

Subject: Fwd: Rossville Historic District Information
Date: Friday, January 8, 2016 at 4:02:29 PM Central Standard Time
From: Sally Spencer
To: judy.watters@gmail.com
Attachments: 01000726-Rossville Historic District.pdf, ATT00001.htm

Judy,

Attached is the information that I got from Caroline Eller. This verifies the information that I have from the Tennessee Historical Commission. Please give me a call so that I can explain the email because it answers a question that I asked Caroline.

Sally

Begin forwarded message:

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 01000726

Date Listed: 07/19/01

Rossville Historic District
Property Name

Fayette
County

TN
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

7/19/01
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

8. Statement of Significance: Period of Significance

The justified period of significance that reflects the cultural resources enumerated in the district's inventory is 1870 to 1950.

This information was confirmed with Claudette Stager, National Register Coordinator, TNSHPO, by telephone.

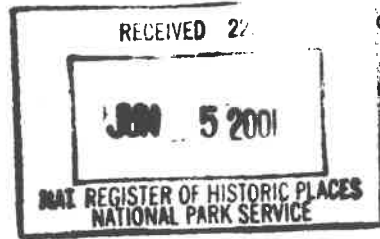
DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

male



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 Rossville Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly along Main, Second, and Front Streets N/A not for publication
city or town Rossville N/A vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Fayette code 047 zip code 38066

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. Hays 6/1/01
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:)

Signature of the Keeper
Beth A. Savage

Date of Action
7/19/01

Rossville Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, Tennessee
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	
36	13	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
36	13	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

COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant

RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant

RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival; Queen Anne; Gothic Revival;

Greek Revival; Craftsman

OTHER: I-House; 1 & 2 Part Commercial Buildings

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK; STONE; CONCRETE

walls Weatherboard; BRICK; STUCCO; METAL
Synthetic

roof ASPHALT; METAL

other N/A

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

Rossville Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette, Tennessee
County and State

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.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

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 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1870-1950

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown, multiple

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: _____

Rossville Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Approximately 16 acres Rossville 416 SE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>268460</u>	<u>3881180</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>268700</u>	<u>3880750</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>268450</u>	<u>3880800</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>268220</u>	<u>3881120</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 Mary Allison Haynie
organization Middle Tennessee State University/ Public History Program date November 20, 1999
street & number 1205 Grantland telephone 615-848-7142
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37129

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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 MULTIPLE, See Continuation Sheet
street & number N/A telephone N/A
city or town N/A state N/A zip code N/A

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

DESCRIPTION

The residential, commercial, and religious resources of the Rossville Historic District date to the period 1870 to 1950. These buildings are centrally located and form the core of Rossville, Tennessee, a rural town and community. The current population of the town is 450. Rossville is located at the intersection of State Highway 194 and U.S. Highway 57 in the southwest corner of Fayette County. Highway 57 runs east to west, paralleling the Memphis and Charleston Railroad and the southern boundary of the state.

Situated on the Wolf River, the Fayette County landscape contains rolling hills, fertile soil, and a low valley. The town runs north to south with the railroad located at the north end. Front Street, Main Street, and Second Street form the boundaries of the commercial square that borders the railroad. To the south of the square, residential buildings line Second Street and Main Street on either side. Further south from downtown, Main Street merges with Second Street and the name changes to the Rossville-Macon Road. A large creek that runs parallel to the Rossville-Macon Road forms the eastern border of the residential lots and therefore, the district. Parallel and one block west of Second Street is Third Street, which forms a western border between the district and the farmland that makes up the surrounding countryside. The lot sizes are inconsistent due to changes in ownership over time, but they form a distinct development pattern that begins at the railroad and runs south. Outside the district, modern industrial development along Highway 57 has changed the landscape from one of farms to one of large industrial complexes.

The cultural resources illustrate architectural patterns common to Tennessee from 1870 to 1950. The residential buildings represent Victorian folk houses that mainly consist of Gabled Ell homes with Queen Anne, Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Greek Revival, and Gothic Revival stylistic influences. In addition, bungalows, four-squares and one I-house contribute to the diversity of architectural styles. Commercial buildings represent late nineteenth century, two-story commercial form and one-story, early 20th century commercial form. The church building, constructed of brick, represents the Gothic Revival style. The historical and architectural character of the community reflects its location in a rural landscape and its development as a railroad town, supported by agricultural production in the surrounding area and commerce.

An inventory was completed within the town limits to evaluate the cultural resources according to the National Register criteria and establish the boundaries and significance of the historic district. The total number of cultural resources inventoried is forty-nine. There are thirty-six contributing buildings and thirteen non-contributing buildings. Contributing buildings retain their architectural integrity including form, design, materials, and association with other contributing buildings. Non-contributing buildings include those built after 1950 and those that have lost their architectural

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

integrity due to substantial alterations. Listed below according to street and address are the forty-nine primary buildings and outbuildings with a brief description of each. All windows are double-hung-sash unless noted.

Inventory of Structures

Front Street

1. 25 Front Street. c. 1960. Ranch, Minimal Traditional. 1-story rectangular plan, concrete foundation, half brick and half weatherboard siding, hip roof with asphalt shingles, central projecting hip roof portico with wrought iron supports, three-bay facade with multi-panel door and paired 1:1 windows. Integral carport with wrought iron supports. (NC)
2. 30 Front. c. 1910. Four-square, 2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, one gable dormer with lattice vent, square cupola with pyramidal roof and louvered vent, three-bay, facade with two sets of triple 1:1 windows and 4-panel door with 4-light transom; central portico with flared arched roof, supported by battered brick piers on square brick piers; conical roof, bay with 9-light windows on each side and hip roof; side porch with battered columns that is screened. Shutters on all windows. (C)
3. 60 Front Street. Morrison's Store; Rossville Grocery Market. c.1938. Twentieth century, commercial. 1-story, brick foundation, common bond brick construction, and a stepped parapet with tile coping. There is a flat, cantilevered metal roof along the facade and large display windows. Double glass doors form the entrance. This building is comprised of two, formerly separate buildings. (C)
4. 70 Front Street. Rossville Bank. c.1953 Art Deco. 1-story, brick foundation, brick veneer; cast stone, stepped parapet; seven-bay facade contains glass door, entry with sidelights and full transom; tall, rectangular, single light windows and signage above entry on section of cast stone; cantilevered metal roof over entry. (NC)

Main Street

5. 185 Main. c. 1890. Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, 4 gable roof dormers, 1 brick interior chimney; three-bay facade with full light door, 3/4 sidelights, full transom, flanked by 1:1 windows; full, wrap-around porch with hip roof and Tuscan columns. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
6. 240 Main Street. c. 1890. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival detailing. 1-story, concrete block foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one, interior end brick chimney covered with stucco; three-bay façade, three-quarters porch with shed roof, round Tuscan columns, pair of 1:1 windows in the front gable, and another pair to the south of a panel door. (C)
 7. 245 Main. c. 1910. Queen Anne with Colonial Revival detailing. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, wrap-around porch with hip roof, paired Doric columns on stone piers; projecting gable with 1:1 window. Three-bay facade with 1:1 windows with shutters, 1/2 light door flanked by 3/4 sidelights and diamond pattern transom. 1:1 windows elsewhere and one gable roof dormer with a pair of 2:2 windows. (C)
 8. 250 Main. c.1887. Queen Anne with Colonial Revival detailing. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard, wrap-around porch with hip roof, paired round Tuscan columns on stone piers. 1:1 windows with shutters; hip roof, asphalt shingles, 2 interior brick chimneys and 1 exterior end brick chimney, all painted white. Screened porch along the north elevation; full single light door with full transom, flanked by 3/4 sidelights and two large 1:1 windows. P.C. Stone built the home and her grandfather, Robert Clark Stone and V. Morris Stone added the second story. (C)
 9. 255 Main. c.1890. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival detailing. 1-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one interior, central brick chimney; four-bay facade with 9:1 windows, paired in the gable, and a 12 light door, 3/4 porch with shed roof and columns on brick piers. (C)
 10. 270 Main. c.1890, Queen Anne cottage. 1-1/2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, wrap around porch with hip roof and Doric columns, four hip roof dormers with triple 1:1 windows, 2 interior other brick chimneys painted white. The three-bay facade with door composed of multi-light and multi-panels; pair of 6:1 windows in the front gable and a triple set of 6:1 windows, north of the door. Exterior shutters on all windows. (C)
 11. 300 Main. c.1930 Minimal Traditional. 1-story, concrete block foundation with rear addition, synthetic siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay façade, central portico with gable roof and wrought iron supports, 12 light door flanked by paired 3:1 windows with metal awnings. Large, gable roof, rear addition in the rear with weatherboard siding and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

3:1 windows. Gable roof portico with square columns on north elevation and one metal interior chimney flue. (C)

12. 310 Main. c.1960, Minimal Traditional. 1-story, rectangle, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; four-bay façade with 1:1 storm windows with shutters, gable roof portico with wrought iron supports, metal door with panels. Located on the original site of the first school. (NC)
13. 315 Main. c.1880, Gabled Ell with Queen Anne detailing. 1-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one brick exterior end, central chimney. 3/4 porch with shed roof on turned posts and valence. Three-bay façade with paired, 1:1 windows, modern single light door, and bay window with a conical roof and 1:1 windows. Front gable also has a combination of octagon and square shingles. (C)
14. 330 Main. c.1960. Minimal Traditional. 1-story, rectangle, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay façade with 1/1 storm windows and vertical casements with full lights, one set of three and one group of five; front door is hidden by metal security bars. Gable roof carport extends from the south elevation. Located on lot originally occupied by the first school. (NC).
15. 340 Main. Rossville Methodist Church. 1923. Gothic Revival. Brick construction, brick foundation, and gable roof over the central chapel, flanked by two projecting square bell towers, which cover the entrances. Front gable contains a large stain glass Gothic point window. Each entrance has a pair of double doors with 5 panels and a pointed stain glass transom. Decorative brickwork includes double-header courses on the doors and windows and corbelling along the roof line. Side elevations feature a series of pointed stained glass windows. Gable roof addition on the south side and second addition in the rear (J.L. Crawford Fellowship Hall) with a hip roof and 6:6 windows and brick siding. Serves as an educational and recreational facility. The brick siding and design of the additions is very complimentary to the original structure. (C)
16. 355 Main. c.1960. Minimal traditional. 1-story commercial, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; recessed entry with a glass door, 1:1 storm windows. (NC)
17. 360 Main. J.L. Crawford House. c.1890. Gabled Ell with Queen Anne detailing. 1-1/2 story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade with pair of Queen Anne multi-light-over-one windows and front door, which has a single light and panels with multi-light sides; wrap-around porch with hip roof and Doric columns;

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

gable roof portico with columns and new decorative valence; fish scale shingles in front gable; hip roof bay containing Queen Anne multi-light window over a single light; addition with gable roof and flared hip roof dormer with a triple set of Queen Anne multi-light windows. (C)

Very large garage c.1999 3-car garage. weatherboard siding, gable roof with asphalt shingles and 1:1 windows. (NC)

18.375 Main. Spencer House. c.1910 (1919). Craftsman, Four-Square. 2-story, brick construction, brick foundation, hip roof, asphalt shingles; rear addition with hip roof, one interior chimney; wrap-around porch with hip roof on brick piers, multi-light over one windows; three-bay façade with Craftsman, multi-light door flanked by multi-light sides with full transom of 24 lights. 2nd floor has set of three windows flanked by a paired windows. The bay window on south elevation has a conical roof. (C)

Horse Barn c. 1900. Vertical board siding, standing seam metal roof with asphalt shingles. (C)

19.390 Main. Waller House. c.1890. Queen Anne cottage. 1-1/2 story, concrete foundation, synthetic siding, pyramidal hip roof, asphalt shingles, 2 painted brick chimneys, one interior central and one interior; 6:6 windows with shutters, three-bay façade includes a paired window in the front gable, a door with single light and panels, a paired window, 3/4 porch with shed roof and Doric columns on brick piers; one hip roof dormer with a pair of 1:1, wrought iron railings on porch stairs, and large gable roof addition on the rear. (C)

Garage. c.1960. Gable roof garage with synthetic siding. (NC)

20.415 Main. c.1915, Craftsman cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade accented by a full porch with hip roof enclosed with large windows and supported by square columns on brick piers. Four hip roof dormers contain a triple set of 6:1 windows. Modern 3/4 light door on the enclosed porch. 12:1 windows and one exterior end chimney on a hip roof addition that has a 12 light window. (C)

Garage. c.1915. hip roof with asphalt shingles and weatherboard siding. 6:6 windows and painted double doors. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

21. 420 Main. West House; c. 1880, Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story. Concrete foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, one interior brick chimney; full porch with hip roof and columns. 6:1 windows with shutters, 4 hip roof dormers, which contain a triple set of 12:1 windows; three-bay facade with full light door and full sidelights and paired windows on either side; flat roof carport extending from the north elevation has wrought iron supports. (C)

22. 440 Main. Boyd Home; c.1870. Greek Revival, I-house. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, and gable roof, asphalt shingles, 1:1 windows with shutters; three-bay facade with colonial door flanked by 3/4 sidelights and windows; 2-story gable roof portico with paired Doric columns extending both floors; full porch on first floor has a hip roof, molded cornice, dentils, and paired Doric columns on stone piers, that are tripled on the corners. The gable of the portico has a full pediment and pent with molding and dentils and the 2nd floor porch has a bracketed step and turned balusters. All other windows are 6:6. 2 interior central brick chimneys with corbelling, painted; kitchen house connected to the hip roof porch on the north elevation has a gable roof, weatherboard siding, and one central brick chimney, painted white. (C)

Two-car garage. c.1920. weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt. (C)

23. 470 Main Street. Wolf River Café. c. 1950. 1 Part Commercial Form. 1-story, concrete block, flat roof with parapet and tile coping, large shed roof supported by logs extends along the facade, corner entrance with a glass door, one large single light display window, side entry with cantilevered shed roof; rear addition made of board-and-batten with a flat roof. Converted from a gas station in 1989. (NC).

Seed house. c.1940. corrugated sheet metal. (C)

Garage. c.1920. Fire station, single garage door, gable roof, standing seam metal. (C)

Jail; t-shirt shop. c.1950. concrete block, 2 cells and restroom, new addition on the front enclosed with latticework; hip roof, corrugated metal sheets. (NC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
24. 495 Main. c.1890. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, rectangular, commercial building, stucco, flat roof with a stepped parapet, recessed double, metal door entry flanked by large display windows protected by a large cloth awning. Second floor has 1:1 windows with carved lintels. (NC)
25. 505 Main. c.1890. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, brick, flat roof with parapet with corbelling; three-bay facade with double door entry flanked by large display windows with header course lintels. The second floor has paired single light windows with molded lintels. Decorative brickwork includes corbels along the parapet and a decorative header course above the display windows. (C)
26. 515 Main. c.1900. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, concrete foundation, corrugated metal siding, gable roof, standing seam metal sheets; three-bay facade with double door entry flanked by 6:6 windows and covered by screened doors; shed roof porch with post supports, and 2nd story windows are boarded. (C)

Second Street

27. 15 Second St. c.1890 Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, pyramidal hip roof, asphalt shingles, hip roof dormers containing triple of 9:1 windows; three-bay facade with fifteen light door flanked by a triple set of 9:1 windows with shutters; full, wrap-around porch with hip roof on Doric, fluted columns one exterior brick chimney. (C)
28. 55 Second St. c. 1900 Craftsman cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, Craftsman multi-light-over-one windows, hip roof dormers with triple set of windows; three-bay facade with full light door flanked by triple sets of windows; full porch, hip roof with dentils on the frieze, columns on brick piers, decorative brackets, and exterior end, brick chimney. (C)
29. 63 Second St. c. 1900. No Style. (This house was originally a Colonial Revival cottage, however, the house has been drastically remodeled in the last year.) 2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, side gable roof, asphalt shingles, 2-story pedimented portico, second story porch turret, one brick interior chimney; 6:6 windows, three-bay facade with multi-light door flanked by paired windows; 15- light door in 1/2 story of the front

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

gable, fanlight above a pair of multi-light doors leading out to porch portico, 1:1 windows on second story. (NC)

30. 85 Second St. c.1915. Craftsman Bungalow. 1-story, brick foundation, gable roof, asphalt shingles, central screened porch with gable roof and paired Doric columns on brick piers; five-bay facade with 4 sets of paired 9:1 windows with shutters, concealed door, one interior central chimney. (C)

Garage. c.1920 garage, hip roof and clapboard siding (C)

31. 105 Second St. c. 1925. Craftsman, Bungalow. Concrete foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade with triple of 6:1 windows, a triple of 8 light windows, and a craftsman door with 12 lights flanked by 5 light sides; multiple roofplanes; wrap-around porch with gable roof projection on brick piers and open brick balustrade; other windows are 9:1. (C)

House, c.1900. Gable roof and asbestos asphalt shingle siding (C)

Garage. c.1920. Gable roof and asbestos siding. (C)

32. 120 Second St. c. 1920. Craftsman Bungalow. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, synthetic siding, 1:1 windows with lintels, gable roof, asphalt shingles hipped roof dormer with two windows, side porch that is screened has hip roof, exposed rafter tails, and brick piers. (C)

33. 125 Second St. c.1960 Minimal Traditional. 1-story, concrete foundation brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, shed roof porch, columns and gable roof carport with columns; three-bay facade with 1:1 windows and a pair of 1/1. (NC)

34. 135 Second St. c.1930, Tudor Revival cottage. Brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one interior brick chimney and one interior central chimney; three-bay facade with a triple set of 9:9 windows and one large multi-light window, central, gable roof portico enclosed with brick with stone arched door opening. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
35. 145 Second St. 1953, No style. 2-story, brick foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, porch with projecting steeply pitched gable supported by tapered Tuscan columns on carved wooden piers. Vergeboard, fanlight and fish scale shingles ornament the projecting porch gable. Broken pediment door surround, 3 bays with 6:6 and bay window with 6:6 and 8:12 windows. Side windows are 6:6, one interior brick chimney. The structure was originally built in the Minimal Traditional style, but has been extensively remodeled to appear like a Victorian cottage. (NC)
36. 165 Second St. Warr House. c.1870 Gothic Revival, 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, steeply pitched side gable roof, asphalt shingles, 1:1 windows; five-bay facade with single light door and four large windows with decorative lacey lintels; full wrap-around porch with hip roof and Tuscan columns on paneled stone piers; projecting centered gable with matching setback gables with vergeboard trim. (C)
37. 180 Second St. c. 1900, Colonial Revival cottage. Brick foundation, pyramidal hip roof, 1:1 windows, weatherboard siding, one interior brick chimney; three-bay facade has two windows and a 12 light door; full porch with shed roof and column supports; large addition has gable roof, weatherboard siding, 12 light door, and 1:1 windows. (C)
38. 200 Second St. c. 1900. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival influence. Concrete foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof; three-bay facade with single light door flanked by 1:1 windows; $\frac{3}{4}$, central porch with hip roof and wrought iron supports. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rossville Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places for its significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of settlement and architecture during the period 1870-1953. The district is significant under Criterion A because the settlement of Rossville represents patterns in the development of a railroad town into a center of trade and commerce associated with the growth of "cotton" agriculture in west Tennessee. Architecturally, the district is eligible under Criterion C for its collection of houses, commercial, and religious buildings that represents vernacular interpretations of popular styles between 1870 and 1950. The time period of significance for the district begins in 1870 with the post-Civil War commercial and residential development and ends in 1950 as the town's agrarian economy shifted to a single industry, which provided a resource to fund the construction of many new civic buildings and the modernization of transportation routes.

The first event to influence the settlement of the area was the construction of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. At that time, an older community named Lafayette moved to a new location to be closer to the railroad. After the Civil War period, the community, now named Rossville, suffered from the Yellow Fever epidemics of the 1890s. Homes and businesses built between 1870 and 1910 represent the early settlement of the town, associated with the growth of the cotton industry and the role of the railroad as a primary source of transportation for goods and services. A fire that occurred in 1922 destroyed much of downtown forcing many residents to rebuild businesses and homes.

Settlement and Development

During the 1830s, planters and farmers settled the land in southwest corner of Fayette County. Early residents built homes in the first town, named Lafayette in honor of Marquis de Lafayette, (1757-1834) a French general and statesman, who sailed for America in 1777 to join George Washington and spent several months touring the United States. The town of Lafayette had several early pioneer businesses including a gristmill, blacksmith shop, and a store. Lafayette Village came into existence as Civil District 10 between 1836 and 1840. The planning for the Memphis-LaGrange railroad began in 1835. These plans prompted the movement of the town, which would later develop into Rossville.

John F. Robertson, who served in the Revolutionary War, was one of the early planters to settle in the area on a 100-acre tract, surveyed in 1837. After accumulating more land, Robertson owned a 200-acre plantation in Range 3 Section 1. The southern boundary for the property was the old Tennessee/Mississippi state line or State Line Road, which is now Highway 57. Robertson contemplated selling or disposing his land to contribute to the development of the town and the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

construction of a depot. Eventually, he gave the railroad title to four acres for the construction of a railroad bed and depot. Although Robertson sold his stock of goods and merchandise from his store to William Johnson in 1846, he continued to live in Lafayette for a short time. When he moved to Shelby County, he deeded the land to his son John F. Robertson, who sold the rights to Littleberry Farris, except for one acre that went to Smith and Wallace and four acres that had been given to the railroad for a depot, (deed Q-395). Farris divided the land into tracts for settlement.

The town of Lafayette moved several hundred yards north to be closer to the railroad and settlement of the area accelerated. The residents changed the name of the new town from Lafayette to Rossville in honor of Mr. Ross, who donated the land for the building the new town. Mr. Ross was an early settler of the area who owned a large tract of land. When the Memphis and Charleston Railroad built its rail line from Memphis to Moscow and LaGrange in 1853, Mr. Ross gave land on which to locate move the town of Lafayette along the rail line. The plat for the town included 25 acres of the original 200 acres, first owned by Robertson. The old town square composed of commercial structures, and located on the land donated by Mr. Ross, occupies the current sections of Front Street and Main Street included in the historic district.

According to Tennessee historian Carroll Van West, railroad towns in Tennessee developed according to two different patterns during the early nineteenth century. Rossville represents the T-plan, more common to the period 1850-1890. The railroad tracks form the top of the T and the passenger depot stands at the head of the town. Industrial sites are located across the tracks and a short distance down from the depot to separate passenger, commercial, and industrial uses of the railroad. The most expensive real estate became located closest to the top of the T in close proximity to the commercial center and the depot. Lots farther away from downtown sold at cheaper rates (West 1995:390). As noted in the landscape of Rossville, homes associated with prominent citizens, such as 440 Main, the Boyd home, and 165 Second, the Warr Home, are located at the end of the two streets leading towards town, closer to the commercial area. Main streets, like the one in Rossville, radiate from the commercial district, which is located at the top of the T and next to the railroad. In the case of Rossville, there are two primary streets, Main Street and Second Street. Further south from downtown these two streets merge.

By the 1850s, Rossville had grown into a railroad town with a commercial center, a depot, and residential areas. The plat for the town established lots of convenient size for businesses and family residences. The original plat of the town has been lost over time, but according to oral history, surveyors laid out a plat of 57 lots, many of which did not sell until after the Civil War. In 1854, the first lot deed went to Joshua B. Byasee, who built a frame house. Nicholas H. Isbell and Lucius Swift owned the first dry goods store, built in 1853. Arthur Butts owned the first hotel. Joshua Byasee served as a landlord in 1860 for a boarding house with 13 rooms or roomers

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 12Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

(Spencer:1). The 1860s City Directory shows that Margaret, Byasee's wife, ran a boarding house or hotel in Rossville in 1860. Nicholas H. Isbell owned the first blacksmith shop, located on the south side of the MCRR. In 1855, Dr. Americus Warr moved to Rossville with his father, James Warr. The Warrs were one of the earliest families to become permanent residents of the future town of Rossville.

During the Civil War, Union soldiers used Rossville as a campsite for three years, destroying many of the antebellum homes and buildings. A flood occurred in 1864, which destroyed the remnants of the antebellum homes that survived the Civil War. During the 1870s, the town began to rebuild as residential areas and businesses grew southward from the railroad tracks. Yellow Fever outbreaks, however, hampered a speedy recovery. (Spencer: 2).

During the Reconstruction Era, Rossville became a center for trade with numerous mercantile stores that served the residents and surrounding farms. By September 1873, the following businesses occupied the town: N.H. Isbell & Co.; W.T. Stone; Blair & McDowell; Gwynn and Thompson; Clere, Wiseman & Co.; with A.O. Isbell, Howell & Green, and W.T. Wilson as retail grocers and dealers. Joe Wiseman managed a wagon and buggy shop and there was a hotel and livery business under the management of J.L. Cere and Brothers and Dr. James A. Lipscomb (*Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, May, 1980). Ice and mail were brought into the area by railroad. These commercial activities centered around the primary industry of the area, cotton. The town had three cotton gins, which are no longer extant. Addison W. Morrison and Towles owned a gin, located on the north side of the railroad tracks at the end of Second Street. Bill Frazier, Harold Jameson, and Logan Anderson owned and managed the second gin. Herman Walter and Murphy located their business to the north of the railroad on the west side of Main Street. This business stayed in operation until at least 1936, as shown on a Tennessee Valley Authority map of the county (TVA: 1936 and Spencer: 1).

The town incorporated in 1903 at its new location. In response to the growth of the town, the local Masons of Macon, Tennessee decided to move their Masonic Lodge to Rossville in 1908. After the move, the name changed to the A.V. Warr Lodge, F, in honor of Dr. Warr, resident of Rossville. The lodge, No. 120, moved again in the 1960s to Moscow. The organization of the Rossville Savings Bank on November 9, 1909 and the People's Bank in 1913 gave the town two financial institutions, a sign that Rossville had grown as a commercial center (*Fayette County* 1989). Rossville gradually emerged as a merchant center that included Mr. A.E. Farley's mercantile store, built in 1917. It housed a wide variety of goods. The Farley store closed down in 1986 and now houses a florist shop. A.S. Waller's store became the third mercantile store in Rossville and the building is presently vacant. The two buildings that housed these businesses plus the People's Bank building are the three two story commercial structures on Main Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Albert Sidney Waller, Sr. moved to Rossville when he was 19 and opened a mercantile business. Later, he served as the town's second mayor from 1903 to 1909. A.W. Morrison opened a mercantile store in 1938. This building now houses the Rossville Grocery, owned by Mr. Morrison's great grandson. In 1928, Addison Knox Morrison went into the mercantile business with his father, who lived on a farm near Rossville. He owned five cotton gins and later served as the town's mayor beginning in 1964. Another resident who invested in the mercantile trade is Walter Murphy, who was associated with the R.B. Nebhut and Co. Firm. He owned the W.W. Murphey Trucking Co. and went into business with W.J. Frazier and H.H. Farley to form the F and M Gin (Spencer: 2,3).

In association with all of these business enterprises, the town square of Rossville became a gathering place for large-scale farmers, sharecroppers, and townspeople between 1890 and 1910. The growth of Rossville exhibits a pattern common to railroad towns, but it is also distinct in its relationship to the local economy of Fayette County. "Railroads and increasingly mechanized agriculture brought new functions to rural towns, improving their economy and enabling farmers to support larger centers of commerce. Railroad towns like Rossville grew with the railroad and new industrial technology that continued to support the dependency on cotton agriculture of west Tennessee through the early twentieth century" (Johnson, 1994:137). In 1870, Fayette County farmers produced 20,131 bales of cotton. In 1880, they produced 35,000 bales. Then in 1886, they produced 30,000 bales along with other farm products such as wheat, corn, potatoes, oats, and tobacco (Goodspeed 1887: 799).

Cotton produced and shipped in areas such as Fayette County supported the economy of Memphis, Tennessee, the closest steamboat port city along the Mississippi River. During the 1880s and 1890s, the prices for cotton dropped and rail transportation took away from the dependency on steamboats. Cotton production moved into the industrial era through new mechanization and the organization of the Memphis Exchange (Sigafos, 1979: 70-72). With five railroad lines passing through the city, Memphis merchants and traders, who received much of the cotton coming from places like Rossville, continued to thrive on the industry (Sigafos, 1979:80-83).

Growth in business and a secure economy supported the growth of the residential areas and the establishment of civic institutions, as more people moved from the surrounding farms into the towns. Dr. Americus V. Warr built one of the first homes, c. 1870, at 165 Second Street, which is in the proposed district. The first church of Lafayette was Mt. Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church South, built on land deeded to the church by David J. Jernigan in 1850. Ulysses H. Ross donated the land for the Baptist Meeting House in 1874. In 1892, Dr. Americus V. Warr deeded land for the Methodist Episcopal Church South. By 1870, the Baptist and Methodist denominations had organized into distinct congregations. The Baptists built a church building that both congregations

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

used until 1892. In 1922, a fire swept through downtown and destroyed the Methodist church. Following the fire, the two congregations had to share a building for a second time. The Methodists used the new Baptist church until they built a new church on land donated by John L. Crawford. By 1923, the second Methodist church was complete and still stands today in the proposed district. In 1920, the Baptists built another church of their own on Second Street. Remodeled in 1926 and a second time in the 1960s, that building burned in a fire in 1997 (Fayette County 1989).

The town takes pride in its community heritage manifested in the annual picnic. The picnic evolved out of the Sunday school. In 1894 or 1895 a tabernacle built on R.B. Nebhut's land near the old clubhouse, located on the railroad, provided space for the events. Judge Estes, Reverend Tobe Hamner, and other noted evangelists led the first revivals. The Tri-Circuit Sunday School conventions, held in Rossville on an annual basis, evolved from the revivals. These traditions grew into annual Sunday School Conventions organized by Dr. A.V. Warr and R.B. Neghut. The barbecues held in conjunction with the convention became the annual Rossville picnic, which attracted thousands on the second Thursday in July. These picnics took place in a park to the west of town, but the events ended in the 1940s.

In 1866, the first school began in a one-room building on Main Street. Later the town built a new two-story frame structure and they added an auditorium in 1913. The teachers of the one-room schoolhouse boarded at the neighboring Towle's home on Main Street. They stayed on the second floor of the home. After the school expanded its facilities in 1922, the fire destroyed it. The town built a new school during the 1940s on Third Street. Previously, the train provided older students a means of transportation to Somerville for high school.

The fire of 1922 took the People's Bank, a drugstore, the Methodist church, and the homes of J.B. Rives, and A.W. Morrison. The fire also destroyed the office of Dr. F.K. West and Mr. A.E. Farley. Presently, the Rossville Bank operates as a branch of the Somerville Bank & Trust Company in the 1953 structure. The current J.B. Taylor Construction building used to be the second home of the People's Bank. During the rebuilding of Rossville after 1922, more modern style homes and commercial architecture replaced what had been lost. The town made improvements in transportation routes for pedestrians and automobiles. The rebuilding plan allowed for the modernization of city services (Rives: E).

Modernization took place in the town after W.W. Murphy became the mayor of Rossville in the early 1930s. He initiated electric lighting, concrete sidewalks, blacktopped streets, and the first street lights. During this time, the town received a new fire station along with several other new commercial structures. The introduction of the automobile and paved roads allowed for the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

opening of two gas stations, directly across the street from one another at the end of Main Street, in the original T of the town plan. The gas stations closed in the 1950s. The business of Wolf River Café (#23) is now located in the former gas station on the east side of the road. It is a c. 1950 concrete block building. The new bank building replaced the other gas station, located on the west side of Main Street. The town had a small jail located in the Wolf River Cafe parking lot area. It housed only two prisoners at a time, retaining them until they could travel to Somerville, the county seat.

The fire truck purchased in 1958, made the final necessary addition to the few public services. The town square got a new asphalt coating and natural gas became available to everyone in 1960. Other improvements included the construction of a new bridge over the Wolf River. It was named in honor of Dr. F.K. West. The Interstate Utilities Company of Bogalusa, Louisiana came in town. Improved sidewalks built along Second Street from the home of W.J. Fraizer to the W.W. Murphy home beautified the town. The town built a new brick elementary school along Third Street, just outside the district. It opened on September 6, 1948. City water began in 1961.

The following year, the town applied for a Federal grant to build a new post office. It was erected in 1964 in front of the Methodist Church after approval from Washington D.C. During the 1960s, modern development continued to change Rossville with the construction of a new jailhouse and new town hall. The town extended the limits to accommodate these new buildings, more than doubling the size of Rossville. Other improvements included new streetlights, storm sewers under the streets, improved city water and sewage system, the addition of concrete curbing to the streets, and the purchase of land for a town water tank. During this era, the Tennessee Foods, Inc., a frozen food plant, built an industrial site and started operating in Rossville. It was a six million dollar project. Rossville's connection to the Memphis Charleston Railroad allowed the town to continue to survive change and retain its rural community atmosphere within the historic core of the community. Contributing further to its ability to survive as a commercial area and home to mercantile stores is the proximity of the town to the city of Memphis, a major urban and transportation center of Tennessee (Rives: G,H,I).

The built environment, comprised of rural residential and commercial buildings, exemplifies the development of a rural Southern town during the Victorian era up into the 1950s. Many of the homes retain the plan of early folk houses of Tennessee, but they are dressed with stylistic features, common to the Victorian era. Folk house plans include, gabled ell, hall-and-parlor, four-squares, and I-house plans (McAlester 1998:90-101). The stylistic patterns of the residential buildings include Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, and Colonial Revival influences. The only Greek Revival influenced building is located at 440 Main. Featured on the house are a two-story pedimented portico addition with Tuscan columns and a molded cornice with dentils. These are classical features commonly applied to I- houses in the South in the early 20th century (McAlester

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

1998:96). Several homes along Main including, 240, 250, and 270, have Colonial Revival features such as one-story porches with Doric columns and 1:1 double-hung-sash windows that are often paired.

The best example of Gothic Revival influences is the Methodist Church. The pointed arched entries and windows, stained glass, and square towers, forming the entrances for men and women, are typical features of the Gothic style found in European churches. The Warr House, at 165 Second Street, has steeply pitch pointed gable dormers with matching gables (McAlester 1998:203). Queen Anne features including shingles, wrap-around porches, turned posts, and valences with spindles are features found on 360 Main and 315 Main.

The architectural landscape underwent several periods of development. Several historical events affected the landscape of the town, including the completion of the railroad, the invention of the cotton gin, and the fire of 1922, which caused a period of rebuilding. Introduced at this time were new homes reflecting the Craftsman era and new commercial structures that are one-story. The bungalow at 105 Second Street and the four-square at 375 Main Street have typical Craftsman features such as brick piers, brick balustrades, multi-light windows and doors, and windows grouped in sets of three.

The commercial structures, located on the downtown square date to the Victorian era of post-railroad town development characterized locally by the post fire period and the time period after the introduction of the automobile. The early twentieth-century commercial buildings are two-story, rectangular in plan, and share walls. They have large display windows on the first floor and double-hung sash windows on the second floor. Continued occupation and use of these buildings has preserved their integrity in terms of function. The Rossville Grocery Market (#3), a one-story extended brick structure with a stepped parapet façade represents the first commercial building after the 1922 fire. The Art Deco bank (#4) and the concrete block building (#23), housing the cafe, represent two of the commercial enterprises built after the introduction of the automobile.

Most buildings are set on rectangular lots that run a full city block in depth. The green space surrounding the homes and the landscaping that includes mature trees creates an aesthetically pleasing rural setting for the residential structures that is integral to the area. The cultural resources of the core of downtown meet criteria C because the styles and patterns of settlement exhibit traditions in the vernacular architecture of the region dating to the Victorian era, from 1870 to 1910, and the Craftsman era, from 1905 to 1930. These periods coincide with the growth of the town as a mercantile, industrial, and transportation center that served the surrounding agricultural community during the post-railroad period. The plan of Rossville is typical of a Tennessee railroad town. The second period of development coincides with the rebuilding of the town after a devastating fire. The third period is associated with the automobile period.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 17

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Fayette County Historical Society. *History of Fayette County*. Salem, West Virginia: Walsworth Press, 1989.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *History of Fayette County*. Salem, West Virginia: Walsworth Press, 1986.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, Volume 2, #6, April 1996.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, Volume 1, #11, May 1980.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *One Hundred Fifty Years in Fayette County, Tennessee 1824-1974*. Fayette County Sesquicentennial, Inc. September, 1974.
- Johnson, Hildegard Binder. "Toward a national landscape." *The Making of the American Landscape*, ed. Michael P. Conzen, 127-145. New York: Routledge, 1994.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.
- Morton, Dorothy. *19th Century Homes of Fayette County, Sesquicentennial Edition. 1824-1974.* ? DR Morton, 1974.
- Morton, Dorothy. *Fayette County*. Tennessee County History Series. Edited by Charles W. Crawford. Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1989.
- Rives, Rana Fisher. "History: Rossville, Tennessee, 19?" (photocopy). Changes and notations by Rana Fisher.
- Sigafoose, Robert A. *From Cotton Row to Beale Street*. Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1979.
- Spencer, Sally. "History Rossville, Tennessee, 19?" (photocopy). Sally Spencer, Rossville, TN.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 18

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Tennessee Valley Authority. Map of Fayette County: 8-4196-242. February 1936.

The Goodspeed Publishing Co. *Goodspeed History of Fayette and Hardeman Counties of Tennessee*. Chicago and Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887. Reprint, Woodward and Stinson Printing Co, 1973.

West, Carroll Van. *Tennessee's Historic Landscapes: A Traveler's Guide*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1995.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 19

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Rossville Historic District's northern boundary begins on the northwest corner of parcel 30 and meanders in a northeasterly direction circumventing parcel 31-1 and extending east along the northern boundary of parcels 6 and 7. At the northeast corner of parcel 7, the boundary line runs due south until it meets Front Street whereby it extends in an easterly direction, crossing Main Street and the northern boundary of parcel 18 until it meets Morrison Creek. Running south and roughly parallel behind the 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Main Street, the creek forms the district's eastern boundary. The southern boundary begins at the southeast corner of parcel A-7 and runs west to Main Street. From Main Street, the district boundary circumvents around parcel No. 40. The western boundary begins at the southwest corner of parcel A-40 and runs along the western border of said parcel until it meets Third Street. The boundary line shifts to the east and runs north behind parcels 38.04, 23, and 22. Extending north behind parcel 25.05, the boundary line shifts back west along the northern boundary of parcels 25 and 25.03 to rejoin Third Street. From there, the boundary line extends north to the point of beginning at the northwest corner of parcel 30.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Rossville Historic District includes all of the historic buildings of the downtown square and those in the residential area. These structures, consisting of a variety of commercial and residential styles, retain their integrity in building materials, use, and construction within the period of significance. Excluded from the district are areas of development that occurred after the period of significance and deteriorated buildings that fall outside the compact historic district. This includes the Rossville Elementary School c. 1920 located on corner of School Street and Third Street. Vacant and in deteriorated shape, the school building is located on a street containing numerous buildings built after the period of significance and a few early 20th century residences that have been extremely altered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 20

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Rossville Historic District
Rossville, Fayette County, Tennessee
Photos by: Claudette Stager, Louis Jackson, Ted Karpynec
Date: December 2000
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, TN

Facing east, view of 240 Main St.
#1 of 41

Facing east, view of 250 Main St.
#2 of 41

Facing east, view of porch detail of 250 Main St.
#3 of 41

Facing east, view of 270 Main St.
#4 of 41

Facing east, view of 300 Main St.
#5 of 41

Facing east, view of 310 Main St.
#6 of 41

Facing east, view of 330 Main St.
#7 of 41

Facing east, view of 340 Main St.
#8 of 41

Facing east, view of 360 Main St.
#9 of 41

Facing east, view of 390 Main St.
#10 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 21

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing east, view of 420 Main St.
#11 of 41

Facing east, view of 440 Main St.
#12 of 41

Facing north, view of 470 Main St. Wolf River Café.
#13 of 41

Facing east, view of seed house and c. 1920 fire station.
#14 of 41

Facing west, view of town square and 495, 505, and 515 Main St.
#15 of 41

Facing south, view of town square and 70 and 60 Front St.
#16 of 41

Facing west, view of 415 Main St.
#17 of 41

Facing west, view of garage to 415 Main St.
#18 of 41

Facing west, view of 375 Main St.
#19 of 41

Facing west, view of 355 Main St.
#20 of 41

Facing west, view of 315 Main St.
#21 of 41

Facing west, view of 255 Main St.
#22 of 41

Facing west, view of 245 Main St.
#23 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 22

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing west, view of 185 Main St.
#24 of 41

Facing west, view of 15 Second St.
#25 of 41

Facing west, view of 55 Second St.
#26 of 41

Facing west, view of 63 Second St.
#27 of 41

Facing west, view of 85 Second St.
#28 of 41

Facing west, view of 105 Second St.
#29 of 41

Facing west, view of 125 Second St.
#30 of 41

Facing west, view of 135 Second St.
#31 of 41

Facing west, view of 145 Second St.
#32 of 41

Facing west, view of 165 Second St.
#33 of 41

Facing east, view of 200 Second St.
#34 of 41

Facing east, view of 180 Second St.
#35 of 41

Facing north, view of 25 Front St.
#36 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 23

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing south, view of 30 Front St.
#37 of 41

Facing northeast, view of west side of 300 block of Main St.
#38 of 41

Facing southwest, view of 300 and 200 block of Main St.
#39 of 41

Facing northeast on Second St.
#40 of 41

Facing north on Second St.
#41 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	24	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
----------------	--------------------	------	----	---

PROPERTY OWNERS

MAIN STREET

185 Main Street
Gerry Gilbreath
Rossville, TN 38066

240 Main Street
Mary Jean Wade
PO Box 12
Rossville, TN 38066

245 Main Street
Marion Baker
PO Box 248
Rossville, TN 38066

250 Main Street
Rosa Anderson
PO Box 247
Rossville, TN 38066

255 Main Street
Michael Luckey
6652 Rue Beaumonde Dr.
Memphis, TN 38120-3300

270 Main Street
Elizabeth Dunn
PO Box 26
Rossville, TN 38066

300 Main Street
Dan and Terry Krueger
PO Box 185
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	25	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
----------------	-----------------	------	----	---

310 Main Street
Glossie Anderson
Rossville, TN 38066

315 Main Street
Estate of Walter Taylor
PO Box 62
Rossville, TN 38066

330 Main Street
Linville and Cathleen Wilson
PO Box 395
Rossville, TN 38066

340 Main Street
Rossville United Methodist Church
PO Box 81
Rossville, TN 38066

355 Main Street
Duncan Insurance Agency
PO Box 397
Rossville, TN 38066

360 Main Street
Mike and Lisa Thomas
Rossville, TN 38066

375 Main Street
Ken and Sally Spencer
Rossville, TN 38066

390 Main Street
Linda Calderon
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Property owners _____ Page 26

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

415 Main Street
Ann Hughes
PO Box 7
Rossville, TN 38066

420 Main Street
Gaye Sawner
PO Box 1
Rossville, TN 38066

435 Main Street
Gail's Mane Solutions
110 High Street
Rossville, TN 38066

440 Main Street
John and Missy Renshaw
PO Box 97
Rossville, TN 38066

470 Main Street
Wolf River Café
Betty Knox Salmon
905 Mt. Pleasant Road
Rossville, TN 38066

495 Main Street
Taylor-Mehrhoff Co.
PO Box 129
Rossville, TN 38066

505 Main Street (flower shop)
Ivan Harris, Jr.
PO Box 54
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	27	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
----------------	--------------------	------	----	---

515 Main Street (vacant building)

Ivan Harris, Jr.

PO Box 54

Rossville, TN 38066

FRONT STREET

25 Front Street

Taylor-Mehrhoff Co.

PO Box 129

Rossville, TN 38066

Parcel #22 Front Street (vacant lot)

Tommy Reed

90 West Old State Line Road

Collierville, TN 38017

30 Front Street

Kent and Barbara McDaniel

PO Box 129

Rossville, TN 38066

60 Front Street

Rossville Grocery

PO Box 275

Rossville, TN 38066

70 Front Street

Rossville Bank

PO Box 278

Rossville, TN 38066

SECOND STREET

15 Second Street

James Chapman

PO Box 28

Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Property owners _____ Page 28

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Parcel # 22 Second Street (vacant lot)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 01000726

Date Listed: 07/19/01

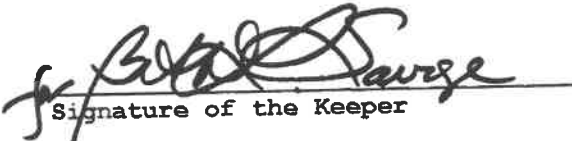
Rossville Historic District
Property Name

Fayette
County

TN
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

7/19/01
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

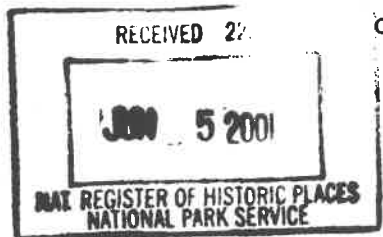
8. Statement of Significance: Period of Significance

The justified period of significance that reflects the cultural resources enumerated in the district's inventory is 1870 to 1950.

This information was confirmed with Claudette Stager, National Register Coordinator, TNSHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without attachment)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

male

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 Rossville Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly along Main, Second, and Front Streets N/A not for publication
city or town Rossville N/A vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Fayette code 047 zip code 38066

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 E. Hays 6/1/01
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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Beth A. Savage

7/19/01

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	
36	13	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
36	13	Total

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

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
- RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
- RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Colonial Revival; Queen Anne; Gothic Revival;
- Greek Revival; Craftsman
- OTHER: I-House; 1 & 2 Part Commercial Buildings

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation BRICK; STONE; CONCRETE
- walls Weatherboard; BRICK; STUCCO; METAL
Synthetic
- roof ASPHALT; METAL
- other N/A

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.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

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 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1870-1950

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown, multiple

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: _____

Rossville Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 16 acres Rossville 416 SE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>268460</u>	<u>3881180</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>268700</u>	<u>3880750</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>268450</u>	<u>3880800</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>268220</u>	<u>3881120</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 Mary Allison Haynie
organization Middle Tennessee State University/ Public History Program date November 20, 1999
street & number 1205 Grantland telephone 615-848-7142
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37129

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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 MULTIPLE, See Continuation Sheet
street & number N/A telephone N/A
city or town N/A state N/A zip code N/A

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

DESCRIPTION

The residential, commercial, and religious resources of the Rossville Historic District date to the period 1870 to 1950. These buildings are centrally located and form the core of Rossville, Tennessee, a rural town and community. The current population of the town is 450. Rossville is located at the intersection of State Highway 194 and U.S. Highway 57 in the southwest corner of Fayette County. Highway 57 runs east to west, paralleling the Memphis and Charleston Railroad and the southern boundary of the state.

Situated on the Wolf River, the Fayette County landscape contains rolling hills, fertile soil, and a low valley. The town runs north to south with the railroad located at the north end. Front Street, Main Street, and Second Street form the boundaries of the commercial square that borders the railroad. To the south of the square, residential buildings line Second Street and Main Street on either side. Further south from downtown, Main Street merges with Second Street and the name changes to the Rossville-Macon Road. A large creek that runs parallel to the Rossville-Macon Road forms the eastern border of the residential lots and therefore, the district. Parallel and one block west of Second Street is Third Street, which forms a western border between the district and the farmland that makes up the surrounding countryside. The lot sizes are inconsistent due to changes in ownership over time, but they form a distinct development pattern that begins at the railroad and runs south. Outside the district, modern industrial development along Highway 57 has changed the landscape from one of farms to one of large industrial complexes.

The cultural resources illustrate architectural patterns common to Tennessee from 1870 to 1950. The residential buildings represent Victorian folk houses that mainly consist of Gabled Ell homes with Queen Anne, Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Greek Revival, and Gothic Revival stylistic influences. In addition, bungalows, four-squares and one I-house contribute to the diversity of architectural styles. Commercial buildings represent late nineteenth century, two-story commercial form and one-story, early 20th century commercial form. The church building, constructed of brick, represents the Gothic Revival style. The historical and architectural character of the community reflects its location in a rural landscape and its development as a railroad town, supported by agricultural production in the surrounding area and commerce.

An inventory was completed within the town limits to evaluate the cultural resources according to the National Register criteria and establish the boundaries and significance of the historic district. The total number of cultural resources inventoried is forty-nine. There are thirty-six contributing buildings and thirteen non-contributing buildings. Contributing buildings retain their architectural integrity including form, design, materials, and association with other contributing buildings. Non-contributing buildings include those built after 1950 and those that have lost their architectural

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

integrity due to substantial alterations. Listed below according to street and address are the forty-nine primary buildings and outbuildings with a brief description of each. All windows are double-hung-sash unless noted.

Inventory of Structures

Front Street

1. 25 Front Street. c. 1960. Ranch, Minimal Traditional. 1-story rectangular plan, concrete foundation, half brick and half weatherboard siding, hip roof with asphalt shingles, central projecting hip roof portico with wrought iron supports, three-bay facade with multi-panel door and paired 1:1 windows. Integral carport with wrought iron supports. (NC)
2. 30 Front. c. 1910. Four-square, 2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, one gable dormer with lattice vent, square cupola with pyramidal roof and louvered vent, three-bay, facade with two sets of triple 1:1 windows and 4-panel door with 4-light transom; central portico with flared arched roof, supported by battered brick piers on square brick piers; conical roof, bay with 9-light windows on each side and hip roof; side porch with battered columns that is screened. Shutters on all windows. (C)
3. 60 Front Street. Morrison's Store; Rossville Grocery Market. c.1938. Twentieth century, commercial. 1-story, brick foundation, common bond brick construction, and a stepped parapet with tile coping. There is a flat, cantilevered metal roof along the facade and large display windows. Double glass doors form the entrance. This building is comprised of two, formerly separate buildings. (C)
4. 70 Front Street. Rossville Bank. c.1953 Art Deco. 1-story, brick foundation, brick veneer; cast stone, stepped parapet; seven-bay facade contains glass door, entry with sidelights and full transom; tall, rectangular, single light windows and signage above entry on section of cast stone; cantilevered metal roof over entry. (NC)

Main Street

5. 185 Main. c. 1890. Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, 4 gable roof dormers, 1 brick interior chimney; three-bay facade with full light door, 3/4 sidelights, full transom, flanked by 1:1 windows; full, wrap-around porch with hip roof and Tuscan columns. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
6. 240 Main Street. c. 1890. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival detailing. 1-story, concrete block foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one, interior end brick chimney covered with stucco; three-bay façade, three-quarters porch with shed roof, round Tuscan columns, pair of 1:1 windows in the front gable, and another pair to the south of a panel door. (C)
 7. 245 Main. c. 1910. Queen Anne with Colonial Revival detailing. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, wrap-around porch with hip roof, paired Doric columns on stone piers; projecting gable with 1:1 window. Three-bay facade with 1:1 windows with shutters, 1/2 light door flanked by 3/4 sidelights and diamond pattern transom. 1:1 windows elsewhere and one gable roof dormer with a pair of 2:2 windows. (C)
 8. 250 Main. c.1887. Queen Anne with Colonial Revival detailing. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard, wrap-around porch with hip roof, paired round Tuscan columns on stone piers. 1:1 windows with shutters; hip roof, asphalt shingles, 2 interior brick chimneys and 1 exterior end brick chimney, all painted white. Screened porch along the north elevation; full single light door with full transom, flanked by 3/4 sidelights and two large 1:1 windows. P.C. Stone built the home and her grandfather, Robert Clark Stone and V. Morris Stone added the second story. (C)
 9. 255 Main. c.1890. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival detailing. 1-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one interior, central brick chimney; four-bay facade with 9:1 windows, paired in the gable, and a 12 light door, 3/4 porch with shed roof and columns on brick piers. (C)
 10. 270 Main. c.1890, Queen Anne cottage. 1-1/2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, wrap around porch with hip roof and Doric columns, four hip roof dormers with triple 1:1 windows, 2 interior other brick chimneys painted white. The three-bay facade with door composed of multi-light and multi-panels; pair of 6:1 windows in the front gable and a triple set of 6:1 windows, north of the door. Exterior shutters on all windows. (C)
 11. 300 Main. c.1930 Minimal Traditional. 1-story, concrete block foundation with rear addition, synthetic siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay façade, central portico with gable roof and wrought iron supports, 12 light door flanked by paired 3:1 windows with metal awnings. Large, gable roof, rear addition in the rear with weatherboard siding and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
- 3:1 windows. Gable roof portico with square columns on north elevation and one metal interior chimney flue. (C)
12. 310 Main. c.1960, Minimal Traditional. 1-story, rectangle, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; four-bay façade with 1:1 storm windows with shutters, gable roof portico with wrought iron supports, metal door with panels. Located on the original site of the first school. (NC)
13. 315 Main. c.1880, Gabled Ell with Queen Anne detailing. 1-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one brick exterior end, central chimney. 3/4 porch with shed roof on turned posts and valence. Three-bay façade with paired, 1:1 windows, modern single light door, and bay window with a conical roof and 1:1 windows. Front gable also has a combination of octagon and square shingles. (C)
14. 330 Main. c.1960. Minimal Traditional. 1-story, rectangle, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay façade with 1/1 storm windows and vertical casements with full lights, one set of three and one group of five; front door is hidden by metal security bars. Gable roof carport extends from the south elevation. Located on lot originally occupied by the first school. (NC).
15. 340 Main. Rossville Methodist Church. 1923. Gothic Revival. Brick construction, brick foundation, and gable roof over the central chapel, flanked by two projecting square bell towers, which cover the entrances. Front gable contains a large stain glass Gothic point window. Each entrance has a pair of double doors with 5 panels and a pointed stain glass transom. Decorative brickwork includes double-header courses on the doors and windows and corbelling along the roof line. Side elevations feature a series of pointed stained glass windows. Gable roof addition on the south side and second addition in the rear (J.L. Crawford Fellowship Hall) with a hip roof and 6:6 windows and brick siding. Serves as an educational and recreational facility. The brick siding and design of the additions is very complimentary to the original structure. (C)
16. 355 Main. c.1960. Minimal traditional. 1-story commercial, brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; recessed entry with a glass door, 1:1 storm windows. (NC)
17. 360 Main. J.L. Crawford House. c.1890. Gabled Ell with Queen Anne detailing. 1-1/2 story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade with pair of Queen Anne multi-light-over-one windows and front door, which has a single light and panels with multi-light sides; wrap-around porch with hip roof and Doric columns;

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

gable roof portico with columns and new decorative valence; fish scale shingles in front gable; hip roof bay containing Queen Anne multi-light window over a single light; addition with gable roof and flared hip roof dormer with a triple set of Queen Anne multi-light windows. (C)

Very large garage c.1999 3-car garage. weatherboard siding, gable roof with asphalt shingles and 1:1 windows. (NC)

18.375 Main. Spencer House. c.1910 (1919). Craftsman, Four-Square. 2-story, brick construction, brick foundation, hip roof, asphalt shingles; rear addition with hip roof, one interior chimney; wrap-around porch with hip roof on brick piers, multi-light over one windows; three-bay façade with Craftsman, multi-light door flanked by multi-light sides with full transom of 24 lights. 2nd floor has set of three windows flanked by a paired windows. The bay window on south elevation has a conical roof. (C)

Horse Barn c. 1900. Vertical board siding, standing seam metal roof with asphalt shingles. (C)

19.390 Main. Waller House. c.1890. Queen Anne cottage. 1-1/2 story, concrete foundation, synthetic siding, pyramidal hip roof, asphalt shingles, 2 painted brick chimneys, one interior central and one interior; 6:6 windows with shutters, three-bay façade includes a paired window in the front gable, a door with single light and panels, a paired window, 3/4 porch with shed roof and Doric columns on brick piers; one hip roof dormer with a pair of 1:1, wrought iron railings on porch stairs, and large gable roof addition on the rear. (C)

Garage. c.1960. Gable roof garage with synthetic siding. (NC)

20.415 Main. c.1915, Craftsman cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade accented by a full porch with hip roof enclosed with large windows and supported by square columns on brick piers. Four hip roof dormers contain a triple set of 6:1 windows. Modern 3/4 light door on the enclosed porch. 12:1 windows and one exterior end chimney on a hip roof addition that has a 12 light window. (C)

Garage. c.1915. hip roof with asphalt shingles and weatherboard siding. 6:6 windows and painted double doors. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

21.420 Main. West House; c. 1880, Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story. Concrete foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, one interior brick chimney; full porch with hip roof and columns. 6:1 windows with shutters, 4 hip roof dormers, which contain a triple set of 12:1 windows; three-bay facade with full light door and full sidelights and paired windows on either side; flat roof carport extending from the north elevation has wrought iron supports. (C)

22.440 Main. Boyd Home; c.1870. Greek Revival, I-house. 2-story, stone foundation, weatherboard siding, and gable roof, asphalt shingles, 1:1 windows with shutters; three-bay facade with colonial door flanked by 3/4 sidelights and windows; 2-story gable roof portico with paired Doric columns extending both floors; full porch on first floor has a hip roof, molded cornice, dentils, and paired Doric columns on stone piers, that are tripled on the corners. The gable of the portico has a full pediment and pent with molding and dentils and the 2nd floor porch has a bracketed step and turned balusters. All other windows are 6:6. 2 interior central brick chimneys with corbelling, painted; kitchen house connected to the hip roof porch on the north elevation has a gable roof, weatherboard siding, and one central brick chimney, painted white. (C)

Two-car garage. c.1920. weatherboard siding, gable roof, asphalt. (C)

23.470 Main Street. Wolf River Café. c. 1950. 1 Part Commercial Form. 1-story, concrete block, flat roof with parapet and tile coping, large shed roof supported by logs extends along the facade, corner entrance with a glass door, one large single light display window, side entry with cantilevered shed roof; rear addition made of board-and-batten with a flat roof. Converted from a gas station in 1989. (NC).

Seed house. c.1940. corrugated sheet metal. (C)

Garage. c.1920. Fire station, single garage door, gable roof, standing seam metal. (C)

Jail; t-shirt shop. c.1950. concrete block, 2 cells and restroom, new addition on the front enclosed with latticework; hip roof, corrugated metal sheets. (NC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
24. 495 Main. c.1890. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, rectangular, commercial building, stucco, flat roof with a stepped parapet, recessed double, metal door entry flanked by large display windows protected by a large cloth awning. Second floor has 1:1 windows with carved lintels. (NC)
25. 505 Main. c.1890. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, brick, flat roof with parapet with corbelling; three-bay facade with double door entry flanked by large display windows with header course lintels. The second floor has paired single light windows with molded lintels. Decorative brickwork includes corbels along the parapet and a decorative header course above the display windows. (C)
26. 515 Main. c.1900. 2 Part Commercial. 2-story, concrete foundation, corrugated metal siding, gable roof, standing seam metal sheets; three-bay facade with double door entry flanked by 6:6 windows and covered by screened doors; shed roof porch with post supports, and 2nd story windows are boarded. (C)

Second Street

27. 15 Second St. c.1890 Colonial Revival cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, pyramidal hip roof, asphalt shingles, hip roof dormers containing triple of 9:1 windows; three-bay facade with fifteen light door flanked by a triple set of 9:1 windows with shutters; full, wrap-around porch with hip roof on Doric, fluted columns one exterior brick chimney. (C)
28. 55 Second St. c. 1900 Craftsman cottage. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, hip roof, asphalt shingles, Craftsman multi-light-over-one windows, hip roof dormers with triple set of windows; three-bay facade with full light door flanked by triple sets of windows; full porch, hip roof with dentils on the frieze, columns on brick piers, decorative brackets, and exterior end, brick chimney. (C)
29. 63 Second St. c. 1900. No Style. (This house was originally a Colonial Revival cottage, however, the house has been drastically remodeled in the last year.) 2-story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, side gable roof, asphalt shingles, 2-story pedimented portico, second story porch turret, one brick interior chimney; 6:6 windows, three-bay facade with multi-light door flanked by paired windows; 15- light door in 1/2 story of the front

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

gable, fanlight above a pair of multi-light doors leading out to porch portico, 1:1 windows on second story. (NC)

30. 85 Second St. c.1915. Craftsman Bungalow. 1-story, brick foundation, gable roof, asphalt shingles, central screened porch with gable roof and paired Doric columns on brick piers; five-bay facade with 4 sets of paired 9:1 windows with shutters, concealed door, one interior central chimney. (C)

Garage. c.1920 garage, hip roof and clapboard siding (C)

31. 105 Second St. c. 1925. Craftsman, Bungalow. Concrete foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles; three-bay facade with triple of 6:1 windows, a triple of 8 light windows, and a craftsman door with 12 lights flanked by 5 light sides; multiple roofplanes; wrap-around porch with gable roof projection on brick piers and open brick balustrade; other windows are 9:1. (C)

House, c.1900. Gable roof and asbestos asphalt shingle siding (C)

Garage. c.1920. Gable roof and asbestos siding. (C)

32. 120 Second St. c. 1920. Craftsman Bungalow. 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, synthetic siding, 1:1 windows with lintels, gable roof, asphalt shingles hipped roof dormer with two windows, side porch that is screened has hip roof, exposed rafter tails, and brick piers. (C)

33. 125 Second St. c.1960 Minimal Traditional. 1-story, concrete foundation brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, shed roof porch, columns and gable roof carport with columns; three-bay facade with 1:1 windows and a pair of 1/1. (NC)

34. 135 Second St. c.1930, Tudor Revival cottage. Brick foundation, brick siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, one interior brick chimney and one interior central chimney; three-bay facade with a triple set of 9:9 windows and one large multi-light window, central, gable roof portico enclosed with brick with stone arched door opening. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

-
35. 145 Second St. 1953, No style. 2-story, brick foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof, asphalt shingles, porch with projecting steeply pitched gable supported by tapered Tuscan columns on carved wooden piers. Vergeboard, fanlight and fish scale shingles ornament the projecting porch gable. Broken pediment door surround, 3 bays with 6:6 and bay window with 6:6 and 8:12 windows. Side windows are 6:6, one interior brick chimney. The structure was originally built in the Minimal Traditional style, but has been extensively remodeled to appear like a Victorian cottage. (NC)
36. 165 Second St. Warr House. c.1870 Gothic Revival, 1-1/2 story, brick foundation, weatherboard siding, steeply pitched side gable roof, asphalt shingles, 1:1 windows; five-bay facade with single light door and four large windows with decorative lacey lintels; full wrap-around porch with hip roof and Tuscan columns on paneled stone piers; projecting centered gable with matching setback gables with vergeboard trim. (C)
37. 180 Second St. c. 1900, Colonial Revival cottage. Brick foundation, pyramidal hip roof, 1:1 windows, weatherboard siding, one interior brick chimney; three-bay facade has two windows and a 12 light door; full porch with shed roof and column supports; large addition has gable roof, weatherboard siding, 12 light door, and 1:1 windows. (C)
38. 200 Second St. c. 1900. Gabled Ell with Colonial Revival influence. Concrete foundation, aluminum siding, gable roof; three-bay facade with single light door flanked by 1:1 windows; $\frac{3}{4}$, central porch with hip roof and wrought iron supports. (C)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rossville Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places for its significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of settlement and architecture during the period 1870-1953. The district is significant under Criterion A because the settlement of Rossville represents patterns in the development of a railroad town into a center of trade and commerce associated with the growth of "cotton" agriculture in west Tennessee. Architecturally, the district is eligible under Criterion C for its collection of houses, commercial, and religious buildings that represents vernacular interpretations of popular styles between 1870 and 1950. The time period of significance for the district begins in 1870 with the post-Civil War commercial and residential development and ends in 1950 as the town's agrarian economy shifted to a single industry, which provided a resource to fund the construction of many new civic buildings and the modernization of transportation routes.

The first event to influence the settlement of the area was the construction of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. At that time, an older community named Lafayette moved to a new location to be closer to the railroad. After the Civil War period, the community, now named Rossville, suffered from the Yellow Fever epidemics of the 1890s. Homes and businesses built between 1870 and 1910 represent the early settlement of the town, associated with the growth of the cotton industry and the role of the railroad as a primary source of transportation for goods and services. A fire that occurred in 1922 destroyed much of downtown forcing many residents to rebuild businesses and homes.

Settlement and Development

During the 1830s, planters and farmers settled the land in southwest corner of Fayette County. Early residents built homes in the first town, named Lafayette in honor of Marquis de Lafayette, (1757-1834) a French general and statesman, who sailed for America in 1777 to join George Washington and spent several months touring the United States. The town of Lafayette had several early pioneer businesses including a gristmill, blacksmith shop, and a store. Lafayette Village came into existence as Civil District 10 between 1836 and 1840. The planning for the Memphis-LaGrange railroad began in 1835. These plans prompted the movement of the town, which would later develop into Rossville.

John F. Robertson, who served in the Revolutionary War, was one of the early planters to settle in the area on a 100-acre tract, surveyed in 1837. After accumulating more land, Robertson owned a 200-acre plantation in Range 3 Section 1. The southern boundary for the property was the old Tennessee/Mississippi state line or State Line Road, which is now Highway 57. Robertson contemplated selling or disposing his land to contribute to the development of the town and the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

construction of a depot. Eventually, he gave the railroad title to four acres for the construction of a railroad bed and depot. Although Robertson sold his stock of goods and merchandise from his store to William Johnson in 1846, he continued to live in Lafayette for a short time. When he moved to Shelby County, he deeded the land to his son John F. Robertson, who sold the rights to Littleberry Farris, except for one acre that went to Smith and Wallace and four acres that had been given to the railroad for a depot, (deed Q-395). Farris divided the land into tracts for settlement.

The town of Lafayette moved several hundred yards north to be closer to the railroad and settlement of the area accelerated. The residents changed the name of the new town from Lafayette to Rossville in honor of Mr. Ross, who donated the land for the building the new town. Mr. Ross was an early settler of the area who owned a large tract of land. When the Memphis and Charleston Railroad built its rail line from Memphis to Moscow and LaGrange in 1853, Mr. Ross gave land on which to locate move the town of Lafayette along the rail line. The plat for the town included 25 acres of the original 200 acres, first owned by Robertson. The old town square composed of commercial structures, and located on the land donated by Mr. Ross, occupies the current sections of Front Street and Main Street included in the historic district.

According to Tennessee historian Carroll Van West, railroad towns in Tennessee developed according to two different patterns during the early nineteenth century. Rossville represents the T-plan, more common to the period 1850-1890. The railroad tracks form the top of the T and the passenger depot stands at the head of the town. Industrial sites are located across the tracks and a short distance down from the depot to separate passenger, commercial, and industrial uses of the railroad. The most expensive real estate became located closest to the top of the T in close proximity to the commercial center and the depot. Lots farther away from downtown sold at cheaper rates (West 1995:390). As noted in the landscape of Rossville, homes associated with prominent citizens, such as 440 Main, the Boyd home, and 165 Second, the Warr Home, are located at the end of the two streets leading towards town, closer to the commercial area. Main streets, like the one in Rossville, radiate from the commercial district, which is located at the top of the T and next to the railroad. In the case of Rossville, there are two primary streets, Main Street and Second Street. Further south from downtown these two streets merge.

By the 1850s, Rossville had grown into a railroad town with a commercial center, a depot, and residential areas. The plat for the town established lots of convenient size for businesses and family residences. The original plat of the town has been lost over time, but according to oral history, surveyors laid out a plat of 57 lots, many of which did not sell until after the Civil War. In 1854, the first lot deed went to Joshua B. Byasee, who built a frame house. Nicholas H. Isbell and Lucius Swift owned the first dry goods store, built in 1853. Arthur Butts owned the first hotel. Joshua Byasee served as a landlord in 1860 for a boarding house with 13 rooms or roomers

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

(Spencer:1). The 1860s City Directory shows that Margaret, Byasee's wife, ran a boarding house or hotel in Rossville in 1860. Nicholas H. Isbell owned the first blacksmith shop, located on the south side of the MCRR. In 1855, Dr. Americus Warr moved to Rossville with his father, James Warr. The Warrs were one of the earliest families to become permanent residents of the future town of Rossville.

During the Civil War, Union soldiers used Rossville as a campsite for three years, destroying many of the antebellum homes and buildings. A flood occurred in 1864, which destroyed the remnants of the antebellum homes that survived the Civil War. During the 1870s, the town began to rebuild as residential areas and businesses grew southward from the railroad tracks. Yellow Fever outbreaks, however, hampered a speedy recovery. (Spencer: 2).

During the Reconstruction Era, Rossville became a center for trade with numerous mercantile stores that served the residents and surrounding farms. By September 1873, the following businesses occupied the town: N.H. Isbell & Co.; W.T. Stone; Blair & McDowell; Gwynn and Thompson; Clere, Wiseman & Co.; with A.O. Isbell, Howell & Green, and W.T. Wilson as retail grocers and dealers. Joe Wiseman managed a wagon and buggy shop and there was a hotel and livery business under the management of J.L. Cere and Brothers and Dr. James A. Lipscomb (*Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, May, 1980). Ice and mail were brought into the area by railroad. These commercial activities centered around the primary industry of the area, cotton. The town had three cotton gins, which are no longer extant. Addison W. Morrison and Towles owned a gin, located on the north side of the railroad tracks at the end of Second Street. Bill Frazier, Harold Jameson, and Logan Anderson owned and managed the second gin. Herman Walter and Murphy located their business to the north of the railroad on the west side of Main Street. This business stayed in operation until at least 1936, as shown on a Tennessee Valley Authority map of the county (TVA: 1936 and Spencer: 1).

The town incorporated in 1903 at its new location. In response to the growth of the town, the local Masons of Macon, Tennessee decided to move their Masonic Lodge to Rossville in 1908. After the move, the name changed to the A.V. Warr Lodge, F, in honor of Dr. Warr, resident of Rossville. The lodge, No. 120, moved again in the 1960s to Moscow. The organization of the Rossville Savings Bank on November 9, 1909 and the People's Bank in 1913 gave the town two financial institutions, a sign that Rossville had grown as a commercial center (Fayette County 1989). Rossville gradually emerged as a merchant center that included Mr. A.E. Farley's mercantile store, built in 1917. It housed a wide variety of goods. The Farley store closed down in 1986 and now houses a florist shop. A.S. Waller's store became the third mercantile store in Rossville and the building is presently vacant. The two buildings that housed these businesses plus the People's Bank building are the three two story commercial structures on Main Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Albert Sidney Waller, Sr. moved to Rossville when he was 19 and opened a mercantile business. Later, he served as the town's second mayor from 1903 to 1909. A.W. Morrison opened a mercantile store in 1938. This building now houses the Rossville Grocery, owned by Mr. Morrison's great grandson. In 1928, Addison Knox Morrison went into the mercantile business with his father, who lived on a farm near Rossville. He owned five cotton gins and later served as the town's mayor beginning in 1964. Another resident who invested in the mercantile trade is Walter Murphy, who was associated with the R.B. Nebhut and Co. Firm. He owned the W.W. Murphey Trucking Co. and went into business with W.J. Frazier and H.H. Farley to form the F and M Gin (Spencer: 2,3).

In association with all of these business enterprises, the town square of Rossville became a gathering place for large-scale farmers, sharecroppers, and townspeople between 1890 and 1910. The growth of Rossville exhibits a pattern common to railroad towns, but it is also distinct in its relationship to the local economy of Fayette County. "Railroads and increasingly mechanized agriculture brought new functions to rural towns, improving their economy and enabling farmers to support larger centers of commerce. Railroad towns like Rossville grew with the railroad and new industrial technology that continued to support the dependency on cotton agriculture of west Tennessee through the early twentieth century" (Johnson, 1994:137). In 1870, Fayette County farmers produced 20,131 bales of cotton. In 1880, they produced 35,000 bales. Then in 1886, they produced 30,000 bales along with other farm products such as wheat, corn, potatoes, oats, and tobacco (Goodspeed 1887: 799).

Cotton produced and shipped in areas such as Fayette County supported the economy of Memphis, Tennessee, the closest steamboat port city along the Mississippi River. During the 1880s and 1890s, the prices for cotton dropped and rail transportation took away from the dependency on steamboats. Cotton production moved into the industrial era through new mechanization and the organization of the Memphis Exchange (Sigafos, 1979: 70-72). With five railroad lines passing through the city, Memphis merchants and traders, who received much of the cotton coming from places like Rossville, continued to thrive on the industry (Sigafos, 1979:80-83).

Growth in business and a secure economy supported the growth of the residential areas and the establishment of civic institutions, as more people moved from the surrounding farms into the towns. Dr. Americus V. Warr built one of the first homes, c. 1870, at 165 Second Street, which is in the proposed district. The first church of Lafayette was Mt. Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church South, built on land deeded to the church by David J. Jernigan in 1850. Ulysses H. Ross donated the land for the Baptist Meeting House in 1874. In 1892, Dr. Americus V. Warr deeded land for the Methodist Episcopal Church South. By 1870, the Baptist and Methodist denominations had organized into distinct congregations. The Baptists built a church building that both congregations

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

used until 1892. In 1922, a fire swept through downtown and destroyed the Methodist church. Following the fire, the two congregations had to share a building for a second time. The Methodists used the new Baptist church until they built a new church on land donated by John L. Crawford. By 1923, the second Methodist church was complete and still stands today in the proposed district. In 1920, the Baptists built another church of their own on Second Street. Remodeled in 1926 and a second time in the 1960s, that building burned in a fire in 1997 (Fayette County 1989).

The town takes pride in its community heritage manifested in the annual picnic. The picnic evolved out of the Sunday school. In 1894 or 1895 a tabernacle built on R.B. Nebhut's land near the old clubhouse, located on the railroad, provided space for the events. Judge Estes, Reverend Tobe Hamner, and other noted evangelists led the first revivals. The Tri-Circuit Sunday School conventions, held in Rossville on an annual basis, evolved from the revivals. These traditions grew into annual Sunday School Conventions organized by Dr. A.V. Warr and R.B. Neghut. The barbecues held in conjunction with the convention became the annual Rossville picnic, which attracted thousands on the second Thursday in July. These picnics took place in a park to the west of town, but the events ended in the 1940s.

In 1866, the first school began in a one-room building on Main Street. Later the town built a new two-story frame structure and they added an auditorium in 1913. The teachers of the one-room schoolhouse boarded at the neighboring Towle's home on Main Street. They stayed on the second floor of the home. After the school expanded its facilities in 1922, the fire destroyed it. The town built a new school during the 1940s on Third Street. Previously, the train provided older students a means of transportation to Somerville for high school.

The fire of 1922 took the People's Bank, a drugstore, the Methodist church, and the homes of J.B. Rives, and A.W. Morrison. The fire also destroyed the office of Dr. F.K. West and Mr. A.E. Farley. Presently, the Rossville Bank operates as a branch of the Somerville Bank & Trust Company in the 1953 structure. The current J.B. Taylor Construction building used to be the second home of the People's Bank. During the rebuilding of Rossville after 1922, more modern style homes and commercial architecture replaced what had been lost. The town made improvements in transportation routes for pedestrians and automobiles. The rebuilding plan allowed for the modernization of city services (Rives: E).

Modernization took place in the town after W.W. Murphy became the mayor of Rossville in the early 1930s. He initiated electric lighting, concrete sidewalks, blacktopped streets, and the first street lights. During this time, the town received a new fire station along with several other new commercial structures. The introduction of the automobile and paved roads allowed for the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

opening of two gas stations, directly across the street from one another at the end of Main Street, in the original T of the town plan. The gas stations closed in the 1950s. The business of Wolf River Café (#23) is now located in the former gas station on the east side of the road. It is a c. 1950 concrete block building. The new bank building replaced the other gas station, located on the west side of Main Street. The town had a small jail located in the Wolf River Cafe parking lot area. It housed only two prisoners at a time, retaining them until they could travel to Somerville, the county seat.

The fire truck purchased in 1958, made the final necessary addition to the few public services. The town square got a new asphalt coating and natural gas became available to everyone in 1960. Other improvements included the construction of a new bridge over the Wolf River. It was named in honor of Dr. F.K. West. The Interstate Utilities Company of Bogalusa, Louisiana came in town. Improved sidewalks built along Second Street from the home of W.J. Fraizer to the W.W. Murphy home beautified the town. The town built a new brick elementary school along Third Street, just outside the district. It opened on September 6, 1948. City water began in 1961.

The following year, the town applied for a Federal grant to build a new post office. It was erected in 1964 in front of the Methodist Church after approval from Washington D.C. During the 1960s, modern development continued to change Rossville with the construction of a new jailhouse and new town hall. The town extended the limits to accommodate these new buildings, more than doubling the size of Rossville. Other improvements included new streetlights, storm sewers under the streets, improved city water and sewage system, the addition of concrete curbing to the streets, and the purchase of land for a town water tank. During this era, the Tennessee Foods, Inc., a frozen food plant, built an industrial site and started operating in Rossville. It was a six million dollar project. Rossville's connection to the Memphis Charleston Railroad allowed the town to continue to survive change and retain its rural community atmosphere within the historic core of the community. Contributing further to its ability to survive as a commercial area and home to mercantile stores is the proximity of the town to the city of Memphis, a major urban and transportation center of Tennessee (Rives: G,H,I).

The built environment, comprised of rural residential and commercial buildings, exemplifies the development of a rural Southern town during the Victorian era up into the 1950s. Many of the homes retain the plan of early folk houses of Tennessee, but they are dressed with stylistic features, common to the Victorian era. Folk house plans include, gabled ell, hall-and-parlor, four-squares, and I-house plans (McAlester 1998:90-101). The stylistic patterns of the residential buildings include Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, and Colonial Revival influences. The only Greek Revival influenced building is located at 440 Main. Featured on the house are a two-story pedimented portico addition with Tuscan columns and a molded cornice with dentils. These are classical features commonly applied to I- houses in the South in the early 20th century (McAlester

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

1998:96). Several homes along Main including, 240, 250, and 270, have Colonial Revival features such as one-story porches with Doric columns and 1:1 double-hung-sash windows that are often paired.

The best example of Gothic Revival influences is the Methodist Church. The pointed arched entries and windows, stained glass, and square towers, forming the entrances for men and women, are typical features of the Gothic style found in European churches. The Warr House, at 165 Second Street, has steeply pitch pointed gable dormers with matching gables (McAlester 1998:203). Queen Anne features including shingles, wrap-around porches, turned posts, and valences with spindles are features found on 360 Main and 315 Main.

The architectural landscape underwent several periods of development. Several historical events affected the landscape of the town, including the completion of the railroad, the invention of the cotton gin, and the fire of 1922, which caused a period of rebuilding. Introduced at this time were new homes reflecting the Craftsman era and new commercial structures that are one-story. The bungalow at 105 Second Street and the four-square at 375 Main Street have typical Craftsman features such as brick piers, brick balustrades, multi-light windows and doors, and windows grouped in sets of three.

The commercial structures, located on the downtown square date to the Victorian era of post-railroad town development characterized locally by the post fire period and the time period after the introduction of the automobile. The early twentieth-century commercial buildings are two-story, rectangular in plan, and share walls. They have large display windows on the first floor and double-hung sash windows on the second floor. Continued occupation and use of these buildings has preserved their integrity in terms of function. The Rossville Grocery Market (#3), a one-story extended brick structure with a stepped parapet façade represents the first commercial building after the 1922 fire. The Art Deco bank (#4) and the concrete block building (#23), housing the cafe, represent two of the commercial enterprises built after the introduction of the automobile.

Most buildings are set on rectangular lots that run a full city block in depth. The green space surrounding the homes and the landscaping that includes mature trees creates an aesthetically pleasing rural setting for the residential structures that is integral to the area. The cultural resources of the core of downtown meet criteria C because the styles and patterns of settlement exhibit traditions in the vernacular architecture of the region dating to the Victorian era, from 1870 to 1910, and the Craftsman era, from 1905 to 1930. These periods coincide with the growth of the town as a mercantile, industrial, and transportation center that served the surrounding agricultural community during the post-railroad period. The plan of Rossville is typical of a Tennessee railroad town. The second period of development coincides with the rebuilding of the town after a devastating fire. The third period is associated with the automobile period.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 17

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Fayette County Historical Society. *History of Fayette County*. Salem, West Virginia: Walsworth Press, 1989.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *History of Fayette County*. Salem, West Virginia: Walsworth Press, 1986.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, Volume 2, #6, April 1996.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *Fayette County Historical Society Bulletin*, Volume 1, #11, May 1980.
- Fayette County Historical Society. *One Hundred Fifty Years in Fayette County, Tennessee 1824-1974*. Fayette County Sesquicentennial, Inc. September, 1974.
- Johnson, Hildegard Binder. "Toward a national landscape." *The Making of the American Landscape*, ed. Michael P. Conzen, 127-145. New York: Routledge, 1994.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.
- Morton, Dorothy. *19th Century Homes of Fayette County, Sesquicentennial Edition. 1824-1974.* ? DR Morton, 1974.
- Morton, Dorothy. *Fayette County*. Tennessee County History Series. Edited by Charles W. Crawford. Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1989.
- Rives, Rana Fisher. "History: Rossville, Tennessee, 19?" (photocopy). Changes and notations by Rana Fisher.
- Sigafoose, Robert A. *From Cotton Row to Beale Street*. Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1979.
- Spencer, Sally. "History Rossville, Tennessee, 19?." (photocopy). Sally Spencer, Rossville, TN.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 18

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Tennessee Valley Authority. Map of Fayette County: 8-4196-242. February 1936.

The Goodspeed Publishing Co. *Goodspeed History of Fayette and Hardeman Counties of Tennessee*. Chicago and Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887. Reprint, Woodward and Stinson Printing Co, 1973.

West, Carroll Van. *Tennessee's Historic Landscapes: A Traveler's Guide*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1995.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 19

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Rossville Historic District's northern boundary begins on the northwest corner of parcel 30 and meanders in a northeasterly direction circumventing parcel 31-1 and extending east along the northern boundary of parcels 6 and 7. At the northeast corner of parcel 7, the boundary line runs due south until it meets Front Street whereby it extends in an easterly direction, crossing Main Street and the northern boundary of parcel 18 until it meets Morrison Creek. Running south and roughly parallel behind the 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Main Street, the creek forms the district's eastern boundary. The southern boundary begins at the southeast corner of parcel A-7 and runs west to Main Street. From Main Street, the district boundary circumvents around parcel No. 40. The western boundary begins at the southwest corner of parcel A-40 and runs along the western border of said parcel until it meets Third Street. The boundary line shifts to the east and runs north behind parcels 38.04, 23, and 22. Extending north behind parcel 25.05, the boundary line shifts back west along the northern boundary of parcels 25 and 25.03 to rejoin Third Street. From there, the boundary line extends north to the point of beginning at the northwest corner of parcel 30.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Rossville Historic District includes all of the historic buildings of the downtown square and those in the residential area. These structures, consisting of a variety of commercial and residential styles, retain their integrity in building materials, use, and construction within the period of significance. Excluded from the district are areas of development that occurred after the period of significance and deteriorated buildings that fall outside the compact historic district. This includes the Rossville Elementary School c. 1920 located on corner of School Street and Third Street. Vacant and in deteriorated shape, the school building is located on a street containing numerous buildings built after the period of significance and a few early 20th century residences that have been extremely altered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 20

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Rossville Historic District
Rossville, Fayette County, Tennessee
Photos by: Claudette Stager, Louis Jackson, Ted Karpyne
Date: December 2000
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, TN

Facing east, view of 240 Main St.
#1 of 41

Facing east, view of 250 Main St.
#2 of 41

Facing east, view of porch detail of 250 Main St.
#3 of 41

Facing east, view of 270 Main St.
#4 of 41

Facing east, view of 300 Main St.
#5 of 41

Facing east, view of 310 Main St.
#6 of 41

Facing east, view of 330 Main St.
#7 of 41

Facing east, view of 340 Main St.
#8 of 41

Facing east, view of 360 Main St.
#9 of 41

Facing east, view of 390 Main St.
#10 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 21

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing east, view of 420 Main St.
#11 of 41

Facing east, view of 440 Main St.
#12 of 41

Facing north, view of 470 Main St. Wolf River Café.
#13 of 41

Facing east, view of seed house and c. 1920 fire station.
#14 of 41

Facing west, view of town square and 495, 505, and 515 Main St.
#15 of 41

Facing south, view of town square and 70 and 60 Front St.
#16 of 41

Facing west, view of 415 Main St.
#17 of 41

Facing west, view of garage to 415 Main St.
#18 of 41

Facing west, view of 375 Main St.
#19 of 41

Facing west, view of 355 Main St.
#20 of 41

Facing west, view of 315 Main St.
#21 of 41

Facing west, view of 255 Main St.
#22 of 41

Facing west, view of 245 Main St.
#23 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 22

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing west, view of 185 Main St.
#24 of 41

Facing west, view of 15 Second St.
#25 of 41

Facing west, view of 55 Second St.
#26 of 41

Facing west, view of 63 Second St.
#27 of 41

Facing west, view of 85 Second St.
#28 of 41

Facing west, view of 105 Second St.
#29 of 41

Facing west, view of 125 Second St.
#30 of 41

Facing west, view of 135 Second St.
#31 of 41

Facing west, view of 145 Second St.
#32 of 41

Facing west, view of 165 Second St.
#33 of 41

Facing east, view of 200 Second St.
#34 of 41

Facing east, view of 180 Second St.
#35 of 41

Facing north, view of 25 Front St.
#36 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 23

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

Facing south, view of 30 Front St.

#37 of 41

Facing northeast, view of west side of 300 block of Main St.

#38 of 41

Facing southwest, view of 300 and 200 block of Main St.

#39 of 41

Facing northeast on Second St.

#40 of 41

Facing north on Second St.

#41 of 41

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Property owners _____ Page 24

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

PROPERTY OWNERS

MAIN STREET

185 Main Street
Gerry Gilbreath
Rossville, TN 38066

240 Main Street
Mary Jean Wade
PO Box 12
Rossville, TN 38066

245 Main Street
Marion Baker
PO Box 248
Rossville, TN 38066

250 Main Street
Rosa Anderson
PO Box 247
Rossville, TN 38066

255 Main Street
Michael Luckey
6652 Rue Beaumonde Dr.
Memphis, TN 38120-3300

270 Main Street
Elizabeth Dunn
PO Box 26
Rossville, TN 38066

300 Main Street
Dan and Terry Krueger
PO Box 185
Rossville, TN 38066

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	25	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
-----------------------	------------------------	-------------	-----------	---

310 Main Street
Glossie Anderson
Rossville, TN 38066

315 Main Street
Estate of Walter Taylor
PO Box 62
Rossville, TN 38066

330 Main Street
Linville and Cathleen Wilson
PO Box 395
Rossville, TN 38066

340 Main Street
Rossville United Methodist Church
PO Box 81
Rossville, TN 38066

355 Main Street
Duncan Insurance Agency
PO Box 397
Rossville, TN 38066

360 Main Street
Mike and Lisa Thomas
Rossville, TN 38066

375 Main Street
Ken and Sally Spencer
Rossville, TN 38066

390 Main Street
Linda Calderon
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	26	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
----------------	-----------------	------	----	---

415 Main Street
Ann Hughes
PO Box 7
Rossville, TN 38066

420 Main Street
Gaye Sawner
PO Box 1
Rossville, TN 38066

435 Main Street
Gail's Mane Solutions
110 High Street
Rossville, TN 38066

440 Main Street
John and Missy Renshaw
PO Box 97
Rossville, TN 38066

470 Main Street
Wolf River Café
Betty Knox Salmon
905 Mt. Pleasant Road
Rossville, TN 38066

495 Main Street
Taylor-Mehrhoff Co.
PO Box 129
Rossville, TN 38066

505 Main Street (flower shop)
Ivan Harris, Jr.
PO Box 54
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Property owners _____ Page 27

Rossville Historic District
Fayette County, TN

515 Main Street (vacant building)
Ivan Harris, Jr.
PO Box 54
Rossville, TN 38066

FRONT STREET

25 Front Street
Taylor-Mehrhoff Co.
PO Box 129
Rossville, TN 38066

Parcel #22 Front Street (vacant lot)
Tommy Reed
90 West Old State Line Road
Collierville, TN 38017

30 Front Street
Kent and Barbara McDaniel
PO Box 129
Rossville, TN 38066

60 Front Street
Rossville Grocery
PO Box 275
Rossville, TN 38066

70 Front Street
Rossville Bank
PO Box 278
Rossville, TN 38066

SECOND STREET

15 Second Street
James Chapman
PO Box 28
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	28	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN
----------------	-----------------	------	----	---

Parcel # 22 Second Street (vacant lot)
James E. McCall, Jr.
1026 Moorefield
Collierville, TN 38017

55 Second Street
Evelyn Smith
PO Box 384
Rossville, TN 38066

63 Second Street
Frank and Shirley Hunt
PO Box 411
Rossville, TN 38066

85 Second Street
Ivan D. Harris, Jr.
PO Box 54
Rossville, TN 38066

105 Second Street
W. J. and Robby Frazier, Jr.
PO Box 55
Rossville, TN 38066

120 Second Street
Carlos and Pauline Reed
PO Box 86
Rossville, TN 38066

125 Second Street
William Gaither
PO Box 6
Rossville, TN 38066

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number	Property owners	Page	
		29	Rossville Historic District Fayette County, TN

135 Second Street
Jimmy Morrison
PO Box 128
Rossville, TN 38066

145 Second Street
Michelle Roberson
PO Box 383
Rossville, TN 38066

165 Second Street
Paul and Jill Lague
PO Box 574
Rossville, TN 38066

180 Second Street
Stuart Chambers, Jr.
PO Box 151
Rossville, TN 38066

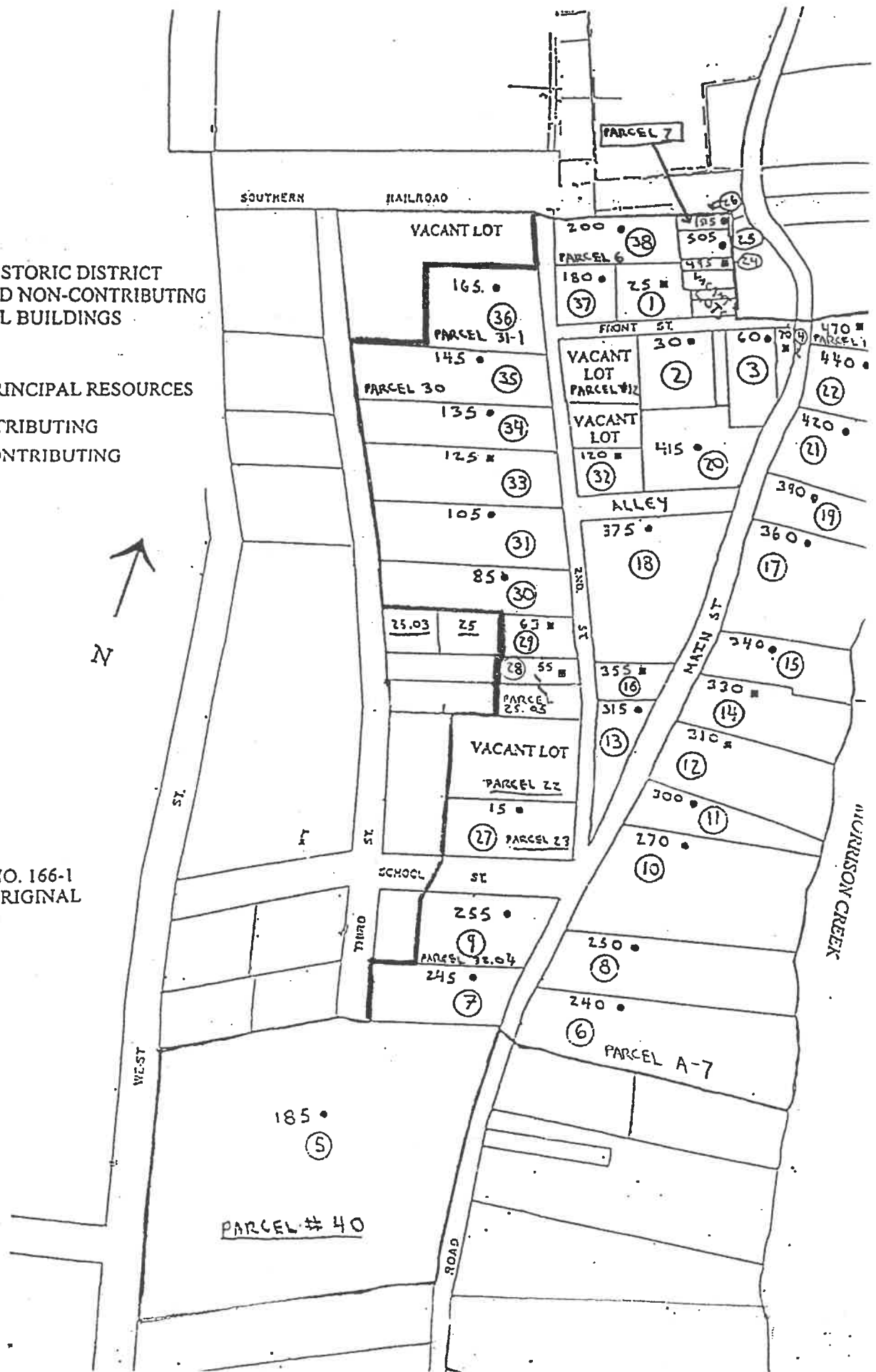
200 Second Street
Estate of Walter Taylor
PO Box 62
Rossville, TN 38066

ROSSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT
CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING
PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS

MAP KEY FOR PRINCIPAL RESOURCES

- CONTRIBUTING
- NON-CONTRIBUTING

TAX MAP NO. 166-1
REDUCED ORIGINAL



ROSSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHOTO KEY

SOUTHERN RAILROAD

VACANT LOT

165

145

135

125

105

85

63

55

VACANT LOT

15

SCHOOL ST

255

245

185

200

180

25

VACANT LOT

VACANT LOT

120

415

375

355

315

VACANT LOT

355

315

VACANT LOT

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

315

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

1512

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

470

440

420

390

360

340

330

310

300

270

250

240



ST

ST

THIRD

WEST

ROAD

MAIN ST

200

210

220

230

240

250

260

270

280

290

300

310

320

330

340

350

360

370

380

390

400

410

420

430

440

450

460

470

480

490

500

510

520

530

540

550

560

570

580

590

600

610

620

630

640

650

660

670

680

690

700

710

720

730

740

750

760

770

780

790

800

810

820

830

840

850

860

870

880

890

900

910

920

930

940

950

960

970

980

990

1000