

Bybee House
Name of Property

Barren County, KY
County and State

5. Classification

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

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

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC / Early Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK
walls: BRICK
roof: ASPHALT
other: _____

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Bybee House (BN-317) is located in Glasgow, Barren County, Kentucky at 3297 North Jackson Highway. Historically, this road has been known as the Bardstown Turnpike, Louisville Turnpike, Jackson Dixie Highway, and U.S. 31-E. This brick I-house was built circa 1855 in the vernacular Classical Revival style on 156 acres, north of Beaver Creek and west of the then-newly-constructed Louisville Turnpike. The drive to the house ascends west from the former turnpike. A one-story ell, with similar brickwork and fenestration, includes dining room and kitchen. After 1900, a shallow two-story frame addition was added to allow for indoor bathrooms and other interior changes. **At the same time, a one-story frame addition extended from the back of the ell where a concrete pad is today.** Originally part of a much larger farm with multiple outbuildings, including a log smokehouse and log cabin, the house now sits on 4.3 acres (Parcel ID 94-44) next to a golf course, townhouses, and semi-rural lots. The property is currently in fair condition and is undergoing rehabilitation following the Secretary of the Interior standards. It maintains historic integrity in its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Setting, Character of the property, Changes to the site acreage

The house is located in the Pennyriile cultural landscape of Kentucky. Barren County's own landscape is divided by the northern third and the southern two-thirds. The original property lay on the border of these two landscapes a few miles north of the Glasgow town square on 31-E. The house sits on a rise overlooking 31-E to the east and Beaver Creek to the south, now within the Country Club. A long drive with a loop traverses east-west from 31-E. It is surrounded by mature trees which contribute to the setting's significance. This part of the property falls within the southern portion of the county characterized by its major creeks, undulating hills, diverse timber, and high-quality soil. The land that fell within the meadowlands or barrens of the north was sold and developed into suburban lots.

The Bybee House was built around 1855 by William Bybee, a farmer, livestock trader, and land speculator. He was born in Barren County in 1804 and descendent from Bybees who came from England to Virginia in the 1630s, then to Kentucky around 1800. During ownership from 1855-1874, the tract was expanded to 300 acres. Other neighboring tracts were purchased as well. Log cabin for the enslaved workers, and a log smokehouse were likely built among other outbuildings, though there is no documentation of this. Oil wells were drilled in the latter 19th century (Beers and Lanagan 1879). The house remained in the family until 1894.

Descendant of early Scotch-American settlers from Virginia, the Duff Family occupied the house from 1901 to 1944, making sensitive updates to the building while subdividing the acreage, shrinking the property to 55.5 acres in 1935 (DB 96 P 145).

The Ellis Family immediately followed the Duffs from 1944 to 1968; in the 1960s they further modernized the house and subdivided land. Though the setting of the house has changed from rural agrarian to suburban, the building and remaining approach from North Jackson Highway (31-E) effectively illustrate its area of significance in architecture from the period of its construction.

The land was subdivided again in 1968, reducing the property to 5.2 acres (DB 177 P 167). Also, the log cabin was razed by the owners in the late 1960s (Harbison 1972). Between 1998-2003, the log smokehouse, small shed, and barn on Country Club Road were demolished, **and an early 20th century addition was removed from the back of the ell (Plate Book 14 P 595; USGS 2003; Greenup Realty 1998).**

Exterior

The Bybee House is a two-story five-bay side-gabled brick I-house with brick foundation, masonry structure, and two interior end chimneys. The brick is laid three layers thick in eight-course American bond on the front

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façade and six-course American bond on side facades. The windows have double-hung sashes with wood sills, four-over-four lights, and flat vertical brick arch. They are flanked by operable wood shutters.

The front façade is dominated by a front-gabled two-story portico in the central bay. The porch is two stories high, supported by the house and two hollow wooden Tuscan columns set on plinths, most common in the Classical Revival style, with a simple entablature and plain front pediment. On the first floor, the paneled front door is flanked by sidelights and topped by an elliptical fanlight, all of which have delicate lead tracery. These elements are recessed within fluted pilasters and a plain frieze. On the second floor porch, the door is glazed and not as wide, with a semi-circular rather than an elliptical fanlight. It too has delicate lead tracery and is recessed within a surround of fluted pilasters and a plain frieze. The railing on the second-story porch appears to have modern replacement spindles.

The gabled ell, either built at the same time or shortly after the house, has the same eight-course American bond foundation and walls and four-over-four windows. It extends west from the north parlor and is two rooms deep with four bays on its side elevations and two bays on the rear (west) façade. There is a central interior chimney identical to the two on the main house between the two rooms. A much larger interior end chimney is on the back wall of the ell. A cistern is located next to the north wall of the ell near the kitchen. On the south elevation of the ell is a modern sunroom with plate glass. This used to be a porch with a row of simple Tuscan columns one of which remains. It was partially screened before being converted to a sunroom. Beneath the shed roof of the porch on the west end, there is a small brick room used as a pantry. Access to the cellar beneath the kitchen, now a furnace room, is from the back yard. Extending from the back kitchen door, is a large concrete pad. The west wall of the ell exhibits concrete scarring where an early twentieth century addition was removed. This room appears on the 1998 plat and in a 1998 photograph. The photographs shows the south elevation and reveals that it was a one-story, frame addition with weatherboard siding and eight-over-eight windows. The gable nearly matched that of the original ell.

Added on the rear elevation above and around the ell is a two-story, three-bay, central addition with weatherboard siding. It was built only as deep as was necessary to add an indoor bathroom and closet on the first and a bathroom and porch on the second floor. It created a cross gable with similar pitch to the front portico and concealed part of the back brick wall of the original house.

Interior

The original house has a typical I-house plan: two rooms wide and one room deep with a central hall. Walls are around 16 inches thick. Baseboards, window surrounds, and door surrounds are all very simple, with no decorative features—unusual for a Classical Revival house; however, these do appear to be original. There are no crown moldings or pictures rails throughout the house. The doors have no decorative features and appear to be built solely for their function rather than form, with two square panels on the lower third and two rectangular panels on the upper two-thirds.

The stairwell is situated on the south wall of the central hall, on the first floor, and winds around to the north wall on the second floor. It has simple carpenter influenced spindles, rails, and newel posts, and small door from the Victorian period under the stairs.

The first-floor south room has narrow replacement floorboards and remnants of wallpaper added to the plaster walls. Flanked by recesses on the south wall, the fireplace has been altered with a an odd carpenter made mantel, white rectangular tile hearth, stone firebox, and marble filler panel. The room originally had two symmetrical windows that nearly spanned floor-to-ceiling on the east and west walls. The rear addition off the west elevation required the conversion of one window into a bathroom door and the other into a closet door.

The first-floor north room has narrow replacement floorboards within inlay border around the room. Its fireplace and flanking spaces have been altered with red square tiles, stone firebox, white brick panel, and Colonial

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Revival mantel with fluted pilasters and plain frieze. Bookshelves were added into the recesses. The east wall has two symmetrical windows. The west wall has one central door opening to an ell. Stairs were removed from the west side of the room.

The second-story south room has replacement floors. The mantel has been removed and fireplace concealed. This room had one central window on the back west wall. A door was added next to it when the bathroom was.

The second-story north room has replacement flooring. Its fireplace has been concealed as well. Evidence of the former stairs remains on the west side of the room. A small door leads to the attic of the ell. To the south of this is an added door to the bathroom which is shared with the south room.

Within the ell, the dining room extends west from the north parlor and has the same replacement flooring seen throughout. Its fireplace was concealed and shelving added in the south recess. The arch of the shelving matches those within the added bathrooms, indicating the changes occurred at the same time. Two large windows like the ones in the front rooms are situated on the north wall. The south wall has one slatted door leading to a sunroom. Windows may have been enclosed on this side, as it used to lead to a covered porch supported by Tuscan columns.

The added sunroom has red square tile flooring, plate glass windows, and a flush door with three vertical lights.

The kitchen is accessed from the dining room by a door on the north end of the west wall. It has one small eight-over-eight window and one large four-over-four window on the north wall and molding identical to the rest of the house. The large cooking fireplace on the west wall is bricked over. A door leads to the backyard in the south recess next to the fireplace. A small brick pantry is located off of the south wall of the kitchen next to the back door. A door leads to the sunroom on the south wall. A former cellar with brick walls is located beneath the kitchen and accessed from the outside. It most recently contained a furnace.

Alterations

The design and construction of the house occurred in three or four stages – the circa 1855 Classical Revival I-house, an early ell either built at the same time or soon after with dining and kitchen (1855-1875), a one-story frame extension of the ell and a shallow two-story frame addition with bathrooms (1900-1925) that were updated in the 1940s when other interior changes occurred, and an enclosed sunroom (1950-1974).

1900-1924

Victorian-era light fixtures, many of which survive, were added. A decorative door was added beneath the hall stairs. The two-story, three-bay, central addition with bathrooms may have been added at this time.

1925-1949

Interior updates were made including new wood flooring, the removal or bricking in of fireplaces, replacement of parlor mantels, and installation or modernization of bathrooms with porcelain, chrome, tile, and archways popular in the 1940s.

1950-1974

Around 1960, Country Club Road and the Glasgow Country Club were constructed to the south and one outbuilding was demolished next to the new road (USGS 1954; USGS 1965). A log cabin closer to the house was also razed in the late 1960s (Harbison 1972).

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A second set of stairs was removed from the parlor on the north side of the house in the late 1960s. Also at this time, Tuscan columns and the screened porch within the ell was removed and replaced with a tiled sitting room that has large plate-glass windows and a flush door incongruent with the rest of the house (Harbison 1972).

1975-1999

Between 1998-2003, the log smokehouse, small shed, and barn on Country Club Road were demolished, and an early 20th century addition was removed from the back of the ell prior to the current owner's purchase in 2008 (Plate Book 14 P 595; USGS 2003; Greenup Realty 1998).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1855

Significant Dates

1855

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bybee, William

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is the year of the construction of the brick I-house, a convention within the National Register program.

Criteria Considerations NA

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Bybee House (BN-317) is significant on a local level in Barren County, Kentucky and meets National Register Criterion C because it retains distinctive characteristics of the Classical, sometimes called Roman Revival, style popularized during the American neoclassical movement. Its significance is interpreted within the historic context “Antebellum Architecture in Barren County, Kentucky” and is illustrative of the lasting influence of Virginia architecture on middle-to-upper-class landholders who wanted to display their status in the ways that they developed the landscape of Kentucky. High style examples of Classical Revival occurred sporadically throughout the south from 1770 to 1830, while low style examples appeared through 1850 and later in western territories. Several national architects contributed to its popularity; Thomas Jefferson was most influential in its development, making it particularly popular with local Virginia builders who spread it to Kentucky. This context may supplement the existing document, Barren County Multiple Resource Area (Henderson, 1983), which included houses from this period but did not discuss their architectural values. Henderson’s MRA distilled the information from a 1982 survey of 310 resources in the county, which found three historic districts and 25 individual buildings eligible for listing. As was customary at the time of writing, the MRA excluded numerous buildings likely considered eligible now. It also excluded style classifications and discussion which could aid our understanding of architectural trends in Barren County prior to the Civil War. It simply identified settlement era houses as “Federal” without delving into the nuances of Georgian. It regarded antebellum-era houses as either Federal or Greek Revival, without exploring the interim Classical Revival style. This nomination attempts to provide that analysis of Barren County’s architecture.

Historic Context: Antebellum Architecture in Barren County, Kentucky (1820-1860)

Established in 1798, Barren County became a major hub halfway between Louisville and Nashville in the Pennyrile region of Kentucky. Settlers quickly developed the county seat of Glasgow and the southern portion of the county due to the desirability of seven major creeks, undulating hills, diverse timber, and high-quality soil. The northern third of the county was settled last, as its meadowlands or barrens had mistakenly been considered unsuitable for farming. This area is relatively flat with minimal timber, few water sources, swampy low lying areas, and sink holes related to the caves beneath (Goode and Gardner 1980). It proved particularly suitable to livestock. Built well into the antebellum period, the Bybee House straddles the two major landscapes of the county, situated on a hill above the northernmost major tributary, Beaver Creek, and spanning into the barrens north of Glasgow.

The centrally located county seat was named for Glasgow in Rockbridge County, Virginia, from where many Scotch-American settlers came. Virginians comprised 70 percent of the original settlers, many of whom were Revolutionary War veterans. Like the Bybees and Duffs, over 80 percent traced their lineage to England, Scotland, Wales, or Ireland (Goode and Gardner 1980).

Kentucky’s link to Virginia played a noticeable role in its architecture as well as place names, politics, and most other business matters well into the nineteenth century. Emulating what they left behind, settlers of Barren County erected Georgian- and Federal-style houses during Settlement and Initial Development (1795-1820). The next generation at first continued the use of these styles, but eventually transitioned into the Classical (Roman) Revival and Greek Revival styles before the Civil War (1861-1865). While the Georgian style came out of England and the English colonies, the Federal, Classical Revival, and Greek Revival styles all occurred within the American neoclassical movement after the Revolution, based on the ideals of the Italian Renaissance, French neoclassicism, and ancient Rome and Greece rather than England (Pierson 1970; Lancaster 1990).

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Within Barren County, these styles did not occur in their purest form; rather, they were adapted, sometimes combined, and most often applied to the hall-and-parlor house or I-house, which like many of the settlers traced its roots to England via Tidewater and Piedmont Virginia. Popular for decades before and after the railroad era for economy and size, the I-house is usually a symmetrical five-bay rectangular box with side-gabled roof, two end chimneys, and attached porch and is two stories high, two rooms wide, divided by a central hall, and one room deep (Montell and Morse 1976; McAlester and McAlester 1984).

Prior to the Revolution, English architecture was the primary influence in the colonies. In England, Georgian was an umbrella term for several styles, and referred to a dynastic period beginning with George I in 1714. Nevertheless, the term became associated with a specific style in the colonial adaption of the work of Englishmen Christopher Wren and James Gibbs (Pierson 1970). The height of popularity of the much more modest American Georgian occurred 1700-1780 and appeared in folk buildings well into the 1830s, particularly on the frontier, due to its pragmatic, rectilinear details (McAlester and McAlester 1984).

Georgian fell out of favor during the Revolution, as the United States tried to sever ties and the influence of England. However, the first attempt to develop an American neoclassical style resulted in American Federal (popular 1780-1820), which evolved from rather than revolted against the designs of the late colonial period. Perfected by Charles Bulfinch, it was the most traditional phase of neoclassicism and was incredibly similar to the Georgian style. In its vernacular manifestation, Georgian- and Federal-style dwellings are essentially I-houses with subtle decorative differences. The former has straight features - flat pilasters, square-paned windows, simple door crown, minimal overhangs with dentils. The Federal style, in contrast, has neoclassical-inspired curvilinear flourishes - sidelights and circular or elliptical fanlights over the front door, multiple columns, decorative door crown, shutters, swags or garlands, Palladian or round windows (Pierson 1970; McAlester and McAlester 1984).

Because Glasgow and the southern part of the county were developed first, most settlement era houses lie in this region. Lumped together as Federal, those that were documented are actually Georgian, also known as "survival Georgian" in Kentucky (Lancaster 1990). Included in the MRA (Henderson 1982) were the Joseph Wooten House (BN-46, built 1800-1824); Benjamin Martin House (BN-194; 1800-1824); William Page House (BN-53; 1800-1824); John Mayfield House (BN-172; 1800-1849); and an unnamed house (BN-54; 1800-1849). Antebellum era examples of these early styles include the Charles Penn Edmunds House (BN-177; 1825-1849) and the Franklin Settle House (BN-166) (1825-1849). The Simon and Jesse White House (BN-90; 1850-1874) was identified as Greek Revival, but is Georgian and most likely dates to this period.

Evolving concurrently with the Federal style, the Early Classical Revival style flourished with wealthier landowners from 1770 to 1830 and remained in favor with local builders up until the Civil War. Classical Revival itself had two distinct phases, the idealistic developed by southerner Thomas Jefferson, and the rational developed by northerner Benjamin Latrobe. Jefferson's ideal became the more pervasive, as he was a vocal proponent of breaking from England and adapting ancient Roman architecture to represent the radical new republic in the U.S. Also inspired by the French, with whom the U.S. allied, he spread his vision from Monticello and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville to the capitol in Richmond. In neighboring Fluvanna County, from where Bybees came, the National Historic Landmark Upper Bremo represented this early phase of the movement. In Louisville, the hemp plantation Farmington exhibited many of Jefferson's trademark features built 1815-1816 for the Speed family from Virginia (Pierson 1970; Lancaster 1990).

Barren County middle- and upper-class people encountered the Classical Revival in their travels to Louisville and back to Virginia for business. In rural counties throughout Kentucky, successful farmers adopted this style at a much later date than the middle-1810s. Once good fortune arrived, they would expand their subsistence

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operations and survival Georgian architecture, shifting to scaled-down plantation-style operations, using family members and enslaved labor for construction of conspicuous buildings (Lancaster 1990).

Classical Revival dwellings of simple design, like the one William Bybee had built, continue the use of the I-house but are dominated by a full-height portico within the central bay or central three bays. Set on a plinth, two or four hollow wood columns of the Roman order support a smooth entablature and simple pediment, which is interrupted by a semi-circular window. Of the five column types, Tuscan appears most often in vernacular examples. The house and/or columns may support a second story porch. The exterior wall treatment may be wood, brick, stucco, or stone, the former two being most popular due to material availability. Features left over from Federal architecture included the use of sidelights and prominent fanlights over the doors (McAlester and McAlester 1984).

Further embittered by England in the War of 1812, and tiring of the Roman Republic influence of Classical Revival, prosperous landowners turned to Greece for architectural inspiration, identifying with its ancient democracy and struggles for independence in the 1820s. William Strickland of Philadelphia was the most influential in the development of Greek Revival (popular from 1825 to 1860), which was the final chapter in the early-nineteenth-century-American neoclassical movement. This period is also identified as the national phase, as it spread throughout the states, newly connected in the railroad era, more than any style before it. Beginning with large public buildings, it spread through carpenter's guide books and pattern books (Pierson 1970).

As with preceding styles, when the Greek Revival followed the Classical, several Classical features carried over. Differences include the introduction of the Greek orders or decorative square columns and pilasters on entry porches one- to five-bays wide, and, harking back to the Georgian style, Greek Revival eliminated fanlights and reintroduced straight lines with dentils placed in wider cornices or wide plain friezes (McAlester and McAlester 1984).

Just as builders combined features of Federal and Georgian styles, so too did builders amalgamate Classical and Greek Revival styles. The Bybee House and the similar William Johnson Wood House (BN-256) (1825-1874) in nearby Hiseville have been identified as Greek in the past, though they are both Classical Revival. This reclassification leaves no individual Greek Revival buildings in the MRA though some are featured in local heritage publications (Henderson 1982; Goode and Gardner 1980). Other Classical Revival houses with two-story porticoes, that were not a part of the MRA, include The Heights (BN-52) a brick house built in 1865 and occupied at one time by William Bybee's grandson, Warren, and the Hardy House (BN-248), the only frame example featured, also built in the mid-nineteenth century (Good and Gardner 1980).

After the Civil War, American architecture diverged dramatically from neoclassical into more romantic and eclectic styles that drew from civilizations other than ancient Rome and Greece and took advantage of railroads, mass production, and new building materials in the industrial age (McAlester and McAlester 1984). In the settlement and antebellum houses that survived, evidence of the evolution of stylistic tastes often remains in interior decorative updates, which in modern times have become valuable in their own right to understanding how buildings learn. In the Bybee House, Victorian era light fixtures, early-to-mid-twentieth century bathrooms, and later mantels, some exhibiting Carpenter Gothic elements and others twentieth century reproduced Federal designs, reveal the interests and success of subsequent owners.

The Bybee Family

They Bybee families of Barren County were descended from a line of Bybees that came to Virginia as early as the 1630s. Before coming to Barren County around 1800 (Deed Index), they resided in Fluvanna County,

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Virginia, which borders Albemarle County and Charlottesville, where Thomas Jefferson helped mold the Early Classical Revival movement. Like their contemporaries, William Bybee's parents, John III and Elizabeth "Betsey" Kelley Bybee moved to the desirable land in the southern half of the county, settling on No Bob (now Nobob) Creek. Shortly after their arrival, William was born on November 24, 1804 (Gorin 1929; Ancestry.com 2012).

On December 13, 1828, William married Barren County native Sara Evans Dougherty (born 1808) with whom he had up to six sons and one daughter. By 1830 (USBC), they had one son, Joseph, presumably born in 1826 before their marriage, and one daughter, Mary Jane, who died before 1840 (USBC 1840; Ancestry.com 2012). The family became members of the Lick Branch Presbyterian Church when it organized in 1832 (Simmons 1943).

After 1830, William became the most active and recognized horse trader in the county. Though tobacco served as the primary cash crop, numerous other industries and agricultural pursuits thrived in the settlement and antebellum periods, particularly the trade of livestock including hogs, cattle, and horses, which were taken to market as far as Richmond, Virginia and New Orleans. "The first horse traders to the South" (Gorin 1929:75) included nearly a dozen men, one of whom was murdered around 1812 on Bear Creek by Native Americans. After William became engaged in the business, an early publication noted the following:

Mr. Bybee was a thorough going man full of business and vim. He was a farmer and stock trader. Before the Civil War he made regular trips South with horses and mules. In the spring he would buy horses enough to run his farm, of a cheap kind, and work them making large crops, feeding them all the while, and after the crops were laid by he would keep feeding them at a high rate until they were ready for market, when he would run them south. By this mode his stock did not cost him high and he could afford to sell them low, and made money (Tolle and Gorin 2005:10-11).

In 1833, William bought his first piece of property with his increasing profits, and from then until his death, made dozens of land transactions from town lots in Glasgow to rural tracts throughout the county, including 15 parcels on Beaver Creek (Deed Index). While increasing his land holdings, William and Sara had four more sons, purchased five enslaved workers, and employed three farmhands by 1840 (USBC). In 1841, he paid \$8,500 for his first piece of land on Beaver Creek, which included 645 acres (Deed Book Q Page 391). At that price, the property likely included improvements, including the house and farm he occupied with his first wife until 1854.

By 1850 (USBC), he had two older sons in school, Robert (20) and George (17), and two younger ones at home, Clinton (8) and Dick (6). He employed Samuel Spencer, who worked as his farmhand for decades to come, and owned 11 humans, which included eight females, ages 1, 5, 9, 10, 14, 18, 50, and 50, and three males, ages 14, 18, and 22.

Between 1853-1855, William's fortune turned, with the deaths of his wife and at least four enslaved workers: Martha (12) of flux, John (1) of fever, another John (2) of bronchitis, and Nancy (23) of consumption. Though the cause and exact date of Sara's death is unknown due to sporadic record keeping, it fell within 1854, a year when "a traveling circus came to Glasgow and infected the whole town with cholera. After trying to get the disease stopped for months, they found out the water source was contaminated because of all the dead bodies buried in the streets and yards. Over half of the population died - even out into the county" (Gorin 1994). Countless bodies were buried with no markers or funeral service though a few were interred in the original Glasgow Cemetery, also known as the Old Presbyterian Cemetery. The epidemic was coded several ways, including cholera, flux, and consumption.

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Sara's death likely prompted William's move the following year to new land that he named Spring Hill, but was later referred to in deeds as the old Billy Bybee Place. "He sold his [old] farm to John Martin and bought one on the same creek west of the Louisville Pike about three miles from Glasgow [where he] lived out the remnant of his days, and died at a good old age" (Tolle and Gorin 2005:10). Its location on the recently created turnpike may have also been incentive for the move as he continued to drive livestock to distant markets.

Of the 15 properties Bybee bought on Beaver Creek, only one was described in the deed index as north of the creek "on the Turnpike to Bardstown" (31-E) (Deed Book W Page 446). It included 115 acres, which he bought on January 1, 1855 for \$500 from Mariah R. Moss and James P. Garnett, executors' of Josiah Moss's estate. Josiah Moss came to the county in 1816, opened a tavern, and later established the Glasgow Hotel, which he operated till his death in 1853 (Gorin 1929). The price of his property on the turnpike indicates that the house had not yet been built when William purchased it.

Within the same year of this purchase, he married his second wife, Ann McConnell (born 1828), and built the Classical Revival I-house that stands today (USBC 1870). They had one daughter, Sallie, in 1858 (USBC 1870; Ancestry.com 2012). The ell, which houses a dining room and kitchen with large fire place, was likely built around the same time or shortly after, as it consists of the same materials as the front – brick, windows, and roof pitch.

In 1861, the outbreak of the Civil War halted William's livestock trading. Like many homes in the south, this one is thought to have housed soldiers overnight on at least one occasion (Harbison 1972). He continued to deal in real estate, including the leasing of mineral rights. Oil was discovered during settlement and used at first by skimming with a quill to gather ointment for burns, sores, and tonic. Following the war, the first wells were sunk in 1865 (Gorin 1929), and by 1879, several oil wells appeared around the Bybee House (Beers and Lanagan 1879). Thousands of gallons were shipped out from the county at the Glasgow Railroad Depot in the following decades.

In latter years Mr. Bybee followed the business of auctioneer. On one occasion he was selling a horse in Glasgow. He was on a block holding the horse by the bridle when the horse became affrightened and jerked him off the block crippling him, so he never recovered. He went on crutches the remainder of his life (Tolle and Gorin 2005:10-11).

During this period, William employed his son Clinton (24) as a farmhand along with three others (USBC 1870).

In the 1870s, he lost two children, Dick (1845-1873) and Sallie (1857-1876) (Leech and Beard 1992). They were buried about one-tenth of a mile south of a barn off of present-day Golf Course Road next to two Dodd graves dating to the 1820s. A child or grandchild, Nettie Bybee, was also buried there. Several partial stones remain near the golf course outside of the current Bybee House boundary (Parker 2008).

In 1880 at the age of 76, only William and his wife Ann (mistakenly identified as Sallie in that year's census) remained at Spring Hill with his long-time employee Samuel Spencer (50) and servants Levi Tribew (a black man age 22) and Joke Loden (a white man 24). Shortly before his death on October 15, 1885, William and Ann sold the 300 acres on which he lived to his grandchildren Warren Bybee and Cora Wood, both children of Joseph, and her husband Clarence Wood for \$9,000 (Deed Book 21 Page 19).

On October 6, 1885, William drafted a will, dividing his properties between Ann; surviving children, Robert, George, and Clinton; grandchildren Warren and Cora Wood; and his black servant Levi Tribew, who was "kind and attentive" during his illness (USBC 1880, Will Book 5 Page 30). Items in his estate included books,

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household and kitchen furniture, leather trunks, saddles, horses, mules, cattle, hogs, and sheep. Specifically to Ann, he left a brick house on a lot in Glasgow, a milk cow, and "the bedstead upon which... daughter Sallie died" among other items (Will Book 5 Page 29). After his death on November 16, 1885, she renounced the will in favor of dower rights. She died in 1902 and was buried at the Glasgow Municipal Cemetery (Leach and Beard 1992).

According to grandchildren, William called "Hello the boat" whenever he passed a house (Bybee 1975). The phrase was one used by settlers along the banks of the Ohio River to call out to others moving westward on rafts and flatboats in the early part of the nineteenth century. Having been born in Barren County, he may have picked this up from an elder or in his business travels to the Deep South following the Barren, Green, Cumberland, or Mississippi Rivers, as steamboats were still the dominant way of transporting goods before the Civil War.

Subsequent Owners

The Bybee Family owned Spring Hill until 1894, when Warren, Cora, and Clarence sold to Ed Morris (DB 35 P 322). Morris sold it to R. P. and Nannie J. Poynter in May, 1897 (DB 37 P 537). Poynter sold it to A. R. and Nettie W. Spencer and W. A. Spencer in August, 1897 (DB 39 P 227). Spencer sold it to H. G. Tinsley in 1899 (DB 42 P 634). Tinsley sold the "old Billy Bybee place or farm" to H. W. Duff on September 17, 1901 (DB 59 P 409).

Like Bybee, Henry Walton Duff (1864-1935) descended from a family who came from Virginia to Barren County during the settlement period. He grew up nearby in a brick house on Beaver Creek near Coral Hill, which his family helped establish. He too was a land speculator, who bought, sold, and leased land in the county from 1884 almost until his death. He continued the leasing of mineral rights on the farm (DB 43 P 472) with oil wells and a filtration plant appearing in the vicinity into the late twentieth century (USGS 1979).

He and his wife Nettie had one daughter, Elizabeth Evans, who died at the age of 4 in 1907. According to a 1972 article (Harbison), the Duffs "always had a great deal of company. Mrs. Duff had a twelve place service of dinnerware... [and] a housekeeper and cook. A one room log cabin located to the rear of the main house was provided as living quarters" (Harbison 1972). Following Henry's death, Nettie, and Henry's sister, Vergie, lived in the house until Nettie sold it and 55.5 surrounding acres on September 7, 1944 to Luther and Lois Ellis (DB 117 P 58). The Duffs likely added the two-story frame addition to accommodate bathrooms in the first half of the century **as well as a one-story frame addition off the kitchen where a concrete pad is now located.**

The Ellis Family may have modernized the bathrooms. They installed a furnace in the cellar which Nettie Duff had used for canned goods. As a widow, Lois gave the property to her son in 1965 (DB 168 P 59). Having moved west, he further subdivided it and sold 5.5 acres to Albert and Ernestine Barton Britt in 1966 (DB 177 P 167).

Natives of the county, the Britts bought the property for retirement while still living in Louisville, where Albert, a World War II veteran, worked at the Ford Motor Company. He was also a lifelong farmer (Glasgow Daily Times 1998). Upon purchase, they likely replaced a screened porch with a ranch influenced sunroom. They also removed a set of stairs in the parlor and demolished the log cabin, which likely served as slave and servant quarters (Harbison 1972). In 1998, the year that Albert Britt died, his estate sold the land to Geraldine and Larry Glass (DB 244 P 12).

The property was surveyed and recorded in Plat Book 14 Page 595, showing the historic loop approach from the highway, a later back drive to Old Country Club Road, a barn at the northwest corner of this drive and the

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road, and a shed and historic log outbuilding behind the house. Though the 1979 KHC survey form describes this as the probable slave quarters, it was an agricultural outbuilding which the Duffs used as a smokehouse during their tenure (Harbison 1972). **Greenup Realty in Bowling Green photographed the house in 1998, showing a rear frame addition. Observing aerial photographs, it appears that the Glasses removed that addition and all outbuildings by 2003.**

Integrity

The Bybee House maintains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling as related to its area of significance in architecture and period of significance 1855.

The Bybee House stands intact at its original **location**, which Bybee selected due to its rise and proximity to Beaver Creek and the Louisville Turnpike (31-E). An entrepreneurial man, he likely recognized its terrain as healthful in general and beneficial to the raising of livestock, his primary pursuit. It also provided quick access to Glasgow as well as his markets beyond in the states farther south. On a less practical note, the rise in topography conveyed a sense of grandeur and prominence to his neighbors and those travelling the corridor that gave rise to the railroad and, later, the interstate.

An architecturally significant Classical Revival house within Barren County will have integrity of **design** if it possesses the following features: a symmetrical facade usually five bays wide, full-height portico within the central bay or central three bays, two-to-four columns of the Roman order set on plinths, an entablature and pediment above the portico, and a central door with decorative elements such as sidelights and prominent fanlights. The Bybee house retains all of these features. Even with additions, the Bybee House's primary volumes and Classical Revival I-house elements have remained highly visible from U.S. Highway 31-E, with the ell and frame addition built in proportion to the main house design, off of the rear facade. Only the enclosed patio departs from the original house design; however, it is invisible from the front yard and may be easily removed.

The integrity of **setting** considers whether the house's rural or urban situation had an impact on its design and beauty. Since its construction, the Bybee house has sat on an early interstate route, later named U.S. 31-E, the eastern half of two north-south corridors, the other being U.S. 31-W. While the character of 31-W and other early U.S. routes have been marred by expansion to multiple lanes and commercial strip development, 31-E within this part of Barren County remains a two-lane rural highway. The acreage of the property has changed over time—from 156 unimproved acres in 1855, to a 300-acre livestock farm operated by enslaved workers and hired hands, to a 55-acre, and eventually a 4-acre parcel. These changes have transformed the Bybee House during the 20th century from a farm house into a single-family home in a suburban setting. Whether on a farm or in its current setting, the house's placement at the top of a hill would have obscured outbuildings and most agricultural activity when approached from the original drive. The original relation of setting and architecture is still evident as one ascends this drive from 31-E, due to the rise and the remaining acreage and mature trees that provide a buffer between it and semi-rural suburban development outside the 4 acres.

Buildings significant during this period were constructed by local **workman** of local **material**, thus brick and wood were most commonly used. The Bybee house makes use of brick, evidence of its owner's relative wealth, and wood for decorative features. The main elements of the building are historic—the brick foundation, brick walls, windows, doors, and major portions of the portico on the exterior—all date to 1855, as does the plaster work, door surrounds, and baseboards on the interior. Cosmetic additions, such as flooring, mantels, and shelving, and modern conveniences, such as plumbing and electricity, were installed in later years, yet do little to significantly alter the view of the primary materials of the building. The survival of 1855 materials in their original form reveals the workmanship of its period.

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Historically intact buildings are able to evoke the aesthetic of the period in which they were built. The Bybee house's setting, design, and materials evoke a **feeling** associated with a previous time when middle-to-upper class success was not associated with gated subdivisions. Because the Bybee House maintains integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, materials, and feeling, it expresses its integrity of **feeling** of antebellum period design, and thus is eligible.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Barren County, Kentucky Plat Books
Barren County, Kentucky Will Books

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<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/index/SOUTH-CENTRAL-KENTUCKY>

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): BN-317

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 4.3

UTM References

1 16 597516.64 4099536.84 Glasgow North
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property boundary of the Bybee House is recorded in the Barren County Property Valuation Administration office as Parcel 94-44. It is bound by North Jackson Highway to the east, Country Club Road to the south and residential lots to the north and west.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The current legal boundary was selected because the original acreage was subdivided and developed as a golf course and suburban lots. The historic boundary, which included agriculture, has lost integrity and does not contribute to the area of significance in architecture. The current boundary includes the house and the original front lawn and approach from Jackson Highway, a roadway which predates the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anna Maas, Principal Architectural Historian / Preservation Planner
organization Corn Island Archaeology date February 1, 2012
street & number 10320 Watterson Trail Suite C telephone 502-614-8828
city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40299
e-mail am.ciarch@insightbb.com

Photographs:

Bybee House
Name of Property

Barren County, KY
County and State

Same information on each photograph:

Name of Property: **Bybee House**
City or Vicinity: **Glasgow**
County: **Barren County**
State: **KY**
Photographer: **Anna Maas**
Date Photographed: **November 2011**
Location of Original Digital Files: **10320 Watterson Tr Ste C, Louisville, KY 40299**

Photograph-specific information:

0001: Principal elevation of Bybee House (BN-317), looking west from driveway.

0002: North side elevation of Bybee House (BN-317), looking south.

0003: West and south elevations of Bybee House (BN-317), showing two-story bathroom addition (1900-1924) and one-story sunroom addition (circa 1970), looking northeast.

0004: South and east elevations of Bybee House (BN-317), looking northwest.

0005: Front door of the Bybee House (BN-317) flanked by side lights and fanlight, looking east from central hall.

0006: Stairwell and former back door of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking southwest from central hall.

0007: First-floor south room of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking south.

0008: First-floor north room of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking northwest towards dining room and former location of second stairwell.

0009: Dining room of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking west towards kitchen and enclosed fireplace.

0010: Kitchen of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking northwest towards former cooking fireplace.

0011: Door to second-floor porch of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking northeast.

0012: Second-floor porch and front yard landscape of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking east towards North Jackson Highway (U.S. 31-E).

0013: Second-floor south room of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking northwest towards added bathroom and central hall.

0014: Second-floor north room of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking northwest towards added bathroom, door to attic in the ell, and former location of second stairwell.

0015: Second-floor added bathroom and closet of the Bybee House (BN-317), looking north.

0016: Cistern adjacent to kitchen at the Bybee House (BN-317), looking southeast towards north wall of house.

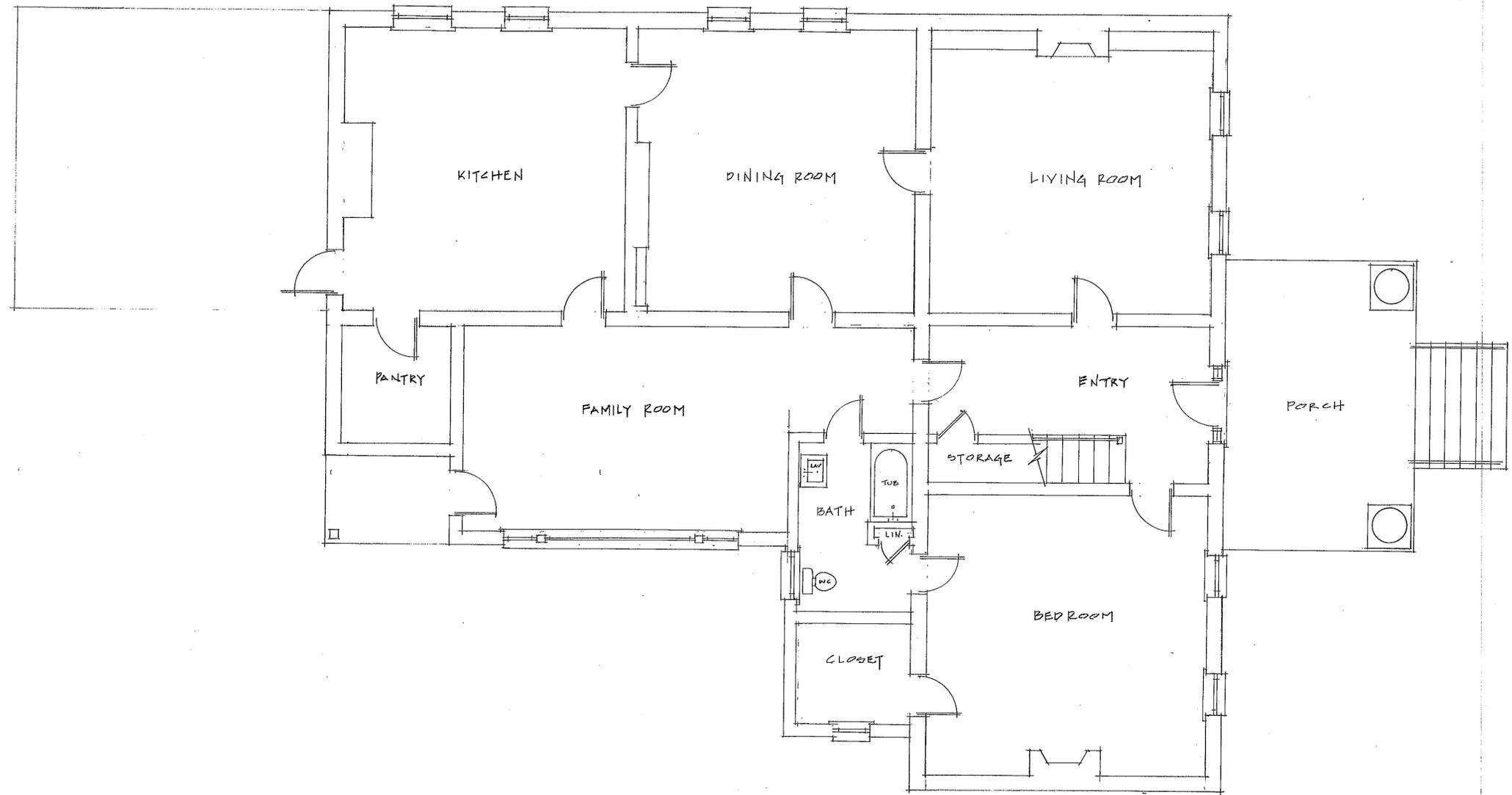
Property Owner:

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

Bybee House
Name of Property

Barren County, KY
County and State

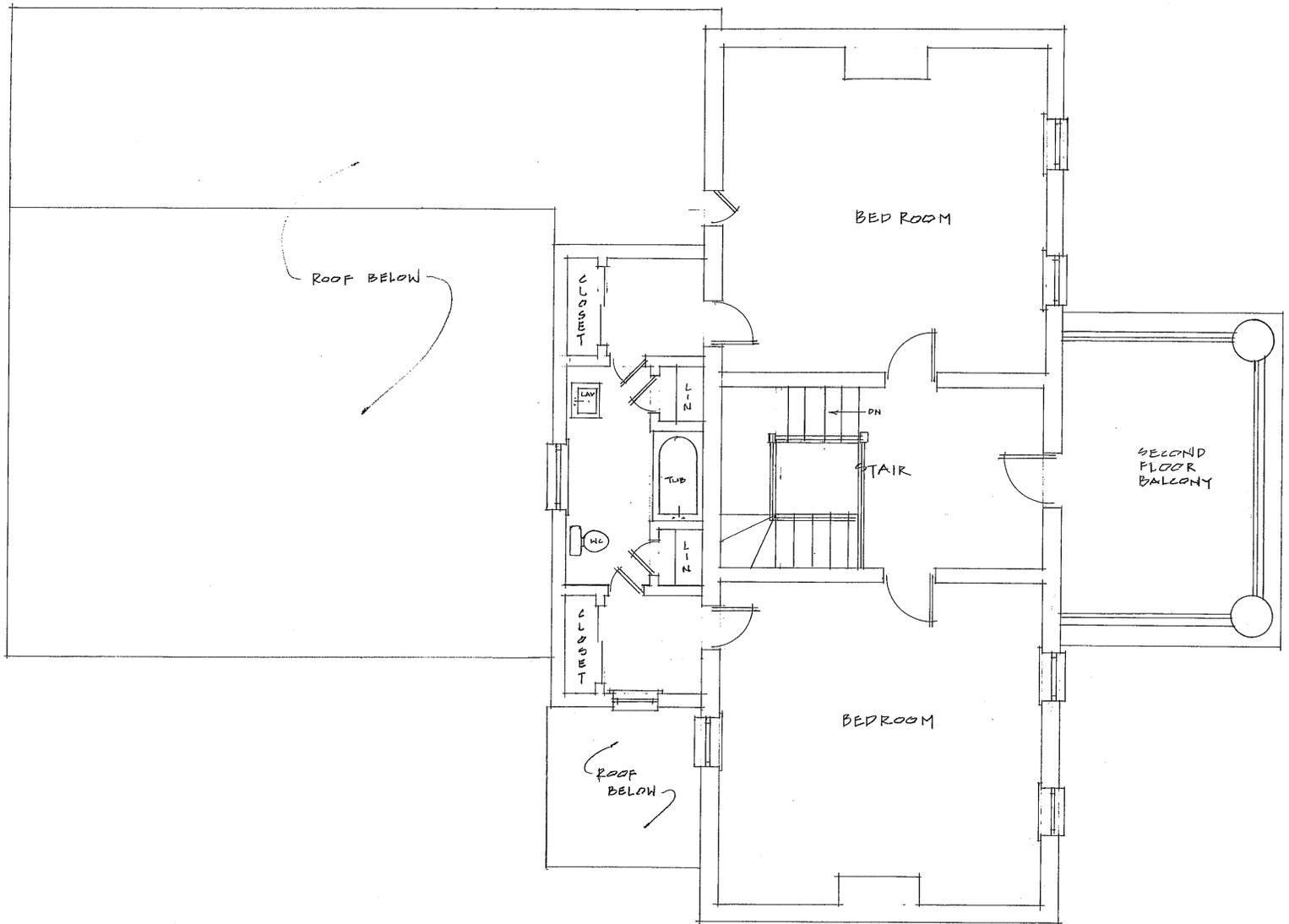
Name Cumberland River Corp.
street & number 1136 S. Park Dr. Ste. 101 telephone (270) 782-0859
city or town Bowling Green state KY 402102



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

19 2609 Hec



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



Figure 1. Beers and Lanagan 1879

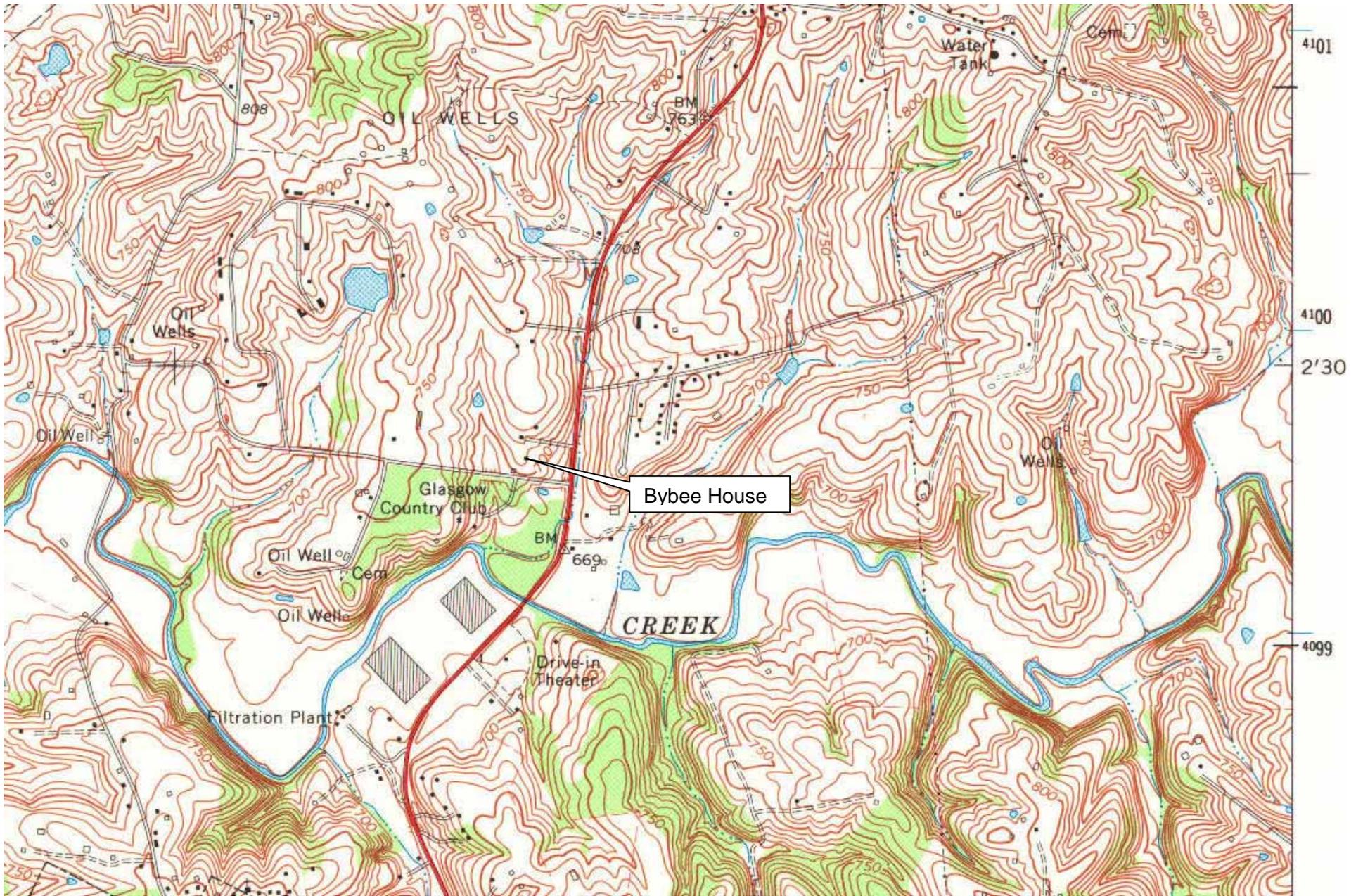
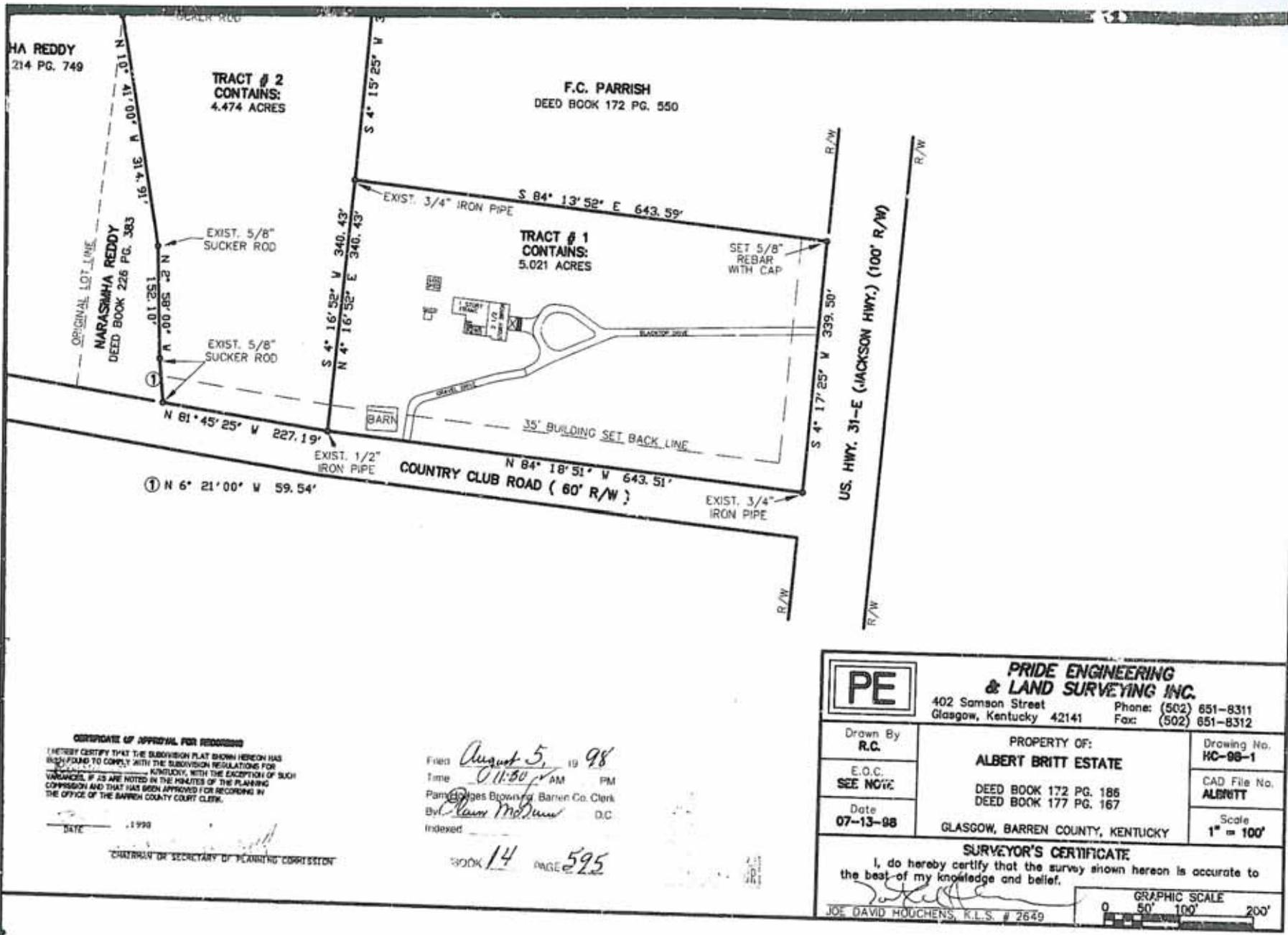


Figure 2. USGS 1979



CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL FOR RECORDING
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE SUBDIVISION PLAT SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN FOUND TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS FOR BARREN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SUCH VARIANCES, IF AS ARE NOTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR RECORDING BY THE OFFICE OF THE BARREN COUNTY COURT CLERK.

DATE: 1998
 CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY OF PLANNING COMMISSION

Filed August 5, 1998
 Time 11:50 AM PM
 Pam Bridges Blowers, Barren Co. Clerk
 By: *Clara McDunn* D.C.
 Indexed
 BOOK 14 PAGE 595

 PRIDE ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING INC. 402 Samson Street Glasgow, Kentucky 42141 Phone: (502) 651-8311 Fax: (502) 651-8312		
Drawn By R.C.	PROPERTY OF: ALBERT BRITT ESTATE	Drawing No. KC-98-1
E.O.C. SEE NOTE	DEED BOOK 172 PG. 186 DEED BOOK 177 PG. 167	CAD File No. ALBRITT
Date 07-13-98	GLASGOW, BARREN COUNTY, KENTUCKY	Scale 1" = 100'
SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE I, do hereby certify that the survey shown hereon is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. <i>Joe David Houchens</i> JOE DAVID HOUCHEHS, K.L.S. # 2649		
GRAPHIC SCALE 0 50' 100' 200'		

Figure 3. Barren County Plat Book 1998

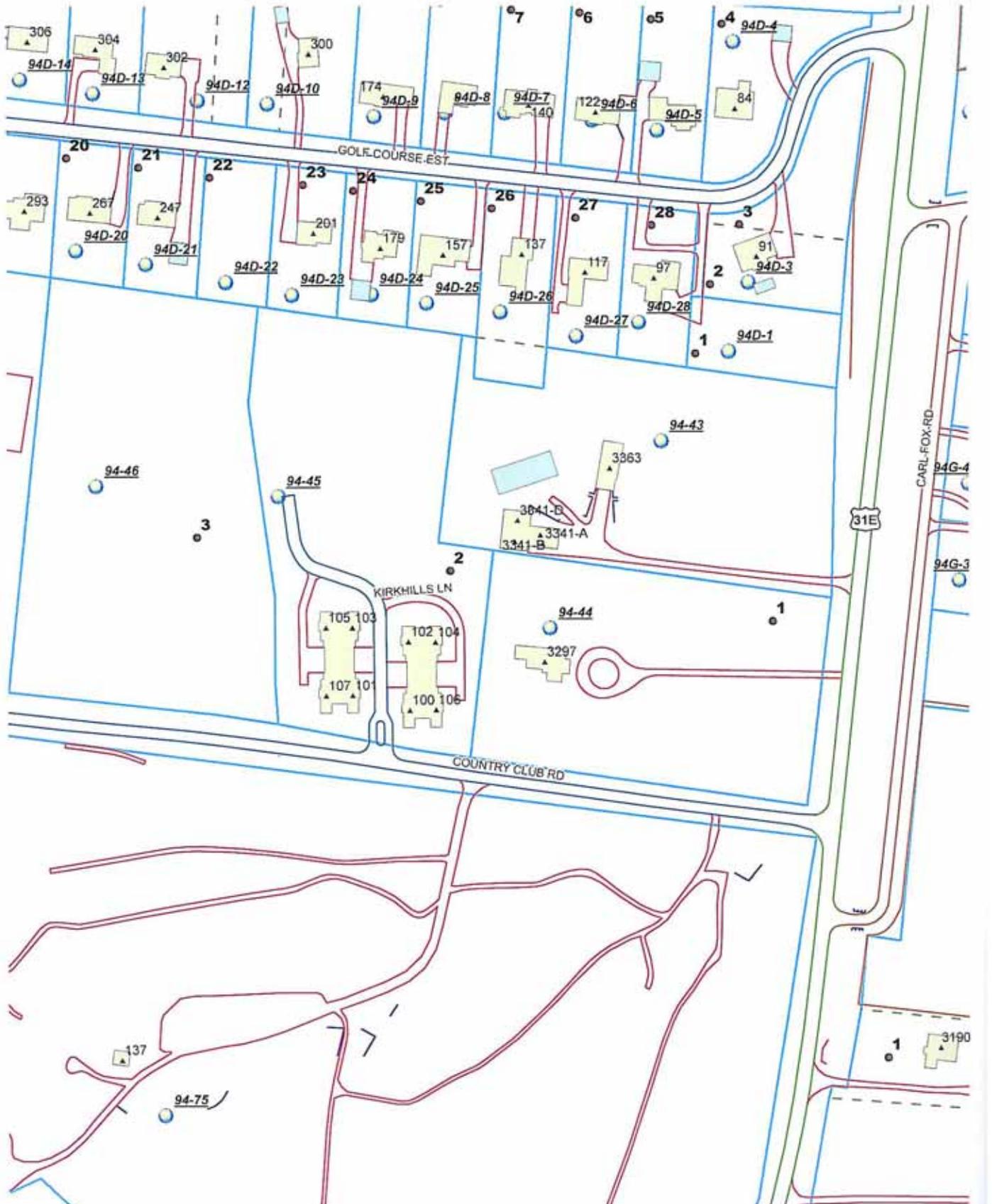


Figure 4. PVA 2012































