

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

TIPTON-HAYNES HISTORIC SITE (2/26/70) - 2620 South Roan Street. (926-3631) c. 1783-1840 Frame and log construction clapboarding; 2 stories, L-shape, gabled roof; 2 exterior end chimneys, 1 stone and 1 brick; long 1-story rear ell and front center pedimented and balustraded entrance porch added later; outbuildings; some reconstruction. Egyptian (Greek) Revival elements. Adjacent law office built by Landon Carter Haynes, member of the Confederate Senate and TN Senator and Speaker of the House of Representatives. Original log cabin constructed by John Tipton. The complex is operated as a living history farm by the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association and is owned by the Tennessee Historical Commission.

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In 1784, this site was purchased by Col. John Tipton who built the original home along Stage Road. Tipton, a legislator, signed the Constitutions of Virginia and Tennessee and was a delegate to both the United States and the State of Franklin Constitutional Conventions. The Tipton-Haynes estate is on the site of the Battle of the Lost State of Franklin (1788). In 1839, the estate was given to Landon Carter Haynes as a wedding gift. He enlarged and renovated the house and developed much of the site as it appears today. Landon Carter Haynes built the law office which stands to the north of the house in the 1840's. It is the last remaining example of nineteenth century Egyptian Revival architecture in TN. In addition to the historic home and office, the site has a visitor's center, loom house, smoke house, double crib barn, corn crib, and other outbuildings, as well as a cave and a trail. (tour)

ROBIN'S ROOST (1/20/76) - 1309 South Roan Street. c. 1980 Built by professional builder William T. Graham in 1890, this Queen Anne residence was purchased in 1892 by Robert Love Taylor, a Tennessee governor, who named the residence (1892-1897). Hordes of robins gathered there, and Governor Bob frequently invited his friends to the house saying, "Let's go where the robins roost." Bob's brother, Alfred A. Taylor, who served one term as governor in the early 1920's, lived in the home from 1900 until 1903. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this two-story Queen Anne-style residence features a wrap-around porch, a band of textured trim between floors, and an asymmetrical facade. (tour)

War of the Roses: Bob and Alf ran against each other for Governor of Tennessee in 1886 - one was a Democrat and one was a Republican. They are nephews of Landon Carter Haynes.

ISAAC HAMMER HOUSE (3/19/76) - East Mountain View Road. c. 1793 The three-level log structure served as a stagecoach stop between Abingdon, Virginia and Jonesborough, Tennessee.

BASHOR MILL (7/8/80) - Denny Mill Road. C. 1830 This three-story grist and flour mill rests on a solid limestone foundation. It was built and operated by Henry

Bashor, a Pennsylvanian, who transferred the business to Peter Bashor in 1854. The mill was known by a variety of names including Hoobs Mills and Knob Creek Roller Mills. The mill remained water powered until it ceased production in the early 1950's. Known as the Bashor-Tarr Mill. Has a metal gable roof and a limestone foundation. All of the mill's machinery remains inside although the original wheel deteriorated ca. 1954. This is the only mill remaining out of the seven or eight mills that once were located in the Knob Creek area.

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Large brick and stone chimney. Weatherboarded with stamped tin sheathing. (National Register of Historic Places - nomination form)

**MONTROSE COURT APARTMENTS (4/21/80) - 701 West Locust Street (Boyd Street). c. 1922** D.R. Beeson, Sr. designed this 28-unit Tudoresque complex which was built in 1922 on land owned by George L. Carter. It was located in the Southwest Addition, an early residential neighborhood planned by John Nolen. A special edition of the newspaper on May 28, 1922, the "Montrose Court Edition," heralded the completion of the building featuring 6 five-room apartments, 11 four-room apartments, 5 three-room apartments, and 2 one-room apartments. The building burned in the late 1920's and was rebuilt. It has been renovated and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (tour) **#577**

1100 Southwest Avenue. 1922. Tudor Revival. Three stories, brick and stucco with decorative half timbering siding, asphalt shingle gable roof, irregular plan, oriel window, lancet windows, and multi-light windows. (Con) #577 NR TS List

**PETER RANGE STONE HOUSE (12/16/83) - 307 Twin Falls Drive. ( 2833 East Oakland Avenue) c. 1804** The two-story, coursed field-stone, vernacular house sits on a full basement and is surrounded on three sides by later Nineteenth Century frame additions. Peter Range was an early Washington County settler who became a prosperous miller and farmer.

Peter and his wife, Elizabeth Ronimus, came to Washington County after the birth of their first child in 1777. He purchased land on which he built their first home, a two-story log structure. He purchased additional land in 1804 on which he built the present stone house and grist mill. The house is one of the few remaining three-story homes of the early 19th century and is on the National Register of Homes.

**DUNGAN'S MILL AND STONE HOUSE / ST. JOHN'S MILLING COMPANY (7/2/73) - Watuaga Road. C. 1778** The three-story limestone house and mill were built by master craftsman and stone mason Jeremiah Dungan in 1778. Dungan and his family emigrated to Watuaga from Bucks County, PA in 1774. Dungan's heirs sold the property to G.W. St. John in 1866. St. John's descendants continue to operate the mill, grinding feed for domestic animals.

Tennessee's oldest business, still grinding (211 years in 1989). Mill was water powered until the 1940's, but after World War II, it shifted to electricity. More farm supply store then mill now.

The house was constructed from stone from an old fort in Washington County.

VALENTINE DeVAULT HOUSE (7/2/77) - DeVault Lane (off Bristol Highway). C. 1821-1842 This two-story Federal brick house was built by Valentine DeVault, Sr. on land purchased with "subscription money" for services rendered in the Revolutionary War. Valentine DeVault, Sr. emigrated from York County, PA in 1800 and was among the largest land and slave holders in Washington County at his death in 1842.

MARTIN KITZMILLER HOUSE (7/25/85) - North Roan Street (Kingsport Highway). c. 1801 The Martin Kitzmiller House is one of eight extant cut limestone houses in Upper East Tennessee and the only example of a five-bay design. It was built by Martin Kitzmiller, a Pennsylvania emigrant. The Kitzmiller's were active in the Buffalo Ridge Baptist Church.

KNOB CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT (5/24/83) - Knob Creek Road / Denny Mill Road. 136.6 acres of rural farm land.

1. Ruth Krouse House: (contributing) West Oakland Avenue. (moved or demolished) Built in 1934 this one and one-half story frame house was built by Jacob Krouse of German descent. The foundation of the stone chimney from the early house (ca. 1800) serves as the foundation for the existing chimney. Features of the residence include: standing seam metal salt-box roof with broken slope, central brick chimney with limestone block base, concrete block foundation, three-bay facade, and a full width, one-story portico. Three (3) noncontributing outbuildings exist on the property: a barn, a shed, and a spring house. Now site of NorthPoint Center, a medical complex owned by the Johnson City Medical Center.

2. Homer Sell House: (contributing) Denny Mill Road. This two-story, frame "four-square" residence was constructed ca. 1915. The structure is currently The Epicurean restaurant and has recently been remodeled. Unique features include: weatherboard, pyramidal roof, pyramidal-roofed donner, and a full width, one-story portico. *One exterior brick chimney flush with wall. Twin chimney opposite wall apparently removed. Two entrances on principal facade - removed. Bay window added to side. One-story addition at rear. Outbuildings: Two-story, gabel-roofed barn with one-story lean-to garage - removed. Long, one-story, shed-roofed open roofed barn - removed. (NR)*

3. Bashor Mill: (listed separately)

4. Charles Duncan House: (contributing) Denny Mill Road. The two-story residence was built in stages with a two-story single log room constructed in ca. 1785 with a two-story frame “saddle bag” addition in ca. 1930’s. This is the oldest recorded structure in the District that still exists. Architectural features include: saltbox standing seam metal roof, brick central chimney, and stone foundation. A one-story structure was attached with a shed-roof porch along a portion of the front and additions to the side and rear have also been added. The log section of the residence is covered in board and batten with the remainder covered in weatherboard or vertical board. An enclosed recessed porch exists in the rear. Recently the structure has been completely restored, complete with log restoration.

Together with two newer structures, the site houses the Pioneer Homestead Museum which depicts the history of the Knob Creek area. A two-story frame house (ca. 1900), located adjacent to the Charles Duncan House, is a contributing outbuilding. This structure has been remodeled to house the major portion of the museum. Five (5) noncontributing structures are included on the property: a two story shed, a two-story gambrel-roofed barn, a shed, and a railroad caboose (which is part of the museum).

*Outbuildings: Two-story frame house with multiple additions, clapboard siding, gable roof (ca. 1900) (contributing). Two-story frame barn opens onto hillside (noncontributing). Long, one-story, shed roofed shed (N). Two-story gambrel-roofed frame barn (N). One-story frame, gabled shed (N). One-story concrete block shed with gable roof (N). (NR)*

5. Knob Creek Church of the Brethren: (contributing) Knob Creek Road and Fairridge Road. Constructed in 1904, this is a one-story frame church. Religion was a very important aspect in the development of the Knob Creek community. The congregation of the Church of the Brethren (German Baptist Church) was the first one of that denomination established in Tennessee (1799). Services were first held in Joseph Bowman House on Claudle Simmons Road (outside the District). The congregation first built a log house in 1834 to hold services until the current sanctuary was constructed. Architectural characteristics include: an asphalt shingle gable roof, weatherboarded siding, entrance on gabled end, gabled portico, triangular-arched windows, brick chimney in opposite wall as entrance, and stone foundation. *One room addition. (NR)*

6. Oak Hill School: (contributing) (moved Jonesborough) Knob Creek Road. This one-room school was constructed ca. 1900. This structure replaced a log school house that was constructed in the mid-1800’s. The lumber for the school was sawed by D. B. Bowman. The school officially closed in 1952. Features of the school include: weatherboarded siding, standing seam metal gable roof, rough stone foundation and rectangular bellcote with pyramidal roof and decorative brackets. The interior of the school has beaded board wall coverings, a wide black strip for black board, and a wide black strip for black board, and a chalkrail.

The Jonesborough Museum is negotiating to acquire the structure and move it to Jonesborough near the Visitor's Center for use in connection with teaching history to school children. *One-story, frame. (NR)*

7. Bowman - Bond House: (contributing) Fairridge Road. This two-story frame house was built ca. 1845, with additional work completed in the 1850's. Architectural features include: a one and one-half story weatherboarded log ell with saltbox roof, brick end chimneys (*ca. 1845*), gable roof with tin shingles, board-and-batten siding, and a three-bay facade with a one-story portico with turned and bracketed posts. There are two (2) contributing buildings located on the property; a weatherboarded, one and one-half story board-and-batten spring house. Also located on the property are three one-story sheds and a two-story barn which are noncontributing structures.

*Rectangular shape. Modern porch floor and foundation. Ca. 1960s addition under saltbox roof. Outbuildings: Weatherboarded, one-story shed with gable roof and one-and-one half-story board-and-batten springhouse (both contributing). One-story weatherboarded gable-roofed shed, one-story vertical board gable-roofed shed, and one-and-one-half story barn with metal gambrel roof (non-contributing). (NR)*

8. Soloman Miller House: (contributing) Farridge Road. The original portion of this two-story frame residence was constructed ca. 1810-1820's. The residence is a mixture of log and frame construction and has a stone, endwall exterior chimney with the shaft separated from the wall, a gabled standing seam metal roof, and weatherboard. Alterations were made in the 1960's that included a picture window and an addition to the rear. The spring house located on the property is contributing to the District, while two (2) sheds are noncontributing.

*Two-story log and frame main block. Modern one-story covered porch. One-story frame rear addition with brick veneer and aluminum siding (1960s) Outbuildings: One-story frame springhouse with gabled roof (contributing). One-story frame gabled shed with two shed-roofed additions and one-story gabled frame shed (Non-contributing). (NR)*

9. Peter Bowman House: (contributing) Knob Creek Road. This residence was constructed ca. 1907. The two-story frame "four-square" residence's features include a hipped standing seam metal roof, two interior brick chimneys, a three bay facade, a one-story frame covered porch, and an addition on the rear. None of the outbuildings (two barns, a shed, and a one-story frame tenant house or office) are contributing structures.

*Outbuildings: One-story frame barn with gabled, standing seam metal roof and open shed additions, one-story frame barn with standing seam metal gable roof, and one-story, shed roofed frame tenant house or office (noncontributing). (NR)*

10. Bowman Cemetery (ca. 1804's), 12. Miller Cemetery (ca. 1858), and 13. Carathers - Tester Cemetery (ca. 1810's): are included in the district as contributing aspects because of their age and place within the cycle of life of the Knob Creek community. All the cemeteries are small in size and are associated with a certain family or church. *All cements are triangular shape tracts and have plain markers. (NR)*

13. James and Carolyn Sell Residence: (noncontributing) Fairridge Road. Constructed in the 1970's, this residence does not meet the criteria to be eligible for the National Register. *Two-story brick veneer. Two-story "Colonial" portico on principal facade. (NR)*

14. Sell House: (ca. 1830's, ca 1890's) Denny Mill Road Destroyed by fire in 1988. Was a contributing residence at the time the District was nominated to the National Register.

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Covering approximately 136.6 acres of gently rolling farmland, the Knob Creek Historic District lies in a valley northwest of Johnson City. The valley runs northeast - southeast at the edge of the Ridge and Valley physiographic province, just west of the Great Smoky Mountains. The district lies within a "diamond" formed parallel ridges and parallel transportation arteries: ridges on the northwest (Indian Ridge) and the southeast (unnamed); the Clinchfield Railroad on the southwest; and State Route 137 on the northeast. Knob Creek first parallels the ridges in the valley, then splits into two main branches. Centered around the creek and between the two branches is the Knob Creek Historic District.

Running through the district are three narrow, winding country roads. The ten buildings and three cemeteries which comprise the principal contributing properties in the district sit just off these roads, but are separated by acres of farmland. Seven of the buildings are residences, each having two or more outbuildings. The others are a mill, a schoolhouse, and a church. Four intrusions, three one-story, brick contractor modern houses and a one-story brick u-shaped apartment building, are also located just off these roads but were not included in the district. Because of their size and the amount of land between them and the contributing properties, they do not significantly affect the integrity of the district's setting. Only one intrusive building was included within the boundaries of the district. However, because of their recent construction, almost all of the outbuildings must be listed as non-contributing even though they are of similar materials, construction, design and scale and add to the sense of place.

The major buildings were constructed over a 150 year span, from ca. 1785 to 1934. Despite this wide age range, they contain many similarities in design and material. Each is a plain, vernacular building. Ornamentation is limited to some decorative bargeboard, bracketing, and board and batten siding. All of the buildings are frame, except for portions of the four earliest buildings which are log. Only two have board and batten siding; most of the major buildings are

weatherboard. Brick chimneys predominate, although there is one stone and one brick and stone chimney remaining. Outbuildings are associated with each of the residences.

The three cemeteries are small, fenced tracts generally associated with members of one or two families. Each dates from the mid-nineteenth century. Two are rectangular and one is a triangular lot.

Boundary Justification - Property lines, fence rows and Knob Creek were used to determine boundaries whenever possible. Boundaries were drawn to include large portions of farmland as well as contributing properties and to exclude adjacent non-contributing properties. This area is that portion of the valley which retains the integrity of a rural settlement in the early twentieth century.

The Knob Creek Historic District is an early settlement in East Tennessee which has evolved into a remarkably intact early twentieth century farming community. This district contains examples of one hundred fifty years of rural vernacular architecture, spanning from ca. 1778 to 1934. Representative of a small East Tennessee farming community early in this century, it contains properties which relate to all aspects of life: the land, the homes, local industry, religion, education, and funeral practices. It is a self-contained community. Although intrusions border on most of its boundary, the district itself retains its integrity.

Land grants in the area were awarded by the State of North Carolina to Samuel Fain in 1783 and Charles Duncan in 1784. However, tax records indicate that both men were living in the area in 1778. Duncan built his house approximately 5.2 miles northeast of the settlement at Jonesboro. His one pen, one or two story log house is today the northern portion of the house owned by Mrs. Sherfy (4). The location of Fain's home is not known. In 1817, his heirs sold his land to Joseph Bowman.

The Bowman family figures widely in the settlement of the valley. Joseph Bowman himself came as a young man to nearby Boone's Creek when his family moved here ca. 1799. With Michael Krouse and Issac Hammer, he was one of the elders assisting Samuel Garber in the establishment of the Knob Creek Church of the Brethern (6) in 1799. Selected as one of the first two deacons of the Church, he was therefore known as "Deacon Joseph" Bowman. Church services were often held in his home, built in 1818, which still stands (outside the district). He and his second wife, Catherine Beahm, had six children. Two sons from that second family had farms in the valley. Of those, only Daniel Bowman's home, the Bowman-Bond House (7) remains. When his daughter Elizabeth married Henry Bashor, Deacon Joseph bought the land where the mill and gave it to the couple. Bowman descendants continues to settle in the valley; one was Peter Bowman whose house (9) is included in the district. Numerous other descendants still live in the area.

The site of the home of another early settler is included in this district. Another of the settlers of German descent, Jacob Krouse, built his home where his granddaughter, Ruth Krouse has her home (1) now. Although the present building was built in 1934, the foundation of the stone chimney for the ca. 1800 house serves as the foundation for the 1934 chimney.

Knob Creek was the focus of the original settlements. The earliest farmhouses were all situated on the high ground overlooking the creek or on one of its branches or springs. The Duncan House (4) and the Sell House (14) overlook the creek, while the Miller House (8) and Bowman-Bond House (7) are near springs. Later buildings fill in between these primary locations. Most of the springhouses which remain are less than fifty years old and are probably replacements for the original ones.

Knob Creek Historic District recalls life in a rural Tennessee community during the first third of this century. Small farms are situated on creek banks and rolling hillsides. Plain farmhouses dot the landscape, surrounded by barns, sheds and other outbuildings. Knob Creek has a mill to grind the corn and grain for marketing. The community institutions, the church and school house, stand nearby. Finally, small family cemeteries complete the cycle of rural families.

Because of the wide timespan of their construction, the collection of farm houses demonstrates the evolving rural vernacular architecture. The earliest houses were log pens of one or two stories, such as the Duncan and the Miller Houses (4 and 8). Later, log houses were larger, as those in the ells of the Bowman Bond House (7) and the Sell House (14). When these four buildings were enlarged, the small log structures expanded through frame additions which extended their principal facade. The Duncan House has the “saddlebag” arrangement where the addition came to the other side of the chimney, while the Miller House maintained the exterior end wall chimney. The larger log buildings became the rear of new ell-shaped houses.

Influence of the major architectural styles are evident in many of the buildings. The ell on the Sell House shows its origins in the Federal style. On the Bowman-Bond House the predominant style is Greek Revival with its symmetrical facade, although the porch is a Victorian addition. Other picturesque detailing from the Victorian era can be seen on the main block of the Sell house in its gable ends and box window and in the bellcote on the schoolhouse.

Three early twentieth century styles are also represented. The Knob Creek Church has a traditional temple plan with the entrance on the gable end. Simple, triangular-arched windows lend a Gothic appearance to the building. Peter Baldwin’s house is a “four-square” with a hipped roof and interior chimneys balancing the cube-like building. A later building, the Homer Sell House (2), combines the “four-square” and the bungalow to form a semi-bungalow house.

The lifestyle of rural East Tennessee can be seen in the buildings remaining in this district. For instance, in nearly all farming communities in Tennessee, mills were built on every creek to serve the needs of the farmers. At one time seven or eight mills stood in the valley area. Only the Bashor Mill (3) remains from that group. Built ca. 1830, the Bashor Mill is listed individually in the National Register.

Religion was also very important to the era. Many of the families were of German descent, including the Krouse and the Bowmans, so they established the Knob Creek Church of the Brethern. Sometimes called German Baptist Church, this was the first congregation of that denomination established in Tennessee. The congregation built a log house in 1834 to hold services, but that was replaced in 1905 by the present structure.

A log schoolhouse was built in the mid-nineteenth century, but was replaced ca. 1900 by the present building. Oak Hill School closed in 1952, but has been unaltered since its construction. Part of the beaded board paneling installed then was painted with a wide black strip to create a blackboard. A chalkrail was attached below it. Both of these features remain.

Three cemeteries are included in the district because of their age and place within the cycle of life shown in the community. All three are small, fenced lots, usually associated with a family or church. The Bowman cemetery was apparently established for the church since it is referred to in early documents. The log church reportedly stood nearby. (National Register of Historic Places - nomination form).

**SHELBRIDGE (12/14/ 95) - East Eleventh Avenue and North Roan Street.** Shelbridge has been home to East Tennessee University presidents since President and Mrs. D.P Culp moved there in the fall of 1973. The three-story brick “Virginia Colonial Home” was built in 1921 by Roswell H. Spears, a wholesale lumber dealer who commissioned local architect D.R. Beeson to design the home. Neoclassical in style, the structure features a full facade two-story porch, classical style columns, and a symmetrically balanced facade with a center door. The first floor has seven rooms, a powder room and two entrance halls; the second floor has five bedrooms and four baths; the third floor has two bedrooms and a bath. (tour)

Henry Bridges owned this house and property longer than anyone. The Bridges’ two sons donated the house and property to ETSU.

Built in 1920, the 2 1/2-story house was designed by architect D. R. Beeson and constructed by contractor Mark Curtis for the Ross Spears family. It was sold in 1927 to the Henry and Shelby Bridges family, hence the name “shelbridge.” The Bridges’ sons agreed in 1973 to a sale-donation arrangement with the state, making it available to the university as the official presidential residence. The property was submitted to the National Register under the following criteria; the

distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, represents the work of a master, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The house is an “excellent example” of a Colonial Revival architecture in Johnson City and its formally landscaped yard. Includes all 8.3 acres of land, the house, and its five support facilities, including a two-story guest house included with the property since 1938.

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Constructed in 1920, Shelbridge is a two and one-half story residence that is fabricated of brick, has a rectangular plan, and two interior end chimneys. The Colonial Revival House was designed by Johnson City, Tennessee architect, D. R. Beeson. The south facade of the house is symmetrical with a central entrance and is dominated by a two-story portico supported by six wooden columns. The main entrance is comprised of a single-leaf six panel door with five light sidelights and two sets of pilasters capped with wood pediment over the door.

The main entrance is flanked by two double-leaf ten light window French doors topped with a wooden arch mimicking fanlights with wood tracery. Limestone keystones are set in the brick arches above the French doors. The main entrance and the French doors are all covered with modern storm doors. All second story windows have limestone sills and keystones. The windows are centered over the first floor counterparts and are double hung, six-over-six lights with original shutters. The center window is shorter than the flanking end windows. A brass plaque on the left side of the front entrance identifies the residence's name - Shelbridge.

The main, brick portion of the facade is flanked with one story, wood sunrooms. Each facade of the sunrooms consists of two French doors on the main portion of the house. These doors are also covered with storm doors. A Chippendale style balustrade surmounts both sunrooms. It is identical to the balustrade on the center two-story portico. The sunroom on the east end of the house is topped by a glassed in porch added in 1977. The east end of the main facade extends into a set back kitchen wing, and a stepped back garage. The original garage was detached, but was moved and attached to the house in 1936. The garage wall is brick with a wood dormer located in the center. The shed roof dormer has a single six-over-six window with operable shutters.

The gable roof is of asphalt and has three identical dormers on the main facade. The gable roof dormers each have a wide cornice with gable returns and a centered arched window. The dormers sit behind the wood Chippendale style balustrade embellished with continuation of wood columns topped with Grecian urns. The wooden cornice around the portico develops a theme that is carried throughout the exterior of the home, summer house and bathhouse.

On the west elevation the sunroom contains five double sets of two-over-six windows with a paired two light transom over each set of windows. The windows sit over a blind panel and are reminiscent of the French doors on the front facade.

Each pair of windows is divided by a Doric style pilaster. The wooden parapet continues along the roof line of the sunroom. The second floor of the main house has three eight light windows balanced under one eight light windows on the third floor. All windows on the second and third floors have operable shutters. The end gable of the roof is divided to allow the end chimney to stand out.

The north elevation is composed of the west sunroom with two pairs of windows identical to those on the west elevation. The balustrade continues along the roof line of the sunroom. The main portion of the house is two and a half stories with a center entrance of a single leaf wood door flanked by six light sidelights over blind panels and a blind fanlight transom. The center entrance projects slightly and is of weatherboard with a porte cochere supported by Doric columns surmounted with Chippendale style balustrade. The northern most end of the porte cochere is covered with lattice. Three gables are located over the main portion of the house. The center gable is brick that extends up the brick wall breaking the deep boxed cornice line. The center gable has one six-by-three window that contains an air conditioning unit. The center gable is flanked by identical gable roof dormers identical to the ones on the front facade. The windows on the north elevation of the house are tripled windows comprised of double hung six-over-six window flanked by two-over-two windows on each side. All windows have shutters, limestone sills and keystones. The center window on the second floor is of similar configuration, but is narrower and longer. This window provides light to the interior main stairs.

The extended kitchen wing is flush with the rear elevation and consists of a single entrance with the stoop covered by a gabled roof portico with square post. A small narrow window of three vertical lights is located over the entrance. East of the entrance is a six-over-six double hung window with shutters. This window is an obvious replacement as the ghost of the larger tripled window is evident and the keystone is located on the eastern most corner of the window. An identical, original window is located directly above it on the second floor. The garage is slightly set back and consists of two garage doors.

The west facade (garage area) is brick with three symmetrical three-by-four windows on the first and second floors. The west facade on the house has two three-by-four windows on the second floor and one arched window on the third floor. All windows have limestone sills and keystones. The second floor sunroom continues the parapet theme below the windows.

The interior of Shelbridge has maintained the Colonial Revival architectural style. All modifications to the interior are identified on the attached floor plans. The entry foyer is a spacious area in the center of the front facade of the home. The original stairwell is on the north/south axis with the entry while the living room / sunroom and dining area are on an east/west axis to the entry.

The living room has an open floor plan with the adjacent sunroom. The doorways are open on both sides of the intricately detailed Colonial Revival fireplace. The fireplace surround is marble and the hearth is clay tile. Crown molding and wide baseboards surround the room. The floor is of hardwood. The sunroom also has a fireplace, but it is much simpler in design and is made of brick with corbeled bricks used as a design elements. A modern glass door covers the opening. The health is of clay tile. The wall between the living room and sunroom is brick and the floor is parquet wood tiles.

Located under the stairs in the center hall is an arched opening that leads to a bath and closet located under the stairs. The entrance also leads into the den. The back stairs can be accessed from the den as well as kitchen. Circa 1977 the den and bathroom were renovated. The den was restored to its original appearance in 1994, along with the bedroom, bath, and sitting room.

The dining room, entered from the front hallway, has a hardwood floor, wide baseboards, and crown moldings. Located in the northeast and northwest corners are built-in corner cupboards with round arches and shell motifs with keystone above the top shelf and two cupboards below the five other shelves. East of the dining room is a butler's pantry and breakfast nook. The same round arched cupboard is located on the east wall and bank of cupboards is located against the north wall.

The hardwood stairs lead to a small stair hall on the second floor that has four bedrooms, three baths, and a study. A bedroom and bath are also located over the garage, but cannot be accessed from the second floor of the house. East of the master bedroom is the glass enclosed porch. The bathrooms contain their original decorative tile and tile light fixtures with candlelight bulbs. The hardwood floors continue throughout the second floor.

The third story currently consist of two bedrooms, a bath, and a shower, and a game room. This floor was originally open and was used as a playroom and for roller skating. The third floor was divided into rooms circa 1980.

There are five (5) support facilities to the main residence at Shelbridge. They include: bathhouse; second house; summer house; greenhouse; and garden shed. The bath house with swimming pool was added in 1927. The architectural theme for the facility is consistent with the main residence. The one-story brick structure has a wood cornice almost identical to that on the main residence. The only difference is that Grecian urns were not included on the cornice. The window structure, on the front facade has twelve light windows with limestone sills and keystones and flank the entrance door.

The second residence was moved to Shelbridge in 1938. The two-story structure with attached two-car garage is a traditionally style 1920-30's modified American Foursquare house. The roofs are asphalt on the sunroom, porch, garage, and main

residence All windows are original. The two-car garage was added at a later date.

The summer house was constructed adjacent to the swimming pool in 1938. It was designed to blend architecturally with the main house and bath house. The cornice theme was carried out around the base of the house. Since the facility was built to provide a cool haven for the summer heat, it has screen walls with wood vertical structure support. The high ceiling was designed to expel heat build-up. The front of the facility is on the elevation of the pool and the rear of the building is on vertical pillars covered with lattice work to maintain an architectural integrity to the surrounding landscaped area. There is an attractive natural stone walk between the summer house and main residence.

The green house and garden shed are traditionally constructed facilities built in 1928 when the major landscaping of the grounds occurred. They are discretely located to support the gardens of Shelbridge. The green house is primarily constructed with a wood frame and glass. The garden shed is constructed with wood and has an asphalt roof.

All of the 8.3 acres are landscaped. The area south is grass with stately white oak, mature hemlock, boxwood, tulip poplar, and southern magnolia trees. The areas north and east are grass with similar trees strategically located. The area behind the main residence includes an impressive rose garden. Behind and below the rose garden is a natural stone retaining wall with stone steps leading down to the pool area. There is a north-south axis (i.e., stone walkway consisting of natural stones and old grinding stones). At each end of the axis are reflecting pools. The northern reflecting pool is framed with mature boxwoods on each side of a walkway made from antique grinding stones. The east-west axis extends to the pool and is terminated at the summer house. The west axis is bordered to the south by a stone retaining wall and to the north with two foot high Japanese holly and a hemlock hedge. The west axis is terminated by retaining wall with an original gazing globe in the formal Colonial Revival garden style. All plant material is mature and well maintained. Circa 1977 the original drive to the front entrance of Shelbridge was altered with the addition of a paved parking area.

Recently, the original shuffleboard court was discovered on the east end of the property. It is a single lane concrete court that is under restoration. This will be an important part of the historic renovation to Shelbridge.

Shelbridge is an excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture in Johnson City and its formally landscaped yard. Built in 1920 for the Ross Spears family, it was designed by architect D. R. Beeson and constructed by Mark Curtis, a local contractor and carpenter.

Ross Spears was a wholesale lumber dealer in Johnson City and his family resided in the house from 1920 through 1927. It was during their tenure that

many fruit trees were planted on the property and a rose garden was planted near the barn on the east side of the property. In addition the clay tennis courts and the third floor roller-skating floor were added. At the time the house was constructed, the city had no zoning laws and a cow was kept on the grounds as well as ponies that occupied one of the barns.

In 1927 the house was sold to the Henry P. Bridges family. Mrs. Bridges is responsible for adding the millstone and stone from the old Carnegie Blast Furnace in Johnson City. Also added were boxwoods from the southwest Virginia area and the western North Carolina area. Leland Cardwell, a Johnson City architect, planned the formal gardens in the manner of the formal gardens of Williamsburg. One of the first items to be added to the estate when the Bridges family moved into the house was the addition of a swimming pool and bath house.

The Bridges family constructed the summer house, complete with kitchen facilities in 1938. In addition, the Bridges had a brick house, originally the Munsey Memorial Methodist parsonage moved to the property. This house became the home of Mrs. Minnie Patton Thomas and Vint Thomas, the mother and brother of Mrs. Bridges.

Henry P. Bridges was a lawyer and industrialist, who practiced law in Baltimore from 1902-1927 and from 1927 through 1957 was Vice President of the Pennsylvania Glass and Sand Corporation of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. He also operated the Woodmont Gun and Rod club, a private club for wealthy sportsmen, located ten miles from Hancock, Maryland.

The Bridges had two sons Henry Jr. and Powell, both of whom attended the University Teaching School through the 10th grade. Henry completed high school at Mercerburg Academy and attended both East Tennessee State University and Princeton University for one year and graduated from Davidson College. He also received a Master of Sacred Music degree from Union Theological Seminary of New York City. He and his family currently reside in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Powell Bridges completed his secondary education at Johnson City's Science Hill High School and graduated from Davidson College and Vanderbilt University Law School. He and his family reside in Chicago.

In 1957 Henry P. Bridges died. His wife, later married Hal White, a native of Detroit, who came to Johnson City as an insurance broker. Mr. White died in 1972 and Mrs. White in 1973. In settling the estate, her sons, Henry and Powell Bridges, affected a sale-donation arrangement with the State of Tennessee which made the home available to the University as an official residence for the President of East Tennessee State University. It remains the in that use today. In summarizing the transaction, Henry Bridges said, "We wanted our to go to some

institution, where it would be well maintained, kept intact and where it would have as much public use as possible. We are extremely happy that it will be used as a residence for the President of East Tennessee State University.”

Shelbridge is used frequently to host local, state and national dignitaries. The guest, representing academic, social, political, economic, and athletic interest, add an important dimension to university life and history of Upper East Tennessee. Shelbridge has served as the home of four former and the current president of ETSU. In 1975, Dr. and Mrs. D. P. Culp moved into Shelbridge. They lived in the house until his retirement in 1977. Subsequently, it has served as home to Dr. and Mrs. Arthur DeRosier from 1977 through 1980, then Dr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Belles lived in Shelbridge from 1980 through 1991. In 1991 Dr. Bert C. Bach was appointed Interim president and resided in the house until 1992. In 1992 Dr. and Mrs. Roy S. Nicks moved into Shelbridge and are the current residents of the facility.

The house is an excellent example of a Colonial Revival house with its symmetrically balanced windows and sunroom wings. The exterior and interior feature many elements used in Colonial Revival architecture, including the balustrade with urns on the exterior and the corner cabinets on the interior. Designed by D. R. Beeson a local Johnson City architect, the house is a good example of his work. Beeson, is also noted for his design of the Montrose Court Apartments, a Tudor Revival building, and several buildings in the Tree Streets District.

The landscaped gardens of Shelbridge were designed by Leland Cardwell, a local Johnson City architect, and Mrs. Bridges. The gardens and the placement of the outbuildings is a good example of a formally designed garden. (National Register of Historic Places - application form)

ACQUONE (11/04/93) - 110 Barberry Road (and North Roan Street). Acquone, Cherokee for “resting place,” was built by Judge Samuel Cole Williams at the time of his retirement in 1923. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places as of 1994, this residence is Colonial Revival in style with a one-story entrance porch. Other features include decorative pediments above the doors and windows, double-hung windows, matching two-story wings, and a symmetrical facade. (tour)

Judge Williams began his law practice in Jonesborough in 1884 and came to Johnson City in 1892. In 1902-03, he acquired the Watauga Light and Power Co. and the Johnson City Railway Company. In 1912, he was appointed Chancellor of Tennessee. From 1912-1920, he was associate justice of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. After his retirement, he wrote more than twelve major history works and published more than sixty articles in historic journals. Judge Williams gave a lot on North Roan Street and \$10,000 as an initial gift for a public library, requesting that the library be known as Mayne Williams Library in memory of his

son who dies at the age of four (in July 1897) by taking forty grams of sugar coated quinine.

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Aquone, the Judge Samuel Cole Williams' Estate, is a two and one-half story brick Colonial Revival house that sits on 3.6 acres in Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee. The house is located in a semi-secluded area between Roan Street and U.S. Highway 11E. The house is screened from the roads with trees and its terraced lawn.

The south facade of the two-story house is six bays wide flanked on either end by one and one-half story wings that are set back from the main portion of the house. The wings are each composed of two bays. A modern three-car garage has been added on the east end of the house, but is set back from the house and is located below grade. The house has a one story center pedimented portico supported by six Doric columns. Four of the columns are spaced along the front portion of the portico and two columns act as pilasters at the rear of the portico. A decorative flower and cupid garland are located in the tympanum of the portico. The two bays flanking the portico are composed of nine-over-nine double hung windows surmounted by a jack arch with key stone on the first story and six-over-nine double hung windows on the second story, all windows have shutters. The main entrance of the house is a single leaf cross and bible door with leaded glass windows located in the panel portion of the cross. The door is flanked by leaded glass sidelights over a blind panel and surmounted by a leaded glass transom. Located in the center bay above the portico is a three part window composed of a six-over-nine double hung window flanked by single pane two-over-three sidelights with shutters.

The cornice of the house is molded with dentils and a large pedimented gable dormer with an oculus window. The roof is currently an asphalt shingle roof, the original roof was gray slate. The flanking wings each have a simple boxed cornice and a pair of windows with a corbeled blind panels over them. The window openings on the west wing are French doors that extend to the ground level. The doors are composed of four panes over a blind panel and are flanked by shutters that extend the full length of the doors. The windows on the east wing are six-over-nine over panels and flanked by shutters that extend to the ground providing a symmetrical appearance to the wings.

The west elevation of the house is composed of the recessed wing centered on the west wall of the main portion of the house. The wing has one six-over-six double hung window topped by a jack arch with keystone. A small three light window is located below and to the north of the centered window. Located in the gable peak are five square holes forming a cross-like vent. The west wall of the main portion of the house extends into a flush gable chimney. Located at the gable peak at the center of the chimney is a six-over-six window at the attic level. Flanking the wing of the house on both the north and south ends of the west wall is a nine-over-nine window and on the south end of the first story and French doors on the north

end. On the second story are six-over-nine windows. These windows, like the majority of windows in the house, have jack arched with keystone and shutters.

The north, or rear, elevation of the house has a variety of setbacks and additions. The main block of the house is composed of five bays. As with the front, or south facade, second story windows are six-over-nine double hung windows with shutters abutting the dentiled cornice. The center bay of the second floor is a tripartite window composed of a six pane round arched segment over an eight-over-nine double hung window. The window has a simple round arched surround keystone. The first floor is composed of windows that are nine-over-nine double hung windows with jack arch, keystone, and shutters on the east end of the house. The original center entrance and the two bays on the west end are now enclosed with a sunroom that extends to the north of the house. The sunroom is composed of large glass panels topped by a simple gable roof and supported by a brick foundation. There are three gable roof dormers eight-over-nine round arched windows equally spaced along the roof line.

The north elevation of the west wing has a gable roof addition composed of glass panels supported by simple square posts over a small patio area. A six-over-six window is located on the first floor level. The north elevation of the eastern end of the house is composed of the east wing with an original one story projection on a raised basement foundation. The wing is connected by a basement level entrance hall to a modern plain brick garage that extends northward. The garage is attached only at its southwest corner. Windows on the north elevation of the east wing include a small three-over-three double hung window and a three-over-three window extending into a gable roof dormer. The original projection has two one-over-two windows, each with a single shutter. On the basement level of the projection is a modern, large pane three-part patio door.

The east elevation of the house is composed of the east wing centered on the main portion of the house. The east end of the main block of the house has a centered flush gable chimney and window placement much like the west elevation. Windows on the east elevation are a six-over-six center attic window and on the south end a six-over-nine on the second story and a nine-over-nine on the first story. As with the other windows of the house they have a jack arch with keystone and shutters. The east end of the wing extends below grade on the terraced lot and is composed of a single door on the basement level, and two centered six-over-six windows on the first and second stories.

The modern garage, built in 1986, is attached to the east wing at the northeast corner. The east wall of the garage is plain brick.

The interior of the house is based on the center hall plan. The entrance / stair hall is flanked on both the east and west sides by large formal rooms. The entrances to these rooms are identical with classical style trim. The simple molded door surrounds are capped with a wide entablature. The entablature simple architrave,

a reeded frieze, and a dented cornice with a wide overhang. The trim to the main entrance is of a much simpler design than the other interior doorways. At the rear of the hall is a two flight stairway with a simple turned balustrade. A twelve pane door, once the original back door, is located on the north wall. A simple doorway is located at the rear of the hall on the east wall. The hallway has crown molding on all but the northern end of the hall.

The entrance way on the west wall leads to a formal living room. The living room consists of a fireplace with a Georgian influenced mantel and overmantel on the west wall. The fireplace is flanked by full height fluted pilasters and is surmounted by a simple panel. To the south of the fireplace is a window and to the north is an entrance into the library. The south wall of the room composed of two windows. French doors with the same formal surround as the main entrance to the room are located on the north wall. Crown molding surrounds the room.

Located to the west of the living room is the library. The library is reportedly based on Sir Walter Scott's study at Abbotsford, Scotland. The room extends the full one and one-half stories of the wing. On the first story the library is wood paneled with a Georgian influenced fireplace centered on the east wall. The entrance door is located on the north side of the fireplace. The south wall of the room is composed of two sets of French doors, only the western most set is operable and provides a visitor's entrance to the library without having to walk through the house. On the west wall of the library is a simple stair case that extends along a papered wall between applied beveled wood braces that mimic bookcase, door and window surrounds. Located under the stairs is a half-bath which has its original fixtures and has a three light window on the west wall. Also located on the west wall is a centered window at the half-story height. The north wall of the library is composed of bookshelves that are built around a window. A balcony with a wrought iron balustrade with wood rail is located on the upper level on the north and east walls. Bookshelves extend the full length of the north wall and are continued on the east wall. On the southern end of the east wall are four steps leading to an entrance into the master bedroom on the second floor.

Located to the rear, or north of the living room on the north side is a large glass sunroom added in 1986. The glass walled structure incorporated an original back wall of the house. Original porch columns and rear brick wall are still visible.

On the east side of the center hall is the formal dining room. The room is a mirror copy of the living room with a centered fireplace on the east wall flanked by a window on the south and a doorway on the north. The fireplace has an almost identical Georgian influenced mantel. However, the dining room has no overmantel. The south wall of the room is composed of two windows and the north side of the room is a solid wall.

Also located on the northern end of the center hall is an entrance to the family room. On the east wall is an entrance to the kitchen and in the northeast corner of the room is an original bathroom.

The kitchen, located in the east wing of the house has been modernized, but retains its original door and window placements. Two small windows are located on the north wall and a six-over-six window is located on the east wall. In the southeast corner of the kitchen is a two panel door leading to a rear stair hall. Located on the south wall of the stair hall are two windows. The small staircase leads to the maid's room located at the half-story level. This small room has been converted into a laundry room. Two small steps lead through a narrow door to the second floor hall.

At the top of the main staircase is a small area that serves as an entrance to the bedrooms which are approached through round archways supported with pilasters. Crown molding surrounds the small area. To the west of the entrance hall is a small sitting room on the north side, the room was originally used as a bedroom. On the south side of the hall is the master bedroom. Located on the west wall of the master bedroom is the entrance onto the library balcony. A bathroom is located on the southeastern corner of the bedroom and was enlarged in 1990 to include a dressing room.

To the east of the small entrance hall are two bedrooms, each with a small private bathroom. All bathrooms on the second floor retain their original tile. The bedroom on the south side of the hall has a fireplace with decorative detail including a small fluted half column. East of the two bedrooms is the service wing located in the east wing of the house.

The basement of the house, entered off the kitchen stair hall was remodeled in 1990. The finished basement has a quarry tile floor, and acoustical tile ceiling. On the east end of the basement hallway is an original entrance to the driveway area. An entrance is also located on the east end of the north wall allowing access to the backyard. The south side of the basement consists of two rooms, an exercise room and a wine cellar. On the north side of the basement a room has been finished off to serve as a guest bedroom. The north wall of the bedroom is composed of patio doors. A small bath is located on the northwest corner of the bedroom.

Also located on the north wall of the basement is the furnace room and a storage room. Crawl spaces are located to the west and north of the basement.

The back yard of Aquone is still terraced as mentioned in 1938 description of the house in [History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee](#) and is a contributing site. An iron fence, built in 1990, with white brick posts along Barberry Road is located to the south and west sides of the house and connects to a security fence on the north and east sides of the yard.

Aquone, built in 1925, is significant due to its association with Judge Samuel Cole Williams, an important figure in the state of Tennessee in both law and Tennessee history. The two-story Colonial Revival house is also significant for its architecture.

Samuel Cole Williams was born in Humbolt, Gibson County, Tennessee in 1864. He graduated in 1884 from Vanderbilt with a law degree and began his practice in Jonesborough, Washington County, Tennessee. In 1892, after the death of his two senior partners, he moved his practice to Johnson City. In addition to his law practice Williams acquired partnership in 1902-1903 with the Watuaga Light and Power Company and the Johnson City Street Car Company. He also became an associate of the Unaka National Bank and served as its president.

From 1912 to 1920 he served as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. In 1920 he resigned from the Supreme Court to accept a position at Emory University. In 1925 he returned to Tennessee after serving five years as the first dean of Lamar School of Law.

After his return to Tennessee Williams had a Colonial Revival retirement house built in Johnson City in 1923 for his family, wife Isabel H. and daughter, Martha. He started work on codifying Tennessee law and worked on the project in his home until its acceptance in 1929. His daughter Martha Williams Brown recalls that the furniture in the downstairs rooms of the house were covered with strips of paper cut from the old code book and she and her mother had to walk carefully so they did not disturb the papers.

After he finished work on the new Tennessee Code he concentrated his time on writing Tennessee history, particularly the early settlement period of the state. In his preface of Dawn of Tennessee Valley and Tennessee History published in 1937, he stated that he began collecting material for the book in 1893 while still in law school. In addition to his work of writing Tennessee history, he was a member of several historical associations including East Tennessee Historical Society in which he served as president. While serving as president of the East Tennessee organization he began a publication program for the Society's papers.

In 1941, with the help of Governor Prentice Cooper, he revitalized the Tennessee Historical Commission, a statewide organization that originally started in 1919 to preserve military records of Tennesseans who served in World War I. By the 1930s the Tennessee Historical Commission was dormant as a result of undefined programs and activities. Governor Cooper, along with a small group, reorganized the Commission and changed the direction and scope of the organization. Judge Samuel Cole Williams was elected as chairman of the organization. During his tenure as chairman of the commission, Williams was instrumental in the reorganization of the statewide commission and directed it in the launching of a new journal, Tennessee Historical Quarterly, in conjunction with the Tennessee

Historical Society. Williams was also a board member of the Society at the same time he served as chairman of the Commission. Williams also took an active part in marking and preserving historical sites throughout the state and was instrumental in acquiring Tipton-Haynes, as an historical site in east Tennessee for the state. In November of 1942 the Tennessee Historical Commission elected to make one of Samuel Cole Williams' books their 1944 project. In turn, Williams gave the copyright to the Commission and all proceeds from the book after printing costs.

Judge Williams resigned from the Commission at the June 1, 1946 meeting. At the meeting Governor Jim McCord presented Williams with an illuminated scroll for his work with the Commission and he was made Chairman Emeritus for life.

Samuel Cole Williams died on December 14, 1947. Newspapers across the state wrote articles and editorials on Tennessee's "premier historian" and also lauded his work in Tennessee law. Williams wrote and edited several articles and books on Tennessee history and law.

The Judge Samuel Cole Williams' house or Aquone, is an important local example of a Colonial Revival house, designed by Leland Cardwell, a Johnson City architect with Ciole and Cardwell Architects from 1922-1933. The design of the house was reportedly based on a 1748 Maryland mansion (location and name unknown). In addition the house's library was reportedly modeled after Sir Walter Scott's study in Abbotsford, Scotland. The house was given the name Aquone which means final resting place in the Cherokee language.

The two-story brick house with its symmetrical facade, porticoed entrance, gable dormer is a good example of an architect designed Colonial Revival house built for the professional class at the beginning of the twentieth century. According to Gwendolyn Wright in Building the Dream, Colonial Revival houses were "an architectural expression of the entire country's common heritage of good sense and egalitarian principles."

Aquone also has state wide significance in Tennessee for its association with Judge Samuel Cole Williams, a significant figure in both Tennessee law and early Tennessee history. The codified law he prepared provided the state with an important document that was used for many years in Tennessee judicial system. In addition his leadership of the Tennessee Historical Commission revitalized a stagnant organization and gave it new direction. The Tennessee Historical Commission still continues to serve the state through its support of state owned historic sites, a marker program, and a publication program. (National Register of Historic Places - registration form)

**TREE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT (March 96).** This neighborhood, located east of East Tennessee State University and southwest of Downtown, is bounded by West Walnut Street, South Roan Street, and University Parkway. A variety of styles

and sizes of residential dwellings, with a scattering of commercial structures, characterize the neighborhood largely developed by George Carter in the 1910's and 1920's. Some of the more notable residential structures and/or those of historic value are Montrose Court (701 West Locust Street); Young Farmhouse (Cedar Place); J. Fred Johnson / Howell Sherrod, Jr. Residence( 723 West Locust Street); General Wilder Residence (200 West Maple Street); Col. Reeves Residence (1205 Buffalo Street); and the Residence of Catherine Marshall - noted author and wife of Peter Marshall, Chaplain of the Senate from January, 1947 until January, 1949 (119 West Pine Street). (tour)

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The Tree Streets Historic District is significant to Johnson City and Washington County for its architecture. The district contains the best and most intact collection of historic residences in the city. Bungalows, Craftsman Bungalows, Queen Anne houses and cottages, Four Square houses, and various early twentieth century revival styles are well represented in the district. There are also numerous historic garages, rock walls, and landscaping that contribute to the district's historic sense of time and place.

Washington County had its beginnings on land bought from the Cherokees in 1775. Robert Young Sr. purchased more than 2,000 acres on the site of present day Johnson City between 1775 and 1777. In November 1777, the settlement became Washington County, North Carolina. It was the first county in the United States to be named after George Washington. The county was also part of the State of Franklin and in 1796 it became part of the State of Tennessee.

The earliest structure built in the area which was to become Johnson City is the Robert Young Cabin, built of logs circa 1775 on what is now Virginia Street. It is no longer extant, but a second cabin, built in 1776, also of logs, on land later purchased by the federal government for the National Soldier's Home (now the Veterans Administration) is the oldest extant structure in the city. The building was moved to a park near the Boys' Club on West Market Street. Downtown Johnson City was developed on land which Tipton Jobe inherited from two pioneer families, the Tiptons and the Jobes. Jobe donated land for the Science Hill Male and Female Institute and for the East Tennessee Virginia and Georgia Railroad.

Although it has been altered significantly, one of the most historically important houses in the district is the residence built by Robert Young Sr.'s grandson, James Young, at 1117 Cedar Place (#42). The house stands on the lot which was part of Robert Young Jr.'s 640 acre land grant of 1792. It is the oldest continually inhabited house in Washington County. According to tax records, the house was constructed in 1812. It was built in sight of the old stage road (present day Walnut Street) which ran from North Carolina through Jonesborough. When Brush Creek flooded, the road would be impassable, and travelers would stay at the Young's house.

Situated in the northeast corner of Tennessee in an area bordered by three mountain ranges, the Clinch range to the north, the Smokies to the east, and the Cumberlands to the west, Johnson City lies in an area that was made accessible by the coming of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad. Chartered in 1849, railroad construction began in 1855, one year after Henry Johnson, recognizing the potential benefits the railroad would bring, built his storehouse on the stage road which ran from Elizabethton in Carter County to Jonesborough in Washington County. On the lot he bought from Abraham Jobe he built a store, depot, and the post office in the area that is modern Johnson City. In the years before the Civil War, several other stores and a number of residences were built

Colonel Thomas Matson, a civil engineer and railroad designer built a brick house at the top of Rome (Roan) Hill, no the top of Buffalo Street in 1889 (outside the district). Matson began the Johnson City Foundry and Metal Works, the oldest industry in the town until its closing in 1990. Matson also owned Johnson City Furniture Company and Johnson City Real Estate Company. He was a major contributor to the industrial surge in Johnson City in the late 1880s and early 1900s. The increase in industrial and commercial activity resulted in an increase in the residential development of the city.

The 1880s and 1890s were a time of great economic growth for the Johnson City area. During these years the city's population increased over 500%, largely as a result of the railroad. The city began water service in 1887 and obtained the water from a spring at the base of Roan Hill and Spring Street. Approximately forty houses and businesses were served at that time. In September of 1888, the city had electric service and two years later the Carnegie Street Railway was established. Further growth occurred after the Good Roads Committee decided to run the Bristol to Memphis Road through Johnson City in 1911.

The Tree Streets Historic District is composed of several subdivisions or additions that were platted over the years. This type of residential growth is a typical pattern of development for medium and large cities in the state. One of the earliest recorded plats for this area is the 1889 Wilder and Cures Addition, which occupies a small section at the center of the historic district. The largest subdivision is the Southwest Addition, platted in 1909, which contains much of the district. The Johnson City Real Estate Company's addition, platted in October and November of 1901, covers the northeast section of the district, while the 1922 Roan Heights Addition is situated at the southern portion of the district. The Southwest Addition built up gradually at first, with scattered houses going up during the latter part of the nineteenth century. In 1912 Johnson City Traction Company (established in 1902) began installing streetcar tracks through the Southwest Addition, thus providing transportation to families wanting to live outside the city core.

The Tree Streets Historic District contains a house built for one of the early developers of the city, General T. Wilder (#236). A former Union officer, Wilder

founded businesses in many areas of Tennessee, including Johnson City and Washington County. He had an office here where some of the planning for the development of Johnson City took place. In addition to his Carnegie Furnace Company and a hotel.

The Tree Streets neighborhood was largely developed by George L. Carter in the 1920s and 1920s. Carter, a prominent businessman, was instrumental in developing the Clinchfield Railroad and early Kingsport. During the boom period of the 1920s, Johnson City, Kingsport, and Bristol all competed for industry and boosted their city and environs. Platted in 1909, Carter's Southwest Addition contained land west of Buffalo Street up to and including the present day East Tennessee State University land. According to an article in the Johnson City Press Chronicle (5 January 1978), the area was surveyed and planned by noted designer John Nolan of Cambridge, Mass., who also planned Kingsport in Sullivan County. (No information was found corroborating Nolan's involvement in Johnson City.) Carter's real estate development company laid out the neighborhood and brought a number of prominent businessmen to Johnson City, including banker H. C. Black and developer J. Fred Johnson, who later helped develop Kingsport, Tennessee. Originally called the Southwest Addition, and sometimes the Carter Addition, the neighborhood is bordered by Carter's Model Mill (General Mills). Carter donated 120 acres to develop East Tennessee State Normal School (East Tennessee University) in 1911. To encourage growth in the Southwest Addition, Carter built sidewalks and donated land for the first federally owned post office in Johnson City. The subdivision had streetcars, a public water system, electricity, telephones, and the new Southwest School. Carter's house, built on land later acquired by the University stood until it was razed in the 1980's.

At the same time Carter was subdividing part of Johnson City in 1909, the Southern Railway published a promotional brochure extolling the possibilities of industrial development for the city. The brochure mentioned that there had been over one million dollars of realty transfers during the last year, a flour mill was being constructed, there was telephone service, and four railroads. The city's population was 4,645 in 1900 and estimated to be between 10,00 - 11,000 at the time of the publication of the brochure. The brochure further noted much of the recent building occurring in the city: Southern Railway Depot, churches (\$100,000), a school (\$35,000), a federal building (\$100,000), stores (\$100,000), and over 300 new homes (\$300,000).

Like many cities, this prosperity continued until the Great Depression slowed it. Johnson City had grown considerably by the 1930s with sixty miles of paved streets, a city hall, parks, twenty-five churches, a post office and two substations. There were junior and senior high schools and eighteen grammar schools, with an enrollment of approximately 6,000. The city had six miles of street car lines, a hydroelectric plant, four bus lines, three main highways, and three railroads. It

was the second largest hardwood manufacturing center in the nation. In 1937, an airport was built in the region.

The various styles of architecture in the district represent popular styles, or adaptations of styles, during the years the Tree Streets Historic District was evolving. The neighborhood contains several pre-1910 houses whose exact date of construction has not been determined. One of the most notable of these is at 711 West Pine Street (#440). The one and one-half Queen Anne Cottage has a stone foundation and stone porch columns.

Two early twentieth century houses were built on West Locust Street (#'s 206 and 209) for the President and Vice President of the railroad. These Dutch Colonial Revival residences were constructed in the early twentieth century and have gambrel roofs, weatherboard siding, and columned porches. Both houses were built by the Maine Architectural Company. Also located on West Locust Street (#204) is the Queen Anne residence of J. Fred Johnson, a business associate of Carter's. The two and one-half story house has a slate roof, dentil trim, transoms, and a Colonial Revival porch.

Southwest Avenue has several large houses built in a variety of styles ranging from Colonial Revival and Dutch Colonial to Tudor and English Cottage revivals. The street also includes the International style house at 1107 Southwest Avenue (#581), built in the 1930s. Until recently the historic Southside School was located on this street. It is being replaced by a modern school. A small triangular park on Southwest Avenue is a contributing landscape feature of the district. The park is bordered by West Locust Street, Southwest Avenue, and Device Street. It was dedicated in 1922 to the memory of the sixteen Johnson City soldiers who lost their lives in World War I. A maple tree was planted for each of the dead soldiers; some of these trees are extant. In 1987 the park was re-dedicated and a plaque with the names of the dead soldiers was placed in the park (#575).

Some of the residences in the neighborhood are thought to have been designed by Donald R. Beeson. One of the buildings Beeson is known to have designed is Montrose Court, a twenty-eight unit Tudor Revival apartment complex constructed at 701 West Locust Street in 1922 on land owned by George Carter (#577). A group of businessmen, including Carter, formed the Southwest Apartment Company and hired Johnson City architect Donald R. Beeson, Sr. to design the \$200,000 building. Luxury features of the building included built-in tubs, parking garages, and Murphy beds. The complex was built to house the German executives of the Bemberg Corporation, a textile company located in Elizabethton. When completed, the Johnson City Chronicle published a "Montrose Court Edition" on May 28, 1922 that showcased the building. The newspaper noted that "During the past years the Southwest Addition has built up with the splendid residences faster than any portion of the city, and its convenient location in the southwest portion of the city places it in the heart of one of the best

residential section.” The neighborhood was close to the street car lines and had three paved streets.

An interesting house in the district is the Colonial Revival style house at 718 West Locust Street built circa 1925 by a Mr. Kipping (#211). The two story brick residence is distinguished by its tile hip roof and one bay entrance with paired columns. In 1928 the house was sold to the Bemberg Corporation.. After a fire in the Montrose Court, several of the larger houses in the neighborhood were bought to house Bemberg executives.

Another example of the popular Colonial Revival style is the Dew-Burleson House at 801 West Pine Street (#456). It was built for Mary Henly Dew Burleson and her husband David Sinclair Burleson, a charter faculty member at the Normal School (East Tennessee State University) and community leader.

Johnson City had fire protection by 1890. The neighborhood fire station was once housed at 618 West Pine Street. Construction in 1932, the one and one-half story brick building had large garage doors at the rear basement to house fire engines (#431). It is now used as a residence.

The Tree Streets Historic District contains one historical non-residential building, the First United Methodist Church at the corner of West Maple and Spring streets (#237). The Gothic Revival building is constructed of brick, it has a gable roof and bell tower. It was completed in 1928. Located a few blocks away at 600 West Pine Street is the former parsonage for nearly forty years. It is a Four Square house with Colonial Revival influence. The two story brick house has a gable front roof, wraparound porch, and transom and sidelights around the entry.

The Tree Streets Historic District is the most intact collection of historic residences in Johnson City. It represents a variety of styles from Queen Anne influences through bungalows and Minimal Traditional styles. There are small collections of residences along Unaka and Wautauga streets and the State of Franklin Road and Holston Avenue, but the proposed district best represents the architecture of the city.

**VARBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION** - The Tree Streets Historic District roughly contains resources along West Maple Street and West Pine Street between University Parkway and South Roan Street; West Locust Street and West Poplar Street between South Roan Street and Cherokee Street; West Chestnut Street between South Roan Street and Buffalo Street and between Sevier Street and Boyd Street; Laurel Street; Franklin Street; and the cross streets in the above mentioned.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION** - The Tree Streets Historic District contains the most intact collection of historic residential architecture in Johnson City. The

boundaries are drawn to include the greatest number of historic resources in the area and to exclude large areas of altered or non-historic buildings.

**WILLIAM COBB HOME/ROCKY MOUNT** - 200 Hyder Hill Road, Piney Flats, Tennessee. (538-7396) Rocky Mount, a large log house built between 1770 and 1772 by William Cobb, is one of the oldest existing buildings in the state. It became the first capitol of "The Territory of the United States south of the River Ohio" in 1790 when President George Washington appointed William Blount the Territorial Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. Governor Blount made his home with the William Cobb family and conducted the affairs of the state at Rocky Mount until a new capitol was built in Knoxville in 1792. Rocky Mount, its reconstructed kitchen, and other outbuildings were purchased by the State of Tennessee in 1959 for preservation as a historic site. The interior of the house is restored to the period of the late eighteenth century. The Masengill Museum of Overmountain History on the site explores the development of the area. (tour)

In addition to the house, there is a reconstructed kitchen and other out buildings. The interior of the house is restored to the period of the late eighteenth century.

## **AN HISTORIC TOUR OF JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE**

1. **DOWNTOWN JOHNSON CITY** - Downtown Johnson City was developed on land once owned by David Jobe. However, this land was not incorporated as Johnson City until 1869, nearly 100 years after Jobe acquired it. Tipton Jobe, a large landholder who had inherited land from two pioneer families (Tipton and Jobe) still owned most of the land at the time of the initial development of Johnson City. While he was reluctant to divide his farmland into lots, he donated land for the Science Hill Male and Female Institute and for East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad. By 1890, Johnson City was flourishing; the entire town boomed. Population in the decade of 1880-90 increased by 507%, largely because of the railroad's impact on the area. (tour)
2. **ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH (VICTORY TABERNACLE)** - 227 East Market Street. St. Mary's Church was established in 1900. The Robert Burrow estate, located on East Market Street, was purchased by Father Callahan on December 21, 1906. A small white chapel at the location was the first building for St. Mary's congregation. The current structure, built in 1931, is a replica of a church in France. St. Mary's Catholic Church relocated in 1990, and the chapel on East Market Street is now home to Victory Tabernacle. (tour)

**CAMPBELL, DR. G. EDWARDS, CLINIC** - 217 East Market Street ( 1924). Dr. G. Edward Campbell, pioneer in hospital and health development, established in Johnson City the first private clinic in this section. The land was a part of the grant made to David Jobe in 1777, by the state of North Carolina.

3. **MUNSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** - 201 East Main Street. This congregation dates to 1871, when it was known as Market Street Methodist Church. The property at 201 East Market Street was purchased in 1903 and a church was built in 1908. That building was in use until 1955. In 1949 an addition which included an indoor pool was completed. Adjoining property was purchased in 1952, the sanctuary was razed in 1955, and the third and present building was constructed in 1956. Three stained-glass windows of lumiere gold blown and the sanctuary organ were designed and custom-built for the church; trumpets were added to the organ during the 1985 renovation. (tour)
4. **MAYNE WILLIAMS PUBLIC LIBRARY (MUNSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHAPEL)** - 103 South Roan Street. Designed by D. R. Beeson, the Mayne William's Public Library opened January 1, 1923. Judge S. C. Williams gave the land adjacent to the Science Hill Male and Female Institute and \$10,000 to the Monday Club of Johnson City for the purpose of building a library. The library was named for his son, Mayne, who died at age four after accidentally ingesting quinine pills. In 1985, the building was sold to Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church and renovated into a chapel. (tour)

The building was a brick structure, its portico supported by six columns of the Greek Revival period.

On January 1, 1923, the Mayne Williams Public Library opened its doors. The library was established by the Monday Club, Johnson City's first women's civic organization and a group dedicated to the creation of a public library. Judge S. C. Williams' generous donation of land fronting Roan Street and a cash contribution of \$10,000 enabled the Monday Club to establish the library which was named in honor of Judge Williams' son Mayne who died in 1897 at age four after accidentally ingesting Quinine pills. The building served this city until 1981 when the Johnson City Public Library was built on an adjacent site.

**OLDE SOUTH GYM** - Part of the old Science Hill Male and Female Institute. Built on land given by Tipton Jobe above the Knob Spring in 1867.

On February 14, 1867, Tipton Jobe, a local businessman, donated two and one-third acres on Knob Hill for use as a school site. A single-story brick building was constructed using material donated by individuals and groups from as far away as Jonesborough and Buffalo Creek. The private school was named Science Hill Seminary in honor of the Science Hill Literary and Debating Society which had originated the idea of a school. The state had granted a charter for the school in 1866, and Science Hill became the first private corporation in what is now Johnson City. Nineteen years later, in February, 1886, *The Comet*, an early Johnson City newspaper, reported that 251 students were enrolled in the school, and that "several new branches of study" would be introduced in the spring term.

Original school had been built in 1867 on the hill above Knob Spring. That building had been renovated in the 1880's after an 1884 article in *The Comet* stated, "Science Hill is an eyesore to the town. It is rugged, ugly, uninviting, and no special blame on anyone, but it rests upon us all." The renovated school was expanded in 1902 and served the community until 1922. That year, the building, which had "outdoor toilets, a coal stove in every room,...and desks with an inkwell in one corner, a shelf for books, and a hinged seat," was demolished. Between 1911 and 1913, high school students were sent to East Tennessee State Normal School while the new high school building, which opened in 1914, was constructed. That building served city high school students until spring 1961 when "The Hill" moved to its present site.

5. **PRINCETON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH** -104 Water Street (Behind Johnson City Public Library). Thankful Baptist Church was the originator of this structure which was built in 1912. Prior to its construction, a small white chapel in which the congregation worshipped, was located on this site. In 1975 Thankful Baptist Church relocated to Watauga Avenue and in 1977 sold the Water Street property to Princeton Free Will Baptist Church. (tour)

6. **HOTEL JOHN SEVIER (JOHN SEVIER CENTER)** - 141 East Market Street.

Named for the state's first governor, John Sevier Hotel was erected during the "Roaring Twenties" as a place for social gatherings and to encourage travel through the area. The \$500,000 hotel was funded by subscriptions collected by Chamber of Commerce teams. So determined were Johnson Citians to bring an elegant hotel to their city that 16 10-man teams sold over one-half million dollars in subscriptions in only six days. More than 1,500 people attended the hotel's grand opening and were quite taken by the elegance of "large lobbies, lounges, double mezzanines, assembly and ball rooms, a dozen shop rooms, dining room, coffee room, kitchens, private dining rooms, serving and sample rooms," as well as a 10-floor bedroom wing. In 1978, the old hotel was converted to a 150-unit apartment building for elderly and physically challenged residents. In 1989, the city's most costly fire, in terms of loss of human life, occurred at the John Sevier Center. Since then, the Center has been brought into compliance with the 1991 fire code and is equipped with sprinkler system protection. Built in the Neoclassic style, it remains today Johnson City's tallest building. (tour)

On August 5, 1924, over 1,500 people wandered through the 10 floors of the Hotel John Sevier during its grand opening. Entering via the "sort of Whirly gig apparatus in front, like a ferris wheel on edge" (reveloving door), visitors oohed and aaaahed over the elegance of "large lobbies, lounges, double mezzanines, assembly and ball rooms, a dozen shop rooms, dining room, coffee room, kitchens, private dining rooms, serving and sample rooms," as well as a 10-floor bedroom wing.

The most modern equipment served the establishment. Elegance and a code of "providing in advance for every possible desire, need, taste or whim" were the objectives of the Floor and Robinson Hotel management. The hotel masterpiece became the social center of Johnson City.

In 1978, at the age of 54, the old hotel was converted to John Sevier Center, a 150-unit apartment building for elderly and physically challenged residents. And even in 1994, the building is still the tallest one in Johnson City.

In 1923-24, John Sevier Hotel was constructed and opened. In 1929 a wing was added, making the hotel one of 225 rooms, one of the largest and best-equipped hotels between Chattanooga and Roanoke.

7. WEST MAIN STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 246 West Main Street. Dr. Hezekiah B. Hankal, a physician and Tennessee's first African-American certified public school teacher, founded this church in 1869. The current building was erected that year; brick veneer was added in 1955. The building was expanded in the early 1980's and again in the early 1990's. Adjacent property was purchased on two occasions. The sanctuary features a stained-glass window dedicated to the memory of Dr. Hankal. (tour)

8. OAK HILL CEMETERY - 205 Whitney Street. This 6.2 acre cemetery is bounded by Boone, Lamont, and Whitney Streets. Robert Love and Samuel H. Miller founded the cemetery in 1870, each donating 1/2 acre of land; seven trustees cared for the site. Henry Johnson, the first mayor of Johnson City, several Confederate soldiers, and members of early Johnson City families are buried in the cemetery. Today a board of 12 trustees governs the site. (tour)

In March, 1870, Colonel Robert Love (Confederate States of America) and Samuel Miller donated pieces of property totaling approximately 300feet by 400 feet for use as a cemetery. Oak Hill Cemetery “originated as a family burial plot with the first grave being that of Leonora Love, 18-year-old daughter of Colonel Robert Love...whose family had only recently moved to Johnson’s Tank...”

9. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 105 South Boone Street. On April 23, 1869, the First Presbyterian Church congregation was organized. The first building, erected in 1872 at the corner of Main and Boone Streets, was replaced in 1914. Larger Sunday School facilities were added in 1927. The third and current sanctuary replaced the 1914 building in 1955. An Educational Building replaced the 1927 addition in May, 1967, and a new metal steeple was added in 1989. The tower and steeple reflect a colonial air. A memorial window from the 1914 church, honoring the eleven charter members is located in the narthex. (tour)
10. FOUNTAIN SQUARE - 101 East Main Street. This landmark, originally called the Public Square, is located near Johnson City 's beginnings, the site of Henry Johnson's water tank and store. Between 1900 and 1938, the Lady of the Fountain statue graced the area which became known as Fountain Square. Removed in 1938, the statue journeyed to several locations, finally arriving in the reading room of the Johnson City Public Library, where it remains today. (tour)
11. BANKS - 121 Fountain Square. Johnson City's first bank, "Bank of Johnson City," was founded in 1886. During the "boom" of 1890, the bank was renamed "First National Bank," and relocated in a new building at the north side of Main Street and the public square. Other banks established in Johnson City during that year were Citizens Bank (at East Main and Roan Streets) and Watauga Bank (at East Main and Spring Streets). Today, the only remaining structure from Johnson City's first bank is a red brick building facing Fountain Square, near the corner of Main Street, that once housed First National Bank. (tour)

UNAKA NATIONAL BANK (next to Bowman’s)

WOFFORD BROTHERS OFFICE / THE KING BUILDING - Downtown - corner of Roan Street and Main Street. The King Building was constructed in 1928, finest mercantile building between Knoxville and Roanoke, was constructed by its owner, Sam R. Sells, who was from 1907-1937 a civic and industrial leader of Johnson City.

12. DOWNTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 335 East Main Street. The current building is the third home for a congregation which dates from 1871. The original cost of the white brick structure completed in 1906 was \$5,750. In 1923, the Sunday School Annex dramatically increased the facility's space. A sanctuary addition was added in 1951. Until 1972, this building housed the First Christian Church; when the congregation split, the current congregation purchased the facilities from First Christian Church and adopted the name Downtown Christian Church. The stained glass windows are custom-made. Located in the Historical Room are a pulpit and two chairs which were made by William Maupin, an early minister, around 1875 and are currently used for Sunday School. (tour)

OLD POST OFFICE (WJHL) - In March, 1938, the U.S. Post Office moved from its Ashe Street location to the new \$197,000 twenty-seven hundred square foot, white marble building on East Main Street, where WJHL's television station is currently located. The Post Office moved to its current location, 530 East Main Street, in Summer, 1974.

13. SEAVER BUILDING - 127 Spring Street. The white stone building on the corner of Spring Street and State of Franklin Road was built in 1908 by C.W. Seaver, a harness maker, and used as a harness shop until 1955. Since then, the building has housed shops for shoe repair and leather craft work. The machinery, tools, and workbench used by C.W. Seaver before the turn of the century, along with some saddles crafted by Seaver, are now displayed in the Baker Shoe Repair and Saddle Shop in Erwin, Tennessee, a shop owned by Seaver's great-great-great nephew. (tour)

14. SUMMERS HARDWARE - 400 Buffalo Street. The Summers Hardware Building was built in 1910 to house a growing hardware business. This building, quite large even by today's standards, was the cradle of the area's hardware business. From this building, tinware, sporting goods, building supplies, and other items were shipped throughout the Southeastern United States. (tour)

15. ASHE STREET COURT HOUSE (WASHINGTON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER) - 401 Ashe Street. The Ashe Street Court House was Johnson City's first federal building. It was erected in 1909-1910 on land donated by George L. Carter. Carter also donated the foundation, sidewalks, and land for streets on all four sides of the building. The Post Office was housed here for many years, then the County Courthouse, and now the facility is the home of the Washington County Emergency Communications Center (E-911). It is in the Beaux Arts style. (tour)

Was erected in 1911, in the Southwest (Carter) addition and was the first U. S. postoffice building. It was occupied until March 12, 1938, when the postoffice moved into the new federal building on East Main Street.

16. MODEL MILL (GENERAL MILLS, INC.) - 500 West Walnut Street. Built in 1909 by George L. Carter, Model Mill was sold in 1931 to General Mills for \$1 million. To this day, the company produces its top-of-the-line flour, Red Band, at the site. (tour)

#### HARMON ICE

17. TREE STREETS ( see National Register of Historic Places)

18. MONTROSE COURT ( see National Register of Historic Places)

19. J. FRED JOHNSON RESIDENCE - (see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing #215)

20. SOUTH SIDE SCHOOL ((see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing #579)

PREAS RESIDENCE - Buffalo Street. Dr. James H. Preas practiced medicine for sixty-five years in Johnson City, 1884-1949. His practice extended to general practice, surgery, and orthopedics. He had the first x-ray in the South, and the one he used in his practice is now in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. He and Dr. Denton, a dentist, invented smokeless gunpowder and sold the patent to DuPont.

MATSON RESIDENCE - Buffalo Street. Colonel Thomas E. Matson ( 1848-1921), a native of Philadelphia, was one of the industrial and business leaders who created the business and industrial surge in Johnson City in the 1880's. Worked for the Philadelphia based Cranberry Iron and Coke Company and was the superintendent and engineer of the railroad from Johnson City to Cranberry between 1875-1880. Matson's skill in building a railroad through the mountains is legendary. He built and became first president of the Johnson City Foundry and Machine Works, president of the Johnson City Brick Works, president of the Johnson City Furniture Company, organized the Johnson City Real Estate Company for residential and industrial building lots. Colonel Matson was mayor of Johnson City from 1892-1896.

The house was built in 1889 on top of Rome (Roan) Hill. The house is made of specially sawed wood and bricks handmade on the site now occupied by General Mills. This house once served as a school and an orphanage. A feature of the house is a keystone over the downstairs windows and entrances. Dr. J. M. Preas bought the property in 1922. His son, Dr. Hugh L. Preas, assumed ownership of the property in 1938. Now used as an apartment house, it contains five apartments.

21. E. C. REEVES RESIDENCE - 1205 Buffalo Street. The house, probably constructed in the early 1890's, originally consisted of a stone and brick exterior, hardwood

flooring, and plaster walls. Situated on land facing Buffalo Street, between Chestnut and Poplar Streets, it was purchased January 28, 1890, by E. C. Reeves, a lawyer and president of the Johnson City Real Estate Company, and his wife Alice. Their son Col. LeRoy Reeves, designer of the Tennessee state flag, inherited the house and lived there with his wife and children. The home has been renovated into apartments. (tour)

The Tennessee legislature approved the flag in 1905.

22. POWELL SQUARE (JOHNSON CITY BUSINESS CLUB PARK AT POWELL SQUARE) - (see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing # **493** \*)

CATHERINE MARSHALL RESIDENCE - (see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing #**369**)

23. FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - (see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing #**238**)

24. GENERAL JOHN T. WILDER RESIDENCE - (see National Register of Historic Places - Tree Street listing #**237**)

25. COLUMBUS POWELL SCHOOL - 100 East Maple Street. Designed by D. R. Beeson and built by Pyle Brothers Construction, Columbus Powell School was erected in 1930, adjacent to the site of an elementary school of the same name built in 1892, on property donated by Col. Columbus Powell, R. M. Rhea, and Col. Thomas Matson. The building now serves as an administrative center for the Johnson City School System. (tour)

26. GOVERNOR ROBERT LOVE TAYLOR RESIDENCE / ROBINS ROOST ( see National Register of Historic Places)

REECE TERRACE (SAM MILLER RESIDENCE) - Home of Congressman Carroll Reece and his wife and daughter lived when they were not in Washington, D. C. He served this district as Congressman for thirty-six years. He began his career in 1920, and died in office in 1961. His wife finished out the term for him. He only lost one election during that time, in 1948. Two other years he served as Republican Party Chairman.

Congressman Reece had a big estate, with peacocks strutting around. Their shrill calls could be easily heard around the area. The beautiful, well manicured lawn, leading up to his home, has since been turned into an apartment complex, called Reece Terrace. Located on top of the hill behind Robin's Roost.

THE OAKS (THE CASTLE) (JUDGE & MRS. THAD A. COX'S RESIDENCE) - South Roan Street and University Parkway. It is located on top of the hill. Cox had been a well-known lawyer in this area, and while he was a Democrat, he and

Republican Congressman B. Carroll Reece were staunch allies. In fact, it was said that Thad Cox was the power behind Carroll Reece's throne.

Cox owned all the land from Grand Avenue (now University Parkway) to the alley on the east side of Spring Street. On the west side, his land extended behind Col. Matson's house to Buffalo St.

Cox married Lillie Painter and had no children. The land was inherited by one of Mrs. Cox's nieces. When the niece died her husband still lived alone in the castle. Two of their children live in the area (Dabney and Griffin, Jr.). Griffin, Jr. and his family currently live in the castle.

Two big condominiums have been built on land once owned by Cox, on the corner of Buffalo Street and University Parkway. The small house on the corner of the alley off Spring Street, had been built for his tenants and remodeled in 1946. Cox owned another small house on Buffalo Street, which he gave to his chauffeur / handy man. The big house on Roan Street, across from Robin's Roost, was originally given to a niece.

A barn off University Parkway was remodeled into four apartments.

27. KEYSTONE SCHOOL - 601 Bert Street. Keystone Elementary School opened in 1922. The current building began in 1939 as a one-story brick building with a gabled roof. A shop was added to the south part of the building in the 1940's; a two-story brick addition was made to the north end of the building in 1952. (tour)

28. DOUGH BOY STATUE - 602 East Main Street. Located on East Main Street in front of Memorial Stadium is a statue of a World War I soldier -- "Dough Boy" -- honoring not only World War I veterans, but also veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam. The statue, which was dedicated by the Kings Mountain Post No. 24 American Legion on November 11, 1935 and November 11, 1974, is one of 35 Dough Boy statues in the United States. (tour)

CARNEGIE HOTEL (EMPIRE FURNITURE) - Fairview Avenue. Built in 1890 became the center of the boom in the early 1890's and was for several decades the center of Johnson City's social life. A newspaper account (1892) stated, "Friday night, the spacious, elegantly furnished and well lighted parlors of the Carnegie Hotel were filled with beauty and joy, it being the occasion of a ball given by the young gentlemen of the Thursday Evening Club to their friends."

The four-story (150 feet square) claimed steam heat in every room, electric lights, private baths on each floor, and large, airy rooms, each having outside ventilation. All trains stopped at the Carnegie station.

The hotel burned around 1908-09 and was not rebuilt. The Empire Furniture Company now uses the shell of the burned-out building for a warehouse. You can see the hotel from the railroad side.

29. DOUGLAS SCHOOL (DAWN OF HOPE DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC.) - 1500 East Millard Street. Built in 1922 to meet the needs of African-American children on the east side of town, Douglas School served grades one through six. After the schools were integrated in the 1960's, the building housed the kindergarten and second grade classes of Stratton School. The former Douglas School building is now used by the Dawn of Hope Development Center. (tour)
  30. ANNIE WILDER STRATTON SCHOOL - 500 East Oakland Avenue. Coile and Cardwell Architects designed Annie Wilder Stratton School which was constructed in 1930 by Emory Construction Company. The school was named for the daughter of Capt. John Wilder. Wilder had donated land for Martha Wilder School, Johnson City's first public elementary school which served the community until 1930. Stratton School's library was endowed by the Wilder family. Additions were made to the school in 1950, 1967 and 1972. (tour)
- JOHN HOSS RESIDENCE - 908 East Myrtle Avenue. (Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fagan) Hoss was an early settler. The house was weatherboarded then plastered over around 1940. Hoss lived from 1765-1852 so the house must have been constructed during that period. Colonial style. John Hoss was married in 1803 to Sarah Adams Williams. His father Jacob Hoss was a native of Lancaster PA who from 1783 owned the farm east of North Roan Street toward Watauga river. In the last decade he originated the "Hoss apple" which spread throughout the Southwest and into North Carolina. John Hoss was a newspaper man and was known as "Pappy".
31. W. P. HARRIS HOME /ORCHARD PLACE - 824 East Myrtle Avenue. The land on which Orchard Place was built was originally deeded in 1741 to Robert Young, an early Johnson City settler. It passed through his heir to Joab Odell and to Henry Masengill. *In 1797, Masengill sold the property to Jacob Hoss. Through Hoss' heirs the land was brought by S.T. Harris.* After several sales beginning in 1797, the property was acquired by the Carnegie Land and Development Company. When W. P. Harris came to Johnson City in 1890, he bought Orchard Place as Block No. 14. Harris organized and became president of Harris Manufacturing Company, now Harris-Tarkett, Inc., a leading manufacturer of hardwood flooring. Orchard Place remained in the Harris family for four (4) generations, until sold in December, 1993. The wrap-around front porch, dominant front facing gable, and decorative trim highlights this Queen Anne style residence (1880 - 1910). (tour)
  32. HARRY D. GUMP RESIDENCE/GUMP ADDITION - 603 East Holston Avenue. Originally built by John Bowman around 1820, this home was a wedding gift for his daughter. Harry D. Gump purchased the 160-acre farm in 1907 and made

extensive improvements to the house. The land became the site of Johnson City's first golf course and country club, the first landing field for airplanes, and the first modern subdivision in Johnson City, the Gump Addition. The architecture in this neighborhood includes Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Tudor, Italian Renaissance, and contemporary styles. (tour)

Hillrise Boulevard on which the home borders must take its name from "Hillrise Farm." The first members of the Gump family came to Johnson City in the early 1880's from Pennsylvania. Descendants of the family still reside in Johnson City.

33. LLEWELLYN WOOD - #1 Llewellyn Wood. This Neoclassical style home was designed by Sam Coile and Barber and McMurry of Knoxville and built in 1928 by George T. and Florence Harris Wofford. The Woffords purchased the land from Carnegie Land Company. Wofford was a business leader and co-founder of Wofford Brothers Insurance. The structure features a full two-story Corinthian portico, leaded glass transom, hyphens, and Palladian windows. (tour)

HANES LANCASTER'S MOTHER RESIDENCE - (Mountain View) - Haynes Miller built and lived in this house until his death.

34. CY H. LYLE HOME / CLIFFORD MAXWELL STUDIO - 809 East Chilhowie Avenue. The Cy H. Lyle home was built in 1915. Lyle, editor of *The Comet*, an early Johnson City newspaper, had 13 children and needed a home large enough to accommodate the large family. However, shortly after completion of the home, Lyle accepted employment at the National Soldier's Home and resided there. At that time, he leased the East Chilhowie Avenue property for use as Memorial Hospital of Johnson City (1915 - 1920). Located in the suburbs of the city, the hospital had a capacity of 25 beds, employed nine physicians, and boasted modern equipment, including an x-ray laboratory. Lyle moved into the house in the 1930's, after the hospital had relocated. More recently the home served as a studio for Clifford Maxwell, a locally renowned portrait photographer. The home has now been renovated into five apartments. This two-story structure in the Neoclassical style features a full-height entry porch with a lower full-width porch. One of the side porches has been enclosed to increase the living space. (tour)

WALTER WINFRELD MILLER HOME - "Shadowlawn" (1923) - 705 East Holston Avenue.

C. B. HAMILTON HOUSE - corner of Watauga Avenue and Baxter Street, 1889

35. MUNSEY SLACK RESIDENCE - 214 East Watauga Avenue. Munsey Slack was the owner of *Johnson City Staff-News*, an afternoon newspaper of the early 1900's. The house was built in 1904 and was used in the 1940's and 1950's as a residence hall for student nurses training at Appalachian Hospital and later Memorial Hospital. It has served as a funeral home and is now an apartment building. Built in Neoclassical style, the house features a full-width lower porch

passing behind the tall entry porch which is supported by classic style columns.  
(tour)

36. LANGSTON SCHOOL (LANGSTON-BIDDLE MAINTENANCE CENTER) - 222 East Myrtle Avenue. Langston School, founded in 1892 by Dr. Hezekiah Hankal, was named for John Mercer Langston, a noted Virginia lawyer who earned his place in history as the first African-American elected to public office in the United States, having been elected an Ohio township clerk in 1855. *He went on to become an elected U.S. Congressman, educator, and lawyer.* The first Langston class was graduated in 1897. The doors of the school were closed at the end of the 1964-65 school year, and the student body and teachers were integrated into other Johnson City schools at the beginning of the 1965-66 year. The building is currently used by the Johnson City School System. (tour)

Langston grew over the years to a four-year high school, with its first graduating in 1922. Early in 1965, the faculty was called together by the School Superintendent to be informed that the doors were to be closed at the end of the 1964-65 school year, and the student body and teachers would be integrated at the beginning of the 1965-66 school year.

37. ST. PAUL AME ZION CHURCH - 201 Welbourne Street. St. Paul AME Zion Church was established in 1882 and held church services on Roan Hill (now named Hollyhill). The building at 201 Welbourne Street, which was erected around 1920, is now this congregation's home. (tour)
38. CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH - 300 North Roan Street. The first Baptist church in Johnson City was established on July 3, 1869. The congregation, which became known as Central Baptist Church in 1910, laid the cornerstone for their new structure at 300 North Roan Street in the early spring of 1912. After the original sanctuary was destroyed by fire on December 26, 1930, reconstruction began in 1931. Included in the reconstruction were additional Sunday School space and one of the largest pipe organs in the area at that time. An educational unit was added in 1950; additional educational space and a new pipe organ were added in 1970. In 1993, the church completed a two-story building and erected a steeple to replace the one destroyed in the 1930 fire. (tour)
39. ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 500 North Roan Street. The cornerstone was laid in 1905 for the original St. John's Episcopal Church, which included the nave, bell tower and undercroft. The design is based on medieval English architecture and utilizes readily available native river rock and limestone. The interior vaulted ceiling features beaded and beveled oak beams. The original stained glass windows remain. A parish hall, chapel, classrooms, and kitchen featuring medieval English design of stucco and half-timber were completed and dedicated in 1930. In 1981, a narthex, offices, and additional classrooms were added. (tour)

OLD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (ASBURY CENTER) - In 1921 the first real hospital building was constructed on Boone Street - the Appalachian hospital. Funds were raised by citizens by way of subscriptions for stock in a corporation organized to purchase real estate and build the hospital.

S. C. WILLIAMS HOUSE - 115 East Unaka Avenue. (1901)

SAM CARR RESIDENCE (100 block East Holston Avenue)

40. SHELBRIDGE ( see National Register of Historic Places)

41. JUDGE SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS HOME (AQUONE) ( see National Register of Historic Places)

42. DUNBAR SCHOOL (GRACE TEMPLE CHURCH) - 208 Garden Drive. Built in 1907, Dunbar School was originally named Woolwine School after a local African-American educator and minister. The original school had two teachers and contained grades one through four. The school closed in 1965, and the building was used by the city school system as a materials center until 1985. Today the building houses Grace Temple Church. (tour)

DR. MALCOM CAMPBELL (Corner of Hillrise) - Dr. E. T. West built this house.

43. JOHNSON ACADEMY - 820 West Market Street. Designed by D. R. Beeson and built by Pyle Brothers Builders in 1930, Johnson Academy was originally called the New West Side School. Around 1934, the school was renamed Henry Johnson School honoring Johnson City's founder. An addition to the structure was made in 1952. Today, the school serves the city as an alternative learning program providing at-risk youth of all ages appropriate learning opportunities. (tour)

44. VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER - Mountain Home, Tennessee. In 1901, the federal government created Mountain Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. Located on the outskirts of Johnson City on 447.48 acres, the self-contained community described as "A City within a City" provided living accommodations for up to 2,500 veterans. Johnson Citizens used the grounds for recreation. All of the original buildings of National Home are in the *National Register of Historic Places*, and all, even the more recent structures, are in the Italian Renaissance style. (tour) (*The VA is not listed on the National Register, but is eligible and does go through Section 106 review.*)

The theatre, also called Opera House or Memorial Hall, is patterned after the St. James Theatre in New York City. It featured silent movies every Tuesday and Thursday nights. The band played overtures and musical scores to introduce each movie. The theatre also sponsored plays, light opera, and vanderbille. Soldiers were admitted free; the family of staff were admitted for a nickel. The elite of

Johnson City dressed in evening attire and often came by trolley to the entertainment.

An act passed by Congress on January 28, 1901 forever affect Johnson City. The act created Mountain Branch, National Home for Disable Volunteer Soldiers. Within two years, 36 buildings sat on 447 acres at the edge of Johnson City. The facility, which provided accommodations for up to 2,500 men, was totally self-sufficient, including a zoo and open air band concerts. On March 15, 1989, the facility was renamed the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VA) after the Department of Veteran Affairs became a Cabinet level position.

In 1901, Congress was induced by Walter P. Brownlow, M.C., to establish at Johnson City the Mountain Branch of the National Home for Volunteer Soldiers. The general treasurer of all the National Soldiers Homes described it as "the finest institution of the kind in the world." John P. Smith was the first, and for many years, its governor. The honor for the location of such an institution in the south goes to Col. Brownlow whose idea it was; he worked single-handed save for a small sum raised in Johnson City for promotional publicity. The home was opened in 1903.

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Congress was persuaded by Walter P. Brownlow, M.C. to establish at Johnson City the Mountain Branch of the national Home for Volunteer Soldiers and this act of 1901 specified the eligibility for admission: "That all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who served in the war of rebellion and the Spanish American War, and the provisional army and the volunteer soldiers and sailors of the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, who are disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, and by reason of such disability are incapable of earning a living, shall be admitted in to the Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers." \$2,100,000 was appropriated for its construction.

The board of managers visited Johnson City and chose as the site of the institution about 450 acres of land then owned by the Lyle families and others. This land, costing \$29,356 was then about 1.8 miles from Johnson City city limits.

The architect, J.H. Freedlander, of New York designed the thirty-six original buildings using the French Renaissance style. The buildings were adapted to the requirements of the climate and to contour of the surrounding country, and were built of native timber, brick, and limestone. Included were the Memorial Hall where all ceremonies and amusements took place, the Mess Hall, guard barracks, store house, canteen, and morgue. To the west was a group of officers' quarters with the Administration Building, and on the east the "hospital group place there because the prevailing winds of the region are westerly and tend to carry away any germs from the main settlement." The Branch opened for admission of members on October 15, 1903. During the first year, 363 veterans from 40 states were admitted, with 149 of these being from Tennessee. Andrew Carnegie

donated \$15,000 for a Center Library constructed in 1904. Colonel John P. Smith was the first governor and served from 1903-1917.

The cost per capita in 1905 was \$428.15 or \$.17 per man per day. Total cost for operating the home in 1909 was \$337,500. In FY 1913, there were 174 employees; the hospital capacity was 400, and the domiciliary had 1,816 beds.

Mountain Home was designed primarily as a domicile rather than a hospital and it had a farm to grow its own produce and raise livestock, a greenhouse, laundry, power plant, various shops, fire department, security force and cemetery. Veterans members furnished labor for these activities. The 1905 report of the Board of Managers listed farm products raised at this branch, along with other interesting statistics. Under the heading Sanitary Regulations it is stated "Bathing once a week is required by all members." The organization was semi-military with staff uniforms and insignia and organized into "Companies." This persisted until the close of World War II.

From 1918-1930 the institution remained under the authority of the National Home. Casualties from World War I, the influenza epidemic, and concern about tuberculosis combined to place emphasis on the "hospital" needs of veterans rather than the "Home." Accordingly, Mountain Home was redesignated a National Sanatorium, sleeping porches were added (then for fresh air treatment for T.B.), nurses' quarters enlarged, staff quarters added along with an isolation building in 1923. Among the improvements of the 1920's were an enlarged surgical suite, recovery room, cystoscopy rooms, EENT clinic, dental clinic, clinical laboratory, and new radiology department. More space was provided on wards for physicians' offices and examining rooms. Therapeutic workshops for rehabilitation of patients were established; crafts used were woodwork, reedwork, weaving, leather tooling, metal fabrication, ceramics, and gardening.

On July 21, 1930, an Act of Congress and Executive Order of the President consolidated all agencies administering benefits for veterans into the Veterans Administration, and Mountain Home became a field station. As of this date the hospital capacity was 605 beds and dom 2,000 beds, with less than 200 full time employees for both hospital and domiciliary.

In 1934 Colonel Lee B. Harr was appointed as manager (later called Center Director) and served 32 years. Additional physicians were recruited and a survey of the physical plant was requested. An architect and a Superintendent of Construction were sent to Johnson City and they supervised the program of rebuilding, renovation and modernization. In many areas, wooden floors were replaced with terrazo, toilet and bath facilities installed, new elevators added, heating system updated, roads paved, wiring placed underground, kitchens modernized and ice boxes gave way to electrical refrigeration.

As a result of a study from a V.A. headquarters space survey team in 1953, work was initiated in 1957 on projects worth one million dollars for alterations and improvements. These projects included a new surgical suite, lab, x-ray facilities, and other alternations and improvements.

Center hospital operations have gradually changed from an essentially long-term care unity to a smaller more acute hospital and beds were reduced to the current 510 to permit better spacing and provision of treatment rooms. A Nursing Home Care Unit of 58 beds was activated in 1965. Better relative staffing has greatly increased turnover and reduced average length of patient stay. Because of lack of demand, domiciliary beds have been reduced to 833 and as a result, members have better furniture arrangements on wards and better living conditions, while the limited staff can direct more effort toward rehabilitation of the veteran. A new boiler plant was completed, a \$2.8 million air conditioning project completed, and plans funded for a new \$9.8 million clinical support building in the seventies. Also, an Alcohol Treatment Unit, and an Intensive Care Unit were added in the seventies.

The Center remains a major factor in the economy of Johnson City with a staff of about 1200 employees and an annual budget of over \$25 million. (handout on the History of Mountain Home)

CONFEDERATE CAMPGROUND (Lamont/Tennessee) - The village was the training palce for Confederate troops from Tennessee and other states on their way to Virginia to join Gen. Lee. The drill ground was on Lamont Street and the slope between it and West Main Street (marker on Lamont Street erected by Landon C. Haynes chapter U.D.C.).

45. EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY - Opening October 2, 1911, East Tennessee State Normal School (ETSNS) was built on 110 acres of land donated by George L. Carter. Historic buildings on campus include the school's first residence hall which is still in use and is named for Carter. Gilbreath Hall, built in 1911 and including offices, classrooms, and a theater, is named for the school's first president, Dr. Sidney S. Gilbreath. Dr. Charles C. Sherrod, for whom the university's current library is named, was second president of the school and a Greek scholar. He designed the school's amphitheater to resemble an ancient Greek theatre. The WPA (Works Progress Administration) built the amphitheater in 1936. In 1965, the B. Carroll Reece Museum was dedicated in memory of long-time First District Congressman Reece whom the press nicknamed "Mr. Republican." Established to train teachers, ETSNS has expanded into East Tennessee State University, a multi-dimensional university with a strong health science division featuring the James H. Quillen College of Medicine, the College of Nursing, and the College of Public and Allied Health. (tour)

According to Dr. Howell H. Sherrod, son of President Sherrod,"We had no machines to dig with, so the workers used a mule and a scoop to move the dirt.

Daddy took the reins and went around the area twice using a scoop to show the federal workers how to do it.” Construction was done between 1935-1941 with assistance from the Works Progress Administration. Over the years the amphitheatre has been the location for commencements, plays, concerts, and other special events.

On January 26, 1911, George L. Cater donated 120 acres of land to be used for the East Tennessee State Normal School, a two-year training ground for teachers. As that institution has developed and grown first into a college and then a university, it has made a tremendous impact on both the quality of life and economic development of the entire region.

46. ROBERT YOUNG CABIN - 519 Sells Avenue. Robert Young Cabin, built of logs in 1776, is the oldest free-standing building in Tennessee. The cabin has been moved from its original site, on land purchased by the federal government for the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, to a park near the Johnson City/Washington County Boys' and Girls' Club, Inc. The park in which the cabin now stands is located on property once owned by the Young family. (tour)

The log cabin was used as a tavern and played a highly significant part in early history of the community. Was a temporary home of the Young, who later built a more pretentious home. Was restored in 1936 by the John Sevier Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

On March 19, 1775, Young purchased more than 2,000 square miles of land from the Cherokee Indians. In November, 1777, when the Watuaga Settlement became Washington County, North Carolina allowed a settler to keep 640 acres on which his home stood. Young retained 640 acres of his original purchase. The park on which the home now stands overlooks the original setting and is located on property once owned by the Young family.

The cabin was moved to Winged Deer Park on the Bristol Highway in June of 1996. It sits in front of the office (the old Arney residence).

- ROBERT YOUNG FAMILY CEMETERY - located behind the Marine Corps Armory. Fenced area with a large oak tree in the middle.

47. TIPTON-HAYNES HISTORIC SITE ( see National Register of Historic Places)

48. WILLIAM COBB HOME/ROCKY MOUNT ( see National Register of Historic Places)

DeVAULT-MASENGILL HOME - Bristol Highway (1842) The DeVault-Masengill Home is a two-story Greek Revival structure with a log cabin, dating from 1770, standing thirty feet northwest of the house. The house was built by Issac DeVault, who inherited the then 400 acre farm from his father, Valentine

DeVault, Dr. in 1842. Valentine purchased the 385 acre tract with his brother, Frederick, from Henry Masengill, Jr. in 1825 from William Cobb, his father-in-law and uncle. The Roacky Mount property remained in the Masengill family until 1959, when it was restored as a historic site. The Masingill family regained possession of the DeVault-Masengill property in 1938. John M. Masengill, Henry's grandson purchased the house and farm for \$19, 250.00. The present owner is Sally Masengill, John M. Masengill's daughter.

49. MILLIGAN COLLEGE/DERTHICK HALL (Elizabethton) Named for former Milligan College President Dr. H. J. Derthick, Derthick Hall is located on the original site of the Buffalo Male and Female Institute founded by Wilson G. Barber in 1866. Professor and Mrs. Josephus Hopwood took over the institute in 1875 and in 1881 changed the name to Milligan College. The original building burned in 1918 and was replaced by Derthick Hall in 1919. (tour)

## OTHER HISTORIC SITES

WILLIAMS RESIDENCE

EXAMPLES OF ABERNATHY'S WORK - "Owl and Oaks" (Ridgemont Road)

MARSH FAMILY HOME (Mountain View Road)

CAMPBELL FARM (Knob Creek Road)

FIRST HOSPITAL (former residence of Elmendorff's on Fairview) - The first hospital was opened in 1906 in the former residence of the Elmendorff's on Fariview (Second) Avenue, Carnegie.

KENT HERRIN RESIDENCE (Greenwood Drive)

DR. HARBER'S RESIDENCE - Paul Carr built this house and lived there until his death.

THE HOMESTEAD (Krouse, Carr, and Crumley House) (off Mountain View Road) (c. 1820) - Is located on Knob Creek of the 10th Civil District of Washington County, Tennessee. The 45' X 37' home rests on a limestone rock foundation, with large cedar logs, hand-hewed on one side, accounting for much of the foundation. Its facade orientation is to the east. The three-story log and frame structure believed to have been erected by Michael Krouse, Sr. (1770-1852) was built in 1820, and for six consecutive generations has belonged to the Crumley family. James Crumley (1818-1883) purchased the property in 1852 from the Michael Krouse, Sr. heirs. The appearance of the house has changed somewhat since the 1820's, yet nearly all of the original features have been retained. A kitchen, living room and a bedroom are on the first floor; three bedrooms are contained on the second floor and the third floor is an attic with large storage space.

The three-story Homestead once contained a wooden shingle roof and has since been replaced with a raised tin roof. The house was built around a large limestone rock chimney with a 7' X 7' base. There are three fireplace openings within the house, one of which is located in the kitchen. This fireplace which was used for cooking and heating purposes has two large iron hooks within it that were used to hold iron cooking pots before the house had electricity.

A one story porch supported by seven original wooden columns extend the length of the facade. The facade of the house lends itself to two primary entrances. A dutch door made of wide yellow poplar boards opens into the kitchen, and the door of the other entrance is four inches thick with 36 inch hand-made strap hinges and consists of 266 square hand-made nails. Both doors are fastened with 9 inch sliding bolts that were made in the blacksmith shop that formerly stood on

the Homestead property. There are four additional doors constructed in this manner. The window treatment in the kitchen is three-over-two. A date of 1875 is etched into the pane of one of the original windows in the kitchen. There are two other windows in the facade which are two-over-two.

The walls of the interior are all made of wide plank yellow poplar. There are seven exposed beams that line the ceiling of the kitchen, all of which have the dimensions of 19' X 7" X 3". The beams serve as supports for one of the bedrooms on the second floor. The original dwelling has two enclosed curved stairways, and one remains as originally constructed in the 1820's.

The living room, 14' X 20', has nine feet high ceilings with hand-planed lapped board walls. Iron quilting hooks have been strategically arranged on the ceiling in the living room, and also in the largest bedroom on the second floor. The original battery powered telephone still remains placed on the front wall of the living room. When in operation, during the early 1900's the phone had a distinct ring of two long rings following by a shorter one. An original hand-made iron gun rack still remains over the doorway entering into the first floor bedroom.

The second floor consists of three bedrooms, one of which is considerably larger than the other two. Two of the bedrooms have lapped board walls, much like those in the living room.

The original curved stair case leads to the third floor which consists of a spacious attic with hand-hewed 4' X 4" rafters. The rafters are fastened at the ridge with half laps and wooden pegs. Roman numerals were used to identify the matching parts. The attic floor is constructed of hand planed yellow poplar boards and hand cut nails.

In 1930, the wooden shingle roof was replaced by a tin roof, and in 1949 a back porch was added to the west side of the structure. The back porch was later renovated to include two bathrooms and a study area, and electrical wiring was included in 1943. A water line was laid from the spring to the house and a pitcher pump was added to the kitchen in 1942. A basement dug in 1964 to allow installation of central heat and air.

A log cabin / smokehouse is located about 22 yards from Homestead. The origins of the log cabin / smokehouse can be traced to a North Carolina State land grant dated November 10, 1784. The grant was presented to William McBee. The deed reads as follows: "50 shillings for every hundred acres paid in our Treasury." "358 acres lying and being in our county of Washington on Nobb Creek" "In the ninth Year of our Independence and on year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eight four." By His excellency's command L. Glasyear, Sect. Alex Martin (seal).

The cabin was believed to have been built by William McBee. The cabin consists of two rooms. The facade consists of two entrance doorways. Spring water runs through the cabin, which was common in that time period for the purpose of supplying water during Indian attacks. The back of the cabin has one small wooden window with strap hinges and handmade hardware. Adjoining the cabin is a smokehouse. The smokehouse door is made of oak and has a large home made wooden lock and wooden key.

McBee owned the cabin and its property for four years before selling it to John Carr (1743-1818) a revolutionary soldier and father of 16 children. Carr was later buried in the family cemetery (approximately 150 yards from the Homestead). The Daughters of the American Revolution placed a government headstone in October, 1996, to mark the burial site.

While there have been some changes to the property of the Homestead farm, the immediate acreage retains historical and architectural integrity. The Homestead, cabin / smokehouse, outbuildings, and cemetery, remain as a link with an earlier time of Knob Creek settlement.

By the 1860's opposite feelings concerning slavery between the north and south were beginning to evolve. Obviously the result was the Civil War, the war of brother against brother, the war that had an effect on Homestead where the Crumley family lives today. For six generations the Crumley family has shared a particular story that took place during this period.

Alfred Jack King, a confederate soldier was hiding in the attic at Homestead when found by Lafayette Miller, a Union soldier. The two men fought and King was wounded by gun fire. Both of the men tumbled down the curved stairways and into the front yard, where both men eventually died. On the floor of the attic steps are plainly visible blood stains that show where the fight took place.

The Crumley's have an old hand-painted family record book that reveals that Alfred J. King who was 26 years old died in 1865.

Upon further investigation, the Crumley family found that the event had been reported in a Knoxville newspaper, Brownlow's Knoxville Whig and Rebel Vindicator.

Although a portion of the agricultural and timber land has been converted to busy roads and highways, the Crumley family still farms 90 acres of the original 150 acre tract. Homestead has remained the homeplace of the Crumley family for six consecutive generations. The pasture fields and landscape echo a peaceful tranquil era of the late 18 and 19th century. The physical nature of the 1820 house, the log house, the family cemetery and surrounding area still reflect a unique architectural and historical significance. (National Register of Historic Places - application form - draft)

JOSEPH BOWMAN HOUSE (Claude Simmons Road)

NILE BOWMAN HOUSE (Claude Simmons Road)

PETER MILLER HOUSE ( Claude Simmons Road)

JUDGE NEWTON PATTERSON HOUSE (Knob Creek Road)

WILLIAM REEVES HOUSE (Knob Creek Road)

PETER MILLER REEVES HOUSE (Knob Creek Road)

WILLIAM NELSON HOME SITE: Knob Creek Road / Sunset Drive. Methodist Bishop Frances Asbury held annual conferences in the home in 1793, 1796, and 1797 and has been referred to as “an ancient home of Methodists and Methodist preaching.”

In May, 1788, Bishop Francis Asbury delivered the first sermon in the Tennessee country preached by a bishop of any church. He organized a Methodist congregation which erected Nelson’s Chapel where were held the annual conferences of all the western country in 1793, 1796, and 1797. A marker stands on the public road nearby.

BRUSH CREEK CAMPGROUND- ca. 1805. This neighborhood became a great religious center when a camp meeting was established on land donated by James Nelson, son of William Nelson. The site of the camp ground was where the Boxwood Terrace apartment house stands, running along Watauga Avenue, westward towards or quite to West Market Street. There stood around a bold spring a magnificent oak grove; a permanent “tent” for worship was constructed and family “camps” were ranged around it. Literally thousands came from far and near during several generations. With the coming of the railroad in 1857-58 it was felt that the camp meeting was being commercialized too much and “Brush Creek Campground” began to decline. The Civil War gave the last blow; “The war left stumps for the grove and vacancy for most of the camps and Brush Creek Camp was no more.”

BOONE TREE (Old Gray Station Road) A marker at the site of the tree marks this historic spot where in the year 1760 Daniel Boone killed a bear and carved the inscription, “D. Boon Cilled a Bar on Tree in the Year 1760.” Boone was hunting and scouting in this area with William Bean and others at the time. Bean named the beautiful creek Boones Creek that Boone brought them to.

The tree blow down in around 1920 in a storm. The remains of the tree belongs to the John Sevier chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Gavels for guest have been made from the wood.

**BOONE FALLS (Old Gray Station Road)** The falls on Boones Creek which are now almost nonexistent were once tall enough that Daniel Boone hid under them and “disappeared before the very eyes” of the Indians that were in pursuit of him in 1760. The Indians decided that he had become a spirit and was singing and dancing in the house of the Great Spirit in the Sky.

**JESSIE DUNCAN GRAVE (Carroll Creek Road)** The first white man scalped by the Indians and buried in Tennessee soil was Jesse Duncan. He was with a scouting party in 1765 when he lagged behind the others. After a while, the party missed him and they found him, he had been scalped by the Indians. They buried him on what is now a farm on Carroll Creek Road. A marker is at this site.

**BEAN CABIN (Cabindale Road / Boone Lake)** William Bean built his cabin in the year 1768 and planted his corn; this he did to establish his claim to the land. He moved his family here in 1769. *Bean thus became the first permanent settler in the Tennessee country.* In this cabin situated between Boones Creek and the Watauga River (just above the mouth of the creek), Russell Bean was born to Lydia Russell and William Bean. Soon after the Beans settled here, they were joined by several relatives and friends from Virginia and North Carolina. Thus William Bean became the first white settler, he tilled the first soil, and his son Russell became the first white child to be born in Tennessee, and this became the first community in Tennessee. The site is located in the TVA flood zone and was flooded as part of the development of the Boone Lake. Has a marker on the site.

On a 400-acre tract of land, being bound on the north by Boones Creek and the Watauga River, William Bean built a cabin in 1768. In 1769, Russell Bean, the first white child, was born in the land that was to become the state of Tennessee.

**BEAN FORT - SPRING (Flourville Road / Cedar Point Drive)** In or around the year 1775, William bean built this fort for protection from the Indians. It is told that the Indians would poison the water of the spring beside the fort, but Bean had piped the water in from the head of the spring in another way so the poison did not harm the people inside.

**HALE’S STORE ( Flourville Road / Cedar Point Road)** This was the first store, the first office and first drug store. Built in the early 1800’s, it stands today near the mouth of the Boones Creek along with the fort.

**FLOURVILLE MILL (Flourville Road / Cedar Point Road)** Flourville Mill was built in the early 1800’s near the mouth of Boones Creek.

**LITTLE ROCK HOUSE (Old Stage Road)** Built about 1801 or 1802 by Martin Kitzmiller, the little rock house, along with the barn that held two large stagecoaches at one time, was a stop for travelers from Leesburg to Blountville. The barn still stands.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST (Christian Church Road / Boones Creek Road)** The Boones Creek Church of Christ is the oldest church in the community. Organized in 1825, it was known as the Brick Church. A building was erected in 1832 on Boones Creek Road.

**BOONES CREEK SEMINARY (off Bart Greene Road)** Also known as the Boones Creek Male and Female Institute, it was built in 1860 on land given by Lawrence Bowers. The building was remodeled in 1898 and a dormitory added. Among those having gained state-wide and even national fame were Ex-Senator Robert Taylor, Ex-congressman Alf Talyor, and Judge Allison. Tuition was \$12.00 per session. Board could be had in the neighborhood of \$1.25 to \$1.50 per week. The dormitory still stands.

**BOONES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH (Pickens Bridge Road)** The second oldest church, Boones Creek Baptist Church was built in 1881 on Church Road.

**BOONES CREEK MUSEUM (North Roan Street - behind the Boones Creek Middle School)** Organized in 1986 by the Boones Creek Community Homecoming '86 Committee, the museum contains many historical items from Boones Creek Community. One of the main displays is the topographic map of Boones Creek with historical sites marked. The museum is located in the shop building of the Boones Creek Middle School.

**BOONES CREEK COMMUNITY** - The community is bounded on the south by Indian Ridge, on the north by Buffalo Ridge; it is northeast of Jonesborough and north of Johnson City. It consists of two valleys, one of which is Boones Creek and the other Carroll Creek which empties into Boones Creek about three hundred yards from the Watauga River. It extends up the river to Highway 11E at DeVault Bridge. Interstate 181, US Highway 23 and Tennessee 36 cross the community from north to south.

Flourville, a village near the mouth of Boones Creek, had two stores, a post office, blacksmith shop, a tannery, a flourmill, a gristmill, and a sawmill.

William Bean built the first gristmill near his cabin. There were five other mills on Boones Creek before 1860. Charles Cox built the first cotton spinning plant of eight-four spindles in 1831.

There were two post offices: Flourville and Blizzard. The stores before 1900 were Galloway, Crouch Brothers, and the Hales stores in Flourville, and the Fall Store near the Boone tree. In the 1900's the Keefauvers, Hunts, and Crouches had stores in the area. There was also one Still House in the area. Today there are many stores and plants in the area.

The two valleys of Boones Creek and Carroll Creek had many good farms of dairy and beef cow herds. In the livestock industry, the diaring and beef enterprises had many good herds along with the raising of crops and tobacco farming. Three of the dairies bottled milk and delivered it to Johnson City. Several of the beef herds were of national prominence.

The first pastor of a congregation in Tennessee lived in Boones Creek and was a neighbor of William Bean. He was a pastor of the Buffalo Ridge Baptist Church which was established in 1778. Boones Creek Christian (now Boones Creek Church of Christ) was built in 1825. Other earlier churches were Boones Creek Baptist and Boring Chapel Church. Several others have been added.

In 1851 a school named Hodges School was built on Boring Chapel Road. There was a school on Red Row called the School on Red Row, located between Cedar Point and the mouth of Boones Creek. In 1853, the Boones Creek Male and Female Institute was built. Later, a dormitory was added and it became a boarding school. Other schools were Valley View, Columbia Institute, Simpson (a black school) and Oak Grove.

Early homes were Connelius Bowmand (or his son, John) in Flourville, the property now owned by Joe Hale, the Dee Hale home (now the James Hale home). The Galloway property came in a land grant from the state of North Carolina to William Stone. George Crouch owned part of this land. A cemetery was established and Galloways and Crouches are buried there. A log house built in 1856 was on what is now the John Glaze farm, was torn down and replaced with the brick home of the Glazes. Further up Boones Creek a two-story log house was built by a Bowman family in 1812. (This date was found in the house when it was torn down.) Others were the Worley (later the Range house), the Pennybakers, the Jenkins (later the Sulenbargers), Larimer, the Carroll and Deakins (now the Sims), the John Clark (or Reeves), now the Bud Clark, a log home built between 1845-1850. The first person to live there was a Goines. It was located on Indian Ridge near the entrance of what is now Shadowood subdivision on Highway 36. There was also a slave cabin, a John Crouch and four sons died and were buried on the farm that is now owned by Alex Willaims. The date on one of the tombstones is 1803. This land also came in a land grant. The Martin Kitzmiller house on Highway 36, and Seth on Old Stage Road were built in the early 1800's. Seth was a stagecoach stop.

**SINKING CREEK CHURCH** - Old Elizabeth to Highway (ca. 1782). Sinking Creek Baptist church was organized and its church house erected where the creek is crossed today by the Johnson City and Elizabethton highway. The church was of logs and stands today as the oldest church building in Tennessee. The log corners have been encased in bricks. The site can be identified by a marker at the side of the highway. Located in Carter County.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF JOHNSON CITY, TN**

The first settler to build his home on what is now the site of Johnson City was Abram Jobe. He secured a tract of land on the south side of Brush Creek which included what is now the principal business district of Johnson City. Jobe and his descendants lived at the same place for four generations and the family had an active part in the development of the town. In the same period of pre-statehood days, the northern side of Brush Creek, which embraces the remainder of Johnson City, was the farm of Jacob Hoss.

The community was first known as Green Meadows and then Blue Plum after Post Master homes. Two stage roads merged together south across Brush Creek and passing through the Jobe farm intersected with a third. In 1856 after his store in Jonesborough failed Henry Johnson borrowed money from Landon C. Haynes to repay his creditors. Haynes was a former Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives who had legislatively maneuvered the construction of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, now CSX, location in the community. Haynes loaned Johnson the money to build a store at the intersection of the stage roads. The following year Johnson's store was taken in the railroad right-of-way. By late 1857 a town had begun to blossom around the new railroad. In 1858, the town named itself Haynesville in honor of its founder.

During the American Civil War, Landon C. Haynes served in as the Senator of the Confederate State of America, and Henry Johnson became the most vocal unionist in the town. Following the war, President Andrew Johnson and Governor William G. Brownlow decreed that no town would be named for a confederate Senator. The name of the town was changed to Johnson's Depot, and Johnson was returned to the position of manager which he had lost in 1859. In 1869, Johnson City received its first charter but due to low growth, or to allow liquor, surrendered the charter in 1879.

In 1882, East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad was completed. The town began to grow and industry came to the area. The city, which applied for a new charter, was a boom town from 1885 to 1890. Many of the citizens invested in the Charleston, Cincinnati and Chicago (Three C's) Railroad. With the coming of the new railroads, foundries, mills, and residential developments were constructed. The city flourished.

The town assumed a new facet, a resort community. A series of hotels rose along the railroad tracks. In the four large hotels, social activities and tourists filled the rooms and ball rooms, and visitors rode by train to area lakes.

In 1893, the British banks which had financed the Three C's railroad failed. The resulting panic, and the discovery of cheaper ore in the western United States than in the region ended the dreams of the uncompleted railroad. The railroad led to personal failures, and the town economy was devastated. Today the bed of the

Three C's railroad can now found beside Boone Lake on the City's Winged Deer Park.

In 1897, the railroad was brought through the city under new ownership. This opened a new line of transport to North Carolina. The three railroads meet in Downtown Johnson City. The business and warehouse district made the city the regional retail and wholesale distribution center for food, dry goods, and hardware.

During 1901, the National Home for Volunteer Soldiers was begun through the efforts of Congressman Walter P. Brownlow. The spending of both payroll and pensions proved a lasting support to the community.

In 1909, the state legislature authorized the construction of four normal schools for the education of school teachers. Johnson City was chosen as a site, and construction began in 1910. Today the school has grown into one of the gems in the state educational system: East Tennessee State University (ETSU).

In 1919, by special ordinance, Johnson City became the first city in the nation to allow women to vote.

Between 1915 and 1930, the city was internally served by both railroad and trolley. When the trolley service was threatened it was replaced by five different bus lines.

Since the towns conception in the mid-1800's, the entrepreneurial spirit has lifted and supported the city. Repeatedly through its history local citizens have raised the necessary funds to finance construction of projects which would move the city forward as a regional leader. Individual contributions have entirely financed railroads, schools, highways, and industrial construction. Although ill winds have attempted to blow to the detriment of the city's development, the spirit of the citizens has always prevailed. Over one-hundred years ago, Senator Landon Carter Haynes had a vision of his community as the progressive regional leader in entrepreneurship and industry. Johnson City has met and continues to exceed his dream.

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