



## **TRANSPORTATION CABINET**

Frankfort, Kentucky 40622  
[www.transportation.ky.gov/](http://www.transportation.ky.gov/)

**Steven L. Beshear**  
Governor

**Michael W. Hancock, P.E.**  
Secretary

December 29, 2014

In conjunction with the construction of the Louisville - Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has prepared National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination documentation for the following properties in Jefferson County, Kentucky: the Jacob School Road Historic District, the James T. Taylor Subdivision Historic District, and the Harrods Creek Village Historic District. The nomination documents have been filed with the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), where they will be retained and made available to any person or organization wishing to pursue the nominations.



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GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

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CRAIG A. POTTS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

December 19, 2014

David M. Waldner, P.E. Director  
Division of Environmental Analysis  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
Frankfort, KY 40622

**Re: Preparation of National Register Nominations in Conformance with a Settlement Agreement for the Louisville-Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project.**

Dear Mr. Walder:

This office has received full documentation for three proposed historic districts identified in the above referenced Settlement Agreement: Harrods Creek Village Historic District, Jacob School Road Historic District, and the James T. Taylor Subdivision Historic District. It appears that this documentation satisfies term II B. 3. e., "Preparation of National Register Nominations for Historic Properties, including the expansion of historic districts," which is among the obligations of INDOT and KYTC, as stated on page 11, and again on pages 16-17, in the Settlement Agreement filed on January 4, 2013 with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and River Fields, Inc.

These final draft nominations and supporting documentation will be retained in the Kentucky Heritage Council office, and will allow another party to undertake the further steps necessary to enable me, as the State Historic Preservation Officer, to nominate the properties to the National Register of Historic Places. Thank you for coordinating with us. Should you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact me at (502) 564-7005, extension 111.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts  
Executive Director and  
State Historic Preservation Officer

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Jacob School Road Historic District

other names/site number NA

## 2. Location

street & number Jacob School Road

NA

not for publication

city or town Prospect

NA

vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Jefferson code 111 zip code 40059

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_ local

Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts/SHPO

Date

**Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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## 5. Classification

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
13	15	buildings
0	0	district
5	1	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
18	16	<b>Total</b>

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

NA

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

2 (Jefferson Jacob School and Jefferson Jacob  
School outbuilding)

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Education/Schoolhouse

Social/Clubhouse

### Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Social Clubhouse

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)

Bungalow

I-House

### Materials (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete, Concrete Block

walls: Wood, Vinyl, Brick,

roof: Shingles,

other:

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## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

The Jacob School Road Historic District is centered on Jacob School Road, which is located just outside the City of Prospect north of Louisville in the northern section of Jefferson County, Kentucky. The area is rural in nature and Jacob School Road is narrow with numerous mature trees along both sides. Single residence homes and the Jefferson Jacob School line the road's eastern side while the western side contains trees and vegetation only. The district covers approximately 30.8 acres, comprised of 17 individual properties (11 single residences, 1 school and 1 school outbuilding) and five sites (intentional tree planting along Jacob School Road and four vacant lots).

### Early Settlement in the area of Harrods Creek/Prospect

The area along Upper River Road near Harrods Creek was locally known as "The Neck." African Americans began settling there in the 1870s, establishing a thriving community north of Louisville. As the locale was well out of the city limits of Louisville, the majority of the area was used for agriculture and large tracts of land were owned by wealthy farmers. It was this landscape where the residents of Harrods Creek lived and worked as many found employment on the surrounding farms and estates. By 1905 the area included a number of new homes and buildings. The pages from the 1913 Louisville Title Company mapping identify property owners in the Harrods Creek and Prospect area. Records indicate that the area "included an interesting mix of white, black, mulatto, and international residents" (Turley-Adams, n.d.).

Up through the mid-1960s, the area of Prospect largely belonged to a few wealthy families and groups of farmers. Passenger rail service was completed to the Harrods Creek area by 1875; the line was electrified in 1904 and provided safe, high-speed, hourly service between downtown and the outlying rural community. The construction of the Interurban railroad spurred population growth within the area between the years 1910-1934 (CTS 2012).

### Establishment of the Jefferson Jacob School

Within the environment of segregation, the Jefferson Jacob School was established in 1916. The school building was financed with assistance from the Rosenwald School fund, a program established to partner with rural African American communities to construct school facilities for African American children. It was one of the first Rosenwald schools in the state; it opened in 1918 with two teachers and eight grades. The local African American community provided \$400 towards the \$4,800 construction cost and agreed to assist with the construction work, including excavation, concrete work, and furnishing and hauling materials (Gray, 2012). Turley-Adams notes that "Jacob School became Jefferson County's first Tuskegee 'Rosenwald' School and the third Rosenwald School in the state" and consolidated students from three regional African American schools – including both the one room schoolhouse at the Neck and the school meeting at Green Castle Baptist Church (Turley-Adams, n.d.). The school served the community from 1918 through integration in 1957, both as an educational facility, recreation center, and community meeting room.

The school was named for Jefferson Jacob (1835-1910), a former slave who settled on a farm in the Harrods Creek area in the 1870s. Mr. Jacob was a founder and co-pastor of Green Castle Baptist Church, one of the key institutions for the African American community at Harrods Creek. In naming the school for Mr. Jacobs, community members remembered him as "a person who took his freedom,

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as a parent, a church founder, a respected minister, businessman, and proponent of black education” (Turley-Adams n.d.).

Miller describes the African American community at Harrods Creek:

the combination of accessible real estate, viable schools and social institutions, and an established group of local families serving as community leaders led to a kind of ‘golden age’ for the community of Greater Harrods Creek [during the 1920s through 1960s]. It is absolutely essential to note that this community was forged and maintained in the face of Jim Crow laws and legally enforced racial segregation. While to some extent defined by these external forces, the community was built from within, and is remembered with affection and pride (2007).

Three key social institutions defined the African American community that sprung up during this period:

- Jefferson Jacob School (JF-840), a Rosenwald school constructed in 1916 that consolidated three regional one-room school houses into a single institution with two teachers and eight grades. The building served the community during 1918-1957 as an educational facility, recreation center, and community meeting room. Early community members banded together to generate the funds and labor to construct the school. The social emphasis on education was an extremely important component of the overall community identity; pride that can be heard in the stories and memories about the school is almost universal when talking with residents. From those that attended the school, to those that attended recreation after the school closed, to those that just know about the school, it is a symbol of education and the opportunities education can unlock.
- Green Castle Baptist Church was established in 1869, located on Rose Island Road a few miles north of the Jacobs School Road area. The church served as one of the earliest African American schools in the county. Jefferson Jacobs is identified among the founders and early leaders in the church.
- Harrods Creek Baptist Church, (JF-1992), which was established in 1891 from members of nearby Green Castle Baptist Church who lived on Jacob School Road and did not want to walk the three mile journey to Rose Island Road. The original church building was located on River Road, about a mile east of its current location. It was damaged by a tornado and multiple floods before the congregation moved to the current building in the 1940s. Harrods Creek Baptist Church has been a key social and spiritual institution for community members, providing stability through the turbulent times of postbellum segregation, Jim Crow laws, wars, natural disasters, and more. A strong association with their faith has been a hallmark of the residents of the James Taylor subdivision.

These three resources helped connect the three African American communities (Jacob School Road, James Taylor subdivision and Harrods Creek Village) that were located in the Harrods Creek area.

### **Development of Jacob School Road**

The natural setting of Jacob School Road Historic District has historically been and remains rural. The area contains an abundance of mature trees lining the lone road and the residential lots are wooded.

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The physical plan of the district consists of residences lining the eastern side of Jacob School Road. The residences sit on relatively large, wooded lots fronting the Jacob School Road. The earliest documented residence (1917) constructed within the district is an I-House style house located at 6701 Jacob School Road. With the construction of the Jefferson Jacob School, additional houses soon began to be built along the road with the vast majority dating to 1925 or before. Jacob School Road is narrow with two travel lanes that has no shoulders or sidewalks. It is not clear when the road itself was paved but James T. Taylor, developer of the James T. Taylor subdivision and local community leader, is credited with paving and maintaining the road. It remains in its original location. James Taylor is credited for planting trees and shrubs along the northwestern side of Jacobs School Road. James Taylor also constructed a home for his father on Jacob School Road (Horlbeck and Edgeworth 2006).

From the residential buildings found within the district, two formal architectural styles are present; I-House, Bungalow and Ranch. Additionally vernacular buildings are represented in the other residences which embody the character of this no-frills-attached, working class community. Materials commonly found within the buildings include those that one would expect to see reflected in the built environment dating from the early to mid-twentieth century; concrete blocks, weatherboard, brick, vinyl siding and asphalt shingles.

The following table lists the resources that fall within the proposed National Register boundaries.

Map #	Name	Address	Construction Date	Site Code	Evaluation
1	House	6303 Jacob School Road	1930	JF 1859	C
2	House	6311 Jacob School Road	1998	JF 2803	NC
2	Garage	6311 Jacob School Road	1998	JF 2803	NC
3	House	6401 Jacob School Road	1920	JF 1856	C
4	Empty Lot	6403 Jacob School Road	-----	JF 2804	C
5	House	6411 Jacob School Road	2007	JF 2805	NC
5	Garage	6411 Jacob School Road	2007	JF 2805	NC
6	House	6413 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 1862	C
7	House	6417 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 1858	C
8	House	6419 Jacob School Road	1963	JF 2806	NC
9	Empty Lot	6501 Jacob School Road	-----	JF 2807	NC
10	House	6503 Jacob School Road	2005	JF 2808	NC
11	House	6505 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 1860	C
12	House	6507 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 2088	C
12	Garage	6507 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 2088	NC
13	House	6509 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 1861	C
14	House	6511 Jacob School Road	1960	JF 1857	NC
14	Garage	6511 Jacob School Road	1960	JF 1857	NC
15	House	6513 Jacob School Road	1994	JF 2809	NC
16	House	6517 Jacob School Road	1919	JF 840.002	C
17	School	6601 Jacob School Road	1916-18	JF 840	C
18	Empty Lot	6607 Jacob School Road	-----	JF 2810	C

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19	House	6609 Jacob School Road	1958	JF 2811	NC
20	House	6611 Jacob School Road	1999	JF 2812	NC
21	House	6701 Jacob School Road	1917	JF 1855	C
21	Barn	6701 Jacob School Road	1917	JF 1855	C
22	Empty Lot	6705 Jacob School Road	-----	JF 2813	C
23	House	6707 Jacob School Road	1925	JF 1854	C
24	House	6709 Jacob School Road	1973	JF 2082	NC
25	House	6713 Jacob School Road	1924	JF 1853	C
26	Empty Lot	7500 River Road	-----	JF 2814	C
27	House	7504 River Road	1964	JF 2815	NC
28	House	7512 River Road	1988	JF 2816	NC
29	Intentional Tree Planting	District Wide	1916-1930	JF 2817	C

### Descriptions of Contributing Resources:

1. 6303 Jacob School Road (JF-1859) is a one-story frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. The fenestration pattern has been altered and the windows are vinyl replacements. The full width front porch has been enclosed. It is topped by a shed roof. The building is in excellent condition.

3. 6401 Jacob School Road (JF-1856) is a 1½-story three-bay (w/d/w) frame building topped with a front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. A ¾ width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a hip roof that is supported by wood posts. The decking is poured concrete. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered and the windows are wood sash. A wall dormer that is topped by a shed roof is located on western elevation and contains two windows. The building is in good condition.

4. 6403 Jacob School Road (JF- 2804) is a vacant lot on the east side of Jacob School Road.

6. 6413 Jacob School Road (JF-1862) is a one-story three-bay (w/d/w) frame building topped with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are vinyl replacements. A ½ width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a shed roof that is supported by iron posts. The decking is poured concrete. The building is in excellent condition.

7. 6417 Jacob School Road (JF-1858) is a one-story frame building topped with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. A ½ width, that has been enclosed, adorns the front façade. It is topped by a shed roof. The structure is clad in brick veneer and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered and the windows are wood sash. Two additions are located on the rear elevation. The building is in excellent good condition.



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**11.** 6505 Jacob School Road (JF-1860) is a one-story frame building topped with a front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. A ½ width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a hip roof that is supported by wood posts. The decking is poured concrete. The fenestration pattern has been altered and the windows are vinyl replacements. A rear frame addition is present. The building is in excellent condition.

**12.** 6507 Jacob School Road (JF-2088) is a one-story five-bay (w/w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the southwest. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. A three-bay width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a gable roof that is supported by wood posts. The porch decking is wood. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered and the windows are wood sash. The building is in good condition. There is one outbuilding associated with the main residence: a large modern garage. The garage is not contributing to the district.

**13.** 6509 Jacob School Road (JF-1861) is a 1½-story frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. A shed dormer is centrally located on the front face of the roof and contains a pair of windows. A ¾ width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a shed roof. The porch has been fully enclosed and contains numerous windows. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are vinyl replacements. The building is in excellent condition.

**16.** 6517 Jacob School Road (JF-840.002) is an outbuilding associated with the Jefferson Jacob School. It originally housed the home economics and woodshop courses for the school. The building currently serves as the Prospect-Harrods Creek Senior Center.

It is a one-story four-bay (w/d/d/w) frame building topped by a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. It is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous, poured concrete foundation. An internal brick chimney is present. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered and the windows are wood sash. The building is in good condition.

**17.** 6601 Jacob School Road (JF-840) is the Jefferson Jacob School. It was constructed circa 1916 – 1917 and for the next 40 years this Rosenwald School served the African-American community until it was closed in 1957. The Prospect Masonic Lodge # 109 currently owns the building. The upper floor of the two-story building served as classrooms while the first floor housed the cafeteria and kitchen.

It is a two-story frame building topped by a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. It is clad in weatherboard siding and rests on a continuous foundation. An internal brick chimney is present. It is in good condition.

**18.** 6607 Jacob School Road (JF- 2810) is a heavily wooded lot on the east side of Jacob School Road.

**21.** 6701 Jacob School Road (JF-1855) is a two-story three-bay (w/d/w) frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and

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is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding. The foundation has been covered in a thin coat of concrete, obscuring the original material. A  $\frac{3}{4}$  width porch adorns the front façade and is topped by a shed roof that is supported by wood posts. The decking is poured concrete. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are vinyl replacements. A frame addition topped by a shed roof is located on the rear elevation. The building is in good condition. There is one outbuilding associated with the main residence; a barn topped by an end gable roof.

**22.** 6705 Jacob School Road (JF- 2813) is a vacant lot on the east side of Jacob School Road.

**23.** 6707 Jacob School Road (JF-1854) is a 1½-story frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. A  $\frac{3}{4}$  width porch, which has been fully enclosed, adorns the front façade. It is topped by a shed roof that is supported by iron posts. A shed dormer is centrally located on the front face of the roof. It contains two small windows. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are vinyl replacements. A frame addition topped by a shed roof is located on the rear elevation. The building is in good condition.

**25.** 6713 Jacob School Road (JF-1853) is a one-story three-bay (w/d/w) frame building topped with a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in weatherboard siding. The foundation has been covered in a thin coat of concrete, obscuring the original materials. A  $\frac{1}{3}$  width porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a hip roof that is supported by iron posts. The decking is poured concrete. Two internal brick chimneys are present. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered and the windows are the original wood sash type. The building is in good condition.

**26.** 7500 River Road (JF- 2814) is a vacant lot on the east side of Jacob School Road.

**29.** The inclusion of “Intentional Tree Plantings,” (JF – 2817) in the table correlates to local history which indicates that James T. Taylor planted trees along the northwestern side of Jacob School Road. That effort is further documented in the 2006 technical report, *Cultural Historic Assessment of the Bass-Shirley Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Improvement Project, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky* (Horlbeck and Edgeworth). The report states, “...the trees along Jacob School Road appear to be a mixture of natural growth and intentional plantings that originally served as a racial boundary and thus contributing to the site’s integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.” The report goes on to say that, “Other trees found in the area that are not associated with this tree line appear to be intentional design elements that were incorporated during the neighborhoods growth in the second and third decade of the twentieth century. These are considered contributing elements to the historic district.” For the purposes of this nomination, any mature tree over the age of 50 years old aligning the northwest side of Jacob School Road or along the original plot lines are recommended as a contributing element to the district.

### **Descriptions of Non-Contributing Resources:**

**2.** 6311 Jacob School Road (JF-2803) is a one-story four-bay (w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in brick and rests on a continuous, poured concrete

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foundation. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are modern replacements. The building is in excellent condition.

**5.** 6411 Jacob School Road (JF- 2805) is a two-story four-bay (w/w/d/w) frame building topped with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in brick which extends down to grade. The building is in excellent condition. There is one associated outbuilding; a large, multi-car garage.

**8.** 6419 Jacob School Road (JF- 2806) is a two-story five-bay (w/w/w/d/w) frame building topped with a cross gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in brick and vinyl siding and rests on a continuous, poured concrete foundation. The building is in good condition. There is one outbuilding associated with the main residence; a brick clad garage topped by a front gable roof.

**9.** 6501 Jacob School Road (JF- 2807) was originally a vacant lot but now contains a section of driveway for a modern house as well as modern fencing.

**10.** 6503 Jacob School Road (JF- 2808) is a two-story five-bay (w/w/w/d/w) frame building topped with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in brick which extends down to grade. The building is in excellent condition.

**14.** 6511 Jacob School Road (JF-1857) is a one-story seven-bay (w/w/w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The structure is clad in vinyl siding. A three-bay porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a hip roof. Numerous additions are present. The building is in good condition. There is one outbuilding associated with the main residence; a frame garage.

**15.** 6513 Jacob School Road (JF-2809) is a one-story four-bay (w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in wood panel siding. A two-bay porch adorns the front façade. It is topped by a shed roof. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are modern, vinyl replacements. The building is in excellent condition.

**19.** 6609 Jacob School Road (JF- 2811) is a one-story five-bay (w/w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in vinyl siding. A modern, wood deck allows access to the front entrance. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are modern, vinyl replacements. The building is in good condition.

**20.** 6611 Jacob School Road (JF- 2812) is a two-story building topped with a front gable roof. It is clad in metal siding. The building is in good condition.

**24.** 6709 Jacob School Road (JF-2082) is a one-story five-bay (d/w/d/w/w) frame building constructed in the Ranch style. It is topped with a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the east side of Jacob School Road and is oriented to the west. The residence is clad in brick and rests on a continuous concrete foundation. An internal brick chimney is present. The fenestration pattern

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appears unaltered; however the windows are modern replacements. The building is in good condition.

**27.** 7504 River Road (JF-2815) is a one-story four-bay (w/d/w/w) frame building constructed in the Ranch style. It is topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the west side of River Road and is oriented to the southeast. The residence is clad in stone veneer and rests on a continuous concrete foundation. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are modern replacements. A garage is located beneath the main floor of the residence. The building is in excellent condition.

**28.** 7512 River Road (JF-2816) is a one-story five-bay (w/w/d/w/w) frame building topped with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The site sits on the west side of River Road and is oriented to the southeast. The residence is clad in brick veneer which extends down to grade. The fenestration pattern appears unaltered; however the windows are modern replacements. An external brick chimney is present. The building is in good condition.

### **Changes to the District since the Period of Significance**

As experienced by many historic hamlets in Jefferson County, recent development is transforming the once rural countryside. Modern in-fill is beginning to change the characteristics of Jacob School Road, as discordant modern houses are constructed. The modern homes being built within the neighborhood are much larger in scale. Paralleling the changes in the built environment, the demographics of the neighborhood are changing too, replacing the initial collection of interrelated African American families with a less-cohesive community of people without historic connections to the district.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Ethnic Heritage: Black

Education

### Period of Significance

1916-1957

### Significant Dates

1916-1917 (construction of school)

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

### Cultural Affiliation

NA

### Architect/Builder

Taylor, James T. (architect)

### Period of Significance (justification)

The dates chosen begin with the construction of the Jefferson Jacob School and ends when the school was closed. All the remaining contributing resources fall within these dates.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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## Statement of Significance

### Summary

The Jacob School Road Historic District meets National Register Criterion A and is significant within the historic context, African American Communities in Jefferson County, Kentucky, 1865-1965. During the Period of Significance, racial segregation and discrimination was the norm; this extended to every aspect of life including where one lived, worked, went to school and socialized. The Jacob School Road Historic District is an excellent example of an African American hamlet which contains resources related to residential, educational and social aspects of life. It possesses significance and retains a high degree of integrity in all seven aspects.

### Historic Context: African American Communities in Jefferson County, Kentucky, 1865-1965

#### Postbellum Louisville and Jefferson County

Following the Civil War, Louisville emerged relatively undamaged, and the city's identity began to shift from a western city to a southern city with a strong Confederate identity where "it seemed that a part of the 'rite of passage' into the business world of the city was to have been an officer in the Confederacy. Nearly all of Louisville's journalists, lawyers, realtors, and merchants were former rebels" (Wright, 1985). Industry continued to grow and the population continued to expand, attracting both wealthy former Confederates fleeing the occupied South and recently-freed African Americans searching for a new life. Rapid population growth led to extreme crowding and resulting health concerns.

Although as a Union state, Kentucky was not subject to Reconstruction, the mounting discrimination and racial violence led the government to place the state under the jurisdiction of the Freedman's Bureau to protect the civil rights of African Americans. The Freedman's Bureau was a federal agency established to aid former slaves during the Reconstruction Period, championing education and fair trials for African Americans. Postbellum legislation created separate institutions by race for education, taxation, marriages, criminal penalties, and more, effectively

creating two separate worlds of race and, in the separate and unequal world forced upon African Americans, discrimination, poverty, poor housing, crime, and police brutality became commonplace... Life in the post-Civil War African American community had several defining characteristics. First, housing was inadequate and overcrowding was common. While more fortunate African Americans lived in single-family homes, most others lived in tenements and shacks. Diseases and unsanitary conditions were part of the urban landscape. Jobs were plentiful for African Americans in Louisville's strong economy, but wages were generally low. Consequently, these neighborhoods were crowded with folks who were moderately to extremely impoverished" (Aubespain, 2011).

Despite these very real hardships in Louisville, African Americans elsewhere in the South faced worse hostilities. George Wright notes that

an essential aspect of Louisville life that kept racial friction to a minimum (and often gave the appearance of idyllic race relations when compared to the South) was the attitude of Louisville's upper-class whites and their desire to maintain racial order in the city. From the antebellum days,

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when most of the slaves had worked in close contact with their masters and mistresses, a form of paternalism had developed... Louisville's leading white citizens often seemed genuinely concerned about Afro-Americans and generously supported a number of black causes. But these whites were very selective about what to support, and in return they demanded that blacks be passive and remain in the place assigned to them in Louisville society... What existed in Louisville was racism in a polite form; it would remain polite as long as Afro-Americans willingly accepted 'their place,' which, of course, was at the bottom" (Wright, 1985).

Further, "Adequate housing was a continuing problem, with the poor being relegated to places not fit for animals and the middle-and upper-class blacks meeting sharp opposition to their attempts to move into better housing in white neighborhoods" (Wright, 1985). During the 1880s and 1890s, numerous Jim Crow laws were established throughout the state and country to legally establish a systematic system of racial segregation. In Kentucky, Jim Crow laws began in 1866 with a ban on interracial marriage. These provisions were predicated upon a "separate but equal" condition for institutions, such as education, public transportation, public accommodations, health care, housing, and more. At the close of the 19th century, African Americans in Louisville were generally segregated in schools, on streetcars, at restaurants, in theaters and entertainment venues, at welfare institutions, at public hospitals, and more (Wright, 1985). In 1896, the US Supreme Court ruled that segregation was legal; this decision would stand until the mid-20th century.

Numerous developments and historic events occurred in Louisville during the decades of postbellum segregation that demonstrated a willingness among the black population to campaign for fairer treatment and a viable place for the African American community:

- In 1868, the 14th Amendment guaranteed African Americans citizenship and civil rights.
- In 1870, the 15th Amendment was ratified, providing suffrage for African American males.
- Alongside 15 private schools within the city, the first public school for African Americans in Louisville opened in October 1870. Numerous other schools followed.
- Also in 1870, Quinn Chapel organized "Freedom Rides" to protest segregation on streetcars. This is the first known protest of racial segregation in the state.
- In 1872, African Americans were permitted to testify in Kentucky courts.
- In 1873, the United Brothers of Friendship was chartered.
- The Civil Rights Act was passed in 1875. It was ruled unconstitutional in 1883.
- The first Kentucky Derby was run in 1875; the winner, Aristides, was ridden by African American jockey, Oliver Lewis.
- In 1877, the Colored Orphans Home was founded, making it the first social welfare institution for African Americans in Louisville.
- In 1904, passage of the Day Law officially segregated all higher education in the state. The law would be amended in 1950 to allow individual universities to determine whether to admit African Americans and would be repealed in 1954.
- In 1905, the Western Branch Library opened to serve African Americans; three years after the Louisville Free Public Library was founded.
- In 1914, the Louisville Board of Aldermen adopted a housing segregation ordinance; the first branch of the NAACP in Kentucky was organized in Louisville in response. The ordinance was

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initially upheld by the Criminal Court, which was presided over by Judge James P. Gregory later that same year. However, in 1917, the ordinance was overturned by the Supreme Court.

Countywide, 1880-1900 was a turning point for agriculture. Total acreage in farms and the production of hay, horses, dairy cattle, and corn plateaued and fell during this period (Carey, 1990). Large-scale production of a single cash crop became infeasible without the enslaved labor force; only tobacco farming expanded at a large-scale during this period. Smaller farms and tenant laborers became the norm in rural areas throughout the county. Russell Chamberlain recalls that tenant farmers in Harrods Creek, regardless of color, were “at the bottom end of the income and educational scale, and were desperate for any kind of work which they could obtain” (1994).

The decades following the Civil War also saw a major advancement in urban transportation. Extensive railroad expansions served the city’s growing economy. Construction of the Louisville, Harrods Creek, and Westport Railroad interurban line opened areas to accelerated suburban development. Commuter service between downtown Louisville and Harrods Creek began in 1875. Area residents now had a convenient way to live along the riverfront bluffs and still work in the city. By 1883, there were 21 stops along the 11-mile route, “many for prominent landowners who held shares in the railroad” (CTS, 2012). By 1904, the line was electrified and included stops at Glenview, Harrods Creek, Transylvania, and Prospect.

### **Residential Makeup of Louisville and Jefferson County: Postbellum to 1940**

After the Civil War, cities all over the country, including Louisville, saw vast numbers of African Americans moving into urban areas. Scott Cummings and Michael Price in their paper entitled; *Race Relations in Louisville: Southern Racial Traditions and Northern Class Dynamics*, called it the “... beginning of black American urbanization” (1990). By 1870, the number of African Americans living in cities had nearly doubled. The increase in Louisville’s African American population from 1870 to 1960 saw a steady rise from 14,956 to 70,075 (Cummings and Price 1990).

As the influx of African Americans into the city of Louisville steadily increased from 1870 to 1920; the majority settled near the central business district. The accommodations were described as unsanitary, dilapidated and often considered to be a serious fire hazard (Wright 1985). As other groups migrated to Louisville and created their own communities based on ethnicity, such as Germantown and Limerick; the main factor in the make-up of the city’s neighborhoods was race.

By 1920 the west side of Louisville saw African American neighborhoods of Russell, California District, and along Walnut Street established. This was met by opposition by other residents which successfully passed a segregation ordinance to try and limit where African Americans could live. While this ordinance was later overturned in the court system, it was yet another visible sign of the attitude of residential segregation. Eventually, the West End would contain the highest concentration of African Americans in the city.

While African Americans were moving into the city in great numbers, other ethnic groups were moving out to the suburbs in the county. Improved transportation and the decline in agricultural production correlated with this drastic suburbanization of the surrounding county. During the 1930s and 1940s, the majority of the expansion occurred to the south and west.



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Following the Civil War, many of the large farms in eastern Jefferson County were divided and sold to new owners. The wealth and exclusivity of the River Road corridor in eastern Jefferson County precluded the extensive development seen elsewhere in the county. A significant number of Louisville's upper economic class developed eastern Jefferson County by establishing an iconic type of property, a "Gentleman Farm," which combined a working farm with a lavish country estate. The Gentleman Farm property type is exemplified by the Country Estates of River Road Historic District (NR 1999; NRIS 99000495). This trend began with the farms providing summer retreats for the wealthy but quickly evolved to include architect-designed year-round residences with landscaped grounds. The domestic staffs to run these large estates were often African Americans, who settled nearby in small, humble hamlets.

### **African American Communities within Louisville and Jefferson County**

The following are brief descriptions of other African American communities once located within Jefferson County. Although many such communities arose and thrived throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, limited information about the day-to-day lives of each community has been documented. Few historic elements of these enclaves remain today. Many of these properties have been listed in the National Register, where a much fuller account of their story can be found. For those listed communities, a citation will be given to the year of listing and the National Register identification number, to aid in obtaining an electronic copy of the form.

*Park DuValle* is located southwest of downtown Louisville. The earliest development began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century following the Civil War but the majority of the community was developed in the 1940s. The original residences were mostly replaced during urban renewal efforts with the construction of large housing projects which are themselves being replaced in a new revitalization effort (Kleber 2000).

*Limerick*, (NR 1978, expanded 1983; NRIS 78001360 & 83003715) while originally an Irish American neighborhood; always contained a large population of African Americans throughout its history. It is located one mile south of downtown Louisville and was originally developed in the 1860s for workers of the Louisville and Nashville freight yard. Housing was varied for the residents of the neighborhood. More wealthy families built large, two story homes while Irish workers lived in shotgun houses and the African American residents found housing in the alleyways of the neighborhood. As the Irish residents began moving out to newer subdivisions, African Americans moved from the alleyways to the vacant shotgun houses (Kleber 2000).

In addition the neighborhood was the location of the first state-supported public school for African Americans. It was opened in 1873 and was called Louisville Central Public School. The community boasted two successive baseball fields starting in 1874, both with the name of Eclipse Park. The ballpark was home to Louisville's major league team, the Louisville Colonels (Kleber 2000).

*Smoketown* (NR 1997; NRIS 97000661) is located southeast of downtown Louisville. Originally settled by German families in the 1850s, the neighborhood soon was the destination of thousands of freed slaves following the Civil War. By 1870, Smoketown was overwhelmingly African American in population. The area was home to several brick-making kilns, with nine being listed in 1871. Housing consisted of frame, shotgun houses that lined the narrow streets. The vast majority of these

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houses were rented and not owned by the African American families living in them (Hampton 1993). It was a densely populated neighborhood with a population of 15,000 in 1880.

By 1960, the area had experienced massive population loss with many families and businesses moving to other areas of the city. Many of the historic homes and buildings were demolished to make way for large housing projects. The neighborhood has a middle school, community center and a Baptist church to serve the residents (McClendon 1992).

As with other urban neighborhoods that have undergone development, only the larger, "nicer" buildings have a chance of survival while the smaller more "normal" buildings are seen as having little value and are quickly removed. Smoketown's historic fabric and character has been severely altered by the loss of a large number of buildings, including many of the smaller shotgun style residences that once lined the streets.

*Chickasaw* is located west of downtown Louisville. Born out of segregation, Chickasaw was reserved for African Americans, while to the north, Shawnee Park was reserved for whites.

*Russell* (NR 1980, expanded 2000; NRIS 80001617 & 00000273) is located west of downtown Louisville. In the 1870s, street car lines reached the area and the community's population began to climb. Originally the neighborhood was a mixture of affluent, white families and working class African Americans and whites. The housing reflected the mixture, with large homes along the main roadways and small shotgun style homes on side streets and alley ways.

Russell saw the exit of many of the wealthy families in the 1890s, and the influx of more working class African Americans. The area flourished through the 1940s and the community could boast of theaters, restaurants, churches, and night clubs. America's first public library exclusively for African Americans is located in Russell opening in 1908. The Russell area was described by a visiting report from Indianapolis in 1910 as, "extremely popular with black professionals and businessmen." He went on to say that the residences he visited in Russell had "all of the modern conveniences found in homes owned by whites" (Baye n.d).

Following World War II, Russell again saw an exodus, this time middle class African Americans left for neighborhoods to the east and south. Much of the historic fabric was lost in the community's eastern section when Urban Renewal occurred in the 1960s. Betty Winston Baye in her *Louisville Courier Journal* article entitled, "Russell with Influential Institutions, Glamorous Homes, the Area Served as Testimony to Heights of Black Achievement," says Russell is a mere shadow of its former self, with many vacant lots and abandoned buildings found throughout the community (n.d).

*Park Hill* is located west of downtown Louisville. It dates back to the late-19<sup>th</sup> century where the southwestern portion of the neighborhood was farmland (Kleber 2000).

*Petersburg/Newburg* was originally two separate communities; one of African Americans and the other of German descent. Petersburg was the area in which the freed slaves began to settle while Newburg, originally spelled Newburgh, was originally settled by four German families in the 1820s. Both are located on the south side of the city of Louisville. The first African Americans to settle in the area, that would later be called Petersburg, were Eliza and Henry Tevis in 1851. They were free and

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owned a 40-acre farm. Following the Civil War, African Americans began buying land in the area and began farming.

The area remained rural, surrounded by farmland up until the 1950s when suburbia finally reached it. The biggest change occurred in the following decade, when in the 1960s Urban Renewal efforts, "wiped out the area's unpaved roads, outhouses, unlighted streets and substandard housing. It brought sidewalks, sewers, new roads, a community center and more than 100 new homes" (Goodwin n.d.). The 1970s proved to be a time of expansion not only for physical boundaries of the community but also the number of people calling it home.

*California* is located west of downtown Louisville and is thought to have first been settled by German immigrants around 1850. Following the Civil War, African Americans moved into the area and established a school. The community's population was a mixture of African Americans and German immigrants till around 1900, when many German families began moving. Over the next several decades nearly half the population had moved and 40% of its housing had been lost. California has been the subject of Urban Renewal efforts (Kleber 2000).

*Parkland* (NR 1980; NRIS 80001613), originally called Homestead, is located west of downtown Louisville and was settled in 1871. African American residents moved in early in the neighborhood's history with Joseph S. Cotter living there in 1876. As the neighborhood grew, two distinct areas emerged: Needmore, which was primarily African American, and Parkland, which was primarily white.

The area was hit by a tremendous tornado in 1890 which destroyed nearly all the residences and commercial businesses. However, as a sign of their resilience, the residents rebuilt their community and expanded their boundaries. A vast difference could be seen between the two areas of Parkland: the affluent white section had large homes built in the Queen Anne style while Needmore or Little Africa as it was called contained, "wood shacks, leaning shanties and public outhouses" (Pillow n.d.)

By 1916, the African American section of Parkland had 700 residences, six churches, seven groceries, one drug store, a county school and other professional services (Kleber 2000). However, in 1948 Urban Renewal removed older homes in favor of several housing projects. Overcrowding soon became an issue, the area started to decline, and businesses relocated in the 1960s. The original housing projects were replaced by new housing for the residents in the mid- to late- 1990s.

*Berrytown* is located along English Station Road, east of Louisville. The earliest settler was Alfred Berry, who bought a 10-acre parcel in 1874. The community grew as many of the African Americans who worked for the wealthy residents of the nearby community of Anchorage settled there (Muhammad n.d.).

In the 1960s, Berrytown saw a loss of residents as families moved into Louisville for industrial jobs. As a result, "many of the old neighborhoods were left with vacant properties and overgrown lots. They received few services from the county, which eventually bought the vacant lots but left them undeveloped" (Mohammad n.d.). Urban Renewal expanded the southern portion of the community.

*Griffytown* is located along Old Harrods Creek Run. It traces its origins back to 1879 when Dan Griffy purchased the land where he had been living. Soon, other African Americans began settling in the

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area and a community was established. For the next 90 years, the area remained predominantly African American. Then in the 1960s, similar to Berrytown, many residents left for the city, taking industrial jobs. Eventually, the neighborhood was redeveloped through urban renewal at which time most of the older buildings and homes were replaced (Kleber 2000).

*Harrods Creek* (NR 1991; NRIS 91001679) is located along River Road north of Louisville in the area known as “The Neck.” By 1870, local census indicated that 176 African Americans lived in the area, including the free African American families of Thomas Taylor, Jeff Taylor, William Taylor, George Taylor, Jefferson Jacob, and Lewis Brooks. In 1890, Isaac and Mary Hall Merriweather purchased land and constructed their large home in the area (CDM Smith 2013).

By 1905 the area included a number of new homes and buildings. The pages from the 1913 Louisville Title Company mapping identify property owners in the Harrods Creek and Prospect area. Records indicate that the area “included an interesting mix of white, black, mulatto, and international residents” (Turley-Adams, n.d.).

Limited development occurred in the Harrods Creek area during the mid-20th century. James S. Taylor, son of James T. Taylor, created a 30-lot riverfront subdivision – Beachland – west of his father’s subdivision. A series of cabins and docks were constructed for African American use on the Merriwether property in the 1950s. With increased opportunities opening for minorities, the African American community at Harrods Creek began to experience an emigration of its youth. Increasing property values along the River Road corridor in Jefferson County contributed to further gentrification and, into the late-20th century, a loss of community in the historically African American settlement.

The *James T. Taylor Subdivision* is located west of River Road just south of Prospect, adjacent to Jacob School Road. It began in 1920 when James Taylor purchased land from the A. E. Shirley Farm. In 1922, he began to subdivide the land into 38 lots along Shirley Avenue. A second plat was filed in 1924 which extended the subdivision to the east of the original 1922 plat. Duroc Avenue was the central road within the 1924 plat that contained 37 lots.

The overarching vision of James Taylor was to create a self-sufficient rural community where African Americans could live and raise gardens and livestock. “Taylor’s subdivision quickly became the heart of the area’s African American community after the 1920s. Taylor developed the neighborhood out of his vision to merge the amenities of a modern suburb with the benefits of rural life” (Fiegel, 2002). Within the past few years, modern in-fill has begun to occur in the subdivision. Larger homes are being built and a complex of townhomes has been constructed on Duroc Avenue.

### **Evaluation of the Significance of the Jacob School Road Historic District within the context of African American Communities in Jefferson County, Kentucky, 1865-1965**

Louisville and Jefferson County have a rich African American history. Since the years following the Civil War, African Americans have been creating for themselves communities/neighborhoods that they could call home. This occurred in the very urban areas of downtown Louisville (as seen in Smoketown and Parkland) and out in the more rural parts of the county (e.g., Griffytown and Harrods Creek). These communities span a large time period; while most have an earlier beginning than Jacob School Road, all overlap in various degrees in their time of occupation.

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When comparing Jacob School Road with other African American communities in Louisville and Jefferson County, only a few commonalities appear.

- First, all were born out of necessity in response to the segregation practices of the day. A 1914 city ordinance (overturned three years later by the Supreme Court) prohibited blacks from buying real estate in predominantly white neighborhoods and vice versa.
- Second, many of these communities contained similar resources in relation to the built environment. While largely comprised of single-family residences, other buildings included schools, churches, social gathering places and a number of residential and agricultural outbuildings. Jacob School Road, like the community of Parkland, contained not only residences and outbuildings but also a school for its residences and others.
- Third, the historic fabric of many of these hamlets, particularly in rural areas, has been diminished as modern suburban development has progressed. While larger “nicer” homes and buildings have generally been preserved, the smaller more “normal” buildings have traditionally been seen as having little value and have been cleared to make way for modern redevelopment.

However and maybe more importantly, the comparison also reveals a number of differences between Jacob School Road and other African American communities which highlight its importance.

While other communities evolved over time into African American enclaves that were initially settled by other ethnic groups, Jacob School Road, for all intents and purposes, was established by African Americans. Early residents settled this niche community, nestled among the elaborate gentleman farms of East End, claiming a haven where they could thrive despite their perceived status as an inferior race of second-class citizens. With placement of the Jefferson Jacob School, the area was ideal for an African American community. Jim Crow laws limited options for African Americans: the types of jobs available, accessibility of real estate, educational opportunities, public accommodations/services, and more. The presence of an established African American community, with an existing school, nearby churches, community leaders, and social patterns, attracted other black families to the area. Large lots allowed individual families to plant gardens or raise livestock to supplement low incomes, creating an environment to foster a self-sufficient dignified lifestyle in an era of racial discrimination.

The older Jacob School Road community served as inspiration for James T. Taylor as he envisioned his ideal African American community, embodied in the adjacent James T. Taylor Subdivision. Taylor built on the patterns established along Jacob School Road to establish his planned community along Duroc, Bass, and Shirley Avenues. His vision for the subdivision was one of large lots that allowed ample room for gardens and small livestock to help the home owners create a more idyllic, self-sufficient lifestyle. He incorporated landscaping to preserve the rural natural environment of the Harrods Creek area. He invested in public spaces (paving roads and creating a park) and hand-selected residents from among his relatives and friends, even carrying mortgages for those in need to ensure less fortunate families had a chance at home ownership.

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The sheer survival of a large number of its original resources is another difference when compared to the majority of other historic African American communities. These resources are not limited to buildings, but also include open spaces, the transportation route, and vegetation. Many other historical African American communities have been subject to Urban Renewal, which replaced the original buildings with consolidated housing. Not only the buildings and structures were lost within these communities, but also the open spaces, circulation patterns, and vegetation. Prime examples of this are the rural African American hamlets of Griffytown and Berrytown. Both have experienced Urban Renewal and have lost many of its historic resources.

### **Evaluation of the Integrity of Jacob School Road Historic District**

A significant African American neighborhood in Jefferson County will become eligible for the National Register if it retains the following factors which convey its significance: location, setting, design, and some materials. With these four integrity factors, the district will possess the most important integrity factor related to Criterion A, integrity of association. The following examines the Jacob School Road Historic district in relation to the seven aspects of integrity.

**Integrity of Location:** The district displays integrity of **location** as it occupies the same place since the school and earliest residence was constructed in 1916/17.

**Integrity of Design:** The **design** of the Jacob School Road Historic District remains largely intact as the single street is in its original position lined with residences. Lot locations line the northeast side of the road, unchanged since the period of significance. James Taylor is also credited with planting trees along the road that served the neighborhood. Mature trees are still present and continue to reflect that design.

**Integrity of Setting:** The Jacob School Road Historic District retains integrity of setting. The original setting was a rural hamlet situated among the wooded natural beauty of the Ohio River bluffs. Even though today new neighborhoods and commercial development draw ever closer, buffers provided by River Road, James T. Taylor subdivision and the City of Louisville Water Company have sheltered it from drastic change. In addition, the large trees lining the narrow Jacob School Road help to retain the rural **setting** of the district.

**Integrity of Materials:** The historic **materials** of the district are still present in many of the buildings contributing to the district. Materials such as brick, concrete, weatherboard siding are all still seen on the various residences and schoolhouse lining Jacob School Road. Some new residences have been constructed and older ones have been altered with more modern materials such as vinyl siding. Thus, the integrity of materials is declining.

**Integrity of Workmanship:** The evidence of **workmanship** within the Jacob School Road Historic District is still found in the historic buildings that fall within its boundaries. Houses, some nearing 100 years old, constructed in styles such as Bungalow and I-House, as well as vernacular forms, all stand as a testimony to the craft of the builders and homeowners. The Jefferson Jacob School also bears witness to the workmanship of the builders that built the defining resource within the community. During its construction, African Americans agreed to “do all the necessary excavating; furnish all the material for the walls and floor of the basement to be made of concrete and will, under the supervision of a competent person, do all the work necessary in making forms and filling same

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with the concrete,” in addition “to haul all the material necessary for the erection of a two-room school building with 2 rooms in the basement for manual training and domestic science” (Gray 1916).

**Integrity of Feeling:** The **feeling** of a rural subdivision can still be felt when you turn onto Jacob School Road. The narrow road, mature trees, single family homes, and prominent school building, harken back to a time where one’s neighborhood was an extension of one’s family, the road was part of one’s playground and the neighborhood was a place of rest and belonging. Longtime residents embrace this feeling with their stories and memories of life in the early neighborhood; they tell stories full of family and community.

**Integrity of Association:** The Jacob School Road Historic District is **associated** with an important time in our nation’s history; a time that cannot be forgotten, where lessons were learned about such important concepts as human worth, independence, community, and self-reliance. Through the struggle of segregation and racism, a vibrant and thriving community evolved. The Jacob School Road Historic District embodies the struggle and triumphs of this period in history as well as highlights the importance of education and the strength and hope that it provided.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

☐ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other



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recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): JF 840, JF 840.002, JF 1853, JF 1854, JF 1855, JF 1856, JF 1858, JF 1859, JF 1860, JF 1862, JF 1861, JF 2088, JF 2804, JF 2810, JF 2813, JF 2814, JF 2817

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 30.8

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	619952.3	4245264.2	3	16	620466	4244805.3
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	620306.9	4244724.2	4	16	619952.3	4245407.1
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

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

The district boundary follows River Road to the South, the rear property lines on the East, and to the North and West the boundary follows a fence line that is located approximately 25 feet west of the centerline of Jacob School Road. See attached map.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary contains the properties which retain historic integrity and form a cohesive grouping of residential and educational properties along Jacob School Road. The boundary includes the mature trees along the western side of Jacob School Road which forms an avenue effect and maintains the rural feel of the area.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert W. Ball

organization CDM Smith

date 10/3/2014

street & number 1648 McGrathiana Parkway, Suite 340

telephone 859 254 5759

city or town Lexington

state KY

zip code 40511

e-mail ballrw@cdmsmith.com

## Photographs:

**Name of Property:** Jacob School Road Historic District

**City or Vicinity:** Prospect

**County:** Jefferson

**State:** Kentucky

**Photographer:** Chris Rankin

Jacob School Road Historic District

Name of Property

Jefferson, KY

County and State

**Date Photographed:** 6/12/2014

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

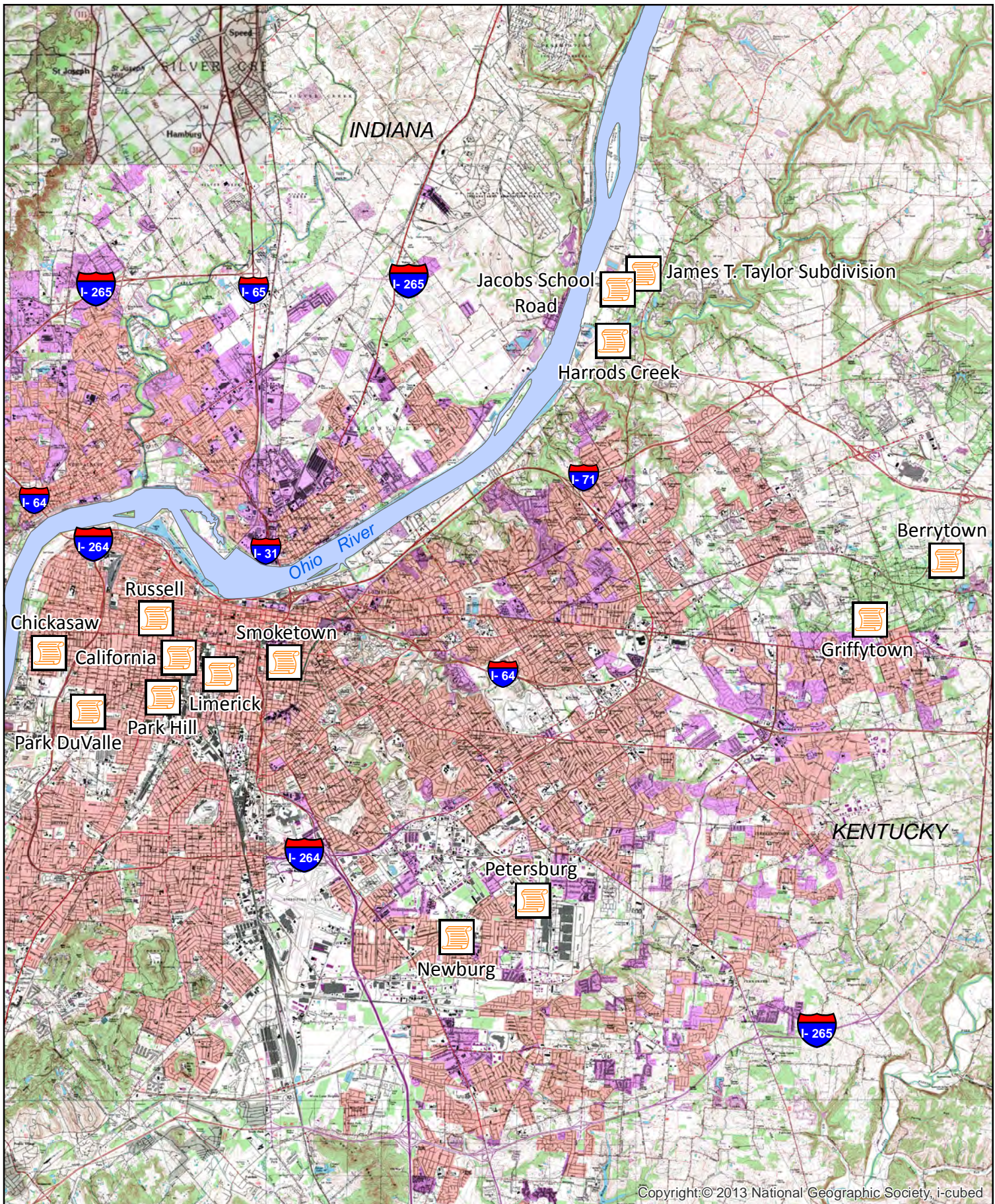
1. 6401 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing northeast
2. 6601 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing east.
3. 6517 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing north.
4. 6701 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing east.
5. 6713 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing north.
6. Jacob School Road, streetscape view including mature trees, camera looking northwest.
7. Jacob School Road, streetscape view including mature trees, camera looking southeast.
8. 6503 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing northeast
9. 6705 Jacob School Road, camera facing northeast
10. 6709 Jacob School Road façade, camera facing northeast

**Property Owner:**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_





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#### Legend



Neighborhoods/Hamlets



**CDM  
Smith**

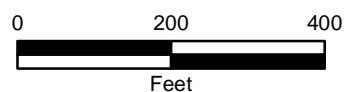




LOJIC, DGI

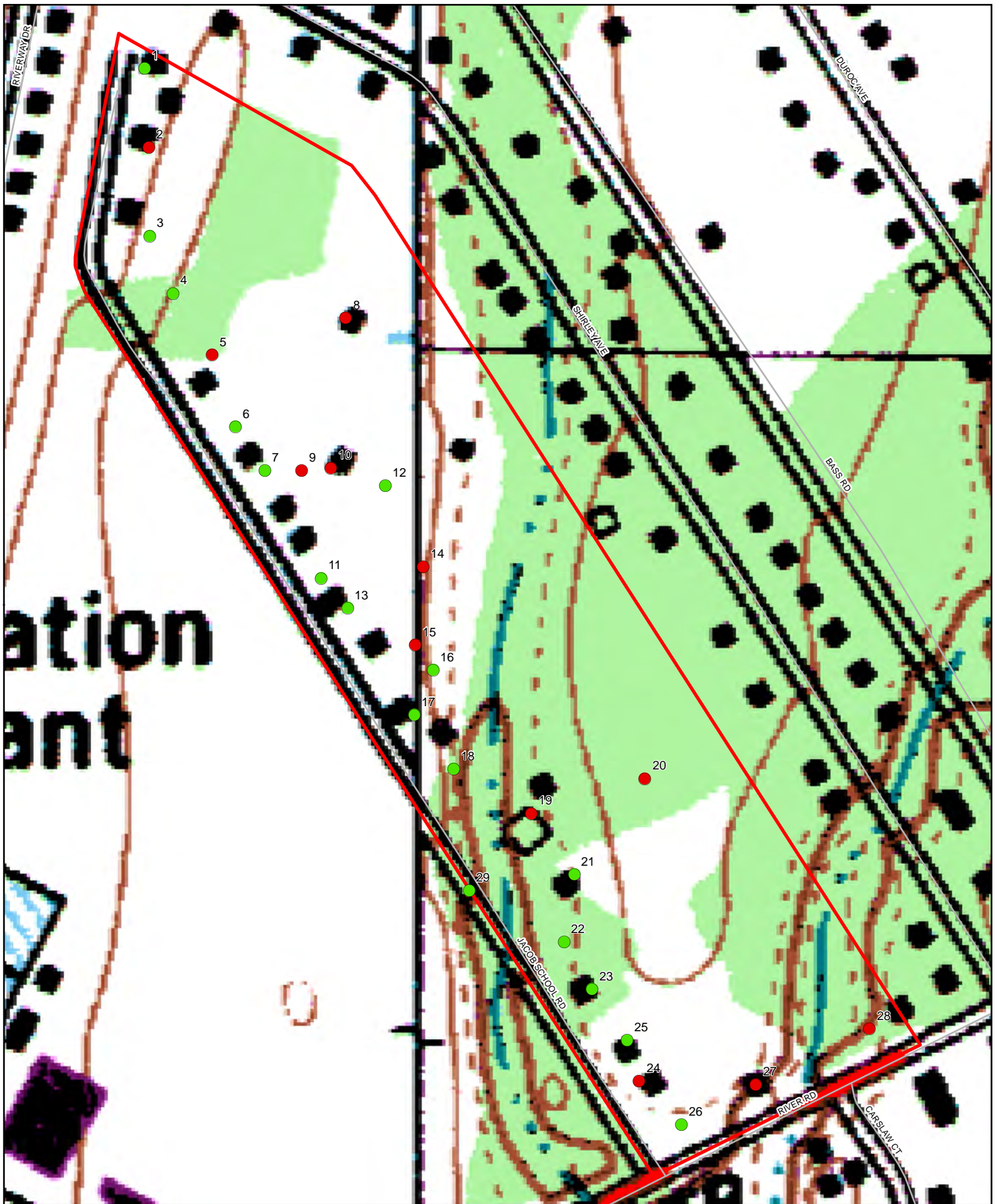
# Legend

- NRHP Boundary
- Contributing
- Non-Contributing



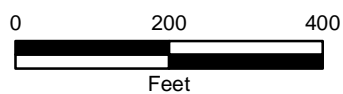
**CDM  
Smith**





Legend

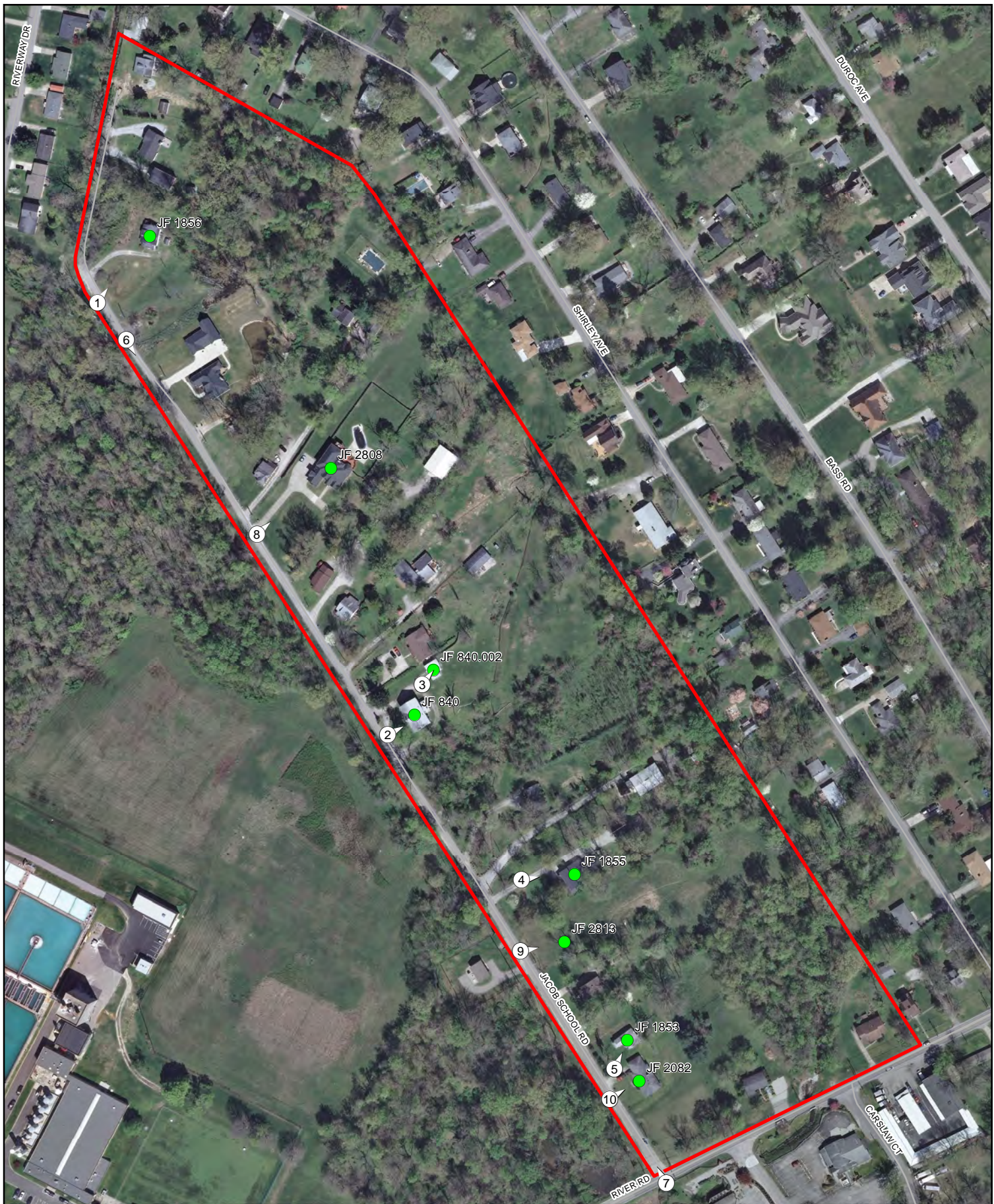
- NRHP Boundary
- Contributing
- Non-Contributing





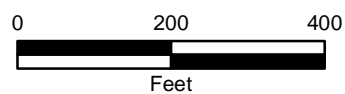






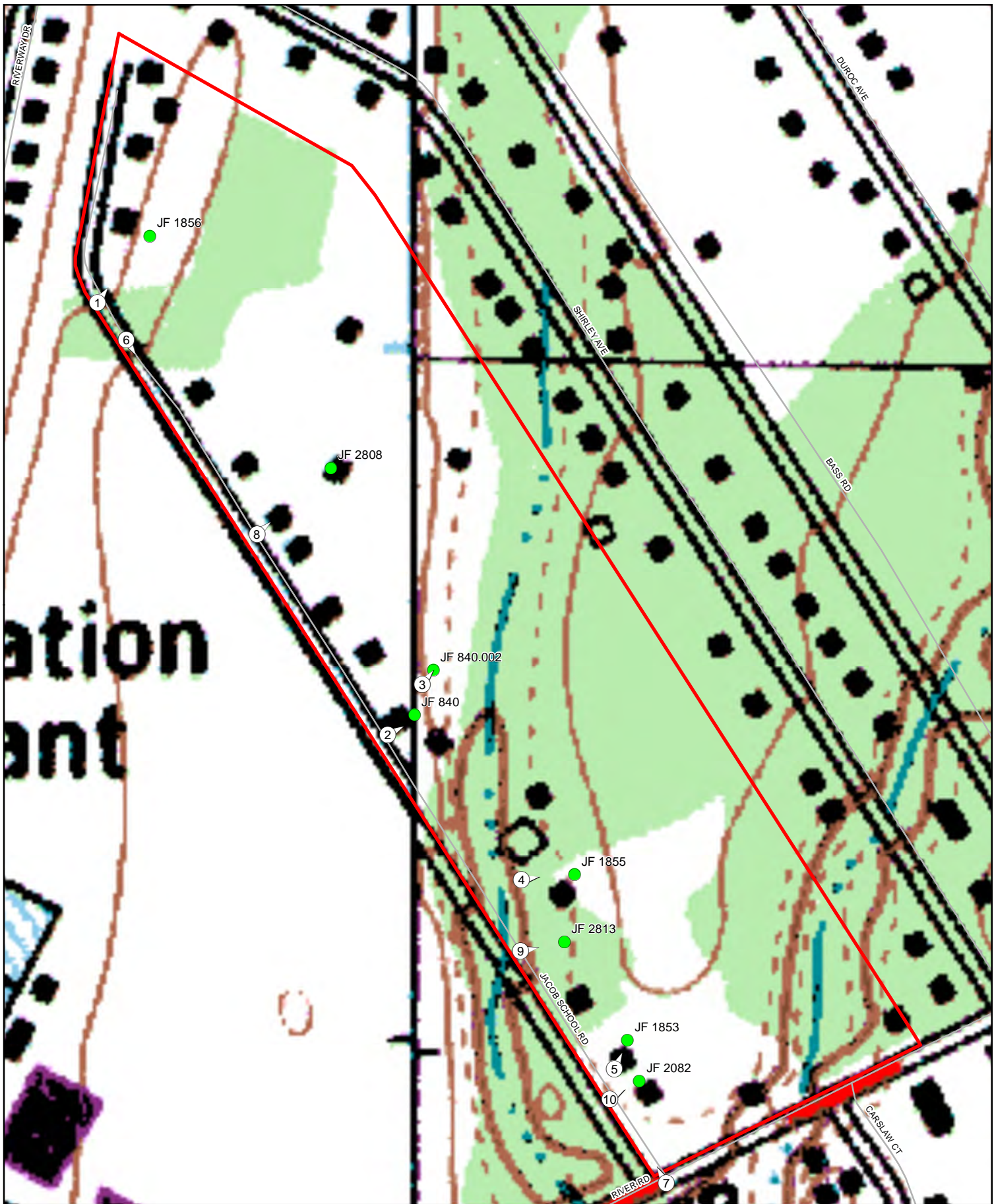
Legend

 NRHP Boundary



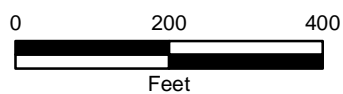
**CDM  
Smith**





Legend

NRHP Boundary



**CDM  
Smith**





Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4





Photo 5



Photo 6





Photo 7



Photo 8





Photo 9



Photo 10



JEFFERSONVILLE QUADRANGLE  
INDIANA-KENTUCKY  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

3860' NE  
(OWEN)





3880 NW  
(CHARLESTOWN)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF KENTUCKY  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

