

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

For NPS use only

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

received OCT 24 1984

date entered NOV 23 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hows-Hutton House

and/or common Hows-Madden House (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 7401 Huntwick Trail U.S. 70 N/A not for publication

city, town Nashville vic. N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Davidson code 037

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. James Madden

street & number 7401 Huntwick Trail

city, town Nashville N/A vicinity of Tennessee 37209

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Davidson County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Nashville Tennessee 37201

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Davidson County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Metropolitan Nashville Historical Commission

city, town Nashville Tennessee 37203

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hows-Madden House is a two-story frame residence located on Highway 70 in southwest Davidson County, Tennessee. Constructed ca. 1830, it is an excellent example of an early 19th century central hall and flanking parlor " I " house. The interior has not been altered and features original staircases, mantles, and decorative woodwork. The Hows-Madden house is located on a nine-acre tract near the confluence of Buffalo Creek and the Harpeth River. The house faces U.S. Highway 70 at the corner of Huntwick Trail Drive.

The main block of the house (ca. 1830) is two stories in height and one bay deep. At the rear of the house is an enclosed porch and a ca. 1880 one-story frame ell addition. The wood frame house has a gable roof and rests on a stone and log foundation. The house has weatherboard frame siding on all elevations. Windows on the main block are nine-over-six frame sash with original wood shutters. On the rear ell the windows are six-over-six frame sash. No windows are located on the east or west elevations of the main block which are dominated instead by large limestone block chimneys.

The home's main entrance is located on the south elevation facing Highway 70. This entrance consists of paired frame double doors which have three rectangular inset panels. Flanking the doorway are pilasters with Doric motif capitals and inset rectangular panels. Adjacent to the double doors are four-light sidelights and above the door is a twelve-light transom. All elements of the entrance are in excellent condition and new storm doors have been added over the original double doors.

The house originally featured a small two-story portico over the main entrance. This portico was altered ca. 1910 and a room was added on the second story over the main entrance. This addition features nine-over-six and six-over-six sash windows with exposed brackets and decorative millwork at the gable. On the first story the porch was widened to cover three bays instead of just the central entrance. The porch displays exposed rafters and rectangular posts with inset panels. The porch floor was also removed and replaced with a new concrete surface. A new roof also appears to have been added at this time and exposed rafters are evident beneath the eaves. Despite the early 20th century alterations the original character of the structure is still evident.

The rear ell addition (ca. 1890) is also of frame

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

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Continuation sheet Hows-Madden House

Item number 7

Page 2

construction. A one-story porch behind the main block was enclosed with frame siding when the ell was added. Both the porch and ell feature decorative molding and Eastlake style doors with etched glass in floral designs. Within the ell is a corbelled brick chimney.

The interior of the house has not been significantly altered and displays much of its original detailing. In the central hall is a half-turn stairway with a simple wooden newel post, railing and spindles. In the flanking parlors are cut limestone fireplaces with radiating voussoirs and keystones. The wood mantles display a simple vernacular design with Doric motif pilasters. This design is also repeated on the two second-story fireplaces. Doors throughout the house have two inset rectangular panels and original carpenter locks. Floors are made up of 6" wide sawn poplar boards which are in good condition. In addition to the main staircase an original small quarter-turn stair is located in the west parlor. The original baseboards and chair rails also remain intact.

The Hows-Madden house was originally part of a large estate, but its lot now encompasses only nine acres. Modern homes have been built behind the house in the Huntwick Trail hollow. No original outbuildings remain on the site. The existing garage and stable were added in recent years. To the northeast of the house is a small rock wall which encloses the Hows and Hutton family cemetery. The wall and gravestones are in fair to good condition.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1830 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hows-Madden House is located in southwest Davidson County and is an architecturally and historically significant structure of the early 19th century. The building has been nominated under criteria B and C because of its architectural features and association with an early Davidson County family. Although altered in the early 20th century, the house still displays its 19th century character both on the interior and exterior.

Throughout the 19th century the Hows family was one of the most prominent in southwest Davidson County. In the late 1820s the family settled on several hundred acres west of Bellevue, and by the late 19th century the Hows owned several thousand acres. The family also constructed many large log and frame homes on their farmland along the Harpeth River and Buffalo Creek. In the 20th century all of the original land holdings were broken up and sold and of the many homes built by the family, only the Hows-Madden house stands today.

The Hows-Madden House was constructed ca. 1830 by Rasa Hows who moved to Davidson County from North Carolina in the late 1820s. In 1829 Rasa Hows purchased 361 acres along Buffalo Creek. In 1830 neighboring property was purchased along the Big Harpeth River by John C. Hows who also had moved to the area from North Carolina. The exact relationship between Rasa and John Hows is uncertain although they were related and owned property adjacent to each other. The John C. Hows home was also constructed in the 1830s and a 19th century illustration of the house shows it to be an " I " house similar in design to the Rasa Hows home.

The home that Rasa Hows constructed in the early 1830s was reflective of the vernacular house styles of the period. Constructed in the " I " house plan, the two story frame house featured a central double door with sidelights and a transom showing the influence of the Greek Revival style. The five-bay central hall and parlor plan was also a common design of the period. Excellent craftsmanship is evident in the large limestone chimneys and the interior detailing. The hand-carved newel posts, railing and mantles are all fine examples of the period.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle name Bellevue, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	0	1	4	4	4	3	9	9	3	9	6	2
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip Thomason

organization Thomason and Associates

date July 20, 1984

street & number 1700 Hayes Street, Suite 202

telephone (615) 320-5732

city or town Nashville

state Tennessee 37203

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 10/12/84

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date

11-23-84

John A. Adams
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
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date entered NOV 23 1984

Continuation sheet Hows-Madden House

Item number 8

Page 2

Rasa Hows prospered during the early 19th century. In 1837 he married Nancy Lovell and they had twelve children. By 1850 Rasa Hows owned over 3,000 acres along the Harpeth River and Buffalo Creek. His neighbor, John C. Hows had also married in the 1830s and constructed a large two-story log and frame home on his land facing the Nashville and Memphis Road (Highway 70). By 1850 John Hows is listed as owning 5,000 acres and the 8,000 acres jointly held by the Hows family made them the most prominent landowners in southwest Davidson County.

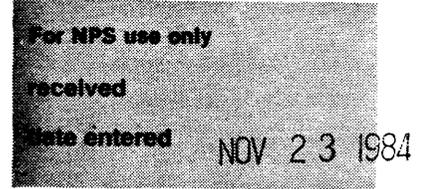
In 1858 Rasa Hows died and his property passed into the hands of his wife and children. His will recorded in 1859 bequeathed the house, slaves and household furniture to his wife. The will stipulates that all of his children be sent to school and \$500 be paid to each upon reaching the age of 21. Several of his sons remained farmers and constructed thier own homes on the Hows property. The most notable descendant of Rasa Hows was Stephen Hows who served with Nathan Bedford Forrest's command during the Civil War. He later built a frame house on Highway 70 approximately one-quarter mile east of the Hows-Madden home. He also was prominent in Davidson County politics serving on the county court and school board for many years.

In 1873 the remaining 800 acres of the Hows estate was subdivided among six of Rasa How's sons and daughters. Francis Hows inherited the original homeplace and 101 acres and resided in the house with his mother, Nancy Hows, until her death in 1888. While the house was occupied by Francis H-ows the porch and roofline were altered ca. 1910. The house continued to be the residence of Francis Hows until his death in 1921 at which time the house passed into the hands of William D. Hutton. Hutton owned the property until 1963 when it was sold to Scarritt College and the house has since had several owners until its purchase in 1976 by the Madden family.

The Hows-Madden home is the only remaining building associated with the Hows family. John C. Hows became a prominent landholder and public official in Davidson County and died in 1888. His large log and frame home stood until recent years when it was torn down for a new subdivision along Highway 70. The home of Stephen Hows, Rasa Hows' son, is also no longer standing. Descendants of the Hows family continue to reside in the area and two nearby bends in the Harpeth River are named for the Hows and Hutton family.

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

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



Continuation sheet

Hows-Madden House

Item number 8

Page 3

The Hows family was prominent in southwest Davidson County for over one hundred years. During the mid-19th century the family owned over twelve square miles along the Big Harpeth River and Buffalo Creek. The Hows-Madden house, its early 19th century architectural character intact, is a significant part of this heritage. Much of the interior and exterior detailing remains in excellent condition and the house has been restored by the present owners.

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

For NPS use only
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date entered NOV 23 1984

Continuation sheet Hows-Madden House

Item number 9

Page 2

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**United States Department of the Interior
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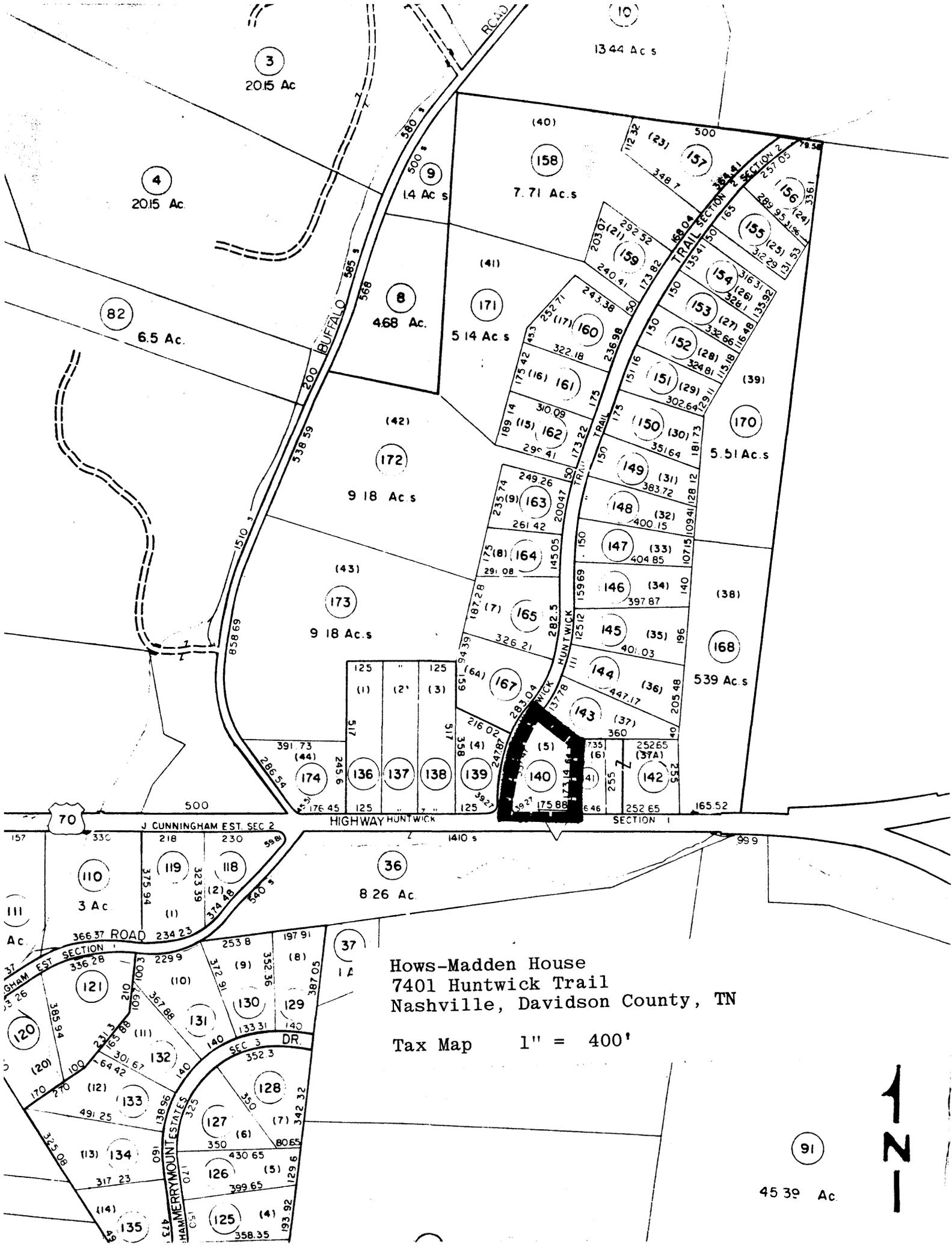
Continuation sheet Hows-Madden House

item number 10

Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is roughly rectangular in shape and bounded on the south by U. S. Highway 70, on the west by Huntwick Trail, and on the north and east by adjoining property lines. This boundary includes enough area to insure the historical setting and architectural integrity of the Hows-Madden House.



Hows-Madden House
 7401 Huntwick Trail
 Nashville, Davidson County, TN

Tax Map 1" = 400'



91
 45.39 Ac.