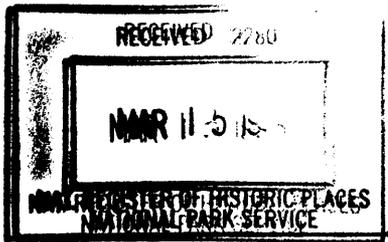


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Averitt-Herod House  
other names/site number Averitt House, Herod House

2. Location

street & number 395 Herod Lane N/A  not for publication  
city or town Hartsville  vicinity  
state Tennessee code TN county Trousdale code 169 zip code 37074

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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally,  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Harper 3/8/96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
4-12-96  
Entered in the  
National Register

Averitt-Herod House  
Name of Property

Trousdale County, TN  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing

Noncontributing

2

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

2

1

Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC : single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC : single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal/Greek Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone

walls weatherboard, WOOD

roof METAL

other WOOD, limestone

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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  
MILITARY

**Period of Significance**

1834 - 1866

**Significant Dates**

1834, 1858, 1862, 1866

**Significant Person**

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Averitt, Peter, Sr.  
Robeson, W. H.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.) N/A

Property is:

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

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):** N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
Tennessee Historical Commission

Averitt - Herod House  
Name of Property

Trousdale County, TN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 10 acres Bellwood, TN 317SW  
Hartsville, TN 317NW

**UTM References**

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

|   |           |               |                 |   |           |               |                |
|---|-----------|---------------|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | <u>16</u> | <u>575460</u> | <u>4025460`</u> | 3 | <u>16</u> | <u>575140</u> | <u>4025840</u> |
|   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing        |   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing       |
| 2 | <u>16</u> | <u>575200</u> | <u>4025520</u>  | 4 | <u>16</u> | <u>575200</u> | <u>4025520</u> |

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Julia Herod Carnahan/Elizabeth A. Straw  
organization N/A/Tennessee Historical Commission date January 1996  
street & number 395 Herod Lane/2941 Lebanon Road telephone 615-374-4490  
city or town Hartsville/Nashville state TN zip code 37074/37243

**Additional Documentation**

submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Julia Herod and Lewis W. Carnahan  
street & number 395 Herod Lane telephone 625-374-4490  
city or town Hartsville state TN zip code 37074

**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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

## DESCRIPTION

The Averitt-Herod House is situated on the crest of a low hill overlooking a very old gravel road, which was the original connection between the Town of Hartsville and the Cumberland River. It is surrounded by low rolling hills, woodlands and open fields in rural Trousdale County. The house is approached by a gravel drive which crosses over the site of the carriage house that once stood in front of the house. The north side of the site is still marked by four old yucca plants. The drive splits and either continues straight to the south of the house to the garage, or circles in front of the house. North of the circular drive is the location of an early formal garden. During the spring the narcissus show the outline of squares. West of the house are several old, large trees, some of which are large sugar maples, planted before the turn of the 20th century.

The Averitt-Herod House is a weatherboard, braced timber constructed, transitional Federal/Greek Revival style house. Peter Averitt Sr. is believed to be the builder of the house after he purchased the land in 1834. The house is currently a T-plan, it was originally a two story, one room deep, center hall plan. The original 1834 house serves as the front portion of the current house and rests on a square cut limestone foundation. The footing stones protrude twelve inches beyond the foundation stones. Each corner of the foundation has a corner stone cut seven inches thick by thirty-nine inches wide and ten feet eight inches long. The interior, gable end chimneys are brick. A metal roof replaces the original wood shingle roof. The cornice is composed of a wide fascia board and dentils and exhibits the common Greek Revival gable returns.

The west facade, or front of the house, is symmetrical with three bays. The center entrance door has a round arch transom and a deep round mold surround. The door is a wood paneled, with two longer panels directly over two smaller panels. The entrance is flanked by two round arched windows with their original surrounds and shutters and solid red cedar sills. The windows on the second floor sit directly above the entrance and the two end windows. They also retain their original surrounds and shutters. The windows are replacement windows made to specifications to replicate the windows that had deteriorated beyond repair from neglect. The new windows use the original hardware from the old windows.

In November 1877 W. H. Robeson constructed the present porch. The porch rests on a limestone foundation. The stones are rock-faced with protruding mortar. The three limestone steps match the stones of the 1834 foundation. It appears the steps were moved forward from the house when the porch was constructed. The porch has a flat roof and the ceiling is ten and one-half feet tall from the heart pine floor. Some of the original boards on the front portion of the porch had rotted and were replaced with red cedar in 1990. The original 1877 columns were eight inch square solid posts with chamfered corners. The columns had deteriorated from neglect and were replaced in 1990 with four round Doric columns from another house of the same time period.

The north elevation of the house contains a single twelve-over-twelve square window on the original portion of the house. A shed roof bathroom addition, built in 1990, sits flush with the original 1834 rear wall. The one story ell of the house consists of three additions that evolved over time. The first addition consists of a dogtrot (now enclosed) and a room constructed in 1858. In 1866 a second room was added along with a second dogtrot (now enclosed) that connected the addition to a log building. French doors are used to enclose the dogtrots. A center brick chimney sits between the 1858 and 1866 rooms. The north elevation has a small porch with square columns that brings the roof out even with the east end of the ell. The porch was added in 1990. The cabin attached to the ell is believed to have been the original kitchen. The original rear cabin was torn down around 1980 and rebuilt in 1990 - 1991. The new rear room is sheathed with board and batten and has two nine-over-nine windows. The original cistern sits at the juncture of the 1990 shed roof addition and the porch. A well sits near the northeast corner of the east end of the ell.

The east elevation of the house consists primarily of a 1990 - 1991 stone chimney on the east end of the ell flanked by two nine-over-nine windows and two smaller four pane windows near the top of the chimney and a

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

small gable roof addition added in 1990 - 1991. Two twelve-over-twelve windows on the second story of the original 1834 house are visible on the second floor of the east elevation.

The south elevation of the house is similar to the north elevation. It consists of the gable end of the original 1834 house. However, there are no openings on this elevation of the house. The ell consists of French doors enclosing the dogtrot and two nine-over-nine windows opening into the 1858 and 1866 rooms. These windows and doors are identical to the ones on the north elevation. Five columns support the 1990 porch roof and a single small nine-over-nine window is located in the rebuilt portion of the ell.

The interior of the original 1834 house consists of a central hall that is eighteen feet long and ten feet wide. The hall contains a walnut, winding stairway to the second floor. There is a small, original door leading to storage space under the stairwell. The baseboard on the stairway bows to accommodate the wider first three steps as they flare out. The bullnose on the end of each step is attached by pegs. The ceiling height is ten feet, as are all the ceilings in the two story section. The original woodwork remains on both the first and second floors. The window and door surrounds are fluted. The baseboards on the first floor are ten inches tall with a fluted top. The second story baseboards are eight inches high with a simple hand turned bevel. All of the floors in the 1834 section are heart of pine. After the Civil War, all the floors were painted brown around rugs that were centered on the floor in the rooms, The parlor is the exception, that floor had a simple varnish finish.

The room to the south of the entrance hall is the original parlor. It is eighteen feet square, as are all four of the rooms in the 1834 section. The window and door surrounds, as well as the door retain the original faux bois wood graining. The mantle in this room is not the original mantle. This mantle dates from the period the wood burning fireplaces were replaced with coal burning grates. On the back of one of the grates is "patented 1868." When the parlor fireplace was walled in with brick to make a smaller opening for the coal grate, the mason left half of a brick protruding beyond the fireplace surround. This mantle's vertical supports are made four inches deep to cover up the four inches of the protruding brick. This room currently serves as a bedroom.

The room directly across the entrance hall from the parlor on the north side has been a bedroom since circa 1858. Before 1858 it is believed to have been the dining room. This room has a closet built in beside the chimney, as do the two upstairs bedrooms. This is a unique feature in houses of this era in Middle Tennessee. The north room contains a mantle that is known as a Tennessee Carpenter's Mantle. This type of mantle is common in Middle Tennessee houses of the era and one can be found in Travelers Rest (NR 12/30/1969) in Nashville. This mantle stands sixty-four inches tall. The room originally had three windows. The window in the east wall was made into a door to enter into the bathroom/walk-in closet that was added in 1990 - 1991. Tradition states that this is the room that wounded Confederate soldiers were placed following the Battle of Hartsville. Located on the floor near the east window, now a door, is a large bloodstain.

The winding stairs lead up to a central hall or sitting area which is well lighted from the round arched window. On either side of the central hall are two bedrooms. Each of these rooms contain Tennessee Carpenter Mantles that stand fifty-one and one half inches high (the height of the mantles in Travelers Rest). Each room contains a closet built beside the fireplace. In the east wall of each bedroom a door was cut during the 1990 - 1991 modernization of the house to enter into a shared bathroom that was added at the same time. In the south bedroom the coal grate was loose and when attempting to tighten the grate, all of the bricks fell out. This room now has its original wood fire opening.

In 1858 Richard Averitt inherited the house from his stepmother, Martha Averitt. Richard Averitt added the first dogtrot and additional room that began the ell at the rear of the house in circa 1858. Entrance from the main house to the dogtrot and new room was from the door at the east end of the central hall. The ell is a half step lower than the 1834 house. The floor of the dogtrot is wormy chestnut. At the north end of the dogtrot is a door that enters into the basement. The cellar has large cut limestone steps that go into a room surrounded by

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

square cut limestone walls and a dirt floor. It is the size of the room above. In this dogtrot the bucket with drinking water was always kept because a few feet beyond its north door is the cistern. The east, south and north walls of the dogtrot are made of wide flush horizontal boards. The west wall is the weatherboard of the exterior side of the 1834 house. The ceiling is shiplap and is painted with a dark green sand finish paint. This dark green appears to be the second coat of paint as a lighter green shows through in places. The north door originally led outdoors. However it now enters into the 1990 - 1991 bathroom. The south end of the dogtrot is closed in with French doors that lead onto the south porch.

The 1858 room is nineteen feet six inches long by sixteen feet wide, with nine foot three inches tall as are all the ceilings in the ell. This room served as the dining room. Food preparation took place in a detached kitchen nineteen feet east of this room. On the east wall of the room is the fireplace with a Tennessee Carpenter Mantle. The mantle had five coats of paint removed until the original, or early, black paint that had penetrated the wood was reached. The mantle retains this black paint. In 1990 - 1991 bookcases were added beside the fireplace. The floor in this room was replaced due to termite damage that occurred circa 1955. However, there was no termite damage to the frame of the room as it is constructed of yellow poplar. The ceiling in this room is yellow poplar shiplap. The east wall was originally the exterior of the addition with an exterior brick chimney. The exterior door was on the south side of the fireplace. The attic space above this room is where the family hung their cured meat during the Civil War. The meat hooks were on the crossbeams in 1991.

Circa 1866 a second room was added to the ell. The room is thirteen feet long by sixteen feet wide. The boards in this room had previously been used in another building. The building had been torn down and moved to this site to build the room. This room became the kitchen. There was a pantry on the north side of the chimney which angled from the outside north corner of the chimney to the west edge of the north window. This wall was removed and made into a closet that is straight in 1990 - 1991. It is known that a fire occurred in this room and that after the fire the walls were covered with beaded horizontal paneling. Located inside the original pantry were the flush horizontal boards that had originally been the east exterior wall before this room was built. The north wall in the pantry was lathe and plaster and was painted white. The floor in this room is very wide random width wormy chestnut. Located in the ceiling on the south side of the chimney was a door to enter the attic. This attic space served as extra sleeping space. It was floored and had two attic window in the gable which can be seen today from inside the second dogtrot.

At the completion of the 1866 room, the original kitchen and living quarters for the household slaves was only six feet from the house ell. The cabin sat very low on the ground with limestone rocks under each corner and a massive limestone chimney in the east wall. It is not known at what date the dogtrot was built connecting the house to the original kitchen. It is known that the ell was continuous in 1900 when the Herods purchased the property. The dogtrot and cabin were one full step lower than the remainder of the ell.

Upon the death of Garrett Herod in 1979, the house was purchased by Roger Taylor, a neighbor. The house remained unoccupied until 1990. Before 1987 Mr. Taylor pulled down the cabin and burned the wood because it was rotting and leaning. During the restoration of the house in 1990 - 1991 the dogtrot and cabin were rebuilt on the original limestone foundation, making the current room the same width as the original cabin. The limestone chimney was reconstructed with the original stones, and the original mantle was reused. Before the cabin was torn down the mantle and a board door were salvaged and placed in the ell of the house. The mantle in this room is sixty-three and one half inches tall. It is crudely constructed and appears to have remained unpainted throughout the years. There was one swipe of dark red paint on the mantle shelf, and that color was used to paint the mantle and the color for the present room is based on that color. During the rebuilding of the original kitchen cabin and the restoration of the house the kitchen was returned to the ell and the second kitchen was converted into a dining room.

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# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

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Although the house suffered from neglect and the elements of time and weather, it retains its historic character. In 1987 the house stood empty with no plumbing, and only a small area in the ell electrified. The current owners have taken care to retain the original integrity of the house while updating it to modern standards.

Originally the farm had several outbuildings including a mule and feed barn, storage sheds and a carriage house. At present there are two outbuildings, a noncontributing garage built in 1993 and a log building flanked with shed roof additions.

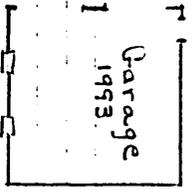
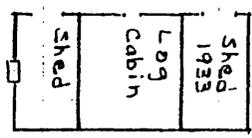
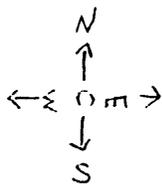
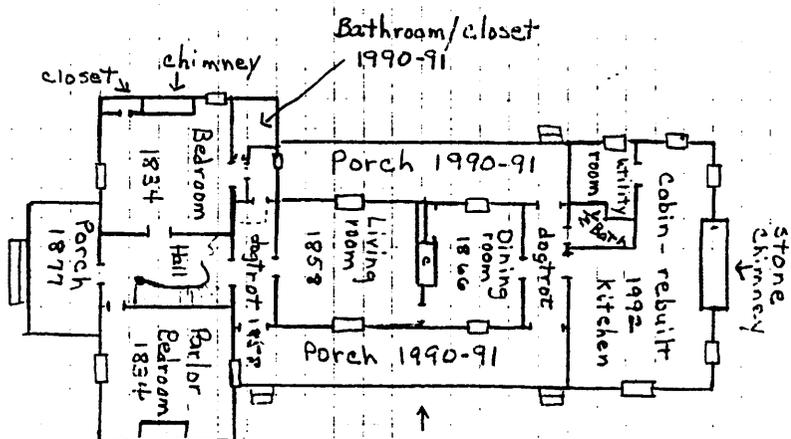
This log building is believed, by Trousdale County historians, to be the original 1788 cabin of Henry Turney who was awarded the original land grant for his service in the Revolutionary War. The shed addition on the east side of the cabin was added in 1933. It is not known when the shed addition on the west was added, but it is of similar construction of the 1933 addition. The cabin once served as a smoke house and is a contributing building to the property.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN



First Floor  
Not to scale

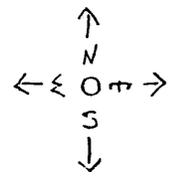
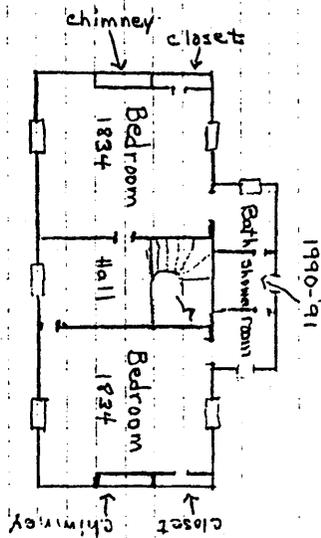
← dotted lines show door to cellar  
← brick chimney bookcase beside 1992

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN



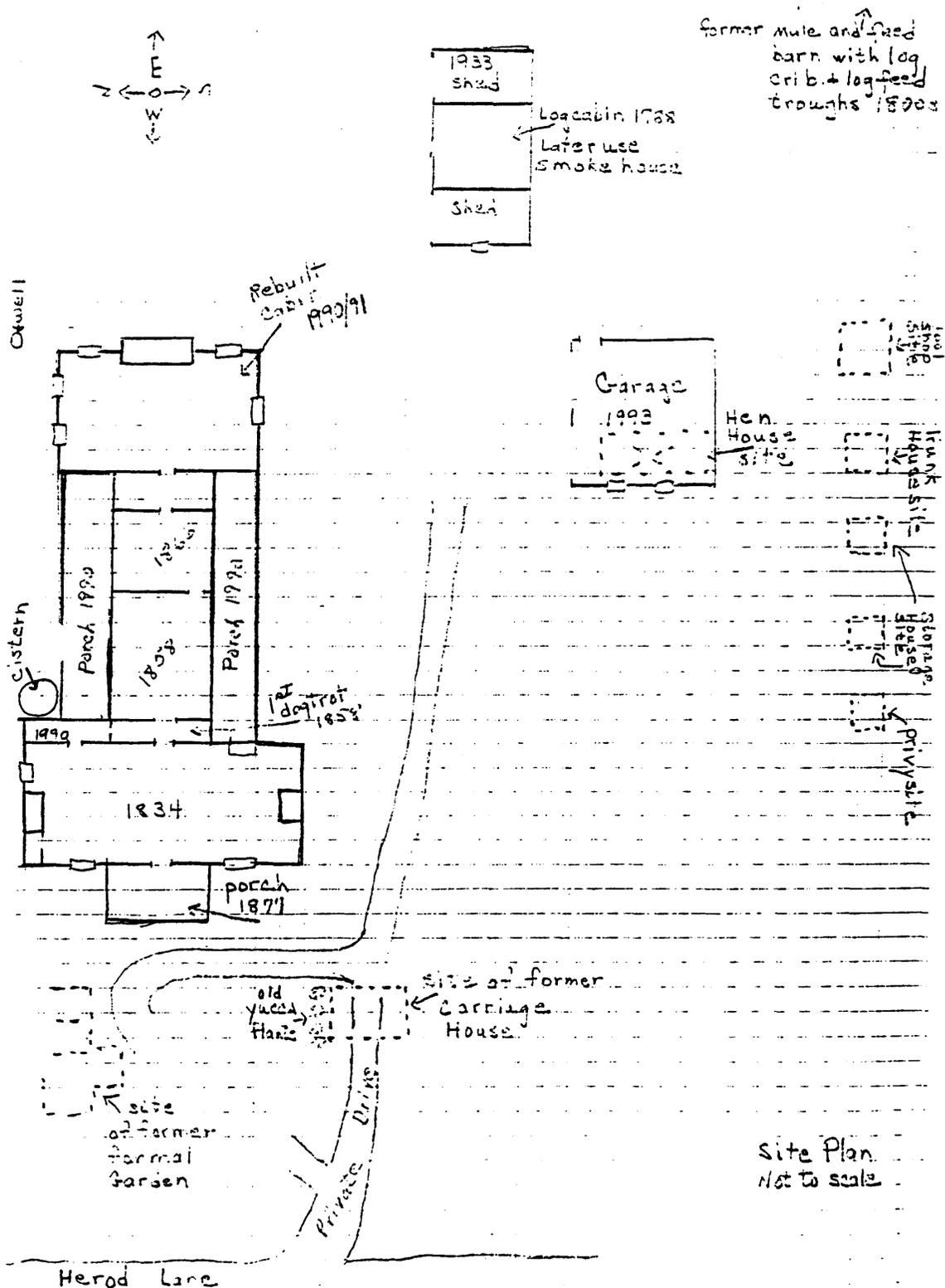
Second floor  
Not to scale

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt - Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN



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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8 Averitt -Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Averitt-Herod House is being nominated to the National Register under criteria A and C for its significance in Trousdale County during the Civil War and for its Architectural significance. The house is one of the earliest residences in the area and its location on the only road from the town of Hartsville to Harts Ferry and warehouse on the Cumberland River. This road was known as the Winslow Hart Road during the early part of the nineteenth century. It was later named Old River Road and is now known as Herod Lane.

Architecturally the house is a good example of the transitional Federal/Greek Revival period that evolved from a simple two story central hall plan into a T-plan as needs of the Averitt and Herod families changed. The addition of the bathrooms and the rebuilding of the rear room do not detract from the overall integrity of the house.

Trousdale County was originally a part of Davidson County, North Carolina. While still under the governing of North Carolina, the first white longhunters entered the area. In 1777 Big Foot Spencer explored and hunted along the banks of the Cumberland River and Goose Creek. By 1784 the Bledsoe brothers were surveying the border between Virginia and North Carolina (now Kentucky and Tennessee). The Bledsoes stayed in the Castalian Springs area, building two forts, Bledsoes Fort and Greenfield Fort, settling there with their families. With their occupation, other white settlers came. One of these early settlers was Henry Turney, a veteran of the Revolutionary War.

Henry Turney received his own land grant of 640 acres for his service in the Revolutionary War, on July 13, 1788. Turney's name also appears on the Sumner County (Trousdale County was created in 1870 from portions of the surrounding counties) Tax List of 1787 to 1794 (page 61). At the time he is shown to own 1,280 acres. The small, one room dirt floor log cabin on the south side of the Averitt-Herod House is thought to have been built by Henry Turner circa 1788. His 640 acre land grant was bordered by two sides by the Cumberland River and Goose Creek. As both of these streams were subject to flooding he chose to build his larger home on the land that he owned farther away from these streams. So in 1795 Henry Turney conveyed to Michael Turney, presumably his son, the 640 acre land grant. On February 15, 1797 Michael Turney sold to Samuel Mitchell the 640 acres. Samuel Mitchell only kept the land for a short period of time, selling it to Richard and William Locke Alexander on September 26, 1797. Richard and William Lock Alexander sold 160 acres of the 640 acres on June 10, 1817 to Patrick Hamilton. It is on this 160 acres that the Averitt-Herod House was built. It is believed that one of these owners was the builder of the cabin that served as a kitchen/slave quarters for the Averitt-Herod House. It was a very primitive one room building, but much improved over the older 1788 cabin in the side yard. On October 6, 1834, Patrick Hamilton sold the 160 acres to Peter Averitt Sr.

This 160 acres was on the main road leading south of Hartsville to the Cumberland River, the only means of major transportation at the time. So the Winslow Hart Road (now Herod Road) was a prominent place to build a house. Peter Averitt, Sr. is credited with building the two story section of the Averitt-Herod House. Peter Averitt died in 1842. In her petition for dower, his second wife Martha inherited the house, referred to as ". . .the Mansion House in which her said husband dwelt upon his death. . .," and farm. Martha Averitt continued to operate the farm until her death in 1857. Upon her death she willed the house, farm and slaves to her stepson Richard. Richard became the beneficiary because Martha said he had been good to her and she did not want her slaves divided up. She knew Richard would not divide the slaves because they had come into the family through his mother, Elizabeth Clay.

Richard Averitt had two children by his first wife. His second wife, Martha Malvena Neely, never had children, but she and Richard raised eleven nieces and nephews. At various times the mothers of these nieces and nephews also stayed at the house. The large number of people living in the house at various times prompted Richard Averitt to add on the dogtrot and first room of the ell. The cabin behind the house continued to be

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Averitt-Herod House  
Trousdale County, TN

used as a kitchen and slave residence. At the end of the Civil War Richard and Martha Malvena Neely Averitt added the second room to the ell which became the new kitchen. The loss of slaves and the invention of the iron cooking range probably had a lot to do with the change in kitchens. The addition of the new kitchen left only a space of six feet between the house and the old cabin.

In 1877 Richard Averitt employed W. H. Robeson to build the front porch. Between 1881 and 1887 Richard Averitt sold the house and farm, now 217 acres, to his sister Christina R. Averitt and her husband William Henry Hale. Christina Averitt and William Henry Hale resided in the house until January 1900. It is not known when the second dogtrot was constructed attaching the old cabin to the house, but it occurred before 1900.

The deed to the Herod family is dated January 25, 1900. Wade P. Herod, Sr. lived here until his death in 1925. He was a very prominent man in the community. He was one of the early depositors in the Bank of Hartsville, which was established in 1884. He was a farmer and a mule breeder. The mule was the main source of power used for farming at that time in this area. Wade Herod offered an excellent stock and guaranteed a live colt. Hanging framed in the Averitt-Herod House, is one of the Herod advertisement posters from the year 1916. Wade Herod Sr. was a squire for Trousdale County for many years. When the present courthouse was rebuilt in 1905, after a 1904 fire, Wade Herod, Sr. donated the furniture for the courtroom.

Victoria Herod continued to live in the Averitt-Herod House until her death in 1943. Her daughter Susie lived in the house with her as did her son Garrett, who lived there for part of the time. In 1932 Victoria Herod ask another of her sons, Julius, to come and live at the house and manage the farm. He operated the farm until her death in 1943. After Victoria Herod's death her daughter Susie and son Garrett bought the house and farm from the other heirs. Susie lived in the house until her death in 1959 and Garrett until his death in 1979.

In 1980 the Averitt-Herod House and farm were sold to a neighbor, Roger Taylor. Mr. Taylor only used the land and the house stood vacant for seven years. In 1987 the present owner, Julia Herod and Lewis Wesley Carnahan purchased the Averitt Herod House and ten acres from Roger Taylor. Julia Herod is the granddaughter of Wade and Victoria Herod.

## Military Significance

Beginning in September of 1862, Federal troops occupied Hartsville and the surrounding countryside. The 39th Union Brigade Garrison was located on high ground, one hundred yards from the Cumberland River, some yards northeast of the present Coleman Winston Bridge. A raid occurred in Hartsville When General John Hunt Morgan, in conjunction with General Braxton Bragg, attacked the 39th Union Brigade. Morgan persistently applied for permission to make the raid and was granted permission to attack the Union camp. On December 7, 1862, a Sunday, the first shot of the raid, occurring just before sunrise, is credited to Joseph T. Ober, a seventeen year old from Company H. Colonel A. B. Moore, U.S.A, was taken prisoner along with his men by Morgan. The Union loss included 58 killed, 204 wounded, and 1834 missing or prisoner. The Confederate loss was 139 in all.<sup>1</sup> The raid is considered to be one of the more successful Cavalry raids of the Confederate Army. Morgan lost fifteen men while capturing the larger Union force. Morgan reportedly loaded all the wagons used by the Union forces with their captured arms, ammunition, and food and carried them across the river.

<sup>1</sup> E. B. Long, Barbara Long. The Civil War Day by Day: An Almanac 1861-1862. Doubleday, 1971. page 294. Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Buel, eds. Retreat from Gettysburg: Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. New York: Castle Books, Vol. 3, page 605.

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Colonel John M. Harlan, U.S.A., stationed at Castalian Springs, nine miles away, reached Hartsville and attacked the Confederate rear-guard.<sup>2</sup> Harlan's Brigade buried the dead from both sides of the conflict. "He found a house near the battlefield in which there were wounded rebels whom he paroled."<sup>3</sup> The Averitt House is believed to be the house mentioned in narratives of the raid, as it was the only large house in the vicinity at that time.

While the Confederate forces succeeded in the raid, the Union Army continued to occupy Hartsville for three years and a small campsite is located on the lower hill on the adjoining property. The campsite is clearly visible from the house. The Union occupation of this area was probably to control the use of the Harts Ferry during the war. The Averitt-Herod House stands on a knoll that overlooks the main portion of the battlefield and could not have escaped the battle. In addition the proximity of the house to the Union camp and the role it played in housing the wounded soldiers give it local significance for its role in the Civil War and Morgan's successful raid on Hartsville.

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<sup>2</sup> Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Buel, eds. Retreat from Gettysburg: Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. New York: Castle Books, Vol. 3, page 605.

<sup>3</sup> William Wirt Calkins. War of the Great Rebellion, 1862 - 1865.

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The Averitt-Herod House consist of ten acres as shown on the attached Tousdale County Tax Map #27, Parcel 13.02.

The tax map for this nomination has the scale of 1" = 400'. This scale tax map is prepared by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for rominations and has found that the 1" = 400' adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historic Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

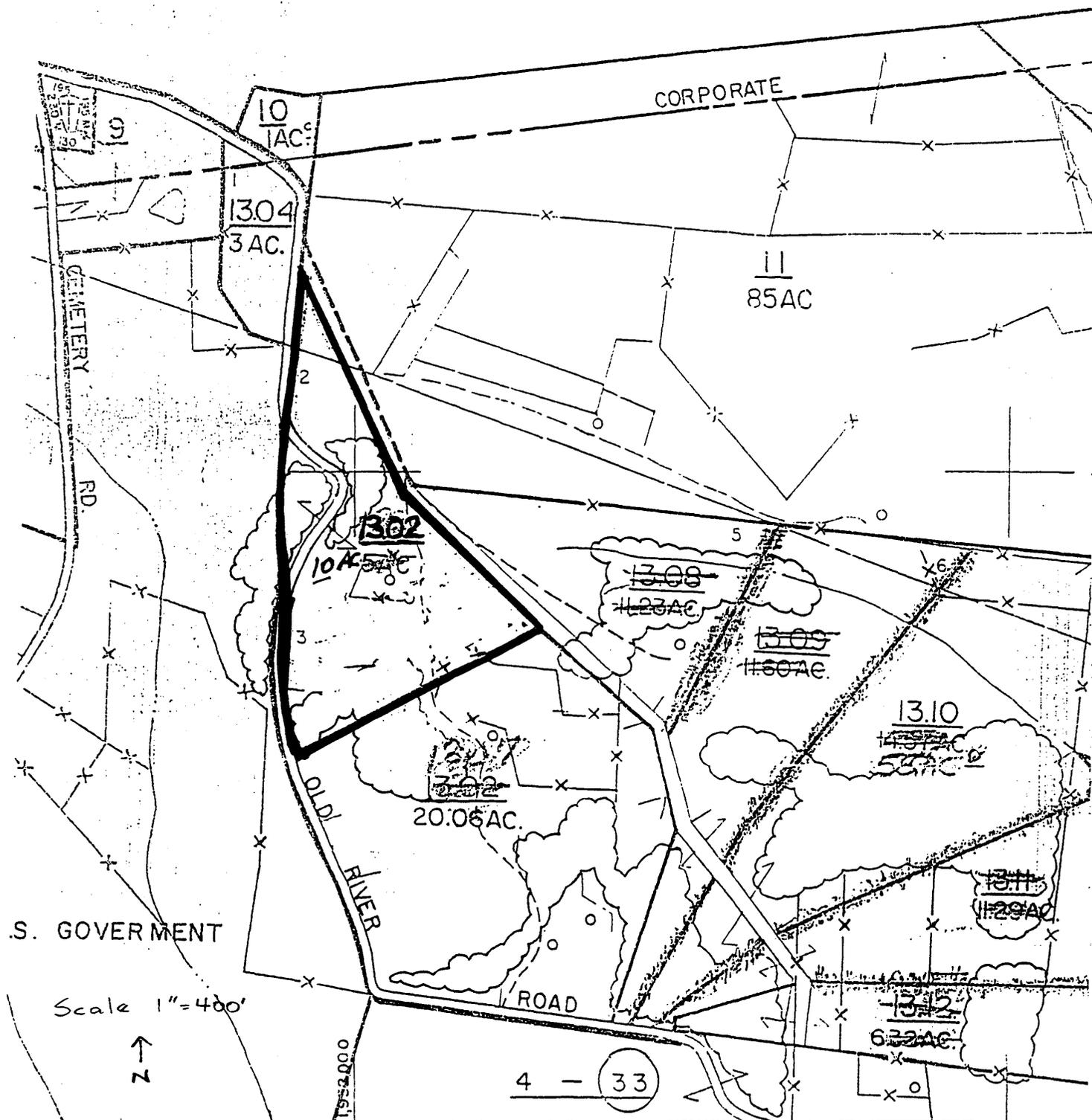
The property included in the nomination consist of all the property currently associated with the house.

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TAX MAP 27 -  
PARCEL 13.02

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Averitt-Herod House  
395 Herod Lane  
Hartsville, Trousdale County, Tennessee  
Photographs by: Dwight Jewell  
Date: July 1995  
Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

1 of 34

West facade as approached by driveway, showing side of ca. 1788 cabin with shed and 1993 garage, facing east

2 of 34

West facade showing front of 1834 section and 1877/1989 porch, facing east.

3 of 34

West facade and north gable end of house, facing southeast

4 of 34

West facade with complete north side of house, facing southeast

5 of 34

Close-up of north side of ell, showing all four chimneys and 1990/1991 bathroom additions, facing south

6 of 34

East elevation, showing massive stone chimney, facing west

7 of 34

South elevation of complete house, facing north

8 of 34

Complete property, west facade, south elevation, 1788 log cabin with shed and 1993 garage, facing north

9 of 34

Close-up view of north gable showing trim and weatherboarding, facing south

10 of 34

Detail of entrance into 1834 section with arched transom, cedar threshold, and original floor of 1877 porch, facing east

11 of 34

Detail of front window with original shutters, facing east

12 of 34

Detail of original shutter with hardware

13 of 34

Massive stones of foundation, top stone is seven inches high, thirty-nine inches wide, ten feet and eight inches long, facing southeast

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Entrance foyer of 1834 section, showing door with transom which opens onto 1877 porch

15 of 34

Winding stair in entrance foyer, looking east into first dogtrot that connects 1834 section to 1858 ell

16 of 34

Upstairs sitting area at top of winding stairs

17 of 34

Detail of inside window

18 of 34

Mantle in parlor

19 of 34

Detail of one of the four panel doors with original hardware, showing door frame and ten inch baseboards

20 of 34

Detail of one of the Tennessee Carpenter mantles, downstairs north bedroom

21 of 34

Downstairs north bedroom heart of pine floor with bloodstain and exterior poplar threshold, close-up of door facing and ten inch baseboard

22 of 34

Details of doorway between entrance foyer and north bedroom, heart of pine floor, poplar interior threshold and row of tack marks made by tacking down hand-woven strips of floor cloth

23 of 34

Tennessee Carpenter mantle in north upstairs bedroom, showing coal grate

24 of 34

Close-up of fireplace in south upstairs bedroom showing original fireplace walls

25 of 34

Close-up of board ceiling with sand finish paint in first dogtrot

26 of 34

Tennessee Carpenters mantle with original black paint, in living room

27 of 34

Poplar board ceiling of living room

28 of 34

Dining room showing brick chimney, closet beside chimney

29 of 34

Wall that is now in the second dogtrot

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30 of 34

Stone fireplace rebuilt out of original stones, original mantle from the original cabin

31 of 34

Door in kitchen with original hardware, saved from original cabin

32 of 34

First cabin (ca. 1788) in side yard with shed additions, facing south

33 of 34

Detail of Dovetail of cabin

34 of 34

Rear view, south of cabin showing large logs, facing north