

942

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name GARDNER, MATT, HOUSE

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number US Highway 31 at Dixontown Road Not for publication

city or town Elkton vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Giles code 055 zip code 38477

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Herbert L. Hays 6/28/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other. (explain:)

for
Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper
Entered in the National Register Date of Action 7/28/95

Gardner, Matt, House
Name of Property

Giles Co., TN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
5	1	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Dwelling; Secondary Structure
AGRICULTURE: Processing; Animal facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant--Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Saddlebag/I-House Form

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation LIMESTONE

walls WEATHERBOARD

roof TIN

other METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets.

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: N/A

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage: African-American

Commerce

Architecture

Period of Significance

1870-1942

Significant Dates

1896, 1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Gardner, Matt

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gardner, Matt, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Gardner, Matt, House
Name of Property

Giles Co., TN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Elkton, TN,

1	16	510360	3877960
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Trina Binkley and Carroll Van West

organization MTSU Center for Historic Preservation date January 27, 1995

street & number PO Box 80, MTSU telephone 615-898-2947

city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Ella Mary Edding

street & number 2829 Brouse Avenue telephone 317-923-8321

city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46218

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Gardner, Matt, House, Giles County, TN

The Matt Gardner house is located less than one-eighth of a mile across the Elk River in the town of Elkton (pop. 480), Giles County, Tennessee, on U.S. Highway 31 at Dixontown Road. The 1896 frame dwelling and circa 1920 later additions are partially surrounded by the original farmhouse yard consisting of a well house, smoke house/store, horse stable, chicken coop, and outhouse. The front facade exterior of the two-story dwelling is designed to look like an I-house; however, the interior exhibits a "saddlebag" plan with a central fireplace dividing the original section of the house. The owner and builder, Matt Gardner, used the familiar form of the saddlebag in combination with the more formal styling of the I-house. This combination suggests Gardner's knowledge of common building traditions with a desire to also use a more formal style that would display his prosperity and prominence in the community.

The original 1896 saddlebag/I-house variation was designed with a one-story centered facade porch and a one-story full length rear porch. A kitchen ell and side ell dining room was added in about 1920. The kitchen ell was attached to the rear porch on the southern end with a corrugated metal gable end roof connecting it to the rear porch of the original house. It is wood frame partially covered by vertical wood boards and asphalt shingles on a continuous limestone foundation. The dining room was created by attaching another structure to the west side of the kitchen ell. The dining room structure, circa 1920, is wood frame covered with weatherboard painted white and a limestone pier foundation. It has a exterior entrance door and small porch on the north side. Corrugated metal covers the gable roof of the dining room structure and the shed roof of its porch.

The original two-story structure is wood frame with weatherboard siding painted white set atop a limestone pier foundation with rock-faced pressed tin infill panels painted grey. The gable end roof is covered with original standing seam tin. Located at the center of the house at the peak is a limestone chimney stack with brick coping.

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Gardner, Matt, House, Giles County, TN

The north facade porch has a limestone pier foundation with rock-faced pressed tin infill panels painted grey and plywood flooring. The half-hipped roof of the porch has exposed eaves and is covered with corrugated metal. The porch is supported by six turned wooden posts: two engaged at the facade and four along the exterior of the porch. The front facade entrance is centered with a window flanking each side. The wooden entrance door has four panels and is painted white with an aluminum screen door. The flanking 2:2 windows are wooden sash with a wooden sill. Located on the second story are two smaller 2:2 wooden sash windows with wooden sills. Each window on the second story align with the end of the peak of the porch's hipped roof.

The west (gable end) elevation of the original house has horizontal 2:2 metal sash windows (circa 1940) with wooden sills centered on the first and second stories. The second story window is smaller than the first. The west end of the rear porch is visible, but has been filled in: an exterior entrance was added with a circa 1920 vertically panelled wood door and wood screen door. Adjoining the west end of the rear porch is the dining room structure. Its front elevation faces north with a wood panelled exterior entrance door and wood screen door facing out to a small porch. The porch has a limestone pier foundation covered by wood planks painted grey and plywood flooring. Three wood posts and a rail support the corrugated metal shed roof. The dining room's gable end faces west. Centered on the west end is a 4:4 wooden sash window with a wooden sill. An aluminum storm window covers the wooden window.

The south elevation of the Gardner house consists of the dining room structure, kitchen ell, and original house. Centered on the south elevation of the dining room is a 4:4 wooden sash window with a wooden sill. An aluminum storm window covers the wooden window. The southern end of the kitchen extends out past the dining room approximately two feet. At the peak near the southern end of the kitchen ell is a small brick chimney stack. The south elevation of the original house consists of the rear porch with a shed-style corrugated metal roof supported by two wood posts. The porch floor is plywood supported by a limestone pier

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foundation painted grey. A rear exterior door is located on the south elevation of the original house. It is panelled wood with an aluminum screen door. At the west end of the rear porch is a circa 1986 bathroom. It is wood frame with plywood walls painted white. A wood exterior bathroom door opens onto the rear porch.

At the south end of the east elevation is the kitchen ell. The kitchen ell east elevation contains a fixed six pane wooden window with a wooden sill. The east elevation of the original house has 4:4 wooden sash windows with wood sills on the first and second stories. Both are centered, but the second story window is smaller than the first.

The interior of the original part of the Gardner house is defined by its saddlebag plan. The central interior chimney stack is framed in by two walls, creating a central division in the original house and allowing for a fireplace in the east parlor and west bedroom. This central division, in line with the front door (north facade), stops to allow for a small front entrance alcove. This alcove is approximately five and one-half feet square. The alcove walls and ceiling are panelled with beaded board painted white. Panelled wooden entrance doors to the east parlor and the west bedroom are located on each side of the alcove.

The east parlor is square-shaped with eight foot ceilings, wood floors, four inch high baseboards painted white, wood board walls covered by circa 1985 panelling, and stained beaded board ceilings. A pendant light fixture is located in the center of the ceiling. The fireplace and wooden mantle with shelf is located on the west wall. The fireplace has a round-arched cast iron insert. An exterior panelled wood door is located in the center of the south wall.

The west bedroom is also square-shaped with eight foot ceilings covered with beaded board painted white, wood floors with circa 1930 linoleum acting as a large rug, four inch high baseboards painted white, wood board walls covered by circa 1985 panelling, and a pendant light fixture in the

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center of the ceiling. The wooden fireplace mantle with shelf, and cast iron insert are located on the east wall. South of the fireplace is closet. This closet extends through the rear part of the central division of the house to the west wall of the east parlor. A panelled wood door (originally an exterior door) is centrally located on the south wall of the west bedroom. It leads to the western end of the enclosed rear porch (the laundry). The staircase is located in the southwest corner of the west bedroom. The first flight is not enclosed until the steps reach the turn to go upward around the corner. These "winder" steps and the second flight of steps are enclosed and have a vertical board door with an actual wood thread spool for a handle.

The stairs leading to the second floor are located in the western bedroom and stop at the floor line. The second floor is separated by the central division chimney stack in the saddlebag plan. The central division creates two bedrooms on the second floor with an east bedroom closet on the north end of the central division and an opening to access this bedroom on the south end. The second floor has unfinished wood floors covered with circa 1930 linoleum "rugs", stained horizontal beaded board walls covered with wallpaper, and stained beaded board ceiling. The north and south walls of the second floor are only five feet high. The ceiling is covered with the beaded board and canted at a forty-five degree angle. Light fixtures are located in the center of each bedroom, with the west bedroom having another light at the top the stairs.

The enclosed part of the first floor rear (southern) porch is divided into two sections: a laundry room on the western end and a 1986 bathroom on the eastern end. This enclosed section of the rear porch has approximately six and one-half feet high ceilings. The north and south walls of the laundry room are the exterior walls of the original house (north wall) and the kitchen ell (south wall). Both are weatherboard. The west wall of the laundry is plywood and has an exterior panelled wood door. The east wall of the laundry is panelled and leads to the bathroom. The floors and ceiling of the laundry are wood

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plank, with a central ceiling pendant light fixture. The bathroom floors are linoleum, and the walls have panelling.

The door leading to the kitchen ell is located on the southern wall of the laundry room. The door is vertical wood board with bevel-ended horizontal stiles. The kitchen has seven foot high wood ceiling painted mint green, novelty siding walls painted green, wood floors covered with linoleum, and a central ceiling pendant light fixture. The kitchen counters, cabinets, and stove are aligned on the east wall. The original wood stove is centrally situated on the southern end of the kitchen with its flue extending up through the ceiling. The entrance to the dining room is located in the center of the west kitchen wall. Its door is panelled wood painted white. The dining room has wood floors with both circa 1960 and circa 1930 linoleum, horizontal wood board walls covered by wallpaper, and a stained wood ceiling with a central pendant light fixture. Located on the east end of the north wall is an exterior panelled wood door that leads out to a small porch.

The five outbuildings at the Gardner house date from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth century. Four of the outbuildings contribute to the property's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places: well house, smokehouse/store, chicken coop, and outhouse. The fifth outbuilding, the circa 1903 wood frame horse stable is non-contributing because it has collapsed.

The well house, circa 1870, is east of the house. A prominent yard structure, the well was given decorative detailing. The ornamental wood latticework is used on all four elevations in a diagonal pattern with the entrance opening located on the western end of the south elevation. A limestone foundation supports the well house with a pyramid-shaped circa 1930 corrugated metal roof on top. (C)

The smokehouse/store, circa 1896, is located south of the east end of the house. During the year, when Gardner was not smoking meats, he sold his smoked meats and other foods from this wood board and batten building, with a gable roof covered with corrugated metal. The building is raised

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above ground approximately one and one-half feet by its limestone pier foundation. The northern gable-ended entrance is accessed by three wood steps. The door is vertical wood board. East and west of the door on the north elevation are wood diagonal braces. The interior floors are wood as well. (C)

The chicken coop, circa 1925, is south west of the smokehouse/store. It is wood frame with vertical wood siding and corrugated metal and metal signs located along the bottom perimeter of the coop. Its roof is gabled covered with corrugated metal. (C)

The wood frame outhouse, circa 1936, is situated southwest of the house. Its frame is covered with vertical wood siding, with the door on the east wall. The shed roof has exposed eaves and is covered with corrugated metal. This outhouse, according to the family, was built during the depression by the Works Progress Administration as part of its program to develop better sanitary facilities in rural areas. (C)

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VIII. Statement of Significance

The Matt Gardner House, on U.S. Highway 31, in Elkton, Giles County, Tennessee, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, and C for its significance in the areas of African-American ethnic heritage, commerce, and architecture, from the period of 1896 to 1942.

Matt Gardner was born a slave, supposedly on July 18, 1848, on a Chester, North Carolina plantation owned by a white family known as Gardner. His mother, Rachel Gardner, had been born in Virginia in about 1817 but sold to the Gardner family at about the age of ten. At about the age of thirteen, she married Martin Gardner. From family accounts, Rachel and Martin Gardner were "privileged" household slaves. An unpublished history states: "The Gardners allowed her [Rachel] to make a life with Martin, they didn't threaten to sell her children down the river to Mississippi, and they allowed her to own small items of property. During this time of her life, she had six children: four daughters, Millie, Martha, Ida, Mary, and two sons, Matt and Steven." Rachel and Martin Gardner "were raised to work as house servants who never had to work in the fields, pick cotton, plant potatoes, clean behind cows or pigs." (1) At an unknown date, Martin Gardner died and Rachel and most of the children were sold to a Giles County family named Vasser, who lived at Elkton. Rachel Gardner lived until 1922 and left this account of her slave life for her family:

We were house niggers and could not associate with the field niggers, but when old master and misses went to sleep, all of us would get together in the slave quarters and have a ball. We'd kick up our heels in jigs and shuffles and do the whole floor. We'd dance to the rhythms beat out by bones sticks, rocks, or our hands and bare feet. When the celebration became thunderously loud, we'd fill up a tub with water so that the dead to the world sleeping white folk would remain just that, dead to the dreams that were in us. We'd celebrate despite the conditions that were placed upon us by slavery. (2)

Clearly, the tradition of passing down the ethnic heritage of Africa, the privileged status of his parents within the plantation household, and the very important fact that his parents were allowed to accumulate some property were important influences on Matt Gardner in the years of Emancipation and

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Reconstruction. Based on the local status of his family in the years immediately preceding Emancipation, Gardner as a young adult black male enjoyed immediate social and cultural prestige as part of a family that was recognized by both whites and blacks in Elkton as one of the most prominent African-American families. In 1870, at the age of 22, Matt Gardner married Henrietta Brown and began to build a life based on his preaching, farming, and sound business sense.

In his book Aristocrats of Color: The Black Elite, 1880-1920, historian Willard B. Gatewood concluded:

In towns and cities throughout the South, a clearly identifiable black elite existed in the generation following the end of Reconstruction. Often the descendents of free people of color or privileged slaves [the latter being the case with Gardner], they occupied positions of leadership in black communities as teachers, physicians, lawyers, and politicians [as a preacher, Gardner enjoyed a similar status in rural Giles County]. A few carved out special niches for themselves in the Southern economy that allowed them to become wealthy [as Gardner would through his commercial and agricultural ventures]. These aristocrats of color, or "best people," were often in the vanguard of movements that led to the establishment of schools [as in the case of Gardner], homes for the aged, and other institutions that served the needs of the black masses. (3)

Gardner's career, from 1870 to the early twentieth century, is a decidedly rural example of the regional trend identified by Gatewood. The son of house servants, Gardner, perhaps, had been spared the worst excesses of slavery as a child and teenager. The rural world of southern Giles County provided few opportunities for a slave-turned-freeman to become a doctor or lawyer, but Gardner did gain respect and prominence in this rural community by becoming a minister. Although barely literate, he became reknowned and respected for his ability to "preach the word." Gardner carved out a "special niche" in the local economy, partially from his abilities as a minister and but largely from the fact that his family did acquire some property even before emancipation. According to family records, at the time of emancipation and his marriage, Gardner "had money to buy land and he started off with three hundred acres." (4) That

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Gardner was immediately able to establish himself as a free black landowner in the 1870s is not so surprising--many other African-American farmers were able to do the same. What is significant, however, is that Gardner persisted as an important black landowner through the latter decades of the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century when so many other blacks lost their Reconstruction-era farms. As the research of Robert Tracy McKenzie has demonstrated for Tennessee as a whole, "a huge percentage of those rare freemen who had acquired farms by 1870 were landless by the end of the next decade." (5) Gardner kept his farm, due to his comparatively sizeable holdings and his own hard work and determination, even in an age of growing racial violence and the rise of Jim Crow segregation. Historian Loren Schweninger has observed about the late nineteenth century:

former slaves and their children continued to purchase land, homes, and businesses during periods of depression, racial hostility, and violent intimidation. Considering the political, economic, and institutional barriers they faced, the prejudices of whites, and the general backwardness of the South itself, it is surprising that by the early twentieth century at least 426,449 blacks in the South were farm owners and homeowners--25 percent of the family heads--while others owned town lots, rural acreage, and small businesses. (6)

In the rural town of Elkton, by the turn-of-the-century, Matt Gardner and his family had emerged as part of this black economic elite and his farm was recognized as the center of this area's African-American community. Owner of approximately 500 acres, Gardner in 1896 built a new two-story frame home as evidence of his accumulative economic success. Around his home, he erected outbuildings for his farm products and livestock. Today these surviving buildings form a significant representative grouping of rural architecture in an African-American context. Most importantly for the local black community, he operated a "storehouse" from which he sold foodstuffs to his neighbors for cash, exchange, or credit. According to the family, Gardner "was a wise steward and made loans to many blacks so they could also purchase their own land." (7) The family still holds Gardner's account books where careful records were kept of the amount of goods sold, the money borrowed, and debts that were paid. Gardner's story from the 1880s to 1920 was one shared by

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other southern blacks who became, in the contexts of their time and place, "prosperous" black farmers. These farmers, according to the research by Schweninger on the South in general, "were most often former slaves who had accumulated their acreage over a period of years" and they were farmers who did more than rely on single-crop agriculture. They also owned a "variety of rural businesses," including blacksmith shops, grist mills, gin houses, and country stores. (8) Gardner, on his Elkton farm, operated a blacksmith shop, store, and mill. The "property accumulation of this tiny group of postwar blacks," Schweninger concluded, was "silent testimony to their extraordinary achievements." (9)

Finally, as might be expected for a rural "Aristocrat of Color," Gardner spearheaded local efforts to acquire a public school for African-Americans in Elkton. He always provided room and board for the teacher within his own home. When the Rosenwald school-building program became known, Gardner led the necessary community fund-raising effort to match the contributions of the Rosenwald Fund and the state government. A four-room Rosenwald school was built about one-half mile from Gardner's dwelling. Still extant, the school has been renovated into a church. In time, around Gardner's farm, grew an African-American community known as Dixontown, so named because Gardner selected the name of the first free black to reside in the area. To residents of Giles County today, the Elkton black community is still known as Dixontown. Gardner remained an active farmer, minister, and store owner until his death in 1947. In 1942 he received from the State of Tennessee a "certificate of recognition" for his food and livestock production under the state's "Tennessee Home Food Supply Program," a special World War II program to increase food production on Tennessee farms.

The Matt Gardner House and its historic outbuildings are significantly associated with the rise of a rural commercial elite among African-American property owners in the decades after Emancipation. The commercial career of Matt Gardner contributes significantly to the history of the African-American community in Elkton and rural Giles County. The property's place in the collective memory of African-Americans in Giles County underscores its strong local association with black ethnic heritage identity in Elkton and southern Giles County. Moreover, the Gardner House and associated outbuildings have architectural significance as an intact example of black craftsmanship at the

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turn-of-the-century. No other African-American dwellings in Giles County have been individually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. This 1896 house is a frame, two-story version of the single-story frame "saddlebag variation" house commonly found in rural and working-class Tennessee communities at the turn-of-the century. The front facade of this house type has a symmetrical balance facade that evokes the image of the earlier I-house type. But in these dwellings, exterior end chimneys are not found; rather, there is a central interior chimney that divides the house in half. The central entrance door does not lead into a central hall; instead it leads into a tiny alcove that faces a solid frame wall (behind which is the chimney stack). On either side are entrances into the primary rooms of the first floor. Gardner's house, as might be expected considering his economic and social prominence, is a two-story version of this "saddlebag variation" frame dwelling. It documents an important, but little researched, dwelling within the context of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century rural landscape. Ranging from the 1870 wellhouse from Gardner's first home to the WPA outhouse of 1936, the surrounding outbuildings are representative structures of a early twentieth century farm.

Endnotes:

1. Rev. Shellie Gardner and Martha L. Beatty, compilers; Dorothy Riley, editor. "Gardner, Coleman, and Brown Family History," unpublished typescript in author's possession, undated, p. 2.
2. Quotation from *ibid.*, p. 3.
3. Willard B. Gatewood, Aristocrats of Color: The Black Elite, 1880-1920 (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1990), p. 95.
4. Gardner and Beatty, "Gardner Family History," p. 3.
5. Robert Tracy McKenzie, One South or Many? Plantation Belt and Upcountry in Civil War-Era Tennessee (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1994), p. 143.
6. Loren Schweninger, Black Property Owners in the South, 1790-1915 (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1990), p. 184.

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7. Gardner and Beatty, "Gardner Family History," p. 4.
8. Schweninger, Black Property Owners, 208, 209.
9. Ibid., 216.

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IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Gardner, Rev. Shellie and Martha L. Beatty, compilers; Dorothy Riley, editor. "Gardner, Coleman, and Brown Family History." Unpublished typescript, undated.

Gatewood, Willard B. Aristocrats of Color: The Black Elite, 1880-1920. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1990.

Giles County Newsline, February 7, 1989.

McKenzie, Robert Tracy. One South or Many? Plantation Belt and Upcountry in Civil War-Era Tennessee. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Schweninger, Loren. Black Property Owners in the South, 1790-1915. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1990.

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X. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The 4.8 acres of the Matt Gardner House are marked as a portion of Parcel 2 on the enclosed Giles County Tax Map 161.

The tax map for this nomination has the scale 1" = 400'. This scale tax map is prepared by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1" = 400' scale adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

Boundary Justification

The nominated 4.8 acres of the Gardner House contain all surviving historic buildings associated with the property that remains under single family ownership.

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Gardner, Matt, House, Giles County, TN

PHOTOGRAPHS

Gardner, Matt, House,
Elkton, Giles Co., TN

Photographs by: Carroll Van West
MTSU Center for Historic Preservation
PO Box 80, MTSU
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Date: November 1994

North facade, facing south
1 of 20

West elevation, facing east
2 of 20

South elevation, facing north
3 of 20

East elevation, facing west
4 of 20

First floor, entrance alcove, facing south
5 of 20

First floor, east parlor, facing northwest
6 of 20

First floor, east parlor, mantle detail, facing west
7 of 20

First floor, west bedroom, facing east
8 of 20

First floor, west bedroom, facing northeast
9 of 20

First floor, staircase, west bedroom, facing southwest
10 of 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Gardner, Matt, House, Giles County, TN

First floor, staircase, west bedroom, facing west
11 of 20

Second floor, bedroom, facing east
12 of 20

Second floor, bedroom, facing west
13 of 20

First floor, bathroom and passage way in hypthen of kitchen wing,
facing west
14 of 20

First floor, kitchen, facing south
15 of 20

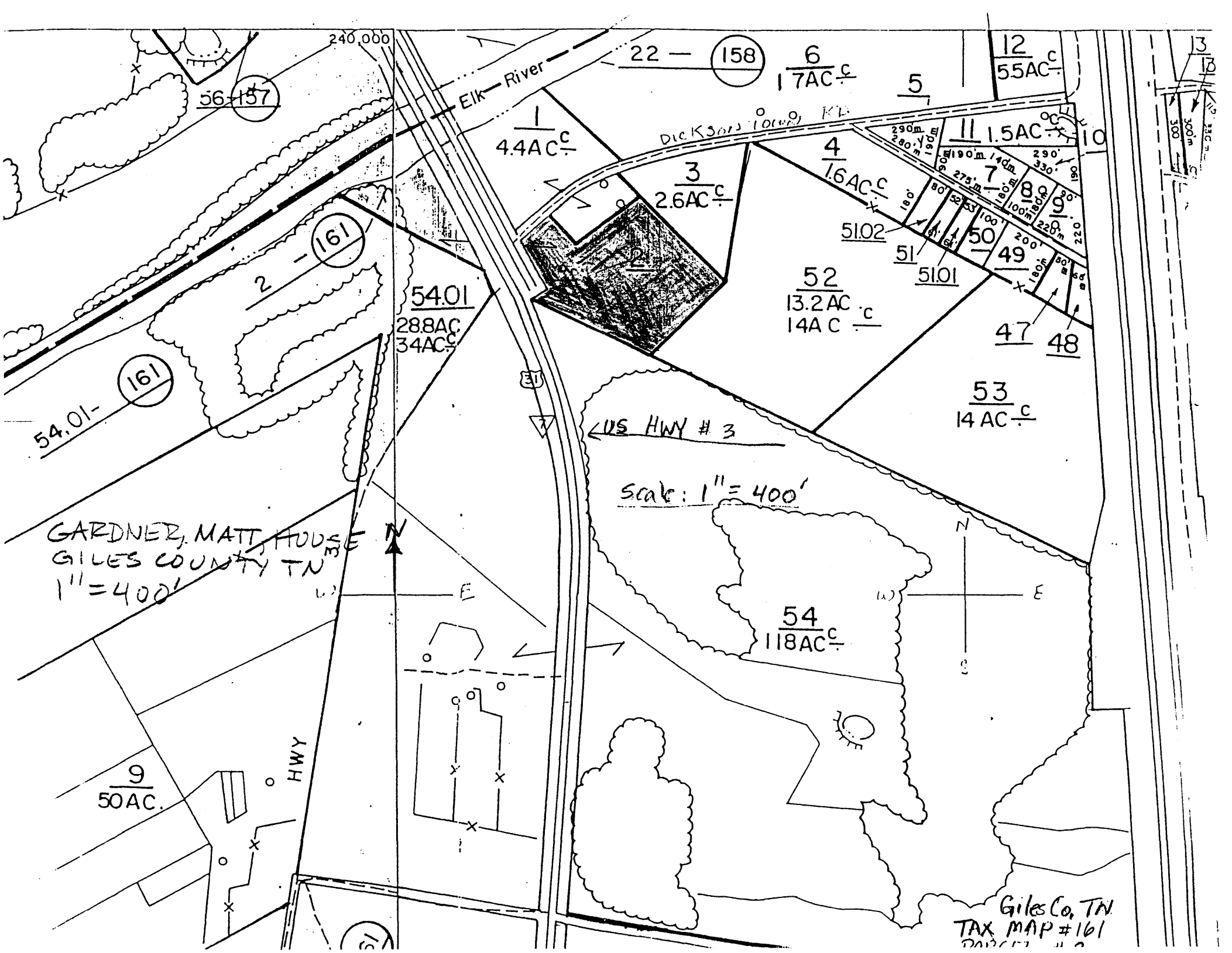
First floor, dining room, facing west
16 of 20

Smokehouse, facing south
17 of 20

Chicken coop, facing southeast
18 of 20

WPA outhouse, facing west
19 of 20

Well house, facing northeast
20 of 20



56-157

22 - (158)

6
1.7 AC

12
55 AC

1
4.4 AC

3
2.6 AC

4
1.6 AC

11
1.5 AC

(161)

54.01
288 AC
34 AC

52
13.2 AC
14 AC

51
51.01

8
9

49

47
48

54.01 - (161)

US HWY # 3

53
14 AC

GARDNER, MATT, HOUSE
GILES COUNTY, TN
1" = 400'

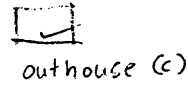
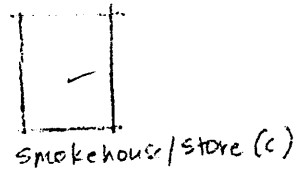
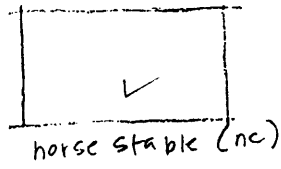
Scale: 1" = 400'

54
118 AC





9
50 AC

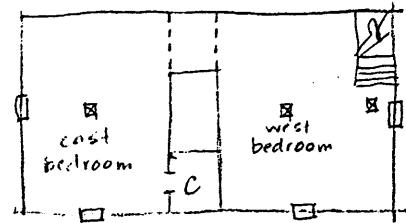
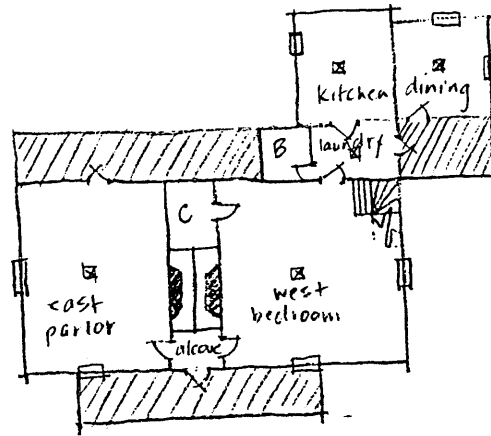
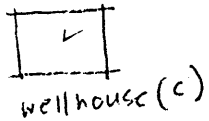
HWY

Giles Co, TN
TAX MAP #161



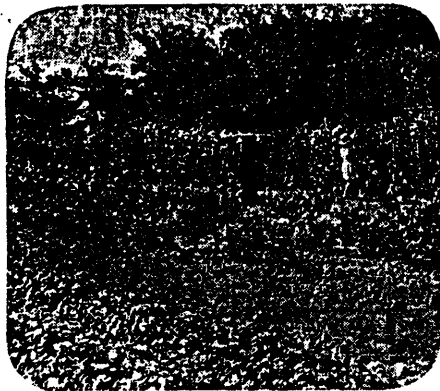
Key

-  : porch
-  : window
-  : door
-  : light fixture

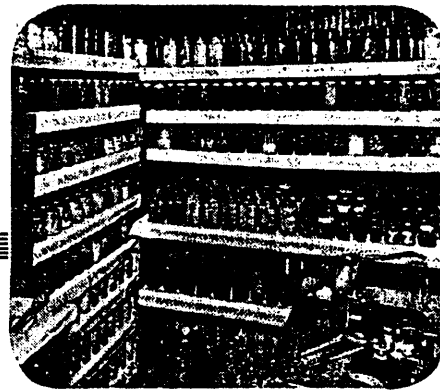


Gardner, Matt, House Giles Co. TN
 Site and Floor Plan not to scale

Tennessee Home Food Supply Program



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
1942



Awarded to Matt Gardner, Route 2, Prospect, Tennessee

This Certificate of Recognition for meritorious achievement in having grown 75% or more of all the food necessary for the family and livestock, and in leadership for better living in the community and State of Tennessee, is awarded by the Governor of the State of Tennessee.



C. E. Butler

Director, Agricultural Extension, University of Tennessee

John H. Halton

Director, Vocational Agricultural Education

L. H. Halton

State Director, Farm Security Administration

THE FULLNESS OF OUR DAY—"When every farmer in the South shall eat bread from his own fields and meat from his own pastures and disturbed by no creditor, and enslaved by no debt, shall sit amid his teeming gardens, and orchards, and vineyards and dairies and barnyards, pitching his crops in his own wisdom and growing them in independence, making cotton his clean surplus, and selling it in his own time, and in his chosen market, and not at a master's bidding—getting his pay in cash and not in a receipted mortgage that discharges his debt, but does not restore his freedom—then shall be breaking the fullness of our day."

HENRY W. GRADY, 1888

Prentiss Cooper

Governor of Tennessee

O. B. Hawley

Commissioner of Agriculture

November 25, 1942

Date