

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Cross - Boggs Place
Other names/site number N/A
Name of related multiple property listing N/A
(Remove "N/A" if property is part of a multiple property listing and add name)

2. Location

Street & Number: 453 Oliver Springs Highway
City or town: Clinton State: Tennessee County: Anderson
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A Zip: 37716

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of Commenting Official: **Date**

Title: **State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**
Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER; Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD: Weatherboard; STONE: Slate, Limestone;
METAL: Aluminum; ASPHALT

Narrative Description

The Cross-Boggs Place is a two story, I-House with a two story, ca. 1930 Neo-Classical Revival porch. It is located approximately six-and-a-half miles southwest of Clinton in Anderson County in the community of Dossett. Nearby communities include Marlow to the west and Elza to the south. The Cross-Boggs Place was constructed ca. 1850. The house is located in a mostly rural setting and is surrounded primarily by a mixture of open fields and single-family homes constructed in the late-twentieth and early-twenty-first century when the surrounded land was subdivided and developed. The house’s character defining features include its two-story height, Neo-Classical Revival porch, second level porch balcony, symmetrical façade, and gable end stone chimneys.

Site Features and Setting

The Cross-Boggs Place sits on a 1.76 acre lot that slopes slightly downward to meet Oliver Springs Highway (TN-61). The property used to encompass around one thousand acres of farmland and wooded areas before portions of it were sold over the years. The house is surrounded by mature trees on all sides, including two very large American Hollies, Maple, and Sassafras trees. These trees are currently being evaluated for placement on the Tennessee Champion Tree List. The property is bounded to the north by Oliver Springs Highway, to the east by Autumn Drive, to the south by single-family homes constructed as part of the ca. 1990s Autumn Ridge Subdivision, and to the west by a single-family home constructed in 2003. The

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property is accessed by a roughly U-shaped gravel driveway on Autumn Drive. All elevations are surrounded by manicured gardens and paver-stone walkways, with the most elaborate compositions located west of the west elevation.

CROSS-BOGGS PLACE, CA. 1850, 1900 (CONTRIBUTING BUILDING)

The Cross-Boggs Place is two-story I-House sat upon a continuous coursed stone foundation and capped by a side gable roof covered in original slate shingles. The façade (north elevation) is covered in original weatherboard siding, and the remaining elevations are covered in aluminum siding installed circa 1930. The roof is side gabled on the front (north) of the house, and front-gabled on the rear L/back (south) portion of the house. This rear L is also only one- and one-half story in height. Unless otherwise noted, all windows are original wood windows with leaded glass panes.

Exterior

Façade (North Elevation)

The façade is two story in height and is capped by a side gable roof. A single story, side gable, open air, ca. 1930 car port covered in an asphalt shingle roof is attached to the east elevation of the two-story section. The carport is supported by twelve wood columns that rest upon stone piers. The floor of the carport is poured concrete. The ceiling of the carport is wood, and boxed eaves and original wood siding are visible in the gable field of the carport. The east elevation’s full height, stone chimney is visible from the facade. Its full width rises until about the first floor, at which point it tapers and continues until it terminates approximately four feet above the gable peak.

The symmetrical façade is characterized by its full length, two story, wood, Neo-Classical Revival porch. The porch is supported by six, wood, unfluted, Doric columns and has a tiled floor. Two, full height wood pilasters are visible on the eastern and western end of the porch, respectively. A full length, wood balcony with simple balustrade is located on the second story. Both the ceiling of the balcony and porch ceiling are wood. The main entrance is centered on the façade and is filled with an original four panel wood door and wrought iron storm door. It is flanked on either side by three light sidelights and capped by a six light transom. The door, sidelight, and transoms are encapsulated in a Neo-Classical Revival surround with pilaster and dentil-work detail. The entrance is flanked on either side by two, double hung, six-over-six light windows with simple, square, wood pediments.

A balcony entrance is centered on the second story, directly above the main entrance. The balcony entrance is filled with an original, wood, two panel door with two arched single light windows and an original Victorian inspired screen door. It is flanked on either side by two, double hung, six-over-six light windows. The west elevation’s exterior end chimney is visible from the façade. It is identical to the east elevation’s chimney.

West Elevation

There are two different portions of the house visible on the west elevation. The northern portion consists of the two-story section, and the southern portion constitutes the single-story ell addition. The west elevation is covered in replacement aluminum siding. The original two story, side gable section of the house features two, double hung, four-over-four light windows on the first floor to either side of the stone chimney. A skinny, horizontal attic vent is located to the south of the chimney in the gable field on the second-story. Boxed gable returns are also visible in the gable field.

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Between the original two-story gable portion and the one-and-one-half portion is a two story connecting section. It is capped by a gable roof and features a single, double hung, one-over-one light window. Directly beneath it is a single story, single room, shed roof addition. A single, double hung, one-over-one light window is located on the southern wall of this addition. The one-and-one-half story portion is capped by a front gable roof. Two, double hung, six-over-six light windows are located on the northernmost edge of the addition. Centered on the single-story addition is a casement, six light window. To the south is a set of four, vinyl, double hung, over-one-light windows.

South Elevation

The south elevation is sided in two different materials. Aluminum siding is located in the gable field and above the windows, while vinyl siding is located directly below the windows. All windows on the south elevation are vinyl, double hung, one-over-one light windows. Above each window and the entrance are fixed, wood, single light transom windows. The south elevation entrance is filled with a single, two light, metal replacement door capped by a narrow, single light transom. A doggie door is directly east of the main entrance. Boxed gable returns are visible in the gable field. A pair of two, wood, double hung, six-over-six light windows are centered in the gable field. A metal attic vent is located directly beneath the gable peak, above the paired windows. An interior stone chimney capped with a metal vent is visible from this elevation.

East Elevation

The enclosed porch section (southernmost portion) is covered in vinyl siding and features an entrance filled with a single, two light, metal replacement door capped by a narrow single light transom. Like the south elevation, all the windows on this portion are filled with vinyl, double hung, one-over-one light windows, and wood, fixed, single light transoms are located above the entrance and window openings. Two windows are located south of the entrance, and three windows are located to the north of the entrance.

Just north of the last window, the siding changes to aluminum siding. A wood, casement, six light window and a double hung, six-over-six light window pierce the one-and-one-half story elevation. Five, fixed, wood, three vertical light basement windows are visible on the foundation. The two-story portion of the house features two, double hung, four-over-four light windows flanking either side of the stone chimney on the first floor. The front gable carport shelters these windows. Boxed gable returns are visible on the second story.

Interior

The original part of the house includes the living room, bedroom, foyer, and upstairs bedrooms. The dining room, den, bath, butler's pantry, kitchen, and enclosed back porch were added, likely during the 1930s renovation. All floors in the house are covered with random-width oak flooring, with the exception of the kitchen, butler's pantry, living room, and den, which are covered with narrow, tongue-and-groove wood flooring. The kitchen and butler pantry are covered in tile. Ceilings are plaster throughout, with the exception of the living room and parlor, which are covered in wood planks. The original wide wood baseboards and wood crown molding are present in all the rooms. Doors and hardware are original throughout, unless otherwise noted. Walls are also covered in plaster throughout, unless otherwise noted.

The main entrance opens into a foyer. The staircase is located on the west wall of the foyer and accesses the second story. The staircase is original and features turned wood posts and newels. A closet is also located on the west wall beneath the staircase and is filled with a two panel wood door. The living room is accessed through an entrance on the east wall of the foyer. A brick fireplace is centered on the east wall of the room.

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It is surrounded by an original wood mantle with decorative flourishes, including pilasters that flank either side of the fireplace. A wood chair rail is present throughout the room.

An opening on the south wall leads into the dining room. A two panel wood door on the west wall of the dining room leads into a small hallway that connects back to the foyer and the western portion of the house. A two panel wood door is located on the north wall of the dining room and does not feature its original hardware. It opens up into a small butler’s pantry. The floor of the pantry is covered in tile.

An entrance on the west wall of the pantry opens into the kitchen. The floor is covered in tile. An entrance on the south wall leads to the enclosed porch. The entrance is filled with a decorative metal storm door and a wood, single light, three panel wood door. The enclosed porch has a poured concrete floor, wood ceiling, and a wood, single light, three panel door on the north wall that access the basement area. A single light window is also visible west of the door on the north wall.

Back in the kitchen, directly west of the door are paired, six light, wood, casement windows. A single wood, six light casement window is visible on the east wall of the kitchen and overlooks the enclosed porch. A two panel wood door on the north wall of the kitchen leads into den/parlor. A single panel wood door on the west wall leads into a small closet., and an entrance on the north wall leads into a small hallway that connects the eastern and western portions of the original house.

The master bathroom is located on the west end of the hallway and is covered in title flooring with a mid-height tile backsplash applied to the walls. A 1930s telephone niche is located on the northern wall of the hallway. Also on the northern wall is a two panel wood door that leads into the master bedroom. A closet with two panel wood door is on the south wall, and a two panel wood door on the east wall leads back into the foyer. A fireplace with wood mantle is centered on the west wall. It is identical to the fireplace in the living room.

The staircase leads to a landing before turning back northwards to access the full height of the second story. All ceilings on the second story are covered in material designed to imitate a pressed tin ceiling. Three steps lead off to both the east and west from this landing to access two separate entrances filled with four panel wood doors. The east door accesses the attic. The west door accesses a small hallway which leads to a bathroom and the west bedroom. The bathroom is floored in tile, which also extends halfway up the wall to form a backsplash. A four panel wood door on the north wall access the west bedroom from the hallway. An open closet is visible on the east wall of the bedroom, and a four panel wood door on the west wall leads to the full second story hallway. The balcony is accessible on the north side of the second story hallway. A four panel wood door on the east end of the hallway accesses the east bedroom. A wide, four panel wood door on the south wall access a small closet.

INTEGRITY

The Cross-Boggs Place retains enough integrity to communicate its local architectural significance. The location of the house has not changed. Though the setting has changed with the reduction of the land around the house and construction of additional residential buildings nearby, these do not negatively affect the architectural significance of the house. The house retains integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. Though elements such as the porch, rear ell addition, enclosed back porch, aluminum siding, and portions of the interior’s historic fabric has been altered, these changes took place more than fifty-years ago and do not detract from the property’s architectural significance. Further, the changes contribute to the architectural

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significance of the property, as they correspond with important local and broader contexts in residential architecture. As such, the property also retains its integrity of feeling and association.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance
1850 - 1930

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

N/A

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Cross-Boggs Place is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for embodying the Neo-Classical Revival style and for its ability to demonstrate architectural change and evolution within its local context. The house’s character defining features including its two-story height, side gable roof, ca. 1930 full-length Neo-Classical Revival style porch with second story balcony, symmetrical façade with double hung windows and Neo-Classical Revival influenced entry, and ca. 1930 single story gable roof addition on the rear (south) elevation. The Period of Significance is 1850 to 1930, which corresponds with the initial construction date, encompasses the years that the house evolved architecturally, and concludes with the year of the final renovation, which reflects the house’s current appearance.

Narrative Statement of Significance

County Context

The Cross-Boggs Place is located in Anderson County on Highway 61 in the small community of Dossett. Anderson County lies in East Tennessee and is characterized by plunging valleys, forested hills, and bountiful, navigable water sources. Several creeks flow northwesterly through the county and unite to form the South Fork of the Cumberland, while Coal Creek and Poplar Creek flow in the opposite direction and empty into the Clinch River. Anderson County was known throughout its history for its rich deposits of minerals, including coal, iron, lead, zinc, limestone, and marble. Lumber and some productive agricultural land were also important parts of the county’s natural resources. ¹

The county boasted a rich prehistoric heritage prior to the arrival of permanent white settlement. Sources indicate that the first European settler to arrive and stay in the county was Thomas Frost, who built a cabin in 1796. German immigrants arrived in the area shortly thereafter in 1800. November 6, 1801, the Tennessee General Assembly created Anderson County from portions of Knox and Grainger County. The county was named after John Anderson, a prominent United State senator and territorial judge in Knoxville.² The first commissioners instructed that the county seat be located “as near the river Clinch, on the north side, as circumstances would permit.” Thus, the town was founded in 1801 on land donated by John Lieb. The original name for Clinton was Burrville, named in honor of Aaron Burr. However, this changed in 1809 after Burr fell out of public favor following the dueling and killing Alexander Hamilton and his implication in a land speculation scheme. The new name, Clinton, was chosen to honor either Vice President George Clinton or his nephew DeWitt Clinton.³

Available information suggests that the first buildings constructed in Anderson County were of the typical frontier blockhouse variety or were of log construction. Cabins were generally one room with dirt floors, large fireplace, and window openings filled with wood shutters. The number of examples that survive is unknown, though local histories noted in 1979 that only one example remained extant at the time of publication on Highway 25W.⁴

¹ *Goodspeed’s History of Tennessee, Containing Historical and Biographical Sketches of Thirty East Tennessee Counties* (1887; Nashville: Charles and Randy Elder Booksellers, 1972), p. 837. Citations refer to Elder Booksellers Edition.

² *Goodspeed’s History of Tennessee*, p. 837; Tara Mitchell Mielnik, “Anderson County,” in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, Tennessee Historical Society, 2017, <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/anderson-county/>.

³ *Goodspeed’s History of Tennessee*, p. 839; Mielnik, “Anderson County,” *Tennessee Encyclopedia*.

⁴ Katherine B. Hoskins, *Tennessee County History Series: Anderson County* (Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1979) p. 30. The house was constructed by Jimmy Yarnell a round 1800 and was know as the Yarnell House locally. The author was unable to confirm if this house was still extant or not.

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Agriculture and stock raising were the primary occupations of these early settlers, in addition to other trades such as blacksmithing, wagon and harness making, and grist mills.⁵ Early businesses and features of the town included Union Academy (established 1806), a jail, and a Baptist and Methodist Church.⁶ Both the town and the county changed with the arrival of the railroad in the mid-nineteenth century, which catapulted the coal mining industry into the number one economic activity in the county.⁷ Tourism also flourished in places like Oliver Springs, which by the 1890s boasted a large resort hotel and other amenities to accommodate guests visiting their mineral springs by rail.⁸

Not everyone enjoyed the county's newfound prosperity equally. Tennessee made use of the convict lease system in the nineteenth century, which allowed the state to lease prisoner labor to private companies who in turn were responsible for feeding and housing convicts. This undercut the wages of free laborers.⁹ In July of 1891, Briceville became the scene of a violent strike between coal miners and the coal mining company who made use of convict labor to replace more expensive free laborer. The miners attacked the prisoner stockades, released the prisoners, and demanded the end of convict leasing in Tennessee. Negotiations with the miners failed, and the lease system eventually ended in Tennessee in 1895. This event became known locally as the "Coal Creek War."¹⁰

Anderson County's history in the twentieth century is primarily defined by large scale federal programs, namely the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Oak Ridge project (NR Listed 09/05/1991). The TVA began work in the county in 1933 as part of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's efforts to combat the Great Depression, collectively known as the "New Deal." The largest and most significant project in the county was the construction of the Norris Dam (NR Listed 04/12/2016) and the planned community of Norris (07/10/1975).¹¹ Oak Ridge, also known as the "Secret City," was constructed during the 1940s. Part of the Manhattan Project, Oak Ridge played a critical role in the development of the atomic weaponry that ended World War II. The city has continued to grow since then, and the various installations founded during the Manhattan project continued to be important part of the United States' atomic research throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.¹²

⁵ Hoskins, *Tennessee County History Series*, p. 23.

⁶ *Goodspeed's History of Tennessee*, p. 839; Mielnik, "Anderson County," *Tennessee Encyclopedia*. Union Academy admitted female students as early as 1817.

⁷ Hoskins, *Tennessee County History Series: Anderson County*, p. 35. The Knoxville and Kentucky Railroad Company were the first to start laying tracks in the county. The line was laid from Knoxville to the south bank of the Clinch River, near where the Clinton railroad bridge is located, in the 1850s. Like other rail lines, construction ceased with the onset of the Civil War. By 1867, the Knoxville and Ohio Railroad was completed and it, along with other roads, brought property to the region. Businesses such as Edes, Mixter & Heald Zinc Company's Smelting Works and Narcross and Thomas' Sons Mill were just some of those that benefited from the new rail connection.

⁸ Mielnik, "Anderson County," *Tennessee Encyclopedia*

⁹ James B. Jones, Jr., "Convict Lease Wars," in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, Tennessee Historical Society, 2017, <https://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/convict-lease-wars/>.

¹⁰ Mielnik, "Anderson County," *Tennessee Encyclopedia*

¹¹ Directly east of the National Register listed-Norris Hydroelectric Project is the Norris Dam State Park Rustic Cabins Historic District, listed on 07/25/2014. Other major projects in the county included the establishment of Big Ridge State Park, a member of the Tennessee State Park system.

¹² Mielnik, "Anderson County," *Tennessee Encyclopedia*; Paul H. Bergeron, Stephen V. Ash, and Jeanette Keith, *Tennesseans and Their History* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999) pgs. 281-284.

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Brief History of the Cross-Boggs Place

The builder and first owner of the Cross-Boggs Place was Joseph Black Cross (1841-1914). Joseph married Mattie McClellan (1845-1902) and was the son of Albert Cross (1813-1899) and Elizabeth Black Cross (1821 – unknown). Joseph and Mattie originally owned 1000 acres and their property was known locally as an important plantation in the area. Historian Katherine Hoskins noted that the property was a well-known gathering place for young people to meet and socialize during the construction of the Dossett railroad tunnel, located two miles west of the house.¹³

Two of Joseph and Mattie’s daughters married railroad men they met at the social gatherings held on the property. Hannah Mae Cross (1881-1975) married M.E. “Ted” Boggs (1877-1945), a railroad man who worked for the L&N Railroad. After Joseph and Mattie passed away, Ted and Hannah bought out the remaining Cross siblings to become the sole heirs of the house and land. Ted remodeled the house around 1935 to its current architectural style, and the house became known locally as the “Boggs Place,” with the road fronting the property known as Boggs Hill. Ted was described by Mary Elizabeth Bumgardner, a former owner of the Cross-Boggs Place, as a “gentleman farmer” who rode horseback on his farm in silk pajamas.¹⁴

Hannah sold off a large portion of the land following Ted’s death in 1945, The couple had no children of their own, and thus the land passed from Hannah to her niece Margaret Elizabeth Staples Justice. Margaret’s two children, Mary Elizabeth Justice Bumgardner and James Bumgardner inherited the property following Margaret’s death in the 1980s. Mary and her husband Ray Bumgardner eventually became full owners of the property. The current owner, Bonnie Shoemaker, purchased the home from Mary and Ray in 1993 and has owned the property since.¹⁵

Cross-Boggs Place Architectural Significance

The Cross-Boggs Place is locally significant example of both the Neo-Classical Revival style and as an example of architectural evolution and change within its context. Though many houses strictly conform to established architectural styles, there are many others that are a mixture of stylistic influences. Some houses were planned from the beginning to incorporate more than one style. Referred to as “planned transitional” houses by architectural historian Virginia McAlester, these houses were made popular by pattern books like A.J. Downing’s *Cottage Residences*, *Rural Architecture*, and *Landscape Gardening* published in 1842.¹⁶ Others are part of architectural periods that naturally lend themselves to a certain amount of architectural blending. A good example of this are houses constructed during the Victorian Era from 1860-1900, which borrowed heavily from Medieval precedents, including textured wall surfaces, steeply pitched roofs, and wood ornamentation and detail work.¹⁷

¹³ Bonnie Shoemaker, “Cross-Boggs Place Information Packet,” Tennessee Historical Commission, 2023; Bonnie Shoemaker, “History of House/Other Information,” Tennessee Historical Commission.

¹⁴ Bonnie Shoemaker, “Cross-Boggs Place Information Packet,” Tennessee Historical Commission, 2023; Bonnie Shoemaker, “History of House/Other Information,” Tennessee Historical Commission.

¹⁵ Bonnie Shoemaker, “Cross-Boggs Place Information Packet,” Tennessee Historical Commission, 2023; Bonnie Shoemaker, “History of House/Other Information,” Tennessee Historical Commission.

¹⁶ Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America’s Domestic Architecture* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2018) p. 12.

¹⁷ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, p. 14.

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Most houses with mixed architectural styles result from later alterations to an already existing design or home. A house could be altered for a number of reasons. Some houses were altered to update the appearance of the house based on what architectural style was popular during the alteration. Porches, windows, doors and siding material are the areas most likely to be changed when updating the appearance of a house. Others alter a house to add more living space. Rear additions or wings were common ways to add space. In the case of more modern homes, areas such as garages, basement, porches, or attics were finished in to accomplish the same goal. Finally, some updated the houses to minimize maintenance. Aluminum and asbestos siding were advertised as materials that did not need the timely and expensive maintenance regimes that wood siding often required.¹⁸

These types of changes, updates, and stylistic mixings have long been a staple of vernacular architecture and its study. Architectural historians Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings define vernacular architecture as “traditional American architecture passed on to successive generations of builder and designers through the use of materials, shapes, and textures, spatial organization, proportions among elements, and systems of ornamentation.”¹⁹ The availability of plan books, mass produced photographs, and magazines, coupled with the standardization of woodwork and burgeoning railroad industry, allowed homeowners to alter their house with even more ease beginning in the mid-nineteenth century.²⁰ This traditional architecture, and its many variations, are significant for how they reflect both social values and indicate what was popular, either regionally or locally, at the time the alteration occurred.

One of the most recognizable vernacular buildings in the South and Midwest is the I-House. It is not known exactly what the “I” in the name stands for. Some believe it is named after Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, the states that social geographers first surveyed and categorized the form in the 1960s.²¹ Others believe it is called an I-House because of its narrow shape. Naming convention aside, the I-House was popular from the mid to late-nineteenth century, its popularity growing with the arrival of the railroad and availability of pre-cut lumber. I-Houses are one room deep, two-stories high, side-gable with a moderately pitched roof, chimneys on both gable ends, with three to five symmetrical openings across each story. Front porches are common, and the interior usually features a center-hall plan with one room on either side. Ell shaped additions are also frequently attached to the rear of I-Houses. Later I-Houses constructed in the South and Midwest often featured ornamentation to make them more fashionable, particularly those constructed after the arrival of a railroad in an area.²²

The I-House in Tennessee aligns with these broader regional themes. The I-House was constructed in Tennessee from 1810 up until the early 1900s and is most often found in east or middle Tennessee. Many have an addition, giving them a L or T shape. Two story historic additions are also common on Tennessee I-

¹⁸ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, p. 14.

¹⁹ Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular Design: 1870-1940* (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1988) p. vii.

²⁰ Gabrielle M. Lanier and Bernard L. Herman, *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1997) p. 4; Gottfried and Jennings, *American Vernacular Design*, p. ix.

²¹ The Cumberland Plan House, another recognizable vernacular building in Tennessee, is another example of a subtype named after the region in which it was first extensively studied and documented.

²² “The Old, Familiar I-House,” *Old House Journal* Vol. XXI, no. 5 (September/October 1993), pgs. 50-51; McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, p. 142.

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Houses. They are side gable with a stone or brick foundations with two exterior end chimneys. Windows are double hung and multi light, and the principal entrance may have sidelights and/or a transom. Finally, many I-Houses also feature ornamentation applied to their features. It is not uncommon to see Greek Revival, Italianate, Colonial Revival, or Folk Victorian embellishments on a Tennessee I-House. Owners applied these details to modernize their house and interpret the latest fashion through the lens of their own financial means, taste, and local architectural context.²³

Two architectural styles frequently added to I-Houses, as exhibited by the Cross-Boggs Place, include the Folk Victorian and Neo-Classical Revival styles. Folk Victorian was popular across the country from circa 1870 to 1910. The style is defined by the presence of Victorian decorative detailing on simple “folk house” forms, which included Italianate, Queen Anne, and some Gothic Revival details. When applied, the details were much less elaborate than the Victorian styles they mimicked. The primary points of application for the Folk Victorian style included the porch and cornice line. Porch supports featured either Queen Anne turned spindles or square posts with Italianate detailing. Lace like spandrels and turned balusters were also frequent on Folk Victorian porches. Other identifying features included flat jigsaw cut trim, symmetrical façade, and windows with a simple pediment. Much like the I-House, the Folk Victorian style was heavily reliant on railroads, which made the wood detailing crucial to the style readily available and affordable for homeowners.²⁴

After about 1910, the Folk Victorian style was superseded in popularity by the arrival of Eclectic styles, including Craftsman, Colonial Revival, and Neo-Classical Revival. The Neo-Classical style was popular in American from roughly 1895 to 1955. The World’s Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893 contributed to the popularity of the style.²⁵ Identifying characteristics of the style include a full height porch supported by Classically influenced columns, symmetrically balanced windows and a center door, and full façade porch with a flat roof. Porch columns constructed before 1920 generally tend to be more elaborate than those built after 1925, which are generally slender unfluted columns without capitals. Doorways often feature elaborate, decorative surrounds influenced by the Greek Revival, Federal, or Georgian style. Windows are rectangular with double hung panes, and cornices feature boxed eaves with moderate overhangs. Dentils and modillions may also be present, and roofline balustrades are also common.²⁶

The Cross-Boggs Place is architecturally significant because it possesses the features described above and is a good representative of architectural evolution over time. Though its exact construction date is not known, it is believed that the house was finished circa 1850.²⁷ This date aligns with the broader regional and Tennessee context for I-House construction, and its geographic location in east Tennessee further aligns with

²³ Claudette Stager, “Vernacular Domestic Architecture,” in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, Tennessee Historical Society, 2017, <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/vernacular-domestic-architecture/>.

²⁴ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, pgs. 397-398.

²⁵ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, p. 446. McAlester notes that a replica of Mt. Vernon’s full façade porch was present at the Exposition. Because the porch was on a Georgian style home, many thought that the porch was a unique type of architecture called “Southern Colonial.” Thus it was that the Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival styles were blended together to create the Neo-Classical Revival style.

²⁶ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, pgs. 435-436.

²⁷ Some sources indicate that the house was initially constructed as a single story house, though photographic evidence suggests it was always a two story building.

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broader knowledge about the style and its proliferation. Further, the historic context demonstrates that I-Houses gained popularity with the arrival of the railroad and access to affordable, precut lumber. The first railroads arrived in the area around 1850, making it likely that the Joseph Cross Black took advantage of this access to lumber to construct an imposing two-story house to serve as the headquarters for his thousand-acre farm. The core of the house continues to retain many of the character defining features of the I-House style, including its two-story height, side gable roof, symmetrical façade, brick foundation, exterior end chimneys, and central hall plan with one room on either side. The façade retains wood weatherboard siding, and the windows are double hung and rectangular.

Two historic photographs provide clues on the next steps of house's evolution. Figure 1 shows the house shortly after its construction, circa 1870. The two exterior end chimneys are visible here, in addition to what appears to be a two-story, wrap around, Folk Victorian porch. The addition of the Folk Victorian detailing likely corresponded with the rising popularity of the style in the late nineteenth-century and the increasing fortune of the Cross family. Figure 2 shows the house circa 1900 with a simple, one-story, three-quarter length porch with dentil work and square posts. A gable peak is centered on the façade, and though the picture seems to show a lesser number of windows on the façade, it remains symmetrical. A longer two-story addition is located on the east elevation in addition to a small, shed roof porch. Information available to the owner suggests that the change from the two-story Folk Victorian porch to the circa 1900 porch was due to fire damage.²⁸



Figure 1: Cross-Boggs Place, circa. 1860. Photograph courtesy of Bonnie Shoemaker.

The renovation in 1930 brought the building to its current state. Completed during the height of the Neo-Classical Revival style's popularity, the Cross-Boggs Place retains many of the styles' character defining features. The façade retains its symmetry and features the full length, full height, flat roof porch that is so evocative of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The wood columns are unfluted and capped by simple Doric capitals, which further corroborates the 1930s renovation date. A boxed wood frieze adorns the top of the porch, and windows are rectangular and double hung with simple wood pediments above. The entrance is also set within a Neo-Classical Revival influenced wood surround and features both sidelights and transoms. A unique element of this house is the second story balcony, as many Neo-Classical

Revival buildings feature a balustrade on the roof. The one-story addition on the south elevation of the house and the carport was also constructed at this time.

²⁸ Bonnie Shoemaker, "Cross-Boggs Place Information Packet," Tennessee Historical Commission, 2023.

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Though the changes to the façade, materials on the east, west, and south elevations, and the construction of the addition altered the original I-House form, these changes are historical and align closely with important trends identified earlier. The construction of the rear addition, though it altered the shape of the I-House, has precedent in both Tennessee and in a broader regional context. The single-story L or T additions provided extra living space for the family while also being subordinate to the overall design and form of the I-House core. The presence of aluminum siding on the majority of the other elevations dates from these significant additions.



Figure 2: Cross-Boggs Place, circa. 1900. Photograph courtesy of Bonnie Shoemaker.

The Cross-Boggs Place further distinguishes itself as an important local example of both the Neo-Classical Revival style and for its architectural evolution over time. A large number of local buildings constructed during the Cross-Boggs Place period of significance consist of circa 1930s and 1940s Minimal Traditional style homes. They are generally side gable with a gable roof, though hip roof and clipped roof examples are also common. All are single-story and generally feature an interior brick chimney. Many have either a single bay or a three-quarter length porch, with some examples applying minimal Craftsman style detailing to their porch piers to lend additional ornamentation to the building. Siding varies from weatherboard to aluminum to vinyl. Windows reflect the same variance of material, though most are double hung.²⁹

Earlier residential architecture constructed circa 1900-1920 in the area are a blend of both vernacular forms and the ubiquitous rural bungalow found in middle and east Tennessee. The vernacular examples are generally simple, standing a single-story tall, capped with a side gable roof, clad in weatherboard siding, and featuring various additions on either the gable end or rear elevation to provide additional living space. Perhaps the best example of the rural bungalow style is the residence at 279 Bush Road. A shed roof dormer is centered on a one-story, side gable building, and a full length, shed roof, Craftsman influenced porch supported by four columns shelters the entrance and windows.³⁰

²⁹ Most of the local community examples are concentrated on Willoughby Lane and the western portion of Oliver Springs highway. There were a few later 1950s examples on Willoughby Lane, though the largely conformed to the building trends identified for the 1930s and 1940s examples as described in the text. This typology and subsequent architectural discussions are based on a windshield survey of the area using a USGS Topographic Map to reference buildings constructed prior to 1950 in the area. This reflects the rough Period of Significance for the Cross-Boggs Place, which begins with its construction in the 1850s and ends with its final renovation in the 1930s. Addresses and examples surveyed are available in the final National Register nomination materials on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission.

³⁰ It is unclear if original siding remains. It is possible that the house had an earlier construction date and was updated with the Craftsman details sometime in the 1920s, but this could not be confirmed based on available information.

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There are very limited examples of rural residential architecture in the area from the nineteenth century. The best comparable to the residence is located at 919 Brushy Road, known locally as the “Bush House” or “McKamey House”³¹ Like the Cross-Boggs Place, it appears that the residence was constructed in the mid-to-late nineteenth century and is also sited near railroad tracks. The Bush House is a two story I-House with a symmetrical façade and full length, hip roof, Folk Victorian porch. The porch shelters an entrance filled with an ornamental wood surround with sidelights and transom. Windows appear to be original wood, double hung, six-over-six light, with the exception of the second-story central window, which is smaller. Brackets are visible just beneath the roofline, and the south elevation retains its exterior end brick chimney. Boxed cornice returns are visible on each gable end, and a single story, gable roof addition projects from the rear (east) elevation.



Figure 3: Bush House, September 2023. Photograph Courtesy of Google Maps.



Figure 4: Bush House Survey Photograph, circa. 1990. Photograph Courtesy of Tennessee Historical Commission.

An examination of nearby local rural residential architecture reveals that the Cross-Boggs Place not only embodies the characteristics of the important architectural styles and trends identified above, it is also an important example of its type within its context. The majority of rural architecture in the area dates from the twentieth and twenty-first century, confirmed by the abundant presence of Minimal Traditional houses dating from the 1930s and 1940s, numerous Ranch style houses constructed in the 1960s and 1970s, and more recent

³¹ Bonnie Shoemaker, Email to J. Ethan Holden, 12/3/2023.

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developments in the 1990s and 2000s.³² Earlier examples at the turn of the century are generally vernacular, single story, side gable buildings or rural bungalows. The only identified residential building in the surrounding area that dated from the nineteenth century was the Bush House.³³ Though it too is a good local example of the I-House and communicates architectural evolution through the application of intricate Folk Victorian detailing on its full-length porch, the Cross-Boggs Place continues to distinguish itself as an important example locally. Whereas the Bush House demonstrates the application of Folk Victorian detailing to an I-House, the Cross-Boggs Place exemplifies how the Neo-Classical Revival style was applied within the Dorsett and surrounding communities. Further, the porch, additions, and interior changes at the Cross-Boggs Place in the 1930s speaks to a different time period of architectural evolution than the Bush House, which likely had its Folk Victorian additions completed in the late nineteenth-early/twentieth-century. Both properties retain a high degree of integrity and share the common practice of one-story additions appended to the rear elevation to provide additional living space. Taken together, the Cross-Boggs Place is locally significant for its Neo-Classical Revival style architecture, and for its ability to speak to architectural evolution in the area. It also retains the integrity necessary to communicate this importance.

³² Though outside the scope of this particular nomination, it is worth mentioning that another major architectural development in the county was the construction of Cemento houses in Oak Ridge as part of the Secret City's development during the Second World War in the 1940s. For a complete analysis of this architecture, see Kimberly A. Murphy, "Oak Ridge," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1991, listed 9/5/1991.

³³ Unlike other counties in Tennessee, there is no county-wide architectural survey for Anderson County. It is likely that a survey would reveal additional I-Houses and other important properties important for their architecture, and also deepen knowledge about how these styles were interpreted and implemented within this context. However, the lack of a county-wide survey does not diminish the local architectural importance of this property within its community.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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Goodspeed's History of Tennessee, Containing Historical and Biographical Sketches of Thirty East Tennessee Counties. Nashville: Charles & Randy Elder Bookseller, 1972. First published in 1887.

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Stager, Claudette. "Vernacular Domestic Architecture." In *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*. Tennessee Historical Society, 2017. <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/vernacular-domestic-architecture/>.

"The Old, Familiar I-House." *Old House Journal*. Vol. XXI, No. 5 (September/October 1993): 50-51.

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

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .2 **USGS Quadrangle** Clinton 173-SW (1990)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (These coordinates should correspond to the corners of the property boundary. Add additional coordinates if necessary. Enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Datum if other than WGS84:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.067646 | Longitude: -84.213412 |
| 2. Latitude: 36.067404 | Longitude: -84.213335 |
| 3. Latitude: 36.067464 | Longitude: -84.213061 |
| 4. Latitude: 36.067705 | Longitude: -84.213115 |

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is rectangular in shape and corresponds with the latitude/longitude points above and the attached boundary map below.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are drawn to include the Cross-Boggs Place and the land around it. These boundaries encompass all the resources that contribute to the property’s architectural significance, and exclude land and outbuildings not associated to its architectural significance.

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USGS Topographic Map

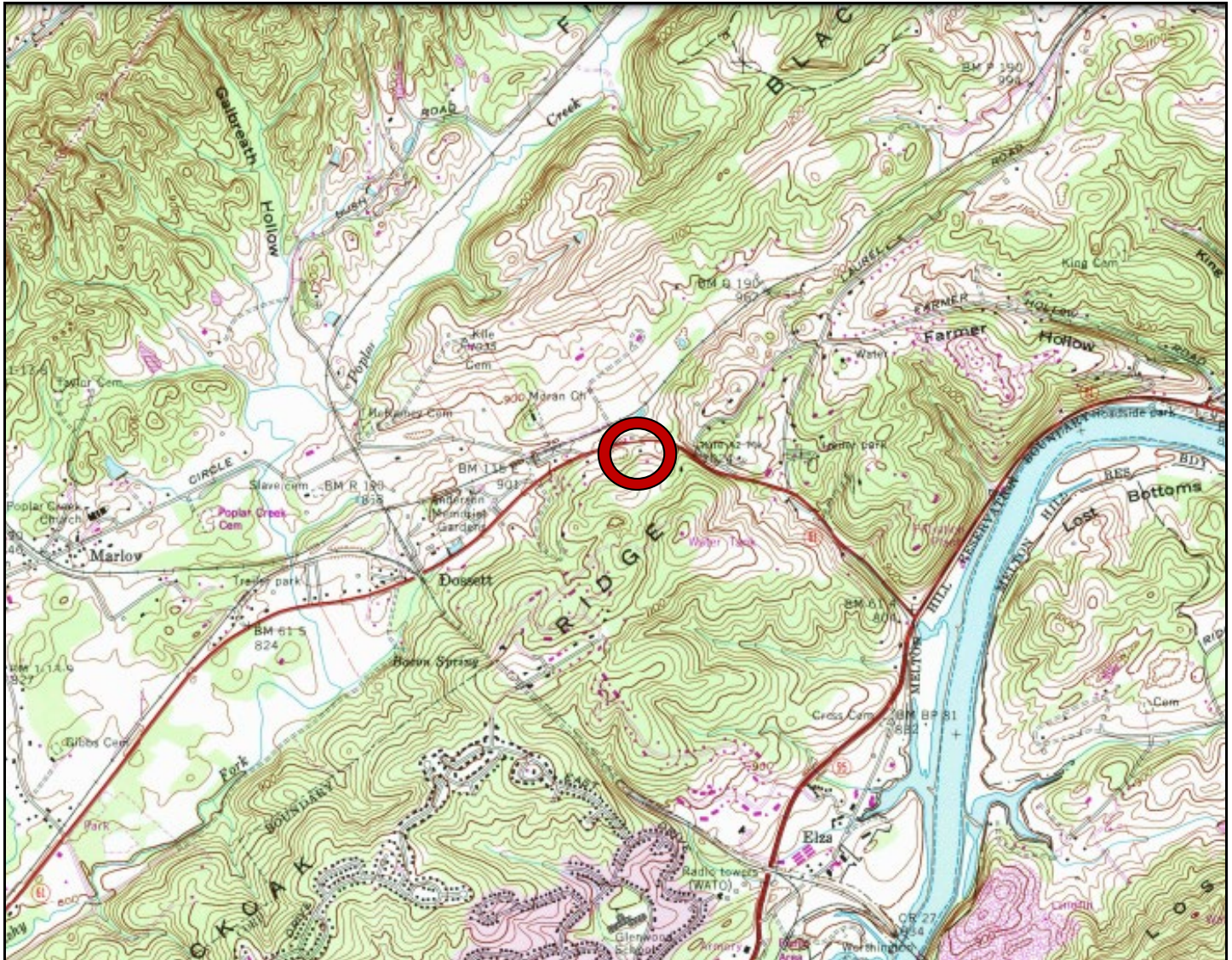


Figure 5: Red circle indicates the location of the Cross-Boggs Place. Map Courtesy of USGS.

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Boundary Map



Figure 6: Boundaries indicated by the blue lines and shaded portion. Each vertice corresponds with the latitude and longitude points in Section 10. Image courtesy of Tennessee Property Viewer, 2023.

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11. Form Prepared By

Name Bonnie Albright Shoemaker and J. Ethan Holden

Organization

Street & Number 453 Oliver Springs Highway Date

City or Town Clinton Telephone 865 323-3825

E-mail Balbright68@gmail.com State TN Zip Code 37716

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints. Photos should be submitted separately in a JPEG or TIFF format. Do not embed these photographs into the form)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. can be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps. They can also be embedded in the Section 7 or 8 narratives)

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

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

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Cross - Boggs Place

City or Vicinity: Clinton

County: Anderson

State: Tennessee

Photographer: Rebecca Schmitt and Don Hedden

Date Photographed: June 13, 2023 and August 7, 2023

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

- 1 of 42. Facade. Photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 42. View from porch. Photographer facing west.
- 3 of 42. View towards highway. Photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 42. Main entrance. Photographer facing southeast.
- 5 of 42. Porch. Photographer facing north.
- 6 of 42. Porch. Photographer facing northeast.
- 7 of 42. West elevation and porch. Photographer facing northeast.
- 8 of 42. West elevation. Photographer facing northeast.
- 9 of 42. West elevation and sunroom addition. Photographer facing northeast.
- 10 of 42. South elevation. Photographer facing north.
- 11 of 42. East elevation. Photographer facing northwest.
- 12 of 42. Carport and east elevation. Photographer facing northwest.
- 13 of 42. Façade. Photographer facing southwest.
- 14 of 42. Foyer and staircase. Photographer facing southwest.
- 15 of 42. Living room. Photographer facing northeast.
- 16 of 42. Living room. Photographer facing northeast.
- 17 of 42. View from dining room. Photographer facing northwest.
- 18 of 42. Dining room and connecting hallway. Photographer facing northwest.

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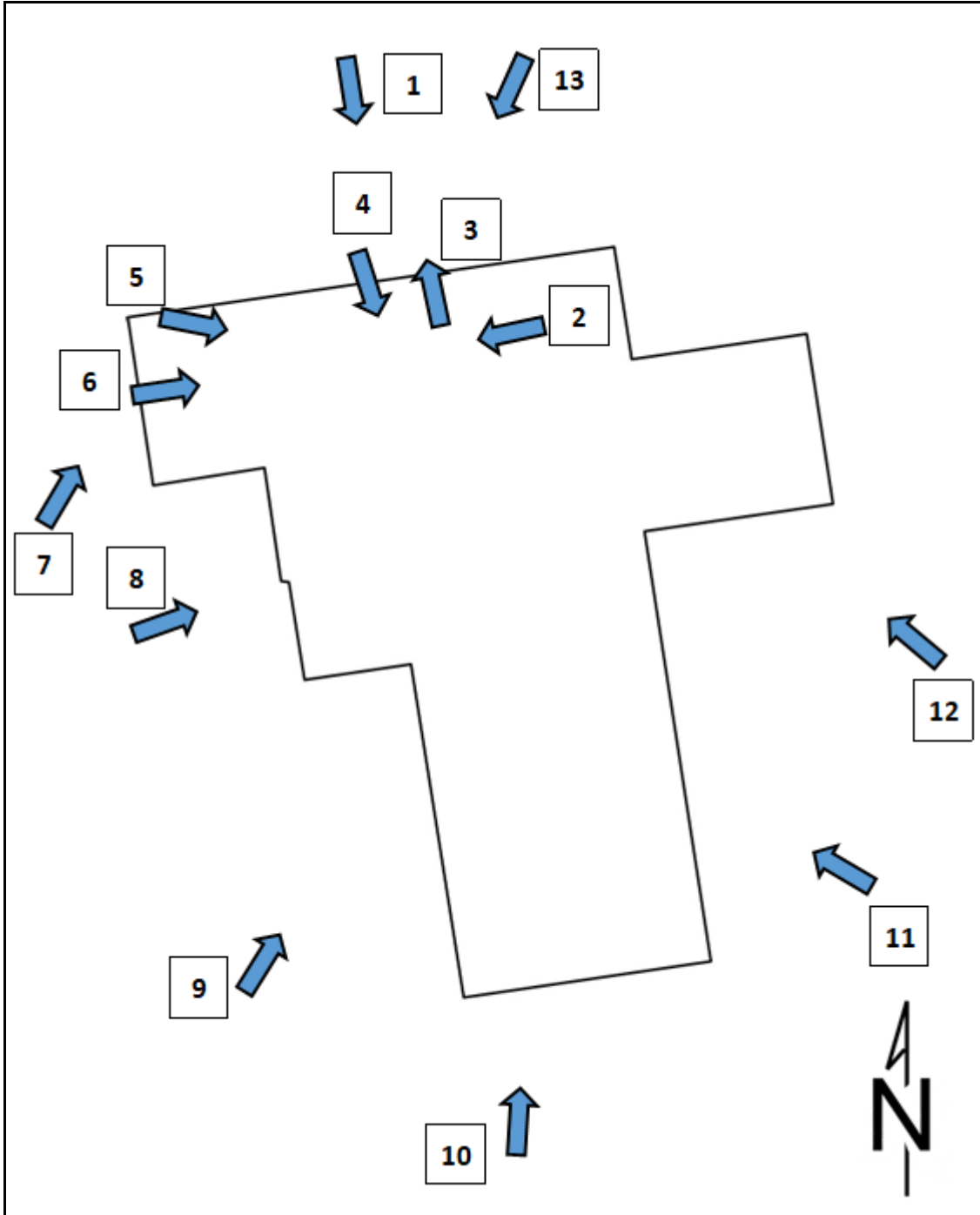
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-
- 19 of 42. Butler’s pantry. Photographer facing southeast.
 - 20 of 42. Kitchen. Photographer facing southeast.
 - 21 of 42. Kitchen and backdoor. Photographer facing south.
 - 22 of 42. Rear door to kitchen. Photographer facing northwest.
 - 23 of 42. Sunroom. Photographer facing east.
 - 24 of 42. Sunroom towards basement. Photographer facing north.
 - 25 of 42. Den. Photographer facing northeast.
 - 26 of 42. Den. Photographer facing south.
 - 27 of 42. Foyer and main entrance. Photographer facing north.
 - 28 of 42. Bath. Photographer facing west.
 - 29 of 42. Bedroom. Photographer facing northwest.
 - 30 of 42. Bedroom. Photographer facing southwest.
 - 31 of 42. Upstairs hallway and staircase. Photographer facing north.
 - 32 of 42. Upstairs hallway and staircase. Photographer facing south.
 - 33 of 42. Second story balcony. Photographer facing southwest.
 - 34 of 42. Second story balcony. Photographer facing northeast.
 - 35 of 42. East bedroom. Photographer facing east.
 - 36 of 42. East bedroom and closet. Photographer facing southeast.
 - 37 of 42. West bedroom. Photographer facing north.
 - 38 of 42. West bedroom. Photographer facing west.
 - 39 of 42. Upstairs bathroom. Photographer facing south.
 - 40 of 42. Attic. Photographer facing northwest.
 - 41 of 42. Attic. Photographer facing southeast.

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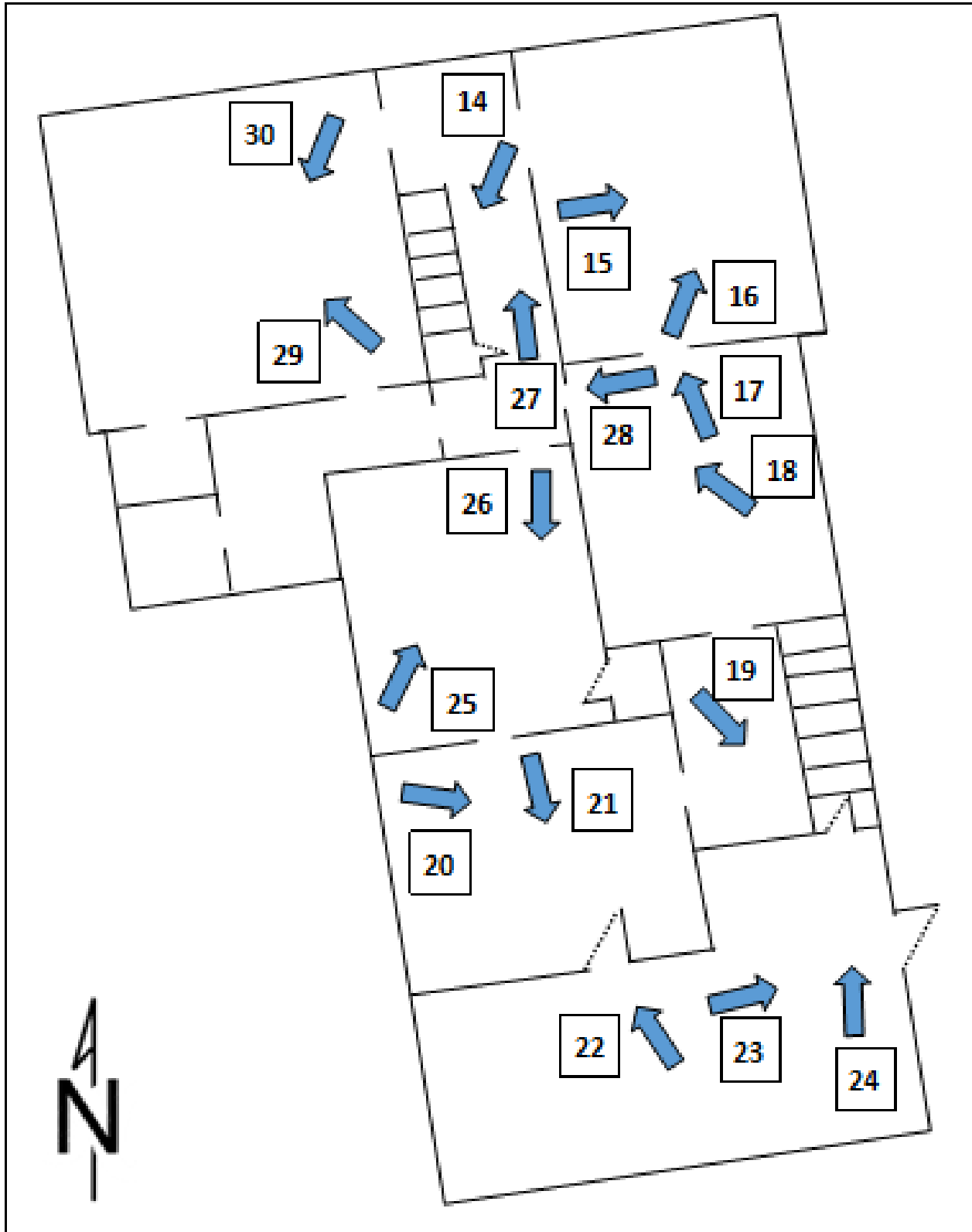
Site Plan (Not to Scale)



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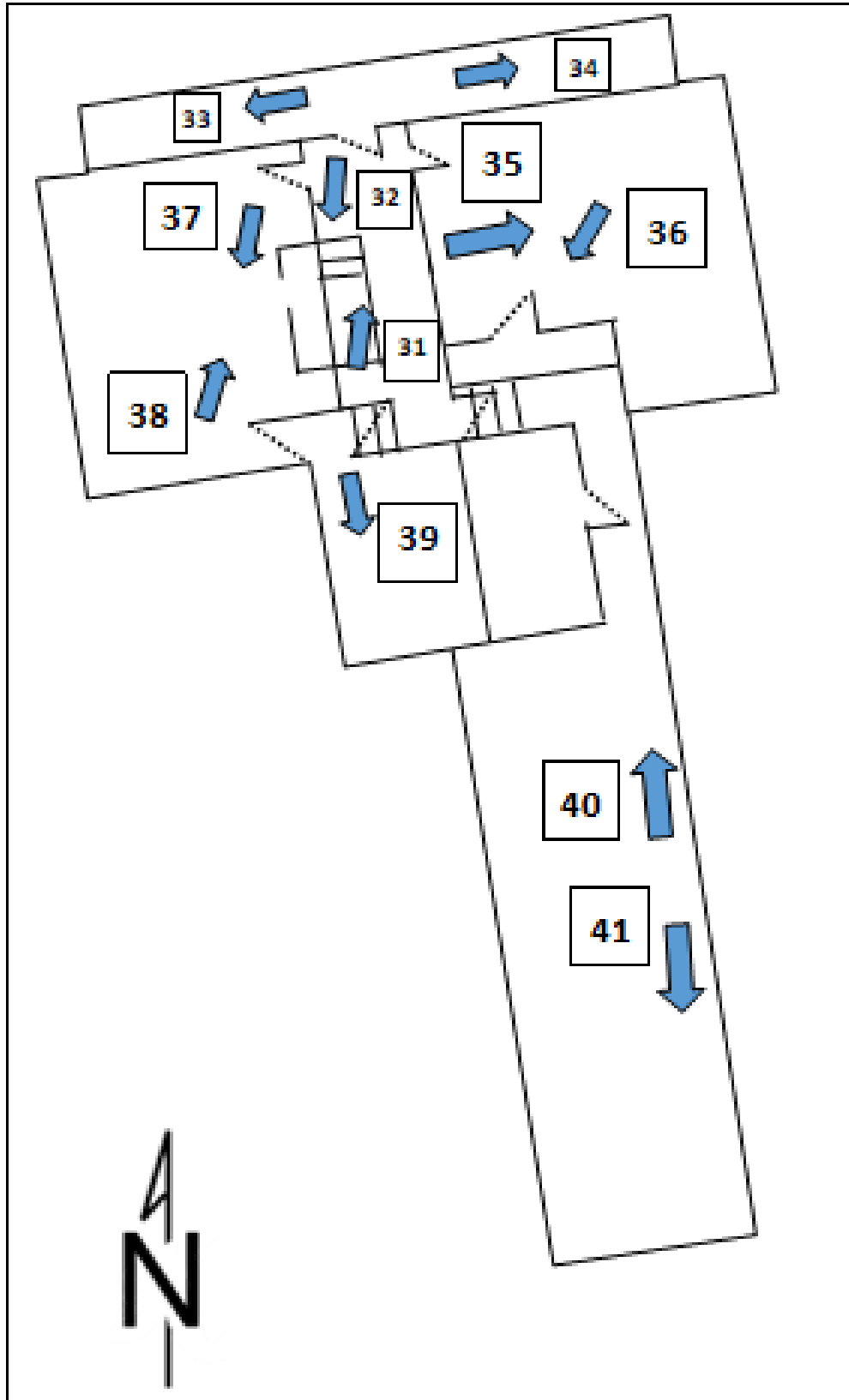
Floor Plan, First Floor (Not to Scale)



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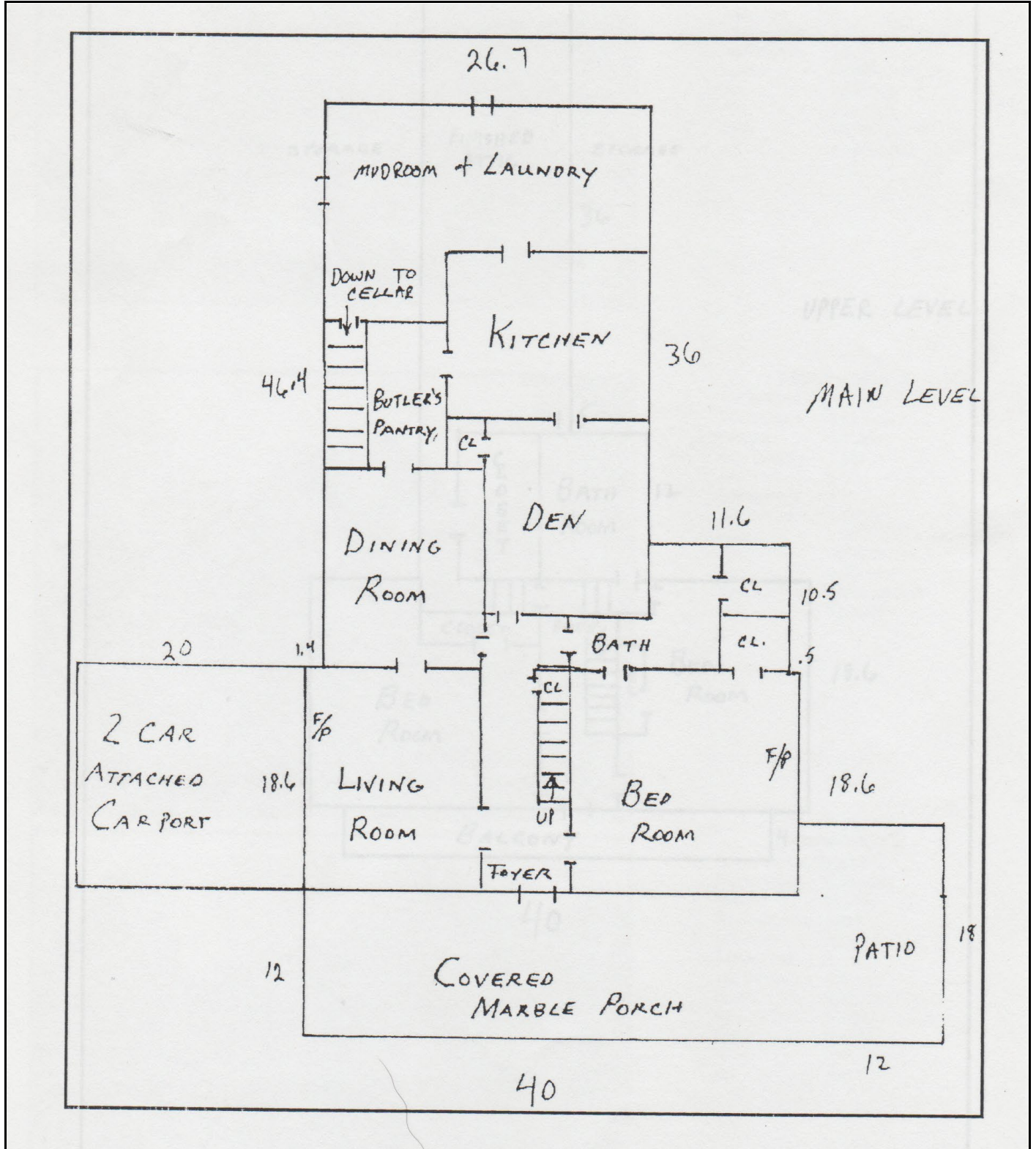
Floor Plan, Second Floor (Not to Scale)



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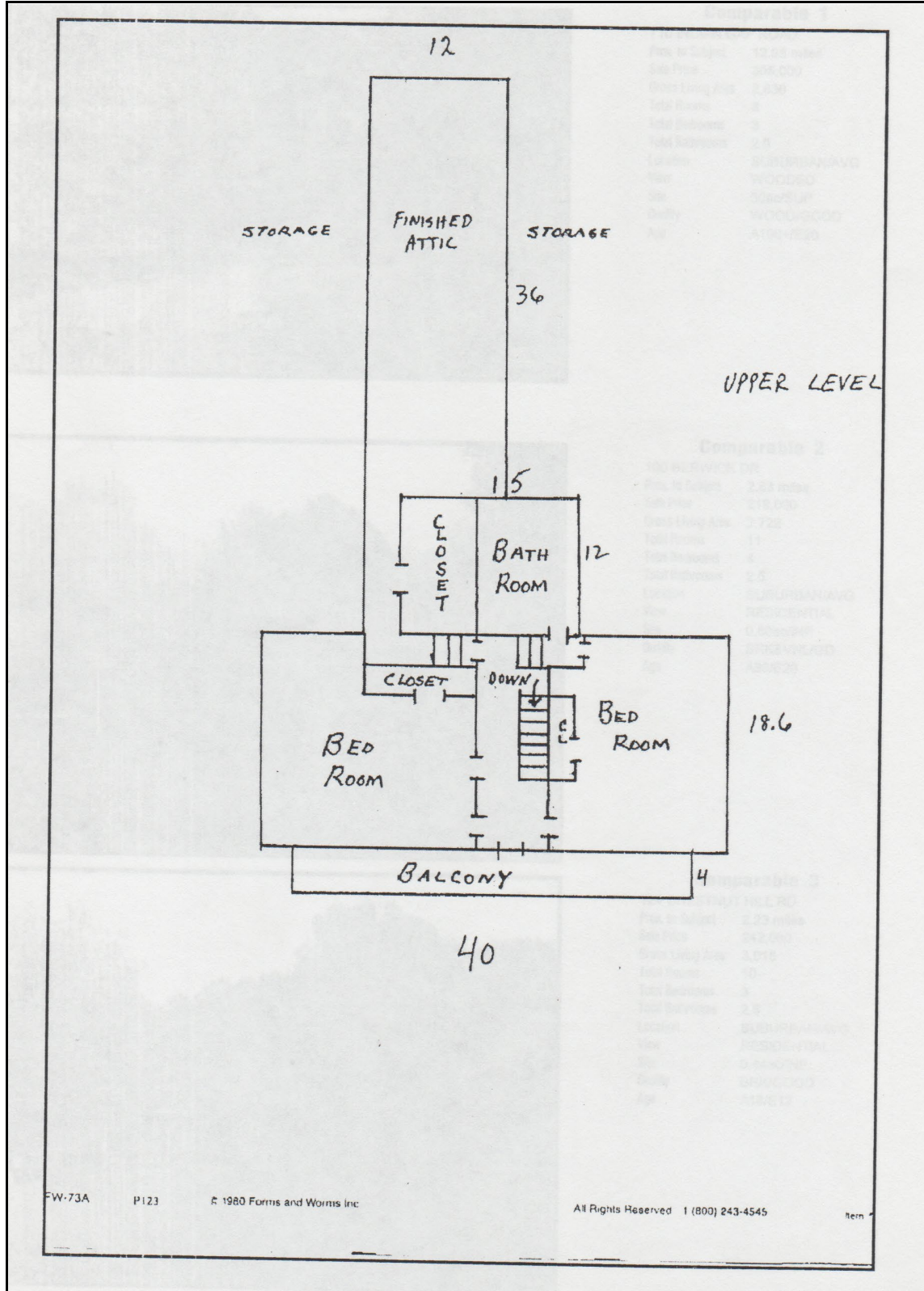
Drawn Floor Plan, First Floor (Not to Scale)



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Drawn Floor Plan, Second Floor (Not to Scale)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

| |
|---|
| Name of Property |
| County and State |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Section number ____ Page 31

The N.R. Continuation Sheet should be used for additional supporting documentation such as historic photographs, maps, and addendum documentation. You may also imbed supporting documentation and/or images within the text of Sections 7 and 8.

Property Owner(s):

(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

Name Bonnie Albright Shoemaker

Street & Number 453 Oliver Springs Highway Telephone 865 323-3825

City or Town Clinton State/Zip Tennessee 37716



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10 OF 41



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