

The Rural Landscape of Casey County: Farms and Crossroad Communities

by Janie-Rice Brother



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Cover Photos Taken by James Calitri and Nick Cronin

Top left: Caney Fork School, CS-138 Top right: Grocery on Faulkner Road, CS-135

Bottom: View of Mintonville

Acknowledgments

This survey and planning grant attempted to address a long-standing deficit in the number of surveyed historic resources in Casey County, Kentucky. It would not have been possible without the University of Kentucky Department of Landscape Architecture, and in particular, its chair, Ned Crankshaw. James Calitri and Nick Cronin, Landscape Architecture students, worked on this grant; without their hard work and willingness to traverse Casey County in all manner of weather, much of the fieldwork would not have been accomplished.

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A View from the Field



Nick Cronin and James Calitri took to fieldwork like ducks to water...



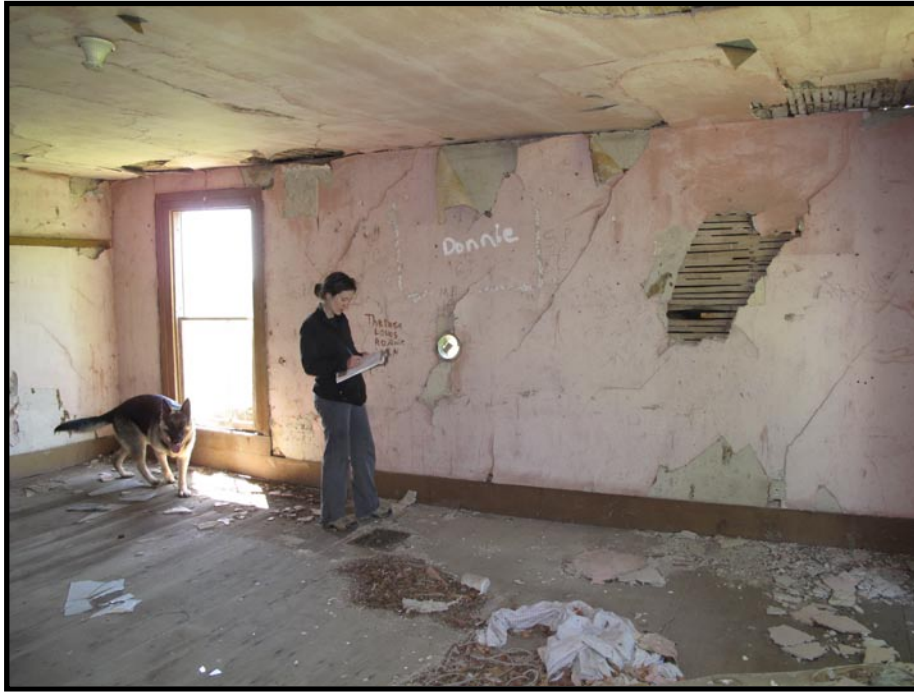
Ned Crankshaw examines the interior of a historic rural school.



Jennifer Ryall navigates Murphy's Branch.



Bill Macintire utilizes his amazing photography skills and does not fall through the steps.



Janie-Rice Brother takes field notes (with a little help from a friend).



Thanks also to the many dogs and cats that accompanied us during site visits!

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Introduction

The county-wide thematic survey of Casey County, Kentucky, focusing on rural landscapes and their relationship to nearby hamlets and crossroad communities was made possible by a Federal Survey and Planning Grant, administered by the Kentucky Heritage Council. The University of Kentucky Department of Landscape Architecture, in conjunction with the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, carried out the project.

The survey focused on the rural schools, churches and stores found in the many crossroad communities across Casey County. Schools, like rural churches, fulfilled a myriad of roles in crossroad communities, often becoming a “focal point in the local community.”¹ Rural schools are a resource fast disappearing within the Commonwealth; historic schools “embody significance not only in their architectural aesthetic, but also in the way that they convey the various educational philosophies in public education through time.”² Though the theme of crossroad communities and hamlets guided the survey, individual farmsteads were also surveyed.

Despite its early beginnings, and extensive cultural resources, Casey County suffers from a lack of survey and documentation. Only 45 sites within the rural areas of the county have been surveyed, making Casey County one of the least surveyed counties within the Outer Bluegrass Region, as well as the state. Liberty fares a little better, with 47 surveyed sites; these resources are part of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listed Liberty Downtown Historic District, listed in 2008. The only other NRHP listed site in Casey County is the Casey County Courthouse (CS-L-3), listed under Criterion C in 1977.

Location

Casey County, carved from a section of Lincoln County in 1806 to become the 46th county in the state, straddles four “territorial divisions, the Green River Country, the Knobs Region, the Pennyryle, and the Bluegrass Region.”³

The topography of the 435-square mile county ranges from the broad valleys with flattened ridges of the Outer Bluegrass to the more sharply dissected hills and ridges of the Knobs. Bordered by Boyle, Lincoln, Russell, Adair, Pulaski, Taylor and Marion counties, the county is well-watered by both the

¹ Rachel Kennedy and Cynthia Johnson. *Kentucky Historic Schools Survey: An Examination of the History and Condition of Kentucky's Older School Buildings*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: The Kentucky Heritage Council, 2002)

² Ibid.

³ Joe Brent. “Liberty Downtown Historic District.” *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. Copy on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. Listed 2008. Section, 21.

Green River and the Rolling Fork River. The county seat town of Liberty, which lies in the center of the county in a bend of the Green River, was chartered in 1808, but not officially incorporated until 1830.⁴

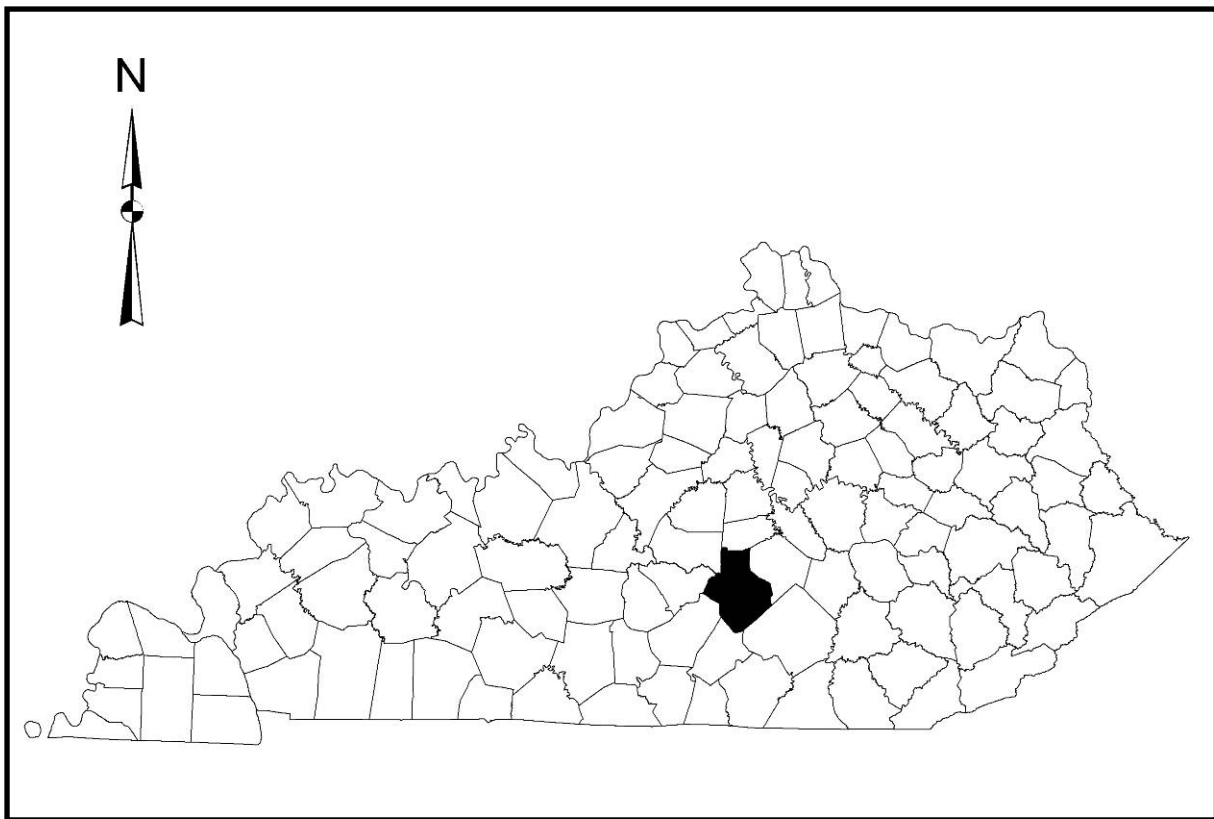


Figure 1 Map of the state of Kentucky, showing Casey County in black.

⁴ Gladys C. Thomas. "Liberty" in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*, ed. John Kleber (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992), 553.

Methodology

The project began with a review of all relevant information at the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), including an examination of original survey quadrangle maps, survey forms and NRHP nominations. The seven cultural resource reports for Casey County were reviewed, in order to determine if a relevant context was developed that might be helpful for this project and what resources might have been documented within that particular undertaking's Area of Potential Effect.

Initially, given the restrictions on funding, as well as the size and breadth of the county and the lack of previous survey work, the project proposed focusing on four United States Geological Survey quadrangle maps across the county: Ellisburg, Yosemite, Mintonville and Phil. These quadrangles were chosen to provide a sampling of the county in all cardinal directions; additionally, the quadrangles contain a number of crossroad communities, including the towns of Mintonville and Yosemite. The base maps for the survey were 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale quadrangles covering approximately 48 square miles. Casey County includes parts of 13 different quadrangles.

Following the literature review, a reconnaissance survey of the four quadrangles was undertaken. Since schools and religious institutions are typically marked on quadrangle maps, the reconnaissance of each quadrangle began with these resources. Additional reconnaissance was carried out using aerial maps to determine whether or not extant resources existed at the site of these churches and schools.

Janie-Rice Brother, PI, and Jennifer Ryall, architectural historian, accompanied by KHC Survey Coordinator William Macintire, conducted a reconnaissance survey in the field on March 10, 2011. Conditions were less than ideal, with rain and fog. The reconnaissance, however, was sufficient to determine that limiting the survey to the original four quadrangles was not feasible. The rugged terrain of some of the quads meant that development was limited historically, and the preservation of historic resources low. Consequently, the survey was expanded to touch on all of the quadrangles in Casey County that had hamlets and/or a concentration of schools.

Brother and Ryall conducted fieldwork again on March 24, 2011 and May 5, 2011. At the end of the University of Kentucky's spring semester, two undergraduate students in the Department of Landscape Architecture, James Calitri and Nick Cronin, joined the project. Two days, May 19 and May 20, 2011, were spent in the field acclimating the students to the survey area and introducing them to survey techniques. Calitri and Cronin subsequently returned to the field on May 24, May 31, June 9 and June 16, 2011.

This survey identified 120 historic resources, which are further detailed in the Property Types section of this report, beginning on page 35. The survey index begins on page 14. The survey sites were spread out over nine quadrangles in the county (Figures 4-12). Three of the sites were previously surveyed (CS-6, CS-9 and CS-10); the remaining 117 sites were previously unrecorded resources.

The survey was conducted in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* (National Park Service 1983). In addition, the following documents will be consulted: *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning: National Register Bulletin #24* (National Park Service 1985); *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service 1990); *Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Manual* (Kentucky Heritage Council); and *Specifications for Conducting Fieldwork and Preparing Cultural Resource Assessment Reports (Specifications)* (Kentucky Heritage Council 2001).

All resources were recorded on Kentucky Individual Buildings Survey Form (2011-1). Digital photographs were taken of the exterior of each resource, including each elevation if visible and any noteworthy architectural features, and any associated historic outbuildings on the property. Resources were closely examined on the exterior, in order to not only fully capture the current condition of the historic resource, but also to determine any changes in orientation, configuration, major additions and renovations and any integrity altering modifications. A UTM was taken for each resource using a handheld GPS device; the sites were then mapped on quadrangle maps.

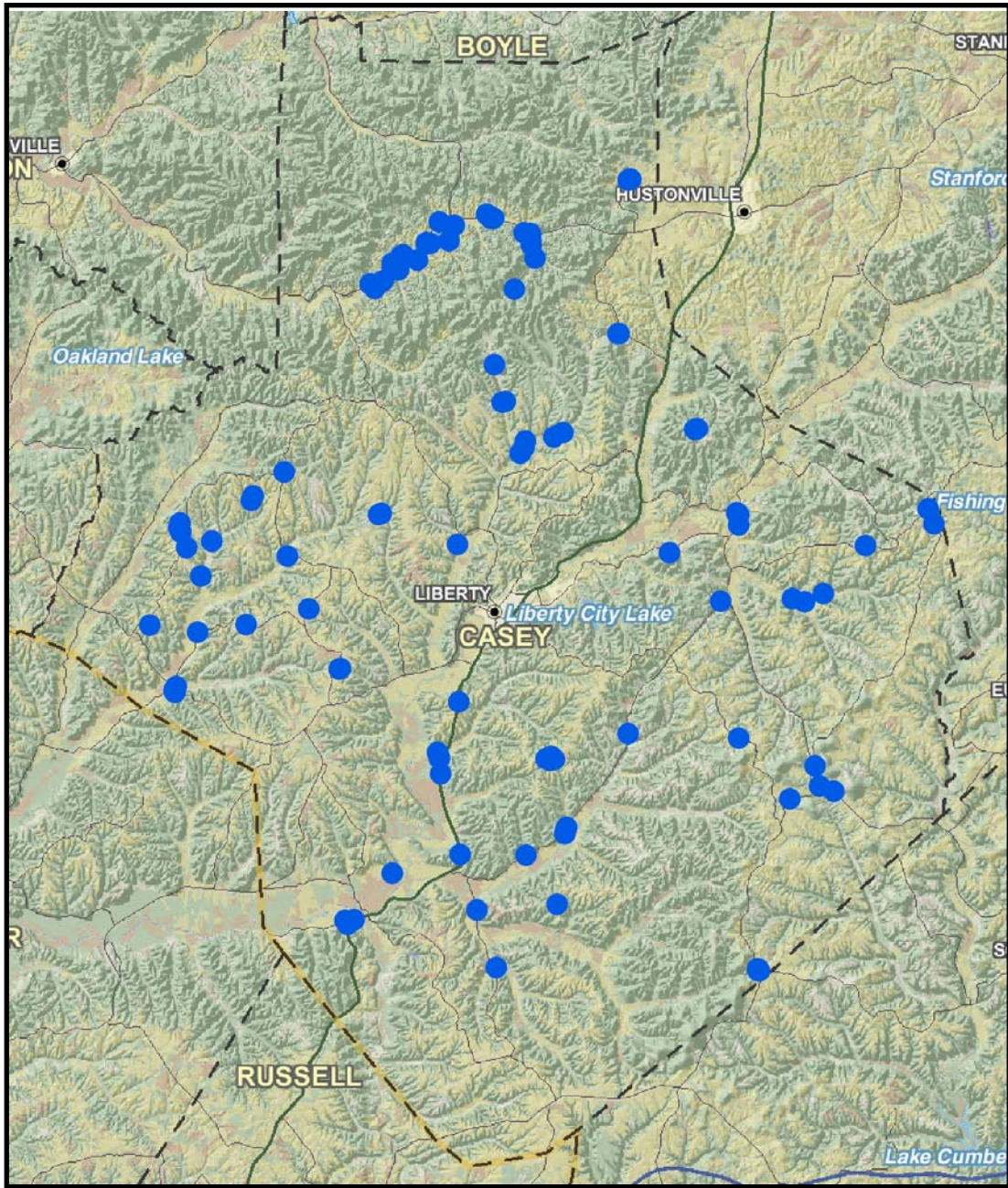


Figure 2 Topographic map of Casey County, showing surveyed sites in blue.

Historic Background

Europeans arrived in Casey County in 1779, when Colonel William Casey, a Revolutionary War veteran from Virginia, explored the area. The first recorded land grant in the county was 800 acres along the Green River to Captain Thomas Lincoln, grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln. Prior to 1800, there were thirteen land grants filed in the area for a total of 3,022 acres. The first recorded European settler, however, was a native of Germany by the name of Christopher Riffe who had immigrated to Virginia and then in 1784 to Logan's Station.⁵ Riffe built a house near the town of Middleburg in 1793 and would later purchase the 800 acres from the Lincoln family in 1803.

The proximity to Logan's Station (now the county seat town of Stanford in Lincoln County) enabled development of Casey County, but the distance and unreliable transportation routes between the settler's houses and the seat of government led to residents seeking a new county with accessible local government. Casey County was thus carved out of Lincoln County in 1806.⁶ The first county court met two years later, followed by the construction of a log courthouse in 1809.⁷

Agriculture dominated the local economy. After clearing enough land for cultivation, the first crop planted was usually corn, as corn could feed both people and livestock. The county was heavily timbered, which facilitated the construction of log houses. The terrain, however, and the slow growth of a reliable road network aided the development of crossroad communities; since travel was difficult, retail, commerce and public/government institutions sprang up every few miles, clustered along waterways, within easy walking distance for residents.

These hamlets, crossroad communities and small towns inspired this thematic survey (Figure 3). The town of Middleburg, located in eastern Casey County, was settled by relatives of Christopher Riffe in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The town, located "atop a hill overlooking the meandering Green River," took advantage of its location and Jesse Coffey's water mill on the Green River resulted in Middleburg becoming an important local trading stop.

Dunnville, located in southwestern Casey County, also utilized the Green River for milling purposes. A water mill and dam was located on Goose Creek near Dunnville, at the juncture of the creek and the Green River.⁸ The town's name comes from James Richard Dunn, who came to the area from Virginia

⁵ Located in present day Lincoln County.

⁶ Willie Moss Watkins. *The men, women, events, institutions and lore of Casey County, Kentucky*. (New York: Standard, 1939), 20.

⁷ Joberta Wells. "Casey County Got its Start in 1806," in *Discover Casey County*, published by the Casey County News, 2010-2011 edition.

⁸ Ibid, "Dunnville."

around 1840. Dunn apparently acquired the existing “brick house farm” (CS-158) in the late 1840s or early 1850s.⁹

Clements ville, located in the southwestern corner of Casey County was settled around 1802 by several Catholic families from Washington County. Two years later, French Trappist monks, led by Father Urbain Guillet, explored the area. In 1806, Father Urbain “purchased 420 acres of good land near the Green River, 20 miles from Holy Mary’s Church, at the price of \$3 per acre.”¹⁰

⁹ Casey County Bicentennial Committee. *Casey County, Kentucky, 1806-1992 : A Pictorial History*. (Waynesville, N.C. : Don Mills, Inc,1992), 252.

¹⁰ John A. Lyons. *Historical Sketches of the Parish of St. Bernard of Clairvaux on Casey Creek, Clements ville, Kentucky*. (New Hope, Kentucky: St. Martin de Porres Dominican Community, third edition, 1990),14.

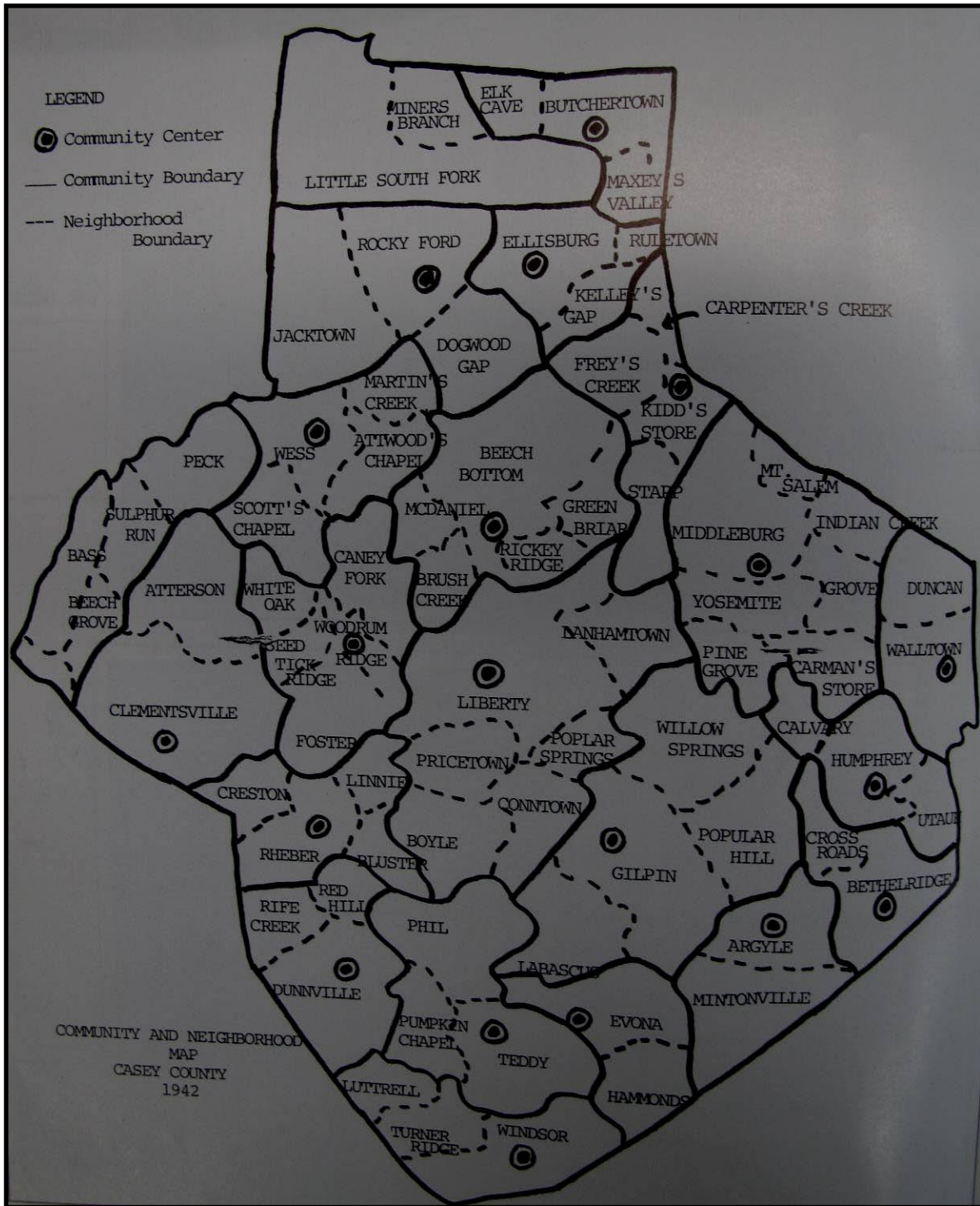


Figure 3 Map showing the various communities in Casey County.¹¹

¹¹ Casey County Bicentennial Committee, 162.

Holy Mary's Church was in Washington County; the land purchased by Urbain is located "about half a mile west of the present St. Bernard's Church" which was documented as CS-61.¹² There were 13 families living in the Clementsville area by 1810 and the first church was built that year.

Mintonville, a hamlet in southeastern Casey County, was established in 1849.¹³ The first post office in the community was established two years later in the home of Herbert Jasper.¹⁴

Population in Casey County grew slowly – in the 1810 census, only 3,295 residents were enumerated in the county; twenty years later that number had increased slightly to 4,342 inhabitants (see Table 1). A road network between population centers began to take shape; a toll road from Hustonville (Lincoln County) to Middlebug was chartered in 1863.¹⁵

Early industries in Casey County included salt making, which was centered in Liberty. A tanyard was established in Mintonville in 1855 and supplied leather to "residents of Russell, Wayne, Casey and Pulaski Counties."¹⁶ Sawmills, grist mills, planing mills – all taking advantage of the waterways of the County – flourished during the nineteenth century.

Other occupations, both professional and trades-related, are tallied in the U.S. Census returns. In 1850, there were 14 merchants in Casey County, five lawyers, seven cabinet makers, 12 shoemakers, three tanners, one wool carder and one plasterer. Also recorded were two waggoneers, three innkeepers, three tailors, three brickmasons, one fisherman, one gingseng digger, four saddlers and a host of blacksmiths – 25 in all.¹⁷

Agriculture remained the mainstay for most residents during the nineteenth century. In 1850, there were 6,556 residents in Casey County, and 758 farms, with a total value of \$682,902. Neighboring Adair County had 1,010 farms, but with a slightly lower cash value of \$660,390. Only 21.8 percent of farmland in Casey County was recorded as "improved" in the 1850 census. Out of the 35 counties considered to be in the larger Pennyriple region, it ranked 22nd in acres of improved farmland.¹⁸

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Watkins, 25.

¹⁴ Wells, "Argyle/Mintonville," in *Discover Casey County*, published by the Casey County News, 2010-2011 edition, 56.

¹⁵ Gladys Cotham Thomas, ed. *Casey County, Kentucky 1806-1983: A Folk History Including Communities and Cemeteries*. (Casey County, Kentucky: Bicentennial Heritage Corporation, 1983, 1984), 56.

¹⁶ Wells, "Argyle/Mintonville."

¹⁷ Thomas, 53-54.

¹⁸ Charles E. Martin. *The Pennyriple Cultural Landscape*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: Manuscript on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council, 1988), 24.

Livestock in the county was valued at \$231,729.¹⁹ An account from the 1930s reflects upon the type of stock in the county:

The people of Casey County have a great fancy for the old native breeds of horses, sheep and cattle, preferring as a general rule, the razor-back, long-faced swine to the chuffy, heavy-quartered Berkshire, and the old-crumply-horned, slim-sided, long-legged cattle to the purest blood of the Durham or Alderney. Horses of scrub stock also seem to be favorites; but later some enterprising, public-spirited farmers are beginning to find that it is cheaper to feed hogs plentifully than to allow them to expend all their strength standing on their snout, with their hind feet in the air... ”²⁰

Casey County was never a large slave-holding county, especially in relation to the Outer Bluegrass counties to its north. Though Kentucky’s slave population was by no means on par with that of the Deep South, slavery was firmly ensconced in the Bluegrass during the settlement period. In the 1790 census, Kentucky’s population stood at 73,677 persons. Slaves accounted for 12,430 of that number. Ten years later, with an incredible population surge, there were 40,343 slaves in Kentuckian, out of a total population of 220,955. The state was not close to approaching Virginia’s slave to white ratio, but it was clear that slavery was part of the new state’s makeup.²¹ The slave population reached its highest numbers in 1830, with slaves accounting for 24 percent of the state population.²²

This does not mean, however, that all of the white population owned slaves. Quite the contrary, as the large majority of “white Kentuckians never owned a slave.”²³ Some percentage of this non-slaveholding group was doubtless prompted by abolitionist thought and sentiment, but more often than not, non-slaveholders simply could not afford slaves.

In Virginia, slaves were legally classified as chattel property, and the same status held in Kentucky. Slavery was not an inexpensive business. Though the price of a slave varied, depending on age, health, gender and other factors, one slave might cost more than what a farmer would make in one to two years. A male slave, aged “eighteen to thirty-five might cost \$400-700 in Kentucky; a female in the same age group would cost about \$350-450.”²⁴

¹⁹ University of Virginia Library, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center, Historical Census Browser, 2004. 1850 Agricultural Census. Online at: <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/>

²⁰ Watkins, 135.

²¹ Virginia’s 1800 Census recorded 346,671 slaves to a white population of 538,500.

²² United States Census Returns

²³ Lowell H. Harrison and James C. Klotter, *A New History of Kentucky*. (Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1997), 168.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 168.

Year	Total population of Casey County
1820	4,349 (slaves: 456)
1830	4,342 (slaves: 436)
1840	4,939 (slaves: 531)
1850	6,556 (slaves: 634)
1860	6,466 (slaves:666)
1870	8,884
1880	10,983
1890	11,848
1900	15,144
1910	15,479
1920	17, 213
1930	16,747
1940	19,962
1950	17,446
1960	14,327

Table 1 *Historic population figures for Casey County.*

Both slaves and land were property, and usually the most substantial investments a farmer would make, and, the more acreage a man owned, the more likely it was that he owned a proportionate amount of slaves. The economic and social structure was based on this parallel. Neither investment worked independently, “if a farmer could afford slaves, he probably would also be financially able to buy the land necessary to make his slave investment profitable.”

Kentucky’s slave population was at its highest between 1790 and 1830; after 1830, the growth rate declined, in part because of the system of agriculture in place in the Commonwealth. Slaves accounted for roughly 10 percent of the county’s population in 1830, which is on par with the eastern part of the state. The inner and outer Bluegrass counties consistently had slave populations above 20 percent during the first half of the nineteenth century.²⁵ The number of slaves in Casey County remained at or below 10 percent until the Civil War.

By the mid-nineteenth century, the salt industry had waned, and the county’s rich stand of timber promised to become a viable industry. The Civil War, of course, interrupted any exploitation of the county’s natural resources, but after the war, the timber boom began.

Military conflicts during the Civil War were not recorded in Casey County, but many men from the county made up the First Kentucky Calvary of the Union Army. The years immediately after the Civil War brought many changes, not the least an evolving agricultural landscape. The introduction of burley tobacco heralded a new cash crop that suited the soil and climate of Kentucky perfectly. This new tobacco worked ideally in the factory-produced cigarettes that were gaining ground among consumers in the last two decades of the nineteenth century.

The last two decades of the nineteenth century saw the impact of the timber industry in the formation of the town of Yosemite and also the introduction of the only railroad in the county, the Cincinnati and Green River Railroad.²⁶ Though short-lived, the railroad illustrated the prosperity of the county at that time, as it was constructed solely to haul Casey County lumber to local mills. By 1896 the stands of timber were exhausted, and the railroad was auctioned off by the sheriff and the track dismantled. The timber boom not only increased the population of the county, but the cleared land led to larger farms, which were able to produce more crops.

Roads did not approach a passable standard in the county until the 1930s and the beginning of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Prior to that, the local roads were “still being maintained by a series of local overseers, who directed local men to repair the roads.”²⁷

²⁵ Marion B. Lucas. *A History of Blacks in Kentucky, Volume 1: From Slavery to Segregation, 1760-1891*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: The Kentucky Historical Society, 1992), xvii.

²⁶ Joe Brent. “Liberty Downtown Historic District.” *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. Copy on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. Listed 2008.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

The town of Dunnville gained its distinctive moniker “the Gate Capital of the World” in the first half of the twentieth century. C.V. Tarter moved to the area from Russell County in 1940, and began making wooden gates for himself and for sale to the local residents. These wooden gates, all made by hand, sold for \$2.50 to \$3.00.²⁸ In 1945, Tarter Gate Company was founded, and now employs over 800 employees, sells over 950 different products and is the “largest manufacturer of farm gates and animal management equipment in North America.”²⁹

Through the twentieth century, agriculture remained the mainstay of the local economy. Before the tobacco buyout and the collapse of the quota system, Casey County ranked 28th in the state for tobacco production. In 1990, Casey County farmers produced six million pounds of tobacco on 2,7849 farms. Beef cattle production accounted for even more of the farming output; in 1991, the county ranked ninth in the state for the number of beef cattle. The county is also known for its apple production, and holds the Casey County Apple Festival every fall.

²⁸ Tarter Farm and Ranch Equipment. Website, <http://www.tartergate.com/about/history.php>. Accessed July 2011.

²⁹ Ibid.

Survey Index

The Survey Index which follows describes the 120 properties surveyed as part of this project. The inventory table that follows contains a number of abbreviations. The Survey Number (KHC #) is the number assigned to the property by the Kentucky Heritage Council. Location is given as best as known; it was impossible to tell the mailing address of many of the abandoned resources. The survey forms give a more detailed description of the site's location. Quad, refers of course, to the quadrangle in which the surveyed site is located.

The next column, HT, refers to the height of the resource in question. The "MAT" column stands for exterior material cladding of the resource, with the following abbreviations:

BO: solid brick

FR: Wood

BV: Brick veneer

CB: Concrete Block

PC: Poured concrete

Type is used in this case as the original function of the resource, whether as a dwelling, church, store, etc. The "Type-plan" column refers to the interior floor plan or type of resource. If the plan is not known or is not applicable, then the entry is left blank. Many of these abbreviations were used to classify the resources during the fieldwork, particularly the schools, churches and stores. Thus, "one-room side-gable" refers to a school with the principal entrance on the long side, and consisting of only one room. "Front-gable" was used for schools, churches and stores. Since there seemed to be different periods of development associated with stores that were simple front-gable in form, and those with a parapet wall attached to a front-gable building, the term "Front-gable with parapet" was devised.

The following abbreviations are used:

CP: Central Passage

TP: T-plan

AS: Asymmetrical

SP: Side-passage

U: Unknown

BG: Bungalow

CL: Cumberland

CL BG: Cumberland Bungalow

LP (single pen): Log pen

DP: Double-pen (log)

DT: Drive-through

SB: Saddlebag

1R FG: One-room front-gable

1R SG: One-room side-gable

FG: Front gable FG w/p: Front-gable with parapet 2R: Two-room side-gable

Style refers to the predominant architectural style of the resource. If no particular style is evident, the area is left blank. The following abbreviations are used in the Style column:

FD: Federal	GR: Greek Revival
IT: Italianate	QA: Queen Anne
GoRe: Gothic Revival	CR: Colonial Revival
DCR: Dutch Colonial Revival	CRFT: Craftsman

The Date is the approximate date of construction, using the codes utilized by the Kentucky Heritage Council. If an exact date of construction is known, it is included in parentheses.

Properties considered to be potentially eligible are coded as “E” in the Evaluation column, which is abbreviated as “Eval.” The resources determined to be potentially eligible were evaluated according to National Register Bulletin No. 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

Of the 120 resources surveyed, 80 were considered to be potentially eligible. While this may seem like a high percentage, the thematic survey approach directed what was chosen to be included in the survey; and a Multiple Property Documentation approach toward the remaining schools, churches stores and adjacent dwellings was the basis for much of the eligibility determinations. Those determined to be ineligible, based on a lack of significance, loss of overall integrity or near-ruinous conditions, are coded “NE.” Access to some resources was limited, and due to those circumstances, there was insufficient information to make an evaluation of eligibility; therefore, those resources are coded with an “I.”

The notes column contains any relevant information about the resource, whether or not it is part of a farm, or is vacant or abandoned (abbreviated as “V” and “AB”), or has a different function now than its original primary function. This column also includes speculation, in a few cases, of the possible floor plan of a resource.

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-51	Ellisburg Baptist Church	Ellisburg	1	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-78	William Mills House - 6633 St Hwy 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	TP	QA	1893	E	
CS-79	16 Long Hollow Rd	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CP	IT	1850-1874	E	farm/AB
CS-80	5247 Route 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CP	GoRe	1875-1899	E	farm
CS-9	5305 Rt 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CP	GR	1825-1849	E	
CS-81	WPA culvert in Peyton's Store	Ellisburg	N/A	PC	Trans.	culvert		1925-1949	NE	
CS-82	2756 St Hwy 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CL		1875-1899	E	farm
CS-83	Rocky Ford Baptist Church (2323 Rt 78)	Ellisburg	1	BV	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-139	Rocky Ford Parsonage	Ellisburg	1 1/2	FR	House	CL BG		1950-1974	E	
CS-10	Pryor Prewitt House	Ellisburg	2	Log, FR	House	LP, CP	GR	1825-1849	E	AB
CS-84	Peyton's Store	Ellisburg	1	FR	Store	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-85	19045 State Hwy 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	U	GR	1825-1849	E	AB
CS-86	3292 State Hwy 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	U		1850-1874	E	maybe CP
CS-87	WPA culvert in Rocky Ford	Ellisburg	N/A	PC	Trans.	culvert		1925-1949	NE	
CS-88	T-plan house in Rocky Ford	Ellisburg	1	FR	House	TP	IT	1875-1899	E	

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-89	Rocky Ford School	Ellisburg	1	FR	School	2R FG		1900-1924	E	
CS-140	CL House in Rocky Ford	Ellisburg	1	FR	House	CL		1925-1949	NE	AB
CS-90	George Wilson Ellis House	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	U		1850-1874	E	farm/V
CS-91	House on Long Hollow Rd	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	NE	AB
CS-103	2358 Upper Brush Creek Rd	Ellisburg		FR	House	CL BG	CRFT	1925-1949	E	
CS-52	Frey Creek Church	Ellisburg	1	CB	Church	FG		1925-1949	E	
CS-53	House on Freys Creek Rd	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	U	GoRe	1875-1899	I	
CS-141	House on St Hwy 1649 (Poplar Hill Rd)	Yosemite	1	FR	House	CL		1875-1899	E	AB
CS-104	284 KY 501 (south)	Yosemite	2 1/2	FR	House	U		1900-1924	I	maybe SP
CS-106	House on Bastin Creek Rd	Yosemite	2	Log	House	LP, DP		1850-1874	E	AB
CS-142	House & outbldgs, Rt 501	Phil	1	FR	House	U		1900-1924	E	
CS-143	Store at Chestnut Level Rd & Rt 501	Phil	1	FR	Store	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-107	Davenport Grocery	Phil	1	FR	Store	FG		1900-1924	E	
CS-54	Bruce's Chapel	Phil	1	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-118	South Fork Baptist Church	Phil	1	BV	Church	FG		1925-1949	E	
CS-139	Store in Teddy	Phil	1	FR	Store	FG		1900-1924	E	V

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-55	1398 Maxey Valley School Rd	Hustonsville	1	FR	House	U		1950-1974	NE	
CS-56	Maxey Valley Store	Hustonsville	1	FR	Store	FG		1925-1949	NE	AB
CS-57	Maxey Valley School	Hustonsville	1 1/2	FR	School	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-58	House on St Hwy 1615 @ end of Jim Brown Rd	Clements ville	1	FR	Farm	CP		1875-1899	I	AB
CS-59	Ridge School	Clements ville	1	FR	School	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-60	1865 Route 551	Clements ville	1	FR	House	CL BG	CRFT	1925-1949	E	V
CS-61	St. Bernard Church, Cemetery, School & Rectory	Clements ville	2	BV	Religious	U		1875-1899, 1950-1974	E	
CS-62	Henry Alfred Wethington Store	Clements ville	2	FR	Store	FG		1900-1924	E	Not in use
CS-63	12338 Route 70	Clements ville	1	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	NE	
CS-64	Posey School	Clements ville	1	CB	School	1R FG		1925-1949	E	AB
CS-65	House on Gum Lick	Clements ville	2	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	NE	
CS-66	Atterson School	Clements ville	1	FR	School	2R SG		1875-1899, 1900-1924	E	AB
CS-67	Clements School	Clements ville	1	FR	School	2R SG		1900-1924	E	Rehab.
CS-68	House on Chicken Gizzard Rd	Clements ville	1	FR	House	U	IT	1900-1924	I	
CS-69	Noel Chapel School (Chicken Gizzard Rd)	Clements ville	1	FR	School	1R FG		1900-1924	E	
CS-70	Thomas House on Chicken Gizzard Rd	Clements ville	2	FR	Farm	U		1900-1924	NE	

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-71	Campbell Store on Chicken Gizzard Rd	Clements ville	1	FR	Store	FG		1925-1949	E	
CS-72	Felbert Noel Farm, 3589 St Rt 1859	Clements ville	2	FR	Farm	CL		1925-1949	E	
CS-73	Store corner Rt 1547 & Neff Rd	Clements ville	1	CB	Store	FG		1950-1974	E	V
CS-74	Allen School	Clements ville	1	FR	School	1R FG		1900-1924	E	AB
CS-75	House on Gum Lick near Rt 1859	Clements ville	2	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	I	AB
CS-76	White Oak Church (St Hwy 1547)	Clements ville	1	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-77	House on Gusty Branch	Ellisburg	2	Log, FR	House	SB, C-land		1850-1874, 1875-1899	I	AB
CS-92	Cantown School	Liberty	1	FR	School	1R SG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-93	Oak Grove Church of Christ	Liberty	1	CB	Church	FG		1950-1974	NE	
CS-94	1890 Schoolhouse Rd	Liberty	1	FR	House	FG		1925-1949	NE	
CS-95	Thomas House on Poplar Springs Rd	Liberty	1	FR	House	CL BG	CRFT	1925-1949	NE	AB
CS-96	Thomas Store on Poplar Springs Rd	Liberty	1	FR	Store	FG		1950-1974	NE	AB
CS-97	Corn crib on Shugars Hill Rd	Liberty	1 1/2	FR	Outbldg	DT		1900-1924	NE	
CS-98	Middleburg School	Yosemite	2	BV	School	U		1937	E	Closed
CS-99	Duncan School	Eubank	1	CB	School	1R SG		1925-1949	E	AB
CS-100	Garrett Elementary School	Yosemite	2	BV	School	U		1950-1974	I	Closed

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-101	Log crib	Mintonville	1	Log	Outbldg	2Crib		1875-1899	I	
CS-102	Woods School	Mintonville	1	FR	School	1R FG		1875-1899	E	AB
CS-108	House on Rt 837	Mintonville	1 1/2	FR	House	U		1875-1899	I	
CS-109	House on Long Hollow Rd.	Ellisburg	1 1/2	FR	House	CL BG	CRFT	1925-1949	NE	
CS-110	2604 Shucks Creek Rd	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CP		1875-1899	NE	
CS-111	1549 Shucks Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	1	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	NE	
CS-112	House Behind 1549 Shucks Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	1 1/2	FR	House	BG	CRFT	1900-1924	I	
CS-113	Purported slave quarters, Upper Brush Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	2	BO & FR	House	U		1875-1899	I	
CS-114	Cochran House Upper Brush Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CL		1875-1899	E	AB
CS-115	Upper Brush Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	1 1/2	FR	House	CL BG	CRFT	1925-1949	NE	AB
CS-116	Small house Upper Brush Creek Rd.	Ellisburg	1	FR	House	U		1925-1949	NE	AB
CS-117	G.G. Fair House, 424 KY 198	Yosemite	2	FR	house	CP	IT	1850-1874	E	
CS-105	Carman's Grocery	Yosemite	1 1/2	FR	store	FG		1925-1949	E	AB
CS-119	Knob Lick School	Yosemite	1	FR	school	1R FG		1925-1949	E	
CS-120	Antioch Church	Phil	2	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-121	8153 Highway 837 (yellow house)	Eubank	1 1/2	FR & log	house	TP		1875-1899	E	

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-122	Grove Ridge Baptist Church	Yosemite	1	FR	church	FG		1950-1974	NE	
CS-123	Trace Fork Baptist	Yosemite	1	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	
CS-124	MacDowell Fogle House, Rt. 70	Yosemite	2	FR	house	CP	GR	1850-1874	E	V
CS-126	Patsy Riffe School	Hustonville	1	FR	School	1R FG		1900-1924	E	AB
CS-127	Church on Patsy Riffe Ridge Rd.	Hustonville	1	CB	Church	FG		1925-1949	E	AB
CS-128	Barn on South side of 78	Ellisburg	N/A	FR	Barn	TR FR		1900-1924	NE	
CS-129	Tenant house on 78	Ellisburg	1	FR	House	U		1925-1949	E	AB
CS-130	1170 KY 78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	U		1900-1924	I	maybe CP
CS-131	T-plan house on KY-78	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	TP		1875-1899	E	
CS-132	Log house N side KY 78	Ellisburg	2	Log & FR	House	SB		1850-1874	E	AB
CS-133	RC Weddle's Store in Pricetown	Liberty	1	FR	Store	FG w/p		1925-1949	E	
CS-134	Roberts House- corner 127 & Faulkner Rd.	Liberty	2	FR	House	CP		1850-1874	E	AB
CS-135	Grocery on Faulkner Rd. off of 127	Liberty	1	FR	Store	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-136	House on Faulkner Rd.	Liberty	1	FR	House	U		1900-1924	NE	V
CS-137	Brush Creek Baptist Church	Liberty	1	FR	Church	FG		1950-1974	NE	
CS-138	Caney Fork school	Liberty	1	FR	School	1R FG		1900-1924	E	AB

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-144	3492 Upper Brush Creek Rd	Ellisburg	2	FR	House	CL		1900-1924	NE	
CS-145	Store in Mintonville	Mintonville	1 1/2	FR	Store	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-146	Mintonville Weigh Station	Mintonville	1 1/2	FR	Transportation	U		1925-1949	E	
CS-147	Mintonville Masonic Lodge	Mintonville	2	CB	Social/civic	SG		1925-1949	E	
CS-148	7298 KY 837 Mintonville	Mintonville	2	FR	House	TP		1875-1899	E	
CS-149	7312 KY 837 Old Store in Mintonville	Mintonville	1 1/2	FR	House	FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-150	7338 KY 837 House in Mintonville	Mintonville	1 1/2	FR	House	BG		1900-1924	E	
CS-151	Old Texaco Station on 910 South of Phil	Phil	1	CB	Gas station	FG w/p		1925-1949	E	
CS-152	Riggins Restaurant in Dunnville on US 127	Dunnville	1	FR	Commercial	FG w/p		1925-1949	NE	V
CS-153	Store next to 10892 S US 127	Dunnville	1	FR	Commercial	FG w/p		1925-1949	E	V
CS-154	Creamery on US 127 in Dunnville	Dunnville	1	FR	Food processing	FG		1900-1924	E	AB
CS-155	Peggy Tarters Store in Dunnville	Dunnville	1	FR	store	FG		1925-1949	E	
CS-156	Sears-Roebuck House	Dunnville	1 1/2	FR	House	U	DCR., CRFT	1925-1949	E	
CS-157	Dunnville Christian Church	Dunnville	1	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	I	
CS-158	Dawson/Dunn House	Phil	2	Brick	House	U		1825-1849	E	AB
CS-159	House on the Hill above Faulkner Rd.	Liberty	2	FR	House	TP	IT	1875-1899	E	AB

#	Location	Quad	HT	MAT	Type	Form	Style	Date	EV	Notes
CS-160	764 Cale Brown Rd	Liberty	2	FR	House	TP		1900-1924	E	
CS-161	Reynolds Creek School -2208 Reynolds Creek Rd	Ellisburg	1	FR	School	1R SG		1925-1949	E	now a house
CS-162	Scotts Chapel School	Clements ville	1	FR	School	1R FG		1900-1924	E	AB
CS-163	Neff Cemetery	Clements ville	N/A	N/A	cemetery	N/A		1900-1924	NE	
CS-164	Atwood Chapel Methodist Church	Ellisburg	1	FR	church	FG		1875-1899	NE	
CS-165	McDaniel School	Ellisburg	1	CB	school	1R FG		1925-1949	E	V
CS-166	Store on Route 49	Liberty	1	FR	store	FG		1900-1924	E	V
CS-167	Hafley Farm, 7866 Route 78	Ellisburg	1	FR	house	TP	IT	1875-1899	E	Farm
CS-6	Former Ellisburg Methodist Church	Ellisburg	1 1/2	FR	Church	FG		1875-1899	E	now a house

Analysis of the Quads

Collectively, Casey County is composed of many forested knobs with a mixed range of grassy flood plains. There are few straight roads except a few stretches of State Route 78 and U.S. Highway 127. The quadrangles located in the north of the county, nearest Boyle and Lincoln Counties, tended to mirror those areas geographically, and had a high number of historic resources. The below list summarizes the characteristics of each quad included in the survey.

- **Ellisburg:** The Ellisburg quad (Figure 4) had the highest number of surveyed sites (42 in all). Located in the north central portion of the county, it is defined by the Big South Fork of the Rolling Fork River. State Route 78 follows alongside the South Fork, through a landscape of bottom lands supporting large farms, early development and many historic resources.
- **Clements ville:** The Clements ville quad (Figure 5), which contains the town of Clements ville, had the second highest number of surveyed resources, 21 in all. It is hilly, but with some long, flat ridges that support fairly good-sized farms. Clements ville had the largest number of extant rural schools – eight – and the only historic parochial school, St. Bernard’s (CS-61).
- **Liberty:** The Liberty quad (Figure 6), named after the county seat located within its boundaries, contains many small communities. Fifteen of the surveyed resources are located in the Liberty quad. It is very hilly outside of the Green River floodplain. There are several scattered hamlets along Brush Creek.
- **Yosemite:** The Yosemite quad (Figure 7) includes the towns of Middleburg and Yosemite. It has some valleys, and gradual knobs with flatter tops. There are 11 surveyed sites in the Yosemite quad.
- **Hustonville:** The Hustonville quad (Figure 8) encompasses a very small portion of Casey County. It is fairly hilly, with narrow roads and minimal development. There are five surveyed sites located in the Hustonville quad.
- **Phil:** The Phil quadrangle (Figure 9), located in the south central portion of Casey County. The hamlets of Windsor, Teddy and Phil are located in the quad. The latter community, located at the crossroads of State Routes 501 and 910, has a diffused development pattern. Many of the county’s Amish families have settled in the southwest portion of the Phil quad. Nine surveyed sites are located in the Phil quad.

- Eubank: The Eubank quad (Figure 10) is located primarily in Pulaski County, and contains only a small section of the eastern side of Casey County. It is primarily hilly and there is little extant historic development. Only two surveyed sites are located in the Eubank quad.
- Mintonville: The Mintonville quad (Figure 11) is half in Casey County and half in Pulaski county. It is a mostly flat quad, with few developed communities other than Mintonville. Nine surveyed sites are located in the Mintonville quad.
- Dunnville: The Dunnville quad (Figure 12) encompasses only a small portion of southwestern Casey County, and is mostly In Russell and Adair Counties. The Green River flood plain is quite large, which led to the development of Dunnville and large farms outside of the town. Six surveyed sites are located in the Dunnville quad.

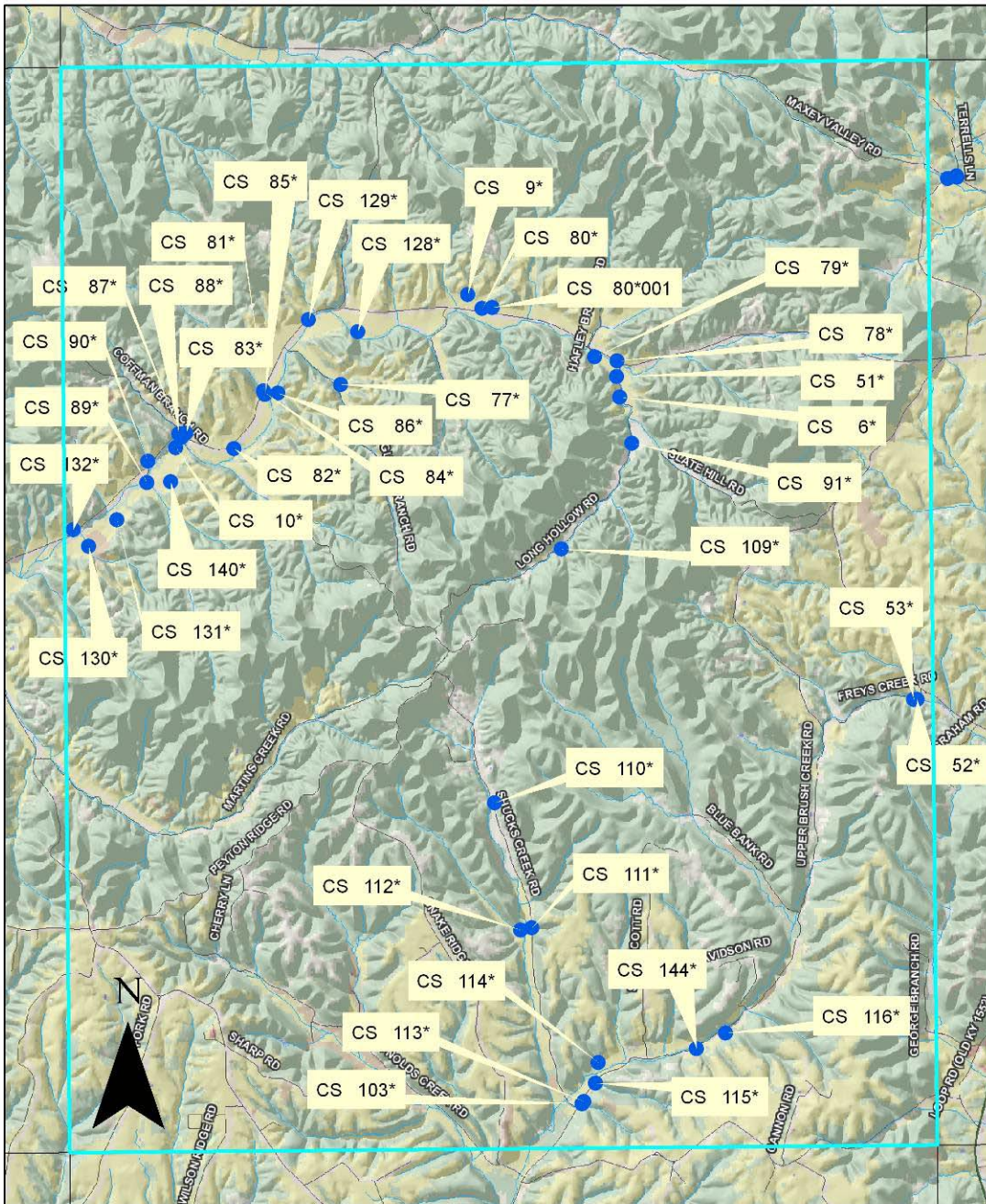


Figure 4 *Ellisburg quadrangle showing survey sites, 42 in all.*

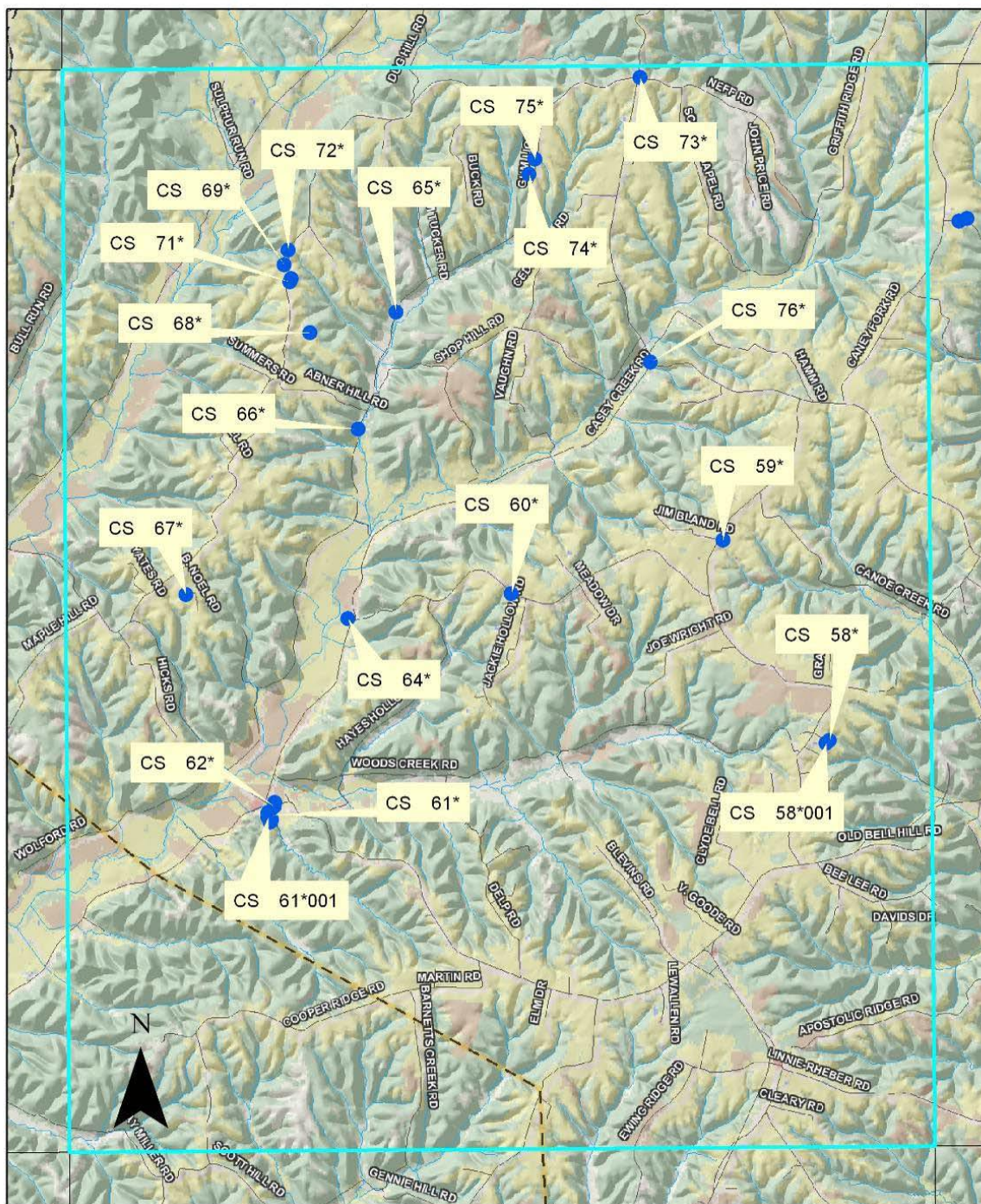


Figure 5 Clementsville quad, showing surveyed sites, 21 in all.

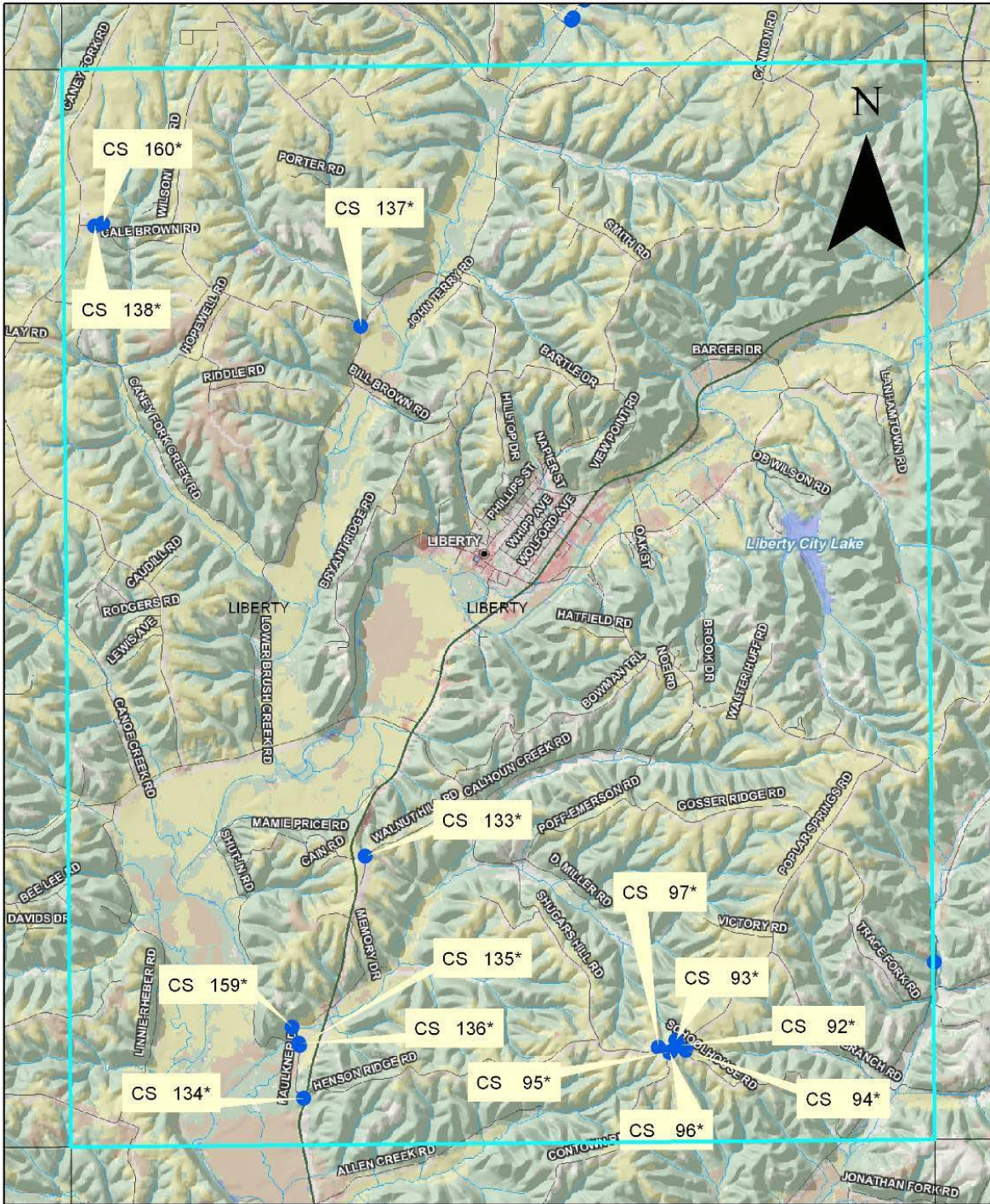


Figure 6 Liberty quad, showing surveyed sites, 15 in all.

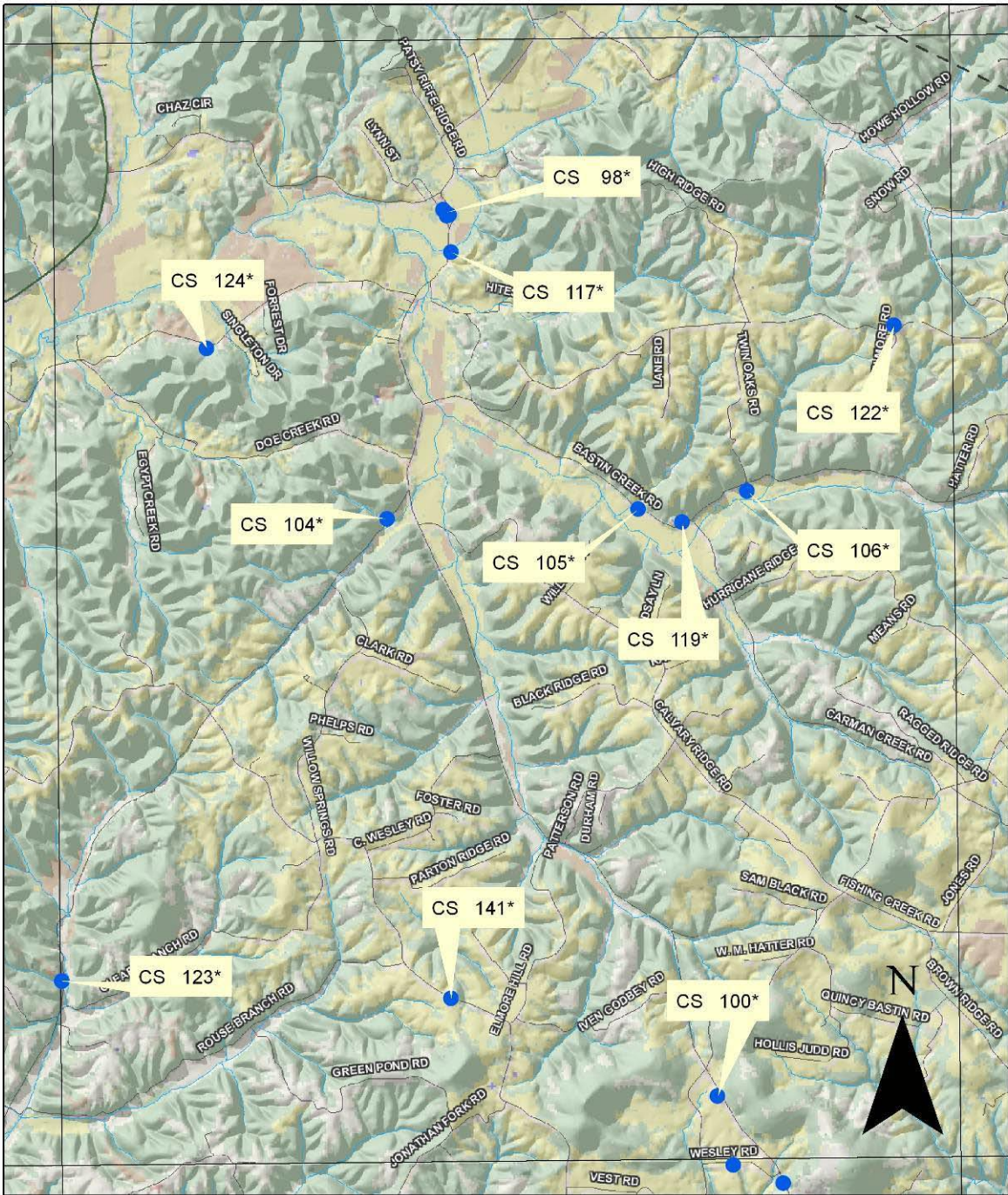


Figure 7 Yosemite quad, showing surveyed sites, 11 in all.

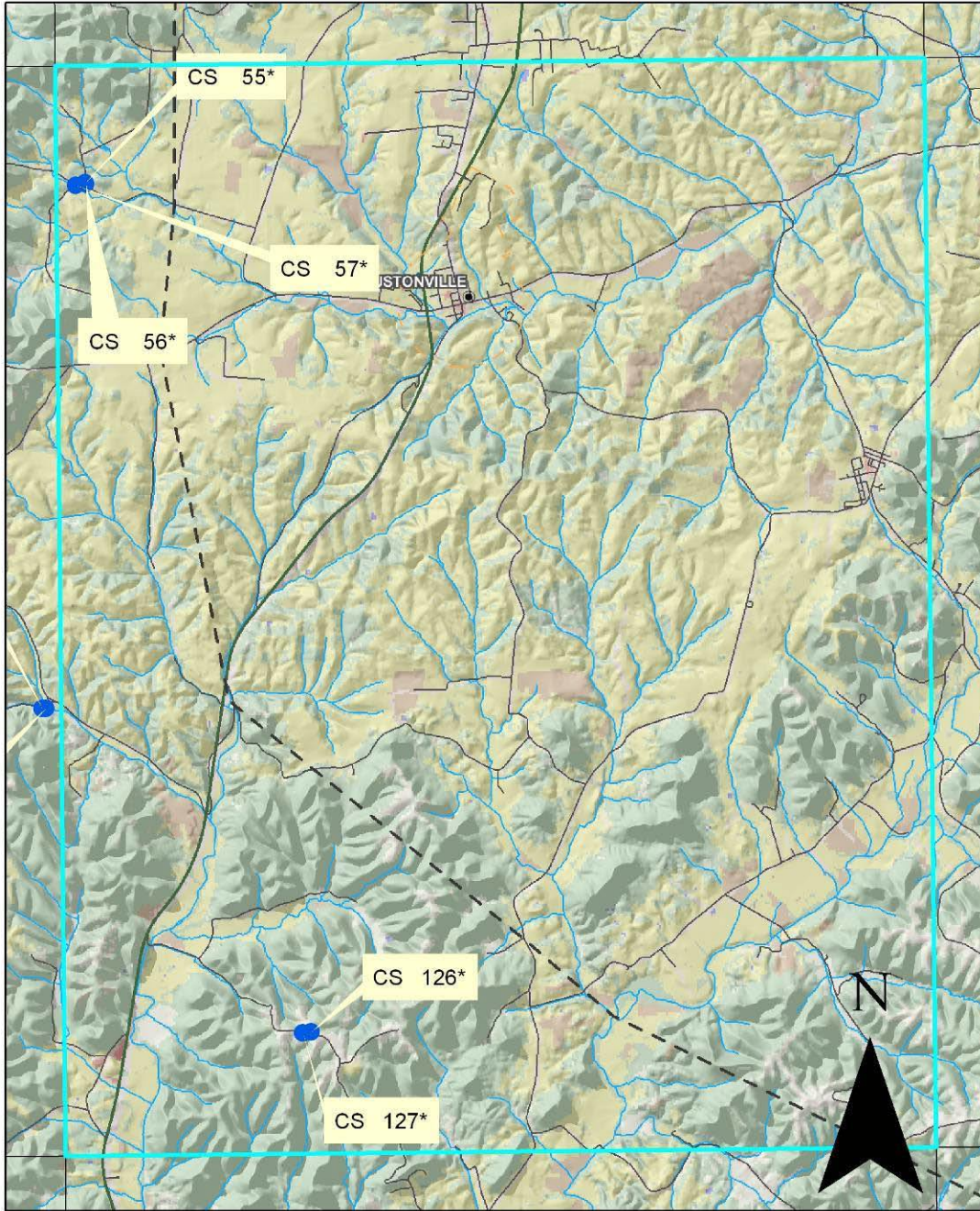


Figure 8 *Hustonville quad, showing surveyed sites, five in all.*

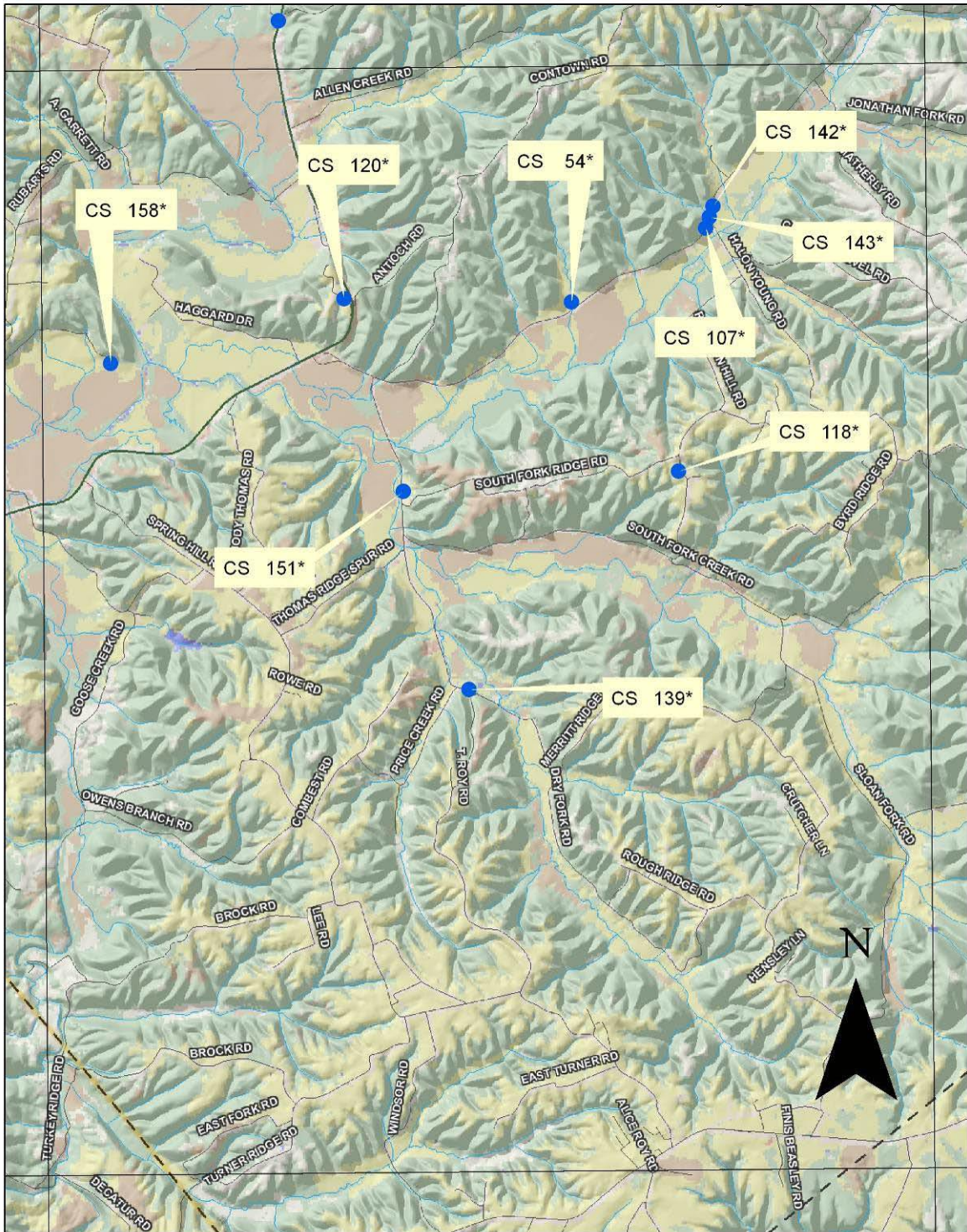


Figure 9 Phil quad, showing surveyed sites, nine in all.

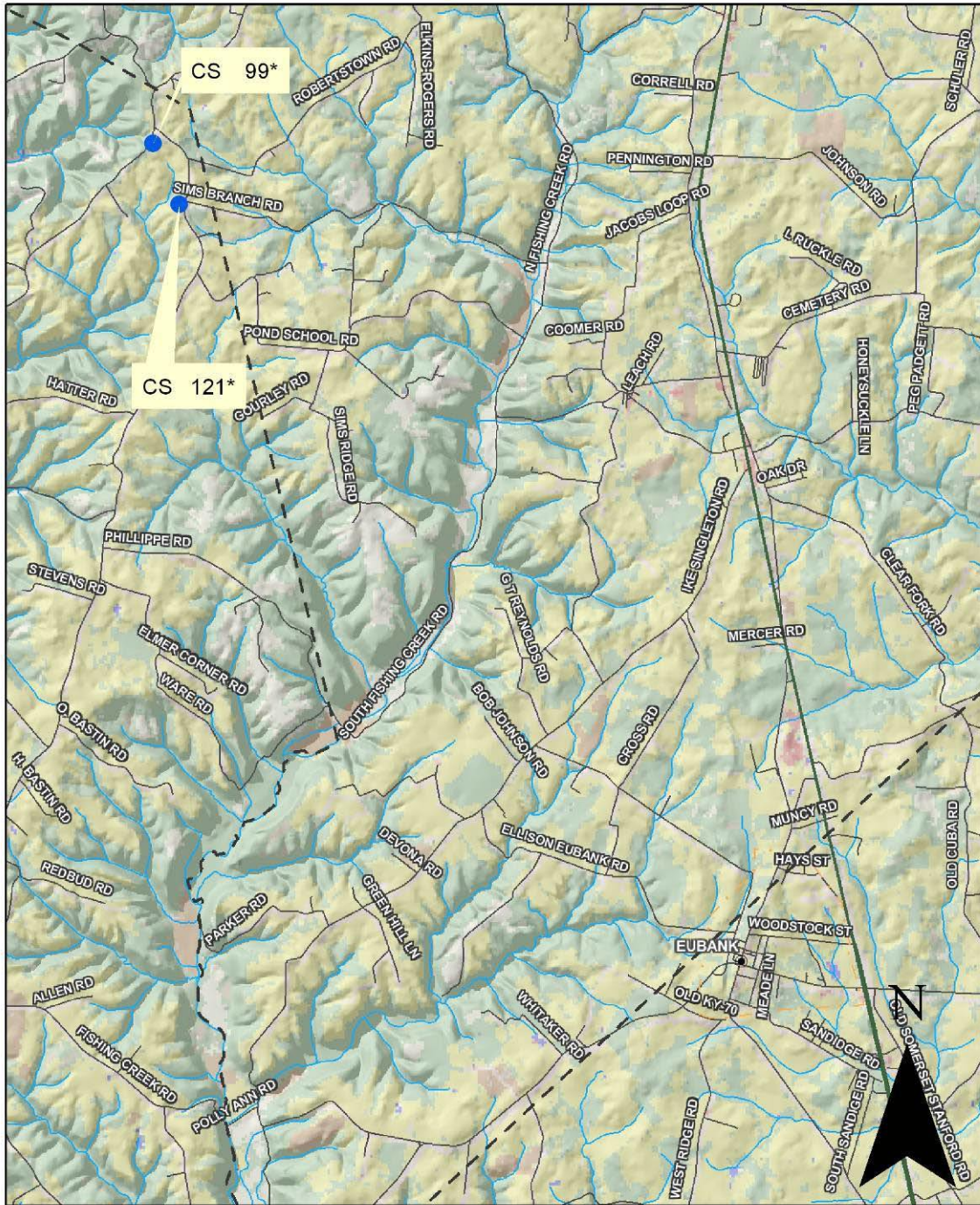


Figure 10 Eubank quad, showing the two surveyed sites.

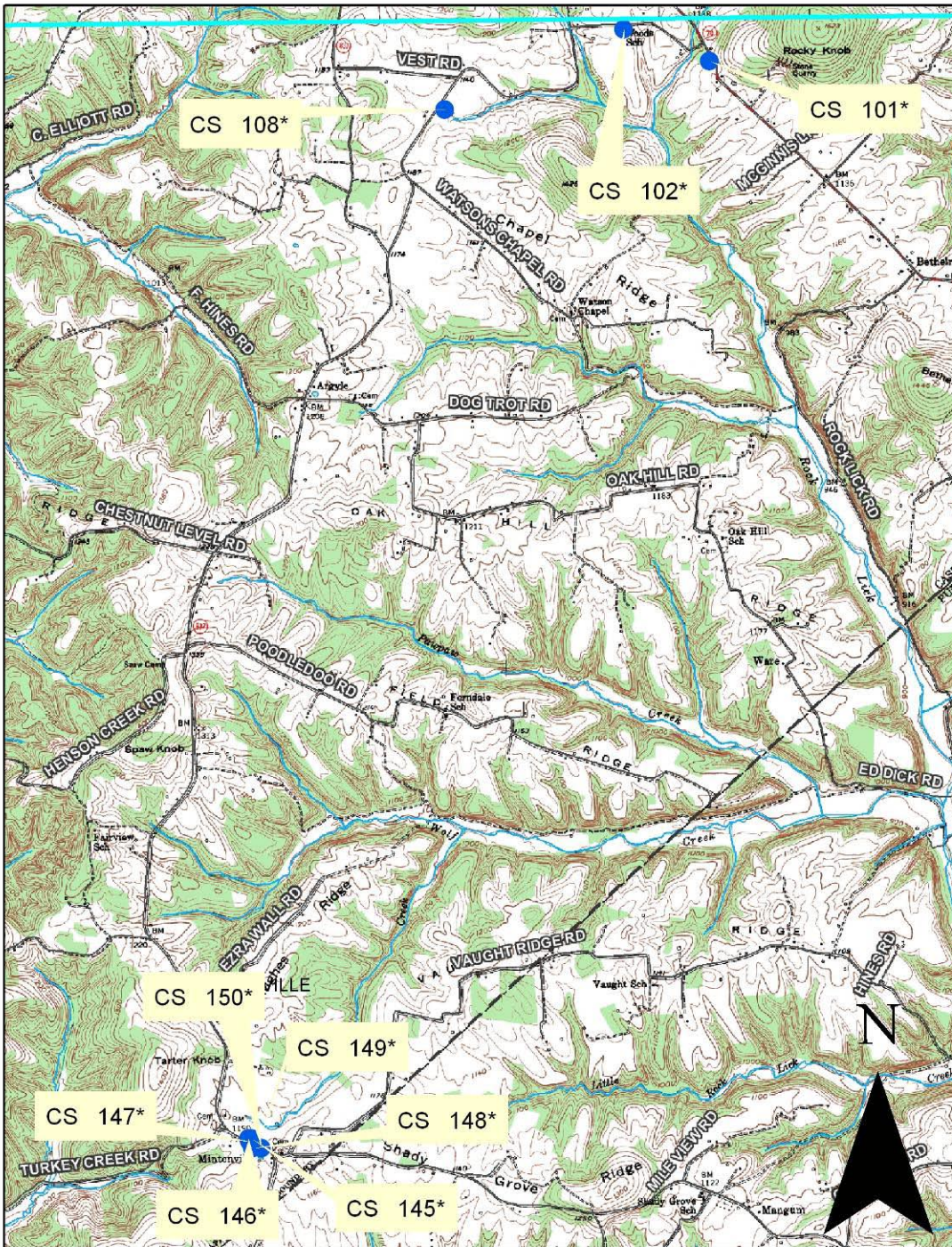


Figure 11 Mintonville quad, showing nine surveyed sites.



Figure 12 Dunnville quad, showing the six surveyed sites.

Property Types

The survey identified the following property types:

Educational Resources

Religious Resources

Commercial Resources

Social/Civic Resources

Transportation-related Resources

Dwellings

- Log Construction

- 19th Century Plans: Side Passage, Central passage and T-plans

- Cumberland, both 1 and 2-story

- Bungalow

Farmsteads & farm-related buildings

Educational Resources

A context for historic schools and education in Kentucky has already been established with the 2002 Kentucky Heritage Council publication *Kentucky Historic Schools Survey: An Examination of the History and Condition of Kentucky's Older School Buildings*. This survey report will not attempt to recreate that context, but will however examine the specifics of Casey County's many rural schools, and how that landscape compares historically to neighboring counties.

One reason for the thematic survey of Casey County lies in the story that the topographic quadrangle maps tell. Schools and churches are clearly marked with symbols on the USGS topographic maps. The entire county is dotted with schools, churches and small hamlets and crossroad communities. The number of schools, in particular, appeared to be higher than any of the neighboring counties. This survey identified 20 extant schools, including both county and parochial schools.

Education in Casey County, like many areas of the Commonwealth, grew fitfully, if at all, in the decades before the Civil War. Public education hardly existed. The state sent Casey County \$414.80 for use in establishing school facilities in 1842. The county divided into 24 districts in 1842, with 1,227 children between the ages of six and 16.³⁰ Little information is available about educational facilities between 1850 and 1890.

Between 1844 and 1879, school was held three months a year, which was extended to six months a year in 1880. In 1892, there were 70 districts in Casey County and 70 school houses.

Early schools, much like other buildings, were of log construction. A nineteenth century school in Dunnville was described as:

*The building was made of logs. It was about twenty feet by sixteen feet and was covered with boards. There was only one window, a good portion of the light came through the cracks in the walls. On the inside of the building, at one end, was a huge fireplace that would take a stick of wood at least four feet in length. The floor was made of plank. The blackboard was made by a local carpenter; it was hung to the wall by withes (supple twigs). The seats were made of logs, with puncheons.*³¹

A less common type in the county was described as a school with no floor and no fireplace. During the winter months, a "fire would be built in the middle of the room and pupils would sit in a circle around the fire."³²

³⁰ Gladys Cotham Thomas, ed. *Casey County, Kentucky 1806-1983: A Folk History Including Communities and Cemeteries*. (Casey County, Kentucky: Bicentennial Heritage Corporation, 1983, 1984), 469.

³¹ Thomas, 469.

³² Ibid.

A state law, passed in 1894, allowed school district trustees to be fined and prosecuted if they “failed to provide a suitable schoolhouse within a year’s time.”³³ The following standards were issued:

*a total value of not less than \$150; space of not less than ten square feet for each child of school age in the district; minimum height of ten feet from floor to ceiling; a minimum of four windows; one or more fireplaces with safe flues; and one or more doors with cloaks and keys to be held by the chairman of the district board of trustees, who was responsible for property damage due to neglect.*³⁴

Needless to say, most districts in Kentucky failed to meet those standards. School construction prior to 1908 depended upon a tax, levied by the trustees of a district, of \$.25 per \$100 of taxable property; a poll tax of \$2.00, levied by the voters in the district, on every male 20 years or older or the school could be built by the residents of a district. This latter method, by necessity, was most popular and could well account for the similarity in form between schools built in the late-nineteenth century and those built in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

In 1880, there were four school districts for African Americans in Casey County. The county had “only two school houses for an enrollment of 190 students of color.”³⁵ Ten years later, the student population had dropped to 94 students, with five teachers for each of the five districts. Four of the five school houses were frame, and one was of log construction. The school reports for 1901 and 1902 reported six schools for the black population. By the 1930s, the African American population had shrunk dramatically, and Superintendent’s report for 1932 stated: “for the past few years only two small groups of colored people live in the county, one group in Liberty where 18 are listed in the 1932 census, and the other on Indian Creek where 14 were listed in the same census.”³⁶

The members of Masonic Lodge No. 594 in Middleburg and community members formed a stock company in the 1870s to raise money for the construction of a new school. The Middleburg Seminary received its charter from the state on April 27, 1880. In the fall of 1880, the Middleburg Seminary opened, a “beautiful two-story structure of dark-red brick trimmed in native limestone.”³⁷

The seminary reorganized later that decade, selling additional shares of stock. Mrs. Janie Wash and her husband purchased \$1,000 worth of stock, and the seminary was renamed in her honor. The Janie Wash Institute was described as follows in a school publication from 1891-1892:

³³ Ellis Ford Hartford. *The Little White Schoolhouse*. (Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1977), 16-17.

³⁴ Hartford, 17.

³⁵ Thomas, 477.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Personal correspondence with Joberta Wells. From a manuscript entitled “Middleburg.” Portions published in the Casey County News, 2006.

*The location of the school at the edge of the highland rim makes it easy of access, and also furnishes ample resources for all necessary provisions for boarding-houses. It is removed from all vain, haughty and mock aristocratic fast life, hence pupils are never embarrassed on account of plainness of dress or awkwardness of manner, but feel happy and welcome amid a hospitable people.*³⁸

The Janie Wash Institute continued to run into financial difficulties, and was in debt by 1896. It was run, for a time, by Georgetown College. By 1909, community members persuaded the county to establish a public graded and high school district. In 1936, both the 1880 building and a 1924 building were demolished and the Works Progress Administration “provided the labor, skilled carpentry, and masonry and the school district pledged to provide the funds for the building materials.”³⁹ Two additions were made to the 1937 Middleburg School (CS-98) in the 1950s. It housed grades 1-12 until 1963, when the county high schools consolidated into Casey County High School. It then served as Middleburg Elementary School.

Five new consolidated elementary schools opened in Casey County in 1958: Cox, Douglas, Phelps, Phillips and Garrett (CS-100). Since that time, Garrett Elementary and Middleburg Elementary (CS-98) closed in 2006 and students were consolidated yet again into the Jones Park Elementary School in Yosemite.

The Dunnville district was added to the county school system in 1937.⁴⁰ Its one-room school (which is either no longer extant or has been modified; it was not located in this survey) closed at the end of the 1965-1966 school year, making it the last one-room school operating in Casey County.

Based on the material evidence from the field work, the schools surveyed as part of this project can be divided into several categories. The rural schools were either one or two-room, and had a front gable or side gable entrance. A typical arrangement for many of the one-room schools was a door on the gable end, a row of six-over-six double-hung sash ribbon windows on one elevation, and two high transom type windows piercing the opposite wall (Figure 15). A blackboard was often located on the gable wall opposite the entry door. The stove was located at the end away from the entrance or in the middle of the room.

All of the schools built before World War II are frame, usually on stone or concrete piers. A few late 1940s and 1950s schools were built of concrete block. Most have exposed rafter tails, but very little detailing on the exterior. Sheds, pumps and privies are common around the extant schools.

³⁸ From page 5 of a pamphlet produced by the Janie Wash Institute in 1892-1893, made available by Joberta Wells.

³⁹ Wells, “Middleburg.”

⁴⁰ Casey County Bicentennial Committee, 62.

On the large two-room side-gable schools, those transom windows were sometimes another set of sash windows, just set higher in the wall than the ribbon windows. The two-room side-gable schools typically had a door into each room (Figure 17). The Atterson (CS-66, Figure 16) and Clements School (CS-67, Figure 18), both located in the Clementsville quad, were both the largest of the rural schools, with a two-room, side-gable configuration. The Atterson School, also called Gum Lick (CS-66), was built in 1895. A second room was added in 1909, leading to its current configuration. The Atterson School has ribbon windows in both its 1895 and 1909 sections.

Since the Clements School has been rehabbed by its owner and partially clad in metal siding, its current fenestration pattern may not be original. Unlike the Atterson School, which has an unbroken ridgeline uniting the two rooms, the Clements School has a break between the two rooms, and the smaller room's ridgeline sits lower. It also only has the ribbon windows in one of the rooms.

CASEY COUNTY ONE AND TWO ROOM SCHOOLS		
ALLEN	ARGYLE	ATTERSON
ATWOOD	BEECH BOTTOM	BEECH GROVE
BETHANY	BETHEL RIDGE	BLACK LICK
BOYLE	BROWN	BRUSH CREEK
BUTCHERTOWN	BUCKEYE	CALHOUN CREEK
CALVARY	CAMPBELL	CANEY FORK
CANOE CREEK	CASEY CREEK	CENTENNIAL
CHADWELL	CHELF	CHESTNUT LEVEL
CHUCKALUCK	CLEMENTS	CLEMENTSVILLE
COCHRAN	CONTOWN	CRESTON
DELK	DOGWOOD GAP	DRY FORK
DUNCAN		
DUNNVILLE	ELK CAVE	ELLISBURG
FAIRVIEW	FERNDALE	FOSTER
FREEDOM	FREYS CREEK	GILPIN
GODD HOPE	GOOSE CREEK	GREEN POND
GRIFFITH	GROVE RIDGE	GUM LICK
HAMMOND	HATTER CREEK	HICKORY GROVE
HOLT	HOPEWELL	HUMPHREY
INDIAN CREEK	JACKTOWN	JOHNSON CHAPEL
JONATHON	KIDDS STORE	KNOB LICK
KNOWLES CHAPEL	LANHAMTOWN	LAWHORN HILL
LINNIE	LIBERTY	LITTLE SOUTH
LITRELL	MAXEYS VALLEY	MAPLE GROVE
MARTINS CREEK	MCDANIEL	MCFARLAND
MIDDLEBURG	MINTONVILLE	MT OLIVE
MURPHY	NEELEYS GAP	NOELS CHAPEL
OAK HILL	PATSY RIFFE	
PECK	PENNINGTON	
PHIL	PINE GROVE	
PODDLEDO	POPLAR CREEK	PINE HILL
POPLAR SPRINGS		POPLAR GROVE
POSEY	PRICETOWN	PUMPKIN
RAKES	RAGGED RIDGE	RED HILL
REYNOLDS CREEK	RHEBER	RICH HILL
RIDGE	RIFFE	ROCKY FORD
SAND KNOB	SCOTTS CHAPEL	SHOEHAMMER
SHELF	SHUCKS CREEK	SOUTH FORK
SPRAGENS	STAPP	SULFUR RUN
TATE	THOMAS	THOMAS RIDGE
TRACE FORK	VALLEY OAK	W.T.
WALNUT HILL	WALLTOWN	WATSONS CHAPEL
WELLS	WESS	WHITE OAK
WINDSOR	WOODRUM	WOODS
WOODS CREEK	YOSEMITE	

Figure 13 Undated list of rural schools in Casey County, 128 in total.⁴¹

⁴¹ List courtesy of Joberta Wells.



Figure 14 *The Allen School, CS-74, in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 15 *Detail of the transom windows in the Allen School (CS-74).*



Figure 16 *The Atterson School, CS-66, north elevation. Clementsville quad.*



Figure 17 *South elevation of the Atterson School.*



Figure 18 *Clements School, CS-67, a two-room school in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 19 *Noel Chapel School, CS-69, a one-room school in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 20 *Posey School, CS-64, a one-room concrete block school in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 21 *Maxey Valley School, CS-57, renovated into a dwelling. Hustonville quad.*



Figure 23 Knob Lick School, CS-119, a one-room school in the Yosemite quad.



Figure 22 Rocky Ford School, CS-89, a two-room school in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 24 Woods School, CS-102, a one-room school in the Mintonville quad.



Figure 25 Duncan School, CS-99, a one-room concrete block school in the Eubank quad.



Figure 26 *Patsy Riffe Ridge Schoolhouse, CS-126, a one-room school in the Hustonville quad.*



Figure 27 *Caney Fork School, CS-138, a one-room school in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 28 *Cantown School, CS-92, a one-room school in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 29 *Scotts Chapel School, CS-162, a one-room school in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 30 Reynolds Creek School, CS-161, now a house. Ellisburg quad.



Figure 31 This structure, CS-165, is in the same location as the McDaniel School, but it has not been confirmed as such.



Figure 32 *Middleburg School, CS-99, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 33 *Garrett Elementary, CS-100, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 34 *St. Bernard's School, CS-61, Clementsville quad.*



Figure 35 *South elevation of St. Bernard's School.*

Religious Resources

Like schools, churches are marked on USGS topographic quadrangle maps, and even more so than schools, were the heart of many a small hamlet. A good source for the history of churches in Casey County is the 1985 self-published *A History of the Churches in Casey County, Kentucky, 1798-1985*, by Paul W. Patton.

Sixteen churches were surveyed as part of this project, and in several cases, the church building was the only extant resource of a community. The majority of the surveyed churches were frame; two weather boarded churches had been clad in brick veneer. The frame churches have undergone siding modification, usually the application of vinyl siding. An additional three churches were constructed with concrete block.

The form of these churches varies only slightly. All 16 churches have a front gable orientation and form, and differ in footprint with the placement of Sunday School rooms, the addition of a bell tower, vestibule or cupola. Cemeteries, privies, picnic shelters and surface parking lots are all features associated with the surveyed churches. Two of the churches has associated rectories: Rocky Ford Baptist Church (CS-83, Figure 39) has a frame Cumberland bungalow that was built in the early 1950s as a parsonage (CS-139, Figure 40) and St. Bernard's Church has not one, but two rectories, CS-61 and CS-61.2 (Figures 44 and 45).

All manner of dominations are represented, including a history of "Union" churches. Brush Creek Baptist Church (CS-137) formed in 1894 as a "Union" church – the structure was shared by Christian, Baptist and Methodist ministers. The current building (Figure 52) was dedicated on September 2, 1956.

One of the most interesting churches in the survey, both in form and its origins, is Antioch Christian Church (Figure 54, CS-120). The Antioch Christian Church was constructed jointly in the 1890s by the congregation and members of the Casey County Lodge #424 of the Free and Accepted Masons (F & AM). The lodge, chartered in 1866, used the second floor, while the congregation used the first. The congregation was organized by Brother Jesse Walden of Lancaster, KY, on May 15, 1892. The bell tower was added in 1921, while the four rooms on the front were added in 1954-55 for use as Sunday School classrooms.

Many of the churches have congregations with deep roots in Casey County and are now utilizing their third or fourth church building. The South Fork Separate Baptist Church (Figure 49, CS-118), for example, was organized in 1798, and a log church constructed that same year. Later, on land donated by John Baldock, a frame church replaced the first log building. The Riggins and Tarter families later donated more land for the church and cemetery. Construction began on the current church in 1936 (Figure 49); it is the fourth building to house the congregation and was dedicated in 1938.



Figure 36 *Bruce's Chapel, CS-54, Phil quad.*



Figure 37 *Ellisburg Baptist Church, CS-51, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 38 *Frey Creek Church, CS-52, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 39 *Rocky Ford Baptist Church, CS-83, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 40 Rocky Ford Baptist Church parsonage, CS-139, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 41 White Oak Church, CS-76, Clementsville quad.



Figure 42 *St. Bernard's Church and School, CS-61, in Clementsville.*



Figure 43 *Interior of St. Bernard's sanctuary.*



Figure 44 *The original rectory at St. Bernard's Church and School, CS-61, in Clementsville.*



Figure 45 *Mid-20th century rectory at St. Bernard's.*



Figure 46 *Larger expanded cemetery at St. Bernard's.*



Figure 47 *Original cemetery at St. Bernard's.*



Figure 48 *Oak Grove Church of Christ, CS-93, located in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 49 *South Fork Separate Baptist Church, CS-118, Phil quad.*



Figure 50 *Dunnville Christian Church, CS-157, Dunnville quad.*



Figure 51 *Church on Patsy Riffe Road, CS-127, Hustonville quad.*



Figure 52 *Brush Creek Baptist, CS-137, Liberty quad.*



Figure 53 *Trace Fork Baptist, CS-123, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 54 *Antioch Christian Church, CS-120, combination church and Masonic lodge.*



Figure 55 *Grove Ridge Baptist Church, CS-122, Yosemite quad.*

Commercial Resources

Another important segment of crossroad communities and hamlets is the local store or grocery. Rural groceries or general stores were often only dedicated to commerce, rather than being mixed-use as found in county seat towns. Rural stores did, however, often house a post-office as well as a grocery, and if the structure was more than one story, the upper floors were often home to local lodges or civic organizations.

This survey recorded 16 stores, all of them frame except for one mid-twentieth century example, CS-73, located in the Clementsville quad (Figure 59). Only two stores are still operating out of the 16 surveyed: the Davenport Grocery (CS-107, Figure 62) and Peggy Tarter's Store in Dunnville (CS-155, Figure 64).

Every store had a front gable orientation, with either a single door or set of double doors in the gable end as the main entrance. Although seen in urban commercial architecture, the "gable-front store was most often a small-town or rural building."⁴² The form itself was "an important building...[it] represented the distribution system in the economy and linked outlying areas with commercial developments."⁴³

Several stores have a three-bay wide façade, with a window/door/window fenestration pattern (Figures 56, 61, 65 and 69). Only two stores CS-135, Figure 63 and CS-155, Figure 64) had what might be described as a "storefront"- large display windows set to either side of a recessed, angled entry door. Non-continuous pier foundations are most common, either stacked field stones, poured concrete piers or concrete blocks. Several stores have continuous poured concrete or concrete block foundations. The majority were one-story high, a with a few one-and-one-half story examples, and only the circa 1900 Henry Allen Wethington Store (CS-62, Figure 60) in Clementsville is two stories. A local lodge may have used the second floor of the Wethington Store; but there is no indication it is using the building now.

Many stores have a side shed addition that had an additional door or doors (Figures 64, 66 and 68).The Davenport Grocery (CS-107, Figure 62) has a lateral side-gable addition, which likely served as a residence at one time. Another common feature is the front porch, either a shed roof or hipped, supported by wooden posts and holding several chairs or benches (Figures 62, 63 and 66).

⁴² Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings. *American Vernacular Design 1870-1940*.(New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1985), 247.

⁴³ Ibid.

The stores surveyed fit into two different types, other than the front-gable configuration: those with a parapet wall and those without. The construction of a parapet, whether stepped or a straight-line parapet, cost more to build, and was not as common as the simple front-gable store. Only three of the sixteen stores surveyed have a false-front parapet wall, including the Powers/Peyton's Store (CS-84, Figures 70-74), Marie Riggins Restaurant in Dunnville (CS-152, Figure 52) and CS-153 (Figure 76). The false-front extends the façade wall, making the structure appear larger, though it most often does extend much beyond the ridgeline of the gable. The incorporation of a parapet wall provided a space for signage, stylistic elements or even a window for the attic space (Figure 76).

Although the two stores in Dunnville appear to date from the 1925 to 1949 time period, the Powers/Peyton's Store (CS-107) dates to the nineteenth century. A historic photo, circa 1880, taken behind the store (looking northwest toward the current Route 78) shows a straight-line parapet wall in place (Figure 71). According to a local resident, the store was enlarged during this time period; the back wall "was knocked out and the building extended another length and a full-length side room was built along the east side and a small crème room was built on the west side."⁴⁴

Like schools, stores were a necessity due to the difficulties of travel, and it was not uncommon to have a small store every two miles or so along a road, throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century. A trend observed in other parts of Kentucky is evident here as well, that of natives of the county returning home during and after the Great Depression and opening up a small store next to their house or on the road frontage of the family farm. Over half of the stores surveyed appear to date from the 1925 to 1949 time period.

⁴⁴ Personal correspondence with Allan Leach .



Figure 56 Store at Chestnut Level Road, CS-143, in the Phil quad.



Figure 57 Campbell Store, CS-71, in the Clementsville quad.



Figure 58 *Maxey Valley Store, CS-56, in the Hustonville quad.*



Figure 59 *Store at the corner of Neff Road, CS-73, in the Clementsville quad.*



Figure 60 *Wethington Store in Clementsville, CS-62.*



Figure 61 *C. Bastin Store on Bastin Creek Road, CS-105, in the Yosemite quad.*



Figure 62 *Davenport Grocery, CS-107, in the Phil quad.*



Figure 63 *Grocery on Faulkner Road, CS-135, in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 64 *Peggy Tarter's Store in Dunnville, CS-155.*



Figure 65 *Thomas Store, CS-96, in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 66 *Mintonville Store, CS-145.*



Figure 67 *Old store turned into a house in Mintonville, CS-149.*



Figure 68 Store in Teddy, CS-139, Phil quad.



Figure 69 Store along Route 49, CS-166, Liberty quad.



Figure 70 *The store in Peyton's Store, CS-84, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 71 *Circa 1880 photo of the rear of the Powers/Peyton's Store, CS-84.⁴⁵*

⁴⁵ Photo courtesy Allan Leach.



Figure 72 Detail of dentils at cornice line, CS-84.



Figure 73 Interior of the Powers/Peyton's Store, CS-84.



Figure 74 *West and south elevations of the Powers/Peyton's Store, CS-84.*



Figure 75 *Commercial building in Dunnville, CS-152.*



Figure 76 *Store in Dunnville, CS-153*

Social and Civic Resources

Although secondary sources point to a number of active lodges and organizations in Casey County, only two resources known to be associated with either were surveyed. The Mintonville Free and Accepted Mason Lodge (F&AM) #392 is housed in the two-story concrete block building (CS-147) in Mintonville, pictured below (Figure 77).

Previously discussed in the Religious Resources section was the F&AM Lodge #424, chartered in 1866. This lodge helped construct Antioch Christian Church (CS-120, Figure 78) in the 1890s. The lodge used the second floor of the church, while the congregation used the first. The lodge still uses the second floor of the church. The F&AM Lodge #594 in Middleburg, discussed in the Educational Resources section of this report, is still active and meets on the second floor of the Farmer’s Deposit Bank (CS-1).⁴⁶



Figure 77 *The Mintonville Free and Accepted Mason Lodge #392, CS-147.*

⁴⁶ This previously-surveyed site was not revisited during this project.



Figure 78 *Antioch Christian Church (CS-120), home to F&AM Lodge #424.*

Transportation-related Resources

Transportation – or the lack thereof – has figured largely in Casey County’s historical context. As examined by Joe Brent in his NRHP nomination of downtown Liberty, the county’s road system languished until the 1930s and a flurry of WPA work commenced. Prior to that, traces, toll roads and waterways – both large and small – served the rural communities across the county. Substantial historic development occurred along one of those early routes, which is now the winding State Route 78. Four individual resources were surveyed under the theme of transportation-related resources.

Route 78 follows much of the settlement era “Cumberland Trace” which was a “significant trail running through the wilderness of Central Kentucky from 1779 or earlier. It branched westward off the Wilderness Road near Logan’s Station in Lincoln County, crossed the South Fork of the rolling Fork River, passed through a gap in the Knobs, and followed Robinson and Buckhorn creeks and Trace Fork of Pitman Creek in Taylor County.”⁴⁷

During the WPA era, two culverts were built on Route 78 in the Ellisburg quad: one at Peyton’s Store (CS-81, Figure 79) and one at Rocky Ford (CS-87, Figure 80). These poured concrete culverts, both three spans long, are identical: in the central span of each is incised “1935” and underneath the date “5 tons.”

The Big South Fork of the Rolling Fork River runs along Route 78, and several homes have poured concrete bridges across the water, and in some cases, swinging bridges for pedestrians. One such bridge, no longer passable, leads to the nineteenth century home and farm of a Dr. Flanagan, now the home of Alice Faye Beeler (CS-86, Figure 81). Another bridge, this example in good condition, stretches across the Big South Fork at CS-131 (Figure 82). This farm has no vehicular bridge, only a shallow ford across the river, passable only when water is low. Both of these bridges were surveyed as part of their respective sites.

Also included in the survey was the early twentieth century weight station at Mintonville (CS-146, Figure 83) and a concrete block former Texaco Station (CS-151, Figure 84) on Route 910 south of Phil.

⁴⁷ Betty Mitchell Gorin. “Cumberland Trace,” in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* ed. John Kleber (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992), 249.



Figure 79 CS-81, a WPA-era culvert (1935) in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 80 CS-87, a WPA-era culvert (1935) in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 81 *Swinging bridge at CS- 86, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 82 *Swinging bridge at CS-131, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 83 CS-146, weight station in Mintonville.



Figure 84 CS-151, a former Texaco Station on Route 910, south of Phil.

Dwellings

There were over 57 houses documented during the survey; some of those were surveyed individually and some were part of a larger resource, such as a farm or church complex. Many of the dwellings surveyed were vacant or abandoned; this is in no way a trend unique to Casey County, but instead reflects a larger trend of rural out-migration common across Kentucky.⁴⁸ Eighteen of the houses included in the survey were either vacant or abandoned.

Houses in the survey vary in construction materials, form, plan and style. Unlike architectural details, which tend to change with the prevailing national or regional trends, “house plans tend to change more slowly over time than styles, so one plan type may be seen in any number of different styles.”⁴⁹ Due to the narrow focus of this survey, the architectural styles associated with any specific resource will be discussed within this section as well as construction method, rather than pulled out into a separate section.

Fifty of the 51 surveyed dwellings were frame; 95 of the total surveyed sites in the project were of frame construction. The remainder were either log, or a balloon-framed structures with brick veneer or concrete block. Only one masonry dwelling (CS-158) was recorded. The dwellings in this section will be discussed in the following order:

Log Construction

19th Century Plans: Side Passage, Central passage and T-plans

Cumberland Houses

Craftsman-influence: Bungalows

Dwellings of Unknown Plan

Farmsteads, Complexes and Outbuildings

The plan and type of a house is often reflected on the façade of the resource, with the fenestration arrangement hinting at the organization of rooms on the inside.⁵⁰ The plan of a historic dwelling is an

⁴⁸ A distinct is made between “vacant” and “abandoned” for this survey. The former refers to dwellings that show signs of recent habitation, the grounds are maintained and an owner is known. The houses are either mothballed or appear (or have been confirmed) to be temporarily empty; abandoned houses, on the other hand, are in deteriorating shape, overgrown with vegetation and have not been occupied for some time.

⁴⁹ William Macintire, *A Survey of Historic Sites in Rural Marion and Washington Counties, Kentucky*. (Frankfort: The Kentucky Heritage Council, 2009), 112.

⁵⁰ For example, a typical side-passage plan is three bays wide, with a door/window/window fenestration pattern; the door leads directly into the passage.

important tool for historians; the interior layout shows how the house was used, and reflects not only the means of the inhabitants, but the influence of technology, fashion and an evolving social structure. Although the functionality of the interior space and the needs of its residents is perhaps the driving force behind the choice of an interior plan, physical limitations also played a factor in determining the type of house built. The plan of a house could evolve just like the exterior ornament, siding or paint colors.

During the settlement period and the first few decades of the nineteenth century in Kentucky, most people lived in houses of one to three rooms, usually only one-story high. Prior to the widespread use of passages, many houses were either single pens, consisting of only one room. Especially during the settlement period, these houses were of log construction. Five houses in this survey were conclusively determined to be of log construction; other resources could well be log, but surveyors were unable to either gain entry to the resource or make a definite identification. All five of these resources had frame additions, which is a typical expansion method for log houses.

The term “pen” and “saddlebag” are most often used in the Kentucky to refer to log construction. While log construction was supplanted by timber frame construction in the more populous parts of Kentucky by the 1840s, in rural, heavily-wooded areas (such as Casey County), it could persist into the late-nineteenth century.



Figure 85 Log (with half-dovetail notching) and frame house, CS-132, on Route 78 in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 86 *Façade of CS-106, log and frame house on Bastin Creek Road, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 87 *Gable end of CS-106, log and frame house on Bastin Creek Road, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 88 *Façade of the log and frame Pryor Prewitt House, CS-10, Route 78 in Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 89 *The rear and ell addition of the log and frame Pryor Prewitt House, CS-10.*



Figure 90 *Façade of CS-121, Eubank quad, which appears to be a log saddlebag with a frame front gable addition.*

The hall-parlor plan is one of the earliest European derived house plans. The most common arrangement of hall-parlor plans is that of two rooms aligned end to end, with fireplaces at one or both gable ends. The hall was an all-purpose room; usually the larger of the two rooms, while the parlor, typically with a higher level of finish, was reserved for entertainment, sleeping or display of the family's finer possessions, such as portraits or silver. By the 1830s, Kentuckians were constructing their dwellings in a way that permitted the separation of work and leisure; namely, by dividing the interior space with the use of passages. After the 1830s, hall-parlor plans became associated with households of less affluence and stature.⁵¹

Passages allowed for an evolution in the treatment of space within dwellings. Spaces “are powerful entities to the people who build and occupy them, and for that reason changes in spaces are sensitive indicators of changes in their occupants’ attitudes.”⁵² The most common passage type plans in Kentucky are the side-passage and the central passage.

The side-passage plan, as it evolved in Kentucky, is primarily an urban type, dictated by the constraints of narrow urban lots and the combination of businesses with living space. The Philadelphia house, found both in its namesake city, and in urban centers across the mid-Atlantic, could serve as a model for the urban side-passage plan in Kentucky.⁵³ Many side-passage plans had a business on the ground floor and the living space and family quarters on the second floor. The side-passage still allowed the occupants to control the passage of visitors. The ease of this plan adapting to both commercial and residential use would explain its popularity within town centers.

Only one documented dwelling (CS-104, Figure 91) appears to have a side-passage plan, which is not surprising given the rural character of the survey area.

⁵¹ Macintire, 16.

⁵² Dell Upton. “The Origins of Chesapeake Architecture,” in *Three Centuries of Maryland Architecture: A Selection of Presentations Made at the 11th Annual Conference of the Maryland Historic Trust* (1982), 50.

⁵³ Gabrielle M. Lanier and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic*. (Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, 1991), 32.



Figure 91 *Façade of CS-104, a possible side passage on KY 501, Yosemite quad.*

Central passages, however, found wide favor in the agricultural landscape of Casey County. The introduction of the central hall was an evolution in the idea of space. Central hall plans connected all of the rooms in a dwelling through a centrally placed stair passage. The central passage affected accessibility, visibility and rearranged the domestic spatial hierarchy. Hall-parlor houses had no social buffers, and the activity of the household was open to all, an arrangement that fostered inclusion, which was not always welcome.

There were nine houses surveyed that could be identified as having a central passage plan. These houses also fit the form of the “I-house” typology, though I-houses do not have to have a central passage (though most do). If a positive identification could not be made, then the house plan was labeled as “unknown.” There were some surveyed sites with form and fenestration that suggests a central passage plan, such as CS-68, a one-story, five bay wide dwelling with Italianate details (Figure 98). Due to survey limitations, however, we were unable to determine its plan.

Some attained their current floor plan by additions, such as the hall and frame room added to the log pen of the Pryor Prewitt House (CS-10, Figures 88-89). The majority, however, were constructed between

1850 and 1900, at a time when the form of the I-house represented the pinnacle of achievement and social standing for the agriculturist in Kentucky.

For the most part, the central passage I-houses in the survey tended to be located in quads that historically have boasted the largest and most productive farms. These include Ellisburg, Liberty and Yosemite. These quadrangles are characterized by wide river valleys with fertile bottom land. The resources in each of these three quads were also historically located near sizeable settlements, either Hustonville, Middleburg, Liberty or Yosemite. There was also one central passage house (CS-58, Figure 97) in the Clementsville quad, but it was only a one-story dwelling.⁵⁴

⁵⁴ This resource was located on top of a ridge, with fairly flat farmland with good drainage. In scale, however, it is not in the same category as the other examples.



Figure 92 *The G.G. Fair House, CS-117, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 93 *The MacDowell Fogle House (CS-124), a central passage house in the Yosemite quad.*



Figure 94 *CS-79, a central passage house in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 95 *The Reynolds House, CS-134, a central passage in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 96 CS-80, a central passage house with Gothic Revival influence in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 97 CS-58, a one-story central passage house in the Clementsville quad.



Figure 98 *CS-68, a one-story possible central passage house in the Clementsville quad.*

The hall-parlor plan is not the only two-room plan to be utilized historically in rural Kentucky. Saddlebags, mentioned previously, are two log pens sharing a central chimney. Many late-nineteenth and twentieth century houses are two-room plans, but they are not saddlebags. A common variation on the two-room plan is the Cumberland house, which is further discussed on page 98.

The late nineteenth century saw an increase in frame construction, largely due to the introduction of balloon framing. The ease and affordability of this construction method allowed standard rectangular and square forms to be modified. T-plans and cross-plan houses became common, as did the addition of porches and decorative elements on a common house forms. The T-plan is a variation on the I-house – one of the rooms located along the central hall was moved forward, resulting in an irregular facade. This allowed the rooms in the ell to be accessed by the central passage.



Figure 99 *The William Mills House (CS-78), an 1893 T-plan in Ellisburg.*



Figure 100 *Detail of attic vent on façade.*



Figure 101 *CS-131, an 1892 T-plan in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 102 *Detail of attic vent on CS-131.*



Figure 103 *A T-plan in Mintonville, CS-148.*



Figure 104 *Abandoned T-plan, CS-159, in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 105 *T-plan, CS-160, located at 764 Cale Brown Road in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 106 *One-story T-plan in Rocky Ford, CS-88, in the Ellisburg Quad.*

Cumberland Houses

The two-front door house has many precedents in architectural history. Henry Glassie classifies it as a type "XX" house and believes it came from England, where such a housing form was typically a dwelling for two families. Glassie explains the appearance of the two-door house in America, particularly Pennsylvania, as attempts at fashion and acculturation by German settlers. Glassie does not, however, substantiate this theory with fieldwork.⁵⁵

In an article in the journal *Material Culture*, Dennis Domer explores "genesis theories" for the two-door house in America, touching on several scholarship theories of the two-door house, including Glassie's "Georgianizing" theory, the saddlebag and dogtrot theory offered, respectively, by Fred Kniffen and James Shortridge, and finally, the economic theory explored by Henry Kauffman. All these explanations focus on "proximate issues" or as Domer contends, the two front doors evolved from "the need to respond to some essential problem such as prevailing fashion, economic reality, climatic condition, constructional necessity, or changing social conditions such as a growing family."⁵⁶

He then traces the history of two-front doors back to respective German traditional plans, such as the "wohnstahallus" or house barn, which characteristically had "two or more separate doors on the long side for people and animals." The power of tradition and historical precedent, Domer argues, motivated the use of the two-front doors in America, rather than immediate, financial concerns, or proximate issues. Even as the plan of the house evolved and changed and responded to innovations in heating and the removal of animals, the façade remained the same. The diffusion of German immigrants in America can explain the appearance of some two front door houses within the south.⁵⁷

In a 1976 study of traditional architecture in the Normandy Reservoir of Tennessee, "Cumberland" houses, that is, a subtype of double pen houses with two front doors, were encountered frequently. Norbert F. Riedl, Donald B. Ball and Anthony P. Cavender coined the term to apply to both log and frame dwellings with two front doors.⁵⁸

The two front doors occurred in 44.9 percent of the 78 traditional frame buildings surveyed and 67.3 percent of all double-pen structures. Most examples were one-story, and characterized by central chimneys and shed roof porch on the long axis wall, and associated with farming families of low to moderate income.⁵⁹

⁵⁵Henry H. Glassie, *Folk Housing in Middle Virginia: A Structural Analysis of Historic Artifacts*. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1975), 182.

⁵⁶ Dennis Domer, "Genesis Theories of the German-American Two-Door House." in *Material Culture* 1 (Spring 1994), 3.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁵⁸ Norbert F. Riedl, Donald B. Ball and Anthony P. Cavender. *A Survey of Traditional Architecture and Related Material Folk Culture Patterns in the Normandy Reservoir, of Coffee County, Tennessee* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee, 1976)

⁵⁹ Ibid.

The authors of the Normandy Reservoir study conclude that the reason for the two front doors lies with the evolution of the double-pen frame dwelling itself. That type, they reason, was “developed from one of its log counterparts - either the dogtrot or saddlebag dwelling.”⁶⁰ The builders of the frame dwellings simply applied the same mental template to a different material, maintaining the tradition of the two front doors, “though it would have been a simple matter to construct a double-pen entirely of frame with only one front door.”⁶¹ Functional explanations for the two front doors were explored as well – elderly inhabitants of the study area offered numerous reasons of their own, ranging from “fire escapes” to the conservation of energy, since there was no hallway to heat. Another explanation is the use of one of the rooms for newlyweds in the family, and the extra front door “served to provide privacy and symbolize independence.”⁶²

The Normandy Reservoir study is not conclusive, in that the authors did not try to determine the age of the buildings surveyed, and their study area was relatively limited. It is useful, however, in pointing out that such structures existed in Tennessee, and even without concrete dates, one can surmise that there was such a building tradition present in the nineteenth century.

The majority of the structures surveyed in the Normandy Reservoir study appear to be small-scale, folk housing. This same trend can be observed in the Outer Bluegrass in the wide spread occurrence of two front door “tenant houses” constructed after the Civil War. Two Kentucky researchers, William Lynwood Montell and Michael Lynn Morse, encountered the two-door house phenomenon during their 1970s study of folk architecture in the Commonwealth.⁶³ Montell and Morse’s tenant houses are late-nineteenth and twentieth century frame examples, either a balloon or box frame dwelling with two pens (of rooms) of roughly equal size, each with their own door.

Surviving Kentucky examples, according to Montell and Morse, are frame, generally a story and half tall, with two front doors, and possess “a small, central chimney which serves as a double flue for stoves located in each of the two front rooms.”⁶⁴ The front rooms in these tenant houses “almost always function as a parlor and a guest bedroom” with kitchen and dining areas to the back in a rear, usually shed, addition.⁶⁵ Their occupants explain the presence of these two front doors in many ways: as a cooling device, fire escape route, or as an accommodation for overnight guests, who might want to pay a visit to the privy without disturbing their hosts.⁶⁶

⁶⁰ Riedl, 88.

⁶¹ Ibid., 88.

⁶² Ibid, 89.

⁶³ William Lynwood Montell and Michael Lynn Morse, *Kentucky Folk Architecture* (Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1976)

⁶⁴ Ibid, 26.

⁶⁵ Ibid., 26.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

Whatever the reason for two front doors, (and there are definitely conscious reasons and explanations for the persistence of the type through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries), a Cumberland house makes efficient use of space. The two rooms can both be used for living space, and it is more energy efficient to heat those rooms rather than wasting heat on a hallway, that has utility only as a means of moving throughout the dwelling. A house with a hallway is also necessarily larger than a two-room house without a passage.

There were 15 dwellings surveyed that were classified as Cumberland houses. Although the scope of this grant did not allow for the archival research and intensive survey necessary to accurately date and evaluate the origins of these resources, the majority of the Cumberland houses appear to be from the twentieth century, based on the construction method, heating type and finish (both interior and exterior). Only four were judged to date from the last quarter of the nineteenth century: CS-76, CS-82, CS-114 and CS-141. These four appeared to have larger chimneystacks (capable of burning wood and not just for stoves), stylistic details that placed them in the late-nineteenth century, or the owners/occupants confirmed that they were built pre-1900.

Six of the Cumberland houses appear to date from the first quarter of the twentieth century: CS-63, CS-65, CS-75, CS-91, CS-111 and CS-144. The remaining five Cumberlands appear to have been built after World War I and before 1950: CS-72, CS-95, CS-109, CS-115 and CS-140. Interestingly, almost half of the Cumberlands surveyed were abandoned.

All of the surveyed Cumberland houses were frame, with a window/door/door/window fenestration pattern. All had side-gable oriented roofs, with a central chimney, usually a shed roof front porch and a one-story addition to the rear, usually a gabled roof addition forming an ell from the front portion of the dwelling.



Figure 107 CS-91, an abandoned *Cumberland* on Long Hollow Road, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 108 CS-82, a nineteenth-century two-story *Cumberland* on Route 78, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 109 CS-75, a one-and-one-half story Cumberland in the Clementsville quad



Figure 110 The Felbert Noel House, CS-72, a 1930s Cumberland house.



Figure 111 CS-114, the “Old Homestead Farm”, a late-19th century Cumberland.



Figure 112 Interior of CS-114 on Brush Creek Road, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 113 CS-141, a one-and-one-half story Cumberland on Poplar Hill Road, Yosemite quad.



Figure 114 CS-141, a one-story Cumberland in the Yosemite quad.



Figure 115 CS-63, a one-story Cumberland in Clementsville with one of its doors removed.



Figure 116 CS-111, 1549 Shucks Creek Road, Ellisburg quad.

Craftsman Influence: Bungalows

While the Cumberland house of the late-nineteenth and first quarter of the twentieth century maintains a constant form, set apart only by scale, the emergence of popular styles, such as Craftsman, swept the form of the Cumberland into a new direction.

Bungalows, which combined “moderate price with attractive design,” appealed to Americans seeking an end to renting and a comfortable place to raise their families. The low lines of the bungalow gave the building a solidity which offered comfort and security.⁶⁷ The open wide front porch also was a feature particular to the Bungalow. The porch created a harmonious nature between the outside world and the home, with its rusticated piers and airy nature. The front porch also allowed owners to chat with passersby who walk on the sidewalks, invoking a neighborly feeling.

The inside of a Bungalow is as simple and efficient as its exterior. It has an open floor plan, which has no delineation between public and private space. The bungalow was an unpretentious design which helped increase the appearance of an average size lot through its horizontal lines and low height.⁶⁸ This style also became popularized through the use of plan books and illustrations in such magazines as *Ladies Home Journal*.⁶⁹

The affordability and ease of construction associated with the bungalow was not unlike that of the box-frame or balloon frame Cumberland, and in rural areas of Kentucky, a type with the moniker “Cumberland bungalow” is prevalent. It is not known exactly what form the plan takes behind the two front doors of a front-gable Craftsman influenced dwelling, but what is clear is that a form “tremendously popular due to its utility and economy” persisted through the mid-twentieth century in rural areas of the Commonwealth.⁷⁰ Of the eight bungalows surveyed as part of this project, six were classified as Cumberland bungalows. The Cumberland’s influence on the rural landscape deserves much further study, as field work in Casey County and elsewhere across the state proves that the Cumberland “to some degree... replaces the log cabin and leads into the bungalow and ultimately, to the manufactured house.”⁷¹

⁶⁷ Clifford Edward Clark. *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 173.

⁶⁸ Kenneth T. Jackson. *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985), 186.

⁶⁹ Clarke, 179.

⁷⁰ Macintire, 125.

⁷¹ Ibid.



Figure 117 CS-103, a Cumberland Bungalow on Upper Brush Creek Road, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 118 The Thomas House, CS-95, on Poplar Springs Road.



Figure 119 CS-109, a Cumberland bungalow on Long Hollow Road in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 120 CS-115, a Cumberland bungalow on Upper Brush Creek Road in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 121 CS-60, a Cumberland bungalow on Route 551 in the Clementsville quad.



Figure 122 The Parsonage at Rocky Ford, CS-139, a 1950s Cumberland Bungalow, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 123 CS-112, a bungalow on Shucks Creek Road, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 124 CS-150, a bungalow in Mintonville, originally a store, then used as a dwelling.

Dwellings of Unknown Plan

There were 17 houses surveyed in the project that were classified as having an unknown plan. Survey restrictions resulted in most of these unknown typings; either the house was abandoned and an intensive survey was not possible, or the owner could not be notified, or the house was simply inaccessible. The dwellings in this section range from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Some of the earliest dwellings were located in Ellisburg, along the Big South Fork and Route 78.

The frame George Wilson Ellis House (CS-90), pictured below (Figure 125), likely dates from the mid-nineteenth century or possibly earlier. Richard Ellis from Norfolk, Virginia, arrived in the area around 1795 and helped settle the community known as Ellisburg. The house appears have at least three possible stages of construction. The one-and-one-half story rear ell (Figures 126-127) appears to be of log construction and with the large central stack. The central entry bay with sidelights has the hint of the Greek Revival style, but the asymmetrical façade suggests two periods of construction for the two-story portion of the house. The right side (east) with the large exterior gable end brick stack, is one building campaign, likely a single log pen. It is possible that the west bay on the façade was added later (a lateral frame pen added to the log pen); it could also be that the door located on the west side of the façade replaced an earlier window (Figure 128).



Figure 125 *George Wilson Ellis House, CS-90, in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 126 *Ell of the George Wilson Ellis House, CS-90.*



Figure 127 *Detail of the rear ell of CS-90.*



Figure 128 *Detail of second door on façade of CS-90.*

The large, two-and-one-half story frame house (Figures 129-130), CS-89, located in Peyton's Store is another dwelling with a possible log core and several building campaigns. A two-story shed roof porch on the façade has been enclosed, obscuring much of that elevation. Two large, shouldered gable end exterior stone stacks are located on either end of the main house, which appears to be double-pile. The owner, a member of a family with deep roots in the area, could not be reached during the survey. The site is most interesting though, with several outbuildings and barns, sitting alongside the Big South Fork with ridges containing pastures rising around the domestic yard.

One of the most intriguing dwellings surveyed was also in Peyton's Store, a two-story, front-gable frame dwelling (CS-85) that appears to be a single room plan with a side addition (Figure 131 and 133). The house features intricate details, including the elaborate bargeboard and trim on the two-story porch (Figure 132), and an interior with Greek ear door surround and paneled wainscoting (Figure 134). Sadly, the dwelling is abandoned and in deteriorating condition.



Figure 129 CS-89, located in the hamlet of Peyton's Store, in the Ellisburg quad.



Figure 130 CS-89, facing northeast.



Figure 131 *Façade of CS-85 in Peyton's Store, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 132 *Detail of the porch of CS-85.*



Figure 133 *View of side porch of CS-85.*



Figure 134 *Interior of CS-85.*

The one masonry dwelling surveyed as part of this project was a boarded-up, two-story brick house (CS-158) referred to by a local resident as the “second oldest brick house in Casey County.” The house is located in bottom land along the Green River in the Phil quadrangle, and was reportedly built by the first sheriff of Casey County, Benjamin Dawson. It was later referred to as the “brick house farm” in historic documents and was owned by James Richard Dunn, whom Dunnville is named after. Built on a continuous stone foundation, the abandoned hall-parlor house is three bricks thick, and four bays wide. There are exterior brick chimneys on either gable end. The fenestration is window/window/door/window; there are simple jackarches above the window and door openings. Despite having a hall-parlor plan (Figure 137), which lends credence to the construction during the first two decades of the nineteenth century, the interior is unabashedly Greek Revival (Figure 136) with Greek ear door surrounds and two-panel vertical doors.



Figure 135 *Dawson/Dunn House, CS-158, Dunnville quad.*



Figure 136 *Interior of CS-158.*

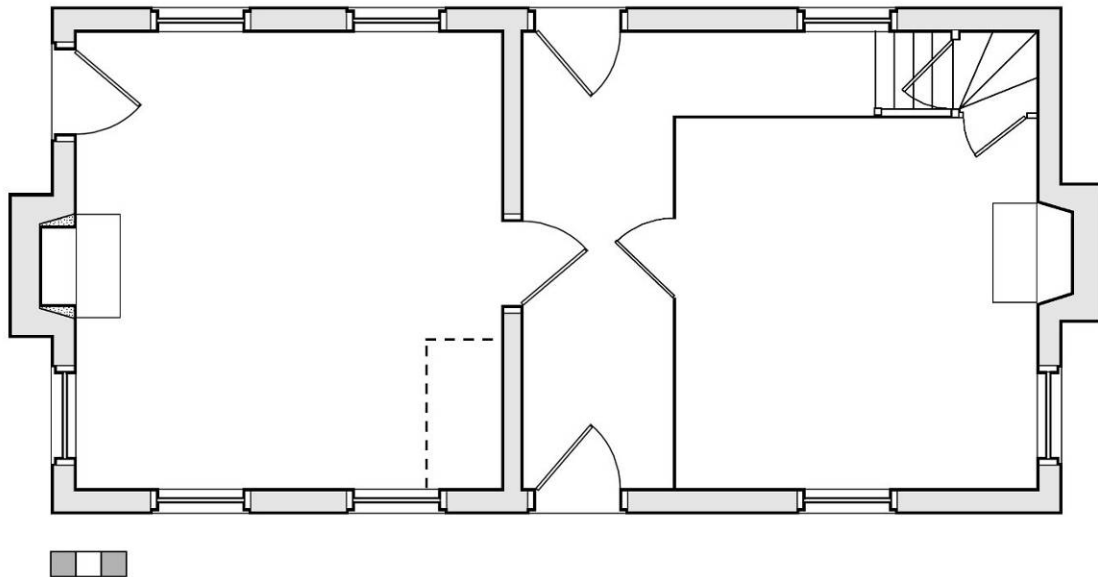


Figure 137 *Floor plan of CS-1258, drawn by William Macintire of the Kentucky Heritage Council.*

The other dwellings surveyed in the project to be classified with an unknown plan include houses from the late-nineteenth and early twentieth century. The influence of the Gothic Revival is seen in the frame house on Frey's Creek Road (CS-53) pictured below. Thought this house might well have a central passage, it could also be a double-room plan.

Many Gothic Revival houses in Kentucky do no more to echo the style with steeply-peaked cross gables on the façade. The plan of the house can be very basic, “one to two stories tall, a single room deep, and two or more rooms wide with one, two or three steeply-peaked cross gables or dormers. More often than not, the main part of the house is augmented with shed or ell appendages stretching behind them. Minus the front gables they have the same basic forms as many of the non-Gothic contemporary examples nearby, whatever their style might be.”⁷²



Figure 138 CS-53, *frame Gothic Revival house in the Ellisburg quad.*

⁷² Macintire, 57.

The twentieth century dwelling below (CS-156), influenced by the nationally popular Revival styles, is referred to locally as the “Sears-Roebuck House.” Located in the community of Dunnville, in southwestern Casey County, the house has an asymmetrical configuration and draws upon a myriad of influences.

The hipped roof frame dwelling (CS-142, Figure 140) found in the Phil Quadrangle is another twentieth century dwelling with a plan not discernible from its exterior fenestration or footprint.



Figure 139 CS-156, known as the “Sears-Roebuck” House in Dunnville.



Figure 140 CS-142 in the *Phil quadrangle*.

Farmsteads, Complexes, and Outbuildings

Prior to beginning this survey project, the estimation of historic agricultural resources was high, given the rural character of Casey County. The county is overwhelmingly rural, but the development patterns differ from the surrounding counties like Boyle and Lincoln. The poor road network of Casey County and its topography led to a farm economy more focused on internal trade and commerce, along with a large percentage of the of subsistence farming. That is not to say that certain prosperous farmers didn't drive their livestock to the southern states, or raise crops intended for larger markets, but the overall pattern appears to be one of smaller, less-market driven farms.

Large, nineteenth-century farms, with their surviving dwellings and outbuildings, are concentrated in the Ellisburg quad. A local resident confirmed the patterns visible from the survey, stating that the large houses and good farms tended to be located along Route 78 in northern Casey County. Since an intensive survey of the county was not possible, these conclusions are drawn from the thematic survey conducted; extensive archival research, oral history and more fieldwork would be needed to determine the types of farms historically present in the county, and geographically where they were sited.

After the Civil War, the number of farms in Casey County dramatically increased (Table 2). Improvements in transportation and mechanization were in part responsible, but the timber boom of the late-nineteenth century dramatically changed the farming landscape, as not only the number of farms increased, but the size of those farms increased as well.

The nature of farms in antebellum Kentucky has been the source of great debate. The late historian Thomas Clark asserted that the basic rural pattern in Kentucky was of "farmers who owned from 50 to 200 acres of land" but the actual pattern appears slightly smaller. Data from the 1860 census for Kentucky farm sizes points to a range of 20-100 acres as the average farm size.⁷³

Historic farm size in Kentucky depends on many factors, not the least of which is location. Bluegrass farms tended to be larger than their counterparts in the Knobs and Pennyryle. A farmer's background and socioeconomic status also played a large role in determining the size and scope of his farming operation. Prior to the Civil War, slave labor also defined the success and size of a Kentucky farm.

Kentucky never had as many slaves as her southern counterparts. The lack of a plantation system, with a single, demanding crop like cotton, meant less demand for huge slave operations, and the success of livestock in the Bluegrass did not require significant slave labor. Thus, the majority of Kentuckians were non-slaveholders. Those who did own slaves usually only owned two or three.

⁷³ Thomas Clark, *Agrarian Kentucky*. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1977), 45.

Though it may be difficult to imagine in this age of mechanization and the corporatization of farms, the amount of land a man and a team of mules could work and keep tended was fairly small. In that age of hard labor and lack of mechanization, non-slaveholding farmers could work about 50 acres, in a combination of cultivated land and pasture. Sometimes, with the help of a hired hand or slave, that number was around 100 acres. These farmers might be termed yeoman farmers, and they practiced small, diversified farming operations dedicated mostly to home consumption, and the occasional sale of surplus products.

In 1860, there were 83,689 farms in Kentucky and the cash value of those farms was \$291,496,955. There were 49,710 farms in the state between 20-100 acres. A substantial number of farms, 24,095, were those between 100- 499 acres, farms certainly owned by slaveholders. The numbers begin to shrink as farm size increases; only 1,078 farms were over 500 acres and less than 999 acres. The most astonishing enumeration, however, is that of farms over 1,000 acres – farms considered even today to be large. In 1860, only 166 of Kentucky farms were over 1,000 acres. Put into context, only one-fifth of one percent of Kentucky farms were over 1,000 acres.⁷⁴

Prior to 1870, the most of the farms in Casey County were between 20-49 acres. Between 1870 and 1880, the number of farms between 100-499 acres increased dramatically, from 163 farms in 1870 to 696 farms in 1880. This radical jump is likely due to land being cleared for timber. With the money earned from selling the timber, farmers could buy more land, increase their holdings, and expand their agricultural base.

⁷⁴ United States Census Returns, 1860.

Year	Total Farms	20-49 acres	50-99 acres	100-499 acres
1850	758	N/A	N/A	N/A
1860	644	198	157	173
1870	1,199	447	263	163
1880	1,391	199	330	696
1890	1,720	330	438	685
1900	2,435	545	644	442
1910	2,730	674	746	753
1920	2,912	854	851	726
1930	3,205	921	940	682

Table 2 *Historic farm size information*

Springhouses, Pumps, Cisterns and Wells

One of the most essential elements on every farm was water and a reliable water source. Settlement sites were chosen because of water. While a dependable spring was a blessing, it sometimes was not ideally located to the rest of the buildings on the farm. Sites within the survey area had pumps, cisterns and wells, sometimes one of each. Wells were hand dug during the nineteenth century, and lined with brick or stone. Sometimes a hand pump would be placed over the well covering, but water could also be hauled up with a rope and bucket.

Pumps were used to pump water from cisterns, lakes, rivers, creeks and could be powered by hand, wind, gasoline or electric motors. Windmill powered pumps are not common in the Bluegrass. In the late nineteenth century and early twentieth, many pumps were covered with a decorative metal pump cover. To prevent freezing, pumps could be located above ground in an insulated pump house or below ground in a dry well.

Pump houses are simply small structures constructed to house pump machinery. In the survey area, they were frame, concrete or brick structures; some were accessed much like a root cellar, and some were entirely above-ground. Cisterns, for storage of water, were being utilized by the late nineteenth century. These square or rectangular reservoirs were constructed of brick, stone or clay, plastered with thick cement for waterproofing. Later examples are typically poured concrete.

Situated at a head of a stream, springhouses, usually brick or stone, were constructed to protect the water source and provide a place to keep foodstuffs cool. Two confirmed springhouses were located at CS-10 (Figure 142) and CS-77 (Figure 145).

A commonly seen outbuilding in the survey area is a front-gable cantilevered well-house, which seemed to function as a pump house, but often had a concrete trough on the exterior of the structure through which water ran. The structure at CS-80 (Figures 141 and 142) is one such example. The springhouse/dry storage building at the Pryor Prewitt House (CS-10) has a poured concrete pad out in front of the structure with a cistern access (Figure 144).



Figure 141 Well/pump house at CS-80, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 142 Trough in front of the well/pump house, CS-80.



Figure 143 *Springhouse and dry storage at the Pryor Prewitt House, CS-10, Ellisburg quad. Cistern access is in front, to right of door.*



Figure 144 *Side entrance to below grade springhouse and rear elevation, CS-10.*



Figure 145 *The well-house at CS-82 in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 146 *Well or pump house at CS-121 in the Eubank quad.*



Figure 147 Springhouse at CS-77 on Gusty Branch in the Ellisburg quad.

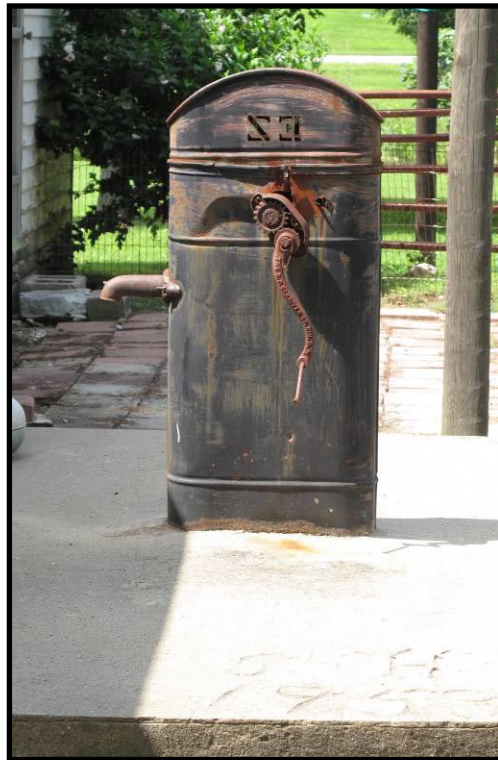


Figure 148 Pump cover at the Hafley Farm, CS-167, Ellisburg quad.

Smokehouses and Meathouses

It is difficult to draw the distinction between smokehouses and meathouses, since most people in the survey area referred to either as simply a smokehouse. The technical difference is that smokehouses employed smoke to cure meat, while meathouses cured the meat by salting or pickling it. In *Agricultural and Domestic Outbuildings in Central and Western Kentucky, 1800-1865*, Macintire and Kennedy state that it is “not certain why some farmers chose to salt/pickle their meat in meathouses and some decided to smoke theirs in a smokehouse. There does not appear to be a pattern based on income, social status, geography, or ethnicity that would explain the decision. In any case, smokehouses were the more versatile structures, because they could be adapted for either curing process. Meathouses, which were normally not ventilated, could not be used to smoke meat.”



Figure 149 Meathouse at CS-132, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 150 *Probable meathouse at CS-160, Liberty quad.*



Figure 151 *Meathouse at CS-115 in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 152 “Smokehouse and side-room” was how the owner described this structure at CS-82 in the Ellisburg quad.⁷⁵

⁷⁵ According to Inez Coffman, the property owner, the “side-room” was utilized to store coal oil. The site, CS-82, is part of a 154-acre farm that has been in the Coffman family since 1934, and before that belonged to the Reynierson family.

Root cellars

Typically dug out of a side of a hill, these structures provided storage year-round for root crops and other fruits and vegetables. The excavated space provided insulation that helped maximize the lifespan of stored foodstuffs. Later modifications fitted some root cellars with shelves for storing canned goods. Root cellars can be identified by an earthen covered arched dome, or the entrance wall, which may be of stepped masonry. Access to the cellar is usually by steps leading to a door in the center of the dome. Examples in the survey area are dry-laid stone, mortared stone, poured concrete and concrete block. The interior typically has masonry walls and ceiling and a dirt floor.



Figure 153 *Root cellar at CS-78, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 154 *Root Cellar at CS-104, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 155 *Stone root cellar at CS-117, Yosemite quad.*



Figure 156 Concrete block root cellar at CS-115 on Upper Brush Creek Road, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 157 Root cellar at CS-131 in the Ellisburg quad.

Privies

While considered necessary by today's standards, (and often euphemistically referred to as the "necessary"), privies are not thought to have been common in the rural antebellum Bluegrass. This could be because they were intended to be impermanent, so their method of construction and materials were not slated to stand the test of time, and once disposed of, a new privy could be constructed quickly and easily. Historic privies were typically hand-dug pits that may have been lined with wood, barrels or unmortared brick. High-style examples might have been built of masonry, but most were narrow, rectangular or square structures, one-bay wide, of frame or log construction.

The privy was usually sited at the edges of the domestic yard, within comfortable walking distance, but far enough away from the dwelling so as to minimize any smells or contamination of water sources. Along with other efforts, the federal government began championing enhanced sanitation measures and "improved" privies in the 1930s and 1940s.

Privies are often archaeological treasure troves, because people used them to discard all matter of everyday objects.



Figure 158 *Privy at CS-80, Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 159 *Privy at the Maxey Valley School, CS-57, Hustonville quad.*



Figure 160 *Privy at the White Oak Church, CS-76, Clementsville quad.*

Corn Cribs

Since corn was one of the first crops planted during the settlement period, it stands to reason that a structure to house the crop would be one of the first agricultural outbuildings constructed. Designed to store and dry corn, corn cribs are utilitarian structures with a few basic forms in the Bluegrass. The first corn cribs were single pen log structures; no log corn cribs were identified in the survey area. In the years after the Civil War, frame construction supplanted log, and the drive-through corn crib began to be constructed. This consists of two cribs on either side of a central drive, all under one roof. Corn cribs are usually clad in vertical boards, and are raised off of the ground. Some corn cribs, particularly the drive-through, might have a loft for additional grain storage above the central aisle and side cribs.

The size of the corn crib depended on the amount of corn harvested. The height was determined by how high a man standing in a wagon could shovel. Later, after the invention of the portable grain elevator, corn cribs could be constructed much higher. Although available by 1904, portable grain elevators did not make an impact on the Kentucky market until the mid 1930s.

Surprisingly, for the role that corn played historically for both human and livestock, the number of corn cribs identified in the survey area was low. Since most farmers now use shelled corn or an alternate feed like soybean hulls, the need for storage of ear corn is not as high, and likely many of the Casey County corn cribs have been torn down.



Figure 161 *A drive-through corn crib, CS-97, in the Liberty quad.*



Figure 162 *Corn crib at CS-80 in the Ellisburg quad.*



Figure 163 *Corn crib on the right at CS-160 in the Liberty quad.*

Barns

Barns might be the most highly recognizable outbuilding on the Kentucky landscape, both for their size and their distribution. According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, Kentucky ranks fourth in the nation in the number of barns built before 1960. The state also has the most barns per square mile constructed before 1960. Most of this construction, however, occurred between 1880 and 1960. Settlement era farmers, as mentioned earlier, were not constructing specialized structures and if their farmstead had any outbuildings, it would be a crib for grain storage. That crib might later evolve in to a larger structure with side shed extensions to shelter livestock.

The growth of the mule industry in the two decades before the Civil War, and the Shorthorn industry after the Civil War, combined with innovations in technology, spurred barn construction. Three types of barns predominate in the Commonwealth: the English Barn, the Aisled Barn (referred to as a transverse frame in this study) and the Bank Barn. Just as log construction was supplanted by frame in dwellings, frame barns soon replaced log cribs.

The English Barn is characterized by the aisle running though the center of the barn, perpendicular to the ridgeline of the roof, and typically has three sections on the ground floor, the center aisle and bays on either side of that aisle. Aisled barns are the most common type in Kentucky, either gable entry transverse crib or transverse frame barns. The form is simple: a long aisle down the center from one gable end to the other. The aisles of either side of the central aisle can be divided into rooms or stalls; often, a loft is constructed over the side aisles for hay storage. Aisled or transverse frame barns serve a stock barns, multi-purpose barns, equipment storage barns or tobacco barns.

Bank barns are set into the side of a hill, with access from two levels. The lower level is most often utilized as stock storage, since it provides a more constant temperature than the first level. Bank barns can have an interior plan like a transverse frame or an English barn. No bank barns were documented in the survey area.

Most of the barns in the project date from the twentieth century and are multi-purpose barns, used to not only house tobacco, but for stock, including cattle and horses. One nineteenth century barn was surveyed, a purpose-built stock barn at CS-80 in the Ellisburg quad (Figures 164-166). The transverse frame barn rests on a stone foundation (concrete block has replaced the stone at one end) and has a metal roof pierced by a cupola with louvered vents. The barn has a bi-level loft and stalls on either side, with grain storage (raised floor) in one stall space on the end, and a tack room at the other, opposite end.



Figure 164 *Nineteenth century stock barn, west gable end and south side, CS-80, Ellisburg quad*



Figure 165 *South and east elevations of barn, showing shed addition at east gable end.*



Figure 166 Interior of barn at CS-80, facing east.



Figure 167 Stock barn at CS-90, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 168 *Large five-aisle multi-purpose barn, CS-128, Ellisburg quad*



Figure 169 *Multi-purpose barn at CS-86, Ellisburg quad*



Figure 170 Multi-purpose barn at CS-77, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 171 Multi-purpose barns on Long Hollow Road, CS-79, Ellisburg quad.



Figure 172 Tobacco barn at CS-70, Clementsville quad.



Figure 173 Two barns at CS-58, the one on the left, a newer multi-purpose barn and a dilapidated small stable/stock barn on the right. Clementsville quad.

Only one log crib was recorded in the survey area, CS-101, in the Mintonville quad. It is in poor condition. It consists of two log pens, square-notched, with a dogtrot area between, which has been filled in with vertical boards. Shed additions are located on the two long sides.



Figure 174 *Log crib barn, CS-101, Mintonville quad.*



Figure 175 Log crib barn, CS-101, Mintonville quad.



Figure 176 Log crib barn, CS-101, Mintonville quad.

Recommendations

As is so often the case, there was not nearly enough time nor funds to devote to this survey. Despite these limitations, great strides were made in recording historic resources in Casey County. The fieldwork revealed a rural landscape rife with abandoned farms and buildings, numerous extant rural schools and long memories among residents.

There are several recommendations stemming from this project, chief among them, the pressing need for more survey work in the county. Only a small portion of Casey County's 446 square miles was documented during this survey and planning grant. As the 20th largest county in square miles in the Commonwealth, even the addition of 117 additional surveyed sites still results in a county woefully undocumented. The wide valleys of the Big South Fork of the Rolling Fork River and the Green River contain many more historic resources that were not surveyed.

The survey index contains a column that evaluates the eligibility of the surveyed resources. The individual recommendations stemming from that include:

- Scenic byway status and the development of a rural historic district along State Route 78, the Cumberland Trace, in northern Casey County. A proposed name for this byway would be the "Historic Cumberland Trace Corridor." It is possible that portions of the road in Lincoln County would be included, in which case, survey and documentation work would need to be undertaken. There are many large farms and individual dwellings that would be included with such a district, including: CS-9, CS-10, CS-77, CS-78, CS-79, CS-80, CS-82, CS-85, CS-86, CS-90, CS-128, CS-131 and CS-132.
- Creation of an audio or cell phone driving tour of Historic Cumberland Trace Corridor, highlighting the many diverse resources along the corridor. A driving tour brochure and signage should be developed as part of the tour. This effort will provide an educational tool and an important heritage tourism piece for travelers to the region.
- Implementation of an oral history initiative in Casey County, focusing on rural life, in cooperation with the Kentucky Oral History Commission, the Community Scholars Program and the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky. Ideally, this would include not only oral history but also additional survey work, perhaps funded by a NEH grant.
- The development of a Multiple Property Documentation Form and associated National Register Nomination for "Rural Schools in Casey County, 1880-1960" and "Hamlets and Crossroad Communities in Casey County." The former would include an educational context that could be used for other counties in the state. The latter MPDF would encompass the stores, churches and other supporting features integral to the numerous hamlets across the county.

- Development of a comprehensive agricultural and architectural context for Casey County that could be used to evaluate and nominate individual resources outside of the Cumberland Trace Corridor, including: CS-103, CS-121, CS-124, CS-136, CS-1258, CS-159 and CS-160.

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