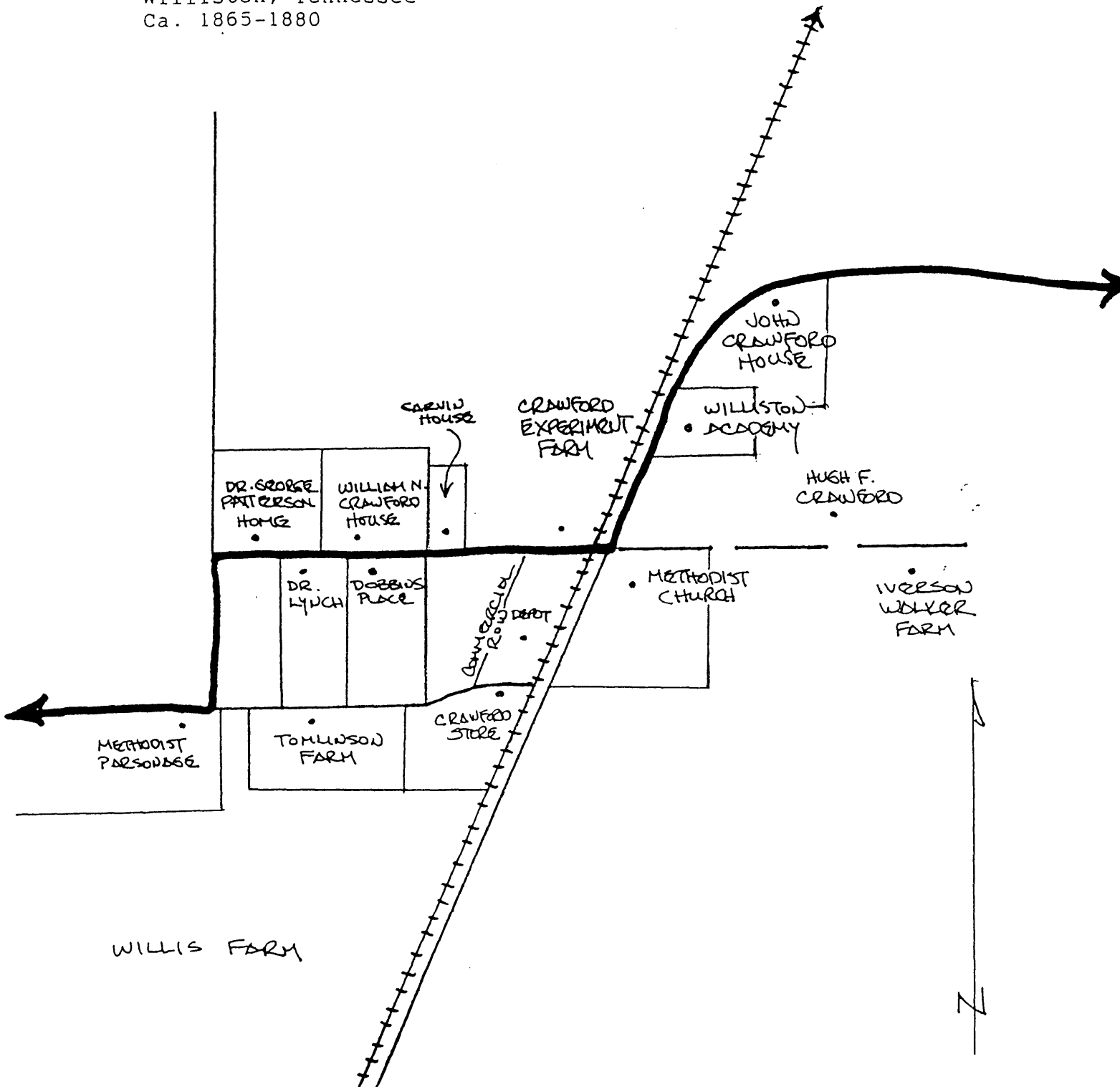
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MAP 3

Road and Land Pattern  
Williston, Tennessee  
Ca. 1865-1880



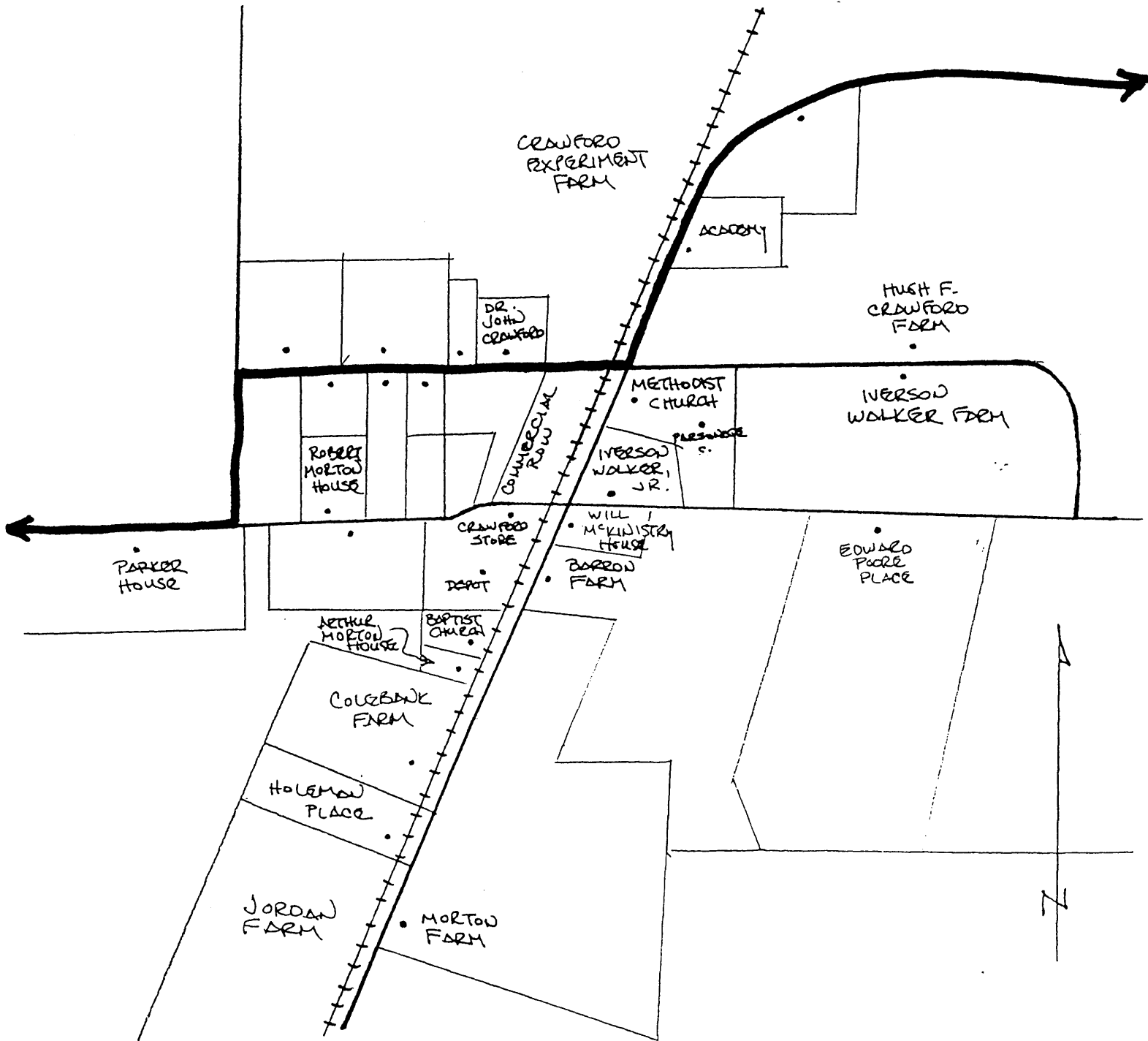
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MAP 4

Road and Land Pattern  
Williston, Tennessee  
Ca. 1900-1930



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Personal Communications

- 1995 Anne Crawford, Williston, TN

(8-86)

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**10. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION****Verbal Boundary Description**

The property proposed for nomination is an irregularly-shaped area, containing small town lots as well as larger farm areas, as delineated by a dashed, heavy black line on the attached copies of Fayette County Tax Maps 117, 117P, 118, 118M, 129, 129D, 130 and 130A.

**Boundary Justification**

The property proposed for nomination contains the largest concentration of properties historically associated with the development of Williston, Tennessee during its period of historical significance. The features of these properties are not limited to extant structures alone, but include important elements of character and integrity which support the significance of individual properties and the community as a whole as a rural landscape. There are properties which contain modern intrusions; however, the newer houses are small in scale and are the same scale as historic structures in the district. The intrusionary buildings affect the integrity of only a tiny percentage of the landscape they occupy. Examples of this are #034, 6340 Railroad Street, the former site of the John Crawford House, and #033, 6275 Railroad Street, a portion of the original right-of-way for the Memphis & Charleston Railroad spur line. Significant landscape features remain on these properties including the internal divisional patterns of house and barn lots, field lines, hedgerows, laneways and stock ponds.

Vacant parcels within the district, particularly those near the perimeter, are either the sites of former farmsteads which still retain significant elements of their land use pattern, or are outlying fields and pastures associated with an adjacent farm complex. Examples of the former are the Tomlinson Farm site on Walker Avenue, which has lost its original buildings but retains the elements of the landscape which define its organizational pattern, such as the plantings of the house lot and the fences and hedgerows which defined its barn lots and field patterns. An example of the latter is the Crawford's Experiment Farm (#004, 420 Hotel Street) and its outlying farm fields to the north and west. Though no longer under the same ownership, related elements of the original farm landscape, such as laneways and hedgerows, lead from the farm center to the outlying fields; the outlying field pattern itself retains other features which support the integrity of this landscape, such as hedgerows, wood lots, stock ponds and field lanes. These patterns of the land and land use all retain integrity and support the significance of Williston as a rural community and its related rural landscape.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Williston Historic District  
Williston, Fayette County, Tennessee  
Photos by: Marsha R. Oates  
Date: January, 1995  
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tennessee

Photo 1 of 16

View of the Iverson Walker Farm house (65 Hotel Street, #001), looking generally south from Hotel Street.

Photo 2 of 16

View of the Crawford House (290 Hotel Street, #003), looking generally northwest towards the Crawford's Experiment Farm (420 Hotel Street, #004).

Photo 3 of 16

View of Hotel Street from the original site of the Williston Depot, looking generally northwest towards the Dr. John Crawford House (520 Hotel Street, #007) at center, and the Garvin House (560 Hotel Street, #009) at left.

Photo 4 of 16

View of the Dr. John Crawford House (520 Hotel Street, #007), looking generally northwest from Railroad Street.

Photo 5 of 16

View of the William N. Crawford House (600 Hotel Street, #011), looking generally northwest from Hotel Street.

Photo 6 of 16

View of the Crawford General Store (15360 Walker Avenue, #042), looking generally west along Walker Avenue from its intersection with Railroad Street.

Photo 7 of 16

View of the commercial area of Williston, looking generally north from the porch of the Crawford General Store, with the Bank of Williston (6065 Railroad Street, #029) at left, 6075 Railroad Street (#030) at left center.

Photo 8 of 16

View of the eastern center of Williston from the porch of the Crawford General Store, looking northeast across the intersection of Walker Avenue and Railroad Street toward the Walker House (6060 Railroad Street, #028) at right, the Parsonage of the Williston Methodist Church (6110 Railroad Street, #031) at center, and the Williston Methodist Church (6130 Railroad Street, #032) at far left.



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PHOTOGRAPHS, continued:

Photo 9 of 16

View north along Railroad Street through the intersection with Walker Avenue, which closely parallels the original Memphis & Charleston Railroad bed to the left. The Crawford's Experiment Farm (420 Hotel Street, #004) is shown to the left of center.

Photo 10 of 16

View of the Walker House (6060 Railroad Street, #028), looking generally northwest from Walker Avenue.

Photo 11 of 16

View along the northern side of Walker Avenue from its intersection with Railroad Street, with the Walker House (6060 Railroad Street, #028) at left, and 15465 Walker Avenue (#043) at center.

Photo 12 of 16

View of the Barron House (5970 Railroad Street, #025), looking generally east from Railroad Street.

Photo 13 of 16

View of the Williston Baptist Church (5925 Railroad Street, #023), looking generally northwest from Railroad Street.

Photo 14 of 16

View of 5825 Railroad Street (#017), looking southwest from Railroad Street.

Photo 15 of 16

View of 5795 Railroad Street (#016), looking generally west from Railroad Street.

Photo 16 of 16

View of 5750 Railroad Street (#015), looking generally east from Railroad Street.

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WILLISTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Williston Historic District  
Williston, Fayette County, Tennessee  
Photos by: John Linn Hopkins  
Date: July, 1995  
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tennessee

Photo 17 of 29

View of the former Memphis & Charleston Railroad bed, looking north. Though abandoned since the ca. 1930s, the contribution of the rail line to the landscape of the district and its land divisional pattern is well-preserved in this former portion of the right-of-way.

Photo 18 of 29

View of the northern portion of Railroad Street, with the former railroad right-of-way adjacent to the right, looking south towards the town center from 6275 Railroad Street (#033), visible at far right.

Photo 19 of 29

View of the outlying fields of the Crawford's Experiment Farm, looking west across the former railroad right-of-way from Railroad Street.

Photo 20 of 29

View of general streetscape characteristics of the south side of Hotel Street, looking from 635 Hotel Street (#013, right) to 605 Hotel Street (#012, left).

Photo 21 of 29

View of the side, rear yard and vegetable garden areas of the William N. Crawford House (#011, 600 Hotel Street), looking north from Hotel Street. The tree line at left marks the western boundary of the lot; the tree line to the right runs beside the house and continues on alignment into the outlying fields of the Crawford's Experiment Farm, visible in the background. The tree line along the yard represents the location of a former fence line. The side yard was used cooperatively by the Crawford family as additional pasture land for the Crawford's Experiment Farm.

Photo 22 of 29

View of 470 Hotel Street (#005), looking north east from Hotel Street. This modern intrusion to the district was built in a portion of the side yard of the Crawford's Experiment Farm house lot. Great care was taken to preserve the existing trees on the lot, thus diminishing the visual impact of the newer structure on the surrounding area.

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Photo 23 of 29

View of the Morton Farm (#015, 5750 Railroad Street), looking south from Railroad Street. The organization of the house and barn lots as the farm center is well-preserved, as are the small pastures adjacent to the house along the road frontage. The tree line at left delineates a creek running through the property, which separates the pastures and farm center from the large fields of crops, located to the east of the creek away from its road frontage.

Photo 24 of 29

View of the alignment of Walker Avenue looking east towards the Crawford Store (#042, 15360 Walker Avenue) from a rise to the west of the town center. The gentle curve of the roadway in this location is evidence of the termination of the roadway at the town center; the road was not extended to the east of the railroad until ca. 1900.

Photo 25 of 29

View of 15265 Walker Avenue (#039), looking north from Walker Avenue.

Photo 26 of 29

View of the Parker House (#036, 15160 Walker Avenue), looking south from Walker Avenue.

Photo 27 of 29

View of the former Methodist Parsonage (#035, 15130 Walker Avenue), looking generally south from Walker Avenue.

Photo 28 of 29

View of the pasture for the Parker House property (#036, 15160 Walker Avenue), looking south from the rear garden area. Though stock barns are no longer extant for this small farm, portions of the field pattern and hedgerows remain well-defined.

Photo 29 of 29

View of the stock pond for the Parker House farm, located to the rear of the house lot. The hedgerow visible on the right edge of the photograph separates the house lot from the former pasture areas.

ROAD

STATE

17.02  
10.02  
IAC

17.03

10.01  
IAC

39

17.01

17.0

IAC  
Crew

16.79 AC

8.03  
3 AC

8.05  
2 AC

8.04  
95 AC

