10-300 REV. (9/77) DHOL 79828 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Tennessee

RECEIVED DEC 14 1977

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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Tennessee Histor	rical Commission		
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__GOOD

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__DETERIORATED

__UNEXPOSED

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X_UNALTERED

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McCollum Farm complex contains a farmhouse and fourteen outbuildings, plus other typical farm features such as a barnyard pond, a cattle gate, and rail fences—all original and practically unchanged through the years of their existence as a part of this farmstead. The farmhouse, log barn, log crib, and smokehouse were completed in 1859-60. All the other features were completed in succeeding years as their need arose. Together they comprise a record of farm-building construction in East Tennessee from 1859 to the present. Only one other such accumulation of farm buildings similar to this has been identified in East Tennessee, and it is not as extensive as the McCollum Farm.

The frame clapboard house, built 1859-60, facing on the Morganton Road, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of Greenback in Loudon County, Tennessee, is a variation of the standard "T" house pattern with four rooms in the front block-two up and two down-and with two rooms in the rear ell with a half-story above. Each downstairs room has a fireplace and the two upstairs front rooms have fireplaces. Chimneys are at the gable ends outside on the front block, and one chimney opens into both rooms in the rear ell. There is no entrance hall downstairs, but a portion of the second floor front is taken up by a hall space to which the stairs rose originally from the outside west porch of the rear ell and from which access is obtained to the half-story of the rear ell. The original stairs have been moved inside the house and now rise from the dining room. The front porch has Victorian cut-out trim in the form of an ornamented cornice, bracketed columns or posts, and four sections of balustrade -- all bandsaw work, simple, balanced, and appropriate to the house. Lattice work originally covering the space under the raised porch has been replaced by concrete block, and concrete has replaced the original steps. There is a traditional covered entrance to the cellar on the east side of the front block. There is no cellar under the rear ell. original shingled roof has been replaced, as in most such instances, by corrugated tin. The two side back porches have been modified by enclosures and screening, including the enclosure of a modern bathroom off the downstairs bedroom. All these changes represent technological progress and are common to other farmhouses of the area. The house contains a parlor, downstairs bedroom, dining room, kitchen, two upstairs bedrooms, and two half-story rooms over the back ell. A cistern house on the west side has been added.

The front block measures 36' across the front and 24' deep including the front porch which is 7' deep. The rear ell is 34' long and 14'8" deep with a porch on each side measuring 5'9" deep and 34' long. Thus the two front rooms are approximately 18' x 17' each and the two rear, 17' x 14'8". The cistern house is 12' x 9°3" and latticed, with a tin roof.

The house was located at this spot at the foot of a low ridge because of the view south across the Baker Creek valley and those acres of the Alexander McCollum lands which were inherited by Joseph Burton McCollum lying between Morganton Road and Baker Creek. The ridge behind the house also gave some protection from northern weather. Originally the house probably stood at the edge of a woodland—the yard contains trees older than the house—and the woodland has been cleared back to the top of the ridge to proved room for the farm complex.

PERIOD	. AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
<u>X</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)		
	•	INVENTION	4			
*						

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1859 to present

SPECIFIC DATES

The modern mechanized farm requires an entirely new architecture, and electricity and modern shopping facilities have drastically changed farmhouse architecture. In most instances those farm buildings of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries whose functions have become obsolete, have either been torn down or converted to present-day uses. The presence at one farmstead of a complex of farm buildings, representing all the stages of agricultrual development and rural life, is very rare indeed in 1977. The McCollum farm complex is such an historic accumulation. Present and still in working condition are buildings representing the functions of this farm from the time of its separation from the larger tract of land by inheritance to the present day.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Joseph Burton McCollum

Alexander McCollum took up land in Blount County, Tennessee, sometime prior to 1800. By tradition, he came from Scotland with two brothers. Both Alexander and John McCollum appear on the 1800 Blount County tax list. Alexander's will of 1847 shows that his original holdings were over 600 acres. In 1833 he was one of the members of a company granted a charter to build a road from Tuckaleechee Cover across the Smoky Mountains to North Carolina. And he is listed in Blount County Court recores on many occasions as a member of various juries. Alexander's will ists his wife, Phebe (Phoebe) Hammontree McCollum, three sons (Harvey Al, Joseph Burtin Burton, and James Townsley), and three daughters (Mary Elizabeth, Sarah Malinda, and Polly McCollum McCroskey). The will also names five slaves. The wife was given one third of the estate during her widowhood. The rest of the land--410 acres--was divided equally among the three sons. Between Joseph Burton the date of the will and 1859, Alexander McCollum must have died. McCollum (1838-1916) inherited his share of lands on the northern side of the original tract. By tradition he married in 1859. He married, first, Nannie Thompson and, second, Nancy Blankenship, both of whom came from the Morganton area. Joseph Burton built the house, smokehouse, log barn, and log crib before or after his marriage in 1859 and moved his bride to the new house. His son Samuel Burton McCollum (1887-1975) came into possession of his father's house and lands. Mrs. Samuel Burton McCollum still lives in the house and operates the farm. Thus by record the land has been in possession of the McCollum family for at least 177 years (1800-1977).

With the formation of Loudon County in 1870, this area of Blount County was incorporated into the new Loudon County.

The attached sketch of the locations of the various buildings (not drawn to scale) shows the rationale of location of the various buildings. The description section of this nomination attempts to show the evolution of farm buildings as agricultural practices changed. The farmhouse outbuildings were extensions of the house itself, and the order of construction shows the household priorities. The farm buildings likewise are extension of the functions of the original log barn and crib and demonstrate the growth and progress of local agriculture. Altogether, all these buildings record the history of farming for almost 120 years in the valley areas of East Tennessee.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Smokehouse: This log structure was completed at the same time as the farmhouse in 1859-60 and stands about 25 feet directly behind the kitchen in a row with the woodhouse and loomhouse. Its exterior measures 1' x 14'6". It has a gable end extending, for protection from the weather, out over the one door in front. The logs, joined with half-dovetail notching, have been partially covered with planks, which replaced the original chinking because it had deteriorated. Although the building is called a smokehouse, the name is generic; salt, not smoke, was used for curing meat produced on the farm.

Loomhouse: This is a frame building, measuring $16'3" \times 14'6"$ on the outside, built shortly after the Civil War. It had a window on the west side and perhaps one on the east. However a lean-to was added later on the east, measuring $7' \times 14'$, which was constructed and used as an ice house. The loomhouse is large enough to hold at least a cloth loom and a bedspread loom and may have had a rug loom also.

Woodhouse: Dating from the same period as the loomhouse, this frame building, measuring 18'4" x 9'4", was used for the dry storage of stove and firewood for the house. For accessibility by wagons carrying the wood, it is located on the road side of the house. The door is on the east side, and two large openings for handing the wood through are on the west or road side. On the peak of the roof is balanced a small belfry which holds the farm bell for calling hands from the field for dinner (the noon meal) and for ringing alarms.

Privy: Back of the row of three buildings described above and forming part of a lot fence is the privy which measures $5'10" \times 4'3"$ on the outside. It has two seats and is so located that passage from and to the kitchen is open to a minimum of exposure to the public eye. Since the enclosure of part of the eastside back porch for a bathroom, it has not been used.

Garden Gate: The pattern of this gate is much older than the gate itself. It opens into the garden on the east side of the kitchen.

Contemporary with the house and smokehouse are two other farm buildings of first priority to farm operation, the log barn and the log crib. The barn consists of three Y-notched log structures or cribs in a row with two enclosed hallways between and roof over all. The first log crib on the right measures 12'6" x 16'8". The plank enclosed hall separating the first crib from the second is 16'6" wide. The second or middle crib measures 12' x 16'8". A later roof raised approximately five feet above the roof plate forms a shed in front and a small hayloft above the two cribs. The third crib on the left measures 12'4" x 16'8" with an enclosed hallway 10'10" wide separating it from the middle crib. The roof of this crib is supported by long cross beams resting on the top logs; these cross beams extend beyond the log walls to form sheds both in front and back. Each log crib has one door opening in front; two of the enclosed halls also have doors. Where a crib has been divided into two stalls, a door

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from the back half opens into the enclosed hallway. At each end of the barn, frame lean-to's have been added--that on the right 5' x 16'8" and that on the left 10' x 16'8". It is probable that the original barn consisted of two cribs and a hallway with the third crib and hallway added later. The end lean-to's were added last. The barn logs were whitewashed at one time. Many two crib log barns still exist in East Tennessee, but no other three crib barn is known to exist, particularly one with this roof structure.

Log Corn Crib: The original log corn crib measures 20'6" x 8' with one door on the long side and two bins inside. A later roof, similar in design to the roof on the right and middle cribs of the barn, has been placed over the original log structure. It extends outward on one side to make a shed on the north side. And a lean-to has been added on the east end measuring 6'3" x 8°.

The additions of lean-to's on all these earlier buildings indicates an attempt to make more enclosed space available for tools, machines, animals and fowl without the expense of building all-new buildings. It is an economy appropriate to the agricultural hardtimes of this area for nearly two decades after the end of the Civil War.

The Shop: Chronologically the next building to be added to the complex was the frame shop, measuring 25' x 16'8", with a door on the east side. It is located across the road from the kitchen yard. This building dates from the 1870s in all probability, and represents an attempt to enhance income while, at the same time, performing a valuable and needed service to the community. Joseph Burton McCollum made boots and shoes here and repaired them for the community and manufactured coffins necessary to bury the community's dead. The coffins were finished hardwood on the outside and lined on the inside with cloth. Other small articles, including leather work, which were necessary to the community, were also made here. Farm account books show that purchase was both by money and barter. Many of the original tools are still in the shop.

The Second Barn: As agricultural methods changed and the extent of farming intensified, a second barn became necessary around the turn of the century. This barn, built on the side of the ridge behind the house, measures 40'4" x 62'. And since it has an uncommon pattern with architecturally placed doors and windows, it was probably built from a pattern found in a publication. It contains one side cross hall at the west side separating a corn crib on the west from the stalls, two narrower halls paralleling the outside front and back walls, four single stalls and one long stall equal to the total length of the four single stalls, and a hayloft above. It is interesting that the two long halls are at the outside walls with the windows opening onto the halls whereas the stalls are clustered the length of the center of the building from the cross hall to the east end. The advantage is warmth for the animals while admitting light to the hall work areas. This barn houses two teams in the single stalls, and cattle, calves or colts in the single long stall. It may have been used for milking in winter. There was room to hang harness and other implements on the walls of the halls. One feedway

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between the single stall on the north and the four individual stalls on the south meant hay could be thrown down from the loft in one place for all amimals. The central feedway necessitates loft doors on both the south and north sides so that hay could be piled on each side of the feedway. The contrast of this barn with the original log barn, built from traditional modesl, shows considerable progress in agricultural methods.

Barynyard Pond: This is a dug pond necessitated by the fact that no spring or stream is available to the farm complex. All stock and fowl were watered here. The fact that nature has made the pond its own indicates that it has been in existence for many years Its location indicates that it preceded the second barn in time.

Jack Barn: During the last half of the nineteenth century mules became a farm necessity because of the use of heavier machinery. For many farm tasks mules were more efficient and economical than horses. Therefore every community had a progressive farmer who owned a jack and/or jennets to produce these animals. The nature of jacks and jennets is such that they are best isolated from other farm animals. Therefore, this jack barn was built away from the other outbuildings in its own lot, but still accessible to the pond for water. This small barn measures 26'3" x 21'6" and contains three stalls across the front, a breeding shed behind, and a hayloft above.

Weighing Shed and Machine Shed: Large farm operations required the use of farm scales to weigh grain, cattle, and other produce going to market or being purchased. Not every farm could afford such a convenience, and therefore such scales became in many instances a community convenience. This weighing shed, built after 1900, measures 14' x 15'3" and covers the usual Toledo scales. Nearby is a machine shed, 30'8" x 20'6" to house reapers, drills, mowing machines and other large equipment, Both buildings are adjacent to the farm road for easy access.

The Third Barn: Built in the 1920s, this barn shows another change in farm practices. It is a tobacco barn and was built during the decade when tobacco became a very important local crop. This barn is 62'3" x 30'3" with a 12' shed along the back side. The ground floor is divided by a main hall with four stalls on each side and two single stalls the full length of the north and south sides. When not used for tobacco, this barn could house farm animals. However, during the tobacco season, the whole structure could house tobacco tightly; there are no windows, only hot air vents immediately under the roof. The loft is constructed to hold two full tiers of tobacco and single tiers could be hung in the sheds and stalls of the ground floor. The broad hallway provided ample space for several handing-off tables.

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Garages: The last two buildings are an early and a later garage. The first which measures 10' x 12' was constructed for a car of the T-model Ford size and was located away from the road. The second, measuring 16'4" x 14', holds a late model sedan and opens onto the farm road.

Cattle Gate: The entrance to the old barnyard is through a modern steel gate, but for convenience a cattle gate adjoins it. This is an opening for human passage so constructed in a V as to prevent farm animals from passing through. It alleviates the necessity of opening the gate each time someone goes or comes from the barn.

Rail Fence: The rail fence around the lot behind the log barn separates that lot from the woods. Not many rail fences remain in this area.

As the attached location sketch of the various buildings shows, each was located with maximum convenience and utility in mind. The house was located on the most desirable spot, largely determined by the presence of trees and a likely garden spot nearby. The outbuildings to the house form adjuncts at the rear and sides. Three are arranged in a row behind the house and complement it. The farm road determined the location of the first barn, the shop, the garage, weighing shed, and machine shed. The pond was dug to serve the first barn lot. The later barns were spread and separated from the original cluster to give a maximum distance from the house because twentieth century germ consciousness demanded relief from flies and other barn insects. And as the other barns were built, the log barn took on more of an auxillary character. The pretty Jersey cow in the pictures seems to be the only animal housed there now, with the farm tractor under the shed.

What buildings are not included are important, too. Presently there is no chicken house, evidence that chickens were not raised commercially, but for home use. And there are no buildings specifically for hogs. Hogs were certainly raised for home consumption but were kept in lots or stalls, not in large numbers. No sheep sheds are included.

A fairly modern tenant house is across the road from the farm complex, but several hundred feet to the east so that both houses have privacy.

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of Morganton Road; thence northeastwardly along the north margin of said road approximately 650 feet to the point of beginning.

