



**LAND GRANT SIGNED BY TENNESSEE'S FIRST GOVERNOR**

**LOCATION:** Near the Greenback community at the junction of Morganton and Jackson Ferry Roads.

This dignified but lonely-appearing brick home was built on an original land grant given to Robert Hughes and signed by William Blount in 1809. The house was built by him prior to 1840, and is two stories with two large rooms and a central hall on each floor. The bricks are an unusual shade of brown, which color was caused by the ore pigment in the clay. Remnants of the brick kiln where they were burned still remain near the site of the house. The timbers were hand-hewn or sawed by one of the old vertical saws, and the finished lumber inside the house clearly shows it was hand-planed. The walls are plastered, The ceilings wood, and the floors are wide pine boards put down with handmade square nails. The kitchen annex to the house was of frame, and it was rebuilt after being destroyed by fire. The outstanding feature of the house, however, is near the roofline. As with many of these early homes, the bricks are corbeled out to make a design in the cornice work. With this home, however, the bricks are laid at an angle to form a

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triangular or rickrack design that is very handsome. This is only one example of excellent workmanship in this early home.

The house has never been owned by anyone other than a Hughes family member. The present owner, Miss Minnie Hughes, granddaughter of the builder, is an invalid but the home remains the same except for a lonely look.