

# ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE

## Nomination Form

AR 9-30-99

### 1. Name

historic Campbell Historic District

and/or common N/A

### 2. Location

street & number Intersection of AL 69 and county road 44

city, town Campbell ---vicinity of N/A

state Alabama county Clarke zip

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name Phone number

street & number

city, town ---vicinity of zip

### 5. Floor plan & site plan. Use space below to sketch floor plan and site plan or attach additional sheet.

(Please see attached.)

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**6. Description** (See attached instructions for specific guidelines.)

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.**

The Campbell Historic District is located around the intersection of county road 44 and state route 69. County road 44 makes a 90-degree turn to the east when it intersects the Cemetery Road in the middle of the Campbell community, forming this crossroads settlement in the northern portion of Clarke County. County road 44 then proceeds west through town to join AL 69. After this intersection, a road continues directly westward, and it is again known as the Woods Bluff Road. The land around Campbell is rolling and now largely given to stands of commercial timber. This upland section of the county contrasts with the wider and flatter river bottoms of southern Clarke County. Campbell's building stock represents a range of vernacular forms common in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century rural Alabama. Its spatial arrangement and variety of institutions reflect life in a small crossroads community.

**1. L-Cottage (c. 1890)**

East side of AL 69, south of county road 44

Faces north. One-story L-cottage with brick pier foundation, corrugated metal roof, and asbestos shingle siding. Large ell centrally placed on rear of building. Porch with simple square wood posts and wood floor shelters entrance to rear ell on south side. Two 9/9 windows in gable end of wing on east side of house. Screen porch covers west side of facade; horizontal beaded board on lower portion. Stone and brick chimney on west end, interior brick chimney on east side of house. Front door (accessed from inside screen porch) with sidelights. C

1A. Board and batten shed and shed-roofed privy south of house. C

1B. Gable-front garage with corrugated metal roof to west of house with bay door in eastern half and board and batten door in western half. C

**2. Big "G" Store (c. 1920, facade c. 1950)**

West side of AL 69, south of county road 44

Faces east. One-story commercial building with brick facade and stepped parapet front. Metal awning on facade shelters two display windows and double doors of entrance. Building behind facade is one-story gable-end weatherboard building with standing seam metal roof and exposed rafters at eaves. Three small rectangular windows located on north and south sides of building in upper portion of side walls. Screen door with door hood on rear portion of north side. C

2A. Two bay gable-front garage west of store with flushboard walls and standing seam metal roof. C

**3. Pyramidal-roof House (c. 1915)**

South side of Woods Bluff Road, west of Big "G" Store and AL 69

Faces north. One and a half story pyramidal roof house with standing seam metal roof and exposed rafters. Square block with rear ell rests on replacement concrete block piers. Exterior sheathed in vertical wood siding with grooves. Symmetrically placed interior brick chimneys on east and west sides of house. Facade features centered dormer with two 9/6 windows and replacement wood porch with standing seam metal roof. Porch posts have been removed and roof is temporarily supported by slender wood posts. Under porch, 6/6 windows



flank entrance of double doors with sidelights and transom in 5-bay first floor facade. Other windows are a mix of replacements and 6/6. Doors have two panels in lower portion and plate glass in upper portion. House had a screened porch with porch roof supported by square brick pillars at time of Clarke County survey. Porch alterations seem to respect original configuration. C

3A. Small gable-front office sheathed in weatherboard west of house, faces north. Foundation of replacement concrete block piers. Porch on facade shelters single door. Two 6/6 windows on east and west sides of building. Standing seam metal roof with exposed rafters. C

3B. Front gabled transverse passage plank barn with standing seam metal roof west of house. C

4. **Ranch House (c. 1970)**

North side of county road 44, east road of state route 69  
NC, due to date

5. **Downey House (c. 1930)**

South side of county road 44 east of state route 69

Faces north. One-story bungalow screened front porch and metal awning. Brick porch supports and concrete steps. Exterior sheathed in vinyl siding. Replacement paired 6/6 windows. C

5A. Frame weatherboard front gabled outbuilding, faces east. C

5B. Frame nonhistoric outbuilding. NC

6. **Campbell United Methodist Church (1924)**

South side of county road 44, west of intersection

Faces north. Gable front church sheathed in weatherboard with towers on both sides of facade. Brick pier foundation, pressed tin roof on towers, standing seam metal roof on rest of building. 6/6 windows on facade at base of towers; four symmetrically placed 6/6 windows on east and west sides of building. Vents on all four sides of towers. Utility light above paired entrance doors. Rear (south) elevation includes trapezoidal apse with 4/4 windows on two sides. 6/6 windows flank centrally placed apse. Paired tower configuration is very similar to the Salitpa Methodist Church farther south. C

7. **Post Office (c. 1930)**

North side of county road 44, west of intersection

Faces southeast. One-story gable front commercial building with novelty board siding and standing seam metal roof with exposed rafters under eaves. Porch on facade supported by wood posts shelters paired modern doors and two 6/6 windows. Porch floor is modern concrete with concrete steps and handicapped access ramp. Two small horizontal windows in upper portion of each side elevation. C

8. **Pickens Store (c. 1870)**

South side of county road 44, east of intersection

Faces north. One and a half story gable front weatherboard commercial building on brick pier foundation. Return cornice in the gable front and one 6/6 window centered in gable. Attached shed-roof porch with standing-seam metal roof supported by plain posts. Four-panel double doors and 6/6 windows. Flushboard siding under porch roof; weatherboard sheathes the rest of the building. Centrally-placed brick chimney. Loading dock with door hood at rear (south side) of building. Vent in top of gable on south side. C

9. **L-Cottage (c. 1920)**

South side of Cemetery Road, east of Pickens Store



Faces west. L-shaped house with pyramidal-roofed room inset between two wings of L. Gable ends of L wings have brackets; roof features exposed rafters at eaves. Porch with plain round posts wraps around west and north sides of pyramidal-roof section. Shed-roof addition on eastern elevation, modern deck on portion of southern elevation. Facade features bracketed gable end of L with paired 2/2 windows, entry door with 6 panes in top portion, and 2/2 window to north of door. Wooden steps lead up to porch. Asphalt shingle roof and brick pier foundation. C

9A. Weatherboard garage with corrugated metal roof. C

9B. Vertical plank outbuilding with corrugated metal roof. C

9C. Metal-clad nonhistoric shed outbuilding. NC

10. **Henson-Reid House (c. 1880)**

North side of Cemetery Road, east of Post Office

Faces south. Gable-front house with balcony in gable accessed by single-leaf door. Flushboard siding in gable end; weatherboard elsewhere. Gable has bracketed cornice and decorative shingling in peak. Integral front porch, now screened, supported by elaborately turned newels and balustrade. Front entrance through double door with sidelights. Board and batten siding under porch. One-story, two-room rear ell on west side of building with central brick chimney has shed-roofed porch on east and west elevation, northern portion of west elevation porch has been enclosed into shed rooms accessed by porch door. East elevation ell porch wraps around to join attached shed-roof porch on rear (north) elevation of main block. Gable ends, the east and west elevations, are composed of centered exterior brick chimneys flanked by 9/9 windows on first and second stories. On first floor of these elevations, 9/6 windows are located in the outermost section. Windows to north of chimney and in upper story of west elevation have been covered up. Rear (north) elevation composed of paired 6/6 windows in centered dormer over double rear entry doors with sidelights. 4/4 window to east of rear doors. Pier foundation materials are a combination of brick, concrete block, and stone. Property includes large cedar trees in front yard and canebrake to rear of house. According to local history, the house was constructed in the 1880s for John S. Henson.<sup>1</sup> C

10A. Front-gabled board and batten outbuilding, perhaps smokehouse, with standing seam metal roof. Rear porch was originally on turned posts. C

10B. Front-gabled vertical plank outbuilding with sheds on both sides. Rests on stone pier foundation; corrugated metal roof. C

10C. Front-gabled transverse passage barn with standing seam metal roof. Weatherboard in upper portion of gable end and flushboard in lower portion. Shed addition on the north side. C

11. **Henson Store (c. 1880)**

North side of Cemetery Road, east of Post Office

Faces south. Gable-front board and batten building that probably served as a commissary with corrugated metal in gable and horizontal flushboard on facade. Shed addition on east side is also board and batten. Main block has double diagonal flushboard doors on facade. Shed addition also has diagonal flushboard door on facade. Window openings without glazing flank entrance. Fieldstone and wood pier foundation, standing seam metal roof. Rear (north) elevation has weatherboard in gable end and two symmetrically placed window openings.

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<sup>1</sup>Mrs. Lewey Rogers, "Campbell," in Clarke County Historical Society, *Historical Sketches of Clarke County, Alabama* (Huntsville: Strode Publishers, 1977), 74.



Rear horizontal flushboard door on shed addition. C

12. **Spraddle Roof House (c. 1870)**

South side of Cemetery Road, east of Pickens Store

Faces north. One-story weatherboard cottage on fieldstone piers with standing seam metal roof. One exterior brick chimney on eastern gable end. Facade composed of porch with integral spraddle-roofline supported by square wood posts. Doors on facade into both rooms with a 9/6 window between them. Western elevation includes front porch and two 9/6 windows. Rear (south) elevation contains 9/6 window. Rear porch has been enclosed on most of rear except eastern portion, where screen is now falling off porch. Eastern elevation contains brick chimney flanked by 9/6 windows and silhouette of front and rear porches. C

12A. Front-gabled outbuilding with eave braces, vertical plank door on facade, standing seam metal roof. C

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## 7. Significance (See attached instructions for specific guidelines.)

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Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

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Specific dates c. 1870-1950

Builder/Architect Unknown

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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph).

### CRITERION A: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/SOCIAL HISTORY

Campbell is a good example of the small crossroads communities that dotted rural Alabama in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Several of Campbell's buildings reflect the steady growth that took place in Clarke County during the 1880s and the town's growth until the turn of the century.<sup>2</sup> The arrangement of commercial, residential, and institutional buildings reflects the development of the small town around a crossroads. The non-residential structures in Campbell are representative of major social and commercial institutions that shaped small-town life in the period: church, post office, and a country store are sited on three of the corners of the crossroads. These institutions served the needs of the overwhelmingly rural Clarke County population during the nineteenth century, which remained predominantly rural well into the twentieth. Agricultural outbuildings and a commissary store arranged around the oldest and most highly styled house in the district reflect the landscape of tenant agriculture would have surrounded the community until about the second World War. Small communities like Campbell have faced a mixed fate in the second half of the twentieth century, and many have lost population and businesses to larger towns and urban centers.

### CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

The buildings of Campbell are a representative selection of the type of structures that comprised crossroads communities in Clarke County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The building stock reflects several common regional vernacular forms from the late nineteenth century, Campbell's main period of growth. Thanks to Campbell's decline starting in the early twentieth century, many of these historic vernacular building types are still represented with little or no alteration.

The Pickens Store is an excellent example of the commercial buildings characteristic of Clarke County's crossroads communities. A 1997 context for Clarke County's historic buildings notes that a gable-front country store remained in almost every crossroads community in the county.<sup>3</sup> The front-gabled country store form "was the dominant rural store form in Clarke County and was built from at least the mid-nineteenth century well into the twentieth century."<sup>4</sup> Country stores were local meeting places and therefore focal points in their small towns. The Henson store is another example of the form, although this store's location near the complex of agricultural

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23. <sup>2</sup>Susan Enzweiler, "Historic and Architectural Properties of Clarke County, Alabama," 17.

<sup>3</sup>Enzweiler, 80.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.



outbuildings associated with the Henson-Reid House indicates it was probably used as a commissary in the tenant farming system prevalent during its period of construction.

Churches were another building type found in almost all of Clarke County's small communities. The Campbell Methodist Church is a variation on the most basic church form of a rectangular front-gabled frame building with a central entrance on the gable end. The Campbell church has the addition of two towers on the corners of the building flanking the entrance. This form is found in other turn-of-the-century churches in Clarke County.<sup>5</sup>

Other buildings in Campbell reflect modernization in the twentieth century. The influence of nationally-popular early twentieth-century architectural trends are shown by the Downey House's bungalow form as well as the Craftsman-influenced brackets on one of the L-cottages. Residences primarily clung to traditional vernacular forms, although garages belie the influence of automobiles. Although the facade of the Big "G" store exhibits qualities associated with mid twentieth-century commercial architecture, such as larger display windows, its basic rectangular form with central double doors flanked by windows and small clerestory windows in the upper portion of the side walls demonstrates the persistence of the nineteenth-century country store form. The main block of the store behind the brick facade appears to be older than the image presented to traffic on AL 69.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Campbell was settled in the early nineteenth century. It began as a farming community where many residents raised cotton or corn. Agriculture changed over time, and in the twentieth century farms around Campbell shifted to beef cattle and commercial forestry. The community grew because of the crossroads at its center, where two early main roads intersected. One was the 1828 road from Choctaw Corner to Woods Bluff across the northwestern portion of Clarke County, and the other was a stage road from Mobile to Demopolis. The latter served as an early U.S. mail route for western Alabama.<sup>6</sup> Campbell developed into a small town in the years following the Civil War. By the 1880s, the community had several stores, a school, and a post office as of June 22, 1886. A local history also reports the existence of "cotton gins, sawmills, a grist mill, brick kiln, blacksmith shop, and a cabinet shop, where wooden coffins were made by Sam Rush and sold to surrounding areas."<sup>7</sup> The population eventually peaked at about 500 in 1900.<sup>8</sup>

The Tallahatta Methodist Church was located approximately one mile east of Campbell until 1895, when it was moved to Campbell and the name changed to Campbell Methodist Church. This building burned in 1923, but the congregation rebuilt on the same site in 1924.<sup>9</sup>

Mrs. Lewey Rogers notes that "the population of Campbell has steadily decreased since the 1920s, when many residents moved to cotton plantations in the Mississippi Delta. When her article was published in 1977, she counted only about fifty residents in Campbell. At that time the community had dwindled to about the size it is today, with a church, two stores, and a post office."<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Enzweiler, 86.

<sup>6</sup>Rogers, 70-71.

<sup>7</sup>Rogers, 73.

<sup>8</sup>Enzweiler, 23.

<sup>9</sup>Rogers, 72-73.

<sup>10</sup>Rogers, 76.

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## 8. Major Bibliographical References

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Enzweiler, Susan. "Historic and Architectural Properties of Clarke County, Alabama." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Washington, DC: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 12 December 1997.

Rogers, Mrs. Lewey. "Campbell." In Clarke County Historical Society, *Historical Sketches of Clarke County, Alabama*. Huntsville: Strode Publishers, 1977.

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## 9. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name     Morvin    

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Enclose map showing location of property. (city or county map, state highway department map, or USGS map)

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## 10. Form Prepared By

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name/title	<u>Blythe Semmer, Historian</u>	date	<u>8/30/99</u>
organization	<u>Alabama Historical Commission</u>	telephone	<u>334-242-3184</u>
street & number	<u>468 S. Perry St.</u>	city or town	<u>Montgomery</u>
city or town	<u>Montgomery</u>	state	<u>AL</u>
		zip	<u>36130-0900</u>

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## 11. Please submit color slides of the property with this form.

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Color slides are essential to the review process.

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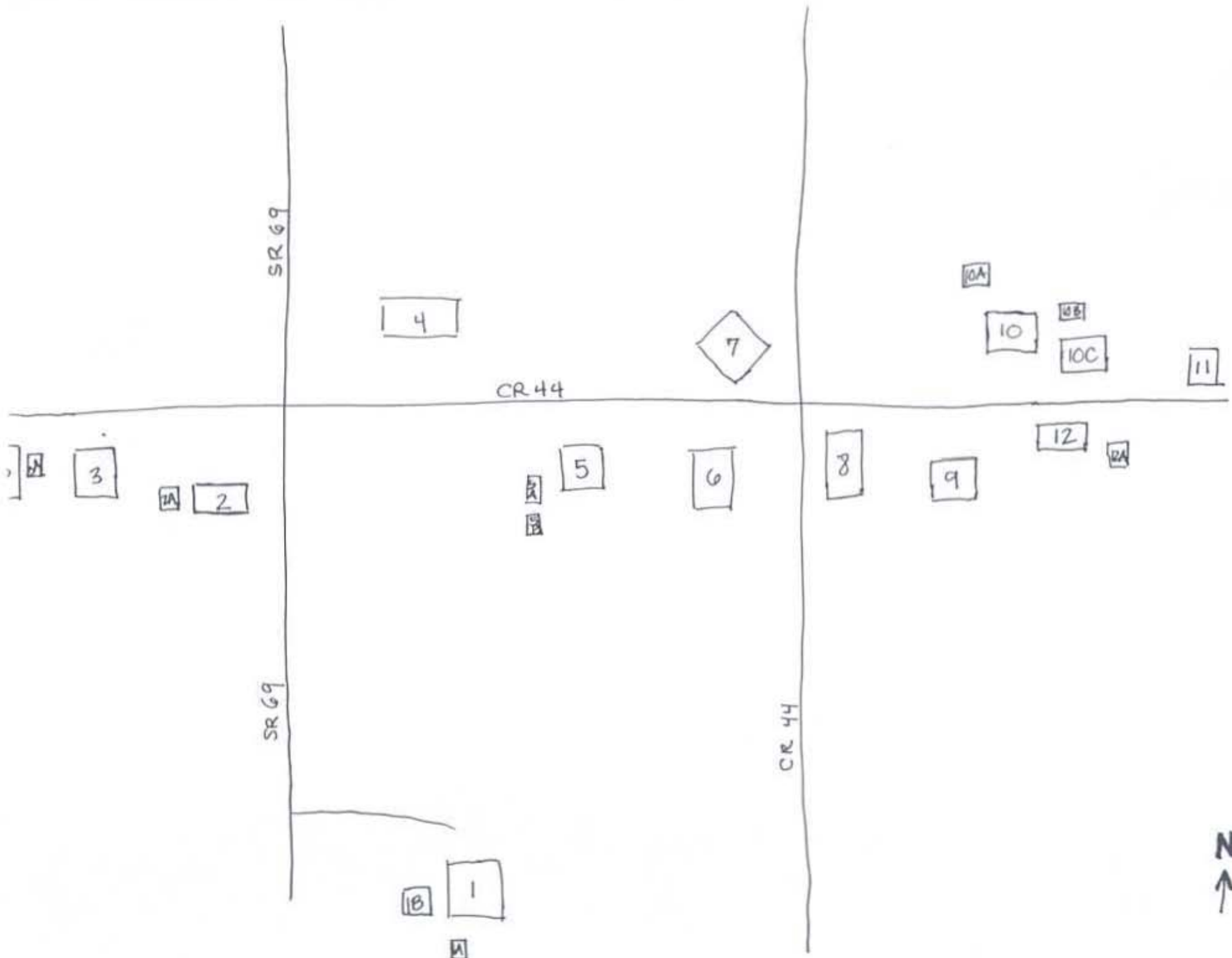
## 12. Please return ALABAMA REGISTER form and documentation to:

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Alabama Register Coordinator  
Alabama Historical Commission  
468 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900



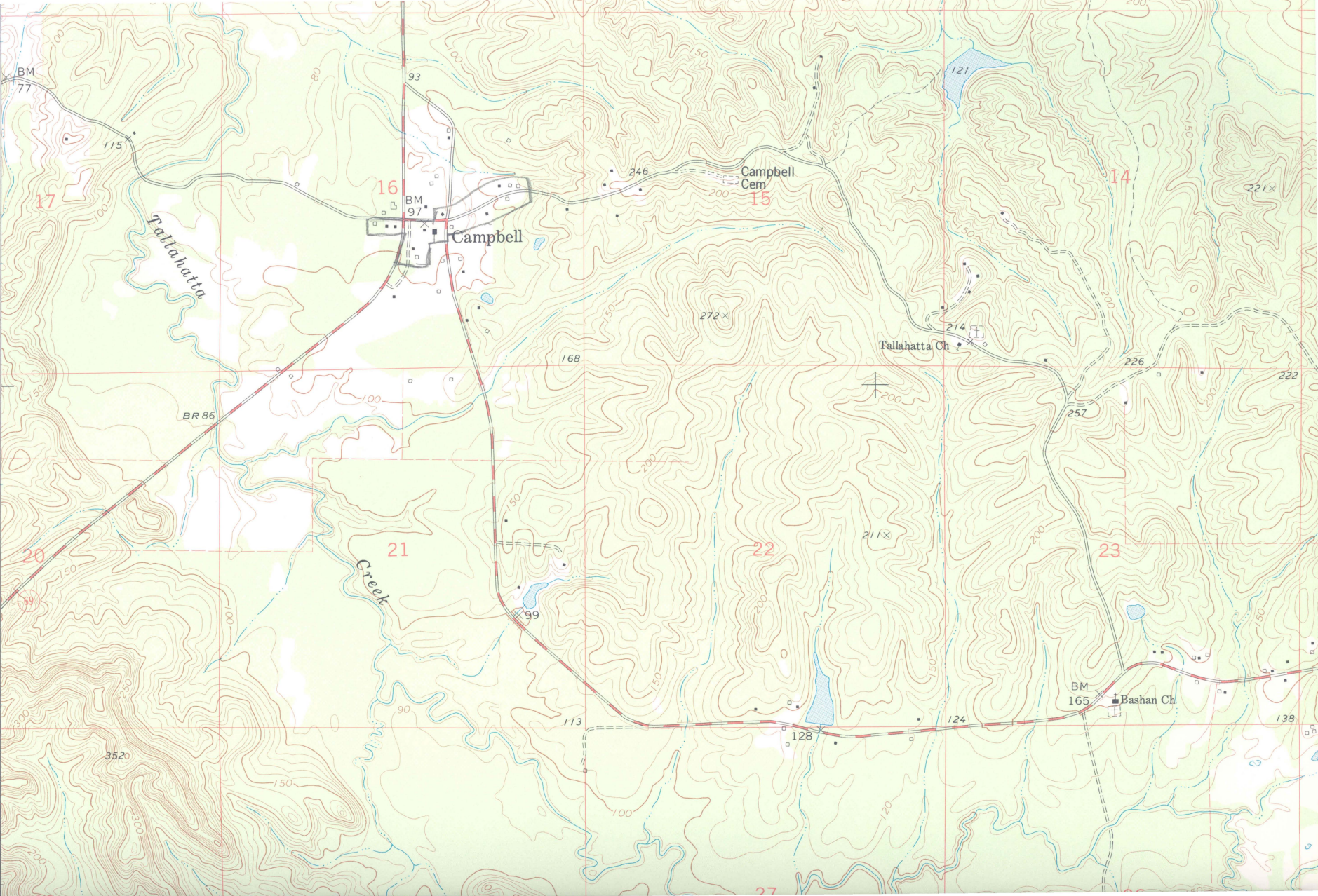
CAMPBELL DISTRICT, CLARKE COUNTY, AL



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3832  
55'  
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3830

JACKSON 35 MI.  
COFFEYVILLE 12 MI.

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FEET



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