

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

DEC 2 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. 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. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ashwood Rural Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number roughly between Columbia and Mt. Pleasant N/A not for publication  
city, town Columbia X vicinity  
state Tennessee code TN county Maury code 119 zip code 38402

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	150	77 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	20	4 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	31	18 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	1	0 objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	202	99 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 21

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.  
Signature of certifying official *Herbert L. Lipe* Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission Date 12/20/88  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:)  
*Beth A. Savage* 2-10-89  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellingDOMESTIC/secondary structureAGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuildingRELIGION/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellingDOMESTIC/secondary structureAGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuildingRELIGION/religious structure**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek RevivalGothic RevivalLATE VICTORIAN

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICKwalls BRICK; Weatherboardroof METALother STONE; WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is located four miles from downtown Columbia (pop. 26,561), Tennessee and encompasses approximately 8,300 acres of southern Middle Tennessee farm land and several hundred historic structures. Settled in the first decade of the nineteenth century, this fertile land with its forests, springs, and streams attracted men who developed substantial plantation operations and established a sphere of political and socio-economic influence that dominated the area well into the next century. The same land that attracted the settlers provided the raw materials needed to build their homes and other buildings associated with the plantation economy. Limestone for foundations and chimneys; red cedar for shingles; yellow poplar, oak, ash, and pine for framing, floors and trim; cherry and walnut for fine trim; and an abundance of clay for brick making all were and are available in abundant supply. Boundaries were marked by fences whose lines have been maintained through the years and are visible today. Interaction among neighbors (and families who settled) near each other resulted in the development of roads and lanes that are still used. A prominent feature of the district is U.S Highway 43 which has its origins in the toll road built by a stock company comprised of the landowners in the Ashwood community area. The road is only one of the reminders of the lasting economic influence of those who developed this area.

This historic rural landscape has survived with many of its significant natural and man-made features intact including historic plantation homes and outbuildings, fields in agricultural production for over 150 years, springs, creeks, fences, plantation roads, ponds, and gardens. Since the primary use of this land continues to be agricultural, the ambience of the area, with its scenes of cultivated fields and livestock, continues to be much the same as it was during the nineteenth century with the exception of the intrusion of automobiles and modern farming techniques and machines. Elements of architecture, agriculture, and the transportation system survive from every period of development, so that this district is a microcosm of history and development in this rural part of Middle Tennessee.

The richness of the land attracted men of resources to settle it, build upon it, and invest their lives in improving and conserving it. The culture they established is still evident today in the types of buildings

 See continuation sheet

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

MILITARY

RELIGION

COMMERCE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ETHNIC HERITAGE-BLACK

Period of Significance

1808-1941

Significant Dates

NA

Cultural Affiliation

19th Century Anglo-American

19th Century- Afro-American

Significant Person

Pillow, Gideon Jr.; Polk, Lucius;

Polk, Leonidas

Architect/Builder

Vaught, Nathan; Gholson, Anthony;

Hughes, W.T.; Armstrong, Gad;

various

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

### INTRODUCTION

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is nominated under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D for both local and state significance. The district is a remarkably intact area of antebellum plantation residences which retain their original site, setting, associations and much of their nineteenth century landscape characteristics. Resources included in the nomination illustrate the agricultural, architectural, cultural and general historical development of the district from 1808 through 1941.

This district, named after the community of Ashwood, represents the height of the antebellum plantation economy in Tennessee. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Maury County was the richest in per capita wealth in all Tennessee and had the second largest population of any Middle Tennessee county. The Ashwood Rural Historic District reflects the prosperity and good fortune of the planters and contains many of the historic cultural resources associated with this period. The district retains its basic spatial arrangements dating from the period of establishment of the great farms. Boundary lines, fields, woodlands, and meadows still follow patterns from this period. This timeless landscape is an important cultural resource to Maury County, the most intact remnant of the once great belts of the county's highly developed plantation farms.

The main houses of the great plantations represent some of the finest architecture in Tennessee. Six of these are very large brick houses: three built for the Pillow family - Clifton Place, Pillow-Bethel House, and Pillow Place; Samuel Henry Armstrong's house, Pine Hill, to the north, and two of the surviving Polk family mansions, Lucius Junius Polk's Hamilton Place and George Washington Polk's Rattle and Snap.

A number of the frame houses are also significant to Ashwood and the county in architecture. These range from large frame farmhouses embellished with elements of the Queen Anne and Italianate styles to early twentieth century buildings.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # TN 62 & 63
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property approximately 8300 acres

UTM References

A 

1	6
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4	8	9	7	9	0
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3	9	3	8	8	6	0
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Zone      Easting                  Northing

C 

1	6
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4	8	6	7	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	3	2	8	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B 

1	6
---	---

4	9	4	2	0	0
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3	9	3	6	1	1	0
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Zone      Easting                  Northing

D 

1	6
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4	8	5	8	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	3	2	9	1	0
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See continuation sheet

Columbia 57SW, Mt. Pleasant 57SE

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is bounded generally on the north by Ashwood Road, Old Zion Lane, and the CSXT Railroad; on the east by Thomas Lane, Sunnyside Lane, and Little Bigby Creek; on the south by Trousdale Lane and the Isbell Branch of Quality Creek; and on the west by Hoover-Mason Road and Canaan Road. See map.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard Quin, Philip Thomason, Wallace Hebert, Paul Cross

organization So. Central Tn. Development District date August 1988

street & number P.O. Box 1346 telephone 615/381-2040

city or town Columbia state TN zip code 38402-1346

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which survive when they are viewed in their proper context upon the landscape. In some rare cases, whole plantation complexes survive showing the relationships among residences, household dependencies, livestock buildings, and fields. Among these are the three plantations built by the sons of early settler and surveyor Gideon Pillow, Sr. Four other prominent plantations are associated with the sons of William Polk who was a surveyor and land speculator from North Carolina and uncle of a future President of the United States. There are five residences associated with settlers of the small Zion community, which lies along the northern border of the district, and architectural remnants exist of the crossroads village of Ashwood. Once the center of religious activity for the plantations of the area, St. John's Episcopal Church is a prominent architectural feature in the district today. Ashwood Rural Historic District also includes one school, the site of one minor Civil War skirmish, and numerous cemeteries, including some exclusively for slaves. From all these resources, the history of settlement and development of this rural area is very apparent and a strong sense of time and place still exists today. Later nineteenth and early twentieth century resources in the district are representative of changing settlement patterns and agricultural practices, as land was subdivided and plantations no longer needed to be self-sufficient.

## GENERAL SETTING

Maury County contains some of Tennessee's most important historic resources. Here, the planting of the fertile farmlands of the Duck River valley led to a proliferation of major plantation farms rarely equaled elsewhere in the state. The richest county in absolute wealth in the state until after the Civil War<sup>1</sup>, Maury County exercised great influence in state and national politics, and was a major center of regional economic development in the nineteenth century. Today, the county retains many of the historic resources associated with this period.

The wealth of this county was long based on agricultural resources. While the incorporated cities and towns of the county, Columbia, Spring Hill, and Mt. Pleasant (and for a short time, Williamsport) contain many striking individual properties and neighborhoods, the surrounding plantations and farms were responsible for the county's economic importance. Columbia and the towns served as market and trade centers for the surrounding countryside.

Industrially, Maury County has been tied largely to phosphate mining and processing from the beginning of the twentieth century. Many of the larger industries in Columbia and Mt. Pleasant are still involved in the

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production of elemental phosphate and by-products such as phosphoric acid and fertilizers. Garment factories also make up a sizable portion of the county's industrial economy. At present, the largest employer in the county is General Electric, which employs more than 3,000 people in the production of air conditioner and refrigerator compressors.

In 1985, the General Motors Corporation announced that its new Saturn automobile assembly plant would be built in northern Maury County, with production to begin in the early 1990s. It will likely be the largest employer in the county. Sudden development pressures have already begun to affect the cultural resources of this historic county.

**NATURAL SETTING**

Topography

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is located primarily in the Central Basin physiographic region, although several hills on the southern border are outcroppings of the Western Highland Rim. The area is drained by Big Bigby Creek, Little Bigby Creek, and Greenlick Creek, all tributaries of the Duck River. A majority of the land is cleared rolling fields and pasture land, with woods generally restricted to fence lines, hilltops, and creek bottoms. Road access to the district is by the former Columbia Central Turnpike, now the Andrew Jackson Highway or US Highway 43, and the newly constructed Tennessee Highway 6, both of which connect Columbia with the Ashwood area and Mt. Pleasant to the southwest.

The district is made up of creek bottoms, rolling fields, and occasional steep hills in the south part. Elevations range from 550 feet above sea level on Big Bigby Creek at Canaan to more than 900 feet at the top of Ginger Hill. The steeper terrain is along the southern border, on a line from Gravel Hill to Ginger Hill; fields near the creeks and in the rolling intermediate lands are flat or gently inclined.

Many current divisions of the landscape are still defined by the property boundaries of the original large plantations. The southern boundary of the land grant to General Nathaniel Greene became the road to Mt. Pleasant (Columbia Central Turnpike/Andrew Jackson Highway). Old property fence rows frequently have been overgrown with shrubs and trees, and remain a visible historic part of the landscape. Sunken roads, streams, and watersheds form other divisions of fields and farms.

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Ashwood, like all of Maury County, has a warm, humid, temperate, continental climate. Though basically uniform, differences in altitude and land mass arrangements make for slight variations in temperature, amounts of fog and dew, severity of frosts, and precipitation. These differences are very minor, but probably have had some affect on the variety of soil types. Local differences, such as the side of a hill that land is located on, affect the length of time the ground is frozen and the types of vegetation found, and these differences account for part of the variations in soils.

The Ashwood area has a climate characteristic of the region. Historic weather records kept at the Ashwood reporting station (Williams-Fleming House) indicate that Ashwood has an annual average temperature of 70.7F (20C); average precipitation of 52.67 inches, and average annual snowfall of 8.2 inches. The average temperature is about two degrees warmer than those in the surrounding highlands and the rainfall is about five inches greater than at lower locations in other parts of the Central Basin. Winds blow mostly from the south at five to seven miles per hour from June through October and from 8 to 10 miles per hour from November through May.<sup>2</sup>

The climate is moderate and favorable, with the autumn season the most pleasant of the year. Rainfall then is at a minimum, sunshine at a relative maximum, and temperature extremes non-existent.

Soils

The Ashwood Rural Historic District lies entirely in the Braxton-Maury-Armour associated soils group. The principal soils are Armour silt loam, Ashwood rocky silt loam, Braxton silt and silty clay loams, Burgin silt loam, and Maury silt loam. These soils are high in organic matter and have been relatively little-effected by forces of relief and age. They feature a dark-colored surface layer of organic debris, underlaid by lighter-colored substrata with higher percentages of clay and rock. Several of these soils, especially the Burgin series, are especially high in phosphate, and provide for extremely fertile growing conditions in the fields. The richest (and geologically, most recent) soils are<sup>3</sup> in the creek bottoms and gently rolling terraces slightly above the stream.

Thickness of the soils in the area is caused by a number of factors, including the resistance of the underlying material to weathering, the volume of residue after such weathering, and the surface erosion rate. In

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general, the prime topsoil is fairly thick on the lowlands and gentle slopes.

The soils in the Ashwood district are considered to be among the richest in the state. Accordingly, the bulk of the land was cleared for cultivation since its early settlement. The lush crops these fertile soils produced provided the basis for the plantation economy, and even today are probably the choicest lands in the county. On some places, such as the Ashwood Hall site, the topsoil is very deep, and there it is extremely difficult to find even small rocks and stones.

The location of certain soil groups generally determines the agricultural practices of the area. Row crops generally occupy the richer, gently inclined and flat fields, while hillsides tend to be in pasture.

### Agricultural Lands

Most of this fertile land has been cleared for agricultural use, with pastures predominating. Historically, the plantations grew various grains and raised livestock. The most common crops at present are soybeans, feed corn, and winter wheat. Forage crops are also common and include Sudan grass, alfalfa, red clover and orchard grass. Milo and other crops are grown but somewhat less frequently. In recent years much land has been placed in a "no-till" cycle, with soybeans planted to follow corn or wheat without greatly disturbing the soil, a practice which was first used in Maury County in the 1960s<sup>4</sup> and is now common throughout the South.

For most of the twentieth century tobacco has been an important cash crop. Burley tobaccos are grown and then air-cured in barns. An historically labor-intensive crop, it remains so today. Seed must be planted under protection, then transplanted to the fields. The plants must be weeded, topped as they come into flower, with suckers and insects combatted. After the plants are cut, they must be hand-spiked onto wooden stakes, then racked in barns (often seven or eights tiers high; the poles are handed up by workers in the tiers, a terrible task). The tobacco cures for a variable time based on temperature and humidity, then taken down and processed for market. On some farms the tobacco is still handed or tied into small knotted sheaves of leaves, however, larger farms now bale their tobacco.<sup>5</sup>

General farm fields of all types range in size from five or ten acres to more than 150 acres. The average size is larger today than in historic times, mainly to accommodate larger modern farm equipment. Recently, a

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number of fields once planted in row crops have been placed in the Conservation Reserve program of the Federal Soil Bank. On several tracts pine trees are being planted in a forestry reserve program. However, the overwhelming majority of the land remains in agricultural production.

While no large scale cattle producers currently operate in the district, many farmers still maintain small herds of beef cattle, mostly Angus, Herefords, Simmenthal crosses, and Limousin. Rattle and Spap Farms is famous nationwide for its breeding herd of champion Herefords.<sup>6</sup> Until very recently several of the farms supported dairy herds. Today, Bethel Place maintains a Jersey cow for household milk, but the large herds common on the farms for most of a century are no more.

Forests and Woodlands

The unbroken woodland which once covered the entire area, described by J.B. Killebrew as "a luxuriance of forest almost tropical in size",<sup>7</sup> was greatly reduced almost from the beginning of white settlement about 1806. Today, with most of the land in cultivation, forested areas remain mostly on farm borders, hilly areas, stream courses, and waste areas. The various house lots have a number of huge old trees, many of them historic ornamental plantings.

The well-drained forests of the district were almost entirely hardwood trees, with the only common conifer, Eastern Redcedar, confined to rock croppings and the poorer hill-lands. Deciduous trees are deep feeders and have helped to make the soil porous and well-aerated; leaves return to the soil as a surface cover of humus, rich in plant nutrients. When these woodlands were cleared, the resulting soil was extremely rich. This fertility has largely been maintained through crop rotation and good husbandry.

Rich soils have enabled some trees in the region to grow to enormous size. The ginkgo, or maidenhair tree, on the Ashwood Hall site is the largest in Tennessee, with a circumference of eighteen feet, ten inches. It was almost certainly planted by Rebecca Polk, who had planted an arboretum of more than 200 trees. A second state record tree is the English Yew at St. John's Episcopal Church, also likely planted by the Polks or their relations. Though not a huge tree (its trunk is only nine feet, nine inches), it is the largest known tree of its species, in a state where it is usually grown as a shrub.<sup>8</sup>

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Other interesting groups of trees in the district include the chinquapin oaks at St. John's Episcopal Church, the huge magnolias at the J.W. Fleming house, a giant American Elm on the side of Thomas Lane, black maples, magnolias and elms at Clifton Place, and the surviving magnolias at Hamilton Place.

The demand for lumber among the plantation builders was great and they began harvesting the timber as soon as they arrived. Trees cleared for building sites were cut up for framing, scantling, roof sheathing, shingles, doors, trim, mantels, floors and fences. Many large trees were felled for salting troughs in smokehouses, and lesser trees were used in the construction of smaller log farm buildings such as barns and cribs.

Cedar was generally used for shingles, flooring, fencing, and was a popular species for log houses. Yellow poplar was the most frequently used lumber because of its weight and easy workability. It found general use in framing, flooring, trim work, meat salting troughs, and was also the major secondary wood in furniture making. Ash was also used for flooring. Most barns were built of white oak on frames of black locust. Many large trees of these species still flourish in the district.

Streams and Wetlands

The district is drained by three principal streams, Big Bigby Creek and its tributaries to the west, Little Bigby Creek on the south, and Greenlick Creek in the center and the north. Most of the creeks are free flowing though the volume of some is greatly diminished during the summer.

Big Bigby Creek is the second largest stream in Maury County; it was once called Bigby River. The southwest flank of Ginger Hill and the site of West Brook plantation, home of Rufus Polk, is drained by the Isbell Branch of Quality Creek behind Rattle and Snap. Quality Creek then flows out of the district northwestward through Ridley Station to a junction with Sugar Creek, a larger stream which runs by the northwest corner of the district to a confluence with Big Bigby three miles below. Big Bigby Creek then continues northward through Cross Bridges to a meeting with Duck River.

A second, smaller brook rises on the north face of Gravel Hill behind Rattle and Snap and off Polk Lane near the site of Westbrook Church and School. It is joined by a small branch coming from Polk Spring behind Hamilton Place and joins the Sugar Fork of Big Bigby at Canaan in the northwest corner of the district.

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Running roughly parallel to its namesake, Little Bigby Creek rises on the Elk-Duck River divide on the southern border of the county, flows through Bigbyville, an old settlement south of the Ashwood district, then passes to the south and west sides of the district, where it forms a natural part of the boundary. From this point it flows through the western edges of the city of Columbia before joining the Duck River.

Greenlick Creek flows in three parts through the district, with east, middle, and west branches. The minor east branch is a small creek which drains the front part of Clifton Place. The large center branch springs from the hills at the south edge of the Bethel Place farm and forms the present farm boundary between Bethel Place and Pillow Place. The principal tributary begins on Ginger Hill, the dividing ridge separating the Polk and Pillow plantations. This branch joins the east branch north of the Andrew Jackson Highway (named from this point East Fork of Greenlick Creek), and continues generally northward to its confluence with the Duck River three miles north. Another minor unnamed branch starts on the northwest flank of Ginger Hill behind St. John's Episcopal Church, below which it crosses the turnpike to join Greenlick Creek north of Pine Hill.

Marshes and ponds form important parts of the aquatic system. The largest marsh is in the lowlands along the railway behind Pine Hill, but smaller marshy wastes are found on the west border of the Pillow-Bethel House and just northeast of the Williams-Fleming house. Man-made ponds are quite common on all the major farms. The large stone-lined pond at Clifton Place was present as early as 1850, as evinced from a contemporary letter. Others are located elsewhere on Clifton Place, on the other Pillow farms, at Rattle and Snap and behind Tree Haven and Pine Hill. Tailings ponds from abandoned phosphate operations are present as well.

Strong springs were usually the location chosen for house sites. All three of the Pillow farms are located on perennial springs, as are Hamilton Place and Pine Hill. The Pillow-Bethel House has remains of an early brick reservoir and hydraulic ram system which once pumped water to the main house. Clifton Place, Pillow Place, Hamilton Place and Farringford retain their original spring-houses.

Wells are also common. Dug wells are located at an abandoned log house at the back of Clifton Place, at the J.W. Fleming house and at the intersection of Old Zion Lane and the Andrew Jackson Highway. Although city water is now available (from Columbia) in most of the district, some of the farms still rely on wells. The deep well at the Pillow-Bethel House is drilled more than a thousand feet deep to the Rockwell aquifer. Other houses are supplied with water from cisterns.

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The ready availability of water was a major advantage to those who settled in the Ashwood area. Free flowing creeks traverse almost every plantation site, and they provided water for livestock, bathing, washing, brick making and for some light industrial uses such as the water rotting of hemp. Freshwater springs provided water for drinking, refrigeration, and other household use, and enabled the construction of landscape features such as man-made ponds. The presence of these water resources dictated the construction of spring houses, water gaps, and at least one water ram.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Seven properties in the Ashwood Rural Historic District are presently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. These are Rattle and Snap (National Historic Landmark 11/11/71), Clifton Place (NR7/8/70), Pillow-Bethel House (NR12/12/76), St. John's Episcopal Church (NR7/8/70), Pillow Place (NR12/8/83), Hamilton Place (NR7/16/73), and Pine Hill (NR12/15/83).<sup>10</sup> All of these are early nominations and had vague boundaries and an incomplete count of resources. This district nomination will clarify the count of contributing and non-contributing resources of these nominations.

I. Residential Buildings

A wide variety of house types are represented in the Ashwood Rural Historic District. These range from early log and pegged-frame houses to the substantial manor houses of the plantations. Also included are Victorian period frame farmhouses with decoration borrowed from the Italianate and Eastlake styles. Smaller houses are fairly common, although they are usually secondary residences on larger farms. These houses are slave quarters, tenant farmer or share cropper houses, and several independent smaller farmhouses. Historic twentieth century houses are very limited, but include a circa 1920 bungalow, a 1939 house borrowing elements from the International Style, and a number of the tenant houses.

Log houses circa 1808 - 1850s

Log houses were present from the beginnings of white settlement. Gideon Pillow, Sr., had a log home at Rose Hill by about 1806. The early Zion settlers often put up log houses as well. William J. Frierson's house is the best example of an early log residence. The abandoned Huckaby Log

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### BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The seven listed properties include twenty-one resources that were counted as contributing in the NRIS. These are inventory numbers 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.13, 1.14, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 10.1, and 10.2. (Inventory numbers 3.3, 3.5, 3.6, and 3.7 were counted as contributing, but are moved, altered, or modern buildings and should be non-contributing as shown in the current inventory.)

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House, located at the back of the Pillow-Bethel House, is a similar type of building, however, it is now derelict.

The largest log building in the district is the Pillow log house across from Clifton Place. It has an added two-story rear ell and a formerly detached kitchen now joined by a frame wing. This building was supposedly moved from Pillow-Bethel House as a home for Jerome Pillow,<sup>11</sup> after he lost his fortune and plantation at the close of the Civil War. A somewhat similar house is Oakwood Hall, the William Vance Thompson house on Ashwood Road, dating from the 1830s.

All of the principal log houses in the district are constructed of carefully hewn logs, joined at the corners with dovetail or half-dovetail notching, and weatherboarded soon after they were constructed. They usually rest on stone piers or sometimes on a continuous foundation. These houses are covered by side-gable roofs which were originally covered by wooden shakes or shingles and later replaced by tin. Chimneys were of constructed of limestone until the Civil War, after which some houses had chimneys of brick construction.

Early frame construction circa 1808

Not all of the early houses were of log construction. One of the early Zion settlers, David Frierson, the brother of William James Frierson, had an early braced timber frame house built on the south edge of the Zion settlement immediately east of his brother's home. This two story residence, covered with weatherboard siding, has a hall and parlor plan, brick gable end chimneys, and a side-gable roof above the full second story. Frierson's house now forms the rear ell of Farringford.

The rigors of early lumbering technology made early frame houses uncommon. Most lumber was pit-sawn, a slow and very laborious process. Such lumber that could be produced usually was reserved for gable areas above roofs, flooring, doors, and miscellaneous millwork. Frame construction did not become common in the district until the 1830s or 1840s. Sawmills were in the area by this time, and the need for some of the heavy labor in logging was lessened, making lumber easier to obtain.

Manors 1831-1855

The wealth and tastes of the local planter class are reflected in the mansion houses of their plantations. The magnificent houses at Ashwood - Hamilton Place and Rattle and Snap, built by the Polks;<sup>12</sup> Clifton Place, Pillow-Bethel House, and Pillow Place (Rose Hill ), homes of the Pillow

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brothers; and Samuel Henry Armstrong's Pine Hill - are almost indicative of today's popularized concept of Southern plantation architecture. They served less as homes than as capitals of great estates, and evoke, as intended, an aura of stability, though built soon after the builders reached the still-wild Tennessee frontier. Above all, they were meant to show the very power and influence of the families.

The six extant houses are all built of red brick, made from clay dug on the plantations, sometimes from what became the cellar, and other times from pits nearby. At Hamilton Place and on the facade of Clifton Place, the brick is laid in the Flemish bond pattern. The other houses are built in six or seven course common bond. However, at Pillow-Bethel House stretcher bond was used. Mortar joints at several of the houses are pencilled white.

All of the houses are laid out in variations of the two, story, three bay central passage plan, but differ in stylistic treatment. The earliest of the group, Lucius J. Polk's Hamilton Place, was built in 1833 in the Palladian Style, the main front adapted from Andrea Palladio's design for the Villa Pisano. It has a bi-loggia portico, an unusual transverse stair hall arrangement, and Tuscan colonnade across the rear. The house is one of only three houses of Palladian influence design in Maury County.

The two story house, now called Pine Hill, was built for Samuel H. Armstrong in 1839. This house is a good reflection of the transition between the Federal and the Greek Revival styles. It has a recessed central entry and a cornice with stone corbels at the eaves. The one bay central portico is one story in height and supported by tapered wooden columns. Like other houses in the district, the principal entry is quite intricate. The diminutive kitchen at the rear shares some of the detailing, having its own corbels at the eaves and a small columned portico.

Clifton Place, the home of General Gideon J. Pillow, Jr., was built by local builder Nathan Vaught in 1838. Situated atop the hill commanding a view of the Clifton Turnpike (U.S. Highway 43), this mansion of twelve rooms has a three bay central passage plan and is two and one-half stories high with a gabled wood shingle roof. The detailing of this brick structure was modestly Greek Revival until circa 1852 when an elaborate Ionic portico and cornice were added to the facade. While the renovation to the front of Clifton Place was underway, Granville Pillow was building his brick manor house Pillow Place (Rose Hill) which had a portico identical to the one added to his brother's residence. Granville's house also utilizes a three bay central passage plan but it is only two stories tall. Granville also elected to use a low-pitched hipped roof and employed

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the new built-up roofing process. In 1855 Jerome Bonaparte Pillow contracted with Nathan Vaught for construction of a residence (Pillow-Bethel House) which closely imitated the home of his brother Gideon Pillow except for being constructed on a slightly smaller scale. These three houses stand today as excellent examples of the regional conception of the Greek Revival and indicate the devotion of their builders to its precepts.

Slave Quarters and Servant Housing

Slave quarters that survive in the district are mostly single pen log structures, with side-gable roofs, stone foundations, and gable-end stone chimneys. The small residences contain one room and a sleeping loft. On the larger plantations, they usually extended in line formation, in an area called the quarter at some distance from the manor house. On the smaller farms that worked slaves, any slave houses were also removed from the main house.

Clifton Place has three surviving log quarters on its row. Other log slave quarters are located at Pillow Place and the Cherry Glen site. One quarter that survives of the Ashwood Hall row is of frame construction, but otherwise follows the basic plan of the log quarters. This structure was likely built after Leonidas Polk began operations of a sawmill in the 1830s.

House slaves, considered of higher social rank than field hands, occasionally were housed near the main house of the larger plantations. At Clifton Place, Pillow-Bethel House, Pine Hill, and Hamilton Place, the detached rear kitchens have living space for house slaves. These structures are all brick buildings, and though not so refined as the manor, much better than the lodgings of the field hands.

Post-bellum Houses

After conditions settled following the Civil War, the farms of the area slowly recovered and eventually prospered again, bringing on a new wave of construction. Several large frame houses were erected at this time and other early houses were greatly expanded. No brick houses were built in the district during this period.

The common plan of the of Victorian period houses in the Ashwood Rural Historic District was an L-shape or a cross-gable arrangement. One and two story houses were built with light braced or balloon frame construction and were covered with weatherboard siding. Foundations were usually continuous, of stone and occasionally brick. Even the more modest houses

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frequently had some sort of expressed ornamentation. With the advent of jig-saws, scroll-saws, and power lathes, mass-produced brackets, chamfered posts, friezes, and vergeboards became common. Rather than custom milled woodwork, prefabricated ornamental doors, cornices, and mantelpieces were available and used on many of these residences.

The Queen Anne Style influenced many of the houses in the region. Several houses display the characteristic abundant use of sawn trim and bracketry associated with this style that was locally common from the late 1850s to the 1870s. These houses have three-quarter length porches garnished with ornamental trim, ornamental window hoods or lintels, sawn work in the gable spans, and corbeled brick interior chimneys. Other houses show some influence from the Italianate style and feature tall arched windows and bay windows, bracketed return cornices, and spandrel arch porches with side portes-cochere. Even the smaller farms display similar decorative elements, including decorated porches, doorways.

A few houses in the district are good examples of the continuous evolution of a house. Farringford and Tree Haven, both are large Victorian period frame houses containing cores of earlier houses dating from about 1810. Another example of successive changes is the Williams-Fleming house, where a detached kitchen, from an earlier structure which burned, was joined to the replacement main house by a small building moved in as a connecting section.

### Twentieth Century Houses

As the twentieth century opened, the large farms were again in full production, and little subdivision of land had occurred. Only a few new homes were built in the district in the years before World War II.

Most of the buildings erected during this period were small tenant houses of frame construction, found on the larger farms or on small inholdings. These weatherboarded frame residences were usually built in a rectangular plan, with brick or concrete block foundations, and side-gable tin or asphalt roofs. A simple shed porch often extended across the front. Houses of this type or similar plan were also built at the village of Ashwood which sprang up adjacent to the railroad after the opening of the Star Milling Company in 1900.

One Classical Revival farmhouse is included in the Ashwood Rural Historic District, the Gus Sowell farmhouse on Ashwood Road. This house is built in an unconventional variation of the style, with immense paneled wooden

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columns over an integral porch, high raised stone foundation, sidelighted doors and windows, and tall hipped roof.

The Bungalow style is represented by one house, the circa 1920 Duke House next to the Duke Store. The frame house has a full front porch supported by tapered wooden posts on brick piers, gable roof with lookout brackets, and sidelighted entry.

Perhaps the most unconventional house in the district is Ontario, or Hamilstone, built in 1939 on the hill across from Hamilton Place by Dr. Morton Hamilton, a Mount Pleasant pharmacist. This unusual house has overtures of the International Style and is distinguished by its open integral balconies and rambling plan. Construction of the house is of concrete block faced with Sewanee (or Crab Orchard) sandstone.

## II. Outbuildings

The principal houses of the main plantations are surrounded by a number of their original outbuildings, including plantation offices, kitchens, smokehouses, carriage barns, ice houses, spring houses, play houses, stock barns, chicken houses, blacksmith shops, privies, and servants' quarters. These dependencies were often constructed of brick, as they were intended for steady, permanent use. Generally, the immediate dependencies are clustered behind the principal structure with slave quarters, barns, and work areas at some further distance.

### Offices

The plantations were working businesses, and required considerable attention to management. In many area farms, a room or part of a room in the main house was set aside for use as a farm office, but in the Ashwood area, separate office buildings near the main house were sometimes constructed. Two fine brick examples survive, at Clifton Place and Pillow-Bethel House. The Clifton Place office, constructed about 1848, is a substantial building built in the Greek Revival temple form. The office at Pillow-Bethel House is, by contrast, a small Gothic Revival structure with decorative vergeboards and lancet windows. Both offices are constructed of brick and rest on continuous stone foundations, but so different in style as to resist further comparison.

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Kitchens

Most of the nineteenth century houses had detached kitchens. The separation of these buildings from the main house was for two reasons. As kitchens had to be used year-round, removal of the kitchen structure would cut down an additional source of heat during the oppressive hot summers. Also, in the event of a fire, then a more common occurrence, if the kitchen burned the fire might not spread to the main house.

The kitchens at the large manor houses were generally brick structures set to the rear of the main house. The two story kitchens at Pine Hill and Hamilton Place contained cooking space on the first floor and housing for a cook or house slaves above. The brick kitchens at Clifton Place and Pillow-Bethel House also contained some space for house slaves. All are brick structures on stone foundations with side-gable roofs and gable end chimneys.

The larger early frame houses apparently had detached kitchens as well. One was once located at Tree Haven; in the mid-twentieth century it was moved to another part of the farm and later burned. The detached board and batten frame kitchen of the Reverend C. Foster Williams House survived the fire which destroyed the main log house and was later incorporated into the 1889 Fleming House which was built on the same spot (Williams-Fleming House). A third frame kitchen has been connected with the Pillow log house by a low breezeway.

Carriage Houses

The wealthier farmers in the neighborhood could afford to own fine carriages, and built structures on their plantations to house them. These were of brick or frame construction, built in a rectangular plan, with central double-leaf doors at center. The interior had the central area free for storing the buggies and carriages, and sometimes had stalls for the horses to either side.

Five carriage houses survive in the district. The carriage houses at the three Pillow farms are all of brick construction, as is the reconstructed carriage house at Rattle and Snap. All of the buildings are rectangular in plan, rest on stone foundations, and are covered with gable roofs. Several of the carriage houses are ventilated by staggered spaced bricks. Doors are of wooden battens, either in a double-leaf arrangement or on overhead tracks.

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Tree Haven has a simpler frame carriage barn built along similar lines as the brick ones. In the early twentieth century, carriage houses were superceded in the district by frame garages. An old carriage barn is also located in the town of Ashwood.

Privies

Privies were located at most every property in the district, and a number still remain. One antebellum example is found at Hamilton Place. It is a large five-hole privy with weatherboarded walls and a hipped roof defined by a full molded cornice.

Most of the privies in the district are simple vertical-board structures, nearly square in plan with a shed tin roof and vertical-batten door. Examples can be found at about a third of the historic properties in the district, including behind the slave quarters at Clifton Place.

Clifton Place had a brick privy, a simple small two-room structure to the rear of the smokehouse. It was reconstructed in 1984. An archaeological survey of the brick privy site (the original structure had been dismantled in the late 1920s) was conducted in 1981. Cultural artifacts recovered included ceramic containers, pottery, china, and flatware; structural artifacts, fragments of window glass, nails, and hardware; and various personal items. A number of prehistoric artifacts were also recovered; these probably came with the dirt used to control odors in the pit.<sup>13</sup>

Archaeological testing was also done on the privy site at Rattle and Snap, and indicated similar results.<sup>14</sup> The present privy building behind the rear ell, also a reconstruction, hides the mansion's HVAC systems.

Smokehouses

A variety of smokehouses are located in the district, at almost every historic house. They are or have been used for the production of smoked bacon, sausage, and country hams.

Most of the smokehouses are of brick construction, although both log (at Farringford) and frame examples survive. The buildings are of square or rectangular plan and are covered with low hipped or gable roofs. The smokehouses are accessed by single low wooden batten doors and are usually ventilated by slits in the wall or by spaced brick, sometimes in patterns. Floors are sometimes bare (as at Cherry Glen), and sometimes brick or wood (with a central brick or stone-lined area for the smoking fire).

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About half of the smokehouses retain their original fixtures for the processing of hams. These are chiefly "ham logs", halved huge poplar logs that have been hollowed-out to form a trough for the salting of the hams. Large chopping blocks, formed from short whole sections of the trunks of trees, are present in several of the smokehouses.

Ice Houses

Three of the plantations in the district have extant ice houses. At Clifton Place, the ice house is intact and consists of a basically round pit approximately fifteen feet deep and twelve feet in diameter. Lined with dry laid limestone blocks, the walls emerge from the ground in rectangular form and are covered with a frame gabled roof, which at its peak is only about six feet from ground level. This particular structure has a wooden floor resting on sleeper joists and it still contains sawdust which was used to insulate the ice when it was filled. A similar structure existed at Hamilton Place, however, its superstructure is no longer extant. The basic configuration and dimensions of the stone lined pit are the same as at Clifton Place. Tree Haven also retains its stone pit which has stone steps descending from ground level around the wall into the storage area. Ice houses are rare in this region and it is unusual to have such a high concentration of them.

Log Cribs and Barns

The first agricultural buildings constructed in the Ashwood Rural Historic District were log cribs and crib barns. All of the extant barns and cribs are single-pen structures except for a double crib, probably dating from the late nineteenth century, at Pillow Place.

Probably the oldest farm structure in the district is the log crib contained in the present combination barn at Farringford. The large single-pen structure likely dates from about 1808-1810. Other Log barns are located at the Pillow-Bethel House and behind the Polk Quarter complex. The barn at Pillow-Bethel House is now weatherboarded but retains its basic original plan, while the log crib at the Polk Quarter has been incorporated into a larger tobacco barn.

Two simple log corn cribs are found in the district. The larger crib is located near Big Bigby Creek south of Canaan, while a smaller, and probably later, cedar log corn crib is on the back of the Sowell-Cecil Farm on Ashwood Road.

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Stock Barns

Unlike later tobacco barns, stock barns have been associated farm structures in the Ashwood region since the beginnings of livestock production here in the early nineteenth century. Earlier log cribs were built to store corn and fodder, however, stock barns could accommodate livestock on the first floor. The stalls were used to curry, feed or keep horses, mules, or cattle.

Stock barns are usually laid out in a rectangular plan and built with a frame of braced timbers. Interior arrangements vary, but the most common is the transverse crib plan,<sup>15</sup> which was developed in the lower Tennessee valley in the early 1800s. Such barns are formed from bringing two double-crib log or two rectangular frame cribs under a common roof, with a central entry providing access to the stalls. Some of the early barns had a threshing floor upstairs. Those with hay lofts frequently have a projecting bonnet at the front, which holds a track and pulley system to raise loads from farm wagons.

The oldest surviving stock barns are located on the three Pillow plantations, and probably date from the period soon after the Civil War. (The Clifton Place barn is a 1923 reconstruction of the original barn.) These are all built utilizing massive sawn timber frames and have two rows of stalls with narrow central passage and side drive-throughs. Most later barns follow this arrangement or the transverse passage plan.

One brick barn is located in the district, at Clifton Place. Built at about the same time as the main house and referred to in historical documents as a stable,<sup>16</sup> it has space for stalls below and a hayloft on the second floor.

Tobacco Barns

Dark-fired tobaccos were grown in the early twentieth century, however, by the time tobacco cultivation became commonplace in the 1920s, all tobacco grown in the area was burley. Although stock barns and hay sheds were sometimes converted to tobacco production, barns constructed solely for curing tobacco were first built in the 1920s. The earliest barns were built of white oak lumber on black locust frames set directly into the ground. After it was determined that the bases of the framing posts rotted in the ground, posts were set on concrete bases. Tobacco is supported by horizontal racks in a series of tiers, usually four to seven in height, sometimes with short tiers in the cone, or area near the roof. Such barns have to be well-ventilated. In the early barns, ventilation was provided

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by roof vents and horizontal swing doors at the base of the walls; in later barns (after 1935 or 1940) top or side hinged vertical swing doors provided this function. Some tobacco barns have low one story frame stripping sheds attached in which tobacco was "handed" for market. All of the barns are rectangular, roughly forty feet by one hundred feet, and constructed of rough-sawn oak lumber on locust frames.

Tobacco remains an important cash crop in the area, so much so that a new large wooden tobacco barn, on the same general arrangement as the early barns, is presently (1988) under construction at Pillow-Bethel House.

### Hay Sheds and Hay Barns

These simpler barns were built to store loose or baled hay for livestock feed. Sometimes they had a loft above, but usually were built as a large open structure with a single room where hay bales would be stacked, often to the ceiling. They were usually built of rough-sawn oak lumber, and like the other barns, were constructed on a framework of locust poles. Good examples may be found on several of the farms.

### Silos

Until the closing years of the nineteenth century hay and corn were the chief livestock feed, and were stored in hay barns or corn cribs, or barns adapted for this purpose. In the early twentieth century silage crops began to be grown, and these required different forms of storage. Tall circular silos provided this function. They were more air-tight than the barns, and their gravity-feed systems more convenient for dispersing the stored feed.

The earliest silos were of frame construction and covered with wooden siding. Later silos were made of molded concrete blocks, then of formed concrete panels (circa 1940-50.) Modern silos are of metal construction. Cylindrical metal grain bins have been present on several farms since about 1973.

### Blacksmith Shops and Farm Shops

Blacksmith shops were once fairly common in the district. They were present on a few of the larger plantations and along the turnpike. Leonidas Polk established a full shop at Ashwood (no longer extant), and it is unlikely that his brothers duplicated his investment. Likewise, Gideon J. Pillow, Jr.'s shop at Clifton Place is the only shop known to have built on the Pillow farms. This log structure is the only blacksmith shop

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surviving in the district. The single-pen structure likely dates to about 1838 and is covered with weatherboard siding in places, with an arched opening on the north side.

The 1887 Beers Map of Maury County shows a blacksmith shop located on Campbellville Pike between Pillow Place and Mistletoe Hall at the J.C. Howard place. Another was located near the present Duke Store site. The precise locations of the shops have not been established. Another shop was located at the junction of Old Zion Lane and the turnpike. The building is no longer present, but a deep well marks the location of the circa 1890 shop.

All of the larger farms had some sort of workshop, sometimes confined to a part of a barn or another outbuilding. The oldest of these is at Pillow-Bethel House, a circa 1880s frame structure with central drive through. Other historic examples can be located at Pillow Place and Tree Haven.

III. Other Farm Structures

Walls and fences

Historically, the farms and plantations were bordered with stone walls or wooden fences. Today, miles of original stone walls can still be seen in the district. Most of these are dry-laid walls, constructed without mortar. They are wider at the base and usually have a row of slanted or vertical stones across the top. It had long been generally assumed that slaves built most of the walls, probably as winter labor when there was little work to be done in the fields, but census records from the 1850s and 1860s show a number of Irish-born stone wall makers living at Ashwood, and they likely were responsible for much of the work.

Stone retaining walls were occasionally built along stream bends and channels. Parts of this work can still be seen at Clifton Place and on the Sowell farm on Ashwood Road.

Wooden fences are also commonplace and may be seen today bordering some farms and individual house lots. They consist of wooden posts joined by three or four horizontal planks, sometimes covered by two gabled planks on top whose purpose is to shed rain from the fence (a practice effective only in light rains with no wind). Picket or paling fences are virtually non-existent, though some gates and portions remain.

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Nathan Vaught recorded building "fine cedar rail fences" for Jerome Pillow in 1855.<sup>17</sup> This may refer to a neatly detailed beaded board fence that had rails which were closer together at the bottom than at the top. These fences were designed to keep out both small and large animals and were usually found around the manor house yards and gardens.

Decorative iron fencing is rare, the only surviving example being a wrought-iron fence on the Cherry Glen site. St. John's Episcopal Church and Farringford have iron gates.

Wire fencing is the most common type of fence in the district today. It had its origins before the Civil War when Andrew Jackson Polk, at Ashwood Hall, was the first person in the area to experiment with wire fencing. His wife having planted a vast arboretum of evergreens and imported trees, he found it necessary to fence off the plantings from the livestock and wild animals on his farm. Iron fence posts were made with holes or slots at proper intervals and wires stretched. But the smooth wire would not keep the animals off, so Polk had his blacksmith make double-pointed horse-shoe nails which were bent around the smooth wire and that proved effectual in keeping the animals away.<sup>18</sup>

The gates of the great farms were sometimes ostentatious. Ashwood Hall had two pairs of doubled gates, with stone columns topped by carved stone acorns, symbol of the Polk family.<sup>19</sup> The gates at Farringford are 1930s copies of stone pillars that once stood on the campus of the Ward-Belmont College in Nashville.

#### Water Gaps

Where the fences or walls crossed the various creeks or streams, it was necessary to place some sort of structure to keep stock from passing through the streams into other fields or properties. These water gaps were usually stone piers connected by wooden cross-pieces with vertical wooden gates suspended below. These would allow the stream to pass unimpaired but would not allow cattle or other stock to cross. Water gaps survive at Clifton Place, Pillow-Bethel House, and on the Ridley properties.

#### IV. Churches and Schools

Today, only one church and one abandoned school house are located in this large rural district.

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St. John's Episcopal Church, Ashwood, is the oldest church building in Maury County and the earliest and best example of Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture in the county. The brick church has a crenellated central entry tower, four-point arched doorway, multi-light lancet windows, and the original attached rear sacristy. The church is virtually unaltered and retains such features as its decorative paint finishes.

Another church was once in the district. Westbrook Missionary Baptist Church, which had a black congregation, was located on the west side of Polk Lane a mile behind St. John's Episcopal Church. The church was abandoned some years ago and burned about 1970; today only a cemetery marks the site.

At Canaan, in the northwest corner of the district, is a small 1920s schoolhouse. The small frame structure follows a common plan for county schoolhouses of the period. The rectangular building has a front-gable roof, recessed entry, and high sash windows to the side. It has been abandoned for decades.

The district once contained other schools. For a while, classes were held in the sacristy at St. John's Episcopal Church. In 1848 the Ashwood School for Girls was organized, and an eclectic Gothic Revival schoolhouse with octagonal wings was built on the hill across from Hamilton Place several years later. It burned in 1891.<sup>20</sup>

V. Commercial and Industrial Structures

Historic commercial and industrial buildings are very limited in the district. Although Leonidas Polk had a post office, mill, and toll-gate established at Ashwood in the 1830s, no trace of these enterprises survives.

The village of Ashwood contains several properties related to the 1900 Star Milling Company or Ashwood Mill. The Star Milling Company was begun in 1900 and operated for many years by Tom G. Napier. It closed in 1929 and was dismantled in 1965.<sup>21</sup> Two granaries, a carriage house, and some of the company housing still exists. The village also contains an abandoned circa 1919 store/post office.

Mills were operated in the Ashwood area since the first settlements in the 1800s. Gideon Pillow, Sr. established a mill on Little Bigby Creek near his home, Rose Hill, by the 1810s. The mill is shown on the 1887 Beers Map

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of Maury County, but no trace of the site above ground can be located today.

In the 1830s Leonidas Polk established a hemp factory and a sawmill on his property. He purchased a thirty-horsepower steam engine from Philadelphia at a cost of \$2500. The mill was in full production by 1837, as in a letter to his mother that summer Polk noted "My mills are now thronged with work." This was the first steam mill in Maury County. He also installed equipment for the manufacture of hemp bagging at the same time. Leonidas' neighbor, Gideon J. Pillow, had a steam engine in about 1844. He used it for making rope and twine, and bagging for cotton.<sup>22</sup> (None of these mills survive, and their exact location cannot be precisely determined.)

During the late nineteenth century William Joel Duke and his brother, Alec Duke, established a crossroads store on the turnpike opposite the lane to the Pillow-Bethel House. Some years later a gasoline station was built here.<sup>23</sup> Both the store and the Duke House still stand, however, the gas station was destroyed in the 1970s.

VI. Turnpikes and Roads

Columbia Central Turnpike

The present Andrew Jackson Highway ( US Highway 43) has its origins as an early road between Maury County and the Tennessee River to the west. Sections of the road that traverse the district were used as parts of the Jackson Military Highway and the Natchez Trace. In 1840 the road became the Columbia Central Turnpike, connecting Columbia with the newly-established port of Clifton on the Tennessee River. The road was owned by the Polks and Pillows of Ashwood, and two other partners.

The route was incorporated into the Tennessee state highway system as the Andrew Jackson Highway in 1925. The road today is a federal highway, US Highway 43, connecting Columbia with Lawrenceburg and the Muscle Shoals area of north Alabama. It passes for four miles through the district from in front of Clifton Place at the northeast to Rattle and Snap on the west. The two-lane road is bordered by stone walls and wood and wire fences.

Zion Roads

A confusing network of changing and identically named roads is the pattern in the north part of the district. The main Zion Road begins at St. John's Episcopal Church and follows the historic dividing line between the

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Hamilton Place and Ashwood Hall plantations to the village of Ashwood at the railroad crossing. It continues further north out of the district on a new 1972 section.

Old Zion Lane began as an approach to Pine Hill plantation before veering due west along the south line of the Presbyterian Zion colony and their border with the Polks. What is now called Ashwood Road, connecting Ashwood village and Canaan, was once a westward extension of this road. Since the early twentieth century, changes in route have made Old Zion Lane a secondary road to Zion Church, while the section between Pine Hill and Ashwood is now abandoned. New Old Zion Lane, a short section between the point at which the old<sup>24</sup> route was abandoned and the federal highway, was constructed about 1975.

Polk Lane

Today's Polk Lane was constructed after 1887, as it does not appear on the Beers Map of that year. This road developed from the drive to Rufus Polk's West Brook (no longer extant). It now runs on to a place called Isbell and a junction with Trousdale Lane, then heads further south to the Porter's Chapel/Scott's Mill/New York community. On this road is the site of Westbrook Church (which burned about 1970) and Westbrook Cemetery, a small cemetery comprised primarily of the graves of Ridley field hands and their descendents.

Tennessee Highway 6

Construction of the section of this new highway which passes through the district began in 1986. It is a continuation of the Mount Pleasant and Columbia by-pass systems, which will eventually cross Duck River in north Columbia and provide a diversion for traffic between Spring Hill and Nashville to the north and southern Maury County, neighboring Lawrence County, and north Alabama. The three and one-half mile segment through the district is still under construction, but the portion east of Ashwood is now open. This part of the road, two lanes wide, continues to a junction with Tennessee Highway 50, two miles beyond the district's north boundary. The portion connecting the present terminus at Ashwood (where there is an interchange with Zion Road) is still being built (1988). This section will be a divided four lane parkway passing between Hamilton Place and its neighbors and the properties south of the present Ashwood Road. At present no development has taken place on the new highway, which has restricted access and a wide right-of-way. Such a new highway is of course non-contributing but has been built in a manner which does not significantly disturb the integrity of the district.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 25 Ashwood Rural Historic DistrictFarm Roads

A system of internal farm roads connects the interrelated plantations and farms. The three Pillow plantations were linked by interior roads that made it unnecessary for the families to travel on the public roads at the periphery of the properties. (From Pillow-Bethel House to Pillow Place is little more than a mile, but to reach one farm from the other on the turnpike and public roads requires a journey of eight miles.) What is now called Thomas Lane, a sunken road bordered by stone retaining walls, began as the connector between the Pillow properties road system and the turnpike. A second farm road joins the Pillow-Bethel House lane with Trousdale Lane, a county road to the south. Traces of other abandoned farm roads can be seen at Farringford and Pine Hill.

## INVENTORY

1. Clifton Place (NR7/8/70 Listed for its statewide significance in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, military, and politics. HABS TN 62)
  - 1.1 Clifton Place -Gideon J. Pillow, Jr. House
  - 1.2 Kitchen house/servants quarter
  - 1.3 Plantation office
  - 1.4 Greenhouse/conservatory archaeological site
  - 1.5 Smokehouse
  - 1.6 Privy
  - 1.7 Carriage house
  - 1.8 House servants quarter
  - 1.9 Tenant house
  - 1.10 Dairy barn
  - 1.11 Play house
  - 1.12 Spring house/dairy
  - 1.13 Ice house
  - 1.14 Brick livestock barn
  - 1.15 Cistern
  - 1.16 Cistern archaeological site
  - 1.17 Ridley-Neal house
  - 1.18 Log house
  - 1.19 Tobacco barn
  - 1.20 Tenant house
  - 1.21 Hay barn
  - 1.22 Blacksmith shop

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- 1.23 Mule barn
- 1.24 Tractor shed 1
- 1.25 Tractor shed 2
- 1.26 Silos
- 1.27 Quarter 1
- 1.28 Quarter 2
- 1.29 Quarter 3
- 1.30 Quarter 4
- 1.31 Quarter 5
- 1.32 Quarter 6
- 1.33 Water gaps
- 1.34 Brick kiln site
- 1.35 Quarter 7
- 1.36 Trailor
- 2. Pillow-Bethel House (Bethel Place. NR12/12/76 Listed for its local significance in architecture)
- 2.1 Bethel Place -Jerome Bonaparte Pillow House
- 2.2 Office
- 2.3 Smokehouse 1
- 2.4 Kitchen
- 2.5 Quarter
- 2.6 Playhouse
- 2.7 Outbuilding
- 2.8 Smokehouse 2
- 2.9 Workshop
- 2.10 Carriage barn
- 2.11 Well house
- 2.12 Log barn
- 2.13 Stock barn 1
- 2.14 Silo 1
- 2.15 Tenant house
- 2.16 Well house
- 2.17 Stock barn 2
- 2.18 Silo 2
- 2.19 Spring house
- 2.20 Tobacco barn
- 2.21 Stone bridge
- 2.22 Reservoir
- 2.23 Stone dam
- 2.24 Slave cemetery
- 2.25 Huckaby log house
- 2.26 Walls and fences
- 2.27 Historic landscape features

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3. Pillow Place NR12/8/83 Listed for its local significance in architecture.
- 3.1 Pillow Place/Rose Hill - Granville Pillow House
  - 3.2 Smokehouse
  - 3.3 Garage
  - 3.4 Chicken house
  - 3.5 Quarter 1
  - 3.6 Caretaker house
  - 3.7 Carriage barn
  - 3.8 Spring house
  - 3.9 Pump house
  - 3.10 Stock barn
  - 3.11 Tack shed
  - 3.12 Tenant house 1
  - 3.13 Crib barn
  - 3.14 Quarter 2
  - 3.15 Tenant house 2
  - 3.16 Tenant house 3
  - 3.17 Feed barn
  - 3.18 Silo/feeding station
  - 3.19 Tobacco barn 1
  - 3.20 Tractor barn
  - 3.21 Tobacco barn 2
  - 3.22 Feed crib
  - 3.23 Equipment shed
  - 3.24 Barn
  - 3.25 Slave cemetery
  - 3.26 Estes Cemetery
  - 3.27 Estes house site.
  - 3.28 Pillow Mill site.
  - 3.29 Walls and fences
4. Other Pillow and Ridley properties
- 4.1 Pillow log house.
  - 4.2 Log cabin
  - 4.3 Tenant house
  - 4.4 Shed
  - 4.5 Water gap
  - 4.6 Barn 1
  - 4.7 Barn 2
  - 4.8 Barn 3
  - 4.9 Barn 4
  - 4.10 Barn 5
  - 4.11 Barn 6
  - 4.12 Eastep house 1

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- 4.13 Eastep house 2
- 5. Pine Hill NR12/15/83 Listed for its local significance in architecture.
- 5.1 Pine Hill -Samuel Henry Armstrong House
- 5.2 Kitchen (Pine Cone)
- 5.3 Garage barn
- 5.4 Tobacco barn
- 5.5 Multi-purpose barn
- 5.6 Armstrong slave cemetery
- 5.7 Well
- 6. Hamilton Place NR7/16/73 Listed for its statewide significance in agriculture, architecture, and politics.
- 6.1 Hamilton Place (Lucius Junius Polk House)
- 6.2 Smokehouse
- 6.3 Privy
- 6.4 Chicken Coop
- 6.5 Ice house
- 6.6 Spring house
- 6.7 Tobacco barn
- 6.8 Horse barn
- 6.9 Fences and gates
- 6.10 Historic landscape features
- 6.11 Well
- 6.12 Cistern
- 7. Rattle and Snap NHL11/11/71 Listed for its significance in architecture. HABS TN 63.
- 7.1 Rattle and Snap - George Washington Polk House
- 7.2 Privy
- 7.3 Carriage house
- 7.4 Gate house
- 7.5 Historic landscape features
- 7.6 House 1
- 7.7 House 2
- 7.8 House 3
- 7.9 House 4
- 7.10 Grain bins
- 7.11 Silos
- 7.12 Farm office
- 7.13 Hay barn
- 7.14 Stock barn
- 7.15 Sales barn
- 7.16 Tobacco barn 1
- 7.17 Tobacco barn 2
- 8. Ashwood Hall site

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- 8.1 Ash Wood site
- 8.2 Kitchen
- 8.3 Well house
- 8.4 Privy
- 8.5 Tobacco barn
- 8.6 Landscape features
- 9. West Brook site
- 10. St. John's Episcopal Church NR7/8/70 Listed for its statewide significance in religion, architecture, military history, and social history.
- 10.1 St. John's Episcopal Church
- 10.2 Cemetery
- 10.3 Stone wall and gate
- 10.4 Historic landscape features
- 10.5 Privies
- 11. Farringford Farm
- 11.1 Farringford - David Frierson House
- 11.2 Smokehouse
- 11.3 Shed
- 11.4 Spring house
- 11.5 Dovecote
- 11.6 Barn
- 11.7 Garage
- 11.8 Play house
- 11.9 Fence and gates
- 11.10 Historic landscape features
- 11.11 Sunken road
- 12. W.J. Frierson Farm
- 12.1 Frierson log house
- 12.2 Garage
- 12.3 Stock barn
- 12.4 Silos
- 12.5 Tractor shed
- 12.6 Tobacco barn site
- 13. Dower Farm
- 13.1 Dower Farm/Sowell-Cecil Farm
- 13.2 Smokehouse
- 13.3 Chicken house
- 13.4 Garage
- 13.5 Outbuilding
- 13.6 Tobacco barn 1
- 13.7 Tobacco barn 2
- 13.8 Tenant house
- 13.9 Hay barn

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- 13.10 Spring house
- 13.11 Log crib
- 13.12 Stock barn
- 14. Tree Haven
  - 14.1 Tree Haven -J.J. Stephenson House
  - 14.2 Smokehouse
  - 14.3 Ice house
  - 14.4 Pool house
  - 14.5 Outbuilding 1
  - 14.6 Outbuilding 2
  - 14.7 Play house
  - 14.8 Outbuilding 3
  - 14.9 Chicken house
  - 14.10 Equipment shed
  - 14.11 Tractor shed
  - 14.12 Hay barn
  - 14.13 Tobacco barn
  - 14.14 Stock barn 1
  - 14.15 Stock barn 2
  - 14.16 Silo
  - 14.17 Historic landscape features
- 15. Williams-Fleming House
  - 15.1 Williams-Fleming House
  - 15.2 Smokehouse
  - 15.3 Outbuilding
  - 15.4 Potting Shed
  - 15.5 Clay pit
  - 15.5 Historic landscape features
- 16. Duke Store Group
  - 16.1 Duke Store
  - 16.2 Duke House
  - 16.3 Three-plantation stone
- 17. Thomas House
  - 17.1 Thomas House
  - 17.2 Privy 1
  - 17.3 Privy 2
  - 17.4 Stock barn
  - 17.5 Tobacco barn
- 18. Mistletoe Farm
  - 18.1 Mistletoe Hall -J.N. Howard House
  - 18.2 Smokehouse
  - 18.3 Outbuilding
  - 18.4 Tobacco barn
  - 18.5 Hay barn

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- 18.6 Nursery
- 19. Polk Quarter complex
  - 19.1 Ashwood Hall quarter
  - 19.2 Stock barn 1
  - 19.3 Silos 1 & 2
  - 19.4 Stable
  - 19.5 Tobacco barn
  - 19.6 Stock barn 2
  - 19.7 Silo 3
  - 19.8 Stock barn 3
- 20. Village of Ashwood
  - 20.1 Napier Store/Ashwood Post Office
  - 20.2 Granary 1
  - 20.3 Granary 2
  - 20.4 House 1
  - 20.5 House 2
  - 20.6 House 3
  - 20.7 House 4
  - 20.8 House 5 -Davis House
  - 20.9 House 6
  - 20.10 Railroad section house
  - 20.11 Carriage house
  - 20.12 Outbuilding
  - 20.13 House 7
- 21. Canaan Schoolhouse
  - 21.1 Canaan School
  - 21.2 Well and pump house
  - 21.3 Privy
- 22. Paul Cecil Farm
  - 22.1 Cecil farmhouse
  - 22.2 Tenant house
  - 22.3 Chicken house
  - 22.4 Privy
  - 22.5 Tobacco barn
  - 22.6 Stock barn
  - 22.7 Hay barn
  - 22.8 Corn crib
  - 22.9 Tenant house
  - 22.10 Tenant house ruin
- 23. Elias W. Napier Farm
  - 23.1 Napier farmhouse
  - 23.2 Outbuilding
  - 23.3 Garage
  - 23.4 Stock barn 1

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- 23.5 Hay barn
- 23.6 Stock barn 2
- 24. Ashwood Battlefield
- 25. Ontario -Hamilstone
- 26. Maple Hill Farm
- 26.1 Maple Hill farm
- 26.2 Stock barn 1
- 26.3 Tobacco barn 1
- 26.4 Calf barn
- 26.5 Tool shed
- 26.6 Stock barn 2
- 26.7 Tobacco barn 2
- 27. Oakwood
- 27.1 Oakwood Hall -William Vance Thompson House
- 27.2 Smokehouse
- 27.3 Guest house
- 27.4 Shed
- 27.5 Well house
- 27.6 Stock barn
- 27.7 Tobacco barn 1
- 27.8 Tenant house
- 27.9 Tobacco barn 2
- 27.10 King house
- 28. Canaan Road group
- 28.1 House 1
- 28.2 Tobacco barn 1
- 28.3 House 2
- 28.4 Ruin
- 28.5 House 3
- 28.6 Outbuilding
- 28.7 House 4
- 28.8 Log crib
- 28.9 Tobacco barn 2
- 29. Mecklenburg Hall site
- 29.1 Mecklenburg Hall site -(St. John's Rectory site
- 29.2 Tobacco barn
- 30. Cherry Glen site NR7/2/73 Removed from NR in 1985
- 30.1 Cherry Glen site -Daniel Font Wade House
- 30.2 Dependency
- 30.3 Quarter 1
- 30.4 Outbuilding
- 30.5 Smokehouse
- 30.6 Tenant house 1

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- 30.7 Stock barn
- 30.8 Tractor shed
- 30.9 Tenant house 2
- 30.10 Quarter 2.
- 31. Westbrook Church site/Westbrook School site
- 31.1 Westbrook Missionary Baptist Church site
- 31.2 Westbrook Cemetery
- 31.3 Westbrook School site
- 32. Willis Shop site

1. Clifton Place

Clifton Place plantation is approximately four miles from Columbia and is located on the south side of U.S. Highway 43. Built in 1838 for General Gideon J. Pillow, the home takes its name from the Clifton Turnpike (now U.S. Highway 43) which was constructed between Columbia and the town of Clifton, Tennessee. The centerpiece of the plantation is a two story brick Greek Revival manor house which, is situated atop a gently rising hill overlooking the meadows beside the highway. The house was constructed by local master builder Nathan Vaught who chronicled its erection in his memoirs. The main block of the house, as occupied in 1838, consisted of four rooms on each of the two main floors with paired rooms on either side separated by a large central hall. The main staircase is located in the central halls with a smaller service stair connecting the principal floors from small halls on the west side of the house. In addition to the main floors the house has a full attic divided into two unfinished rooms and a cellar floor with two finished rooms and a provisions cellar. A narrow stair located under the main staircase leads from the first floor to the cellar and is the internal entrance to that space. The main staircase provides access to the attic space from the second floor.

In 1846 one room, one story wings were added to the east and west elevations of the house and constructed so as to project beyond the rear elevation of the house. At the same time a portico was built across the entire rear elevation of the main block, thus connecting the two new rooms at the back of the house. Internal access to the new wings was made by changing original window openings into doors. Exterior doors were added as well to provide access to the rear portico.

The last major change to the house occurred circa 1852 when the imposing Ionic columned portico and cornice were added to the facade. To accomplish this, the height of the north elevation was raised approximately four feet

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and a new roof structure was installed atop the existing roof on the north slope.

The facade (north) is three bays wide with paired windows located on each floor of the flanking bays. The windows have double-hung 9/9 light sashes. A recessed central bay contains the front entrance which is elaborately constructed with fluted Doric columns flanking the original rosewood grained door. Panelled reveals and sidelights are surmounted by a ten light transom. At the second floor level a jib window with sidelights and panelled reveals opens onto a narrow balcony surrounded by a cast iron railing with lancet arches. The portico is supported at the base by a finely dressed limestone porch and features fluted wooden columns rising from cut stone bases and plinths and being crowned with wooden Ionic capitals. Ionic detailing is carried forward in the entablature and pedimented roof. The structure is covered with a standing seam terne roof which was installed when the portico was added. While the house is built on a native limestone foundation, however, the facade was dressed up with a cut stone foundation veneer to give the appearance of ashlar block. A stone water table course crowns the foundation and follows the main block terminating at the sides of the wings. Two foundation vents appear on each flanking bay and are closed with cast iron decorative bars. A limestone belt course punctuates the second floor level and decorative stone lintels appear over each window. Stone window sills are used on all windows in the house.

The front elevations of the wings are identical with coursed limestone foundations and central foundation vents. Each has a tripartite window centered in the wall with a 9/9 light central sash and 3/3 light sidelights. A stone entablature of the Ionic order crowns each window. The wall is topped with a wooden cornice and the wings are covered with a standing seam terne roof.

The rear (south) elevation is more austere than the front. Paired windows define the location of the southern rooms on each floor of the main block and one window located in the center of the rear wall is situated at the landing level between the first and second floor halls. This window was partially obscured by the 1846 rear portico addition. All windows have 9/9 light sashes, limestone sills, and wooden lintels decorated with the bull's-eye motif. A simple wooden cornice is the only decoration at the roof level. Each wing has a single window centered in the bay which matches the other windows on this elevation. The rear portico has a cedar framed floor resting on square brick piers. Chamfered cedar posts support the wood shingled shed roof which. This portico contains most of the elements of the original porch which was smaller and had a hipped roof which joined

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the house under the level of the window at the second floor landing. A new roof configuration was required when the porch was extended in order to rise above the first floor windows on the south elevation. Two cherry doors with paneled reveals open onto the rear portico from the main block. One door is centrally located in the first floor hall while the other opens from the southwest room. The portico opens onto a small courtyard separating the manor from its dependencies.

The side elevations rise from coursed limestone foundations and the brick walls terminate at the top in stone crowned parapet walls. Two chimneys rise parallel to each other and equidistant from the center of the wall. A single window in each elevation in the wall between the chimneys identifies the location of the attic. Each room in the main block is identified on the west elevation by a single window, except for the southwest rooms on each floor which have no windows opening to the west. An original window opening from the second floor southwest room was closed when the wing was added to that side. One cellar window is located at the base of the wall and is the only source of light into that space from the west. Another window to the cellar is intact under the west wing. All windows on each side elevation are consistent in detailing with those described for the south elevation. The east elevation has one distinguishing characteristic in that a false window exists at the second floor level on the north end which identifies the location of a closet in the northeast chamber. There are no cellar windows on the east side of the house. All windows were originally equipped with operable louvered shutters and most of them are still in use.

Significant interior features of the house include cherry doors, baseboards, and mantels in the major first floor rooms; pine, ash, and poplar flooring; original decorative stencilling in three spaces; examples of graining on several doors; and original hardware and locks on most interior doors. (C)

1.2 Kitchen house/slaves' quarter. Directly south of the manor house is a circa 1838 two story common bond brick kitchen house and slaves' quarter. The structure has a cut limestone foundation and a wood shingled gabled roof. Windows are single-hung 9/6 light sashes. Originally the kitchen house consisted of only two rooms, one on each floor connected by a narrow ladder. This dependency was connected to the rear of the manor house by means of a covered portico which was dismantled in 1846 when the rear portico was extended. Circa 1848 the structure was moved backwards approximately twenty feet and doubled in size with a three story addition to the west, which was added so as to appear that the entire structure had been built at once. The new addition consisted of one room on each of

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three floors with the lowest floor being excavated into the ground. Nathan Vaught recalled building a "fine two-story brick kitchen and servants dwelling" while constructing Clifton Place.<sup>25</sup> Cooking was done on the first floor of the dependency, and slaves lived in the second floor room. The Ridley family, later owners of the property, used this structure as a granary. This building has been restored. (C)

1.3 Plantation office. The plantation office was constructed circa 1846-1850 and is located directly east of the manor house and aligned with the front of the east wing. This Greek Revival temple style building is constructed of brick laid in common bond and possesses three elaborate 9/9 light jib windows, two on the east elevation and one on the west elevation. The masonry front of the north facade is plastered and embellished with a pedimented porch supported by four tapered paneled and molded columns executed in the Ionic order. The front entrance is a double-leaf panelled door with a five light transom over them. The floor of the front porch is bricked and is finished on the edges with cut limestone. The structure has a pedimented roof clad in wood shingles. A secondary outside entrance exists at the southwest corner of the building and may have been added at a later date. Architectural and archaeological evidence reveals that a greenhouse/conservatory once adjoined the plantation office at its west elevation. (C)

1.4 Greenhouse/conservatory archaeological feature. The area directly east of the east wing to the west wall of the plantation office and parallel with the front of the plantation office and the rear of the east wing was excavated in 1983 by Robert Jolley, a professional archaeologist with Cultural Resource Consultants of Nashville, Tennessee, and revealed the presence of archaeological remains of a greenhouse/conservatory structure. The excavations revealed that the foundation trenches of the front wall and structural remains of the rear wall are intact underground. The structure was also found to have had a built-in underground heating system and remnants of the furnace which supplied the heat remained in the ground and intact. This feature appears to have been built in two sections and ultimately connected the plantation office and the east wing of the manor, although there was no access from the manor house into the conservatory. The site has yielded information important in understanding the construction and operation of a mid-nineteenth century greenhouse. (C)

1.5 Smokehouse. The circa 1838 Clifton Place smokehouse is a two story brick structure rising from a cut limestone foundation and covered with a gabled wood shingled roof. The building is rectangular in plan and has two sections, the eastern three fourths of the building being used for the smoking and hanging of meat and the western one fourth of the building

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being used for provision storage. Access to the smokehouse area is gained through a large board and batten poplar door which is original. The provisions area of this building was accessed near the northeast corner by a board and batten poplar door. Access to the upper floor of the provisions area was from a door which occurs at midway on the first floor level directly centered on the west elevation. Access was gained through a ladder. Inside the smokehouse are the original poplar log salting troughs and large poplar chopping block which were put in the building as it was being constructed and which continue to be used in the preparation of meats. (C)

1.6 Privy. The Clifton Place privy was reconstructed in 1984 after extensive archaeological investigations by Robert Jolley recovered its existing foundations underground. Photographs of the building taken prior to its demolition circa 1921 enabled an accurate reconstruction of this building. The privy is rectangular in plan, has two compartments and is constructed of brick with a wood shingled gabled roof. The privy was originally butted against the south elevation of the smokehouse and an original brick herringbone pattern walk leads from the front of the smokehouse to the east side of the smokehouse where access to the privy was gained. Information collected has helped provide for the reconstruction of the privy. In addition, cultural artifacts recovered are important in understanding the daily life in the plantation household. (NC)

1.7 Carriage house. The circa 1838 carriage house is located southwest of the manor and on a line a line parallel with the front of the smokehouse. The carriage house is constructed of brick laid in common bond, rests on a cut limestone foundation, and is covered with a gabled wood shingled roof. The carriage house has only one large interior space for the storage of carriages. Original board and batten doors opening into the carriage storage spaces are extant. Approximately one-third of the carriage house is separated for the storage of harness and other materials. It has two entries, one on the north elevation and one on the west elevation. The doors into the tack storage area are board and batten construction with paneled reveals. The carriage house has only one window which is cut into the carriage bay compartment at the south elevation. (C)

1.8 House slaves' quarter. Approximately fifty yards behind the south elevation of the manor house there was a row of slave quarters. Only one of those structures is extant. It is of log construction, one room with a loft, and built on limestone piers with a gabled roof. The circa 1838 structure currently has a corrugated tin roof. About 1950, a one room concrete block addition was made to the south elevation of this log structure. The concrete block section can be removed without altering the

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original log dwelling. The original chimney was of brick but has collapsed and is in ruins. (C)

1.9 Tenant House. This circa 1930 structure is a one room, one story frame dwelling clad in poplar weatherboards. It is built on limestone piers and is in line with and directly east of the surviving log house slaves' quarter. The house has an early brick chimney built on a limestone foundation. It is likely that a log structure previously in this location burned and this building was built to replace it. (C)

1.10 Dairy barn. Covered with board and batten siding, this dairy barn was erected circa 1915 and is of pole and frame construction. It has a gabled corrugated tin roof and a shed addition on its north elevation. The structure is oriented along a north-south axis and is directly behind the manor, approximately fifty yards from it in a line with the house quarters and tenant house previously described. The building has a dirt floor inside and is currently used for storage. (C)

1.11 Play house. This Greek Revival one room play house was constructed in 1984. The form of the structure was copied from Historic American Buildings Survey drawings of a play house which existed on Angelina Plantation in St. Johns Parish, Louisiana. Detailing for the structure was copied from profiles of molding on the Clifton Place manor house. (NC)

1.12 Spring house/dairy. Northwest of the manor house and located in the cleft of the hill upon which the manor house is built is a small circa 1838 three-compartment spring house and dairy. A serpentine limestone wall was constructed as a retaining wall around the point where the spring flows out of the limestone rock at the base of the hill. This serpentine wall has a cut stone hammer finish cap at the top and, after encircling the spring, becomes the rear wall of one compartment of the spring house. The southernmost compartment of the spring house is built of stone while the northern compartment is built of brick. A small space between the brick and stone compartment is roofed over and enclosed at the top with brick over a wood bulkhead. As originally constructed, water flowed through all three compartments and continues to flow now through its original channel in the limestone bedrock of the south compartment. The entire structure is covered with a gabled standing seam terne roof. Single doors open into the two major compartments. A single window opened into the brick compartment originally but has been filled in recent years. The water which flows from the spring is still the primary water source at Clifton Place and pumping apparatus is stored in the spring house. (C)

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1.13 Ice house. West of the manor house and almost paralleling the road from the manor house to the slave quarters is a large circa 1850 stone and frame ice house. This structure is built on a rectangular plan and oriented on a north-south axis. The walls of the ice house are cut limestone coming out of the ground in a rectangular plan but internally being in the form of an oval and being approximately twelve feet deep. The walls are roughly thirty-six inches thick. Resting atop the limestone wall is a frame weatherboarded structure that is covered with a wood shingle gable roof. Access to the ice house is gained through a single board and batten door centered in the pedimented roof structure. (C)

1.14 Brick livestock barn. The original circa 1838 brick livestock barn rises from a cut limestone foundation to a height of two full stories and is covered with a standing seam tin gabled roof. Oriented on a north-south axis, this barn was constructed with finely detailed barred wooden windows in its east and west elevations and had external openings into the hayloft from both the north and south elevations. The original stalls and fittings have been removed; however, the framing for the hayloft floor remains intact and features single square beams over sixty feet in length. The approximate size of the barn is thirty-five feet by seventy feet. Of pole construction and clad with poplar weatherboards, the shed additions have been made to both the east and west elevations. A third, circa 1930 addition has been made to the south elevation for the use of storing implements and drying tobacco. This addition is made of pole construction with the exterior siding being randomly attached oak boards. (C)

1.15 Cistern. Located directly behind the manor and approximately fifty feet from it, is a large brick cistern which was fed with rain water run-off from the roof of the manor. A small charcoal filtering device was constructed adjacent to the east wing to catch the rain water and filter it prior to its draining into this large cistern. The cistern rises out of the ground with a cylinder shaped top of pargeted brick capped with a cut limestone cistern cap. The exact date of construction of this cistern is not known, however the interior appears to be pargeted with portland cement which would suggest the construction date after 1876 or during the Ridley occupation of the dwelling. (C)

1.16 Cistern archaeological feature. Located approximately thirty yards from the northeast corner of the manor and almost parallel with it are the archaeological remains of an early brick cistern or well. The construction of this feature suggests that it may be original with the construction of the house in the 1830s. This feature was filled in with dirt and construction debris in the 1970s and is no longer visible above ground except for that portion which has been excavated. The site was partially

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excavated to pinpoint its location by Nicholas Honerkamp of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga in 1988. The site has potential to yield valuable information helpful in understanding the daily routine of a plantation household. (C)

1.17 Ridley-Neal house. Approximately 400 yards east of Clifton Place and on a line parallel with it, is a one and a half story modern brick house constructed in 1942 for Mr. and Mrs. William P. Ridley, Jr. This dwelling is constructed on the site of an original Clifton Place greenhouse which was dismantled in the 1930s. The house was designed by architect Edwin Keeble of Nashville, Tennessee and serves as a temporary residence for Mr. and Mrs. John Neal. The building is rectangular in plan with an ell addition, is on an east-west axis, and consists of approximately 3,300 square feet. (NC)

1.18 Log house. Located directly behind item 1.16 and approximately 500 yards from it, is a one and one-half story saddle bag log house which was constructed circa 1820. This dwelling is not original to the Clifton Place site and was moved here in 1976 from the proposed impoundment area of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Columbia Dam. (NC)

1.19 Tobacco barn. This tobacco barn is built of frame and pole construction and rises to a height of two full stories. It is approximately 150 by forty feet long, oriented on an east-west axis, and has a central hall to allow for tobacco wagons to enter the building. This tobacco barn was constructed about 1940 and has a large two story shed addition on its south side. (The date of that construction is unknown.) A second lower shed addition was added to the south elevation and is approximately ten feet by forty feet. A concrete block structure that was used for a tobacco packing room abuts the west end of the barn and is approximately ten feet by thirty feet. (C)

1.20 Tenant house. This five room frame house was constructed in 1958 and has been used for tenant farmers in the past. It is rectangular in plan with weatherboard siding and asphalt gable roof. (NC)

1.21 Hay Barn. This circa 1970 barn is of pole construction and has a corrugated metal siding and roof. It is rectangular in plan and is used for the storage for hay and farm implements. (NC)

1.22 Blacksmith shop. Now used for storage, this small log structure is a rare survivor of this once common type of facility. The single pen building rests on a stone pier foundation and is topped by a gable tin roof. Two sides are covered with weatherboard and small vertical board

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wooden sheds have been added to two sides. The principal facade on the north has a central doorway topped by a rounded arch. The shop contains remnants of the original hearth and forge. (C)

1.23 Mule Barn. This large frame stock barn was built in 1923 for W.P. Ridley, Sr., to replace a very similar structure that had been erected for J.W.S. Ridley after the Civil War. The large rectangular frame structure is built on a frame of sawn wooden uprights, is covered with weatherboard siding, and has a front-gable tin roof. It has a central entry and side drive-throughs. Exterior openings have rounded corners. (C)

1.24 Tractor shed 1. This small open rectangular plan structure has a combination gable/shed tin roof supported by round wooden poles on concrete bases. It was built after 1950. (NC)

1.25 Tractor shed 2. A long rectangular metal shed farm structure built to hold tractors and combines, this circa 1960 structure is built on a sawn wooden frame and is covered with metal siding. (NC)

1.26 Silos. To the side of the long equipment shed are two tall concrete panel silos with metal domes. They were built between 1940 and 1942. (NC)

1.27 Quarter 1. This small circa 1960 cinder block tenant house replaces an original log slave quarter which burned. The rectangular plan structure is covered with a side gable asphalt roof and has a simple shed porch across the front. (NC)

1.28 Quarter 2. This small circa 1850 single pen log house was an original slave quarter for Clifton Place. The structure, which rests on stone piers, is built of rough hewn poplar logs joined at the corners with half-dovetail notching. The side gable roof is tin, as is the early twentieth century shed porch across the north, or present, facade. (At one time the quarters had no openings on their present facades and they were orientated towards the south.) A brick chimney on a stone base is centered on the east wall. A concrete block rear shed section was added in the first part of the twentieth century. (C)

Privy. A circa 1900 frame building with vertical board siding, a batten door, and shed roof sits behind the quarter. (C)

1.29 Quarter 3. Like the first house on the quarter row, this small 1950s concrete block house replaced a log slave quarter which burned. The rectangular plan structure is covered with a side gable asphalt roof and has a simple shed porch across the front. (NC)

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1.30 Quarter 4. Moved from the present Pillow log house location, this single pen poplar log house is similar to the surviving log quarter on the row. It rests on limestone piers, has a tapered brick chimney on the east side, and a simple shed porch across the front. It was moved to its present location in the 1930s. (C)

Privy. A circa 1900 frame building with vertical board siding, a batten door, and a shed roof sits behind the quarter. (C)

1.31 Quarter 5. This circa 1920 weatherboard frame structure roughly follows the arrangement of the original quarters. The rectangular plan building rests on stone piers and is topped by a side gable tin roof with brick a flue. Like a number of the other buildings on the row, it has a front shed porch and rear frame shed addition. (C)

Privy. A circa 1900 frame building with vertical board siding, a batten door, and a shed roof sits behind the quarter. (C)

1.32 Quarter 6. Behind the westernmost building on the quarter row are the ruins of a small circa 1940 tenant house. This weatherboarded frame building is built on a stone pier foundation and has an irregular gable tin roof. The structure has been abandoned and is in derelict condition. (NC)

1.33 Water gaps. Two stone water gaps are located at the crossing of the Clifton Place quarter road and the tributaries of the East Fork of Greenlick Creek. These consist of stone piers topped by large square capstones. Parts of the eastern piers are washed out, but the west set survives in good order. The exact dates of these structures are unknown, but they appear to be historic. (C)

1.34 Brick kiln archaeological site. The site of the original brick making operation utilized in the building of Clifton Place is still apparent. Two small mounds in a field about 400 yards west of the manor contain innumerable pieces of over-fired brick. This site is located near the banks of Greenlick Creek, which would have provided a convenient source of water for the process. There was ample space for a drying yard on the flat terrain. The nature of concentration of brick bats suggest that two sites were used for building kilns, although cultivation of the area in recent years has tended to spread brick debris over a larger portion of the field. Small pieces of calcified limestone appear in concentration in one part of this same site suggesting that a small lime kiln may also have been operated. (Unevaluated resource.)

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1.35 Trailer. (NC)

2. Pillow-Bethel House

The Pillow-Bethel House, called Bethel Place, was built in 1855 for Jerome Bonaparte Pillow, the third son of Gideon J. Pillow. Like Clifton Place, the house was constructed by Nathan Vaught of Maury County, a master craftsman well-known for his buildings in the Middle Tennessee heartland. The house is modeled after the design of the Clifton Place remodeling, but constructed on a somewhat smaller scale.

The manor is a two story, three bay, central passage plan brick house with Greek Revival detailing. It is built on a rectangular plan with attached one story brick wings on the east and west elevations. The main feature of the house is the large full height pedimented portico in the Ionic order on the front (north) facade. The house is on a cut-stone foundation, has interior gable end parapeted chimneys, and a gable roof of asphalt shingles. The pale red brick is laid in stretcher bond on the north or main facade and dependencies and in six course common bond on the remaining elevations. Dividing the two stories is a plain stone belt course.

On the main (north) facade, the portico features monumental fluted wooden columns on cut stone bases and square stone plinths. The iron railing on the second floor balcony came from the rear porch and was placed here about 1940. The portico's entablature has dentil molding which continues across the front along the roof line. The entrance has original doors of six raised panel design; above the door is a three-light transom with corner lights to the side. Flanking the door are wood Doric order pilasters and five-light sidelights over dado panels. The door surround features fluted molding with bull's-eye corner blocks. Windows on the front are 8/8 sashes with wood sills, lintels, and corner blocks, and original wooden louvered shutters. On the second story of the central bay is a multi-light jib window with raised lower panels, fluted surround, and matching corner blocks.

The east and west elevations both display connecting parapet walls at the roof line with two interior chimneys on both elevations. Windows are original 6/6 light double-hung sashes with the wooden sills, lintels, and corner blocks matching those on the main front. These elevations also have small basement windows barred with decorative turned wooden posts; some of these windows have been enclosed. Above the basement level is a dressed stone water table. The one story wings on the east and west elevations are rectangular and have interior gable end brick chimneys with corbeled caps.

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Like the rest of the house, these original wings rest on cut stone foundations, have 8/8 light sashes like those on the main block, and standing seam tin gable roofs.

The south or rear facade was once similar to that of Clifton Place. About 1958 the second floor rear was slightly redesigned by Nashville decorator Herbert Rogers. Rogers' changes were the construction of small rooms containing private office and baths at the sides of the upper porch; the graceful wrought iron porch railing taken to the front portico, with the delicate sawn wooden balustrade from the front placed here in replacement. The addition of these two rooms is so unobtrusive that their more recent construction must be pointed out to the observer. (C)

2.2. Office. One of the best small Gothic Revival style buildings in the region is the brick office at the side of the Pillow-Bethel House. This circa 1840s one story central passage plan rectangular brick structure is distinguished by its four-point arched entry six-panel door, lancet windows, and a sawn vergeboard encircling the roof. The building rests on a stone foundation and is topped by a side gable tin roof with pointed capes over the lancet windows on the front. At the sides are inset gable end brick chimneys. In 1967 a rear ell brick ell was added, in part from material salvaged from the pre-1830 brick Samuel H. Williams house a mile away; this addition is not visible from the front or from Pillow-Bethel House. (C)

2.3 Smokehouse 1. The original circa 1855 plantation smokehouse is a tall rectangular common bond brick structure that rests on a stone and brick foundation and is topped by a tin gable roof. The front has a low vertical batten wooden door at the center facing north towards the main house. Vents at the side near the top are formed by spaced brick. At the rear is a small circa 1954 frame one story shed extension. (C)

2.4 Kitchen. Detached from the main house in the common practice of the area, the circa 1855 kitchen is a one story rectangular plan brick structure, resting on a stone and brick foundation, and topped by a side gable tin roof. Inset brick chimneys are located at the gable ends. The central entry is a wood and glass panel door, and windows are double-hung sashes with 2/2 lights. The building has been slightly altered by a rear addition which is not visible from the front or main house. (C)

2.5 House slaves' quarter. The original two story brick quarter for house slaves was altered about 1930 by the removal of the second floor, the brick being used for the construction of Campbell Ridley's present house. As it now stands, the quarter is a one story rectangular plan brick structure on

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a stone foundation. Covered with a tin gable roof, the chimney tops have been removed and the gable field above weatherboarded. It is used as an office for the farm's country ham operation. (C)

2.6 Play house. This tiny weatherboarded frame gable roofed structure was built in the 1940s and moved here from Clifton Place in 1959. (NC)

2.7 Outbuilding. This circa 1960 log structure, a cooler for the smokehouse operations, is located in the service area behind the main dependencies. It is constructed of poplar logs brought from Parson's Bend on Duck River and has a gable asphalt roof, steel door, frame side shed section, and an added glasshouse/potting shed at the rear. (NC)

2.8 Smokehouse 2. This 1970s smokehouse is built of concrete blocks and is topped by a front gable tin roof. (NC)

2.9 Workshop. This rectangular plan frame structure, in the secondary barn lot approximately forty yards southwest of the main house, is part of the original circa 1850s farm complex. The structure was remodeled about 1910 by the attachment of drive-through shed wings. The weatherboarded and cove weatherboarded main block has a central drive-through and corrugated metal gable roof. The front or north facade has an open gable portico supported by square posts. (C)

2.10 Carriage barn. The circa 1855 original brick barn served as a stable and carriage house. Like its counterparts at the other Pillow houses, the barn is a two story rectangular brick structure on a stone foundation and covered with a tin front gable roof. A single loading bay at the front provides access to the interior, which is laid out with horse stalls to the side and a hay loft above. Ventilation is provided by spaced brick, the same method used in the old smokehouse. (C)

2.11 Well house. This brick structure was built in 1943 or 1944 to cover and contain pumping equipment for a well used until recently to provide water to all buildings and, for a while, to a major dairy operation on the property. The well house is a cinder block building, veneered with brick, topped by a shallow gabled asphalt roof and with a small wooden batten door on the south side. (NC)

2.12 Log barn. This medium size log barn was likely used for stock, probably mules, and was built circa 1855. The rectangular single crib barn has a second floor for a hayloft, vertical batten loading doors with latticework filled round arch openings above, and frame shed sections added on the north and south. This barn is nicely decorated at the eaves by a

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sawtooth pattern wooden vergeboard. The barn was weatherboarded and the sheds were added by 1900. (C)

2.13 Stock barn 1. A stock barn sits at some distance to the south of the original barn group. Probably built about 1880, this barn is a weatherboarded frame structure, built on a loose pole frame, and topped by a gabled tin roof. (C)

2.14 Silo 1. Located adjacent to Stock barn 1, this circa 1900 silo is of hollow core concrete block construction and was used for grain storage. In the 1950s the silo was filled with damp alfalfa, which expanded and broke the silo apart. It has since been repaired and strengthened by metal bands. (C)

2.15 Tenant house. The last surviving intact tenant house on the place, this small shotgun plan frame structure was constructed in the late 1940s. It is covered with cove weatherboarding, rests on stone piers, and is topped by a front gable roof. (NC)

2.16 Well house. A tiny well house dating from about 1950 is in the field among the tenant houses and rear barns. The small wooden structure is sheathed in diagonal boards covered with rough siding and topped by a gabled roof. (NC)

2.17 Stock barn 2. This stock barn was probably built by J.W.S. Ridley in around 1870. The largest and most elaborate of the barns on the farm, this massive frame barn is built around a heavy mortised timber frame of oak and locust and covered with weatherboard siding. The three openings on each floor are round arch, with wooden lattice allowing fresh air and light to enter the structure. Entries are at the sides of the facade, the two rows of stalls flanking a narrow central passage. (C)

2.18 Silo 2. This taller silo is constructed of cast concrete forms and is topped by a domed metal roof. It was built in three stages in the late 1940s. It has a side auger-type unloader. (NC)

2.19 Spring house. Water for the house and farm was carried from a spring three-tenths of a mile behind Pillow-Bethel House on the side of the head branch of the East Fork of Greenlick Creek. The oldest part of the brick spring house likely dates from 1855. Later, in the 1940s, a brick extension was added to the building to hold an hydraulic ram system, which forced water to the house. The spring house is a low rectangular five course common bond brick structure on a stone foundation, with a vertical batten wooden door and side gabled tin roof. The building has been unused

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since the drilling of deep wells on the farm in the 1960s, and is in poor condition. (C)

2.20 Tobacco barn. A new rectangular plan vertical batten frame tobacco barn is under construction (1988) to the rear of the first group of farm buildings. (NC)

2.21 Stone bridge. The road to Pillow-Bethel House crosses the East Fork of Greenlick Creek on a bridge of stone and poured concrete. Stone piers and buttresses support the poured concrete slab floor of the circa 1938 bridge, flanked at the side by low stone wall curbs. (C)

2.22 Reservoir. Downstream from the spring house is a circa 1880 brick reservoir, a circular structure approximately twenty feet in diameter and six feet high. It is of brick construction and has been pargeted with concrete inside and out. (C)

2.23 Stone dam. This low stone dam across a headwater of Greenlick Creek was probably constructed in the 1850s, when the spring house alongside was built. The little dam impounds a small pond of less than one acre. (C)

2.24 Slave cemetery. In the hills behind Pillow-Bethel House, alongside a large pond formed by the impoundment of the East Fork of Greenlick Creek, is the cemetery for the Pillow slaves. The cemetery likely dates from the 1840s, and was used until the Civil War or soon afterwards. In later years, families of field hands still living on the farms generally buried their dead at the Westbrook Church cemetery on Polk Lane. This small cemetery contains about a dozen graves, with several stones for members of the Pillow and Campbell slave families. It is located on the west flank of Ginger Hill beside the road connecting the Pillow-Bethel House farm road and Trousdale Lane. (C)

2.25 Huckaby log house. At the rear of the original Pillow-Bethel House properties is an abandoned log house dating from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The single pen log house began as a larger structure, as evinced by more extensive stone foundations. It is joined at the corners by half-dovetail notching, had a side gable wooden shingle roof, and frame rear addition. The house was occupied in 1860 by P.A. Huckaby, overseer for Jerome Bonaparte Pillow. The house is in derelict condition but retains its log structure, beaded joists, remnants of lath for plaster, window and door openings, and part of a stairway. Openings for a fixed four light window, a second window, chimney, and three entrances are evident. "S.T.E. 184" is visible on stones beneath one of the entrance openings. The

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remains of a root cellar, a well, and a chimney fall are located around the house site. (C)

This site and its architectural and archaeological information is associated with the overseer class during the 1860s. However, based on the beaded ceiling joists and other decorative features, the building appears to have been constructed in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. (C)

2.26 Walls and fences. The house and its immediate outbuildings are enclosed by a fine dry-laid stone fence constructed in 1967. The rear dependencies are separated from the rear or garden and service area by a circa 1950s medium height stone fence. (NC)

2.27 Historic landscape features. A wide herring-bone pattern brick walk in stone curbs leads from the front gate to the front steps, with a smaller walk connecting the main house with the office. The house sits on a large lot in the midst of surrounding fields in a setting completely shielded from view of modern buildings or elements. The lot is shaded by mature indigenous trees, including elms, oaks, and maples. Historic landscape features date from circa 1855 until circa 1941. (C)

3. Pillow Place (Rose Hill)

Situated on a rise overlooking the Little Bigby Creek, Pillow Place (originally called Rose Hill), built in 1852<sup>26</sup> for Granville Pillow, oldest son of Gideon Pillow, Sr., is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture in the Ashwood Rural Historic District. Built on a stone foundation, the house is a two story, rectangular plan structure of red brick, laid in common bond with penciled joints. The three bay house has a double parlor plan with two large rooms, each twenty feet by twenty feet, on either side of a large entrance hall. Its portico is supported by four towering Ionic columns.

The focal point of the main or west facade is the monumental portico, with four Ionic columns supporting a full entablature, accentuated by delicate dentil molding. The wooden columns are set on stone bases atop a stylobate porch atop a full crepidoma. The house's fine molded and denticulated entablature is continued on all four sides of the building. The walls of the two story porch are recessed and plastered, offering pleasant contrast to the red brick walls on either side. The wooden paneled front door is framed by side lights and a three light transom. The motif of the entablature is repeated again above the door, contributing to the

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continuity of the overall design. Very large double-hung sashes with 8/8 lights provide balance to the facade. Sills and lintels are carved of native limestone.

The copper hipped roof is so low as to appear flat when viewed from the ground. Originally, it supported a reservoir that supplied the house with water. Eight fireplaces are served by four interior brick chimneys, located in the end walls.

The house has been altered by the enclosing of the rear porch to create additional living space. This frame addition is also in keeping with the original character of the house and does not affect the structural or architectural integrity of the building. (C)

3.2 Smokehouse. The circa 1852 brick smokehouse is located to the side of the house. The rectangular structure rests on a cut stone foundation and is topped by a side gable asphalt roof. Walls are of common bond brick, with narrow slits to vent the smoke. A low batten door opens south to the front yard. (C)

3.3 Garage. Behind the house is a circa 1960 frame garage, with poured concrete floor, narrow cove weatherboarded walls, and a front gable roof supporting the farm bell. (NC)

3.4 Chicken house. To the side of the garage is a circa 1940 chicken coop, a rectangular weatherboarded frame structure with tin shed roof and batten door. (C)

3.5 Quarter 1. This circa 1852 log quarter was moved from the main farm row about 1965. The structure is built of small hewn cedar logs joined with dovetail notching, rests on a pier foundation, and is topped by an asphalt gable roof. The building has been reconstructed and adapted as a pool house. (NC)

3.6 Caretaker's house. A circa 1965 one story frame caretaker's house is located in the side yard. The T-plan structure rests on a stone and concrete foundation and is topped by a gabled asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration is mixed, and the house is devoid of any stylistic details. (NC)

3.7 Carriage barn. Like those found on the other Pillow farms, the Pillow Place carriage house is a tall rectangular structure of common bond brick with front gable metal roof and gable end entry. This circa 1852 structure

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has been substantially altered by the construction of concrete block shed additions on the north and south sides. (NC)

3.8 Spring house. At the Pillow Spring at the base of the hill in front of the house is a small circa 1852 spring house. It is constructed of rough hewn stone construction and topped by a gable wood shingle roof. Around and to the side of the structure is a semi-circular, stone lined reservoir pond. (C)

3.9 Pump house. Beside the spring house is a circa 1960 pump house, of cinder block construction, with a low wooden batten door and tin shed roof. (NC)

3.10 Stock barn. The oldest and largest barn on the property dates from circa 1875. The two story structure is built on a heavy braced frame and clad in weatherboard siding. Two rows of interior stalls are separated by a narrow passage opening to a round arch central door. Other small doors and upstairs apertures have round arch tops as well. The main entries are to the sides of the stalls. Side shed sections were added to the east and west sides in the early twentieth century. In addition to the arched doors, decoration includes abundant use of wooden lattice in the gable fields and a sawn wooden vergeboard. (C)

3.11 Tack shed. A small circa 1900 rectangular frame outbuilding behind the barn, this structure, apparently a tack shed, has been altered by replacement of original wooden siding with corrugated metal. The building rests on stone piers and is topped by a front gable tin roof. A wooden shed section extends to the north side. (NC)

3.12 Tenant house 1. Shotgun. This circa 1945 small narrow rectangular structure is of concrete block construction and is topped by a front gable tin roof. A shed porch extends across the front, and three brick chimneys are located on the north side. (NC)

3.13 Crib barn. An early, possibly original log crib barn has been enclosed in a circa 1950 metal feeding barn. The single pen structure is made of large polar logs joined with half-dovetail notching and has a low wooden batten door. None of this old structure is visible from the exterior of the present metal barn, but the old log core is basically unaltered. (NC)

3.14 Quarter 2. An abandoned house on the main farm row, this may have been a circa 1865 slave quarter or it could have been built as a tenant farmer house soon after the Civil War. The house is constructed of small

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hewn cedar logs, rests on a stone pier foundation, has a shed porch across the front, and is topped by a side gable tin roof. The house has been severely altered by tarpaper/asbestos siding and removal of the original gable end exterior stone chimney. (NC)

3.15 Tenant house 2. This circa 1965 one story saddlebag plan structure is built of concrete blocks and has a stuccoed concrete block gabled side addition. It has a side gable tin roof, a central brick chimney, and shed porch across the front. (NC)

3.16 Tenant house 3. A second circa 1965 structure is similar to the above house, but lacks the side addition. Its shed porch has been partially enclosed. (NC)

3.17 Feed barn. This circa 1950 rectangular plan barn is built on a framework of wooden beams on concrete piers. It has a low pitch front gable tin roof and is covered with corrugated metal siding. A shed section has been added to the west side. (NC)

3.18 Silo/feeding station. This circa 1945 silo is similar to the second silo on the Pillow-Bethel House. It is built of prefabricated concrete panels and has an attached rectangular weatherboarded wooden shed and metal feeding station. (NC)

3.19 Tobacco barn 1. A circa 1940 tobacco barn is located to the west side of the main row of farm buildings. The rectangular structure is roughly forty feet by one hundred feet in dimension and six tiers high. It is topped by a front gable tin roof with six roof ventilators. Hinged swing doors at the side provide for additional ventilation. Like most tobacco barns, the wagon entries are centered on the gable ends. (C)

3.20 Tractor barn 1. This circa 1940 shed roof barn is rectangular in plan, built on a frame of sawn beams on concrete piers, is covered with vertical board wooden siding, and is covered by a gabled metal roof. (C)

3.21 Tobacco barn 2. The older of the two tobacco barns on the farm, this large board and batten circa 1935 frame structure has six full tiers and two additional short tiers in the cone, a heavy sawn frame of oak timbers on stone blocks, and metal front gable roof. The original swing doors have been supplemented by a series of top-hinged side swing doors. (C)

3.22 Feed crib. Behind the second tobacco barn is a circa 1940 feeding barn or crib. The low rectangular plan frame structure is topped by a gable tin roof and is covered with corrugated metal siding. (C)

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3.23 Equipment shed. In a back field some distance behind the main farm building complex is a circa 1925 small L-plan tractor shed. It is built on a framework of square posts and is covered with corrugated metal siding. Behind the ten bay structure is a small wooden feeding station. (C)

3.24 Tobacco Barn 3. A mile beyond the main complex, near the junction of Thomas Lane and a farm road to the Pillow-Bethel House is a small vertical board frame tobacco barn. The circa 1935 white oak structure is built on a frame of locust poles and has side swing doors and roof vents. (C)

3.25 Slave cemetery. Just off the Campbellsville Pike west of the main gates to the farm is a small circa 1860 cemetery, abandoned for more than a century. Likely a slave cemetery for the plantation, the few recognizable graves are marked only by broken field stones. (C)

3.26 Estes Cemetery. On the west side of the hill separating Pillow Place from the other two Pillow plantations is a cemetery of substantial size, with graves from the Estes, Benderman, and Thomas families. Graves date from before the Civil War until 1915. Among family members buried here are Daniel J. Estes and his wife, Bourbon, who developed the Primm Springs resort in neighboring Hickman County in the 1850s (NR7/5/85). The graveyard is surrounded by a dry laid stone fence and contains approximately fifty monuments, ranging from simple fieldstones to carved limestone markers and early twentieth century marble monuments. The cemetery has a commanding view of the upper Greenlick Creek valleys. (C)

3.27 Estes house site. A chimney fall from a nineteenth century house mark the site of the Estes residence. The 1887 Beers Map of Maury County shows the house occupied by T.W. Estes. Only the stone and brick from the chimney and foundations are visible, but an archaeological investigation of the site may be able to yield valuable information about the material culture of this class of resident in the Ashwood district. (C)

3.28 Pillow Mill site. Gideon J. Pillow, Sr., established a grist mill on Little Bigby Creek near his home, Rose Hill, sometime after his settlement in 1806. It is shown on the 1887 Beers Map on the property at the point the Campbellsville Pike crosses the creek. The mill was destroyed before 1900, and no visible trace was located in a walk-over survey in 1988. Further archaeological investigation may indicate the precise location of the mill features and foundations. (Unevaluated resource)

3.29 Walls and fences. The farm is bounded in part by an extensive system of dry laid stone walls. Much of the work is intact, including a long

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fence running one hundred yards east of and parallel to the main row of farm structures. A later stone wall separates the main house from the farm land in front; the stone for this section was taken from along the turnpike northwest of Clifton Place. Board fences run along part of the front on Campbellsville Pike, and the rest of the farm is enclosed by wire fencing. (C)

4. Other Pillow and Ridley properties

4.1 Pillow log house. On the turnpike across from Clifton Place is a large two story weatherboarded antebellum log house known as the old Pillow Place. The house was apparently moved from the Pillow-Bethel House at the end of the Civil War and placed here as a home for Jerome Bonaparte Pillow, who had lost his fortune and farm.

The large log residence is a double pen structure formed around a central dogtrot which has been enclosed. The central passage plan house rests on a continuous stone foundation and is covered with a side gable tin roof. Gable end exterior brick chimneys are located at both sides; these were almost certainly replaced or reconstructed after the house was moved. A two story frame ell addition is joined to the west side of the rear elevation, while a low enclosed breezeway on the east side of the rear elevation connects the house with a frame kitchen.

The three bay facade faces south towards the turnpike and is arranged around a central entry with a one story, one bay central portico supported by four square columns. The entry behind is two double-leaf doors with vertical wooden panels. Windows are double-hung sashes with 9/9 and 6/6 lights.

East and west elevations are identical. Each is a plain weatherboarded wall with an exterior stone chimney at center and single 6/6-light sashes on the first floor.

The structure has a single room weatherboarded frame kitchen addition, with a gable roof and brick chimney, situated at the rear elevation. This was originally a detached structure, but was joined to the main residence in the early twentieth century. A a gable roof frame wing, with banks of fixed six-light sashes along the sides, connects the sections. The connecting wing rests on stone piers, but the kitchen has a continuous foundation. (C)

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4.2 Log building. Sitting approximately fifty yards behind the larger log house is an antebellum log building. Facing south towards the larger house and the turnpike, this single pen log house is rectangular in plan and rests on wooden sills. It is topped by a gable tin roof and has a brick gable end exterior chimney on a raised stone base at the east side. The cedar logs are assembled at the corners with half-dovetail notching and are chinked with wooden blocks and rough hair plaster. All doors and windows are missing from this vacant structure except for a plain vertical batten door at the rear. (C)

4.3 Tenant house. This circa 1920 tenant farmer house is thirty yards to the east side of the principal log house. It is built after the same basic plan as the original log quarters on farms in the district. The single room weatherboarded frame structure rests on stone piers, is topped by a side gable tin roof, has an exterior gable end brick chimney, and batten doors. (C)

4.4 Shed. This circa 1940 frame outbuilding is rectangular in plan, sits on stone piers, is covered by a tin gable roof, and has a wooden batten door. (C)

4.5 Water gap. Two tall limestone piers at the point a small branch of Greenlick Creek are the remaining evidence of the original water gap. Probably erected circa 1870, the piers once held a connecting wooden-slatted gate which was a continuation of fence lines across the brook. The wooden gates are gone, but the tall stone pillars are still present. (C)

4.6 Barn 1. This hay barn predates 1916 and was built by Gadsen Armstrong, a carpenter and barn builder who erected a number of structures on the Ridley properties.<sup>27</sup> It is constructed of white oak lumber around a frame of locust poles. The barn is topped by a gable tin roof and has hinged loading doors. In 1921 this barn was converted to use as a tobacco barn. It is the oldest tobacco barn in the district. (C)

4.7 Barn 2. This large rectangular plan tobacco barn was built in 1936 by Gad Armstrong for W.P. Ridley, Sr. This tall, six-tier tin roof barn is roughly forty feet by one hundred feet in dimension. Built on a frame of sawn oak uprights set on concrete bases, it has swinging vent boards hinged at the top and round ventilators across the central ridge. A low one story stripping room is built onto the northeast side of the structure. (C)

4.8 Barn 3. One of the first tobacco barns to be built in the district, this 1924 wooden frame barn was built by Gad Armstrong. The tall board and

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batten frame structure is rectangular in plan and topped by a metal gable roof with ridgeline ventilators. The oak barn is built on a frame of locust posts set directly into the earth. Loading doors for the central passage are located at each end and are made of plain vertical wooden battens. (C)

4.9 Barn 4. This circa 1920 barn had its origins as a rick-shed for an early twentieth century phosphate mining operation which took place on the north flank of Ginger Hill to its west. In the operation, controlled fires of carefully ricked wood was used to break down phosphate rock from its ore; later the ore would be washed and carried away by rail. This rectangular plan structure is sheathed with vertical board siding and is covered by a tin gable roof. Doors are of braced wooden battens. Since the 1940s the Ridleys have used it as a hay shed or barn. (C)

4.10 Barn 5. This six tier tobacco barn was constructed by Gad Armstrong for W.P. Ridley Sr. in 1928. The vertical board frame structure is roughly forty by sixty feet in dimension and is topped by a tin gable roof. The uprights are locust poles set directly into the ground. (C)

4.11 Barn 6. The last of a group of similar large rectangular plan frame tobacco barns on the Ridley properties is built to the side of Trousdale Lane at the rear of the main Ridley farm. This tall six tier vertical board oak tobacco barn, built around a central locust frame, was put up for W.P. Ridley, Sr., by Gad Armstrong and dates from 1936. It has hinged swing boards and ventilators across the top. (C)

## 5. Pine Hill

Built for Samuel Henry Armstrong, a wealthy member of the Zion community, Pine Hill is a large two story brick house facing the Mount Pleasant Pike. It is located two miles southeast of Zion and one mile east of the village of Ashwood, at the southwest corner of the Zion tract between the Polk and Pillow plantations. It was probably built by local builder and brick mason Anthony Gholson, as many details of the house match those found on the George Webster (NR4/5/84) house at Cross Bridges and other houses built by Gholson. The 1839 house retains most of its original features and, though abandoned for some years recently, has been carefully restored.

The house is a vernacular adaptation of the Federal style of architecture, with some influence from the Greek Revival style that dominated many of the buildings in the neighborhood. It is constructed of dark red brick, fired from clay dug nearby, and laid in stretcher bond. The three bay central

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passage plan house rests on an ashlar limestone foundation with dressed stone water table. Situated above a full stone cellar, the house is two stories tall, two rooms deep, and has a one story brick kitchen ell attached to the rear. The side gable composition roof is embellished at the corners of the eaves with projecting stone and brick corbels.

The south or main facade is the most elaborate. It is five bays wide, with the central bay of the first floor slightly recessed. A one story portico at center is supported by four square tapered Doric influenced columns. Over this is a full entablature decorated with triglyphs and metopes. The principal entry is comprised of a wide paneled door set between engaged Roman Doric columns which support a molded cornice and an eleven light transom. To either side are eight light sidelights set over molded dado panels. The entire entry is enclosed within an atticurged surround. A three foot tall wooden attic balustrade rests above the portico. The two bays of windows on the facade are double-hung sashes with 9/9 lights, wooden sills, and wooden beam lintels decorated with ball-and-target corner block. Louvered shutters, with all original hardware, frame all of the windows. The central window upstairs is a jib window opening onto the roof of the portico, which, with its balustrade, forms what is in effect a small balcony. This window is framed by sidelights, and both the sidelights and the window have their own shutters.

The east and west elevations are similar. Each is three bays deep, with two corbeled brick chimneys set into the walls. Windows on either side are the same as those on the facade, with 9/9 lights, ball-and-target corner block, and louvered shutters. One window in the central bay of the eastern side was replaced with a door in the 1870s. At the eaves are projecting brick corbels set on stone imposts. Diamond shaped structural reinforcement plates are attached to iron hurricane bolts high on either side; the heavy bolts pass through the floor of the attic.

The rear elevation of the house has a five paneled wooden door in the center and 9/9 sashes similar to those found on the rest of the house. Connecting with the rear of the dining room at the northeast corner is a one story brick ell dating from the 1870s. This section has two doorways opening onto a raised brick porch, three 9/9-light sashes, and a brick kitchen gable end chimney at the rear. (C)

5.2 Kitchen. Constructed circa 1839, the detached two story brick kitchen, immediately behind the main house, has been called Pine Cone, as it copies many elements from the main house. Like other kitchen buildings in the district, the first floor was used as a kitchen while the second story contained housing for house slaves. The rectangular plan brick

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structure is built on a stone foundation and is topped by a side gable tin roof. On the south elevation, which faces the main house, is a one story gabled portico supported by wooden Tuscan columns. Windows on both floors are double-hung sashes with 4/4 lights. The only alteration to the exterior has been the addition of a small one story brick ell that contains the kitchen and bath. It is not visible from the facade view or from Pine Hill. (C)

5.3 Garage/barn. This circa 1945 small rectangular garage and barn is covered with loose vertical board wooden siding and has a metal front gable roof. This structure is in poor condition. (NC)

5.4 Tobacco barn. The larger of two tobacco barns on the property surrounding Pine Hill, this circa 1955 rectangular plan five tier tobacco barn is covered with rough sawn vertical board wooden siding, with occasional hinged swing boards or ventilators. The foundation is stone with sunken wooden posts holding the light frame in place. A metal roof is topped by seven round ventilators. (NC)

5.5 Multi-purpose barn. This second frame tobacco barn has three loading bays facing north towards the railroad and the historic Armstrong land holdings. Constructed circa 1930, it was moved from the site of the present Maury County Airport in Mt. Pleasant during the 1960s. This structure may have been built as a stock or multi-purpose barn, but it has been used to cure tobacco. (NC)

5.6 Armstrong slave cemetery. This small cemetery borders the present CSX railroad near its junction with a spur line. It almost certainly predates the construction of the railroad (1859-60) and possibly dates from circa 1830. Approximately twenty-five graves are located in this roughly rectangular lot. Most graves are marked only by field stones, but a number have cut stones marked only with first names, and sometimes dates. This cemetery is the only surviving resource associated with the black slave population which toiled on Samuel Henry Armstrong's plantation. (C)

5.7 Well. This circa 1852 structure has a stone lining and a carved stone cap. A cistern empties into the well. (C)

### 6. Hamilton Place

Built in 1831-32 for Lucius Junius Polk Rare, Hamilton Place is an example of a Palladian country house. The earliest and perhaps best detailed of the Polk mansions at Ashwood, Hamilton Place embodies elements from high-

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style precedents. It has a main facade derived from Andrea Palladio's design for the Villa Pisano of the Montagnardas. Other details are also copied from notable early Classical buildings. For example, the interior arcade in the hall is adapted from that Brunelleschi designed for the hospital in Florence, Italy.<sup>28</sup>

The builder of this elaborate house has not been recorded. However, from family letters, it is known that workers for the house were sent out from North Carolina as early as 1829, when William Polk wrote his son Lucius, saying, "At this time, I think the carpenters may go to Tennessee in the month of October accompanied by Harry the Brick Mason." Work was well underway by late 1831, as Lucius wrote home at the time to state "My house has been covered in and one room finished."<sup>29</sup>

The brick manor is laid out on the central passage plan at the front with one story wings at the side added soon after construction of the main section. A long Tuscan colonnade leads to the detached two story kitchen at the rear. The house is built on a fine cut stone foundation with dressed ashlar water table and vents barred with cast iron columns. The side gable roof is covered with replacement wooden shingles.

The facade looks south, toward a long drive leading from the turnpike. The three bay front is arranged around a two story central portico. Elaborate fluted Doric-influenced columns, embellished by a formal cornice with triglyphs and metopes above, support the first story of the portico, while the second story is supported by smaller Ionic columns which topped by a simpler molded cornice. Above this is a pediment with raking cornice, shiplapped tympanaeum, and full entablature. The porch rests on stylobate and is reached by four carved stone steps.

Double-leaf grained doors are centered under the porch, flanked by original leaded sidelights and topped by an elaborate traceried transom and molded wooden cornice. Windows on each floor of the facade are also very elaborate. The tripart windows are composed of 6/6 light double-hung sashes that are flanked by narrower 2/2 light sidelights separated by fluted wooden colonettes. They are topped with ornamental stone lintels with molded cornices and paneled corner block. These windows are repeated on the front or south sides of the two one story wings.

The east and west elevations are basically identical. Walls are crowned by paired parapeted chimneys, common in this district but very rare elsewhere in the region. Unlike many other buildings with Flemish bond brickwork, Hamilton Place also utilizes Flemish bond on the elevations. One story brick gable roof extensions are joined to each side; these were probably

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added about 1870. Both sides have an inset brick gable end chimney at the center with a 6/5 light window to the rear. The west side also has a six-panel wooden door opening to the south or front of the chimney. Like the rest of the house, the additions rest on cut stone foundations and are topped by a circa 1982 wood shingle roof.

Even the rear of this magnificent house suggests the that a trained architect or master builder was involved in its design. The formal Tuscan colonnade running the length of the rear and along the center and side of the rear service ell forms one of the most attractive features of the house. The gallery is covered by a combination shed and gabled wood shingle roof. It is planked with wooden boards, rests on a stone and brick foundation, and features a spindled balustrade joining the columns. Windows on this elevation are somewhat simpler, with no sidelights but still topped by decorative wooden lintels with paneled corner block. One wooden paneled door opens from the house's rear hall.

About twelve yards to the rear of the east side section is the kitchen and service area. The one and two story common bond brick section is joined to the rear porch of the main house by the colonnade. The part closest to the house, containing two rooms, is one story high, topped by a gable shingle roof and features two six panel doors on the west end and two 6/6 light sashes on the east. Behind this section is the main two story block, a rectangular building resting on a stone foundation and topped by a gable wood shingle roof. On the east and west sides are small 9/6-light sashes, while the north side is plain but for a centered gable end chimney with corbeled cap. A full cellar under the kitchen house was originally used for the storage of fruits, liquor, and other perishables; access is from bulkhead doors on the south side of the wing under the colonnade. (C)

6.2 Smokehouse. Situated behind the manor and to the west of the semi-detached kitchen, the unaltered square brick structure sits on a continuous cut stone foundation and is topped by a wood shingle hip roof (circa 1980). Open brick in diamond patterns provides ventilation. A wooden vertical batten door is on the south side facing the house. This smokehouse contains its original salting log and chopping block. It dates from the period between the construction of the house in 1831-32 and the Civil War. (C)

6.3 Privy. This circa 1832 structure is of frame construction, sits on raised stone piers, and is topped by a wood shingle hip roof. The one story square five-seat structure is divided into two rooms, with doors on each side providing access to the interior. (C)

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6.4 Chicken coop. Erected circa 1890, the frame structure is covered with a combination of weatherboards and vertical board siding. It has a stone foundation, in part below grade, and is covered by a tin gable roof. (C)

6.5 Ice house archaeological feature. The remains of a circa 1850 icehouse are located approximately twenty yards west of the smokehouse. Oblong in shape, the pit is approximately fifteen feet wide, twelve feet deep, and lined with dry laid limestone blocks. The original building was a square board and batten frame structure with a wood shingle gable roof. Surviving photographs show that the frame portion was not razed until at least 1930. In recent years it has become a dump for household refuse. This archaeological feature has not been professionally evaluated. (Unevaluated resource)

6.6 Spring house. The circa 1832 spring house is located at the bottom of the hill behind the house, at Polk Spring, once called Devers Spring after earlier squatters. The rectangular rough cut stone structure is banked into the hill and has an opening on the west side from which the stream issues. It is covered with a tin roof on a wooden frame. (C)

6.7 Tobacco barn. This circa 1960 frame tobacco barn follows local prototypes. The large two story rectangular plan barn is four or five tiers tall and sided by two courses of vertical wooden boards. On top is a standing seam tin roof; access to the interior is by central loading doors on the south side. (NC)

6.8 Horse barn. A circa 1981 horse barn is located on the property down the hill and to the east of the rear of the manor. The large building is a corrugated metal structure and intrusive. (NC)

6.9 Fences and gates. The carriage drive leading from the turnpike is fenced by replacement wooden board fencing on the same lines as the original. In front of the house it runs into a oval with the original stone mounting block in the center. Another section of the drive leads off from the east side of the oval to the rear service yard and the barns. This oval is separated from the immediate house lawn by a wire and picket fence with simple wooden gates. From this point a broad herringbone brick sidewalk with stone curbs leads to the front steps. On the turnpike are substantial stone posts with carved stone acorns, symbol of the Polk family, on top; these were brought from Ashwood Hall after the fire, probably about 1887 when a set was taken to St. John's Church. Most of the fences are reconstructions. (NC)

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6.10 Historic landscape features. Like most of the other plantations of the district, it is well-sited in a landscaped park, with some early garden remnants. Most noticeable are the two large magnolias in the front yard. (C)

6.11 Well. Stone lined well was constructed circa 1832 and has a stone cap. (C)

6.12 Cistern. The cistern, including its stone cap, was constructed circa 1835, however the chain pump dates from circa 1900. (C)

7. Rattle and Snap

The last of the Ashwood plantations to be built was George Washington Polk's Rattle and Snap, built in 1855. Though usually dated at 1845, family letters indicate the house was built almost a decade later.<sup>30</sup>

George Washington Polk, son of William Polk, arrived in Tennessee in 1840. As early as 1843, he was making arrangements for large-scale improvements for his property.<sup>31</sup>

He first built some distance south of the turnpike. This was probably a rough frame or log house intended as temporary quarters before a suitable big house could be constructed. By about 1842, the new house was probably well underway. His mother, Sarah Hawkins Polk, who was staying at Rufus' on a visit, wrote his sister, Susan Polk Raynor, with news of the house construction. "George has pulled down his house and built nearer the center of his place - a much pleasanter and more convenient situation, a mile nearer the turnpike. Brother Lucius says the spot was marked by his Father to build on. I am the greatest sufferer by the change - it takes them three or four times as far from me."<sup>32</sup>

Historian W.S. Fleming stated in 1876 that George Polk did not begin his great house until "some years" after the completion of Hamilton Place and Ashwood Hall.<sup>33</sup> Family letters indicate the house was completed in 1855.

Woodworking plants from the upper Ohio and iron foundries from New Orleans supplied materials. Polk slaves cut the timber, hewed the limestone blocks, dug the clay and burned the thousands of bricks used in the house's construction. Craftsmen "plasterers, painters, and grainers" were brought to Maury County to carry out the skilled tasks.<sup>34</sup> Local limestone, probably quarried at Gravel Hill behind the house, was used in its construction.

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Legend holds that the ten great columns of the portico were transported in sections from Cincinnati. This seems unlikely, due to the sheer logistics of transportation of such a massive load, but it is known that the fine ornamental ironwork was ordered from foundries there. The front portico alone was said to have cost \$40,000.<sup>35</sup>

Rattle and Snap is two and one-half stories in height and has an L-plan. The main wing measures sixty-six feet by fifty-four feet and the measures ell fifty-four feet by twenty feet. The house sits on a raised dressed-stone foundation with full cellars, and is topped by a shallow hipped roof of stainless steel.

The facade looks north toward the turnpike. The house is centered around a recessed central entry. Ten monumental Corinthian columns, on a raised stone porch, support the heavy pedimented portico and cornice. Matching pilasters are located at the corners and to the sides of the porch recess. The front wall of the house is plastered. Entries are composed of double-leaf doors topped by a transom and flanked by single-leaf doors with round arch transoms to either side. The first floor central doorway is flanked by reeded palmiform columns and topped by a heavy denticulated cornice. Windows slide into recesses in the walls and are flanked by louvered wooden shutters.

The west or garden elevation is three bays wide with a one story pedimented porch supported by fluted columns at the center. The heavy cornice continues across the elevation. Two corbeled brick chimneys pierce the roof from the side bays below.

On the east elevation, paired French-light doors open to a magnificent iron porch. Slender columns supporting a balcony, a lacy grillwork frieze, and anthemions are the primary decorative features of the porch. This piece of ornamental ironwork is the finest example of such work in Maury County. Interior brick chimneys rise from the rooms to either side.

A long two story brick ell extends from the rear of the house. A two story gallery runs across the rear of the main section and along the east side of the rear ell. This section was extended in the early 1980s to provide for family living space when the house was being restored.

A bell system was once provided, with bells of different tones to alert particular house servants. One of the most unusual features on the grounds was a dinky track railroad with twenty inch gauge tracks leading from the

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outside to the basement. Slaves would fill the cars with potatoes or other produce and send them to more storerooms in the basement.<sup>36</sup> (C)

7.2 Privy. The brick privy is a reconstruction and dates from about 1980. It contains utility equipment and the heating system for the house. Heat is ducted to the house through an underground service tunnel. The original privy site was the subject of an archaeological investigation conducted in 1981 by Jane Hinshaw. (NC)

7.3 Carriage house. This structure is largely a reconstruction of the original brick carriage barn. The original west and south walls and parts of other walls survived, but the original roof system was no longer intact. The present structure was rebuilt in 1981. (NC)

7.4 Gate House. A circa 1979 brick gate house is located at the base of the hill below the house. The small rectangular brick structure is covered by a hipped copper roof and contains a control station for the farm and house gates. (NC)

7.5 Landscape features. A reconstructed period garden with modern temple style gazebo is located off the west side. Constructed circa 1980, this garden is not an original feature, nor based directly on any of the original garden's evidence. (NC)

7.6 House 1. This house was built about 1977 for Mrs. Jane H. Babcock, who had undertaken the first rehabilitation of Rattle and Snap in the 1950s. The one story brick veneer house is laid out on a central passage plan with gable end exterior brick chimneys, pedimented entry, and a central gable bay end centered on the rear elevation. The house rests on a brick foundation and is topped by a side gable asphalt shingle roof. (NC)

7.7 House 2. This house was built about 1972 for Mollie Babcock Johnson, daughter of Mrs. Jane Babcock. This one and one-half story brick veneer house follows an irregular rectangular plan and is roofed with asphalt shingles. (NC)

7.8 House 3. This circa 1980 house is located on the highway east on the Rattle and Snap farm, one half mile west of the main entrance to the farm. It is a small rectangular frame structure that is covered in vinyl siding and topped by a gable roof with asphalt shingles. A shed porch extends across the facade, and an original shed extension is across the rear. (NC)

7.9 House 4. On the east side of Hoover-Mason Lane, one half mile south of the turnpike, is a small circa 1875 frame farmhouse that is now a part of

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the large Rattle and Snap tract. The one story house is laid out on an irregular cross-gable plan with rear gable roof extension. The irregular shape roof is covered with tin. A shed porch supported by chamfered posts with spandrel arch brackets is located on the facade. (C)

7.10 Grain bins. In the center of the forward field east of the mansion is a cluster of eight large cylindrical metal grain bins, with a central range metal loading shed and an auger-type unloader tower on top. The bins date from about 1980. (NC)

7.11 Silos. A set of paired immense metal Harvestore type airtight silos are located three hundred yards west of the grain bins, and also likely date from about 1980. (NC)

7.12 Farm office. This large metal building, containing the farm office and shop, is rectangular in plan and covered with a shallow gable roof. It was built about 1980. (NC)

(The following three properties are part of the Rattle and Snap Show Barn complex, located across the turnpike southwest of the Cherry Glen site.)

7.13 Hay barn. This rectangular plan hay barn apparently dates from around 1900. The vertical board frame structure is built on a frame of timber uprights and has a tin gable roof with sawtooth vergeboards along the side eaves. (C)

7.14 Stock barn. This large rectangular plan vertical board frame stock barn was built about 1890. The two story structure has front side drive-throughs and a bonnet on the south side for loading hay to and from the loft above. (C)

7.15 Sales barn. This large rectangular plan building dates from about 1980. It is covered with metal siding and has a shallow gable roof. (NC)

7.16 Tobacco barn 1. One half mile northeast of the show barn complex is a circa 1930 vertical board frame tobacco barn. The large rectangular plan structure is built on a frame of locust poles, has bottom and side swing doors, a central drive-through, and a front gable tin roof with six ventilators. (C)

7.17 Tobacco barn 2. One mile north of the main house to the side of a large lake at the head of Patterson Branch is a 1970s tobacco barn built by James Campbell. The large rectangular structure is covered in rough sawn

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vertical board, has original side shed wings, and a gable tin roof with rotary ventilators. (NC)

8. Ashwood Hall site

Ash Wood or Ashwood Hall, sometimes called the Marble Mansion, was a two story brick and stone house located on a hill off the turnpike facing the old Ashwood Lane, now Zion Road. Built for Leonidas Polk, it was begun in 1834 and completed in 1837. The original design was probably drawn up by Polk, as he wrote his mother boasting that he was "his own architect" for the project. After being elected Missionary Bishop to the Southwest, Leonidas sold his house to his brother, Andrew Jackson Polk, in 1845. The deed was not recorded until July, 1853. Andrew Polk immediately sold the property, along with all appointments, including paintings, portraits, engravings, furniture, indeed everything except the silver plate, to Anthony W. Van Leer (or Vanleer), his father-in-law, for \$16,000. The same day, July 29, 1853, Van Leer in turn transferred the property to his daughter Rebecca, the wife of Andrew Polk.<sup>37</sup>

At this point the house was greatly expanded. James M. Hughes, a Nashville carpenter and contractor, may have done the remodeling work for Andrew Polk. In an 1850 suit against William Strickland, architect of the Tennessee State Capitol (NHL11/11/71), Hughes<sup>38</sup> stated that he had done remodeling work for Andrew Polk of Maury County.

The enlarged house has a central passage plan and rested on a stone foundation. Four huge Corinthian columns supported a heavy broad pediment in front of the recessed porch. A wrought iron balcony was cantilevered from the second floor. A heavy entablature encircled the entire metal hip roof. One story wings extended this house to either side.

A relation, Mary Polk Branch described it as "a stately home, with a grove of one hundred acres, sturdy oaks. Two large halls opened into each other, with picture gallery, fine library, billiard room, conservatories " everything for pleasure and luxury."<sup>39</sup>

The grounds were landscaped with two hundred trees, many native, others imported. An English gardener was brought over to design and care for the lawns, gardens, greenhouses, and two orchards where espaliered fruit trees were trained on trellises and against the walls.

Ashwood Hall was destroyed by a fire in 1874 and is included in the district as a site. The Ashwood Hall archaeological site is characterized

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by the presence of brick rubble, including glazed headers, artifactual debris, and dislocated foundation stones. The orientation and location of extant outbuildings can be used to indicate the location and orientation of the manor site. Recent surface bulldozing has revealed the stone foundation of the residence. No archaeological testing has been performed at the site, but since the house burned while in use, it is likely to yield valuable information on building practices, artifact assemblages from a known high status socio-economic class, and assemblages for working classes also present on the site. There is no apparent large scale disturbance that would preclude the existence of intact archaeological deposits(C)

8.2 Kitchen. Believed to have been constructed circa 1835, this dependency is a single bay, rectangular plan structure that may have been built as the plantation kitchen, although architectural evidence suggests other possible uses. The building is of six course common bond brick construction and rests on a cut stone foundation. It has a tin gable roof, weatherboarded gable fields, and a central interior brick chimney. All original doors and windows are missing with the exception of a vertical board door on the south elevation. The interior contains two rooms divided by a brick partition wall. On the south side is a circa 1900 shed roof frame section covered with cove weatherboard siding. (C)

8.3 Well house. This structure was built about 1900 when the original detached kitchen was being used as a tenant farmer residence. The board and batten frame outbuilding is rectangular in plan, with front gabled tin roof, and batten door. It was a pump house for the farm well. (C)

8.4 Privy. This common type privy served the occupants of the kitchen when it was later used as a residence. The circa 1900 structure is of vertical board construction and topped by a shed tin roof. The privy has fallen over and is in derelict condition. (NC)

8.5 Tobacco barn. This large rectangular frame tobacco barn was present by 1938, as it appears in an aerial photograph taken that year. The vertical board structure is built on a frame of locust or white oak poles. Swing doors are located at the side and are hinged at the top. It has a central drive-through, gable metal roof with ridge vents, and a one story frame shed roof stripping room on the east side. (C)

8.6 Historic landscape features. More than a century after the main house was destroyed by fire, traces of the original (circa 1845) landscaped grounds remain. The ginkgo tree near the kitchen is the state record tree for its species.<sup>40</sup> Two large ornamental evergreens from the grounds also remain on the hillside, behind the immediate house site. (C)

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9. West Brook site

Rufus King Polk, another of the sons of William Polk of North Carolina to relocate to his father's immense Rattle and Snap tract, settled on the southern part of the tract, two miles south of the turnpike. There he built a two story log house which he named West Brook.

West Brook took its name from the small West brook or branch of Bigby River, which rises in a low line of hills about four miles south of Ashwood. This small stream, now called Isbell Branch, flows into Quality Creek, then into Sugar Creek, a major fork or tributary of Big Bigby. The house was located near a strong spring on the north side of the branch, on a farm now owned by Mrs. Paul Cecil, one mile south of St. John's.

The farm was likely located here to take advantage of the strong spring, which William McClinchey noted in his diary as having never failed from 1839 until a severe drought in 1887. After Rufus's untimely death in 1843, it was his wife Sallie's home, then that of his son, General Lucius Eugene Polk. West Brook burned in 1896. Newspaper accounts stated that the house contained valuable papers, jewelry, and silverware. No one was present at the time of the fire and it was supposed that the house was robbed and then set afire.<sup>41</sup>

The general location of the residence, just north of the spring, is shown on an historic map of the property,<sup>42</sup> but no evidence of the house has been located. (Unevaluated resource)

10. St. John's Episcopal Church

Perhaps the last plantation church built in the South, St. John's Church reflects the religious values, culture, and architecture diversity of the planter class. Begun in 1839, it is the oldest surviving church building in Maury County. The church was built by five sons of William Polk at the corner of four of their plantations. It is modeled after a small chapel in Devon, and somewhat less directly after the Chapel of the Cross at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where many of the Polk family attended the University.

St. John's Episcopal Church is constructed almost entirely of local materials. The dark red brick for the walls was dug from a pit to the rear of the church. The poplar lumber came from woods on the Polk places, the

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nails were made by Polk blacksmiths, and the wood for the reredos and chancel appointments came from a large black cherry tree which stood on the spot of the altar. The cut limestone for the foundation was quarried on Gravel Hill behind Rattle and Snap. The brick is laid in Flemish bond with carefully aligned perpends, and the structure is topped by a steep pitch front gable slate roof.

The facade looks north towards the turnpike. A tall three story central tower is the distinguishing point of the facade. The tower is braced with narrow brick buttresses with stone weatherings at the corners; the corners of the church are also braced with narrow buttresses. Brick belt courses delineate the three stories of the tower, which is topped by a low parapet with tall corbeled brick crennels at the four corners. The entry on the first floor, reached by six stone steps, is a set of double-leaf six panel pointed-arch doors framed by paneled wooden reveals and topped by a graceful arch of ornamental brick. On the second floor, again facing the front, is a lancet window unit comprised of two stages of operating French windows with diamond-shaped lights, topped by lancet arches with traceried glass kites between the junction of the two sections. The window too, is topped by matching ornamental brick molding. On the third floor the window is replaced by a lancet-shaped set of fixed bell louvers.

East and west elevations are identical, each being three bays wide and separated by brick buttresses with stone weatherings. Windows are similar to that on the second floor of the tower, only taller. These diamond-traceried windows represent some of the best fenestration in Maury County. Narrow openings at the foundation level provide ventilation to the basement space.

At the rear or south side of the building is the original sacristy, a one story brick section projecting from the back of the chancel area. This one room section has a tall eight panel door on the east side and a 6/9-light sash with lancet lights above it on the west. The south wall is plain but for a gable end interior corbeled brick chimney. A circa 1945 low brick shed to house garden equipment joins the rear at this point, but it is small and unobtrusive. (C)

10.2 Cemetery. The churchyard was first used on May 18, 1842 for the burial of Martha Parrish. The first member of the Polk family to be buried here was Rufus Polk, in 1843.<sup>43</sup> Since that time, burials have totalled about four hundred.

The Polk family plots are generally behind and to the east of the church. Many of these are flat slab stones decorated only with a name and dates of

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the deceased. Other family monuments are far more elaborate. The Polk slaves are buried generally in the rear part of the cemetery, their graves sometimes marked with simpler stones.

Immediately behind the church is a small Confederate cemetery containing dead from the Battle of Ashwood and the Battle of Franklin (NHL10/15/66) several days later. Four or five of the six Confederate generals killed or mortally wounded at the Battle of Franklin were once interred next to the troops. After the war, their bodies were disinterred but the places from which they were removed have never been used again.

Since the removal of the body of Bishop James Otey to St. John's Episcopal Church after the Civil War, it has been a burying ground for the bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee. Bishop Otey is buried in a handsome sandstone tomb carved in the shape of a cathedral with a carved bishop's cope and miter on the top. His tomb is located in the center of the cemetery beneath an old magnolia. Nearby are the graves of bishops Barth, Vander Horst, and Gates; Bishop Maxon is buried off the southwest corner of the church behind the Granberry family plot.

A number of parishioners, including the Pillow and Ridley families and their relations are buried here, as are the Granberrys who long owned Rattle and Snap. Burials are now restricted to Episcopalians. (C)

10.3 Stone wall and gate. St. John's church and cemetery is enclosed by a fine dry-laid stone wall on all sides, with a shallow drainage ditch on each side. This wall was constructed about 1874. The entrance is graced by fine stone pillars topped by carved stone acorns (symbols of the Polk family); the gates themselves are of pointed iron bars. The gate set, which came from the Ashwood Hall site across the road, was given by Van Leer Polk in 1887.<sup>44</sup> A stone stile providing pedestrian access to the churchyard is located to its east side. (C)

10.4 Historic landscape features. With some features dating from the 1850s, large trees here include shortleaf pines, chinquapin oaks, and copper beeches. The English Yew holds the state record for Tennessee; its diameter at breast height is nine feet nine inches, with a total height of thirty-four feet and a crown spread of forty-eight feet.<sup>45</sup> The English boxwood beside the tomb of "Devil John" Polk is also large. A broad brick sidewalk leads from the front drive to the church steps. (C)

10.5 Privies. Two small vertical board frame privies with tin shed roofs and vertical batten wooden doors are located along the west wall fronting

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Polk Lane. These probably date from about 1940 and have been recently rehabilitated. (C)

11. Farringford

Farringford on Evans Lane was begun in the early years of the Zion settlement, about 1808-1810. The original section, a two story frame structure, is now the rear of the larger house. The present front section was added about 1875 and reflects the Queen Anne influence in its embellishments.

The original part of the house was built for David Frierson (1778-1828) and his wife Sally Blakely. It is of braced frame construction and covered with weatherboards. Two stories in height, this section rests on a rough continuous stone foundation and is topped by a standing-seam gable tin roof. A three-stepped gable end exterior brick chimney is exposed on the east side; its counterpart on the west has been incorporated into the enlarged front section. Windows are small double-hung sashes with 6/6 lights. This section now forms the rear ell to the house.

The 1875 main two story front section is arranged on the cross gable plan and has weatherboard siding. Windows are usually 1/1 light sashes on the facade and 4/4 light sashes on the elevations or occasionally paired or side-lighted. Many are enhanced by decorative lintels with scalloped trim and flanked by louvered shutters. A bay window is on the front gable end. The porch is a one story wraparound shed roof structure supported by tapered square antae. Like the circa 1808 section, this major extension of the house is set on a rough limestone foundation and is topped by a tin roof, in this case with a cross gable arrangement. Chimneys are brick with corbeled caps and are located in the interior. (C)

11.2 Smokehouse. This original log structure likely dates from the period of construction of the 1875 additions to the house. Lower in height than most of the smokehouses in the district, it is constructed of hewn logs assembled at the corner with half-dovetail notching. The structure rests on log sills and is topped by a front gable tin roof. (C)

11.3 Shed. A small board and batten frame shed with a tin shed roof stands at the rear of the house lot. This circa 1890 rectangular structure was probably a potting shed or garden outbuilding. The foundation is of stone and brick and access is provided by a plain vertical batten door. (C)

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11.4 Spring house. This circa 1880 structure replaced or complemented the original dug well on the property. It has a narrow open latticework wooden structure with tin gable roof over the underground spring house. The spring house is reached by a series of stone and concrete steps. (C)

11.5 Dovecote. Probably dating from about the time of the 1875 remodeling, this small dovecote is a rectangular wooden structure atop a stout wooden post. It is topped by a shallow hipped roof of tin shingles, trimmed at the edge with scalloped trim, and surmounted by a small wooden finial. It was used to raise doves or homing pigeons. (C)

11.6 Barn. The circa 1880 exterior appearance of this combination barn hides an early single pen log crib barn. The circa 1808 log pen is a rectangular structure with half-dovetail notching and resting on a stone foundation. In the late nineteenth century its original roof was removed and a much larger frame structure was built around it. The resulting structure, partly fitted as a tobacco barn, is framed in vertical board siding and topped by a steep front gable tin roof with two ventilating cupolas on the ridge. (C)

11.7 Garage. The garage is a circa 1955 wooden frame structure, rectangular in plan and resting on a poured foundation. (NC)

11.8 Play house. The play house, a small rectangular plan wooden structure in the back yard, was built about 1968. (NC)

11.9 Fence and gates. The wooden plank fence around the property dates to 1939. At the same time a new entry was installed. The owner had the gate posts to her alma mater, the Ward-Belmont College in Nashville, copied and surmounted by two immense metal eagles. The original eagles were removed to Nashville in the 1940s and the next owner installed the present pair, which were cast metal eagles to advertise the I.E. Case Company. (C)

11.10 Historic landscape features. The house and dependencies are situated in the midst of an attractive wooded park. The tulip poplars here are of enormous size. This landscape is an essential element of the farmstead and dates from the 1870s. (C)

11.11 Sunken road. Along the southern side of the property can be detected the original route of present Evans Lane, the old Zion-Ashwood cross road. The road was rerouted because of a very sharp corner to its present configuration early in this century, but the circa 1810 sunken road can be clearly discerned. (C)

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### 12. W.J. Frierson log house

Dating from about 1808-1810, the house was built by William James Frierson (1775-1834), older brother of David Frierson, who built the oldest portion of Farringford. This log house is the most intact log building in the district from the early period, and is one of the earliest surviving houses in Maury County.

The double pen log structure faces south towards the original road. Unlike most double pen log houses in the county, which are built on an open center or dogtrot plan, this house is built in two adjacent pens sharing a common interior wall. Logs are poplar and joined at the corner with half-dovetail notching. The building rests on limestone piers and is topped by a side gable asphalt shingle roof. It has a very early side gabled addition of pegged frame construction, which is covered in part with its original weatherboard. At the rear is a circa 1930 one story ell. The entire house was once covered with wide, rough sawn weatherboards, but some boards on the front have been removed. Doors enter each pen from the south facade. The door to one pen is a wood and glass panel replacement door, while that to the second pen is a four-panel wooden door. A 6/6 light sash is located to the west of the door in the west bay, and above it is smaller eight light pivot window.

The west elevation is a plain weatherboarded wall with a single 4/4 light double-hung sash to the front of the chimney, with a smaller gable window. An exterior gable end stone chimney is centered on this side.

To the east side is an early side gabled addition that is built on a braced and pegged wooden frame. It is covered with rough weatherboards at the rear and side elevations and with replacement siding on the south facade. This section has two 4/4 light sashes on the south, an eight light center-pivot window on the east side, and a single 4/4 light sash on the rear.

Joining the main log section at the north or rear elevation is a circa 1930 frame ell, which sits on a cinder block foundation and is topped by a gabled asphalt roof. It has a narrow brick flue rising from the central ridge, three 4/4-light sashes on the west side, a single matching window on the north or gable elevation, two doors opening onto a small shed porch on the east side. One of the doors is comprised of two raised vertical panels and another door is comprised of four panels. On the remaining rear portion of the log structure, to the east side of the ell, is yet another 4/4-light sash.

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The building has been altered by the construction of the rear ell, replacement of the original wooden shake roof by first a tin roof and later asphalt shingles, and removal and replacement of some of the original weatherboards. Nevertheless, the house retains its basic plan and appearance and is an important contributing building in the district. (C)

12.2 Garage. This circa 1975 structure is a single car garage has a rectangular plan and is constructed of rough sawn wide weatherboard with a metal shed roof. (NC)

12.3 Stock barn. A 1940 frame barn is located forty yards southwest of the house. The weatherboarded structure is built on a frame of heavy sawn timbers set on concrete piers. Access is by paired barn doors at the center and other wide doors under the shed sides. All doors and openings are set in surrounds with rounded corners. Hanging below the front gable tin roof is a metal loading track. (C)

12.4 Silos. Two circa 1980 Grain Systems round silos are located just south of the stock barn. These silos are built on a common poured concrete foundation and are covered with corrugated metal siding. Both silos have badger-type unloaders attached. (NC)

12.5 Tractor shed. A long rectangular tractor shed is located behind the stock barn and silos. The circa 1975 structure has ten equipment bays, is built on a framework of light beams on concrete piers, and has a metal shed roof and metal rear wall. (NC)

12.6 Tobacco barn feature . Seventy yards in front of the house, a chimney is all that survives of a large circa 1930 frame tobacco barn. The chimney was once a part of the attached stripping room. The barn was destroyed by a windstorm in 1987. (Unevaluated resource)

13. Dower Farm

Known as the Dower Farm, the circa 1905 residence was given by D.F. Watkins, a prosperous farmer, as dowry for a daughter who married Gus Sowell. (It is known as the Old Sowell Farm). The main house of the farm is an unusual adaptation of the Classical Revival style. It is laid out on the four over four plan common in the early twentieth century, but certain decorative elements on the house are copied from earlier Greek Revival houses. It rests on a stone foundation with raised mortar joints and is topped by an asphalt shingled hip roof with hip roof dormers on all sides but the rear.

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The most prominent feature of the north facade is a tall integral portico supported by four square paneled columns. The recessed porch behind has an elaborate sidelighted entry with leaded glass transom. Above this is a matching doorway opening into blind space since there is no second-story porch, nor any evidence that one once existed. Windows on the facade are double-hung sashes with 9/9 lights and three light sidelights.

East and west sides are similar and feature the same 9/9 light sidelighted windows, only here in tripartite arrangements. Other windows at the side and rear and in the dormers are smaller 1/1 light sashes. On the east side is a massive exterior end brick chimney with corbeled cap.

A two story rear shed section may be original. It rests on a continuation of the house's stone foundation, and is framed in the same horizontal weatherboards. Windows in this section are 1/1 light double-hung sashes. On the second floor, an original screened sleeping porch was enclosed about 1945. (C)

13.2 Smokehouse. Constructed circa 1930, this is a rectangular frame building covered with cove weatherboard siding. It rests on stone corner piers and is covered by a front gable roof of French lap asphalt shingles. The only opening is a vertical batten wooden door on the north side facing the house. (C)

13.3 Chicken house. This circa 1930 structure is still used for its original function. The one story board and batten frame structure is topped by a tin shed roof. On the east facade is a plain batten door and a tripartite series of Yorkshire lights. (C)

13.4 Garage. This circa 1930 frame structure is rectangular in plan with an original side shed section. It is covered with weatherboard siding and topped by a front gable asphalt roof. The double-leaf doors are of vertical wooden battens. (C)

13.5 Outbuilding. The rectangular plan board and batten frame outbuilding was erected circa 1890 approximately seventy yards southeast of the house. It has a stone pier foundation and a front gable tin roof. The door faces north and is composed of wooden battens. (C)

13.6 Tobacco barn 1. The older of two tobacco barns on the property, this large barn is of board and batten frame construction. It is built on a frame of locust poles sunk into the earth and is topped by a metal gable roof with six ventilators across the ridge. It appears to have been built

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about 1930, although it may have been adapted from an earlier hay or stock barn. (C)

13.7 Tobacco barn 2. This smaller barn was built about 1940, is of vertical board construction on a frame of poles set on blocks, and has a gabled tin roof with only two vents on top. (C)

13.8 Tenant house. Probably built in the 1910s as a tenant farmer or overseer house, this small rectangular plan structure is of frame construction. Covered with weatherboard siding, it is built on a stone pier foundation, and has an exterior gable end brick chimney on the north elevation. A rear shed section is original, but part of the front shed porch has been enclosed, probably in the 1950s. The house is now abandoned and in derelict condition. (NC)

13.9 Hay barn. This building has probably been used for the storage of hay since its construction circa 1905. The rectangular structure is of weatherboard and horizontal board construction and is built on a framework of locust or oak poles. The barn has a hayloft on the second floor and an open shed section to the east. A vertical board rear shed section was added by the 1930s. (C)

13.10 Spring house. The circa 1960 spring house is in a declivity far behind the main house. It is a small square concrete block structure covered on top with sheet tin. (NC)

13.11 Log crib. A circa 1870 single pen structure of squared cedar logs assembled at the corners with half-dovetail notching, this structure predates the farmhouse. It rests on stone piers, has a tin front gable roof, and a small batten door. It was probably built as a corn crib, although hay is stored there now. (C)

13.12 Stock barn. An original circa 1905 transverse crib stock barn of weatherboard frame construction is located at the rear of the property. It has largely collapsed in recent years and no longer retains integrity. (NC)

14. Tree Haven

Originally constructed before the Civil War, Tree Haven on Old Zion Lane is one of Maury County's most graceful and interesting vernacular houses. The irregular two story frame house embodies elements of the Italianate and Queen Anne styles and has been little altered. The house rests on a slight

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rise overlooking a small branch of Greenlick Creek, and is surrounded by a dense grove of mature indigenous trees, from which the house takes its name. Also on the property are a number of the original outbuildings, making Tree Haven an intact nineteenth century farmstead.

The two story poplar weatherboarded frame house is built on an irregular plan. A three-quarter length shed roof porch extends across the long center section. The center section is joined by a perpendicular cross gable section at the side and a smaller, one story ell to the rear. The house rests on a continuous limestone foundation and is topped by an irregular cross gable composition roof. Tall corbeled brick chimneys break the roof at several points.

The facade faces east toward Old Zion Lane, a small country road connecting the historic Zion settlement nearby with the Columbia-Mt. Pleasant Pike. It has a single-leaf wood and glass panel door, with an arched transom at the center, and tall sash windows with segmental arch windows to the south. At the north end is the front pavilion of the cross gable section. A bay window with 2/2 light sashes in each part and a smaller 2/2 light sash on the second floor are found here. Matching windows on the south side face the porch and the south lawn. They are repeated over the entry and south window as well. From the side of the front pavilion to the south end extends the three-quarter length hip roof porch, which is supported by heavy chamfered wooden posts joined by spandrel arches and encircled by a dentil cornice. The deck is of cypress, a wood not native to Maury County but common in counties to the southwest. The porch terminates in an open porte cochere to the south.

The south gable end has large 2/2 sashes on both floors. Behind this is an original two story shed section, again with sashes on both floors. However, the lower floor has a circa 1945 replacement of an original door, which opened from a short side hall to a slight rearward projection of the porte cochere.

The north end, the long two story perpendicular section, has 2/2 light sashes matching those on the facade and opposite elevation. From the center extends a small one story gabled section of board and batten frame construction. Once used as a dining room, tradition states that this section may date from circa 1810. This may have been built for the Reverend James White Stephenson, minister of Zion Church, the first church in the county. That the building is of such early date is doubtful and can not be confirmed. When the main body of the house was constructed some decades later, this section was incorporated into the structure, and it now serves as the kitchen, the original detached kitchen having burned.

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The rear or garden elevation has been somewhat altered. A second one story board and batten extension forms a small ell off the back of the central hall. It is topped by a gable roof and features a central corbeled brick exterior chimney at the end. Double-hung sashes with 6/6 lights are located on all walls. Along the north wall of the ell and the remaining part of the west wall of the main part of the house was a screen shed porch, perhaps open in early years. This porch was enclosed about 1945 and now serves as utility area and a conservatory/aviary. (C)

14.2 Smokehouse. Twenty yards to the southwest of the main house is the antebellum smokehouse, used for its original purpose until recent years. This weatherboarded frame structure is not as tall in proportion as most Maury County smokehouses. It is topped by a front gable tin roof with a small cupola near the front. Although the exterior appearance of the structure is basically unchanged, the interior is presently being converted to a studio. (C)

14.3 Ice house. Seventy yards northwest of the smokehouse is a part of the original circa 1890 ice house. The structure is a cylindrical room below grade, accessed by a stone walled ramp and steps from the west side. The wooden frame is no longer present, but the main stone section of the icehouse is intact (it serves as a tornado shelter). (C)

14.4 Pool house. About forty-five feet behind the main house is a small cottage built circa 1957 from parts of earlier quarters or dependencies. This house is a one story structure of board and batten frame construction, resting on a stone pier foundation and topped by a side gable standing seam tin roof. The facade faces east towards the main house and is centered around a wood and glass panel door opening into a narrow gabled porch. Small 4/4 light sashes flank the door and are also located on the other elevations. A rough fieldstone gable end exterior chimney is located on the south elevation. The interior of this building has been converted from an office into a bath house for the adjacent swimming pool. (NC)

14.5 Outbuilding 1. About seventy feet southwest of these structures are two farm buildings situated next to each other. The first is a circa 1900 two level carriage shed and barn. It is of frame construction with vertical and horizontal board siding and topped by a front gable tin roof. The outbuilding has two open bays on the east facade and a plain batten door on the elevation. (C)

14.6 Outbuilding 2. Immediately to the south of the carriage shed is a second building, a circa 1920 rectangular weatherboarded frame structure.

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Open to the west, it rests on a stone and concrete block foundation and is topped by a tin gable roof. (C)

14.7 Play house. About eighty yards south of the main house at the edge of the park is a circa 1900 wooden privy that relocated to this location, renovated, and used as a play house. Because the structure has been moved, it is listed as non-contributing. (NC)

14.8 Outbuilding 3. In the first barn lot behind the immediate house dependencies are two small rectangular outbuildings dating from the late nineteenth century, perhaps from the time of the house's remodeling. The larger of the structures was apparently a carriage house or small barn. Erected circa 1870, the rectangular board and batten frame structure rests on a low stone foundation and is topped by a front gable tin roof. It has vertical batten carriage doors on the south elevation and a single-leaf batten door on the north elevation. In the early twentieth century a one story side shed addition was built onto the east elevation of the structure. (C)

14.9 Chicken house. Somewhat smaller than the neighboring outbuilding, this board and batten frame structure sits on a raised stone foundation and is topped by a front gable tin roof. Centered on the north facade, is a plain vertical batten wooden door. Built as a chicken house, it is now used as a chemicals storage building, (C)

14.10 Equipment shed. A long, partially open, rectangular plan vertical board frame structure, the main equipment shed dates from the late 1940s. The structure has three open bays and with a closed bay to each side, and is topped by a simple metal shed roof. (NC)

14.11 Tractor shed. This second tractor or equipment shed is a circa 1960 one story vertical board frame structure with a low pitch gable tin gable roof and batten garage doors. Joined to its rear is an earlier frame barn of undefined use, probably dating from the late 1940s. (NC)

14.12 Hay barn. The oldest and smallest of three barns on the property dates from about 1900, and was built as a hay shed or small stock barn. This central passage rectangular plan barn is a weatherboarded and vertical board frame structure resting on a framework of locust poles set directly into the earth. A shed section at the south elevation was apparently added in the 1920s or 1930s. This structure is behind the first barn lot and approximately one hundred yards west of the main house. (C)

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14.13 Tobacco barn. The largest barn on the property is a circa 1930 rectangular tobacco barn. Approximately one hundred twenty feet by fifty feet, it is built on a framework of heavy timbers set into the ground. The barn is covered with vertical white oak boards in three courses, with hinged swing doors and four roof-top vents for air circulation. The front gable roof is sheathed in tin and the doors are of braced vertical battens. A circa 1945 stripping room of cinder block construction has been built off the south elevation. (C)

14.14 Stock barn 1. This circa 1930 combination stock barn is laid out on the transverse crib pattern common to the Southern heartland. It is rectangular in plan and constructed of oak lumber on a frame of locust poles. Above the hayloft is a front gable corrugated metal roof. (C)

14.15 Stock barn 2. Located one-quarter mile north of the main barn complex is a second feeder barn. It is a circa 1950 vertical board wooden barn on a sawn timber frame. The rectangular structure is covered by a tin gable roof. (NC)

14.16 Silo. This tall silo was built about 1945 of concrete panel construction with a metal dome roof. (NC)

14.17 Historic landscape features. The main house is built on a small knoll in the middle of the wooded park from which it takes its name. Dating from circa 1875 to the present, the grounds are informally landscaped, with scattered vegetable and herb gardens and beds of species roses. (C)

15. Williams-Fleming House (Peacocks)

This irregular frame house, called Peacocks for the last decade, was built in several stages. The first section was built by the Reverend C. Foster Williams, pastor of Zion Presbyterian Church and son-in-law of Samuel Henry Armstrong of Pine Hill. Completed by the 1850s, it was a two story log house with detached board and batten frame kitchen at the rear. The main log section burned in the late nineteenth century, and was replaced in 1889 with the present one and one-half story frame house. This was built for J.W. Fleming, Williams' son-in-law, who had inherited the property. The frame kitchen, which survived, was incorporated into the present house in the early twentieth century, when a small frame house was moved from the front corner of the Fleming farm on the highway at the end of Old Zion Lane, four hundred yards to the southwest. About 1935 another room was

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constructed at the rear of the 1889 section, and to the side of the early connecting section, giving the house its present plan.

The 1889 section is of weatherboarded frame construction, one and one-half-stories in height, with a steep pitch front gable fiberglass shingle roof punctuated at the ridge by a corbeled brick chimney. A narrow wraparound shed roof porch extends around the south and east elevations. It is supported by turned posts with limited sawn trim. Fenestration in this section is comprised of 4/4 light sashes with segmental arch lintels. The four-panel wooden doors at the south and west elevations are also topped by segmental arches. On the second floor, segmental arch windows are located on the north and south elevations; one of those on the north is inscribed "J.W. Fleming, 1889". Small original rectangular center-pivot windows are seen on the west elevation below the overhanging eaves.

Immediately to the rear or north of this main section is the most recently added room, dating from circa 1935. This weatherboarded frame section has a asphalt hip roof broken by a tall metal fireplace flue. Windows on the west and north elevations are double-hung sashes with 1/1 lights and simple architrave surrounds..

To the east of the added room and off a continuation of the wraparound porch is a row of rooms and halls connecting the original detached kitchen with the main part of the house. Part of this section results from the enclosure of earlier connecting breezeways, likely built in 1889, with the kitchen section to the rear. These sections are all topped by front gable tin roofs of varying heights. The southernmost section is entirely weatherboarded and has 1/1 light sashes; this section was probably constructed during the first remodeling. Behind this, and somewhat lower, is a narrow room which was once a part of the breezeway. This section has large four-light sash windows that slide up into reveals in the walls. This part is covered in board and batten siding like the kitchen behind. An enclosed shed roof porch was added to the east elevation about 1960 but it is unobtrusive.

Behind the narrow room is the old kitchen which is of heavy frame construction and covered with board and batten siding. The gable tin roof is pierced at center by a corbeled brick chimney. The 6/6 light sashes on east and west elevations are replacements. Also, this section has been altered by the construction of a small frame shed utility section at its rear. This section is small and does not damage the integrity of the house.  
(C)

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15.2 Smokehouse. Erected before 1900, the frame smokehouse is covered with board and batten siding and has a front gable tin roof. The batten is door broken, boards on the rear elevation are deteriorated, and the entire building is slightly askew. Despite this, the building is still used for storage and retains sufficient integrity to make it a contributing structure. (C)

15.3 Outbuilding. This circa 1920 rectangular, weatherboarded and front gabled frame structure was built over a deep root cellar with stone lined walls. The roof has blown off and the entire structure is falling into the pit below. It does not retain structural integrity. (NC)

15.4 Potting shed. A greenhouse (Boyd's Nursery) was located here for a while in the 1970s. The greenhouses have been destroyed by windstorms, but the office and potting shed remain. It is a circa 1977 an unfinished frame structure of beam construction with diagonal rough-sawn boards loosely covering the frame and a hipped tin roof. (NC)

15.5 Clay pit. To the east of the house is a depression, which is purportedly the circa 1835 pit from which clay was dug for the bricks for Pine Hill. The land on which the pit, now partially filled with brush, is located, was once a part of the farm of Samuel Henry Armstrong, Pine Hill's builder. (Unevaluated resource)

15.6 Historic landscape features. A row of six tall red cedars, planted in the nineteenth century, separates the house from Old Zion Lane. The two magnolias in the front yard are among the largest in Maury County. (C)

16. Duke Store Group

16.1 Duke Store. This circa 1940 store is located on the turnpike one mile east of St. John's Episcopal Church and directly across from the lane to Bethel Place. It is a one story, three bay, concrete block building constructed in a T-plan. On the south facade is a circa 1970 metal awning projecting over the storefront. The facade also has a stepped false front parapet, four-light display windows, and multi-light wood and glass doors. Circa 1980 replacement doors and windows have been added on the other elevations. (C)

16.2 Duke House. Built about 1920 in the Bungalow style, the Duke House is a one and one-half story, central entry rectangular plan frame house covered with weatherboard siding. It rests on a concrete block foundation and is topped by a side gable roof of asphalt shingles. The main facade

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looks south towards the turnpike and has a full length one story Bungalow porch supported by tapered wooden posts on brick piers. The main entrance is an original multi-light door with multi-light sidelights. (C)

16.3 Three Plantation Stone. On the property is a small carved rock pylon marking the boundaries of the three great plantations that joined together at this point. The stone is carved with the initials of the owners: G.J.P., for Gideon J. Pillow, Jr. (Clifton Place); A.J.P., for Andrew Jackson Polk (Ashwood Hall); and S.H.A., for Samuel Henry Armstrong (Pine Hill). This dates the stone from between 1845 and 1861. (C)

17. Thomas House

The Thomas House is a two story balloon frame house built by 1887, as it appears on the D.G. Beers Map of Maury County published that year. The three bay central passage plan house is built on a stone pier foundation, is covered with weatherboard siding, and is topped by a side gable asphalt roof. At the sides are original interior gable end brick chimneys with corbeled caps.

The main facade looks west towards Thomas Lane. It is arranged around a central doorway with single light transom above. A cornice with scalloped wooden molding embellishes the entry. Similar cornices or lintels are also located over the windows on the facade.

The north elevation is a plain weatherboarded gable end with interior brick chimneys. Also on this elevation is a one story porch with the columns removed. The south elevation is similar, though with sash windows are placed differently. A low one story gabled ell addition is joined to the rear elevation at this point.

Abandoned for more than two decades, the frame house is in poor condition, and part of the roof has collapsed. All original exterior doors and windows are missing. Principal interior elements including mantels, stair rails, and some doors have also been removed. Because of its lack of structural integrity, the Thomas House is counted as a non-contributing building, although the farm contains several contributing outbuildings. (NC)

17.2. Privy 1. This circa 1920 privy has corrugated metal walls and tin shed roof. (C)

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17.3. Privy 2. This privy was probably built at about 1900. It is similar to the first but covered with vertical board wooden siding. (C)

17.4. Stock barn. A circa 1900 gable roof rectangular plan stock barn with a central drive-through and attached sheds. The exterior has weatherboard siding and lattice framing in the gable field. (C)

17.5 Tobacco barn. Erected circa 1920, the barn is rectangular in plan and has a gable roof. It is sheathed in vertical board siding and has a metal standing seam roof. (C)

18. Mistletoe Farm

Built in 1874, Mistletoe Hall is an excellent local example of a central passage plan farmhouse ornamented with Italianate features. The two story weatherboarded frame house rests on a continuous limestone foundation and is topped by a side gable asphalt roof. Interior chimneys at the gable ends are of dark red brick with corbeled tops. An original one story rear ell has been joined with an unobtrusive circa 1960 kitchen wing.

The facade looks north towards the Campbellsville Pike. The three bay front is arranged around a central entry and porch. It has an elaborate single-leaf door of raised panel construction and is flanked by chamfered pilasters and round arch sidelights set over dado panels. Above the door is a transom, corner block, and a decorative wooden lintel. From this point extends a one story one bay central porch supported by chamfered posts and topped by a plain spindle balustrade. It forms a balcony for the door above. This smaller single-leaf door is of wood and glass construction and is flanked by chamfered pilasters without the sidelights found below. Windows on the facade are double-hung sashes, with 4/6 lights on the first story and 4/4 lights on the second story. An elaborate paneled cornice supported by paired wooden brackets with pendants runs across the entire facade, while chamfered corner pilasters further define the front.

East and west elevations are basically identical. Each is a plain weatherboarded wall with a denticulated raking cornice and gable returns supported by paired wooden brackets. The east elevation has 4/4 light sashes on both stories. They are set to the front of the interior chimney.

An original one story frame ell is connected to the east side of the rear elevation. The low section is clad in weatherboard and has a one story shed roof porch joined to the east side. Paired 6/6 light sashes replaced an original porch door about 1960. The gabled asphalt roof is pierced by a

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single tall brick chimney. Off the west side of the rear ell is a circa 1960s kitchen wing, again a one-story weatherboarded section. It is compatible in design with the rest of the house and not visible from the facade or approaches. (C)

18.2 Smokehouse. A small rough weatherboarded frame structure, probably built with the house about 1874, is the farm smokehouse. The unaltered structure rests on stone piers, is topped by a gable tin roof, and has a small batten door to the north facing the rear elevation of the house. (C)

18.3 Outbuilding. Somewhat larger than the smokehouse, this rectangular weatherboarded frame structure probably was built about 1900; its original use or function is unknown. The building is built on a stone foundation and has a gable asphalt roof. The original batten door has been replaced with a steel door. At the west elevation is a circa 1920s vertical board frame addition. (C)

18.4 Tobacco barn. This circa 1940 tobacco barn is of the early design with bottom swing doors and a frame of locust poles set directly into the earth. (However, these have rotted and been replaced at the bases). The large rectangular barn is clad in two courses of vertical board siding and is covered with a tin gable roof with six round vents on the ridge. Wagon entries are at the center of the gabled sides. The bottom doors have been replaced by hinged side swing doors, probably in the late 1940s. (C)

18.5 Hay barn. A circa 1910 hay barn or shed is located east of the house and tobacco barn near a small stream. The rectangular vertical board frame structure has central barn doors, locust pole frame, and tin roof with overhanging bonnet holding a loading track and pulley system. (C)

18.6 Eleven Oaks Nursery. This small greenhouse and nursery operated from about 1980 to 1986, and was located in the field east of the main house complex and to the north of the hay barn. The office building is a rectangular structure of cove weatherboard construction, set on a concrete block foundation, and topped by a shallow gabled metal roof. (NC)

19. Polk Quarter Complex

The slave quarter and ancillary buildings for Ashwood Hall are located on the hill across the turnpike from the Ashwood Hall site. The plantations of both Leonidas and Rufus Polk used this complex of buildings. In the 1920s a row of quarters and farm buildings still existed, but by the 1950s most of the old quarters had been removed. Today, one quarter, an early

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granary converted to a tobacco barn, and several later farm structures are on the site.

19.1 Quarter. Erected circa 1839, this one room building is of frame construction, unlike most of the other slave quarters in the district. (Leonidas Polk had his own sawmill). It is rectangular in plan, rests on stone piers, and is topped by a side gable corrugated metal roof. A shed roof porch supported by four inch posts is located on the facade, which faces west. A plain batten door is the only opening on the facade. On the south elevation is a stone and brick gable end exterior chimney, set back from the house at the roof line. A 4/4 light sash and a smaller gable window are also located on this elevation.

A small one story shed roof section has been added to the rear elevation, probably soon after construction of the main section. This section is also of frame construction, covered with a tin shed roof, and sits on stone piers. Another 4/4 light sash is on the south end and a plain batten door on the rear wall. A second addition, probably early twentieth century, extends from the north end. This lower gabled addition has a 4/4 light sash on the west facade, a second matching window and gable window on the north gable end, and a vertical board frame shed rear section. The house was covered in tarpaper/asbestos about 1940, and is now abandoned and in somewhat poor condition. (C)

19.2 Stock barn. Believed to have been built circa 1845, the barn contains a core frame of hewn timbers set directly into the earth. In the late nineteenth century the barn was considerably rebuilt. The vertical board structure is covered by a low gable tin roof. It has a central hay loft with roof loading track and side drive-throughs. On both elevations, cattle feeding sheds were added about 1940. Several tiers of locust poles have been added to rack tobacco. (C)

19.3 Silos 1 and 2. Two large concrete panel silos are located at the west end of the stock barn. These structures, built circa 1945, have metal domed roofs. A Badger silo unloader is located to the side. (NC)

19.4 Stables. Thirty yards west of the stock barn is a low wooden stable, probably dating from the late nineteenth century (circa 1885) when a horse farm was operated here by Will Polk. This structure has four closed stalls with batten doors and two open stalls. An original open shed runs across the entire east side. (C)

19.5 Tobacco barn. Like the stock barn, the tobacco barn contains within an earlier structure. This original section is a heavy braced frame

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building constructed of massive hewn timbers. The original section was a granary. In the 1920s this structure was incorporated into a larger vertical board frame tobacco barn (itself enlarged to present size about 1935 or 1940). The resulting structure has side drive-throughs (to either side of the old structure), six tiers of tobacco racks, and a frame stripping room covered with corrugated metal on the west elevation. (C)

19.6 Stock barn 2. Located on Polk Lane one-quarter mile west of the main farm building complex, this large rectangular plan vertical board frame barn was built about 1940. It has a central and side drive-throughs and a gable tin roof. The north elevation has an added shed wing with cinder block wall, probably added in the 1950s. (C)

19.7 Silo 3. This tall silo by the second stock barn was built about 1945 and is of concrete panel construction with a metal dome. (NC)

19.8 Stock barn 3. Off Polk Lane a quarter mile south of Stock barn 2, this large rectangular vertical board and weatherboard stock barn probably dates from about 1925. It has side drive-throughs and a second story hay loft with a loading track and bonnet. (C)

20. Village of Ashwood

The village of Ashwood takes its name from Leonidas Polk's home, Ash Wood or Ashwood Hall, which stood between the hamlet and the turnpike. On Polk's lane, at the railroad crossing, the post office was established on his land. Polk also had a steam mill here.

In the late nineteenth century the area was called Polk Station after the railroad depot, but by 1891 the post office had gone back to the name Ashwood. The post office was located in the Napier Store for most of this century; the branch closed in 1956.

At one time Ashwood shipped more produce than any other point along the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line. The large scale Star Milling Company, later Ashwood Mills, was constructed in 1900 and operated until 1929; Tom G. Napier was the proprietor for many years. The main part of the mill was dismantled in 1968, but two granaries from the enterprise remain.

20.1 Napier Store/Ashwood Post Office. Replacing an earlier store destroyed by fire, the circa 1919 Napier Store is a one story commercial vernacular brick structure resting on a stone foundation. It has a flat

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sloping composition roof behind a front parapet. The storefront is divided into three bays with a suspended metal shed roof porch across the facade. The building has been abandoned for some years and the windows and doors are boarded or broken. Original store fixtures are still present. (C)

20.2 Granary 1. This long rectangular timber frame building is situated adjacent to the railroad and served as a granary for the Ashwood Mill. It rests on poured concrete pylons, is covered with corrugated siding, and is topped by a tin gable roof. Vertical batten wooden loading doors are located on the north, west, and south elevations. Those on the south are protected by an overhanging shed roof which is supported by heavy wooden king-post trusses. Probably built about the time of the construction of the mill in 1900, it is now used for storage of materials by a building contractor. (C)

20.3 Granary 2. This large granary is of frame construction and is clad, in part, by corrugated metal. Built circa 1900, it was also a part of the Ashwood Mill complex and was sometimes used to store potatoes. The rectangular plan building is two stories in height, rests on a stone foundation, and is topped by a gable tin roof. It features wooden batten doors and double-hung sashes. (C)

20.4 House 1. This weatherboarded frame house was built about 1935, perhaps earlier. The rectangular house rests on a cinder block and stone foundation, is topped by a side gable roof broken by two brick flues, has 1/1-light sashes, and rear shed sections. (C)

20.5 House 2. The first of a row of small tenant houses behind the store, this circa 1935 L-plan weatherboarded frame house features gabled roofs (with chimneys removed), an inset corner shed roof porch supported by plain posts, 1/1 sashes, and a rear shed addition. (C)

20.6 House 3. Next in the row is a smaller rectangular plan circa 1935 weatherboarded frame house. It has a metal side gable roof, a narrow central shed roof porch supported by plain posts, a stone pier foundation, and a small inset corner porch at the rear elevation. (C)

20.7 House 4. Now derelict, this circa 1925 weatherboarded frame house is laid out on the cross gable plan. Primary features of the house are a three-quarter length shed roof porch across the facade, 1/1 and 4/4 light sashes, a tin cross gable roof, and a raking cornice. The building is abandoned and does not retain integrity. (NC)

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20.8 House 5/Davis House. The C.J. Davis House is a rectangular plan weatherboarded frame house dating to circa 1915. A small shed section was added to the rear elevation, probably before 1940. (C)

20.9 House 6. The smallest house in the village, this circa 1900 (or earlier) rectangular plan frame house is covered in tarpaper/asbestos, rests on a stone foundation, has a gable end stone chimney, and is topped by a tin gable roof. (C)

20.10 Railroad Section House. The last of a row of small section hand houses running east along the tracks from the depot site, this circa 1885 cross gable plan frame structure is covered with a combination of frame and board and batten siding. It rests on a pier foundation, has 1/1 and 4/4 light sashes, and once had a shed porch across the front. It has been vacant for decades and does not retain structural integrity. (NC)

20.11 Carriage house. A small carriage or buggy house dates to circa 1915. This rough single pen frame structure has been covered with narrow wood cladding and vertical board siding. It is rectangular in plan, probably rests on stones or stone piers, and is topped by a gable tin roof. It contains a stone chimney at the south elevation and has shed sections, probably additions, on the east and west elevations. (C)

20.12 Outbuilding. This circa 1900 structure, located east of the carriage house, is a weatherboard frame structure of indeterminate use. The rectangular plan structure rests on a stone pier foundation and is topped by a side gable roof of standing-seam tin. A shed section was added to the east elevation before 1940. (C)

20.13 House 7. Behind the western granary is a small circa 1900 one story weatherboarded frame house built on a raised stone pier foundation. It has an inset corner porch, gable roof of asphalt shingles, and mixed fenestration. (C)

21. Canaan Schoolhouse

The Canaan School is a one story frame schoolhouse constructed before 1917 for black students in the Zion/Canaan/Ashwood area. The school was used for several decades and was abandoned after World War II.

The school is a three bay rectangular plan structure with a gable roof of asphalt shingles and a brick pier foundation. The building is covered with both weatherboard and shiplap siding. On the north facade is a small shed

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roof awning with large support brackets over the entrance bay. This entrance is recessed and retains its original five-panel door and single light transom. Windows on the east elevation are 6/6 sashes while those on the west are smaller six-light casement design. On the south elevation is an original five-panel door in poor condition. A brick flue is located on the west elevation. The interior of the building retains original tongue and groove wainscoting, two separate cloak rooms, and the original cast iron stove. (C)

21.2 Well house. The well and pump house is of concrete block construction and probably dates from circa 1917. (C)

21.3 Privy. This circa 1917 frame structure has a shed roof and walls covered with vertical boards. It is now in poor condition and does not retain integrity. (NC)

22. Paul Cecil Farm

On Polk Lane two miles south of St. John's Episcopal Church and adjacent to the West Brook site, this small weatherboarded frame residence was built about 1900 on the cross gable plan. The one story house rests on a brick foundation and is covered by a cross gable tin plate roof. A three-quarter length shed roof porch supported by turned and bracketed posts is located on the east facade. Chimneys are of brick and located on the interior of the gable ends. Windows are double-hung sashes with 4/4 lights. A one story rear gabled frame ell is probably original. The house is covered with vinyl siding, but this is only noticeable on close inspection and does not detract from the overall integrity of the house.. (C)

22.2 Tenant house. This circa 1900 structure is of weatherboard frame construction, arranged on a saddlebag plan, rests on a stone pier foundation, and is covered by a side gable tin roof. On the east facade are two simple wooden panel doors. A central chimney at the ridge has been removed. (C)

22.3 Chicken house. To the rear of the main house in the back yard is a circa 1910 board and batten frame chicken coop with tin shed roof and batten door. (C)

22.4 Privy. The circa 1900 privy is of vertical board construction with a vertical board door. It is square in plan and is topped by tin shed roof. (C)

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22.5 Tobacco Barn. Later than most tobacco barns in the area, this circa 1950 barn is a low L-plan barn that holds three or four tiers of tobacco at the most. The building has a concrete block foundation, gable roof, and is covered with metal siding. (NC)

22.6 Stock barn. Built about 1930, this large vertical board frame rectangular plan structure is two floors in height and is topped by a gable roof with a projecting bonnet supporting a loading track. There is a stall and feeding area at the center. A board and batten frame side shed was added to the north elevation soon after the barn was constructed. (C)

22.7 Hay barn. Behind the other farm buildings is a smaller circa 1920 hay barn. It contains a single large open room for hay bales to be stacked to the ceiling. The weatherboarded frame structure has vertical batten loading doors, gated side entries, and original weatherboarded frame shed wings. (C)

22.8 Corn crib. Beside the stock barn is a circa 1910 rectangular plan frame corn crib covered with vertical board siding. The structure rests on a stone pier foundation and is covered with a tin gable roof. (C)

22.9 Tenant house. On the east flank of Gravel Hill half a mile behind the main house is a circa 1870 rectangular plan board and batten frame tenant house. The unaltered three room house sits on a stone pier foundation. It has an attached rear shed section, brick chimney, and upstairs sleeping loft. The abandoned structure is somewhat derelict but retains sufficient integrity to be listed as a contributing structure. (C)

22.10 Tenant house ruin. One hundred yards north of the first tenant house are the ruins of a frame weatherboarded frame tenant residence. The circa 1870s structure has collapsed; only the gable tin roof is complete. A stone chimney fall is located at the east side. (NC)

23. E.W. Napier Farm

Located along east side of Polk Lane one mile south of St. John's Episcopal Church, this one story weatherboarded frame residence was constructed for Elias W. Napier about 1890. The T-plan, balloon frame residence has a double gable front, weatherboard siding, a gable roof of both asphalt shingles and standing seam tin, and interior corbeled brick chimneys. Windows are both 1/1 and 4/4 light sashes. On the west facade and north elevation is a wraparound porch supported by milled posts with sawn brackets. The main entrance retains its original glass and frame paneled

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door. The structure has been vacant for a decade and though somewhat derelict, retains sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing structure. (C)

23.2. Outbuilding. This circa 1890 one story board and batten frame structure rests on a stone foundation, is topped by a front gable tin roof, and has a plain vertical batten wooden door centered on the west gable end. (C)

23.3. Garage. The garage, a circa 1920 rectangular frame structure, is covered with vertical board siding. It has double-leaf garage doors at the facade, a stone pier foundation, a front gable tin roof, and a side shed addition. (C)

23.4. Stock barn. The stock barn was built about 1920. The structure is built on a frame of sawn timbers and is clad in two courses of vertical board siding. It has two side drive-throughs, a vented front gable tin roof, and a side shed addition. (C)

23.5. Hay barn. This circa 1910 hay barn has a single large covered space for bales of hay. The frame structure is covered with vertical board siding and is covered by a tin gable roof. (C)

23.6 Stock barn 2. A larger stock barn is located north of the main farmstead group. This circa 1890 rectangular plan vertical board frame barn is covered with a gambrel tin roof, the only such occurrence of this roof type in the district. The barn has a projecting bonnet, central and side shed drive-throughs, and central ridge ventilator. (C)

**24. Ashwood Battlefield Historic Site**

An area along the turnpike from Hamilton Place to just east of St. John's Episcopal Church was the scene of a skirmish during the 1864 Nashville campaign. The Confederate Army of Tennessee under General John Bell Hood converged in the Ashwood area, nearly trapping a Federal army under John Schofield at Columbia nearby. On November 24, the Confederate army reached Ashwood to find it still occupied by Federal rear guard force, a cavalry brigade under Capron. Confederate cavalry under Forrest, acting as a screen for an approaching corps under Stewart, engaged Capron's cavalry at Ashwood and, in a heated engagement, forced the Federal forces back to Columbia. Forrest would then have been able to capture the Duck River bridges there if not for the presence of the Federal XIII Corps there behind entrenchments. As it happened, Schofield was able to evacuate his

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army to Spring Hill and Franklin, the latter the scene of a terrible pitched battle several days later.

According to contemporary accounts, the Battle of Ashwood took place along the turnpike from Hamilton Place northeast towards Columbia to the ravine past St. John's Episcopal Church. Parts of this battlefield have been built upon, but the major section northeast of St. John's Episcopal Church, remains in farm fields as it was at the time of the battle. This property, including portions of St. John's Episcopal Church retains the same basic appearance it had in November, 1864. The Ashwood Battlefield is the only site of a sizable skirmish in Maury County. (C)

25. Ontario

This house was built in 1939 for Dr. J.N. Hamilton, a pharmacist in Mount Pleasant; sometimes it is called Hamilstone. The residence is of unusual form and construction with influences from the International Style. The house is three stories in height and of concrete construction faced with Sewanee sandstone. No wood was used in the construction of the house. It has a three story porch on the northwest facade and open patios on the third story. The foundation is of concrete and rusticated uncoursed limestone and sandstone. Dividing the basement and first story is a concrete belt course. The upper stories are faced with ashlar and rusticated sandstone blocks. Porches display original metal railings, brick and stone piers, and ceilings with exposed beams and rafters.

Windows are paired six light casement design with four light transoms. At the southwest corner is an open staircase which connects the third story with the ground floor. The main entrance, located on the northwest facade, has an original three panel frame door with single light sidelights and a concrete lintel over the door. The basement level facing west has a large garage door opening with circa 1970 replacement overhead door. On the roof is a large cast concrete eagle inscribed at the base "J.N. Hamilton". The house sits on a hill overlooking the turnpike, three-quarters of a mile southwest of St. John's Episcopal Church. There are no outbuildings. (C)

26. Maple Hill Farm

Maple Hill Farm is an early twentieth century farm complex located on the south side of the Ashwood Road just east of the small community of Canaan. The residence was constructed circa 1915. Located to the southeast of the residence are two circa 1920 tobacco barns which have been remodeled into

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stock barns. In addition to these buildings there are eight non-contributing outbuildings. The house is sited on a slight rise facing the Ashwood Road and is surrounded by cultivated fields and woodlands. The farm presently encompasses 102 acres.

The main residence is a rectangular plan, one and one-half story frame house with stylistic details borrowed from the Bungalow style. The house is covered with vinyl siding, rests on a hollow core concrete block foundation, has two interior cinder block chimneys, and a gable roof of asphalt shingles. At center on the north facade is a gable roof porch supported by square wooden columns. The entrance has an original multi-light glass and frame door flanked by single light sidelights and surmounted by a three light transom. Windows are original double-hung sashes with 1/1 lights. At the edge of the eaves are exposed rafters. (C)

26.2 Stock barn 1. This large vertical board wooden frame barn is rectangular in plan and has a central drive-through. It is built on a sawn timber frame and is topped by a metal gable roof. The barn was apparently built about 1920. (C)

26.3 Tobacco barn 1. The large rectangular frame tobacco barn was built about 1940 with sawn uprights on concrete bases and side swing doors. The six tier vertical board frame structure is covered with a tin gable roof. (C)

26.4 Calf barn. This small vertical board frame structure was built about 1955 and is rectangular in plan and covered with a low metal roof. (NC)

26.5 Tool shed. This small circa 1945 structure is of board and batten frame construction and has a tin gable roof and batten door. (NC)

26.6 Stock barn 2. This large vertical board frame barn is rectangular in plan and topped by a gable tin roof. It was built in the 1950s or 1960s. (NC)

26.7 Tobacco barn 2. One hundred yards northwest of the main house near the Ashwood Road is a rectangular plan frame tobacco barn dating from about 1940. This barn is covered with vertical board wooden siding, has side swing doors and roof vents, and a central drive-through. (C)

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27. Oakwood

Oakwood Hall, the William Vance Thompson house on Ashwood Road, was built in the 1830s or 1840s. The one and one-half story log house is a double pen structure that is laid out on a modified open central hall or dogtrot plan. Probably before the Civil War the house was covered in weatherboard siding and had its open dogtrot enclosed as an entry hall. The house rests on a stone pier foundation with cinder block infill and is covered with a side gable tin shingle roof.

The three bay facade looks north toward Ashwood Road. It is centered on a broad central entry with double-leaf paneled and grained wooden doors. Ornate jib windows with 8/8 light sashes and original louvered shutters are located to either side. On the second floor are three 6/6 light double-hung sashes with matching shutters. A circa 1900 Classical Revival one story porch supported by Tuscan columns extends across the facade. It has a central entry pediment and denticulated cornice.

East and west elevations are basically identical, with exterior corbeled brick chimneys at the center. On the east elevation, a single 6/6 light sash is located behind the chimney. The west elevation has a matching window to the rear of the chimney and a twelve light casement window above.

Off the west side of the rear elevation is a two story frame ell, dating from the middle or third quarter of the nineteenth century. This section has replacement double-leaf doors under a gable roof porch and a single 9/9 light sash to its rear on the west side; on the east, an original one story open shed porch was enclosed about 1960. The south gable end of the ell has an exterior gable end brick chimney. This end was joined by a one story frame kitchen extension about 1900.

The house has been altered by the replacement of much of the original narrow weatherboard siding with masonite siding, and by replacement of doors on the side of the rear ell and enclosure of the rear shed porch. These alterations do not adversely affect the integrity of the property as a contributing resource to the historic district. (C)

27.2 Smokehouse. This circa 1880 vertical board frame structure is rectangular in plan and is covered with a front gable tin roof. On the north elevation of the unaltered building is a wooden vertical batten door. Unlike most smokehouses, this structure has an upper loft, accessible by a side batten door. (C)

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27.3 Guest house. Built about 1965, the small rectangular plan guest house is constructed of wooden prefabricated paneling and has a side gable asbestos shingle roof and stoop porch. (NC)

27.4 Shed. This circa 1925 rectangular plan structure is divided into three vehicle or equipment bays. It is of vertical board frame construction, has vertical batten garage doors and a metal shed roof. (C)

27.5 Well house. A rectangular plan structure behind the main house, apparently dating from about 1970, it contains the pump for the house well. It has a gable asphalt roof and wooden batten door. (NC)

27.6 Stock barn. A rectangular plan weatherboarded and vertical board frame barn on the place dates from the circa 1935. It has a front gable tin roof with loading track, side drive-throughs, and original side wings. The second floor is a hay loft. (C)

27.7 Tobacco barn 1. This circa 1935 tobacco barn is built with a frame of locust uprights set directly into the ground, bottom swing doors, and a central drive-through. The vertical board frame structure is six tiers high and is topped by a metal gable roof with eight ventilators. (C)

27.8 Tenant house. On Ashwood Road two hundred yards northwest of the main house is a circa 1941 rectangular plan weatherboarded frame tenant house. It is constructed on a concrete block foundation and is covered by a side gable asphalt shingle roof. (C)

27.9 Tobacco barn 2. Behind and to the south of the tenant house is a small rectangular plan five tier tobacco barn. The circa 1941 barn is clad in two courses of vertical board wooden siding and is covered with a front gable tin roof. Ventilation is provided by side swing doors and roof vents. (C)

27.10 King house. Two hundred yards south of the tenant house and the same distance west of the stock barn is a large circa 1980 one and one-half story wooden panel frame structure with a steep asphalt center gable roof, side wings, and raised brick foundation. (NC)

**28. Canaan Road Group**

Several small structures along Canaan Road south of the village of Canaan are included in the district.

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28.9 Tobacco barn 2. On the east side of Canaan Road on the north side of its crossing of Patterson Branch is a large circa 1941 rectangular plan tobacco barn. The barn is clad in three courses of vertical boards, rests on a concrete block foundation, and is covered with a tin gable roof. The eight vent barn has a central drive-through and side swing doors. (C)

29. Mecklenburg Hall Site

Located diagonally across the turnpike from St. John's Episcopal Church was Mecklenburg Hall, built by 1842 by the Polk brothers as a vicarage for the church. The one and one-half story brick house was an excellent example of Gothic Revival architecture as would befit a rectory for St. John's. The irregular plan house was of brick construction and seven steep gables trimmed with sawn wooden vergeboards. The house was further embellished with a wraparound porch with entry pediment, turned posts and sawn brackets, and spindle balustrade. Windows were crowned with segmental arches and flanked by operable wooden shutters.

Mecklenburg Hall was destroyed by fire on August 31, 1974. The house site has been planted in pine trees. (Unevaluated resource)

29.2 Tobacco barn. One hundred yards southwest of the house site is a medium size vertical board wooden frame tobacco barn. The small five vent barn has side swing doors, a central drive-through, and a gable tin roof. It was built about 1940. (C)

30. Cherry Glen Site

Cherry Glen on the turnpike immediately southwest of Hamilton Place was a unique house embodying a circa 1808-1809 log residence as the core of a later Italianate country house. This house was destroyed by fire in March 1985.

The original part of Cherry Glen was built circa 1808 as a one story dogtrot house. In 1859, the owner at the time, Colonel Daniel Fount Wade, enclosed the dogtrot, weatherboarded the house, and added octagonal frame wings at either end in the fashion of the Petit Trianon at Versailles.

At present, one intact corbeled brick chimney remains at the northeast end and brick chimney falls from two other chimneys can be discerned. The structural lines are clearly visible and the stone cellar is completely exposed. (Unevaluated resource)

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28.1 House 1. This circa 1930 frame house, on the east side of the lane, is almost square in plan and rests on a raised cinder block foundation. It is covered with a pyramidal roof of asphalt shingles, has a central brick chimney, and a shed porch across the front. The house is covered with masonite siding. (C)

28.2 Tobacco barn 1. Just north of the first house is a size circa 1940 frame tobacco barn. The six tier barn is covered with three courses of vertical board siding and has a tin gable roof. (C)

28.3 House 2. South of the first house on the east side of the lane is a circa 1970 one story brick veneer Ranch house. The rectangular plan structure is topped by a side gable asphalt roof and has an integral garage. (NC)

28.4 Ruin. On the east side of the road south of the above buildings is a small circa 1900 one story frame house. It was a rectangular plan weatherboarded structure with a tin gable roof. This residence has long been abandoned and no longer retains structural integrity. (NC)

28.5 House 3. This circa 1890 weatherboarded frame farmhouse is arranged on a cross gable plan and has a shed roof porch running across the north and west elevations. The house has a cross gable roof covered with French-lap asbestos shingles, a stone pier foundation with cinder block infill, and a brick gable end interior chimney. The house is abandoned but retains integrity. (C)

28.6 Outbuilding. Behind and to the side of the above house is a vertical board frame structure serving as a garage and equipment shed with hayloft above. The circa 1900 structure is built on a pole framework and is covered with a tin front gable roof. (C)

28.7 House 4. On the west side of Canaan Road just north of Patterson Branch is a circa 1920 one story frame tenant house. This structure is rectangular in plan, covered with cove weatherboard siding, and has a side gable asphalt shingle roof. A parallel gabled rear extension is probably original. (C)

28.8 Log crib. This circa 1865 single pen log corn crib is located beside the Sugar Fork of Big Bigby Creek, two hundred yards behind the above tenant house. The single pen poplar log structure is joined at the corners with half-dovetail notching and is covered with a tin gable roof. (C)

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30.2 Servant house. This circa 1880 one story frame outbuilding is laid out on a dogtrot plan, an uncommon arrangement for frame structures in the district. It sits on a coursed stone foundation and is topped by a gable tin roof. Windows are double-hung sashes with 6/6 lights. A plain gable end exterior brick chimney is centered on the east side. (C)

30.3 Quarter 1. This small rectangular single pen log structure behind the main house site may have been an original circa 1858 slave quarter, but was moved circa 1945. The one room house is built of poplar logs joined with half-dovetail notching, rests on stone piers, and is topped by a gable tin roof. Batten doors are located on the east and south elevations. A rough limestone chimney is centered on the west gable end. (NC)

30.4 Outbuilding. To the west side of the quarter is a frame outbuilding with a rectangular plan. The weatherboarded structure has a front gable roof and double-leaf batten doors on the south facade. This structure was likely built about 1895. (C)

30.5 Smokehouse. The circa 1858 smokehouse is a tall rectangular plan structure of common bond brick with a continuous stone foundation and front gable tin roof. The smokehouse has a low wooden batten door on the south elevation. (C)

30.6 Tenant house 1. The original single room brick section of this house probably dates from the third quarter of the nineteenth century. This section has a stone foundation, tin gable roof, gable end exterior brick chimney, and replacement shed porch. About 1900 frame additions were added to the south and west elevations. These sections have tin gable roofs, pier foundations, and various types of fenestration. (C)

30.7 Stock barn. One hundred twenty yards northeast of the main house site is a circa 1880 stock barn. It is a rectangular frame two story structure with metal gable roof, side drive-throughs, latticework gable fields, and arched entries and vents. Bonnets are located at both gable ends, providing space for a pulley and track system for loading hay bales. (C)

30.8 Tractor shed. This structure was apparently built in the 1950s or 1960s. It is a long open shed structure on a wooden pole frame and is covered with corrugated metal siding. The four equipment bays are covered with a shed metal roof. (NC)

30.9 Tenant house 2. North of the stock barn is a rectangular plan frame house, possibly an original quarter from antebellum days, but likely from

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some time after the war. The one room house sits on brick piers and has a side gable tin roof. The original wooden siding has been removed. The building has been abandoned for many decades and does not retain structural integrity. (NC)

30.10 Quarter 2. At the end of the farm row by the railway is a surviving circa 1850s slave quarter. The single pen log structure rests on a stone pier foundation and is covered with a tin side gable roof. The structure was covered with scrap tin plate in the early twentieth century. (C)

31. Westbrook Church Site/Westbrook School Site

31.1 Westbrook Missionary Baptist Church site. Westbrook Church was established in the late nineteenth century by former slaves and other black Baptist families in the area. The church was destroyed by an arsonist in 1979. No archaeological testing or evaluation has been done, but the stone foundation is still visible and other evidence may be present to provide information on the history of the structure. (Unevaluated resource)

31.2 Westbrook Cemetery. This circa 1910 cemetery located south of the Westbrook Church site contains approximately twelve graves. The Webster and Moss families are buried here. Most of the graves are of field hands and tenant farmers from the neighborhood. (C)

31.3 Westbrook School site. A county school for black students in the neighborhood was located on the east side of Polk Lane by 1917. It was abandoned by soon after World War II and later burned. No trace of the frame structure remains, but the site may retain information helpful toward an understanding of the community and its role in the historic district. However, no archaeological testing has been conducted. (Unevaluated resource)

32. Willis' Shop Site

By about 1890, a blacksmith shop, called Willis' Shop, was established at the intersection of Old Zion Lane and US Highway 43. It was likely a small rough frame structure set on a few stones as a foundation. The building was dismantled by 1920 and no indication of it can be located above ground.

Other buildings were once located around the shop. A small three room house was moved from this site to become a rear connecting passage to the Williams-Fleming House.

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No visible traces remain of this settlement except for a circa 1895 dug well. However, archaeological research could yield further information about the history and significance of this crossroads community. (Unevaluated resource)

Non-contributing resources

Contributing resources add to the architectural and historical qualities and the archaeological values for which the district is important. They were present during the period of significance and possess integrity or are capable of providing valuable information. Several resources independently meet National Register criteria. Contributing resources were present during the early settlement of the district in 1808 through 1941.

Non-contributing resources were not present during the period of significance or have lost integrity. A comprehensive archaeological survey was not performed and several sites, that may have archaeological value, are considered unevaluated resources for this reason.

Of the approximately 8,300 acres included in the district, only 403 acres are occupied by non-contributing resources. Most of these non-contributing resources are clustered in a central group west of St. John's Episcopal Church. This small neighborhood was established about 1950 by Dr. J.N. Hamilton of Mount Pleasant and is called Hamilton Court after him. This contains approximately one hundred structures, mostly clustered in a trailer park and adjoining subdivision. Commercial structures in the Hamilton Court development are a circa 1950 market and mostly abandoned adjoining store structures, an apartment building, a small tavern, a slaughterhouse with attached barbecue stand in a small trailer, a convenience store, a birdbath shop, and an abandoned gas station. All of these structures are located in a one-tenth mile strip on the highway southwest of St. John's Episcopal Church. This area is considered a non-contributing landscape.

At the north edge of the district is a southward extension of the Zion Acres subdivision. Containing sixty-two homes, it projects into the district south of Ashwood Road. This area contains approximately forty acres, and is clearly separated from the surrounding countryside. Approximately 150 acres of the remaining land is occupied by other residential structures running south and southwest from Hamilton Court. Of this group, approximately two-thirds of the properties consist of large lots or small farms with single non-contributing residences; the effect of such properties is considerably less intrusive than the main part of the

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Hamilton Court concentration, as most of this remains raw lands or fields. Most of the remaining 100-150 acres of non-contributing resources consist isolated farms with non-contributing residences as the principal structure. Again, in most cases, the major portion of the lots are unaltered landscape so that the effect is rarely intrusive.

In the rest of the district, non-contributing buildings are two 1980s ranch houses on US Highway 43 , the circa 1965 Thomas Scott Fleming House on Old Zion Lane , and tenant houses on the three Pillow farms and at Tree Haven. Two 1970s farmhouses off Ashwood Road are also counted as non-contributing.

Polk Memorial Gardens, a public cemetery adjacent to and on the east side of St. John's Episcopal Church, was established in 1955. The cemetery contains several hundred graves, most with flush markers, and a large circa 1984 rectangular block mausoleum. Paved roads provide access to all parts of the three-acre cemetery. It is non-contributing.

Despite the presence of these non-contributing resources, the Ashwood Rural Historic District continues to illustrate the historic landscape development of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The non-contributing areas do detract from the historic scene, but are isolated minor intrusions in the pervasive agricultural district.

Utility systems

Several utility systems are encountered in the district. Although they are not enumerated as contributing or non-contributing resources, those resources that fall within the period of significance generally contribute to the overall historic landscape integrity of the district. City water from Columbia and Mount Pleasant is available to a number of properties, principally those near the turnpike. Lines are all buried and there are no pumping or filtration stations in the district; hence the presence of the water systems is not noticed and it is not an intrusive element.

Telegraph wires were run through the area in 1847. However, the first message to be received in the county did not come for another two years.<sup>46</sup> Telegraph wires still border the railroad. These are an historic element.

Electrical service is provided the Columbia and Mount Pleasant systems and by the Duck River Electric Membership Cooperative. Power lines border the turnpike and primary side roads, but are usually not encountered in the open country. An exception are two Tennessee Valley Authority high-voltage

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transmission lines on tall steel towers crossing the eastern part of the district between Pillow Place and the other Pillow farms.

A gas pipeline traverses the district from a point north of Tree Haven southeasterly along a line north of Ashwood, Hamilton Place, and the Cherry Glen site. The line is buried and the only visible evidence are occasional meters and vents; however, the cleared right-of-way occasionally cuts a swath through old field lines and isolated woodlands.

Summary

The Ashwood Rural Historic District remains a distinct neighborhood quite unlike the rest of Maury County or southern Middle Tennessee. This agrarian community still reflects life on the land from earliest settlement, as embodied by some of the Zion properties, through the years the great plantations dominated the landscape, most of which are largely intact, and continues through the breakup of plantations after the Civil War and the emergence of crossroads communities. This unique environment was fostered by the utilization of some of Tennessee's most fertile lands, coupled with the newest innovations in agricultural technology. Most places in the district retain their basic appearance as farm fields, plantation complex, or isolated farmstead as they did in the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Property owners in the historic district recognize the overwhelming significance of their landmark properties. Two of the six remaining plantations have been continuously occupied, and are today in the ownership of the establishing families. The other four plantations have either been carefully restored in the late 1970s or early 1980s (Pine Hill, Rattle and Snap), or are undergoing restorations at present (Clifton Place, Hamilton Place). The other principal residences in the district (Tree Haven, Farringford, the Zion properties, and other farmsteads) are all, for the most, part well cared for. As most of the farms are in working order, with crops and livestock in full production, most of the agricultural structures are in use and well maintained. Until the last few years development pressures on this area have been minimal; careful planning is now required for the protection of this matchless cultural landscape.

## METHODOLOGY

The Ashwood District was surveyed in 1984 by South Central Tennessee Development District as part of the Tennessee Historical Commission's

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comprehensive state historic sites survey program. Additional field reconnaissance for the preparation of this nomination was performed in summer 1988 by Richard Quin, historic preservation planner for the development district, and historic preservation consultant Phil Thomason. Information on Clifton Place and other assistance and support was provided by Paul Cross, project coordinator of the Clifton Place restoration. Wallace Hebert, historian, assisted with the editing of the manuscript and helped with the statement of significance for the district.

Informant interviews provided much information on the history and ecology of the area. Much data on agricultural practices was furnished by farmers Campbell P. Ridley, Charles W. Jewell, Wick Halliday, and Clyde Thompson. Evelyn Shapard Ridley and Sarah Ann Ridley Jewell provided much information on the Pillow family; Mary Jane Whiteside supplied similar information on the Polks. Chris Moyers of the Agricultural Soils Conservation Service offered his observations on the soil types and agronomy of the region. Tennessee State Archaeologist Nick Fielder visited several historic archaeological sites with project personnel and provided his comments for inclusion in the report. Joe McCormick drew plans for several sites. Others providing assistance with this project were Stan Johnson of the Tennessee Division of Forestry, Margaret Slater of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and former and present Maury County Historians Jill K. Garrett and Polly C. Warren. Claudette Stager and Elizabeth Straw of the Tennessee Historical Commission staff spent considerable time in the district and gave much help to the project. Owners of properties in the district were all most hospitable and helped provide their own insights into the significance of the neighborhood.

All properties in the historic district were visited by survey personnel. All passable roads were traveled, and all buildings in the area were recorded. Forests, wetlands, hills, fields, meadows and waste areas were observed. Sites such as abandoned roads, plantation, house, and mill sites were visited and noted. Landscape features such as roads and trails, walls and fences, and field boundaries were also studied. Historic maps, surveys, and photographs were collected for submission with the nomination. All principal buildings and outbuildings, as well as representative landscape views, were photographed. A low-level aerial fly-over of the district helped to determine the spatial arrangement of the large plantations and other large-scale aspects of the landscape.

Following the completion of the field work, areas of significance were determined, and the boundaries of the historic district were drawn to exclude properties not related to the historic contexts for the region.

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Additional research was conducted on identified resources, and the nomination package was completed in August 1988.

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FOOTNOTES

- 1 Killebrew, J.B. and J.M. Safford, Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee. Nashville, 1874, 828.
- 2 John V. Vaiksnoras, ESSA State Climatologist, "Climotological (sic) Summary, Ashwood, Tennessee." Nashville: Weather Bureau Airport Station, April 1968.
- 3 US Soil Conservation Service, Maury County Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture/TVA Tennessee Valley Experiment Station: 1959.
- 4 On the Tom Webster farm at Cross Bridges.
- 5 In the early 1980s several farmers in the district experimented with the heat-curing of tobacco in special tobacco houses constructed for this purpose. By curing the tobacco by heat, the laborsome racking of tobacco in barns would be avoided. But tobacco buyers disdained the resulting product, and the farmers reverted to traditional practice.
- 6 Maury County still ranks second in cattle production for the state of Tennessee. (Tennessee Department of Agriculture statistics, in The Tennessean, 29 July 1988, 1.)
- 7 Killebrew, 831.
- 8 Tennessee Division of Forestry, "Tennessee Big Tree Register", Nashville: Tennessee Department of Conservation, revised edition 1988.
- 9 Sue Henry to Ms. M.M. Henry, Clarksville, Tennessee, 11 October 1850, Gustavus A. Henry Papers. Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 10 Cherry Glen was listed in the National Register in 1973, but was removed after its destruction by fire. The site and its dependencies are included in the district.
- 11 Interview with Evelyn Shapard Ridley (Mrs. Campbell P. Ridley), July 1988.
- 12 Westbrook, the home of Rufus Polk, was a large log house, not unlike Willsgrove. But Rufus died young, in 1843; had he lived, he would likely have built a grandiose home like those of his brothers.
- 13 Robert L. Jolley, Archaeological Investigations at the Clifton Place Plantation Privy, Maury County, Tennessee. Miscellaneous Paper No. 9. Knoxville: Tennessee Anthropological Association, 1983.

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- 14 Jane Hinshaw, "Archaeological Investigations at Rattle and Snap: the Kitchen Ell." Report prepared for Amon Carter Evans, 1979.
  - 15 Durbin, Jeff, "Barn Construction in Tennessee", in Carrol Van West, Tennessee Agriculture: A Century Farms Perspective, Nashville: Tennessee Department of Agriculture, 1986.
  - 16 Vaught, Nathan, Memoir, MSS, Tennessee State Library and Archives, 32.
  - 17 Ibid.
  - 18 Frank H. Smith, History of Maury County, Columbia: Maury County Historical Society, 1969, 117.
  - 19 All of the original gates and acorns remain, but were moved from the house site in the 1880s. Today, they can be seen at Hamilton Place, St. John's Church, Clifton Place (where they were moved recently from Cherry Glen) and at the C. Roem house (1988) just east of the district on Highway 43.
  - 20 G.W. Polk, "St. John's Church, Ashwood". Tennessee Historical Magazine, Vol. VII, No. 3, October 1921, 172; Donald Smith Armentrout, James Hervey Otey: First Episcopal Bishop of Tennessee, Knoxville: The Episcopal Dioceses in Tennessee, 1984, App. B, 171; Maury Democrat note, 8 Jan. 1891, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 111.
  - 21 Jill Garrett, "The Lost Village of Ashwood", The Daily Herald, 22 July 1978, 6-7.
  - 22 Joseph H. Parks, General Leonidas Polk, C.S.A.: The Fighting Bishop. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1962, 76; William McClinchey Diary, in Historic Maury, Vol. XIV, No. 1, 1978, 12; William Mecklenburg Polk, Leonidas Polk, Bishop and General, New York: Longmans, Green, & Co., 1894, 152; Frank H. Smith. "Personal Recollections of Columbia of Long Ago, Columbia Herald, 26 September 1904, rpt. Historic Maury, Vol. II, No. 4, Sept. 1966, 104.
  - 23 Jill Garrett, "Discoveries at Dukes Store", The Daily Herald, 18 May 1974, s-5.
  - 24 There is another "Zion Road, heading west from Zion Church to a juncture with the Canaan Road.
  - 25 Vaught, 27.
  - 26 Maury County Chancery Court Minutes, Pillow vs. Thomas, 1867.
  - 27 Mr. Virgil Pearson worked for Armstrong on the construction of a number of the farm buildings, and supplied the dates of their construction.
  - 28 Kiser, John, "Interior Design of Early 19th Century Houses in Maury County", lecture, 24 March 1983, reprinted in Carese Parker, editor, The Polk Family: A Study of the Past, A Guide of the Future, Columbia: James K. Polk Association, 1983.
  - 29 William Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 20 June 1829, Leonidas Polk Papers, University of the South at Sewanee; Lucius J. Polk to William Polk, 20 December 1831, George W. Polk Papers, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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- 30 Sarah Hawkins Polk to Susan Polk Raynor, 26 November 1842, Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 31 Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 4 June 1840, Leonidas Polk Papers; Garrett, Hither and Yon, 256.
- 32 Sarah Hawkins Polk to Susan Polk Raynor, 26 November 1842, Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 33 William Stuart Fleming, A Historical Sketch of Maury County, Read at the Centennial Celebration in Columbia, Tennessee, July 4th, 1876, Columbia: Excelsior Printing Office, 1876. Rpt. Columbia, Maury County Historical Society, 1967, 28.
- 34 Thomas B. Brumbaugh, Architecture of Middle Tennessee: The Historic American Buildings Survey. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1974, 150; John Kiser, "Rattle and Snap: Gambler's Luck in Tennessee", Southern Accents, Vol. VIII, No. 6, November-December 1985, 131.
- 35 Ibid.; Brumbaugh, 150.
- 36 "Rattle and Snap". Typed MSS, n.d. Polk-Yeatman Collection, Tennessee State Library and Archives.
- 37 Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 17 August 1833, quoted in William Mecklenburg Polk, I, 66-71; Note in the Columbia Herald and Mail, 23 June 1876, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 111; Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 17 August 1833, quoted in W.M. Polk, I, 66-71; Maury County Deed Book 2, Volume G, 606-09.
- 38 James Patrick, "The Architecture of Adolphus Heiman", Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXVIII, Nos. 2 & 3, Summer/Fall 1979, 291.
- 39 "Ashwood Hall". Typed MSS, n.d. Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 40 Tennessee Big Tree Register. The tree is 18' 10" in circumference, 74' in height, and has a crown spread of 60'.
- 41 Columbia Herald and Mail, 7 February 1896.
- 42 William McClinchey Diary, entry for 14 September 1887, in Historic Maury, Vol. XIV, No. 1, 1978, 12; Garrett, Hither and Yon, 234; West Brook sketch, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 43 St. John's Church Register, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 44 On the west gate is carved "Given by V.L. Polk, 1887".
- 45 Tennessee Big Tree Register.
- 46 Warren, Polly, History of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee, Columbia: P-Vine Press, 1983, 54.

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Maple Hill Farm

26.8 Garage/Storage shed. Circa 1960. Frame. (NC)

26.9 Milk barn. Circa 1957. Concrete block, one story, rectangular plan, asphalt gable roof. (NC)

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Several of the plantation complexes are basically intact, and retain many of the original agricultural structures and other dependencies. These include log and frame barns, frame and brick smokehouses, detached kitchens and dependencies, stables, log and brick slave houses, and tenant houses. All across the landscape are other structures and features characteristic of the farms, such as stone and wooden fences, wells and spring houses, dairies, feed and watering systems, apiaries, and other miscellaneous structures. These buildings and structures comprise resources representative of early building patterns in the region. The number of extant dependencies and the largely unaltered landscape make this district a good example of nineteenth and early twentieth development of a region devoted to agriculture.

The historic buildings in the district are farmhouses or farm-related buildings, with only a few exceptions. St. John's Episcopal Church, begun in 1839 by five brothers of the Polk<sup>47</sup> family, is believed to be the last plantation church built in the South. The dark red brick chapel is one of the best examples of rural ecclesiastical Gothic Revival architecture in Tennessee, and retains the appearance it had when services were discontinued in the late nineteenth century. Another type of building in the district is represented by the abandoned Canaan School. Dating from the early twentieth century, it is a schoolhouse built for students from the small black community of Canaan on the western edge of the district. An example of a twentieth century commercial building is Duke Store, a roadside store located next to the store owner's house. Several buildings from the small crossroads community of Ashwood are also present. The mix of residential, ecclesiastical, and educational buildings from the plantation era to 1941 depict the early settlement and development of a plantation based economy, through the changes of postbellum years, to the early twentieth century when farming practices still bore some similarity to the earlier plantation system.

The rich lands on which these farms are located have been in cultivation since before 1810 and remain almost entirely so today (1988). Hill lands and waste areas still remain in timber, however, most of the original woodlands have been logged or cleared. Pastures make up the majority of the acreage, but hundreds of acres are devoted to field and row crops, namely corn, wheat, tobacco, soybeans, and forage crops. In the nineteenth century much of the land was in cotton, corn, and hemp, the principal cash crops on which the early agrarian wealth was based. Since the Civil War the farms have been more reliant on the raising of livestock. Today, most of the residences have kitchen gardens. Manors show evidence of earlier landscape features, such as formal gardens, orchards, and greenhouse sites.

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With the exception of a small heavily developed area called Hamilton Court at the junction of the Andrew Jackson Highway and Polk Lane, the Ashwood Rural Historic District is intact and free of intrusions. Portions of the village of Ashwood, located at the juncture of the Polk plantations, remain but this hamlet has been largely abandoned. Properties in the district reflect the economics, culture, and influence of the planter class, and to a lesser degree, the owners of somewhat smaller farms (though still of a much greater scale than the norm in Tennessee) from the early nineteenth century to the present.

**LEVELS AND AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is of state significance as one of the finest remaining collections of antebellum plantation residences and rural historic landscapes in Tennessee. The significance of this area from 1808 to 1941 is demonstrated through its architectural and agricultural heritage.

Criterion C (Statewide significance)- Architecture: The antebellum plantation residences which exist in the district represent the finest assemblages of Greek Revival influenced architecture in Middle Tennessee. Homes such as Clifton Place, Hamilton Place, and Rattle and Snap have been recognized by state and national architectural historians for their quality of design and workmanship. These residences also retain a high degree of integrity and have not been significantly altered. The Ashwood plantations are also recognized as retaining unusually intact collections of outbuildings associated with plantation operations.

No other similar rural assemblage of plantation structures and landscape features have been identified in Tennessee. In East Tennessee the topography, soil conditions, and other landscape features inhibited the development of large scale plantations. Slave ownership in the antebellum era was minimal in comparison with the rest of the state and while individual plantations were scattered throughout the region, no area produced a large collection of contiguous rural plantations comparable to the Ashwood District. In West Tennessee large plantations evolved which depended primarily on the production of cotton as a cash crop. These plantations often totalled a thousand acres or more and utilized large numbers of slave laborers. Although many fine plantation homes remain extant in the region, especially in Fayette and Haywood Counties, no concentration of antebellum estates with intact landscape features such as those found in the Ashwood Rural Historic District have been identified.

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In Middle Tennessee the majority of counties which constitute the fertile "heartland" have been inventoried and there has been some assessment of the region's architectural and historical resources. Many antebellum plantation homes and complexes have been recorded in the region and listed on the National Register. However, no similar collection of plantations which possess the quality and integrity of architectural design have been identified or listed on the National Register in Tennessee. The Ashwood Rural Historic District has traditionally been considered to contain the finest examples of antebellum plantation architecture and outbuildings in the state and its preeminence remains unchallenged.

Criterion A (Statewide significance)- Agriculture: Properties in the Ashwood Rural Historic District collectively represent a significant historic landscape which, in its size, number of resources, and integrity of features and setting, is unique in the state. No other area of comparable size, historical evolution, quality of resources and integrity of site has been identified or listed on the National Register. The Ashwood area's unusually fertile soil, level topography and beneficial climate formed the basis for the flowering of contiguous plantation complexes of great wealth and prosperity.

The Ashwood area contains the largest of several belts of extremely fertile agricultural lands in Maury County. This district contains the rich bottom lands between Bigby, Little Bigby, and Greenlick creeks. These lands have remained in continuous production, and still bear the same general appearance they had in their period of significance from 1808 to 1941. The lands which comprise the district have been recognized since the early nineteenth century as some of the finest in Tennessee and the South. In 1839, the Southern Cultivator noted that the farm of Gideon Pillow was located in the "midst of one of the most fertile sections of Middle Tennessee." Journalist J.D.B. DeBow reported in 1851 that the Ashwood lands were "the most beautiful and fertile countries the heart of man could covet." A more scientific assessment occurred in 1874 in J.B. Killebrew's Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee, when he described the Ashwood area as "one of the most beautiful bodies of land in the United States. Certainly none other in Tennessee surpasses it, and no other is as well known, or often spoken of by travelers." Killebrew's observation and research on the quality and fertility of the soil have been reinforced by numerous studies in the twentieth century. The district is the best known representation of the diversified agriculture practiced in Tennessee, especially Middle Tennessee, during much of the nineteenth century.

In addition to its significance for its agricultural heritage the Ashwood Rural Historic District is also significant for its relatively undisturbed

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agrarian heritage and integrity of setting. With the exception of the modern residential and commercial development along a small portion of the Andrew Jackson Highway, the landscape of the area retains much of its antebellum appearance. Fields have been in continual cultivation since the early 1800s and present day fence lines and roads follow nineteenth century patterns. The Ashwood Rural Historic District is unique in Tennessee because of its geographic size, balance of historic and modern elements, and integrity of undisturbed landscape features.

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is also significant on a local level for its role in county architecture, agriculture, exploration and settlement, military history, religion, commerce, politics, ethnic history, transportation, and historic archaeology from 1808 to 1941:

**Criterion C - Architecture and Art:** The Ashwood District contains the finest collection of rural antebellum plantation homes built in Maury County. In addition to the manors the district also contains a significant number of plantation outbuildings. A number of notable late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences also remain in the district. Formally designed buildings, buildings that represent vernacular adaptations of popular styles, ancillary farm housing, and dependencies are all found in the district. The district contains impressive examples of master architect Nathan Vaught's designs. St. John's Episcopal Church is important for its collection of stone monuments.

**Criterion A - Agriculture:** The area comprising the Ashwood Rural Historic District has been recognized as the finest farmland in the county and retains much of its nineteenth century appearance. Croplands, woodlands, road systems, fence lines and other landscape features have not been greatly altered since the area's period of significance. The historically diversified agriculture (grains, cotton, and livestock) of the region is still evident today.

**Criterion A - Ethnic Heritage/Black:** Because of the intact nature of the plantation complexes and the existence of the community of Canaan, the district is significant as an illustration of black life in antebellum and postbellum rural Middle Tennessee.

**Criterion A - Exploration and Settlement:** The Ashwood area was one of the first regions of the county to be settled and much of its present appearance and land use was influenced during these early years. The Polk and Pillow families were some of the most influential settlers in the early years of county history. The district also contains several properties associated with the Zion colony, a Presbyterian community which was the

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first established settlement in Maury County and is important to the history of the county.

Criterion A - Transportation and Commerce: Six prominent landowners in the Ashwood Rural Historic District were part of consortium in 1840 which established the Columbia Central Turnpike. This road led west from Columbia through Maury County to the Tennessee River community of Clifton. It was the major road in this section of the county and was operated as a toll road by the company throughout the nineteenth century. The establishment of the turnpike had an important effect on improving the county's road system and aided in the commercial development of the county. The Polk and Pillow families also were instrumental in promoting the construction of the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad through the county and an important shipping point was established at the Ashwood community. The crossroad community of Ashwood and the twentieth century Duke Store complex are good examples of commercial development that followed the road and railroad.

Criterion B - Government, Military, Religion: Several individuals and landowners in the Ashwood Rural Historic District were prominent in county history. Leonidas Polk was instrumental in organizing the Episcopal faith in Maury County. Gideon J. Pillow, Jr., was of great importance in Tennessee politics and military history. Lucius Polk was active in politics and served a term in the State Senate.

Criterion D - Archaeology: Certain resources are largely archaeological resources and are important for valuable information they have yielded or are likely to yield about the settlement, construction, design, landscape architecture, and society and culture of the Ashwood District. These resources can answer research questions that are important in understanding the history and development of Maury County.

The Ashwood Hall archaeological site is significant because it can answer research questions on mid-nineteenth century architectural practices, massing and layout of the main house, and artifact usage by various socio-economic classes in rural Middle Tennessee. Excavation of the site would likely provide information on subsistence and foodways of this class of farmers.

The Huckaby Log House archaeological site is significant because its architectural and archaeological information is associated with the overseer class of the 1860s. However, based on the beaded ceiling joists and other decorative features, the building appears to have been constructed in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The site is likely to answer research questions that will yield valuable information on

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what were early nineteenth century construction techniques in this area and artifact assemblages associated with the overseer class of plantation workers.

Ashwood Rural Historic District is likely to contain several additional historic period archaeological sites based on the 1887 Beers map of Maury County. To date, no systematic archaeological investigations of the area have been conducted. However, some individual site features that are parts of larger plantations have been investigated (see inventory). No professional archaeological surveys have been carried out in the district, but a large number of prehistoric sites are predicted for the area.

Several properties in the district have already been identified as having local, state, or national significance. Rattle and Snap has been recognized as one of the South's finest examples of Greek Revival plantation architecture and was listed as a National Historic Landmark on 11/11/71. Placed in the National Register on 7/8/70, Clifton Place is of state significance for its association with Gideon J. Pillow, Jr., an extensive planter in several states, a power broker in Democratic party politics in the mid-nineteenth century, and an able but controversial commanding general in the Mexican and Civil Wars. Clifton Place was also listed because of its architectural significance. St. John's Episcopal Church was listed on 6/13/72 and is significant to the state for its association with Leonidas Polk, first Episcopal Missionary Bishop of the Southwest and first Bishop of Louisiana, also a renowned lieutenant general in the Confederate army during the Civil War. It was also listed for its Gothic Revival architecture and its importance during the Civil War. On 7/16/73 Hamilton Place was listed in the National Register because of its state significance in the areas of architecture, agriculture, and politics. Pine Hill (NR12/15/83), Pillow Place (NR12/8/83), and the Pillow-Bethel House (NR12/12/76) have all been listed in the National Register for their architectural significance.

OUTLINE

- I. Exploration and settlement, 1806-1825
  - Initial land grants and holdings
  - Early agricultural practice
  - Architecture
  - Transportation: Road-related

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- II. The Ashwood Rural Historic District in the plantation era, 1825-1861  
Settlement  
Agricultural practice  
Architecture  
Transportation: Water-related, rail related  
Transportation: Road-related  
Social relationships: Master and slave  
Religious life  
Commerce and trade
  
- III. Civil War and Reconstruction  
Military events  
Reconstruction  
Transportation: Rail-related
  
- IV. The Ashwood Rural Historic District in the late nineteenth century, 1870-1900  
Agricultural practice  
Architecture  
Transportation: Rail-related  
Transportation: Road-related  
Changing relationships between blacks and whites  
Religious life
  
- V. The Ashwood Rural Historic District in the early twentieth century, 1900-1941  
Agricultural practice  
Architecture  
Transportation: Rail-related  
Religious life  
Commerce
  
- VI. Significant individuals  
Gideon J. Pillow, Jr.  
Lucius Junius Polk  
Leonidas Polk  
Nathan Vaught (Criterion C)
  
- I. Exploration and Settlement, 1806-1825

Because of the quality of farm lands, the Ashwood area was settled from the time the lands were legally opened to settlement by the Dearborn Treaty of 1806. With the exception of a few squatters, the

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early settlers were families of good means, large numbers owning slaves, who came to the county from North Carolina and South Carolina well-equipped for the agricultural practice of the day. The Indian menace which had troubled the first to enter this region had largely ebbed, and the settlers did not have to live through many years of primitive pioneer life.

Initial land grants and holdings

The northern part of the historic district was once a part of a 25,000 land grant given by the State of North Carolina to General Nathanael Greene, a hero of the Revolutionart War. Although Greene never lived in Maury County, his daughter came here, and with her husband, Samuel Henry Armstrong, built Pine Hill in the late 1830s.

In 1805 Gideon Pillow, Sr., one of five sons of John Pillow, a Revolutionary soldier who relocated from Guilford County, North Carolina to Tennessee, moved to the present site of Pillow Place (Rose Hill) with his wife Annie Payne. At that time the land was a dense forest and canebrake. Gideon Pillow owned considerable lands in Maury County, as well as land near Winchester in Franklin County, and property in Fayette County, Shelby County, Dyer County, and Obion County.<sup>48</sup>

Pillow's land along the Doublehead Trace was purchased on May 20, 1806, from John Johnston of Franklin. The deed was registered on June 4, 1808 in Maury County. Gideon Pillow, Sr. also acquired considerable land holdings in Giles county and moved there for a time in 1812, but kept title to the Pillow tract which now includes the heart of Clifton Place, Pillow-Bethel House, and Pillow Place.<sup>49</sup> Although no trace remains of Pillow's original settlement, three of his sons later had fine Greek Revival houses built on his lands.

In 1805 and 1806, fourteen families of Presbyterians from the Williamsburg district of South Carolina emigrated to Tennessee, making a temporary settlement near Franklin in Williamson County. In August 1807 they purchased 5,120 acres [eight square (miles) in what is now Maury County from the heirs of General Nathanael Greene. The land was divided among the families and a log church built. The families settled in Maury County in January 1808.<sup>50</sup> This community, known as Zion, was the first settlement to be established in the county. Although Zion Church is itself a mile north of the district in the center of the colony, several properties on the north boundary of the Ashwood Rural Historic District are associated with the Zion

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settlement, and three of the properties date, in part, from its earliest days.

For distinguished service in the Revolution, Colonel William Polk of North Carolina received land grants in the area. He also bought out many land warrants from soldiers of the North Carolina Continental Line. One of the grants, North Carolina Grant Number 148, Warrant 453, dated 11 April 1789, was for a 5,000 acre tract in what is now Maury County. It was described as being on the south side of Duck River on big Tombigby and Greens Lick Creek.<sup>51</sup> The grant was for property adjoining and immediately to the south of the 25,000 acre tract granted to General Nathanael Greene.<sup>52</sup>

William Polk was in Maury County as early as 1810, as he testified there in court that year in the case of Thomas Hall vs. Abram Bogard. In 1812 the Maury County tax list showed William Polk as owning a 10,000 acre tract on Rutherford Creek in northern Maury County, a second tract of 1,000 acres on Rutherford, and 5,000 acres on Bigby in the southwest section of the county.<sup>53</sup>

The Bigby Creek parcel is recorded in William Polk's land entry book as "a tract of 5,000 acres granted to William Polk located in Maury County on Big Tombigby & Greens Lick Creek". The parcel was surveyed and a plat drawn by Robert Weakley.<sup>54</sup> This land on Bigby and Greenlick creeks became the basis of the Ashwood settlement, on which Polk's sons settled and prospered. The property was supposedly won by William Polk in a game of chance in which scrip for land was included in the stakes. Polk is said to have won the 5,648 acre tract in the game and he dubbed it "Rattle and Snap" after the game. Polk farmed the property but never took up residence here. However, a number of his sons did relocate to the tract in the 1830s and built on the property.

The first settler in this part of the district was William Dever, a bachelor, and his sister, who settled in the county by 1807. In August of that year he signed a petition to establish Maury County; at this time he was shown to be a resident of the north side of Duck River. He was certainly in the Ashwood area by 1810, as Maury County Court Minutes for that year refer to opening a road "as far east as Little Tom Bigby and west as far as William Dever." Goodspeed's History of Tennessee states that<sup>55</sup> "the Devers, by parsimonious habits, accumulated considerable means".

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Dever was described by antiquarian Nat W. Jones as living at the Yeatman Spring behind present Hamilton Place. "Like all the early settlers they took in travellers and land hunters. They deemed the land itself of little value, and would not even pay the very low taxes then assessed, but made money on cattle, which ran wild in the woods and the only attention given the stock was salting occasionally." W.S. Fleming, an early county historian, said that Dever and his sister lived in log cabins along the small branch behind present day Hamilton Place. An 1887 map of Maury County shows the small spring behind Hamilton Place as Devers' Spring.<sup>56</sup> The Devers were gone by 1831, when Lucius Polk arrived and began construction of Hamilton Place.

### Early agricultural practice

When the first settlers arrived, almost all of the land was in dense, virgin forest, with heavy canebrakes in the bottom lands. In order to establish farms, the land had to be cleared. Some trees were used for construction and fencing, others were simply piled and burned. The canebrakes were easily converted to good fields by burning off the cane.

The first farms were largely self-sufficient. Garden crops were grown, but the chief food crop grown in the early years was corn. Flour mills were established very early, but most wheat was only grown for home use at this time. Patches of cotton and flax were cultivated, primarily for use in weaving material.<sup>57</sup>

Small herds of stock were kept for slaughter, and smokehouses on each place provided for their processing. Oxen were the chief draft animals<sup>58</sup> before mules were introduced into Maury County in the 1820s.<sup>58</sup> Only such items as salt, metal goods, and china had to be acquired from outside. From 1810 until 1830, most residents of the Ashwood district resided in log or frame residences and tilled adjacent farmland.

### Architecture

Resources from this period are the W. J. Frierson log house (#12) on Evans Lane and Frierson's brother David's two story half-timbered frame house. Located across the lane, it is now incorporated into Farringford (#11). Also present on the Frierson property is a single-crib log barn, now incorporated into a larger circa 1875 combination barn. The original side section of Tree Haven may also

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date from the early years of the Zion settlement. Tradition holds that this section was built about 1812 by Reverend James White Stephenson, the first minister of Zion Presbyterian Church.

Gideon Pillow's early log house at Rose Hill was replaced in 1852 by his son Granville's new brick house. The older Pillow also had a mill on Little Bigby Creek, but no trace remains of this operation. Also, nothing remains from the Dever's settlement at the Yeatman Spring.

### Transportation: Road-related

Before the beginnings of white settlement in the area about 1806, a few rough Indian trails existed. One that is still in use is the Doublehead Trace, now part of Campbellsville Pike on the south boundary of the district. Gideon Pillow, Sr., settled at the point this trail crossed the Little Bigby.

After Columbia was established in 1808, the old Natchez Trace road was shifted from its original route from Nashville to the west of Columbia to Columbia itself, then southwest along what is now the general route of the Andrew Jackson Highway to a meeting with the old trace at Metal Ford in present Lewis County. Until the opening of the Jackson Military Road in 1821 (which uses part of the same route through the district), this route was officially a part of the Natchez Trace.<sup>59</sup>

## II. The Ashwood District in the Plantation Era, 1825-1861

### Settlement

William Polk died at his North Carolina home on January 14, 1834, the last surviving officer of the North Carolina line. Of his lands in Maury County, half of the Bigby or Rattle and Snap tract was deeded to his sons Lucius and Leonidas before his death. He willed the remaining half of Rattle and Snap to his younger sons Rufus and George. Andrew Jackson Polk received 1,500 acres in the Carters Creek area, but later relocated to Ashwood.<sup>60</sup>

Samuel Henry Armstrong, who had come to the Zion community as a child with his father, James Armstrong, became a prosperous planter and had his house, Pine Hill, built in 1839. Armstrong was shown in the 1840

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census as having a family of seven and owning thirty-five slaves; fourteen of the household were employed in agriculture.<sup>61</sup>

Gideon Pillow, Sr. died intestate in 1831. Much of his land in the Ashwood area southwest of Columbia was divided among his three sons, Granville Pillow, Gideon J. Pillow, and Jerome Bonaparte Pillow. On these tracts they built their plantation homes which survive today.<sup>62</sup>

Agricultural practice

Crop diversification was characteristic of the farming practices of the Ashwood district. Hemp, corn, oats, wheat, tobacco, rye and other grains were raised in varying degrees of abundance on the farms. An emphasis on livestock raising also occurred with thousands of acres converted to pasture for the grazing of mules, cattle, and horses. In 1855 George Washington Polk at Rattle and Snap showed Bishop James Otey the sheep and pigs he had imported from Kentucky. Each farm had its own orchard and gardens for fruits and vegetables. Lucius Polk's wife is recorded as ordering plum and apple trees for Hamilton Place in 1833 and in 1855 the largest beets of the season were sent<sup>63</sup> from Andrew Polk's garden at Ashwood Hall to the Democratic Herald.

The use of innovative scientific methods for increased livestock and crop production is mentioned often in letters from the Ashwood plantations. Both Polk and Pillow families realized the value of crop diversification and practiced new techniques in their farming methods. In 1859 George W. Polk stated that "You must not be content with going on with the same old crop year after year, but it must be made a science and studied...Farming is a science."<sup>64</sup> Other accounts from this period also record interest in experimentation and crop development.

Demands for finished products also resulted in the establishment of mills on the plantations. The 1850 census records a wagon making business and blacksmith shop on Andrew J. Polk's plantation. Cotton gins and steam powered grist mills were also in operation on various Ashwood estates during these years.

From 1850 to 1860 the agricultural censuses of the district illustrate the wide diversity and production of the plantations and depict the relative wealth of the area. For example, in 1850 Andrew J. Polk owned 1,900 acres of land in the district of which all but 100 acres were improved. The cash value of his plantation was listed

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at \$100,000. Polk owned dozens of horses, mules, cows, oxen, 100 head of sheep, and 425 head of swine with a value of \$11,535. Crops grown by Polk included corn, oats, rice, wheat, rye cotton and hay. This wealth and diversity is reflected throughout the area with Lucius J. Polk's estate valued at \$45,000 and Jerome Pillow's estate valued at \$47,000. Samuel Armstrong at Pine Hill owned 625 acres valued at \$25,000. Jerome Pillow was noted for his corn production and George W. Polk owned extensive bee hives that produced 800 pounds of honey in 1850.

Clifton Place plantation was predominantly a stock farm, although hemp, corn, and orchard products were grown there at times. The Southern Cultivator in 1839 took note of General Pillow's 500 merino sheep, Irish Grazier hogs, and Durham cattle. Pillow showed the writer some lucerne (alfalfa) he was growing experimentally in a small patch in his garden from "seed procured at a distance." Of General Pillow's pastures, the writer said, "The Blue, Herds, and Orchard grasses have all found a place in his soil, and are now, in spite of the long continued drought, luxuriant in appearance."<sup>65</sup> This reference is one of the earliest with specific agricultural data about any of the plantations documented in this report.

The decade from 1850 to 1860 saw an increase in the value of most plantations. Andrew J. Polk's estate grew by only 500 acres during the decade but its cash value more than doubled from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Lucius Polk's plantation contained over 500 acres valued at \$58,100 and George W. Polk's holdings grew to 1,700 acres valued at \$76,500. Even these immense plantation complexes combined were overshadowed by Gideon Pillow's estate, which totaled over 14,000 acres with a cash value of \$571,000 in 1860.<sup>66</sup>

With the opening of the Mississippi and neighboring lands, many of the planters at Ashwood established plantations in Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Among these were Lucius, George, Andrew, and Leonidas Polk; the Pillows, the Riddleys, and Samuel H. Armstrong. They were able to operate these farms with the additional slaves sent from Maury County plantations. The lower southern states grew a better, longer stapled crop than did Maury, and as the center of the cotton market shifted to New Orleans, the Maury County cotton planters, being too far from the marketplace, were displaced. J.B. Killebrew, in his 1874 Introduction to the resources of Tennessee, called Mississippi the "El Dorado of the Maury County cotton planters."<sup>67</sup> The Ashwood plantations now emphasized growing more hemp and corn and raising mules and hogs. Additional fields were

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devoted to grassland and pasture, and the extra slaves once required to work them sent to the plantations further south.

The enormity of the size and value of these plantations stood in contrast with the average farm of Maury County. In 1860 Maury County was noted as one of the richest counties in the state in terms of its land and agricultural products. The average improved acreage on farms in the county was between 90 and 119 acres and the average cash value was between \$5,000 and \$12,220. The overall average wealth for county residents was between \$2,000 and \$3,500. These figures were far below the wealth and lands accumulated by planters in the Ashwood area and underline its significance in relation to the county and state. On the eve of the Civil War, the Ashwood area could justly be called one of the Middle Tennessee heartland's most prosperous and flourishing areas.

Architecture

By 1840 many residents of the Ashwood district had accumulated substantial wealth through their farmlands and slave holdings and entered an era of prosperity which extended into the early years of the Civil War. Original homes of log and frame were replaced by two story brick manors and numerous brick, frame and log buildings were constructed for the operation of the plantation complexes. Brick smokehouses, kitchens offices, ice houses, and other ancillary buildings were erected on most major farms of the area. These three decades witnessed a period of building construction and crop development which established much of the present day character of the district.

The planters chose to build after the style of the great buildings of ancient Greece and Rome. These houses, with their tall columns, heavy cornices, and refined classical trim, were not built simply as functional houses, but also as symbols of their owners' extensive personal empires. They served more as capitals of the great estates than as domiciles, and evoked an aura of stability greatly needed on the still-wild Tennessee frontier. Though borrowing heavily from classical precedents, the buildings were more derivative in nature. The tall Corinthian columns of Ashwood Hall, the ten-columned facade of Rattle and Snap, and the three Pillow houses with their immense Ionic porticos, are examples of a rash scale of building.

Tennessee has numerous plantation houses in the Greek Revival style and one of the greatest concentrations is in Maury County. The

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Ashwood district has preserved some of the state's best examples. The style had its roots in the English neoclassical movement, which was inspired by the publication of Stuart and Revett's The Antiquities of Athens in 1762.<sup>68</sup> The six manors that survive in the district reflect the height of the antebellum plantation social system in Maury County and form the best collection of such houses in the southern Middle Tennessee region. J. Frazier-Smith, an architect and critic of architecture in the 1940s, wrote that "they (the houses) have stood as symbols of agrarian economics, of family solidarity, and of Maury County culture."<sup>69</sup>

Manufacturing of most building materials was done locally; bricks were normally made on site. A water-powered sawmill was erected in Columbia by 1811, and Leonidas Polk had his own at Ashwood by the 1840s. Mill work was done by hand until 1858 when Nathan Vaught acquired heavy carpentry machinery from Cincinnati. Shingles were rived at least until 1854 when J.W. Hatcher of Columbia obtained a rotary<sup>70</sup> shingle machine capable of making 1000-1200 shingles an hour.

Someone likely involved in the construction of the houses in Ashwood was David Ginger, a mason living near George Washington Polk. Ginger, age fifty-two, was born in North Carolina and had two sons who were laborers. The Gingers did not own property, but lived in Ginger Hollow in the flank of what is still known as Ginger Hill, a large free-standing hill separating the Polk lands from that of the Pillows, to whom the Gingers were allied by marriage.<sup>71</sup>

Many buildings constructed adjacent to the manor were necessary for the day-to-day workings of nineteenth century plantations. To feed both the families and servants of the estates cooking was required during much of the day. Because of the fear and danger of fire most kitchen areas were detached and located twenty to fifty yards from the main house. At least one and sometimes two large fireplaces were kept busy continually in these kitchens. The most substantial of these were one and two story brick buildings such as those built at Clifton Place(#1), Pillow-Bethel House (#2), and Pine Hill (#5). Smokehouses were also important for the salting and curing of hams, sausage, and bacon. Built of both logs and brick, these tall buildings contained elaborate interior rafter systems to suspend meat for the fire cured process. Ice houses were also common to keep butter, milk, and other perishables cool throughout the year.

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The operation of the plantation complexes required dozens of buildings for the farm operations. Sometimes brick offices were constructed near the manor for use by the owner and overseer. Records of the farm were kept here and it provided a separate work center away from the manor. Examples of plantation offices can be seen at Pillow-Bethel House (#2) and Clifton Place (#1). In addition to the office, structures such as barns, coops, and sheds were built. Many of these early farm structures were of log construction but gradually more elaborate brick and frame carriage houses and barns were built, especially in the 1850s. Antebellum brick barns and stables remain on the Clifton Place (#1) and Pillow-Bethel House (#2) plantations. Slave quarters were also an important part of the plantation complex. Several examples remain in the district.

St. John's Episcopal Church (#10), begun in 1839, is the oldest and best surviving example of Gothic Revival chapel architecture in the county. The brick church is distinguished by its central entry tower, lancet windows with intricate wooden tracery, brick and stone buttresses, and rear sacristy. The church is basically unaltered and retains its original decorative finishes and interior features such as its wooden slave gallery at the rear. Its cemetery is likewise significant for the outstanding decorative art displayed by the monuments in the church's historic cemetery. Many fine gravestones, tombs, and monuments reflect superior craftsmanship.

### Transportation: Water-related, rail-related

A major concern of plantation owners was transporting crops and livestock to distant markets. For many years, attention was directed to the Duck River, the principal stream of the region. It flows through the center of Maury County, about four miles north of Ashwood.

However, the stream was unreliable and boats could usually be sent downstream only on freshets or spring rises. At first commercial use of the river was confined mainly to flatboats, but even these shallow-draft vessels were subject to being stranded by falls in the water level. Lucius Polk attempted to ship some of his cotton from Columbia to the New Orleans markets by flatboat in 1833, but the boat made it only eight miles below Columbia before a fall in Duck River halted its journey.<sup>72</sup>

The first steamboat came up Duck River about 1832, bringing a load of salt. Over the next decade other steamboats managed to struggle to

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Columbia while the river was at flood level, but such boats could not be depended upon. In 1840 a company was formed to oversee river improvements and to aid steamboat navigation on the river. This company failed to accomplish anything and six years later the Duck River Slack Water Navigation Company was incorporated to build locks and dams for navigation on the river. George Washington Polk of Rattle and Snap was chosen as a commissioner for the company in February 1848. The company began work on a system of locks and dams, but poor planning of the enterprise led to its abandonment shortly afterwards. The last flatboat left Columbia in the 1850s.<sup>73</sup>

The uncertainties of river navigation led Maury County businessmen and planters to promote the development of a railroad linking Columbia with the Tennessee River. In 1831 Lucius J. Polk of Hamilton Place among others in the neighborhood, sought to have a railway company created which would achieve this goal. As a result, the Columbia Railroad was organized in February 1834, with authorization to sell 4,000 shares of stock at \$50 per share. Leonidas Polk spoke on behalf of the enterprise at the meeting accompanying the opening of the books, and later at Mt. Pleasant. Five thousand copies of his address were distributed across the state. For his efforts, Polk was elected a director of the Columbia Railroad. Several routes were surveyed, but quarrelling among the investors and incorrect cost estimates, coupled with economic depression, led to the company's failure.<sup>74</sup> Sometime between 1840 and 1850, a charter was obtained for the Columbia and Tennessee River Railroad. Stock was issued and a route surveyed, but this company, failed too.

Despite these setbacks, the Polk brothers and their neighbors, the Pillows, were champions of efforts to organize a railway through Maury County, and several of them were delegates to a railroad convention held at Memphis July 4, 1849. Gideon J. Pillow, Jr., and J.D.B. DeBow spoke in favor of a railroad for Columbia at a meeting there in 1850.<sup>75</sup>

In 1852 the Central Southern Railroad was chartered, and soon afterwards the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad. In October 1855 Maury County voted to expend \$200,000 for stock in the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad, and a month later, the county agreed to purchase \$140,000 of stock in the Central Southern Railroad. By 1860 the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad was extended south from Nashville through Thompson's Station in Williamson County to Columbia, and the Central Southern line was extended from Columbia to Decatur, Alabama.

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These two lines were amalgamated as the Nashville and Decatur Railroad at about the time of their completion.<sup>76</sup>

An eleven mile Mt. Pleasant branch of the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad, which passed through Ashwood behind Ashwood Hall and Hamilton Place, was completed in March 1860. In a letter soon before its completion, Lucius J. Polk said that he would be able to board the train behind his stables on a new branch line to Mt. Pleasant. He would be able to get to Nashville in time to dine, and would be back at Hamilton Place before four o'clock.<sup>77</sup> The railroad provided direct access to transportation for goods from the Ashwood plantations, generally ending the dependency on the Tennessee River trade.

Transportation: Road-related

The first roads connecting Columbia and Ashwood with the Tennessee River were opened by the early 1820s, but such routes were primitive, and could not easily be used for transportation of farm commodities. As it became clear that the Duck River could not be depended upon, attention was focused on the Tennessee River to the west of the district. A rough road already connected Maury County with a river crossing at Carrollville, and the planters in the Ashwood district saw it as a means to get their crops to market.

In order to improve the road system, a consortium was formed by nine prominent individuals, including six members of the Polk and Pillow families: Lucius, Leonidas, and William J. Polk and Gideon, Jerome, and Granville Pillow. Granville Pillow was chosen as company president. They were responsible for the construction of the Columbia Central Turnpike in 1840. When stock sales opened at Henryville, the nine stepped forward and subscribed for all the stock. They took out \$150,000 in stock in the turnpike and the state put up a matching amount. The consortium used part of the funds to purchase slaves to be used for building the road. After the road was completed, the investors kept the slaves for use on their own plantations. The charter allowed the proprietors to erect toll-gates every five miles. Leonidas Polk, by giving land for the turnpike's toll house in 1840, bought exemptions from toll for all time, for all of his name. Sarah H. Polk, widow of William Polk and mother of Lucius, owned stock in this company at the time of her death in 1844.<sup>78</sup> It was rechartered in 1856 and went into other owners.

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Gates were raised after midnight and lowered next day at sun-up. Tolls in the 1840s were five cents for horse back, ten cents for horse and buggy, fifteen cents for a two-horse empty wagon, twenty to twenty-five cents for a two-horse loaded wagon, one cent per head for sheep and hogs, two cents per head for cattle, and five cents per head for shod mules and horses. In Ashwood the first toll-gate was located at the end of the lane leading from Ashwood Hall; Isham Malone was the gate-keeper.<sup>79</sup> The turnpike remained in private ownership throughout the nineteenth century.

Social relationships: Master and slave

The success of this plantation economy was based on forced labor. Hundreds of black slaves lived and toiled in the Ashwood district in the antebellum decades. The crops which were the basis of the wealth of the district were labor intensive and required large numbers of slaves. The slave population of Maury County increased steadily during the antebellum years and by 1860 slaves made up 40% of the total population of the county. This percentage was even higher in the Ashwood area with its large plantations.

The 1860 slave census for Maury County reveals the large numbers of slaves on the principal estates. Lucius Polk was listed as owning eighty-two slaves, Andrew J. Polk owned ninety-eight slaves, and George W. Polk owned eighty-three slaves. Gideon Pillow possessed eighty-one slaves and Granville Pillow owned seventy-eight. These numbers were well in excess of the average of number of twenty slaves which were regarded as necessary to run a true "plantation".<sup>80</sup>

Field hands planted and harvested crops, built fences, tended livestock and performed many other functions of farm production. House slaves spun cloth, cooked meals, cleaned house and dozens of other domestic chores. Other slaves became valued for their skills in areas such as carpentry, masonry or other crafts and were often leased to area farmers.<sup>81</sup> The work on the construction of Rattle and Snap was recorded as performed by "slaves who were skilled craftsmen in their respective trades". The day to day activities of slaves were rigidly controlled by both state and county laws. Passes were required if slaves were to leave their plantations, as illustrated by a slave pass written by Lucius Polk in 1836 for his slave Leonard.<sup>82</sup> Laws regarding marriage, death, and disputes among slaves and their masters were part of the antebellum slave condition.

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G.W. Polk, son of Lucius, explained attitudes in Ashwood towards slavery in a questionnaire filed after the Civil War. He said, "In our community all of the free holders owned slaves in more or less numbers." When asked whether whites would work alongside their blacks, he stated, "I did not perform any manual labor of any kind....I have known many small slaveholders to work in the fields and otherwise, with their slaves. Such men were regarded as respectable and honorable citizens by their neighbors and others." He did not recall any white men living lives of "idleness or luxury." Polk thought the institution of slavery was firmly entrenched in the Ashwood area, noting that "all land owners in our community owned slaves in a more or less degree. In our county seat there were near as I can remember several non-slaveholders with abolition tendencies. Such men were naturally disliked and abhorred by law-abiding citizens."<sup>83</sup>

On most plantation complexes slaves lived in quarters near the manor. A few of the single-pen log residences remain on the Clifton Place estate. These quarters are typical of others which were built in the district. Constructed of on one or two rooms with exterior stone or brick chimneys, they were occupied by both house and field slaves.

Social interaction among white owners and black slaves was constant and extended into religious activities. St. John's Episcopal Church was constructed not only to be the center of worship for the Polk family but for their slaves as well. While the main floor of the church was occupied by white parishioners, the gallery was thronged with dozens of slaves. The parish register shows that no less than 116 of the family servants were baptized at the church between 1846 and 1848. In 1848 eight blacks were baptized by Bishop Otey.<sup>84</sup>

In death, slaves were accorded Christian burials and numerous slave cemeteries from the antebellum era exist in the district. Most graves in these cemeteries are poorly marked but a number retain stones with inscriptions. The three slave graveyards in the district are located at Pillow-Bethel House (#2), Pillow Place (#3), and Pine Hill (#5). Slaves also had their own section on the grounds of St. John's Episcopal Church.

Religious life

In North Carolina, William Polk's family had not been church people. Indeed, the general was astounded when his son Leonidas, whom he had groomed to follow him in a career as a soldier, chose to abandon the

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military life to enter the ministry. Leonidas clearly prevailed his own convictions on his family, as his brothers not only joined the Episcopal Church in Tennessee but together helped erect St. John's Episcopal Church, Ashwood.

St. John's Episcopal Church is fundamentally associated with Leonidas Polk, who conceived the idea of the church, gave land for its construction, and encouraged his brothers to join him in building the church. He oversaw its erection, preached at its consecration, and opened the church to the small group of Episcopal families in the neighborhood.

Leonidas Polk had converted to Episcopalianism at West Point and was ordained into Episcopal orders before arriving in Tennessee. Soon after he came to Ashwood, and even before finishing his own house, Ashwood Hall, Leonidas was preaching Sundays at Hamilton Place to a congregation composed of his own family and that of Lucius, and their servants.

Very soon, after it became clear that several of the brothers and their households would locate near Ashwood, Leonidas proposed the construction of a family chapel. He explained his plans for the church in an 1839 letter to his mother in North Carolina: "We design putting up a very neat Gothic Chapel, not larger than enough for our households and neighbors, yet sufficiently large to make us comfortable. It is hoped that in the making of this, the wilderness will bud and blossom as the rose, it would not be wholly out of place to say to our Carolina friends, very respectfully, that kind remembrances will not be forgotten...We have a neat pretty site on the top of a slight eminence, amidst a beautiful grove of trees. It is convenient to the road and sufficiently central."<sup>85</sup>

Construction began at about this time. The lumber for the altar and chancel rail came from a single large cherry tree which stood on the site occupied by the altar. The stone was quarried nearby at Gravel Hill behind Rattle and Snap. Clay was dug for the brick from a short distance behind the church site. Leondias Polk's own sawmill almost certainly produced the lumber.

Work on the church went along well, and by the spring of 1841 the church was substantially complete. The consecration did not take place until September 4, 1842, probably because of Bishop Leonidas Polk's absences on pastoral visits. Bishop Otey dedicated the church to St. John and Bishop Polk participated in the service. The church

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was crowded beyond its stated capacity of five hundred. Whites were seated first, then the blacks crowded in, filling the remaining pews, the gallery, stairs, doorways, vestry room, and aisles. One elderly slave sat "at the very feet of the clergy." Following the consecration, Leonidas Polk deeded the six-acre church tract, located at the juncture of the four Polk farm tracts, to his friend, Bishop Otey.<sup>86</sup>

The Polk brothers presented the church to the community with no stipulations other than it be used for public worship. They did insist that no pews were to be rented or sold, contrary to the common practice of Episcopal churches at the time. The minister was to be supported by the congregation.<sup>87</sup>

Leonidas Polk also gave the land for a cemetery. On May 18, 1842, one Martha Parrish was the first person buried at St. John's Episcopal Church, the funeral being preached by Otey's assistant from St. Peter's, the Rev. Thomas Horrell. Rufus King Polk was the first of the Polk family to be buried here, on February 28, 1843.<sup>88</sup>

The church's congregation was never numerous. By 1855 the church was placed on a charge with St. Mark's Church in Williamsport, sharing that church's priest, the Rev. Charles Francis Collins.<sup>89</sup>

Commerce and Trade

The Post Office was established at Ashwood in July 1841, at the turnpike gate at the end of the lane to Ashwood Hall. Leonidas Polk wrote his mother and directed her to now send mail to Ashwood, Tennessee.<sup>90</sup> This is the origin of the name of the village and of the district.

In addition to farming and livestock raising, the Polks envisioned other potential riches from their lands. In 1838 Leonidas and Lucius Polk were excited about the discovery of a yellow rock on the family lands at Ashwood, and they employed a geologist to investigate. The ore, which was probably lead, appeared to be on land set aside for their younger brother George, who had not yet arrived to take possession of his tract. For a while, the two determined to keep this news from him, and wrote their mother to keep the secret while they waited for the geologist's report.<sup>91</sup> The report must not have been optimistic, as nothing else appears in family papers about the possible exploitation of the minerals.

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As the antebellum era drew to a close the great plantations of the Ashwood district had a well-established economic niche. Corn had become a exportable crop was traded or sold north to Nashville or west on their own turnpike to Clifton on the Tennessee river. Hemp was used for ropes and bagging for cotton or sold to factories under government contract. Cotton was grown in the district, but was not of exclusive importance because the Ashwood district planters had invested in rich bottom lands in Mississippi and Arkansas which were more suited to a cotton monoculture. Cured bacon and hams from the district's smokehouses, in excess of plantation, needs were also sold to the public (a practice which has been continuously followed on three of the properties to the present day). The skilled labor of slave craftsmen was also a valuable commodity to be traded or leased locally.

The wealth and influence that resulted from these economic conditions was wielded by the planters in politics, religion, and education, which contributed to Maury county's excellent reputation in those important areas of mid-nineteenth century life.

### III. Civil War and Reconstruction 1861-1870

The decade from 1850 to 1860 had seen a dramatic increase in the amount of tilled acreage in the state and by 1860 the Ashwood district had reached its zenith of agricultural production and prosperity. The manors of families such as the Polks and Pillows were centers of far reaching agricultural empires. In addition, these houses reflected the standard of living that went with such wealth.

As extensive landholders and slave owners, the planters were naturally opposed to the abolition movement and the Republican party which championed this cause. In 1856 they hailed the election of James Buchanan as President over General Fremont.<sup>92</sup> One example of the sentiment of the region is found in a letter that Lucius J. Polk wrote to his daughter Emily Polk Williams in February 1861. Polk said he was no disunionist but he could see himself having to adopt a position of both disunionist and revolutionist, if Congress allowed the invasion of the South. "Secessionist upon principles...never!"<sup>93</sup> But if secession did become necessary, he warned that all the South should leave the Union together. By May <sup>1</sup>, he had shifted his position to that of an ardent secessionist.<sup>94</sup> Tennessee's second vote on secession in Maury County passed by an enormous margin, with 2,731 voting to leave the Union and only fifty-eight opposed.<sup>95</sup>

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Some Ashwood residents were taking leadership roles as Tennessee left the Union. General Gideon J. Pillow was appointed by Governor Isham Harris as Commander of the Provisional Army of Tennessee. Lucius Polk was a presidential elector for the ticket of Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens in the 1861 Confederate states election.<sup>96</sup> Representatives of all the planter families of Ashwood served in the Confederate forces. Gideon Pillow's son George served as his father's aide, while Jerome Pillow stayed home and assumed family leadership. Granville Pillow's son, Granville Jr. also served in Confederate forces.<sup>97</sup>

Among the Polk families, Will(iam) Polk, Lucius' son joined a volunteer company organized at Mt. Pleasant on April 20,<sup>98</sup> 1861. It was captained by D. F. Wade, another district resident. Alexander Hamilton Polk, son of Bishop and General Leonidas Polk, served as an aide to his father. William Mecklenburg Polk, the Bishop's younger son joined the army in 1861 at the age of seventeen.<sup>99</sup> George Washington Polk joined the Home Guard for the eleventh civil district. His son, Rufus King Polk joined the Confederate army and served as a first Lieutenant.<sup>100</sup> Andrew Polk organized a company of cavalry in the Ashwood area. The troops met at his home, Ashwood Hall, on July 5, 1861. Polk was elected captain, and the unit entered Confederate service as Company F, First Tennessee Cavalry Regiment.<sup>101</sup> Lucius Eugene Polk, son of William J. and Rebecca Long Polk, enlisted in the Confederate army in Arkansas, joining the Yell Rifles under Captain, later Major General, Patrick Cleburne.<sup>102</sup>

Military events

The Ashwood district experienced, as did Columbia itself, successive periods of Confederate and Union occupation. In the Ashwood district the families were all linked with the Confederacy, and depredations from union troops and bushwackers occurred at most of the plantations during periods of Union control.<sup>103</sup> The bushwackers were especially feared during the uneasy days between occupations by either side. The situation became so bad that in March 1864 a number of the Maury County planters, including Lucius Polk and Jerome Pillow, commended the occupying federal Fourteenth Michigan Regiment under Colonel Mizner for its efforts to put down the bandits and outlaws.<sup>104</sup>

In November 1864 the only battle fought in the district during the Civil War occurred. A Confederate Army under General John Bell Hood invaded Tennessee in a final effort to force a decision in the west.

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During the advance, the army passed through Ashwood. The engagement resulted in few casualties.

A Confederate private described the battle as follows:

The next day, the 24th of November, we encountered the enemy in force four or five miles west of Columbia. We stopped in front of the fine residence of Col. Polk, which set back some distance. Here the road formed a long line hemmed in on both sides by stone fences, and at first ran due eastward down a long slope to a creek spanned by a bridge and thence took a northeastward direction up the hill. We were confronted here by a brigade of infantry and a brigade of cavalry. The cavalry seems to have occupied the road and the infantry was aligned on the east side of the creek. Our regiment turned squarely north at Colonel Polk's gate and moved across the field, then eastward for some distance, when we dismounted and advanced through the open fields.

Other regiments to our right formed a long line of battle over and across the turnpike. Our regiment was on the extreme left of our line and, as we moved forward, we swept down the slope of the hill in a sort of southeastward direction, bearing somewhat upon the right flank of the Federal line. The firing was very brisk but we advanced with enthusiasm - cheering and shouting as we went and pouring a hot fire upon the dismounted men which we could plainly see down the creek. When we had gotten well on the crest of the hill on their right, we saw them scampering away and some disappeared over the hill.<sup>105</sup>

One soldier called this part of Tennessee "God's Country", and recalled the great lure of the region to troops from the Army of Tennessee, who had lately been critical of the poor lands of Georgia and Alabama, their field of action until the invasion of Tennessee. "In camp that night, and the next day, as we passed the beautiful homes of the Polks and Pillows, there was but one sentiment expressed by the Alabama and Georgia boys " that the half had never been told, and that this was indeed "God's Country".<sup>106</sup>

After the engagement, the Confederate command made their headquarters at the great houses in the Ashwood area. General Hood set up at Ashwood Hall, but late in the day moved to the Warfield house on Pulaski Pike to the southeast. Hamilton Place became the headquarters of Lt. General Frank Cheatham and his staff. General

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Pillow returned with the army to his home, Clifton Place, and with him were Generals Stephen Lee and Edward Johnson.<sup>107</sup>

The Episcopal chaplain of the Army of Tennessee, Charles Todd Quintard<sup>108</sup>, described the scene at Hamilton Place: "On the 26th, a number of prominent visitors stopped at Hamilton Place - these included General John Bell Hood, commander of the Army of Tennessee, Isham Harris, Confederate Governor of Tennessee, and Generals Bate, Brown, Gibson, Armstrong, and Waltha."<sup>109</sup>

From 1862 to 1865 the Ashwood plantations were devastated by the Civil War. Most were stripped of livestock and crops and saw their properties ruined. The prominence of the Polk and Pillow families in the Confederate armies resulted in particularly harsh treatment during the war. Gideon Pillow wrote to General William T. Sherman in 1864 and asked for permission to travel to his home and take his wife and children south for the duration of the war.<sup>110</sup> Lucius Polk lost his famous horses and other plantations suffered grievous losses. Thousands of dollars invested in slaves were also lost due to the war and emancipation.

#### Reconstruction

The Reconstruction period was difficult for a number of the old planters. In order to force her to pay her former slaves \$4,400, Rebecca Van Leer Polk, who still owned Ashwood Hall after the War, had her cotton seized by the Freedmen's Bureau. She complained that she would still have to pay at least \$5,000 out of her remaining half of the crop to buy supplies for them, more than half the value of her cotton.<sup>111</sup>

Freedmen's bureau records reveal that General Gideon J. Pillow's plantation, Clifton Place, was confiscated twice. In 1864 General Dodge confiscated some properties in Giles and Maury counties, one of which was "The Farm or Plantation Known as the Genl. Pillow Plantation, situate about five miles from Columbia--Containing about Five Hundred Acres of land--Rented to Mr. Bean for Two Cents per pound on all Cotton raised and a proportionate sum on other Crops."<sup>112</sup> At the time of its second confiscation and lease by the Freedmen's Bureau, on March 28, 1865, the total acreage confiscated consisted of 750 acres, with 400 tillable. The dwelling was "fine," the enclosures, soil, and cabins were "good." The leasee was C.C. Bean, and the property was "confiscable" rather than abandoned.<sup>113</sup> Another plantation in the district, Colonel Daniel Fount Wade's

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Cherry Glen was confiscated on March 30, 1865. It was listed at 550 acres, with no descriptions of dwellings or enclosures.<sup>114</sup>

All was not smooth for the federal leasees, even with US troops garrisoned in Columbia. Nimrod Porter confided to his diary on March 31, 1865, (three days after the lease referred to above): "The Gurillas went to Genl Pillows farm occupied by the Fedrels & took 22 horses, the plows, gear chains, &c & many other things & went off unmolested not even followed by the military--the occupant been suffered in the property line--threats were made agst the government farms there--destruction is expected."<sup>115</sup>

By September of 1865 Gideon Pillow had received a pardon and had resumed the operation of his plantations, although some of the Federal leasees still had functioning leases. In December Pillow was reporting success in solving the all-important labor problem. He informed the Freedmen's Bureau that "I have been successful beyond my wildest dreams in engaging labor for all my Plantations in Arkansas and Tennessee. I have already engaged about 400 Freedmen and have full confidence in making a success of the years work." Pillow had accomplished this by giving "in all cases the Freedmen a part of the crop of cotton and I allow him land for the cultivation of vegetables for his own use without charge therefor." Pillow added "I have put one large Plantation under white laborers from the North upon precisely the same terms...to try the system of white laborers in making cotton."<sup>116</sup>

From 1865 through the 1870s the Ashwood plantations slowly recovered from the war. Cash crops of corn and wheat were the primary source of income in these years although cotton had a few brief years of prominence. The once abundant herds of livestock had been wiped out by the war and by 1879 were still 40% below 1860 levels in the county.<sup>117</sup> The farm of Lucius Polk in 1870 consisted of 600 acres with a cash value of \$33,440 which was far less than its value in 1860. Other owners show similar decline in these year.

In addition to the physical losses of the war, planters were also forced to contend with a new economic system of tenant farming which replaced slavery. The rise of the tenant or sharecropping farming after the war was found throughout the Ashwood district and the rest of Maury County. This system provided for payment of cash on shares to laborers for a percentage of the crop harvested. Some former black slaves purchased or rented their own tracts of land and built their own homes. In many cases, they occupied their former quarters.

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Between 1860 and 1870 the number of farms in Middle Tennessee increased from 19,000 to 30,000 with most of this increase coming from the establishment of tenant farms and the division of large plantations, some of which were not able to function profitably under the new share-cropping system. The average size of farms in 1870 was thirty-six acres for whites and twenty-six acres for blacks.<sup>118</sup>

Transportation: Rail-related

During the war the Columbia to Mt. Pleasant railroad line was torn up and the rails used by Federal troops to repair other routes. In 1875 a Mt. Pleasant correspondent for the Columbia Herald and Mail complained about the idled line: "It makes us feel sad, and often wonder while going upon our abandoned railroad, why it is that a roadbed like this, in good order, except for a few small breaks, masonry good, and through so rich and fertile section of the country as that between here and Columbia should remain so long in its present useless condition."<sup>119</sup>

IV. THE ASHWOOD DISTRICT IN THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY 1870-1900

The Reconstruction Era was succeeded in the Ashwood district by a time of profound transition, as planters became employers. Former slaves became hired hands and the planter families adjusted to the stringencies of engaging wage labor or sharing their crops. Especially missed in Maury County, J.B. Killebrew said, were the "incomparable house-servants". He added, however, that the "wives and daughters of the planter class were more than equal to the demands of their new circumstances".<sup>120</sup>

Changes in agricultural patterns produced physical changes in the Ashwood district. A few smaller farms were broken off the larger tracts and communities arose at crossroads such as at Ashwood, Canaan, and Westbrook. Once the railroad lines were rebuilt, Ashwood developed as a shipping point for area plantations after the war.

In 1873 attention was again devoted to potential mineral riches in the district. A note in the Columbia Herald and Mail that March reported "James Reeves has discovered silver and lead mines on the farms of Jerome B. Pillow, General Lucius E. Polk, and S.R. Watkins; the find shows to be 80 percent lead and 20 percent silver".<sup>121</sup> Nothing appears to have come of the report and it was not until the

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early twentieth century that mining (phosphate) took place in the Ashwood area.

During this era, the plantations passed into other hands. George Washington Polk's great fortune, which enabled him to build Rattle and Snap, was wrecked by the war.<sup>122</sup> His health also suffered and he was unable to recoup his losses.<sup>122</sup> About 1870 Polk sold his estate and moved<sup>123</sup> across the road to the old rectory, for St. John's Episcopal Church<sup>123</sup>, which he called Mecklenburg Hall.<sup>124</sup> He died in 1892, the last of the Polk brothers of Ashwood.<sup>125</sup> The new owner was J.J. Granberry:<sup>126</sup> his family held the property for the next fifty-two years.

Hamilton Place remained in the Polk family. Its builder, Lucius J. Polk, lived here until his death in 1870, at which time it passed to his daughter and her husband, Colonel Henry Clay Yeatman. Yeatman, who acquired his money in the iron industry, is one example of the new type of owner for the plantations in Ashwood. A survey plat prepared for Yeatman in 1884 shows the farm reduced to 256 acres, bounded on the south by the Mt. Pleasant Pike on the east by George Washington Polk, then living at the old rectory, on the north by F.H. Watkins, and on the west by Daniel Fount Wade.<sup>127</sup> The property was bisected by the Nashville and Florence Railroad.

Ashwood Hall, the home of Leonidas Polk and later his brother Andrew, burned in 1874. Rufus Polk's West Brook burned too, in 1893. Much of the land from these two plantations was acquired by Elias W. Napier, member of a family that made a fortune in the iron industry plantations of the Western Highland Rim.

General Pillow's Clifton Place, confiscated by the Federal government, was returned to him after the war. In 1872 he sold it to a son-in-law, Henry Melville Williams. Williams held it only a brief while before selling the property to Colonel J.W.S. Ridley, a prosperous farmer who had made much of his fortune in the mule trade based in Columbia. Colonel Ridley, who had married Ann Lewis Pillow, daughter of Jerome Pillow, extended the property boundaries and brought more lands into production. Ridley's business interests extended to areas outside of farming. For example, he was president of the Maury Bank and Trust Company, opened October 26, 1891.

Jerome Pillow lost his fortune in the war and sold his home to a son-in-law, William D. Bethel, from whose tenure comes the name Pillow-Bethel House. The house went through several changes of ownership

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after about 1890. Granville Pillow's Pillow Place was acquired by J.W.S. Ridley for his daughter, Ann Halliday, and remained in family possession. Much of the original land of the Pillow plantations remains in the possession of Ridley descendants.

Following the death of Samuel Henry Armstrong in 1869, Pine Hill was sold the next year to Dr. Joseph Dixon, who owned the house until the mid-twentieth century.

Men like Henry Yeatman, Elias Napier, and J.W.S. Ridley exemplify a new type of large farm owner. Their money enabled them to reconstruct the agricultural economy of the former plantations as a farming system no longer dependent on cotton and slaves, but rather on diversified crops and livestock tended by sharecroppers and hired hands.

### Agricultural practice

Throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Ashwood plantations regained some of their former wealth and status. Many of the Ashwood planters became prominent farmers. George W. Polk, Lucius's son, helped form the Tennessee Trotting Horse and Breeding Association, an organization concerned with an important industry in the postbellum years. In 1886 Goodspeed's History of Tennessee mentions that the country surrounding Mt. Pleasant was considered to be the "finest in the state". While numerous small farms developed in the district, overall, the landscape changed very little in these years. Most of the manors remained the centers for farms of 500 to 1,000 acres and diversified crops and livestock production were characteristic on the farms. The Ridleys became noted for their fine mule stock. In 1900 Maury County continued to be a leader in the production of wheat and corn, ranking third and second in the state respectively. The 1905 Century Review of the county mentioned Ashwood was a major shipping center of produce and claimed that "More produce is shipped from this point than any other station of its size along the line of the L&N".<sup>128</sup>

Killbrew's Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee described the state of agriculture in Maury County in 1874. The larger farms were growing cotton, corn, wheat, and a little tobacco. Pasture lands were in clover, timothy, red-top, and orchard grass. Livestock production had increased after the war; cattle, sheep, and hogs were now on farms in the area. Cotton was the main crop, but giving way to livestock production.

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The slave-based labor system was replaced by a share-cropping system. The farms were worked on shares, or in some cases by renters. Hands on shares fed themselves, usually from rations issued by the owner, and received one-third to one half of the crop, a little more if they provided teams and implements. Farm hands were paid <sup>129</sup> twelve dollars a month for men and five or six dollars for a woman.

Architecture

During these years a number of substantial frame homes were built in the district such as Tree Haven (#14) and the front part of Farringford (#11). Like the manors that preceded them, the new residences were constructed with outbuildings such as smokehouses, sheds, barns, stables, and coops. Most outbuildings were of frame construction with vertical board or board and batten siding, gable roofs, and of simple rectangular plans. Though homes of this period had not yet incorporated kitchens into the house, no detached kitchens from this era exist in the district. The majority of outbuildings were located to the rear of the main residence. In addition to these buildings construction of new outbuildings continued on the older estates. Several fine stock barns were built at the turn of the century at Clifton Place (#10), Pillow-Bethel House (#2), and Pillow Place (#3).

Killebrew described the common farmhouse as a central passage plan house with rear ell, and detached kitchen and smokehouse. "With comparatively few exceptions, the houses are comfortable and roomy, and most of them have some attempt at ornament in the way of a front porch, or ornamented front door". This plan describes both Tree Haven and Farringford precisely. Killebrew also commended the wood and stone fences of the region, stating that "No county in the State can boast fences superior to those in Maury County." <sup>130</sup>

Transportation: Rail-related

The rail line destroyed during the war was abandoned for many years after. Before its rehabilitation in 1872, the line through Ashwood (part of the main line between Columbia and Florence) was under the control of the Louisville and Nashville and Great Southern trunk line system. <sup>131</sup> In Ashwood, a railway station and siding was located on the Columbia-Florence line at the village. Trains would also stop at flag stops at the larger farms, such as Hamilton Place. For a while after the Civil War, George Washington Polk (son of Lucius) and Will

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J. Polk advertised their livestock operation as located at Polk Station, Ashwood.<sup>132</sup>

Transportation: Road-related

In 1887 the D.G. Beers map of Maury County showed present Old Zion Lane as leaving the turnpike to the north at the entrance to Samuel Henry Armstrong's Pine Hill. This section of the road, which developed from the drive to the house, was once called Armstrong Lane. The road turned due west at the front of his farm fields and continued in a straight line west to Canaan on Big Bigby Creek. Another road leading north and west to Zion Church deviated on the line between Pine Hill and Ashwood Hall plantations to Tree Haven.

The road known today as Zion Road began as a private lane from Ashwood Hall to the turnpike. For some time it was called St. John's Lane, as it led directly from Leonidas Polk's home to St. Johns' Episcopal Church. Later, it was called Ashwood Lane. About 1965 it was extended northward to Zion Presbyterian Church and took the name Zion Road.

Changing relationships between blacks and whites

After the war the black slaves were freed from their servitude on the plantations. Some of the white planters gave the blacks some small plots of land, and two settlements, Canaan and Westbrook (abandoned) date from the period following the war. Both of these communities were primarily occupied by former slaves and their families. The residents tilled small plots of land, erected churches and, later in the century, built one-room schoolhouses. At Westbrook only the cemetery of this settlement remains. Canaan remains a black community with a church, several residences, and an early twentieth century schoolhouse (#21). Due to alterations to the existing buildings only a small section of Canaan is included within the district boundary.

The transition from servitude to freedom went smoothly for the most part, but there were problems. In 1868 William McClinchey shot two negroes, a man and a woman, at Clifton Place.<sup>133</sup> The woman was killed and McClinchey was jailed after the incident.

Most of the blacks who remained in the area worked as hands or on shares on the larger farms. As there was little cash capital, the sharecropping system became entrenched, with hands on shares

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receiving a portion of the crop, sometimes supplemented by rations and housing, sometimes residing in old quarters, at other times living at the new black settlements. What had begun as an attempt to provide independent means for freed blacks, still kept many tied to the land. In social affairs, a system of clearly defined separateness prevailed.

In 1872 the Rev. Dr. Richard Newell came to Columbia, preached at St. Peter's, then went on to become the priest at St. John's Episcopal Church. Newell first lived at Ashwood Hall until 1874 when fire destroyed the manor. Later he lived in "the Hermitage at Ashwood Park", a site not identified. In 1876 he was living at Hamilton Place. Dr. Newell was the last regular minister at St. John's Episcopal Church. He died in 1872 and, at his request, he was buried as near the church as possible. (His grave is near the door of the vestry room).<sup>134</sup>

After Dr. Newell's death in 1872, regular services were discontinued. The congregation had almost dwindled away by this time, and the building was not maintained. In 1870 Eliza Eastin Polk, daughter of Lucius J. Polk, wrote Bishop Quintard about her concerns for the family church and expressed her desire to undertake the restoration of the church.<sup>135</sup>

V. The ASHWOOD DISTRICT IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY 1900-1941Agricultural practice

From 1900 to 1920, the Ashwood district shared in the general prosperity of Tennessee's farm economy. Census records illustrated Maury county's prominence in the production of grains and cereals. Corn was still a major cash crop and with livestock production remained high.

Tobacco was not a major crop in Maury County until the twentieth century. William P. Ridley planted the first tobacco crop in Maury County in 1921. The first true tobacco barn in the area was erected on the Ridley farm three years later.<sup>136</sup> Increased demand for tobacco led to hundreds of acres of land being put into cultivation for tobacco in the Ashwood district. Dozens of frame tobacco barns were erected throughout the area for the drying, curing, and stripping process. Tobacco production has continued throughout the twentieth century and tobacco barns are still very common. Soybean cultivation has also been important in recent decades. Wheat

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V. ASHWOOD DISTRICT IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY 1900-1941

The Ashwood district, like much of Maury County, remained an agricultural area throughout the twentieth century. Beginning in the 1920s, tobacco became a cash crop in the county. Between 1920 and 1941, about twenty-one tobacco barns were built; in at least one instance, an older barn was converted into use for tobacco (#s 1.19, 3.19, 3.21, 3.24, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10, 4.11, 7.16, 12.6, 13.6, 13.7, 14.13, 18.4, 19.5, 26.3, 26.7, 27.7, 27.9, 28.2, 28.9). Stock barns, storage barns, chicken coops, and feed cribs also continued to be built at the former plantations (#s 3.4, 3.20, 3.22, 4.9, 12.3, 13.2, 13.3, 14.14, 19.6, 22.6, 22.7, 23.4, 26.2, 27.6). Tenant farming began after the Civil War and continued at least up to 1941. Although former slave quarters were sometimes converted to tenant houses, some new houses were also constructed (#s 1.32, 1.15, 1.9, 4.3, 27.8) during this period.

Ashwood evolved from a plantation economy to one dependent on tenant farming and cash crops. At this same time, small crossroads communities or stores were a part of the development of the district. Settled in the nineteenth century along the railroad, the Village of Ashwood had a post office in 1919 and several houses built between 1925 and 1935. Star Milling operated here from 1900 until 1929. (#20s) In Canaan, a black village, two new residences were built between 1920 and 1930 (28.1, 28.7). Duke Store was built circa 1940 next to the circa 1920 Duke House (#16.1, 16.2), the only roadside store known to have been built in the district during this time. Although still an agricultural district, the growth of the small communities and establishment of a store in the district begin to reflect a change in twentieth century growth patterns where the area was no longer totally dependent on large farms. Today, agricultural land in and near the district has been subdivided for new houses and stores and goods and services are supplied from the cities of Mount Pleasant and Columbia.

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production also increased early in the twentieth century. William P. Ridley at Clifton Place thrashed 11,000 bushels from 360 acres.<sup>137</sup>

Livestock production remained important. Large flocks of sheep were a common sight in the district early in the century, but by World War II roving dogs and sore-foot caused most owners to abandon raising them. Pillow Place was the last farm in the area to raise sheep.

The agricultural heritage of the Ashwood district remains a consistent and common characteristic in the late twentieth century. Many of the present day farms follow antebellum boundaries such as streams, roads, and fence lines. Although some commercial and residential developments have occurred in the Ashwood vicinity, the majority of the land in the district remains in agricultural use.

#### Architecture

The large farms remained, for the most part, intact in this period, and new construction was limited. The Dower farm (#13) on Ashwood Road was erected in a variation of the Classical Revival, a twentieth century style that sought to recapture some of the glory of the Greek Revival. The Sowell farm exaggerates many of the characteristic features of the earlier romantic style with its oversize columns, side-lighted windows, and overall accent on verticality.

While the Bungalow style was very popular in Maury County during this period, only one example can be found in the district. The Duke House (#16) on the turnpike and adjacent to Duke's Store was built about 1920 with elements of the Bungalow style. It has a heavy shed porch supported by tapered wooden posts on brick piers, gable roof with lookout brackets, and sidelighted entry.

Most other early twentieth century houses constructed in the district were simple tenant houses situated on portions of the larger farms. An exception is Ontario (#25), built opposite Hamilton Place in a local variation of the International Style. This 1939 house is of cinder block construction, faced with Sewanee sandstone, and distinguished by open porches or balconies on all three floors and by an immense concrete eagle on the roof.

#### Transportation: Rail-related

Ashwood was an important stop on the railroad between Columbia and Florence, Alabama. In 1905 the Mt. Pleasant division of the

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Louisville and Nashville Railroad was the most profitable of the entire system, accounting for nearly three percent of the system's revenues.<sup>138</sup> The railroad, for a while in the 1930s and 1940s officially listed as the Nashville, Florence, and Sheffield Railroad, was actually a division of the Louisville and Nashville system. The company ran electric passenger trains on the branch after Wilson Dam was built at Florence.<sup>139</sup>

In recent years, the Louisville and Nashville Railroad became a part of the Seaboard System, and now is a division of CSX Transportation. At present (1988), the line is used only for freight use.

Another railway line, connecting nearby Mt. Pleasant with Franklin, was the Middle Tennessee Railroad. Incorporated on October 25, 1907, with capital stock of \$750,000, this small line, which mainly served the phosphate industry, passed approximately one mile west of the district. Some local business was probably handled by this small line. However, since the larger Louisville and Nashville line passed through Ashwood and provided its own connections with Franklin in Williamson County through Columbia, and to points far beyond, it likely handled the majority of freight from the village. The Middle Tennessee Railroad ceased operations October 1, 1920, though a gasoline rail car, operated by the Nashville Interurban, operated until 1928, when the tracks were dismantled.<sup>140</sup>

A narrow-gauge dinky line was built in the 1930s from behind Pine Hill south on to the Ridley farms, where phosphate was mined. The spur continued south to other mines near Porters Chapel area. It was only used for mining operations, and was dismantled about 1943.

#### Religious life

The decline which struck St. John's Episcopal Church after the Civil War continued through the nineteenth century. Between 1872 and the early 1900s, only occasional services were held.

It was not until the fall of 1906 that the St. John's Memorial Association was organized and incorporated. The Association pledged itself to care, preserve, and maintain St. John's Episcopal Church. Four of the incorporators were members of the Polk family by descent or marriage; these were Henry C. Yeatman, George Campbell Brown, W. D. Gale, and Robin Jones.<sup>141</sup> The Association was authorized to act as agent for the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee, which took over the site the previous year and declared it a shrine. The Association was

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enabled to sell cemetery lots. Of the proceeds, 75% was to go to an endowment fund and the remaining 25% was to be used directly for the preservation of St. John's Episcopal.<sup>142</sup>

A last effort to hold regular services at St. John's Episcopal Church was made in 1915 by the Rev. W. Amison Jonnard, rector of the Church of the Holy Cross at nearby Mt. Pleasant. Jonnard held Evening Prayer and preached a sermon Sunday afternoons at 4 P.M., assisted by T.D. Windiate, archdeacon of St. John's Episcopal.<sup>143</sup> These were only held for a short while. The decision to discontinue worship came one afternoon when<sup>144</sup> the congregation consisted of only one young couple and their child.

After being inactive for a few years, annual one-day pilgrimages to the church were begun in 1921 by Bishop Beatty. They continued uninterrupted until 1943, when they were suspended due, in part, to war-time gasoline and tire rationing. Bishop Maxon, however, directed that the services be resumed the following year, and they have<sup>145</sup> continued since. These were at first held on the last Sunday in May. For many years now, though, they have been held on Whitsunday, or Pentecost. St. John's Episcopal is the only church in the Ashwood community today.

Commerce

In 1900 the Star Milling Company was established at Ashwood. It milled corn into meal for sale to area markets. During the early twentieth century a number of small frame houses and a one-story brick store were built adjacent to the mill and railroad.

VI. Significant IndividualsGideon J. Pillow, Jr.

Gideon J. Pillow was a lawyer, planter, builder, and one of several leaders in the development of transportation in Maury county. He was significant in Tennessee's military history as the organizer of its provisional army at the time of the Civil War. His military service in Mexico and political influence in Democratic politics during the middle of the nineteenth century were also important.

Pillow was born June 8, 1806 on what is now Pillow Place on Campbellsville Pike in Maury County, Tennessee. He died at Pillow Mound Plantation near Helena, Arkansas on October 8, 1878, of yellow

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fever. His significance in the political and military history of our country is described by Philip M. Hamer in the Dictionary of American Biography.<sup>146</sup>

General Gideon J. Pillow's life was very interestingly bound up with the pivotal events and trends in America's history during the nineteenth century. He grew up and was educated when Tennessee was America's frontier, attending early academies in Columbia and in Giles County. Pillow then moved to Nashville and attended the University of Nashville. There he became a friend of Andrew Jackson and was a frequent visitor to the Hermitage. Graduated in 1827, he then studied law and was admitted to the Bar in Maury County in 1830 and in Giles County in 1831. As a young legal scholar Pillow helped define the practice of law in Tennessee.<sup>147</sup>

Pillow was an innovator and leader of regional significance in agricultural practices. He was eager to apply new techniques to his operations. In 1845 a periodical carried an account of his hemp operation describing a massive hemp vat Pillow had constructed to water-rot his crop, together with detailed instructions by General Pillow on handling, storing and shipping the hemp. Pillow reported that he had processed seventy acres of hemp during that year.<sup>148</sup> In 1846 Pillow concluded one of only three contracts granted that year with the U.S. Navy Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repairs. He was to deliver ninety tons of hemp during the next three years.<sup>149</sup> According to the agricultural census of 1850, Pillow produced thirteen tons of dew-rotted hemp that year.<sup>150</sup> Pillow's local significance in agriculture is also indicated by the fact that he led in the establishment of the Maury County Agricultural and Mechanical Society and its annual fair, serving as president and founder.<sup>151</sup>

Pillow also provided regional leadership in internal improvements within the Ashwood district by developing transportation along turnpikes, rivers, and railroads. He was a founder of the Columbia Central Turnpike company, on the Board of Directors of the Duck River Slack Water Navigation Company, and supported railroad development. When journalist G.D.B. Debow traveled through Tennessee in 1849 to encourage railroad building, he visited Maury county and reported to his readers: "Here lives Gen. Pillow, whose reputation as a gentleman, a man of honor, of chivalrous bravery and public spirit, is deservedly high. He is a lawyer of acknowledged abilities, and has amassed a large fortune, and though comparatively a young man, has a family of about ten children.... The General himself presides and speaks at a meeting in Columbia, which we address, and pledges

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himself unconditionally to the railroad from Nashville to a point of constant navigation on the Tennessee river, where it is supposed that the New-Orleans and the Mobile roads may strike."<sup>152</sup>

Gideon Pillow was an Adjutant General in Tennessee's militia, at a time when the militia was the state's primary defense. As a result of his contribution in securing the nomination of James K. Polk in 1844, he became a member of Polk's inner circle. When war broke out with Mexico in 1846 he was appointed by Polk a Brigadier-General of volunteers. He was promoted to Major General before the war's end. Pillow served gallantly and was wounded at Cerro Gordo and Chapultepec. Because he was both a volunteer and a Democrat Pillow had difficulty in dealing with Polk's Whig commanding generals. Pillow entered into controversies with Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott and<sup>153</sup> became a lightning rod for Whig and Democratic rivalries of the time.

After the Mexican War, Gideon Pillow retired from the practice of law and devoted himself to agriculture and a busy political correspondence. He eventually became owner of a multi-plantation agriculturally diversified empire in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas which grew to 14,000 acres. The plantation office at Clifton Place was the setting of a busy and varied correspondence between the General and his friends and business associates. Letters from Clifton Place still extant range from important matters of political patronage between the plantation and the White House to orders for Philadelphia wallpaper to Pillow's "Tennesseans to Arms," written days after the fiasco at Fort Donelson calling on citizens of the state to rally to halt the union advance.<sup>154</sup> These surviving documents indicate the amount of time required in correspondence and record-keeping for the operation of a plantation such as Clifton Place and a commercial empire such as Pillow's, and hint at the enormity of what remains to be discovered or must now be lost.

Although Gideon J. Pillow owned many properties during his long entrepreneurial career, Clifton Place in the Ashwood Rural Historic District was always the centerpiece. It was his home, where he and Mary Martin reared their family of ten children. It was the headquarters of his busy commercial empire. In successive renovations and modifications, Clifton Place was made more elegant as the General became more prosperous.

Pillow was a prominent moderate at the Southern Convention of 1850, opposing extreme secessionists. In 1861 Pillow organized and

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commanded the Provisional Army of Tennessee and, with Governor Isham Harris and others, led Tennessee into secession. He was one of the first names on the list of Tennessee citizens named traitors when the federal courts resumed their functions after Nashville fell into Union hands in February of 1862.<sup>155</sup> Pillow became a Brigadier-General when Tennessee's provisional army was absorbed by the Confederacy. He was present at, and censured for, one of the worst disasters the southern cause and Tennessee endured: the surrender of Fort Donelson in February 1862. Pillow, however, remained active in the Confederacy until the end of the war, serving for a time as head of a Conscript Bureau and at the last as Commissary General of Prisoners.

General Pillow saw his properties in Tennessee and Arkansas confiscated by the Federal Army and leased out to strangers in 1864 and 1865.<sup>156</sup> He was already a financially broken man by that time. One Nashville newspaper reported that "General Pillow states his losses during the war as 409 negroes, 4 gin houses (\$10,000 each), 10,000 pounds of bacon, 2,000 hogs, 500 head of cattle, 2,100 bales of cotton burned by his own government besides the destruction of his houses and desolation of his plantations by Federals."<sup>157</sup> Years later, in 1876, Pillow declared bankruptcy after being sued successfully for a decision he made during the war to confiscate the property of a northern coal company. At the age of 66, his first wife dead, Pillow moved to Memphis and resumed a vigorous practice of law and legal scholarship<sup>158</sup> with his son Robert Pillow and former Governor Isham Harris. He remarried in 1872 and had three children by this second marriage.

Lucius Junius Polk

Lucius Polk was locally significant because of his role in the early settlement of this section of Maury County. As the owner of Hamilton Place, he is representative of the class of planters who developed the region and promoted internal improvements for the Ashwood community. He was also important to Tennessee's political history, serving in the state legislature for one term and as Adjutant General of the state during the early years of Tennessee's statehood.

Lucius Polk was the first of the six sons of William Polk to settle in Maury County. He was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, March 16, 1802, the child of William Polk by his second wife, Sarah Hawkins Polk. As a child, he attended schools in Raleigh. Later, he attended the University of North Carolina and graduated in 1822.<sup>159</sup>

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William Polk, having taken title to the large tracts in Tennessee but never intending to relocate there himself, nonetheless sought to install his children there. Soon after Lucius completed his education at Chapel Hill, he was dispatched to Tennessee to look after some of his father's interests. Their strategy was to acquire land, plant it in cotton, and reap the benefits.

Lucius was in Tennessee in 1823 for the purpose of renting lands. He first settled on his father's tract, Willsgrove, near the present village of Spring Hill, Tennessee in northern Maury County. He was at first pleased with the arrangements, writing his mother that he was the "solitary inmate of Willsgrove and happy as a Lord".<sup>160</sup> Lucius had a log house on the Carters Creek side of the farm. (This house, the first in Tennessee erected by a member of William Polk's family, stood<sup>161</sup> until early in the twentieth century when it was dismantled.)<sup>161</sup> Although these lands along Carter's Creek were among the best in the northern part of Maury County, Lucius soon made a decision to move to his father's 5,000-acre Bigby or Rattle and Snap tract. It appears that he made the decision in 1826, as his brother Leonidas wrote him approving it and announcing his intent to join him after finishing his studies at West Point. In 1828 Lucius had a plot of the Rattle and Snap tract prepared for settlement.<sup>162</sup>

Lucius probably began his preparations for the move to the Bigby tract in 1829, as his father wrote him notifying him that more workers for Lucius' fine new house on the site would be sent from North Carolina in the fall. "At this time, I think the carpenters may go to Tennessee in the month of October accompanied by Harry the Brick Mason."<sup>163</sup>

In 1831 Lucius ran for a seat in the State Senate. He was opposed by Edward B. Littlefield and Dr. G.T. Greenfield. All the candidates belonged to the same political party. N.W. Jones, an early historian, recalled the election in his reminiscences: "While there may have been some side issues, the race was made on personal merits."<sup>164</sup> After only one term, he became disgusted at the "wire-pulling log-rolling and jugglery" of politics and never ran for election again. His cousin James K. Polk of Columbia, then representing the Sixth District of Tennessee in Congress, commented on Lucius' decision in a letter to William Polk: "He has determined at all events not to run again for the Legislature. His course in the Senate has given general satisfaction to his constituents; he is

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quite as popular as he ever was, and could I have no doubt be re-elected if he desired it."<sup>165</sup>

Polk fell in love with Mary Ann Eastin at about this time. She was the daughter of the late William Eastin and grandniece of Rachel Jackson, and a great favorite of her uncle, then President. Polk and Eastin were married in Washington City in 1832.<sup>166</sup> Work on Hamilton Place continued, and Lucius' father provided carpenters and slaves for the house's construction. By late 1831 the work was well underway and Lucius was able to state "My house has been covered in and one room finished."<sup>167</sup> The carpenters were still with Lucius in November, awaiting further assignments from William Polk.<sup>168</sup> Hamilton Place was probably occupied by this time.

In 1836 Lucius Polk's property was listed in the county tax list as 1,497 acres, valued at \$29,940. He also owned 30 slaves worth \$19,500, and a \$600 carriage. The census four years later showed him owning<sup>169</sup> fifty-two slaves; four free blacks were living on the place.

On August 1, 1847, Mary Eastin Polk died at Hamilton Place at the age of thirty, less than one month after giving<sup>170</sup> birth to a set of twins, the couple's seventh and eighth children. Six years later, on September 7, 1853, Lucius married again, this time to Mrs. Anne Erwin Pope, daughter of Andrew Erwin of Bedford County. This union produced another two children.<sup>171</sup>

From 1851 to 1853, Lucius was Adjutant-General for the State of Tennessee. The Seventy-seventh Regiment of the Tennessee State Militia used Lucius Polk's Hamilton Place, as its parade ground.<sup>172</sup>

Lucius' son, George Washington Polk, in a questionnaire filed after the Civil War, listed his father's estate at the outbreak of the War as 1,012 acres, fifty or sixty slaves, and a brick house with "13 rooms and large hall", a substantial amount at that time. The land with its improvements was valued at seventy-five dollars an acre.<sup>173</sup>

Lucius Polk died at Hamilton Place on October 3, 1870, and was buried at St. John's Episcopal Church, the family church of which he had been a founder. He was the first Knight Templar to be buried in the county, and had been Grand Commander of the Tennessee Knights Templar, a Royal Arch Mason, and Eminent Commander of the Grand Commandery of Masons in Tennessee.<sup>174</sup> "High-toned, honorable and chivalrous," one account called him "a man of proud and noble

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bearing, he was indeed one of nature's noblemen, but to the humblest citizen he was always<sup>175</sup> accessible and ever had a pleasant word for all who called on him".

Leonidas Polk

Leonidas Polk was significant for his leadership as a Bishop in the Protestant Episcopal Church and his military service as a Lieutenant-General in the Confederate forces during the Civil War. He was also important for his establishment of St. John's Episcopal Church in the Ashwood area.

Son of William Polk by his second wife, Sarah Hawkins, Leonidas was born at Raleigh, North Carolina, on April 10, 1806. As a child, he attended the Rev. Dr. McPheter's academy in Raleigh<sup>176</sup> and in May 1821 he began attending the University of North Carolina. But his father, a military hero of the Revolutionary War desired that Leonidas be trained as a soldier, and secured<sup>177</sup> a place for him at West Point. Leonidas entered the Academy in June.

Polk was showing some inclination towards a non-military occupation. In October 1825 he wrote his brother Lucius asking about the conditions in Tennessee, where Lucius had recently located. "How many negroes have you? Who are your neighbors? How far to the nearest navigable stream? and those that might be made so? Is there much public<sup>178</sup> spirit among you? Can they generally command much money?" While at West Point, Polk came under the influence of Chaplain Charles Pettit McIlvaine and became interested in religion. Polk was the first member of his family to show any interest in religion. His father, while not openly irreligious like many of his contemporaries, had never been concerned with providing a church upbringing for his children.<sup>179</sup> Polk was baptized at West Point by Chaplain McIlvaine May 25, 1826, in the Academy chapel with the full Corps<sup>180</sup> attendance. He was the first cadet to be baptized at West Point.

A difficult letter to his parents explained his new-found interest in "the truth of the Holy religion which I had before derided". At the time, he said nothing to indicate that he might in the future enter the ministry. Colonel Polk and the rest of the family were alarmed at this change of course. Leonidas returned home on a visit in the summer of 1826 and informed his father that he could not serve as a soldier, but was interested rather in becoming a planter. His father reluctantly agreed to provide him a tract of land in Tennessee and

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Leonidas wrote his brother Lucius, already in Tennessee, of his intention to join him upon leaving the Academy. He suggested that they and possibly other brothers might form a sort of community on the tract. This is the first mention of the joint settlement of the Polk lands.<sup>181</sup>

Leonidas graduated from West Point on July 4, 1827, the eighth in his class. Having made up his mind as last, he secured a release from military service the following week.<sup>182</sup> He made his first trip to Tennessee at this time. He visited his family's friends and relatives, staying with his brother Lucius at Willsgrove. During the trip, he dined with his father's friend, Andrew Jackson, at the Hermitage.<sup>183</sup>

From 1828 to 1830, Leonidas studied at the Virginia Theological Seminary. On completion of his studies he was ordained deacon in 1830 by Bishop Richard Channing Moore of Virginia, and shortly afterward, he became assistant rector of Monumental Church, Richmond.<sup>184</sup> While in Virginia, he prepared to marry and move to Tennessee upon completion of the Seminary. His fiancée was Frances Ann Deveraux, a childhood friend.<sup>185</sup>

Leonidas had at first, been given a tract of land at some distance from Hamilton Place,<sup>186</sup> and he expressed fears that the isolated tract might make his wife unhappy. On his father's last trip to Maury County in 1833, he exchanged this property for a portion of the 5,000 acre Rattle and Snap tract, adjacent to brother Lucius.

This land was already being leased and Leonidas was forced to buy out the lease before assuming the property. He did receive with the property a small four-room house that had been occupied by Fleming, the former leasee. Polk repaired the house and called it Mount Breeze. He intended to install his family here while undertaking the construction of his great house, but repairs went slowly, and the family stayed at Hamilton Place until the spring of 1834, when Mount Breeze was ready for occupancy. Polk claimed was that he was "his own architect" and supervised the construction of Ashwood Hall, his grand new house.<sup>187</sup>

Despite the attention to the farm and the erection of Ashwood Hall, Polk accepted an Episcopal appointment at one of the first of the churches to be established in Tennessee. Polk was installed as rector of St. Peter's Church in Columbia as of January 1, 1834. He was the second priest of the parish, succeeding the Rev. Daniel

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Stephens. The church's first building, on Garden Street behind the Masonic Hall, was completed during his pastorate, and was consecrated by Bishop William Meade on April 17, 1835.<sup>188</sup>

Polk divided his time between his plantation, Mount Breeze, and his parochial duties. On Wednesdays, he rode into Columbia for the evening service at St. Peter's, then spent the night in town with friends or relations, and returned to Ashwood the following morning. In March 1836 he became severely ill, suffering partial paralysis and slurred speech, and called for James Hervey Otey, later the first Bishop of Tennessee, to assist him. This was the beginning of their important friendship and association.<sup>189</sup>

At the same time he had accumulated considerable wealth. In 1836 the county tax assessment listed his property as 1,294 acres, valued at \$25,880, and his thirty-two slaves, valued at \$20,900. In 1840 his slaves had increased to 105. One account states that he was the largest slave owner in the county of the period, later transferring many to a sugar plantation in Louisiana.<sup>190</sup>

Leonidas' house, Ashwood, was completed in 1837. In July he reported to his mother: "I have at last moved into my new house. It was finished about ten days ago - so I had it cleaned up and furnished and moved in. It is very comfortably arranged and its occupants whoever it may be hereafter cannot but appreciate its excellence in this particular. I have had great pleasure in building it, quite as much I dare say, as I shall have should my life be spared, in occupying it. My little girl enjoys it greatly. She has such ample room compared with the confinement of Mt. Breeze."<sup>191</sup>

Leonidas Polk convinced his brothers to build a family church at Ashwood, and thus was established St. John's Episcopal Church. Leonidas gave the land for the church; the deed to Bishop Otey, dated November 15, 1842, conveyed the land "for the consideration of one dollar and the love and affection he has for the church of which the said James H. Otey is Bishop."<sup>192</sup>

Polk was elected Missionary Bishop of Arkansas and the Indian Territory by the church's nineteenth General Convention, meeting at Philadelphia in 1838, and was consecrated by Bishop Meade on December 9 of that year at Christ Church, Cincinnati. His friend and chaplain from West Point, the Reverend Charles McIlvaine, now Bishop of Ohio, delivered the sermon. Polk was the second domestic Missionary Bishop

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of the Episcopal Church. After he resigned at St. Peter's, his rectorship was assumed by his friend James H. Otey.<sup>193</sup>

Leonidas remained at Ashwood while Missionary Bishop. However, his new post necessitated much travel. He left Ashwood for the southwest in early February, 1839. His wife, Frances, was unhappy with his abrupt departure, and uncertain about the arrangements he left for the administration of his mills and farms. She wrote her mother in North Carolina, "I do not think Mr. Polk will be a loser, but it would be much better, if the mills would burn down in my opinion."<sup>194</sup> Lucius Polk was later to somewhat ease her fears<sup>195</sup> by bringing from New Orleans an Englishman to run the steam mills.

Leonidas served as Missionary Bishop of Arkansas and the Indian Territory until October 15, 1841, when he was nominated by the House of Bishops as Bishop of Louisiana. The whole family moved this time, to Thibodaux, Louisiana, where Polk purchased Leighton, a sugar plantation. Leonidas did retain his farm at Ashwood and tried to maintain it as a summer home until 1845, when he sold it to his younger brother Andrew Jackson Polk.<sup>196</sup>

Bishop Polk played a prominent role during 1859 and 1860 in the establishment of the University of the South in Franklin County, Tennessee. He was an important mover in the discussions which led to the formation of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America. By the time this was accomplished in October of 1861, Jefferson Davis had prevailed upon him to accept the commission of a Major General in the Confederate forces. His commission was issued June 25, 1861, and he forthwith assumed command at Memphis, headquarters for his department.<sup>197</sup> He was promoted to Lieutenant General in October 1862, and was assigned command of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana. On June 14, 1864, he was killed by a cannon shot while inspecting enemy positions from Pine Mountain, Georgia.

Leonidas Polk had always intended to be buried at St. John's Episcopal in Ashwood, but his remains were taken to Atlanta and then to Augusta, Georgia.<sup>198</sup>

Nathan Vaught (Vaught's significance is under criterion C because the district contains excellent examples of his designs.) Nathan Vaught was born in Virginia in 1799 and came to Rutherford County Tennessee in 1803 or 1804. He was orphaned by 1807 and in

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1808 he was brought to Maury County by a family that took him in after his parents died.

In 1810 he was bound to James Pursell, a cabinet maker and carpenter, until he reached the age of twenty one. Vaught began building under the instruction of Pursell in 1812 and thus began a career which he followed until 1861. Upon attaining his twenty-first birthday, Vaught decided to attend school for a year so that he could learn to write and study "figures".

After his schooling he went to work for Pursell as a journeyman carpenter and remained in this capacity until 1821 when his mentor died. Vaught went into business for himself in the same year and contracted to build a large two story brick dwelling known as Annoatuck located on the Columbia to Nashville highway.

His acumen as a builder was recognized by the citizenry and Vaught was soon being employed by the leading families of Maury County. In 1827 he was employed by James K. Polk's brother-in-law James Walker to double the size of his townhouse in Columbia. This structure stands today, and is known as the Polk Sisters House (NR5/21/75). Vaught also did work on James K. Polk's residence in Columbia (NHL10/15/66). A copy survives of Vaught's design for adding a Greek Revival portico to Polk's house, however, the house does not have a portico today.

In 1838 Vaught contracted with Gideon J. Pillow to build his brick dwelling and kitchen house (Clifton Place). At the same time he was engaged to build the Columbia branch of the State Bank of Tennessee. This temple form Greek Revival structure is considered by many to be the most academic execution of that architectural form in Maury County. Located in downtown Columbia, this structure is listed on the National Register (NR11/2/78). Commissions such as the Pillow home and the State Bank helped give Vaught an opportunity to show his talents as a builder by allowing him to execute stylistically correct design elements in the finest of materials.

During the mid-1850s Vaught was called upon to build or remodel several structures in the Greek Revival style. In 1855 he constructed a large brick residence for Jerome B. Pillow which has a monumental columned portico in the Ionic order. Nearly identical porticos are found on the homes of Gideon and Granville Pillow (Pillow Place). As statements of the Greek Revival, these three structures rank at the top and are considered to represent the height

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of Vaught's craftsmanship. All three structures are individually listed on the National Register.

Upon retiring from the building trade in 1861, Vaught served in the Confederate Army, and upon the conclusion of the Civil War he retired completely. In 1871 he began writing a memoir which he entitled "Youth and Old Age". In this work he detailed his life as a builder as well as giving a history of building in Maury County from 1810 to 1861. This memoir has become the most important document on building in the nineteenth century in Maury County and is studied by architectural historians across the state.

No less than twenty buildings constructed by Vaught stand today and coupled with his memoir they yield tremendous insight into the work of this outstanding craftsman. No where else in Tennessee is it possible to document so many historic structures to the work of one man. The best of his work is to be found in the Ashwood Rural Historic District.

## FOOTNOTES

- 47 Tennessee Historical Commission marker at St. John's Episcopal Church, Marker 3 D 37.
- 48 Jill K. Garrett, Maury County Chancery Court Minutes (Extracts), Columbia: Privately published, 1970, 190: Maury County Deed Book A, 30.
- 49 Maury County Deed book A, Page 30. Maury County was created in late 1807.
- 50 Zion Presbyterian Church, Sesquicentennial Celebration, 1807-1907, (brochure) Zion: Zion Presbyterian Church, June 1907, 7-8.
- 51 Greenlick Creek, so named for a salt lick on the General Greene tract.
- 52 North Carolina Land Grants, Book A, 71, #148.
- 53 Maury County Court Minutes, Book 2, 63, in Jill Garrett, The Maury Genealogist, Vol. 1, 1972, rpt. Columbia: P-Vine Press, 1987, 57; Maury County Tax List, 1812, in Historic Maury, Vol. VIII, No. 1, January 1972, 24.
- 54 William Polk, Land Entry Book, Tennessee State Library and Archives, 12.

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Areas of Significance (continued)

TRANSPORTATION  
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- 55 Maury County Court Minutes, Book 2, p. 63, abstracted in Jill Garrett, The Maury Genealogist, Vol. 1, 56; Weston A. Goodspeed, editor, History of Tennessee, Nashville, 1886, 750.
- 56 N.W. Jones, memo to Frank H. Smith, in Smith, History of Maury County, 235; Fleming, 28; D.G. Beers Company, Map of Maury County, Tennessee. Philadelphia, 1878.
- 57 Killebrew, 832.
- 58 Mary Webster Sowell, Early Cross Bridges and the Websters, Columbia: privately published, 1969, 2.
- 59 Dawson A. Phelps, The Natchez Trace: Indian Trail to Parkway, Tupelo, Mississippi: Natchez Trace Parkway Association, n.d., 15.
- 60 G.W. Polk, Questionnaire, 103; Zella Armstrong, Some Tennessee Heroes of the Revolution, Compiled from Their Statements. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1975, 141; Parks, 69.
- 61 1840 Census, 10th Civil District, Maury County, in Historic Maury, Vol. IX, Nos. 1&2, Jan. 1972, 54.
- 62 Maury County Will Book E, 318.
- 63 Democratic Herald note, in Historic Maury, Vol. VII No. 1, Jan-Mar. 1971, 25.
- 64 William Polk Journal, in James B. Jones, Jr, Allison Harris and Andrea Stewart, "A Status Report on Findings of the Rattle and Snap Research Project", MSS, 1980.
- 65 "Farms in Maury", in The Southern Cultivator and Journal of Science and Improvement, Vol. I No. 20, 1839, 1.
- 66 This was the total value and extent of the General's holdings, including his plantations in Arkansas.
- 67 Jones, 55; Killebrew, 832.
- 68 James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, 4 vols. (London: J. Hackerborn, 1762-1816).
- 69 J. Frazier-Smith, White Pillars: Early Life and Architecture of the Lower Mississippi Valley, New York: Bramhall House, 1941, 71.
- 70 Patrick, Architecture of Tennessee, 29; Vaught, 26.
- 71 1850 Census, Entry 1401, Seventh District, Maury County, Tennessee. The Gingers were connected with the Pillows through a Johnson line. The family connections were later strengthened when a Ginger daughter married a Pillow. David Ginger's father (probably), Henry Ginger, was in Maury County early enough to be recorded in the 1820 census, which placed him in the same area, south of the Nimrod Porter property, which was immediately to the east of the Pillows. (Monte H. Knight, "Pillow/Johnson and Allied Families", Historic Maury, Vol. XIX, 1983, 13-14.)
- 72 Lucius J. Polk to William Polk, 22 December 1833. Polk-Yeatman Collection.

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- 73 Meeting of the Corn Cob Club, 13 December 1894, in Garrett, editor, Maury County Historical Sketches, 201; Goodspeed, 755; Columbia Beacon, 11 February 1848, in Garrett, Newspapers, 73; D.P. Robbins, editor, The Century Review of Maury County, 1905, rpt., Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1980, 14; Smith, 101.
- 74 Columbia Observer, 6 October 1834, in Garrett, Newspapers, I, 54; Parks, 71.
- 75 Note in The Maury Intelligencier, 10 May 1845, in Jill Garrett, compiler, Maury County, Tennessee Newspapers (Abstracts), 1846-1850, Columbia, 1965, 91; "A tour through Tennessee" in DeBow's Southern and Western Review, Enlarged Series, Vol. I, No. 6, December, 1851, 679-680
- 76 Robbins, 47; Fleming, 59.
- 77 Maury Press note, 28 March 1860, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 210; Lucius J. Polk to Henry Clay Yeatman, 15 July 1859, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 78 N.W. Jones Interview, in Smith, Maury County, 147; James Walker to James K. Polk, 2 May 1838, in Herbert Weaver et al, editors, The Correspondence of James K. Polk, Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1969-1983, III, 434-435; Goodspeed, 755; William McClinchey Diary, in Historic Maury, Vol. XIV, No. 3; Maury County Will Book 9, abstracted in Historic Maury, Vol. XIII, No. 2, April 1977, 67.
- 79 "Do You Remember?: Toll Gates and Turnpikes", Historic Maury, Vol. XXII, 1986, 95; Maury County Census, 1860, Tenth District, Household #1458.
- 80 Ash, 10.
- 81 George Washington Polk of "Rattle and Snap" hired out slaves for plastering as late as October of 1863 (George W. Polk journal, entry for 1 October 1863, in "Letters and Diaries of the George W. Polk Family", Historic Maury, Vol. XXIII, 1987, 10.)
- 82 Pass for Leonard, slave of Lucius J. Polk, 24 December 1836, George W. Polk Papers.
- 83 G.W. Polk Questionnaire, in John Trotwood Moore, Biographical Questionnaires of 150 Prominent Tennesseans, rpt., Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1982.
- 84 St. John's Episcopal Church Register, Polk-Yeatman collection; Armentrout, 58.
- 85 Polk, G.W. "St. John's", 168.
- 86 Garrett, "St. John's", 13; Armentrout, App. B., 179; Park, 90-91; Maury County Deed Book I, Book Z, 291. The deed was filed September 13, 1843.
- 87 Garrett, "St. John's, Ashwood", 14.
- 88 St. John's Episcopal Church Register.
- 89 Armentrout, App. B, 170.

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- 90 Columbia Herald, 15 March 1872, in Jill Garrett, The Maury Genealogist, Vol. 1, 83; Richard N. Newell to Mamie " ", 14 August 1878, Polk-Yeatman Collection; Richard N. Newell to Mamie " ", 29 March 1886, Polk-Yeatman Collection; Jill Garrett, Hither and Yon, 225.
- 91 Charles Quintard to Eliza E. Polk, 1870, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 92 Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 15 July 1841, Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 93 Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 2 February 1838, George W. Polk Papers.
- 94 Lucius J. Polk to Mary Ann (Eastin) Polk, 19 November 1856, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 95 Ibid., 8-9.
- 96 Ibid., 16.
- 97 Smith, Maury County, 259.
- 98 Bibliographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, I, 589.
- 99 Garrett, Historical Sketches, 63.
- 100 Jill K. Garrett and Marise P. Lightfoot, The Civil War in Maury County, Tennessee, Columbia: Maury County Library Board, 1980, 12-14d; Jill K. Garrett, Confederate Soldiers and Patriots, Columbia: Capt. James Madison Sparkman Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1970, 284.
- 101 Edmondston, 83; Katherine Polk Gale, Memoir, Dudley Gale Papers, University of the South at Sewanee, 19.
- 102 Jill Garrett, Confederate Soldiers and Patriots, 283-84.
- 103 Ibid.
- 104 Lucius was born in North Carolina in 1833, before his parents relocated to Maury County, and made his career as a planter in Phillips County, Arkansas. He was promoted quickly, rising to brigadier-general in December, 1862. In the middle of the war, he married his cousin, Sallie Polk, daughter of the late Rufus King Polk of West Brook. After being wounded on four occasions, the last and most serious time at Kennesaw Mountain in 1864, he retired from the war, and later took up residence at West Brook. Bibliographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, II, 731-32.
- 105 Nimrod Porter's Day Book chronicles most of these incidents.
- 106 Garrett and Lightfoot, 161-62.
- 107 William T. Alderson, editor, "The Civil War Reminiscences of John Johnston, 1861-65", Tennessee Historical Quarterly, March 1955, 69.
- 108 M.B. Pilcher, "God's Country", Tallahoma Guardsman, rpt. Columbia Herald, 25 September 1896, in Historic Maury, Vol. XX, 1984, 69-70
- 109 Charles Quintard diary, in Garrett and Lightfoot, 172.
- 110 After the war Quintard was elected Bishop of Tennessee, replacing Bishop Otey, who died at Memphis on April 23, 1863.
- 111 Quintard Diary, in Garrett and Lightfoot, 171-72.

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- 112 Ash, 160-61.  
113 Rebecca Van Leer Polk to Henry Clay Yeatman, 1 May 1873. Polk-Yeatman Collection.  
114 Ledgerbook of General Dodge, Record Group 366, National Archives.  
115 Ledger Book of E. P. Hotchkiss, Record Group 105, Box 10, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, National Archives.  
116 Hotchkiss, Ledger Book.  
117 Nimrod Porter, op. cit, March 31, 1865.  
118 Gideon J. Pillow to Major General O. O. Howard, Commissioner, Freedmen's Bureau, December 22, 1865, in Freedmen's Bureau Correspondence file, Record Group 105, National Archives.  
119 Ash, 188.  
120 Ibid., 187.  
121 Columbia Herald and Mail note, 26 March 1875, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 210.  
122 Killebrew, 842.  
123 Columbia Herald and Mail, 28 March 1873, in Historic Maury, Vol. XII No. 4, Nov. 1976, 171.  
124 Kiser, "Gambler's Luck", 131-33.  
125 Ibid.  
126 D.G. Beers Map.  
127 Mrs. Frank T. Angellotti, The Polks of North Carolina and Tennessee, New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1923-24; rpt. Columbia: James K. Polk Association, 1984, 37.  
128 Ibid., 150.  
129 Hamilton Place plat, 28 August 1884. Polk-Yeatman Collection.  
130 "Mt. Pleasant, Then and Now: Some Early History and What Has Been Accomplished by the Phosphate City", Daily Herald, 29 March 1905, in Warren, 157.  
131 Killebrew, 835.  
132 Ibid., 838-39.  
133 Robbins, 47.  
134 "Ashwood Farm" advertising placard, Polk-Yeatman Collection, Tennessee State Library and Archives.  
135 Nimrod Porter Day Book, III, 144.  
136 Campbell P. Ridley interview, July 1988.  
137 Robbins, 312.  
138 Warren, 157.  
139 Robbins, 47.  
140 Elmo Sulzer. Ghost Railroads of Tennessee, Indianapolis: Vane A. Janes Company, 1975, 44-45.  
141 Garrett, "St. John's, Ashwood", Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Spring 1970, Volume XXIX, Number 1, 21.

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- 142 "St. John's Group Incorporates, Elects", Unidentified clipping, 1906, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 143 "Regular Services", Unidentified clipping, August 1915, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 144 Garrett, "St. John's", 21. (Mary Jane Yeatman Whiteside of Columbia states that she was the child, and that the couple were her parents.)
- 145 "Annual Pilgrimage to St. John's Episcopal to be Held Sunday; Bishop Maxon to Speak", Unidentified clipping, May 1944, Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 146 "Pillow, Gideon Johnson" in Dictionary of American Biography, S.V. Hamer was the author of Tennessee: A History, 1933.
- 147 Pillow was author of the extensive section in Judge Haywood's Statute Laws of Tennessee, published in 1831 which contained examples of every kind of legal document needed by Justices of the Peace and lawyers. This book was the "Bible" of Tennessee Legal practice for decades.
- 148 "Gen. Pillow's Manner of Preparing and Managing Water-Rotted Hemp" in The Tennessee Agriculturist, July, 1845, Nashville, Tennessee, 102-103. Pillow not only used mechanized processes in his hemp operation, but, with his brother Jerome, manufactured cement at Clifton, Tennessee, where their factory still stands. (Killebrew, 261.)
- 149 James F. Hopkins, A History of the Hemp Industry in Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky, University of Kentucky Press, 101.
- 150 Agricultural Census of 1850.
- 151 Democratic Herald, September 22, 1855.
- 152 DeBow, 679-80.
- 153 Hamer, op. cit.,
- 154 Scores of Gideon J. Pillow letters and telegrams are in libraries and collections throughout the United States. "Tennesseans to Arms" is in the John Trotwood Moore collection at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.
- 155 "List of Citizens indicted for Treason and Conspiracy in Federal District Court, Nashville, Tennessee, 1862", in Citizens File, (Two or more entries), National Archives.
- 156 Freedmen's Bureau records at the National Archives reveal that in the Ashwood District only General Pillow's plantation and that of his future son-in-law Colonel Daniel Fount Wade (who owned Cherry Glen at the time) were confiscated. Three of Pillow's plantations in Arkansas were also confiscated, divided into tracts, and advertised for lease as "Gen. Pillow's" in northern newspapers. RG 105, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.
- 157 Nashville Dispatch, March 26, 1863.

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- 158 Pillow indicated, in a letter to Chancellor W. F. Cooper of Dec 8, 1875, that he had four volumes of reports on Tennessee Chancery Court decisions "ready for the press" although they apparently were never published and are no longer extant in manuscript form. (Gideon J. Pillow to W. F. Fleming, December 8, 1875, in Cooper Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.)
- 159 Bibliographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, I, 589.
- 160 Parks, 32. A portion of William Polk's 10,000 acres in this vicinity is now part of the General Motors Saturn Plant site.
- 161 Garrett, Hither and Yon, 230.
- 162 Leonidas Polk to Lucius Polk, 25 August 1826. Leonidas Polk Papers; Lucius J. Polk to William Polk, 21 December 1828. George W. Polk Papers.
- 163 William Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 20 June 1829. Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 164 Jones, 39.
- 165 Columbia Herald and Mail note, 26 February 1875, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 38; Angellotti, 23; James K. Polk to William Polk, 28 November 1832, in The Correspondence of James K. Polk, I, 540.
- 166 Nashville Banner and Nashville Daily Advertiser, 25 March 1832, in Lucas, Marriages, 383; Marquis James. Andrew Jackson: Portrait of a President. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1937.
- 167 Lucius J. Polk to William Polk, 20 December 1831. George W. Polk Papers.
- 168 Lucius J. Polk to Rufus K. Polk, 6 July 1832. Polk-Yeatman Collection; William Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 15 November 1832. Polk-Yeatman Collection.
- 169 Maury County Tax List, 10th Civil District, 1836, in Historic Maury, Vol. IV, No. 2, April 1968, 60; 1840 Census, 10th Civil District, Maury County, in Historic Maury, Vol. IX, Nos. 1&2, Jan. 1972, 54.
- 170 Mary Eastin Polk obituary, The Politician and Nashville Weekly Whig, 25 August 1847, in Lucas, Obituaries, 296; G.W. Polk, "My Life and Reminiscences", 1a.
- 171 Bibliographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, I, 589; Angellotti, 34.
- 172 Ibid.
- 173 John Trotwood Moore, compiler. Biographical Questionnaires of 150 Prominent Tennesseans. Rpt, Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1982.
- 174 Bibliographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, I, 589-590; Columbia Herald and Mail note, 1 October 1875, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 130.
- 175 Columbia Herald and Mail note, 26 February 1875, in Garrett, Historical Sketches, 38.

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- 176 Mrs. Frank T. Angellotti. The Polks of North Carolina and Tennessee. New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1923-24; rpt, Columbia, 1984, 16; W. M. Polk, I, 63.
- 177 W.M. Polk, I, 70.
- 178 Leonidas Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 8 October 1825. Leonidas Polk Papers; Leonidas Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 16 July 1825. Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 179 Leonidas Polk sketch, 4. Dudley Gale Papers.
- 180 Ibid.
- 181 Parks, 34-38; Leonidas Polk to Lucius Polk, 25 August 1826. Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 182 Parks, 41.
- 183 W.M. Polk, I, 103-04.
- 184 Journal of the Diocese of Tennessee, 1834, 20. Copy at Diocese of Tennessee, Nashville, and Tennessee State Library and Archives.
- 185 Parks, 52, 62; W.M. Polk, I, 107.
- 186 This was probably at Willsgrove, as his father wrote Lucius telling him that Leonidas' negroes would have to make Willsgrove their residence for this year, before Leonidas could relocate. (William Polk to Lucius J. Polk, 15 February 1833. William Polk Papers.)
- 187 Parks, 66-71.
- 188 Thornton A. Ryan (ed.). St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Columbia, Tenn., The First 125 Years of the Parish, 1829-1954. Columbia, 1954, 1; Jill Garrett. St. Peter's Church, Columbia, Tennessee: The First 150 Years. Columbia: St. Peter's Church, 1979, 6.
- 189 Jill Garrett. St. Peter's Church, 7; Garrett, "St. John's, Ashwood", 5.
- 190 Maury County Tax List, 10th Civil District, 1836, in Historic Maury, Vol. IV, No. 2, April 1968, 60; 1840 Census, 10th Civil District, Maury County, in Historic Maury, Vol. IX, Nos. 1&2, Jan. 1972, 54; Jones, 55.
- 191 Leonidas Polk to Sarah Hawkins Polk, 28 July 1837. Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 192 Maury County Deed Book I, Book Z, 291. The deed was filed September 13, 1843.
- 193 Garrett, St. Peter's, 7; Parks, 78.
- 194 Frances A. Polk to \_\_\_\_\_ Deveraux (mother), 5 March 1839. Leonidas Polk Papers.
- 195 Ibid., 80.
- 196 Parks, 95; This deed was not recorded until July, 1853. At this point, Andrew immediately sold the property, along with all appointments, including paintings, portraits, engravings, furniture, indeed everything except the silver plate, to Anthony W. Van Leer (or Vanleer), his father-in-law, for \$16,000. The same day, July 29, 1853, Van Leer in turn transferred the property to his daughter Rebecca, the wife of Andrew Polk. (Maury County Deed Book 2, Volume G, 606-09.)

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197 W.M. Polk, I, 358.

198 Ibid., 358-60.

199 Information in this sketch is from Vaught's memoir.

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Boundary Justification

The Ashwood Rural Historic District is a largely agricultural neighborhood between Columbia and Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee. Boundaries follow roads, streams, and property and fence lines. The two cities to the east and west, non-contributing areas to the north, and unrelated rural lands to the south are excluded. The district contains sufficient land to protect its historical, architectural, and agricultural resources.

This is the most intact area that is representative of Middle Tennessee's plantation based agricultural and architectural development. Modern development in the district is largely concentrated in two areas which do not detract from the overall integrity of the 8300 acres.

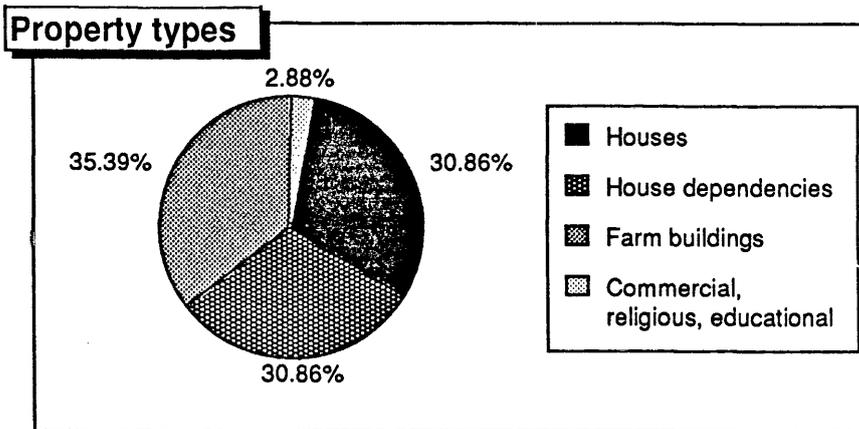
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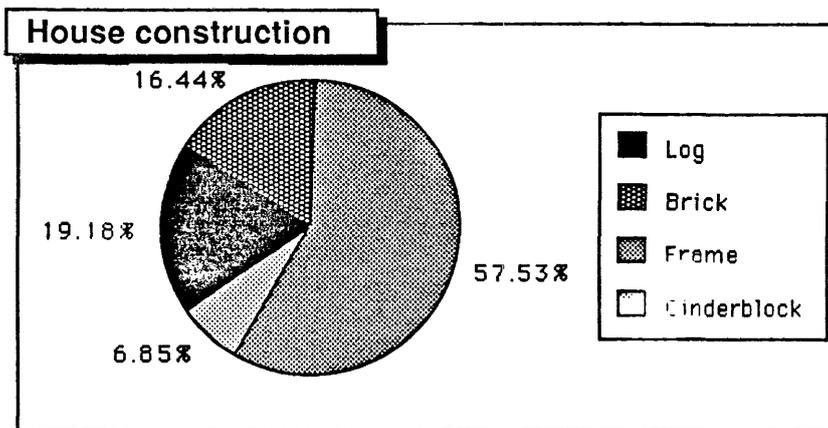
Ashwood Rural Historic District

Section number Charts Page 1

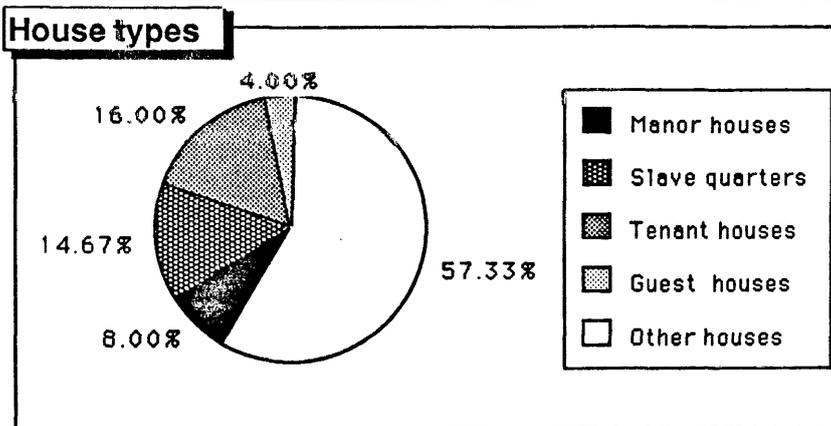
This chart shows the distribution of resources in the Ashwood Rural Historic District. [Buildings only]



This chart shows types of house construction in the Ashwood district.



Types of houses are shown by this chart.



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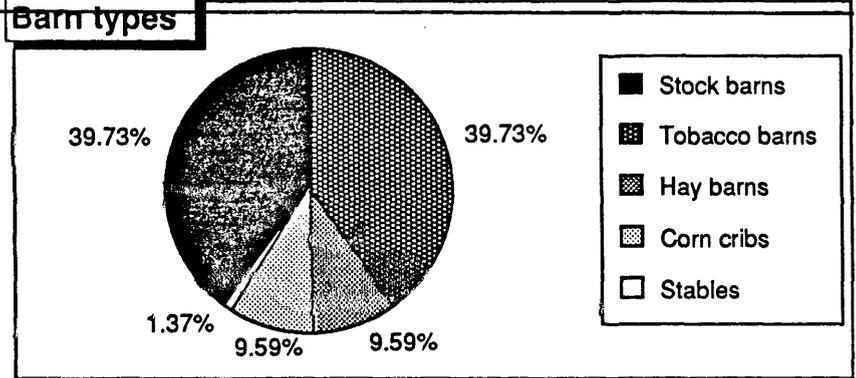
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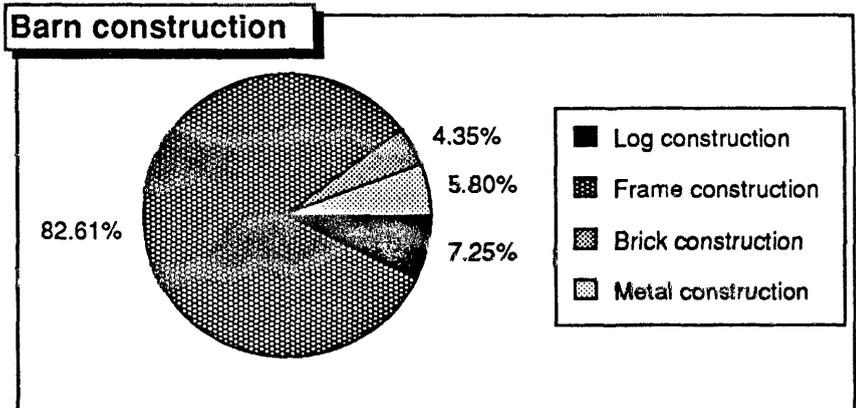
**Barn types**

This chart shows the different types of barns and cribs in the district.



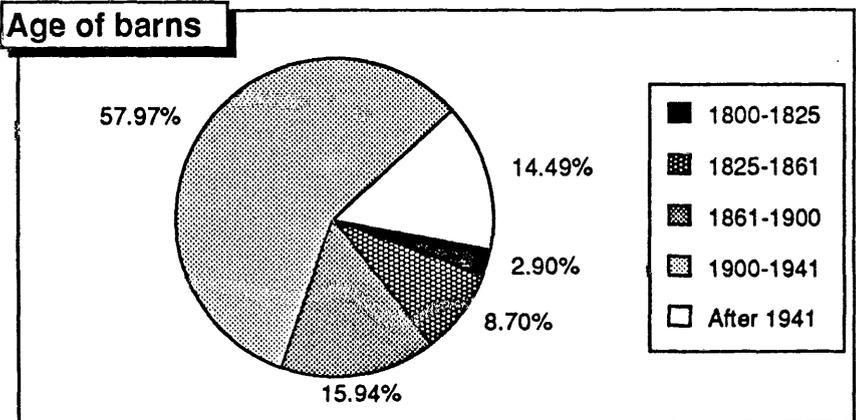
**Barn construction**

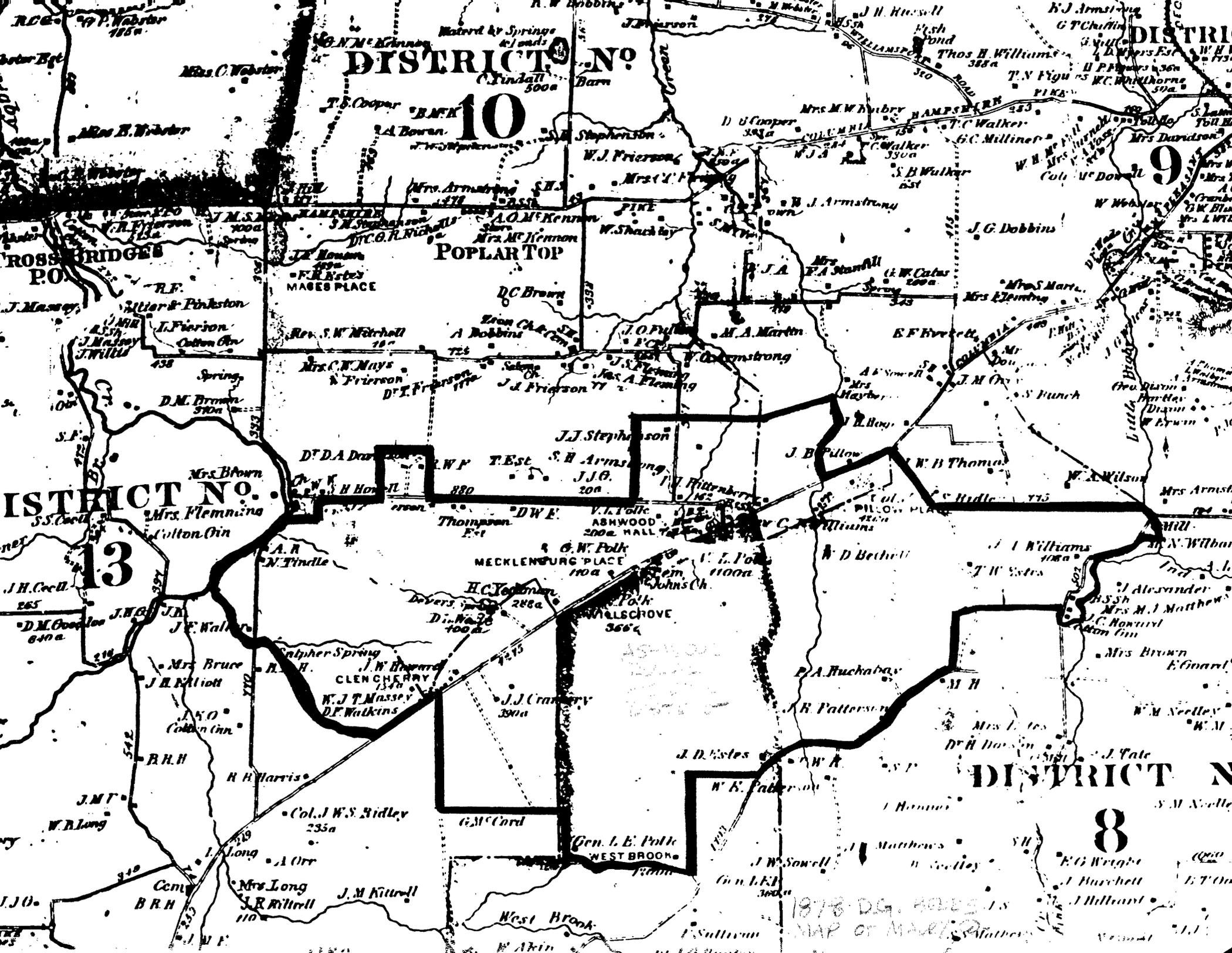
This chart shows the construction of the different barns in the district. No stone barns or cribs were recorded.



**Age of barns**

The age of the different barns in the district are indicated by this chart.





**DISTRICT NO. 10**

**DISTRICT NO. 9**

**DISTRICT NO. 13**

**DISTRICT NO. 8**

**POPLAR TOP**

**MAGEE PLACE**

**DC BROWN**

**ASHWOOD**

**MECKLENBURG PLACE**

**WALSCHOVE**

**WEST BROOK**

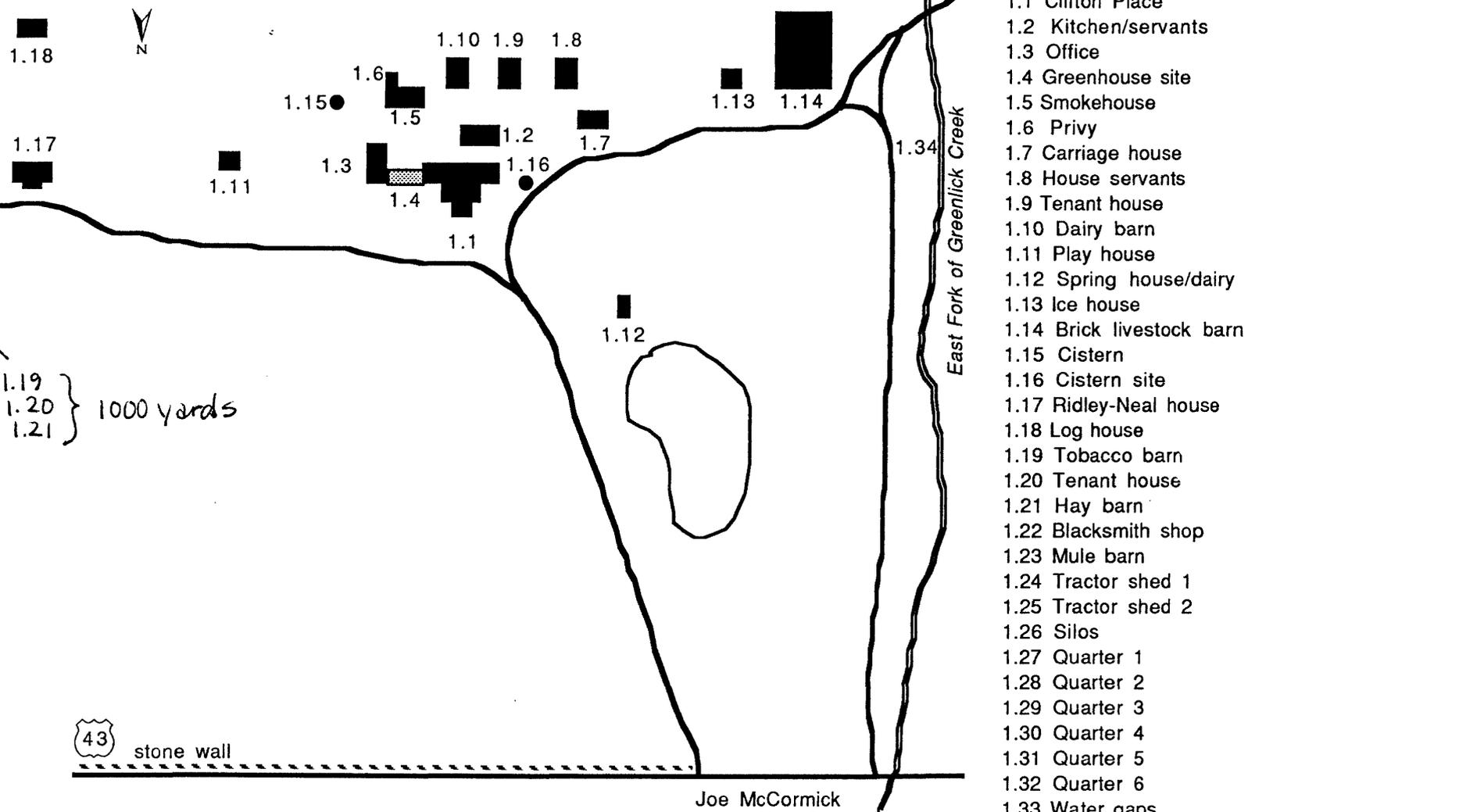
**CLENCHERRY**

1878 D.C. HOUSE MAP OF MARYLAND

# Clifton Place

1838/46

Main House Group



- 1.1 Clifton Place
- 1.2 Kitchen/servants
- 1.3 Office
- 1.4 Greenhouse site
- 1.5 Smokehouse
- 1.6 Privy
- 1.7 Carriage house
- 1.8 House servants
- 1.9 Tenant house
- 1.10 Dairy barn
- 1.11 Play house
- 1.12 Spring house/dairy
- 1.13 Ice house
- 1.14 Brick livestock barn
- 1.15 Cistern
- 1.16 Cistern site
- 1.17 Ridley-Neal house
- 1.18 Log house
- 1.19 Tobacco barn
- 1.20 Tenant house
- 1.21 Hay barn
- 1.22 Blacksmith shop
- 1.23 Mule barn
- 1.24 Tractor shed 1
- 1.25 Tractor shed 2
- 1.26 Silos
- 1.27 Quarter 1
- 1.28 Quarter 2
- 1.29 Quarter 3
- 1.30 Quarter 4
- 1.31 Quarter 5
- 1.32 Quarter 6
- 1.33 Water gaps
- 1.34 Brick kiln site
- 1.35 Quarter 7
- 1.36 Trailer

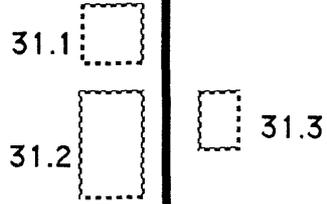
■ Privies

# Westbrook Sites

31.1 Westbrook Missionary Baptist  
Church site

31.2 Westbrook Cemetery

31.3 Westbrook School site

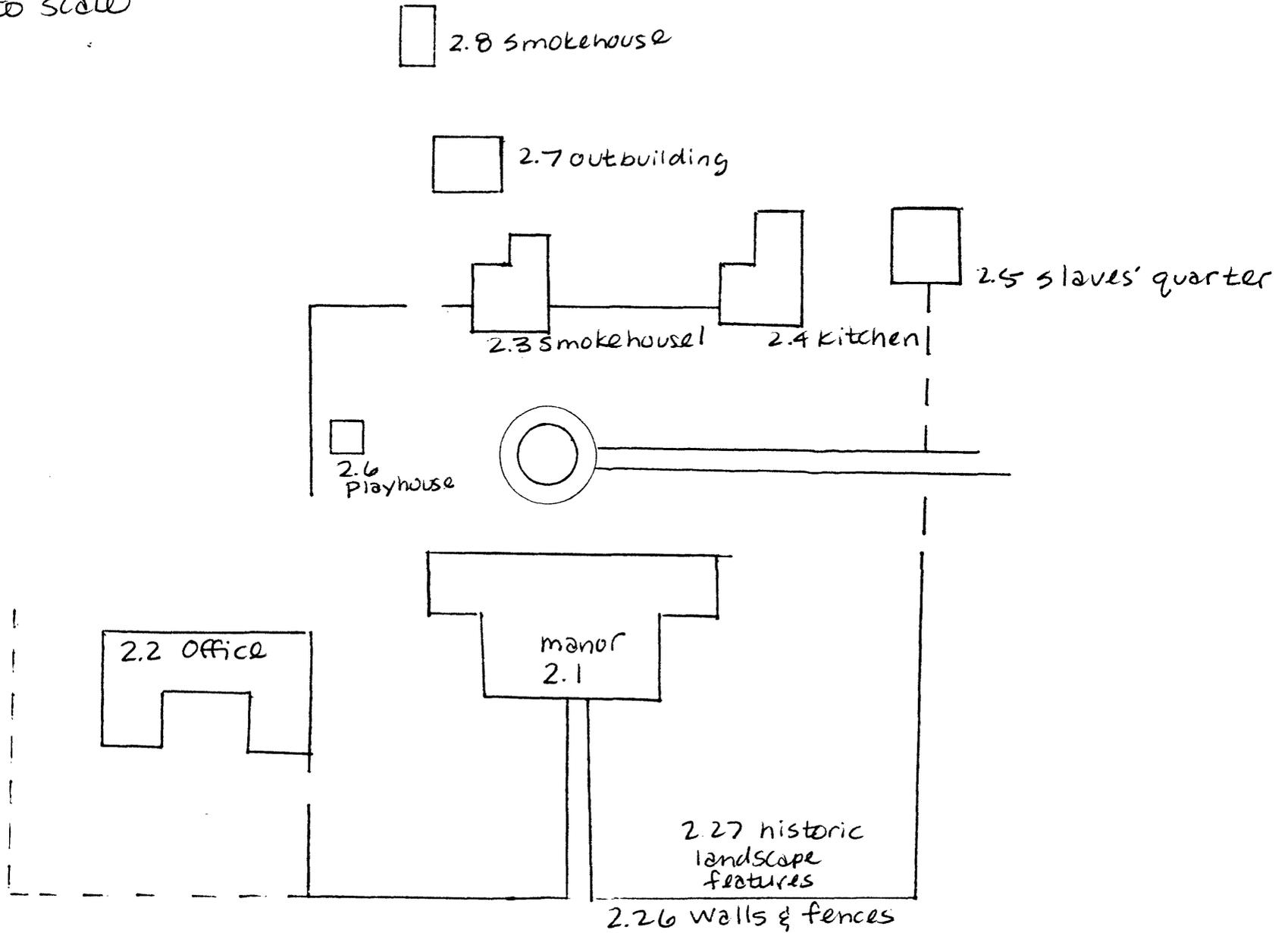


not to scale

Pillow-Bethel House

# 1 of 2

not to scale



↑  
2.25  
Huckaby log house  
1/2 mile

2.18 silo 2  
2.17 stock barn 2

2.15 tenant house  
ruin

↑ 2.24 slave cemetery  
250 yards

2.19 springhouse

2.23 dam

2.22 reservoir

Pillow-Bethel House  
# 2 of 2  
not to scale

2.16 well house

ruin

small shed

2.20 tobacco barn

2.13 stock barn 1

2.14 silo 1

See map  
# 1 of 2 →

2.11 well house

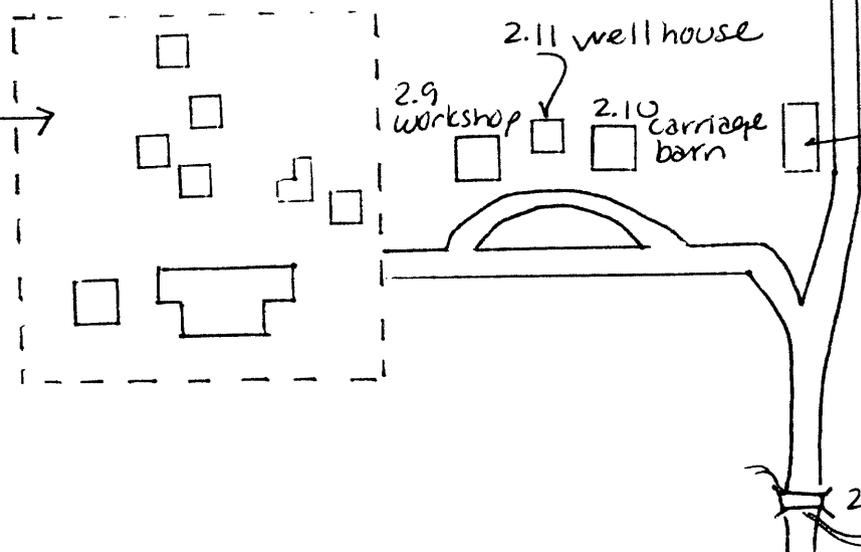
2.9 workshop

2.10 carriage barn

2.12 log barn

(2 ruins & 1 small shed  
not inventoried)

2.21 bridge



FROM P.S. 1

- 3.26
- 3.27

Pillow Place  
'Rose Hill'

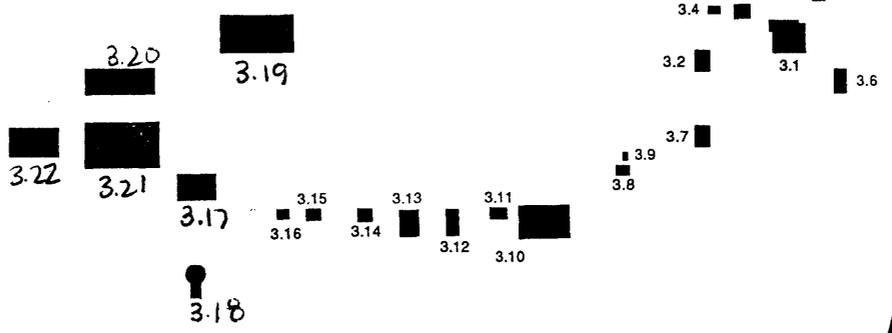


Sunnyside Lane

Little Bigby

3.23

3.24



Campbellsville Pike

3.25

3.28

- 3.1 Manor house
- 3.2 Smokehouse
- 3.3 Garage
- 3.4 Chicken house
- 3.5 Quarter 1
- 3.6 Caretaker house
- 3.7 Carriage barn
- 3.8 Spring house
- 3.9 Pump house
- 3.10 Stock barn
- 3.11 Tack shed
- 3.12 Tenant house 1
- 3.13 Crib barn
- 3.14 Quarter 2
- 3.15 Tenant house 2
- 3.16 Tenant house 3
- 3.17 Feed barn
- 3.18 Silo/feeding station
- 3.19 Tobacco barn 1
- 3.20 Tractor barn
- 3.21 Tobacco barn 2
- 3.22 Feed crib

- 3.23 Equipment shed
- 3.24 Tobacco barn 3
- 3.25 Slave cemetery
- 3.26 Estes cemetery
- 3.27 Estes house site
- 3.28 Pillow mill site
- 3.29 Walls and fences

: 4.5

4.4 ■ ■ 4.3

■ 4.2

4.1 ■

■ 4.12

■ 4.13



## Miscellaneous Pillow and Ridley Properties

- 4.1 Pillow log house
- 4.2 Log cabin
- 4.3 Tenant house
- 4.4 Shed
- 4.5 Water gap
- 4.6 Barn 1
- 4.7 Barn 2
- 4.8 Barn 3
- 4.9 Barn 4
- 4.10 Barn 5
- 4.11 Barn 6
- 4.12 Eastep house 1
- 4.13 Eastep house 2

4.6 ■ ■ 4.7

■ 4.8

4.9 ■

■ 4.10

4.11 ■

*not to scale*

# Pine Hill

Samuel Henry Armstrong House



5.6  
Slave cemetery  
150 yds  
[see tax map]



5.5  
Combination  
barn



5.4 Tobacco barn

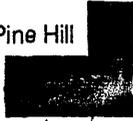
5.3 Garage/barn



5.2 Kitchen  
'Pine Cone'

5.7 Well ●

5.1 Pine Hill

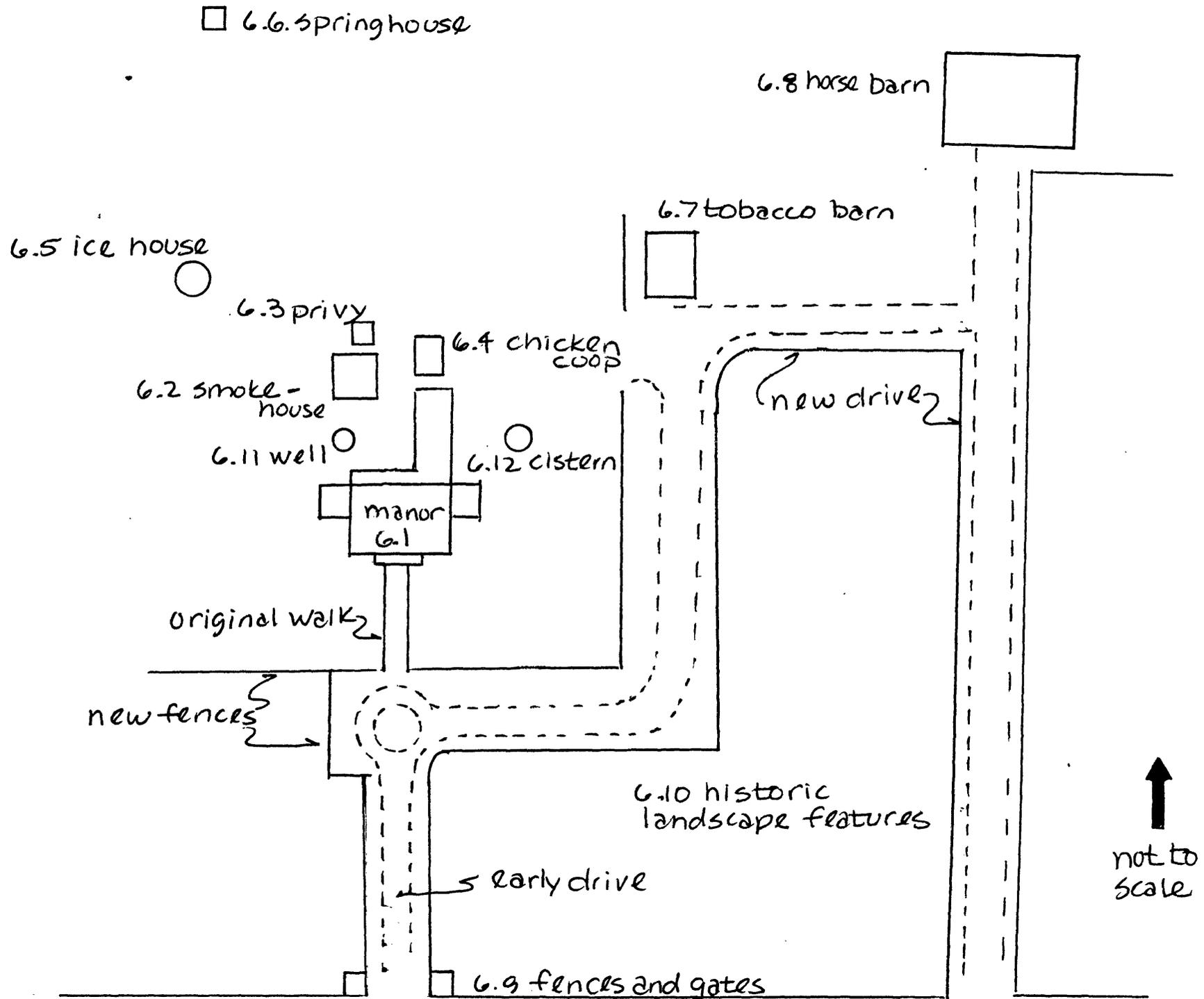


brick :  
sidewalk



not to scale

# Hamilton Place



# Rattle and Snap

7.1 'Rattle and Snap'/George Washington Polk House

7.2 Privy

7.3 Carriage barn

7.4 Gate house

7.5 Landscape features

7.6 House 1

7.7 House 2

7.8 House 3

7.9 House 4

7.10 Grain bins

7.11 Silos

7.12 Farm office

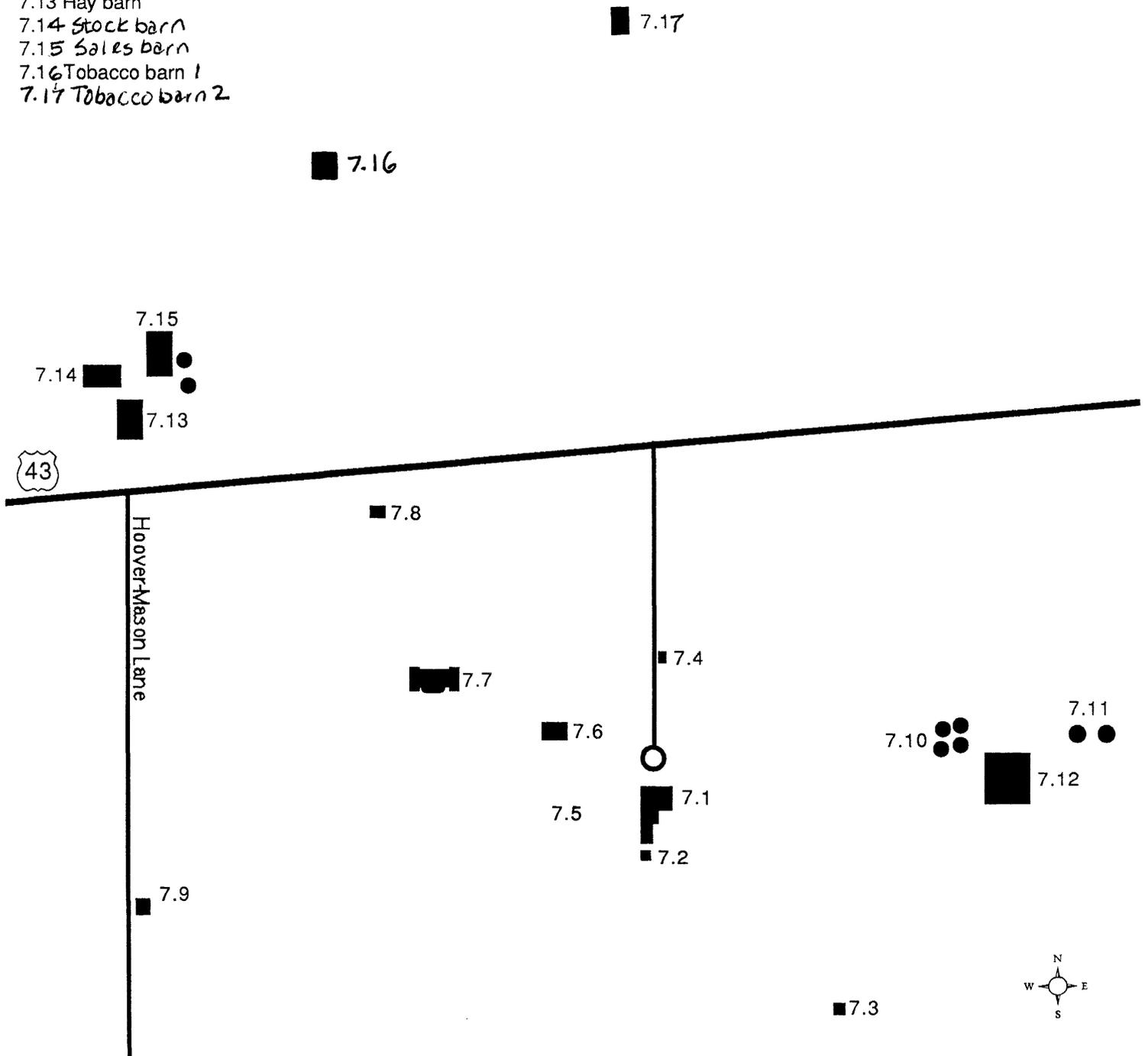
7.13 Hay barn

7.14 Stock barn

7.15 Sales barn

7.16 Tobacco barn 1

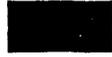
7.17 Tobacco barn 2



not to scale



8.5



8.2

8.4



8.3

state record  
gingko tree



8.1

8.6

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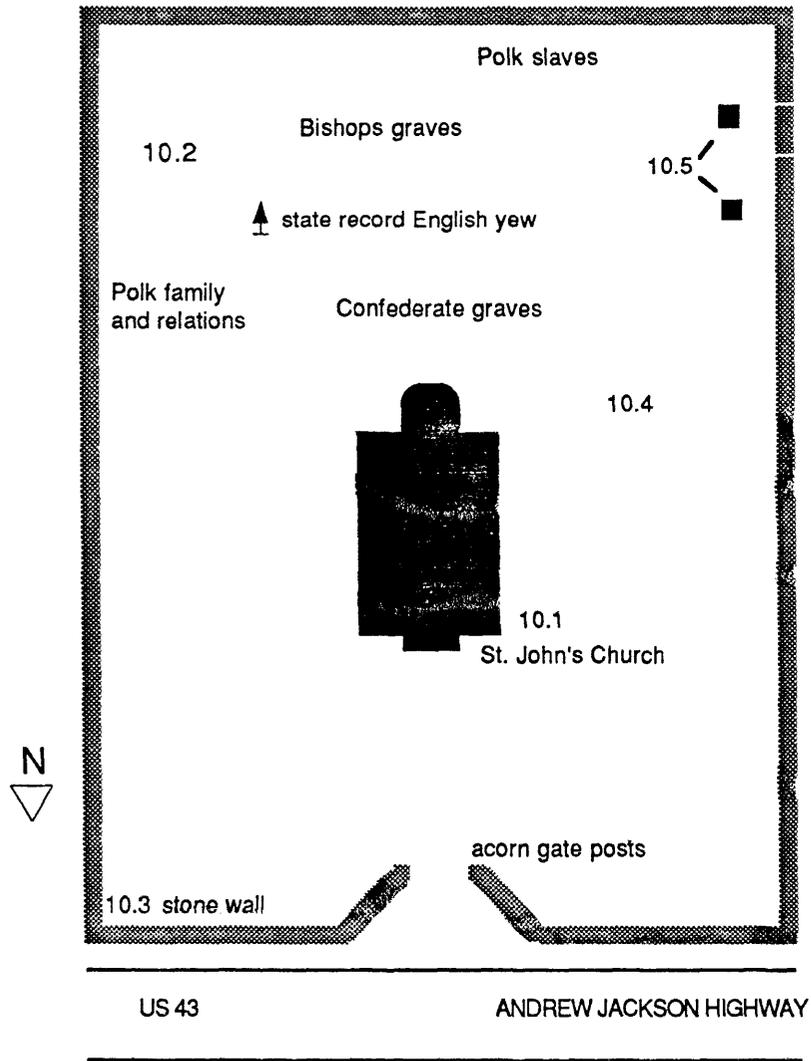
Andrew Jackson Highway/US 43

## Ashwood Hall

- 8.1 Ashwood Hall site
- 8.2 Kitchen
- 8.3 Well-house
- 8.4 Privy
- 8.5 Tobacco barn
- 8.6 Landscape features



not to scale



## St. John's Episcopal Church, Ashwood

- 10.1 Episcopal Church of St. John
- 10.2 St. John's Cemetery
- 10.3 Stone wall and gates
- 10.4 Historic landscape features
- 10.5 Privies

*not to scale*

# Farringford

11.11 sunken road

11.3 shed

11.6 barn

11.8 playhouse

11.4 springhouse

original  
ca. 1810  
house

11.2  
smokehouse

11.7 garage

11.5 dovecote

11.1 main house

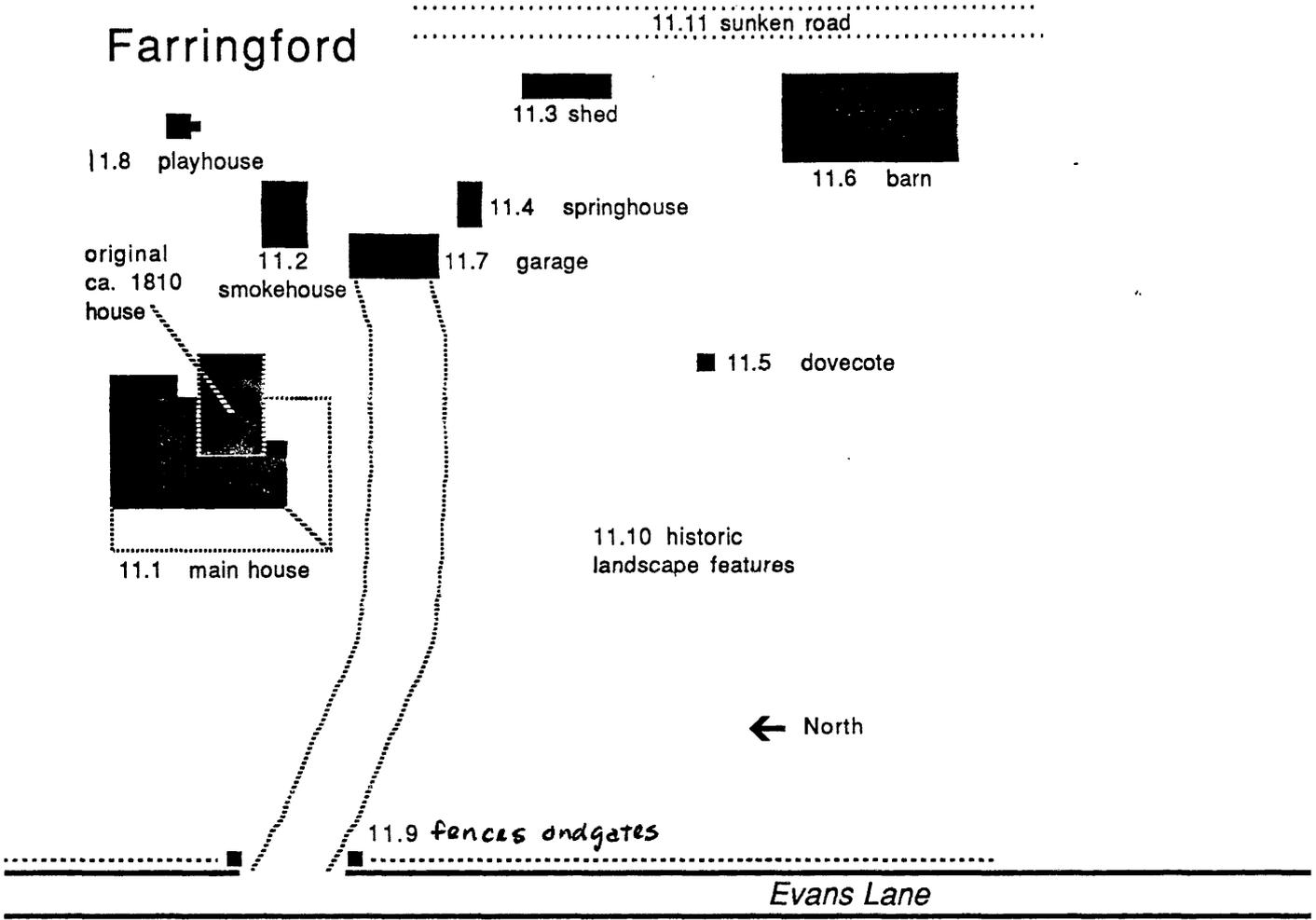
11.10 historic  
landscape features

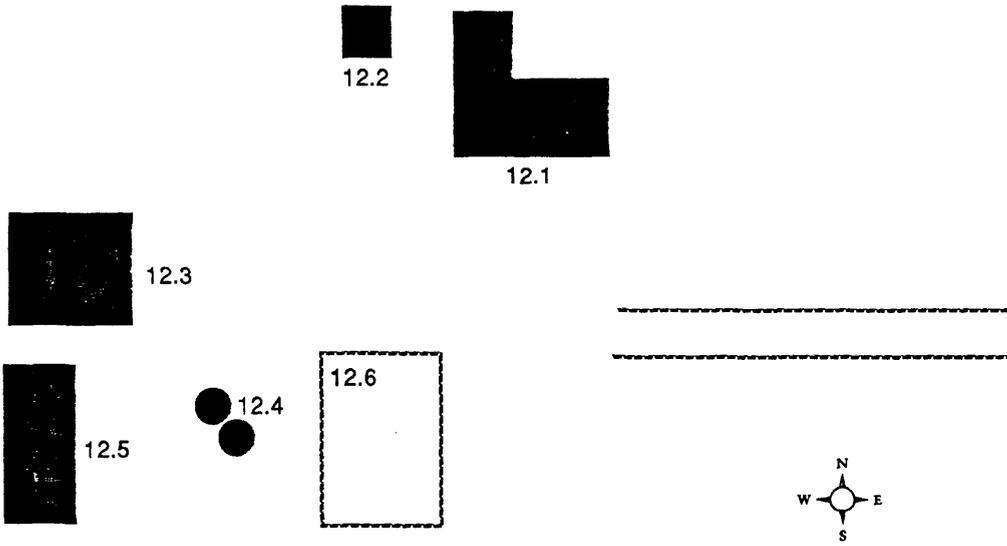
← North

11.9 fences and gates

Evans Lane

not to scale



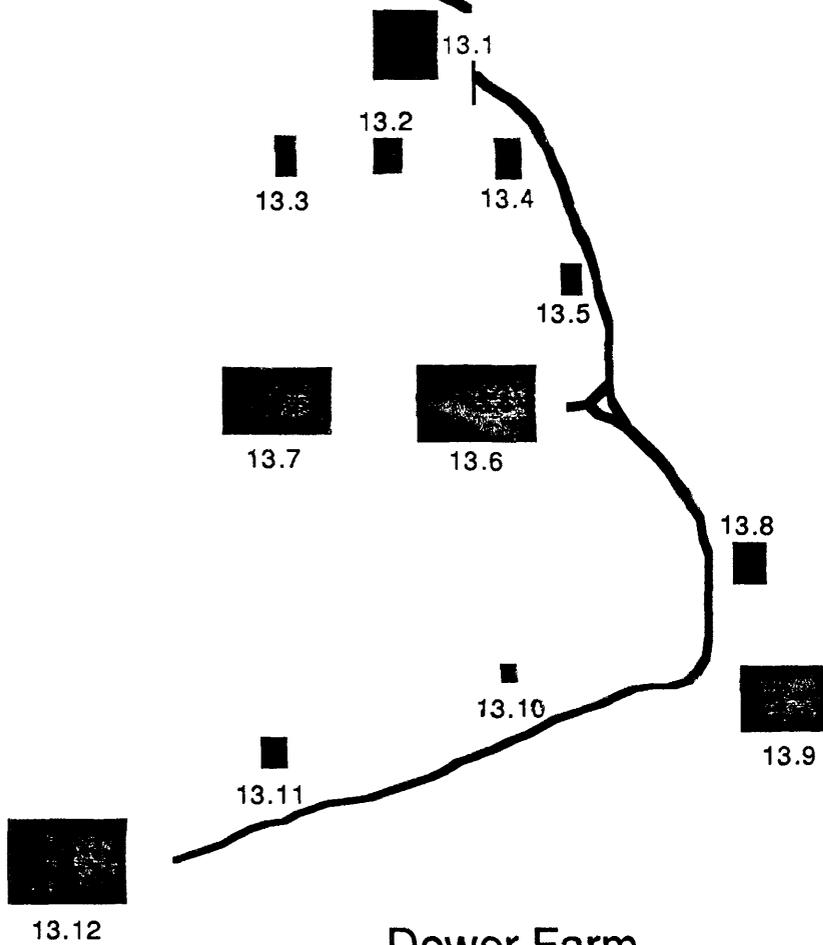


# W.J. Frierson Farm

- 12.1 W.J. Frierson House
- 12.2 Garage
- 12.3 Stock barn
- 12.4 Silos
- 12.5 Tractor shed
- 12.6 Tobacco barn site

*not to scale*

Ashwood Road

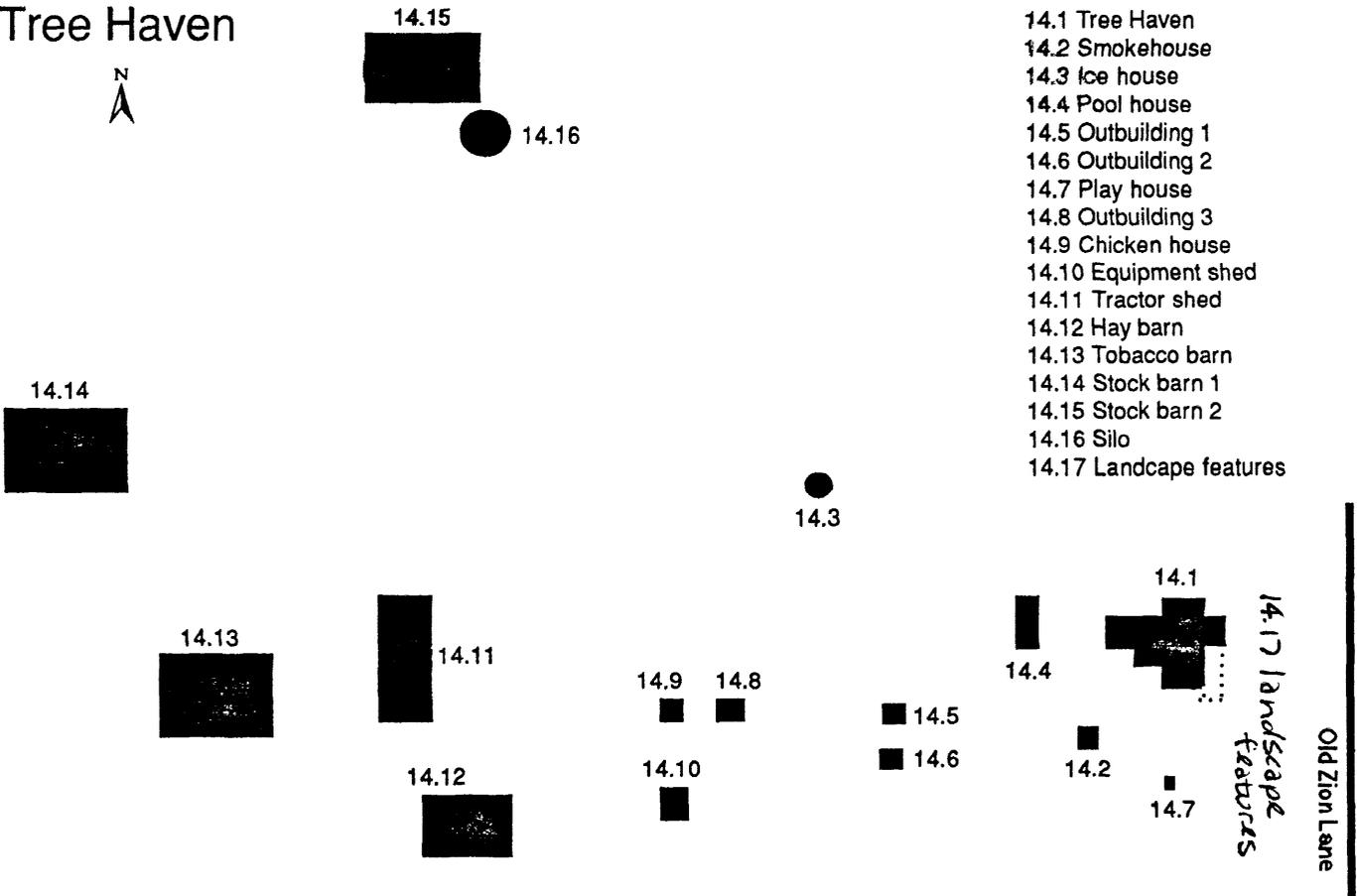


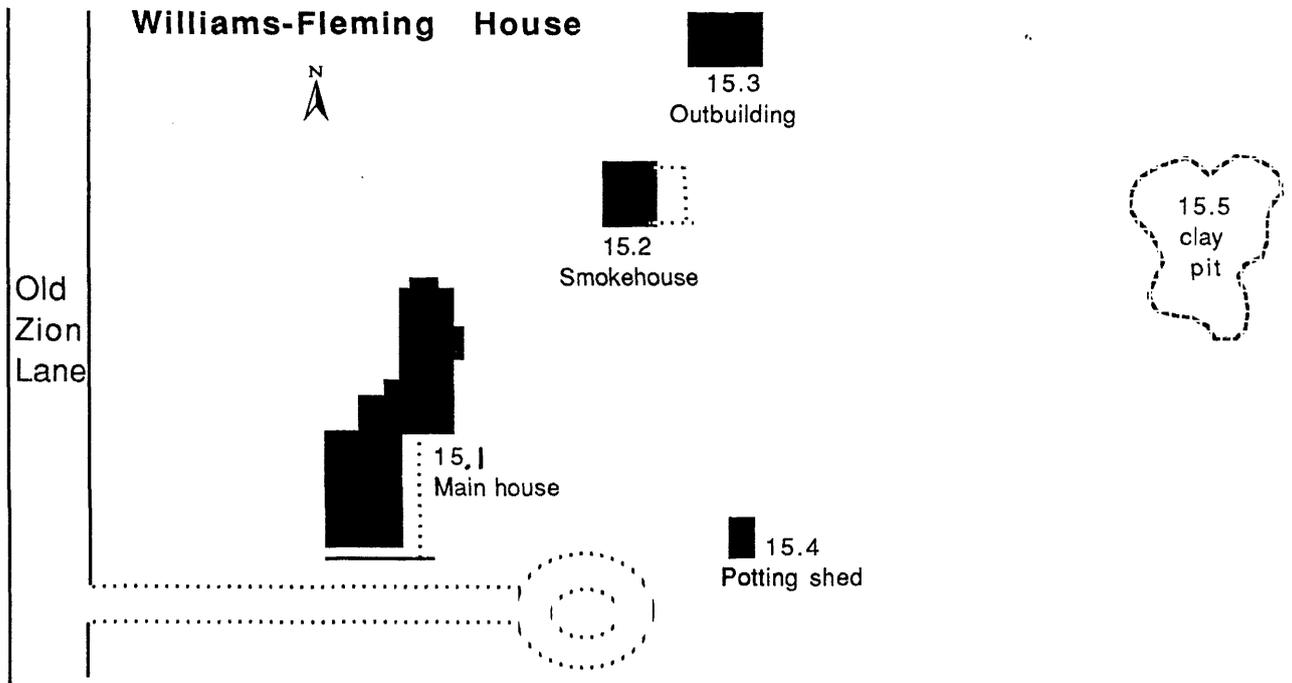
## Dower Farm

- 13.1 Sowell-Cecil House
- 13.2 Smokehouse
- 13.3 Chicken house
- 13.4 Garage
- 13.5 Outbuilding
- 13.6 Tobacco barn 1
- 13.7 Tobacco barn 2
- 13.8 Tenant house
- 13.9 Hay barn
- 13.10 Spring house
- 13.11 Log crib
- 13.12 Stock barn

not to scale

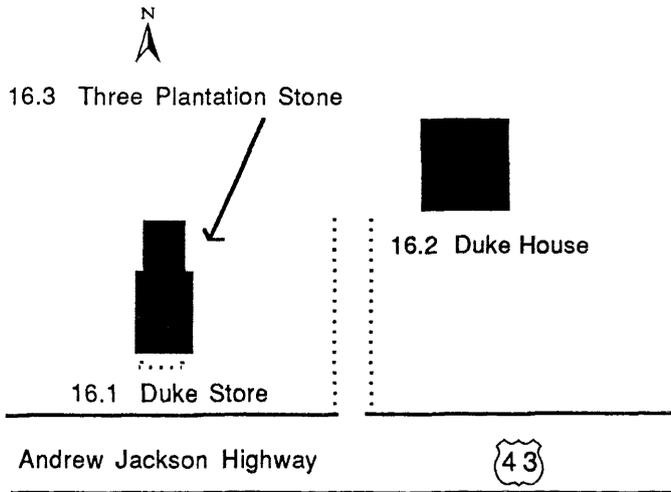
# Tree Haven



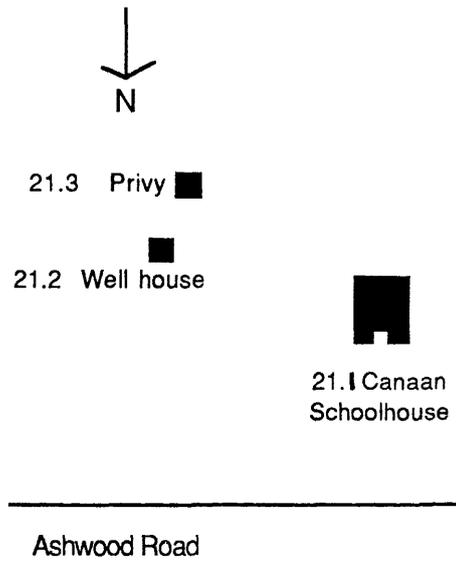


15.6 Historic Landscape features

**Duke Store Group**

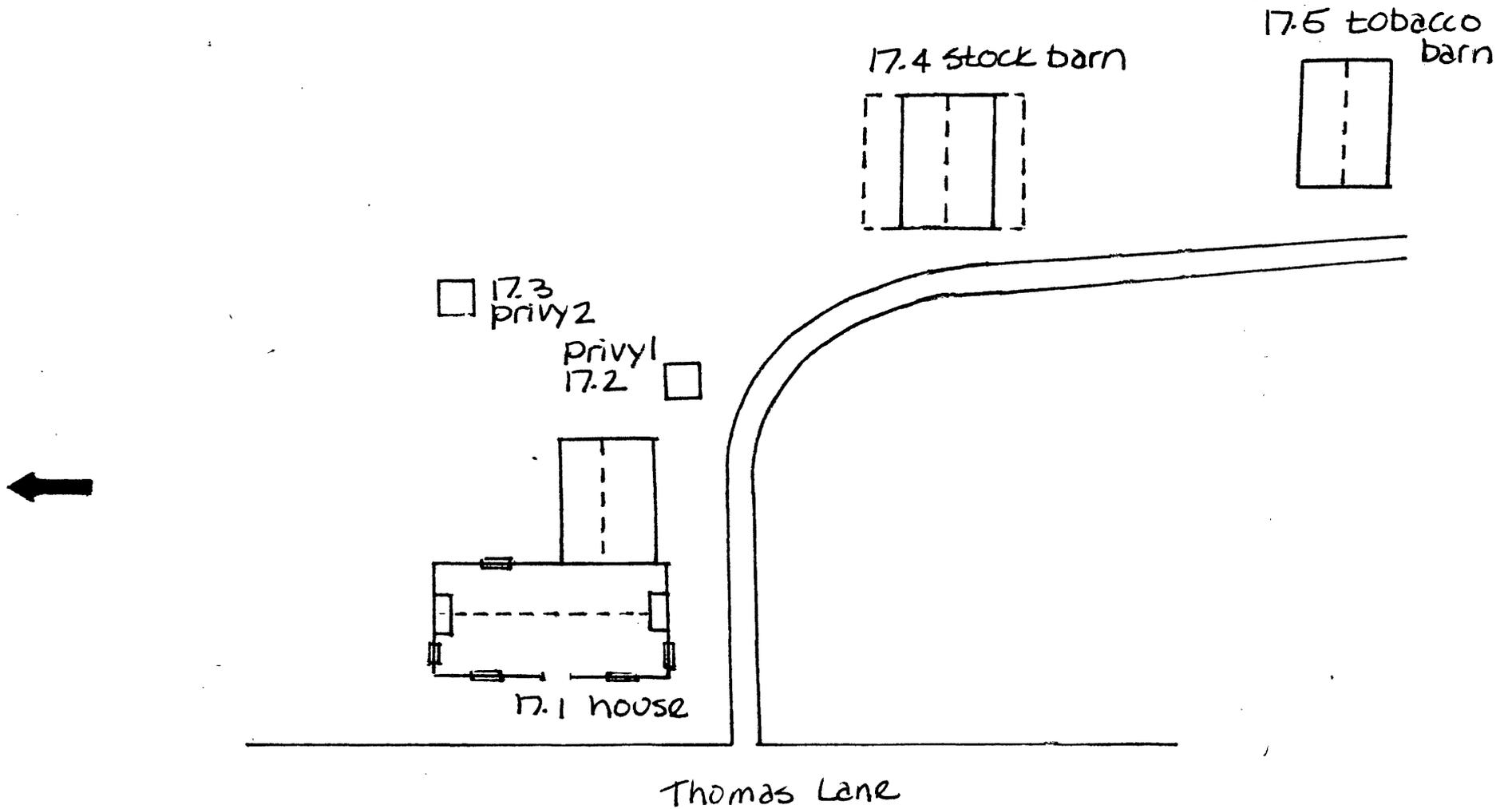


**Canaan School**

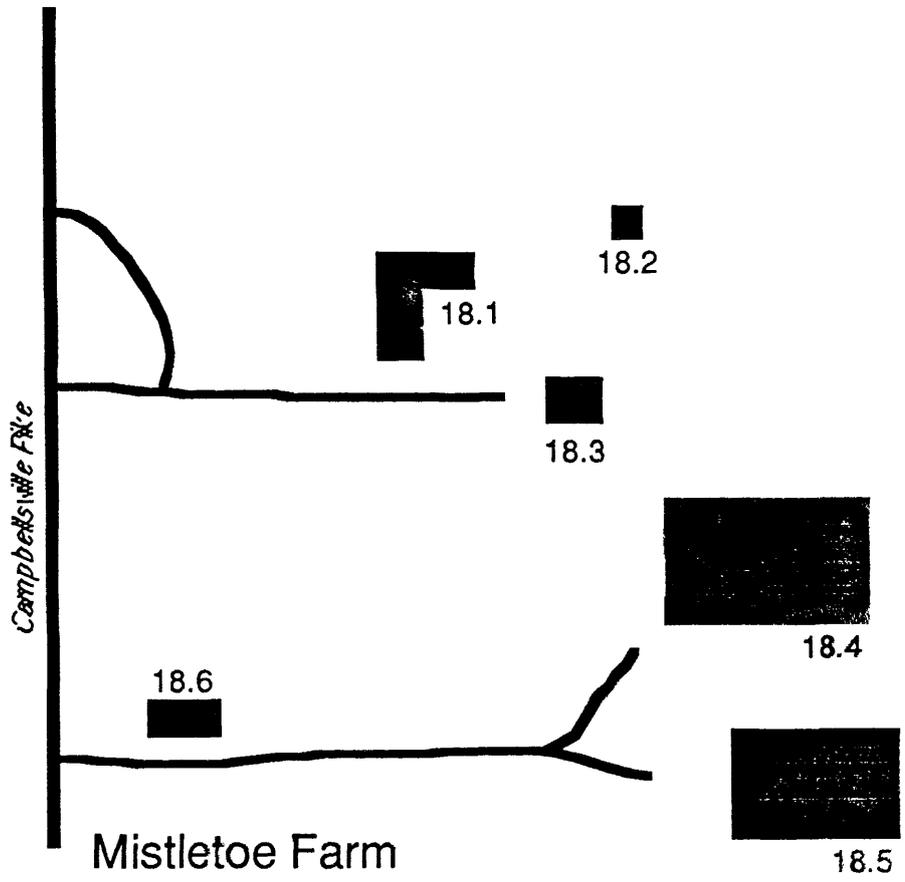


all maps not to scale

# Thomas House



not to scale



**Mistletoe Farm**

- 18.1 Mistletoe Hall
- 18.2 Smokehouse
- 18.3 Outbuilding
- 18.4 Tobacco barn
- 18.5 Hay barn
- 18.6 Nursery



*not to scale*

US 43

### Polk Quarter Complex

- 19.1 Old Polk Quarter
- 19.2 Stock barn 1
- 19.3 Silos
- 19.4 Stables
- 19.5 Tobacco barn
- 19.6 Stock barn 2
- 19.7 Silo
- 19.8 Stock barn 3



19.1



19.2

19.3



19.4



NOT TO SCALE

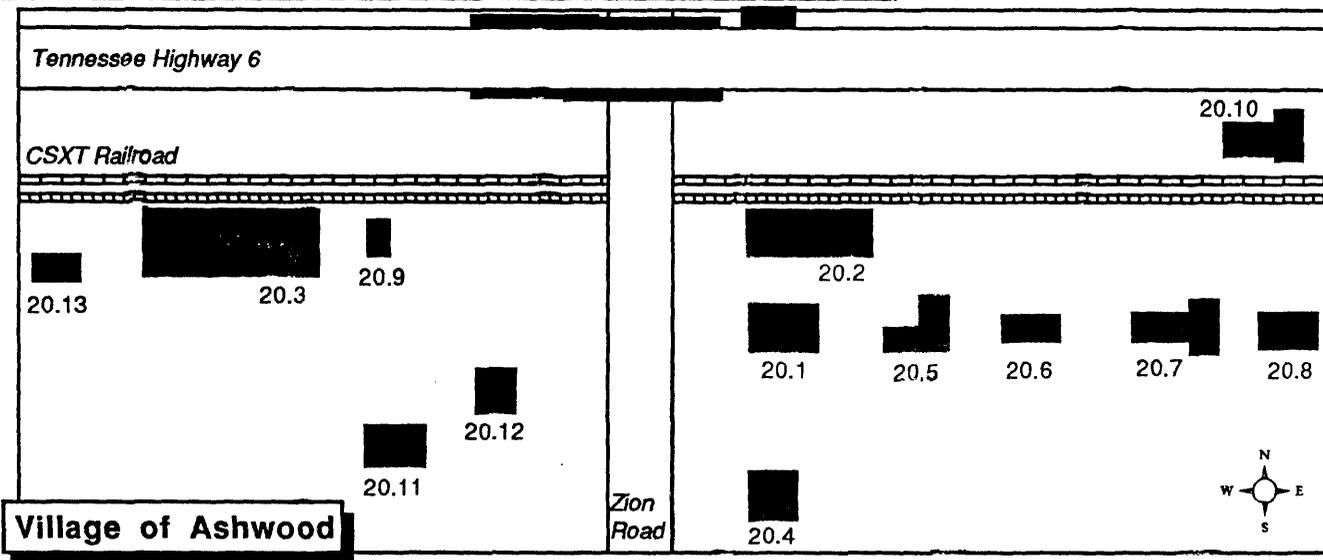
19.6 and 19.7  
Silo and stock barn  
↙ 1400 yards



19.5

Stock barn 3  
3/4 mile





**Village of Ashwood**

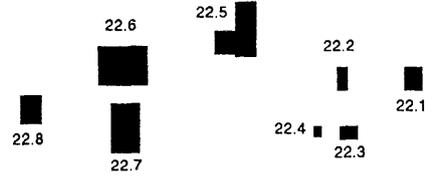
- 20.1 Napier Store
- 20.2 Granary #1
- 20.3 Granary #2
- 20.4 House #1
- 20.5 House #2
- 20.6 House #3
- 20.7 House #4

- 20.8 House #5 [Davis House]
- 20.9 House #6
- 20.10 Railroad section house
- 20.11 Carriage house
- 20.12 Outbuilding
- 20.13 House #7

not to scale

■ 22.10

■ 22.9



- 22.1 Paul Cecil Farm
- 22.2 Dependency
- 22.3 Chicken house
- 22.4 Privy
- 22.5 Tobacco barn
- 22.6 Stock barn
- 22.7 Hay barn
- 22.8 Corn crib
- 22.9 Tenant house
- 22.10 Tenant house ruin

## Paul Cecil Farm



Polk Lane

Polk Lane



23.6



23.5



23.4



23.3



23.1



23.2

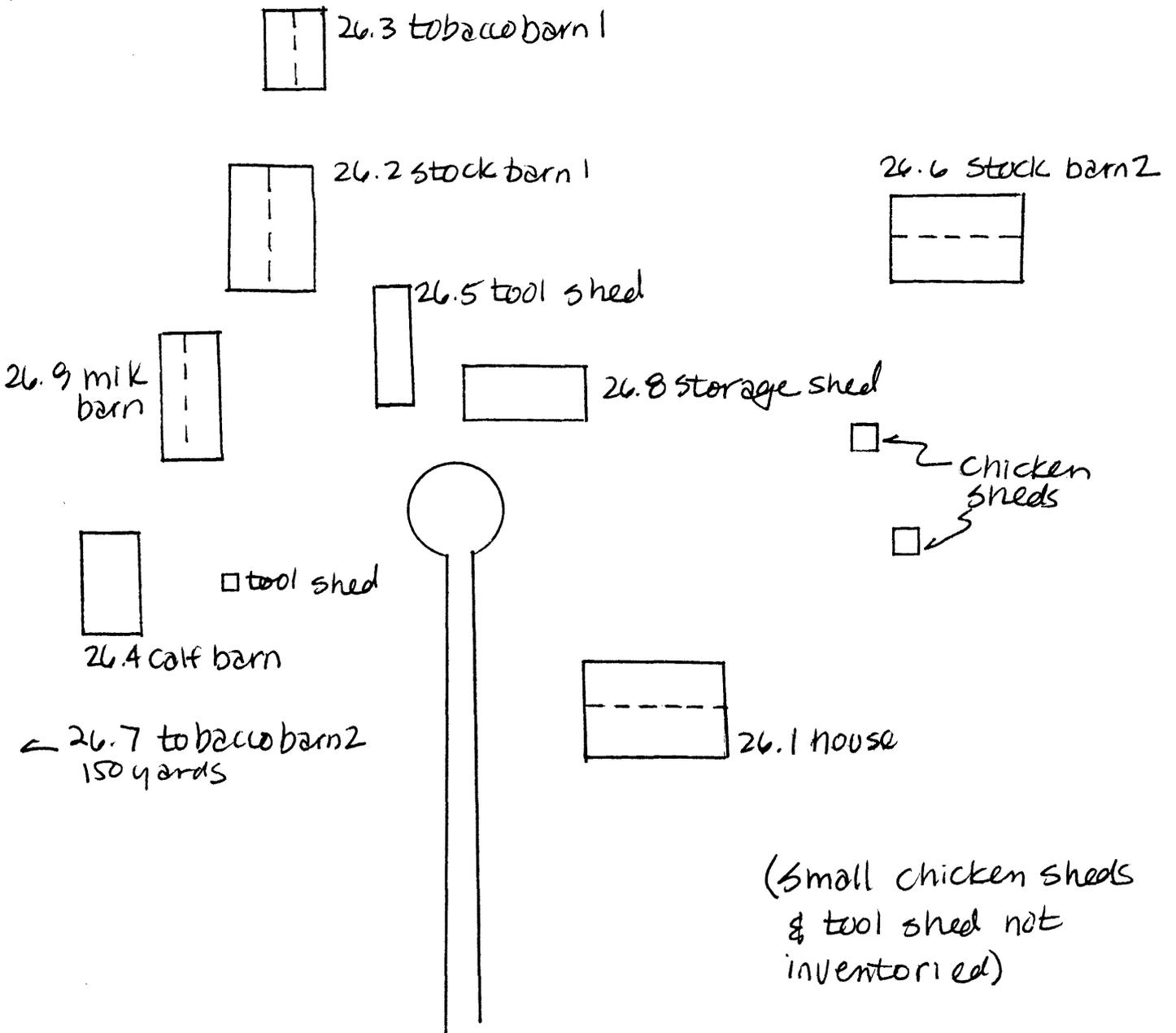
## Elias W. Napier Farm

- 23.1 Napier House
- 23.2 Outbuilding
- 23.3 Garage
- 23.4 Stock barn
- 23.5 Hay barn
- 23.6 Stock barn 2



not to scale

# Maple Hill Farm



(Small chicken sheds  
& tool shed not  
inventoried)

not to scale

# Oakwood Hall



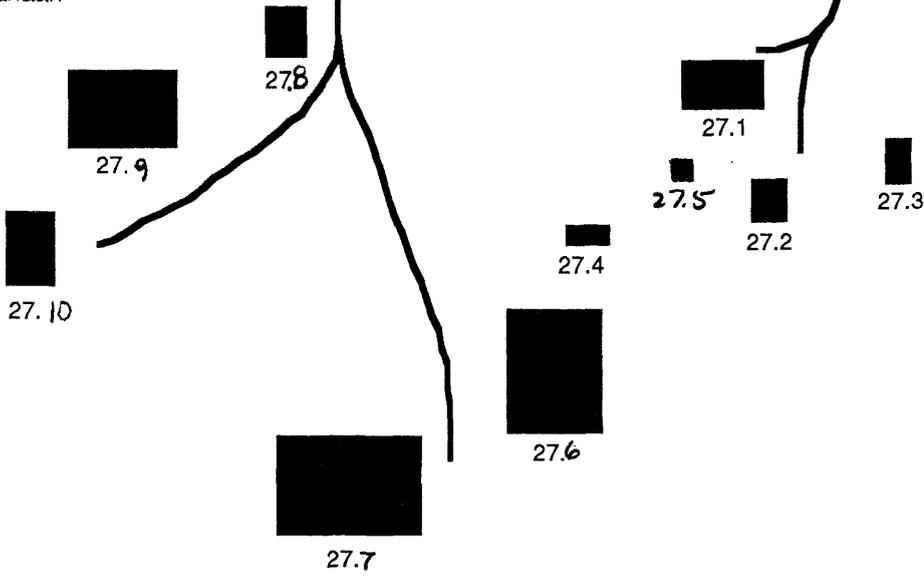
Ashwood Road

← Canaan

Ashwood →

Evans Lane

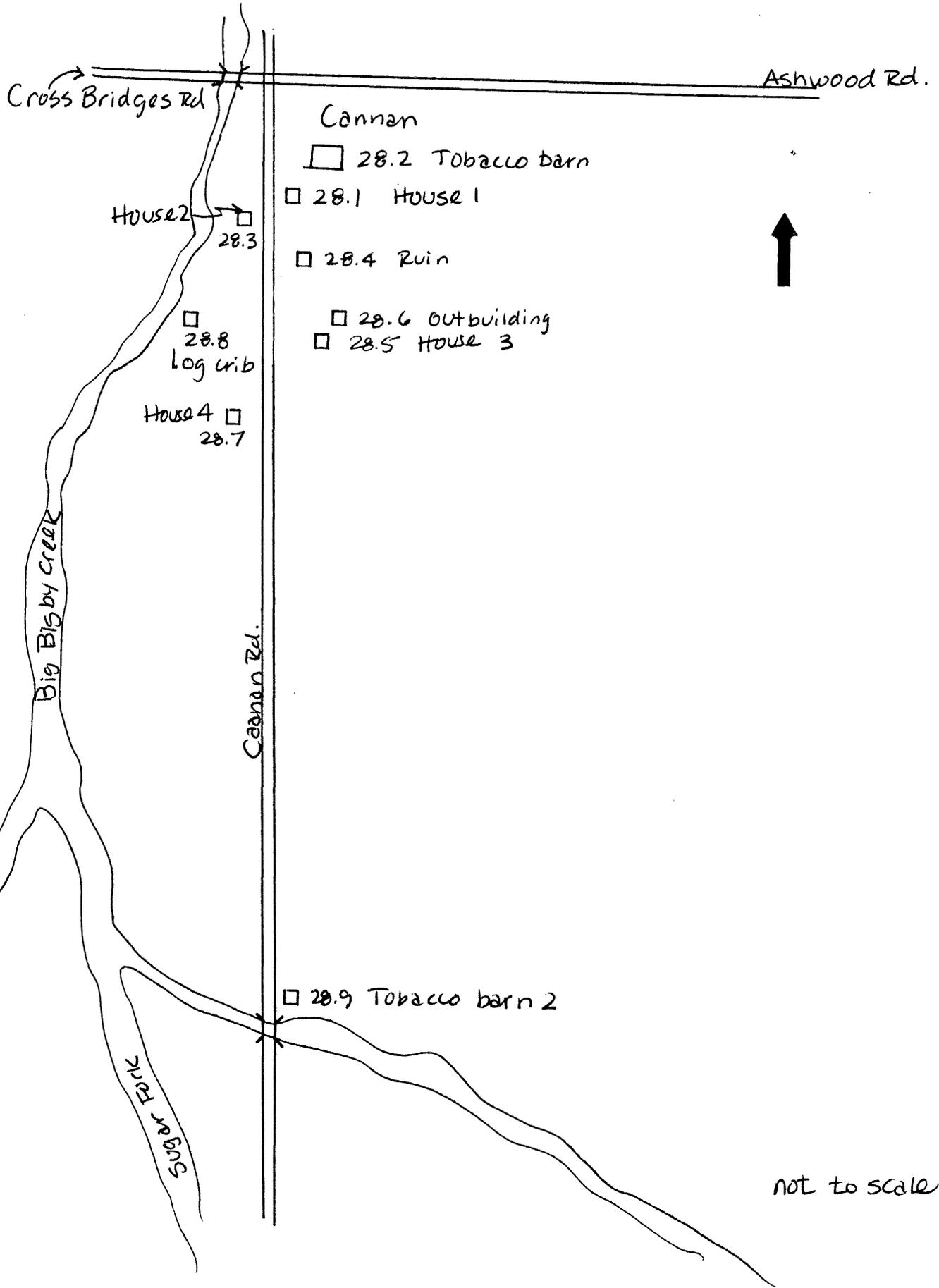
Zion →



- LEGEND
- 27.1 Oakwood Hall
  - 27.2 Smokehouse
  - 27.3 Guest house
  - 27.4 Shed
  - 27.5 Well
  - 27.6 Stock barn
  - 27.7 Tobacco barn 1
  - 27.8 Tenant house
  - 27.9 Tobacco barn 2
  - 27.10 King house

not to scale

# Canaan Road Group



not to scale

# Mecklenburg Hall site



29.2  
Tobacco barn

29.1  
Mecklenburg Hall site  
[St. John's Rectory]



US 43

Zion Road

Polk Lane

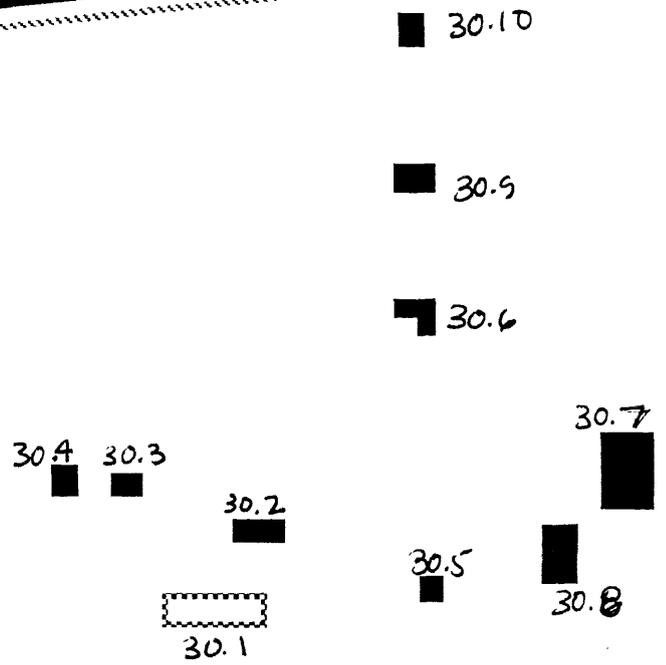
not to scale

TN HWY 6

CSXT RR

## Cherry Glen

- 30.1 Cherry Glen [Daniel Font Wade House] site
- 30.2 Dependency
- 30.3 Quarter 1
- 30.4 Outbuilding
- 30.5 Smokehouse
- 30.6 Tenant house 1
- 30.7 Stock barn
- 30.8 Tractor shed
- 30.9 Tenant house 2
- 30.10 Quarter 2



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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Ashwood Rural Historic District

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                                  graphs

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ASHWOOD RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
NEGATIVES: TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Clifton Place [Gideon J. Pillow, Jr. house]  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Main front and gates, facing south  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#1 of 90

Clifton Place  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
North façade, facing south  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#2 of 90

Clifton Place  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
South elevation, facing north  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#3 of 90

Clifton Place  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Playhouse (NC), facing southeast  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#4 of 90

Clifton Place  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Kitchen, facing southwest  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#5 of 90

Clifton Place  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Office, facing southeast  
Photo: Paul Cross  
Date: August 1988  
#6 of 90







United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Ashwood Rural Historic District

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graphs

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Pillow Place [Granville Pillow house]  
Campbellsville Pike  
West façade, facing east  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#28 of 90

Pillow Place  
Campbellsville Pike  
Smokehouse  
southeast corner, facing northwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#29 of 90

Pillow Place  
Campbellsville Pike  
Spring house  
northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#30 of 90

Pillow Place  
Campbellsville Pike  
Stock barn 1  
south elevation, facing north  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#31 of 90

Pillow Place  
Campbellsville Pike  
Tobacco barn 1  
northwest corner, facing southeast  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#32 of 90

Pillow Place  
Estes Cemetery  
Facing north  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#33 of 90





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Ashwood Rural Historic District

Section number Photo- Page 8  
graphs

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Rattle and Snap  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
North façade, facing south  
Photo: THC file photo  
Date: Not recorded  
#46 of 90

Rattle and Snap  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Rear elevations  
Photo: THC file photo  
Date: Not recorded  
#47 of 90

Rattle and Snap  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Show barn complex  
General view, facing north  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#48 of 90

Ashwood Hall site [Leonidas Polk house site]  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Dependency  
Northwest corner corner, facing southeast  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#49 of 90

St. John's Episcopal Church  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
North façade, facing south  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: August 1988  
#50 of 90

St. John's Episcopal Church  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Cemetery, showing Tennessee record English Yew  
General view, facing southwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#51 of 90







United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Ashwood Rural Historic District

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graphs

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Mistletoe Farm  
Campbellsville Pike  
Tobacco barn  
north elevation, facing south  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#70 of 90

Canaan Schoolhouse  
Ashwood Road  
Northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Philip Thomason  
Date: July 1988  
#71 of 90

Paul Cecil farm  
Polk Lane  
Farmhouse  
northwest corner, facing southeast  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#72 of 90

Paul Cecil farm  
Polk Lane  
Hay barn  
northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#73 of 90

Paul Cecil farm  
Polk Lane  
Stock barn  
northwest corner, facing southeast  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#74 of 90

Ontario [Dr. Morton Hamilton house]  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#75 of 90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Ashwood Rural Historic District

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graphs

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Maple Hill Farm  
Ashwood Road  
Northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Philip Thomason  
Date: July 1988  
#76 of 90

Canaan Road Group  
Canaan Road  
House 3  
West façade, facing east  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: August 1988  
#77 of 90

Oakwood Hall  
Ashwood Road  
North façade, facing south  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: August 1988  
#78 of 90

Oakwood Hall  
Ashwood Road  
Smokehouse  
Northeast corner, facing southwest  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: August 1988  
#79 of 90

Oakwood Hall  
Ashwood Road  
Stock barn  
Northwest corner, facing southeast  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: August 1988  
#80 of 90

Cherry Glen site [Daniel Fount Wade house site]  
Andrew Jackson Highway  
Facing north  
Photo: Richard Quin  
Date: July 1988  
#81 of 90





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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Ashwood Rural Historic District

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo-  
graphs 16 Page 16

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Photographs - Group 2

Ashwood Rural Historic District  
Maury County, Tennessee  
Photo: Nick Fielder  
Date: August 1988  
Neg.: Tennessee Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tennessee

Historic photo of Clifton Place quarter  
#1 of 8

Clifton Place quarter construction detail  
#2 of 8

Clifton Place quarters' privies  
#3 of 8

View from quarters towards Clifton Place  
#4 of 8

Estes Cemetery  
#5 of 8

Estes House site  
#6 of 8

Huckaby House site  
#7 of 8

Huckaby House site  
#8 of 8

83063267

2/6/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Ashwood Rural Historic District      Maury County, TENNESSEE

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

for Keeper Ailover Byun  
3/1/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FEB 06 1990

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 108 Ashwood Rural Historic District

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30. Cherry Glen site:

30.7 The stock barn was destroyed by fire on January 28, 1990.

4. Other Pillow and Ridley properties

4.6 and 4.7. Both barns were destroyed by a windstorm on April 5, 1989.

A new barn was constructed on the site of 4.6 with the historic stripping shed attached to it. This is now a non-contributing resource.

The loss of these outbuildings does not damage the overall integrity of the district.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Herbert L. Harper  
Deputy State Historic Preservation  
Officer

1/31/90  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date