

IDENTIFICATION	Historic name: <u>John Stewart House</u>	STATUS	Open to public: Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted ___
	Common name: <u>Stewart Farms</u>		Visible from road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Address: <u>Highway 58 North</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee</u>		Occupied: Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Owner's name: <u>Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Stewart</u>		Present use: <u>Private residence</u>
	Owner's address: <u>Box 1286</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee</u>		Current condition: <u>Fair</u>
	Classification: <u>Building-private</u>		Alterations: <u>Bungalow-style porch added to facade in 1929.</u>
	Tax map reference: <u>Dist. 3, Map 38, Parcel 2</u>		Site features: <u>Log outbuilding (ca. 1860) with half-dovetail notching.</u>
Acreage: <u>1.25 acres</u>			
UTM reference: <u>Zone 16 N 3936070</u> <u>E 701940</u>			
HISTORY	Date of construction: <u>ca. 1825; ca. 1860</u>	SOURCES	Bibliographical data: <u>1850 Agricultural Schedule, Meigs County, TN. TN Legislative Petitions; No. 222-1827, 182-1831, 11-1835, and 121-1835. Lillard, Stewart. Meigs County, TN.</u>
	Architect/builder: <u>John Stewart</u>		Form prepared by: <u>Ann Toplovich</u>
	Original or previous owners: <u>John Stewart- always owned by Stewart family</u>		Title: <u>Cultural Resource Surveyor</u>
	Original use: <u>Private residence</u>		Organization: <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u>
	Theme/s: Primary <u>Politics/Government</u> Secondary <u>Architecture</u> Other <u>Exploration/Settlement</u>		Date: <u>9/8/81</u>
DESCRIPTION	The John Stewart House, ca. 1825, is a rectangular two story building constructed of heavy timber framing (hewn logs joined with mortise-and-tenon and large wooden pegs) and is covered with weatherboards. A one-and-a-half story ell, ca. 1860, is attached to the rear. The main part of the house sits on a solid brick foundation; the rear ell rests on brick piers with wooden latticework between the piers. Gable metal roofs cover both sections of the house, with two brick exterior end chimneys on the main section and a brick central chimney on the ell. The house has a five bay facade (north elevation) with a central doorway featuring panelled double leaf doors and a multipaned transom and sidelights and with 6/6 light windows. A one-story bungalow-style porch, added in 1929, has slightly tapered posts resting on brick piers and runs the length of the facade.		
SIGNIFICANCE	Built ca. 1825, the John Stewart House is significant for its historic associations with the organization and development of Meigs County and as an interesting example of early frame construction in East Tennessee. John Stewart (1792-1874), an apprentice to an overland coach operator, was one of the first settlers in the Hiwassee District of East Tennessee, opened for settlement in 1820. In 1827 citizens residing in the eastern section of Rhea County began petitioning the Tennessee Legislature for the creation of a new county. When this separation was granted in 1836, the organizers of Meigs County began their official duties by meeting at the John Stewart House. Land near the house was considered for the new county seat, but the		

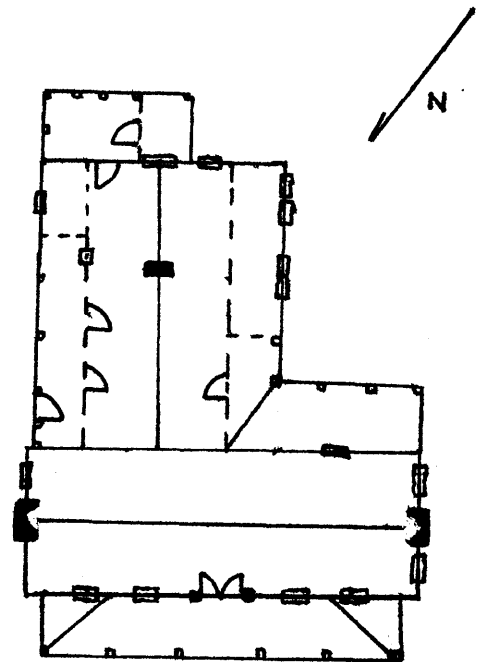
PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA

Photographer: Stephen T. Rogers
Date: 1/23/79
Negatives on file: Tennessee Historical
Commission
Photographer facing: North elevation-facing S
Photograph number 24 of 55 .
25 of 55-Facing southeast

CONTINUATION

Significance:
site of Decatur was eventually chosen. Architecturally, the house still exhibits much of its early appearance, and its heavy timbered frame construction is now seldom found intact in other structures.

SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow



**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet Historic Resources of
Meigs County, Tennessee Item number Identification Page 2

MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - John Stewart House (#20)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

20. The boundaries begin at a point on Highway 58 at the intersection of a branch of Dry Fork Creek with said Highway, thence with the course of said branch easterly 550 feet, thence south 125 feet to a driveway, thence in a westerly direction 600 feet to Highway 58 thence northerly along said Highway 150 feet to the beginning, consisting of approximately 1.25 acres.

Historic Resources of Meigs County,
Tennessee
(Partial Inventory: Historic and
Architectural Resources)

JOHN STEWART HOUSE (#20)

