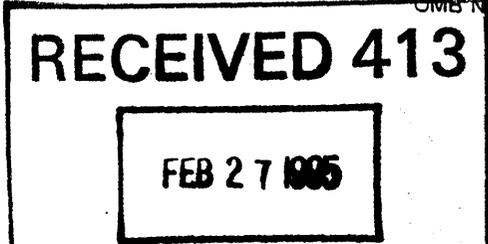


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties **INTERAGENCY RESOURCE DIVISION** **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE** Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete only one of 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 MAPLE DEAN FARM

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 400 New Herman Road N/A not for publication

city or town Shelbyville vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Bedford code 003 zip code 37160

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. Hoyer 2/21/95
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): _____

Edson W. Beall 3/30/95
Signature of the Keeper Entered in the Date of Action
National Register

Maple Dean Farm
Name of Property

Bedford 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	
7	1	buildings
2		sites
1	1	structures
		objects
10	2	Total

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

Historic Family Farms in Middle TN

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC; single dwelling
AGRICULTURE; storage, agricultural field,
animal facility; agricultural outbuilding
FUNERARY; cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC; single dwelling
AGRICULTURE; storage, agricultural field,
animal facility; agricultural outbuilding
FUNERARY; cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER; gable-front and wing with
Eastlake influence

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation LIMESTONE
walls WEATHERBOARD
roof ASPHALT SHINGLE
other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheets.

Name of Property _____

County and State _____

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:

- 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)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/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):

- 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:

Maple Dean Farm
Name of Property

Bedford Co., TN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 209 acres

Shelbyville 79NW

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
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5	5	2	5	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	1	4	7	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3

1	6
---	---

5	5	0	7	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	1	4	2	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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 Anne Leslie Owens and Carroll Van West

organization MTSU Center for Historic Preservation date August 30, 1994

street & number P. O. 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 Jacob Crigler

street & number 400 New Hermon Road telephone (615) 695-5201

city or town Shelbyville state TN zip code 37160

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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Continuation Sheet

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co., TN

VII. Description

The Maple Dean Farm is located on the New Herman Road, formerly the Shelbyville Mulberry Turnpike, approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the community of Flat Creek in Bedford County, Tennessee. Flat Creek is located along Highway 82 south of Shelbyville, the county seat of Bedford County.

Constructed in 1886 by local builder Jeff Baxter, the Maple Dean Farmhouse is a one-story weatherboard gable-front and wing house with hipped roof porches and shed roof additions. This folk housing form common to the Mid-South was formed when a side-gable wing was added at a right angle to a gable front plan. The Victorian millwork ornamenting the porch, gable, doors, and windows reflects a local or vernacular adaptation of the design ideas of Charles Eastlake, a prominent British household critic of the late nineteenth century whose rectilinear and geometric designs for furniture design were transferred to exteriors. The house has a stone foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. The original gable-front and wing contains three brick corbeled interior chimneys while the rear addition contains a brick interior end chimney.

The east or front facade of the Maple Dean Farmhouse is composed of three bays with the front door as the center bay and two long windows as the end bays. The front door has a horizontal panel below a long vertical window ending in three rounded arches. Above the door is a single pane transom. The south window and the front door are covered by the front porch inset in the ell formed by the two wings of the house. This shed-roof porch is supported by three chamfered posts and a chamfered half post attached to each wing. The frieze/valance extending from the porch ceiling features simple geometric cutout forms, mostly circles and crosses. To the side of each post and below the frieze are brackets with u- and x-shaped cutouts. These brackets are finished with turned acorn-shaped finials. Extending out at a right angle from the frieze and the first kind of brackets are a second type of wooden brackets. These paired wooden brackets have a sawn acorn above and below a scroll design. The north window is centered in the projecting gable wing. It is dominated by the long window with a bellcast hood above it. The hood is ornamented with an acorn finial at each corner and supported by a

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co., TN

third kind of wooden bracket. On the third bracket the acorn motif is continued in the sawn pattern and in the acorn finial. This bracket design is composed of three pieces of wood. While the two outside pieces of wood have sawn designs, the inside piece is solid, allowing the design to show but no light to show through. The window below the wood extends to the floor of the interior and opens on to a small wooden stoop. Above this window is a small rectangular awning window that provides ventilation to the attic. The bargeboard features a cutout vine pattern. Both windows on the east facade are one over two, flanked by original wooden shutters. Paired scroll brackets, like those on the porch, ornament each side of each corner of the two main wings of the house.

The south facade of the house shows the rear bedroom, the c. 1900 enclosed hyphen porch, the c. 1900 dining room addition, the c. 1900 enclosed porch inset in the rear ell of the house, and the gable end of the short wing. The servants quarters contain one 4:4 double hung sash window. Between this room and the original portion of the house is a c. 1900 rear hyphen porch, now enclosed. It contains a door flanked by two 4:4 double hung sash windows. The door is composed of three horizontal window panes above three horizontal panels. Protruding from the shed roofed dining room addition is a bay window with three 4:4 double hung sash windows. An original porch, enclosed c. 1900, contains four vertical single pane windows. The gable end of the short wing of the house resembles that on the front facade without the bargeboard or the attic window.

The west, or rear, facade of the house features an original generator shed, the gable end of the original servants quarters, the c. 1900 shed roof dining room addition, and the c. 1900 enclosed porch in the rear ell. The gable end of the addition has an interior end chimney. Directly beyond in the gable end of the long wing of the original house is a second-story attic 4:4 double hung sash window. The shed roof dining room addition to the original portion of the house contains a 4:4 double hung sash window. Beyond this the enclosed porch contains three single pane vertical windows. In the center is a wooden paneled door with two long vertical panels above two shorter vertical panels. The north facade shows the original long wing of the house, with a c. 1960 shed roof bathroom addition protruding out from it, the c. 1900 enclosed hyphen porch, and the rear bedroom. An original

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co.; TN

generator shed with a shed roof protrudes from the rear bedroom. To the east of the bathroom addition are two 1:1 double hung sash windows. They are topped with a frieze and a narrow shelf-like cornice. This shelf-like cornice is supported by two pairs of small, decorative wooden sawn brackets. At each end of the long wing are the large sawn brackets seen on the porch and on the corners of the front of the house.

The interior of the farmhouse has undergone few alterations since its construction in 1886. The main changes are the enclosure of the two rear porches, c. 1900, and the c. 1900 addition of the dining room. The house was carpeted through all rooms except for the kitchen, enclosed hyphen porch, and the rear bedroom. The house has an asymmetrical plan formed by a short side gable wing and a longer front gable plan. The front hall is flanked by a bedroom in the short wing and a parlor in the front of the long wing. All four walls contain original 1'11" wainscoting. Three original paneled doors lead to the bedroom on the south wall, to the family room on the west wall, and to the parlor on the north wall. The walls are topped by a wide band of crown molding and a paneled ceiling. Since other parts of the house were decoratively painted originally, but now have been painted over in c. 1945, it is likely that the doors and wainscoting were grained and the ceiling was painted to emphasize the paneling.

To the south of the front hall is a bedroom. It is the only room in the house to retain its decorative interior painting. This bedroom, and several other interiors in southern Middle Tennessee are the work of Fred Swanton. According to Elizabeth Dean Crigler, Swanton was from Buffalo, New York and gained his artistic training while painting scenery and wagons for circuses.

Like the fretwork on the porch, this interior scheme reflects the influence of Charles Eastlake. In books such as Hints on Household Taste, published in the United States in 1872, he recommended a tripartite horizontal wall division comprised of wainscoting or dado at the bottom of the wall, crown molding or wallpaper along the cornice, with wallpaper between them in the fill area. While Victorian era wainscoting is typically between 36" and 42", this wainscoting is unusually low, only 23". Swanton grained the wainscoting and door to represent two varieties of wood. The rails and stiles are a dark brown color

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co., TN

with a pronounced grain while the recessed panels on the wainscoting and door are painted a golden-color with knots evident on the door. Above the wainscoting the walls are papered. Along the cornice and the ceiling is Swanton's finest work. The cornice is defined by a brown painted crown molding above and below it. The cornice area is painted tan with yellow, blue, and red flowers with green stems and leaves painted on it. This repetitive, free-hand design on a tan background is continued on the ceiling in the same manner. In the cornice are medallions with free-hand landscapes on the east, south, and west walls. The east wall landscape is light-blue storybook castle behind a lake with several boats. Hillside and a bridge frame the painting. The south wall landscape is of an^o tree-covered island. The west wall landscape is of a distant mountain against a pink sky, framed by large trees. While the north wall does not have a cornice painting, it has two landscape paintings at the fireplace. The medallion on the mantel is of a lake surrounded by trees. Below it on the firescreen is a painted waterfall scene.

On the ceiling, similar circular landscapes are painted on wooden cutouts applied at each of the four corners of the room. At the north-west corner is a distant mountain behind a rock-filled lake, framed by a tree-covered bank. The south-east corner is of a small pond with rocks amidst hills and trees. The south-west corner painting is of a river flowing from the distant mountains. A two-story house sits on the right bank, connected to the left bank by a small bridge. The north-east corner painting is of a tree-covered hill. All four of these ceiling landscapes are set in a triangular brown and tan rococo-like scroll pattern. In the center is a circular grey-brown and white scroll pattern. Around it is a wide white band. Connecting this circular white band to the corners are four long triangular-shaped areas. The area in between is painted a lavender color.

Directly to the west of the hall and bedroom is the original rear porch now enclosed and used as a family room. When it was enclosed c. 1900, crown moulding was added to the ceiling; the ceiling tiles date to c. 1940. A colonnade leads from the family room to the dining room. The open passageway with columns with a 2'6" high wall on either side is part of the original porch. The baseboards measure 7 1/2". To the west of the enclosed middle porch, through the colonnade, is the dining room built c.

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co., TN

1900. The baseboards are 4". On its south wall is a bay window with built-in display cabinets. On the south, west, and north walls is a plate rail at 5'9". On the front-gable wing of the house, across the front hall from the front bedroom, is the parlor. Decorative features include panelled wainscoting, a simple mantel, crown molding, and a panelled ceiling. The wainscoting measures 1'9". In this ceiling, four long recessed panels form a square inside the larger square shape of the room. Boards radiate out from this smaller square at a 45 degree angle. While the wainscoting, mantel, and panelled ceiling are now painted white, they were most likely decoratively painted at the same time the front bedroom was painted. Since guests were entertained in the center hall and parlor, these two rooms would have received the most decoration. The panelled ceiling is a further indication that these were the best rooms of the house and would have received the finest decoration. The doors are original, although the casings were altered in the 1920s in a Colonial Revival fashion.

West of the parlor is the middle bedroom. This bedroom does not have wainscoting or a panelled ceiling. It does have a simple mantel similar to those in the front bedroom and parlor, on the west wall. The baseboards are 9 1/4". Along the north wall six steps lead to the attic door on the west wall. Between the attic door and the mantel is a small panelled door used as a medicine cabinet. On the south wall is an original exit door leading to the enclosed middle porch. Two vertical panels are on the bottom, a large window at the top, and a transom above.

A modern bathroom was added on to the middle bedroom c. 1960.

Beyond the middle bedroom is the kitchen, with 7" baseboards. It retains its original beaded boards on the walls and ceiling. Connecting this room to the rear bedroom is an enclosed rear hyphen porch, with 9" baseboards, doors on all four walls, and windows on all but the west wall. The west and east walls are weatherboard while the ceiling and north and south walls are beaded board.

West of the enclosed rear hyphen porch is another bedroom, once a servants room. The baseboards are 9". The simple mantle is larger than those found elsewhere in the house.

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

Surrounding the gable-front and wing house are two contributing buildings relating to the domestic activities of the home. Dating to 1886, the cistern house (C) is a small frame structure, with weathboard, and a pyramid roof covered with asphalt shingles. The combination smokehouse and woodshed (C) is also a frame building, covered with weatherboard, that has two matching shed additions that create an extended gable roof. This building also dates to 1886.

The domestic complex of the farm is separated from the production side of the farm by a plank fence added by Jacob Crigler in about 1950. South of the house are three contributing buildings built by John Peyton Crigler between 1912 and 1918: a frame three-portal barn (C), a frame rectangular gable stock and dairy barn with two shed dormer windows (C), and a concrete silo (C). Southwest is another livestock barn (C), again built between 1912 and 1918, in which John Peyton Crigler placed a single-pen poplar log house, with half-dovetail notching, that according to the family was an original slave house of the farm. This mid-nineteenth century log house was then used as a corn crib.

West of the domestic complex are a frame gable-roof equipment shed, constructed in about 1940 (C) and, on a hill overlooking the farm, a circa 1948 frame tobacco barn (NC, due to date). Located in a grove of trees between the tobacco barn and the equipment shed is the location of the farm's African-American slave and tenant cemetery (C). Two headstones are still evident and other broken stones are scattered in the area.

Since the farm has retained its size of 209 acres for about 130 years, and since livestock has always been the farm's primary agricultural product, the size of fields has changed little since the ownership of Thomas Dean. The fields were primarily used for grazing and the cultivation of corn until the second half of the twentieth century when this farm, like most in Middle Tennessee, began to produce large amounts of hay and began to plant burley tobacco. The field patterns are a contributing site (C). Traditional fence lines are in place across the farm. Some of these are natural barriers of trees and bushes today; other fence lines are defined by wire mesh fences that date to 1940 to 1950 (NC, due to date).

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

VIII. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Maple Dean Farm, near Flat Creek village in Bedford County, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significance in agriculture and settlement and under Criterion C for its significance in art, architecture, and as a significant farm complex of outbuildings and patterns of fields. It is nominated under the registration requirements for Historic Family Farms set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation form for Historic Family Farms in Middle Tennessee.

Established by Thomas Dean in 1819, Maple Dean Farm began its agricultural operations within the first generation of settlement in Bedford County, which was established in 1807. The name Maple Dean Farm was given to the property during the farm improvement campaigns of the early twentieth century. Born in South Carolina in 1791, Thomas Dean became a prominent Democratic politician during the Second Party System in Tennessee politics. He served as Bedford County Trustee in 1836 and then was elected to three terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives (1835-39; 1851-53) and two terms in the Tennessee State Senate (1847-49; 1855-57). A clipping of his obituary in the family's possession comments: "Being a Democrat of the Jacksonian type, he adhered strictly to the principles of his own party." He served as a delegate to the 1843 State Democratic Convention that nominated James K. Polk for governor.

As a farmer, Dean owned a homeplace 154 acres on which he produced crops typical of the mid-1800s in Middle Tennessee, including corn, small grains, and such livestock as horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs. According to later newspaper stories, Dean owned many parcels of land "until he had thirty places, on which were nine mills." (1) Dean was a drover; he specialized in raising livestock for market, especially horses. "He drove large droves of horses, mules, cattle and sheep of his own raising every fall. He drove none but his own raising." (2) He and his wife Cassandra kept a ledger book, now in the possession of the family, where they kept clippings about household management and products and agricultural news about raising different breeds of livestock. Maple Dean Farm is a particularly interesting example of antebellum market-oriented farm that did not emphasize cotton production.

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

Due to his large holdings, and busy political career, Dean relied on his African-American slaves to do much of the stock raising and droving. According to the 1892 newspaper account, "he owned over a hundred [slaves] when the Yankees came to his section."

(3) The property contains a historic cemetery where slaves were buried as well as later African-American tenants on the farm. During the Civil War, Dean complained that his slaves abandoned the property and that Federal forces during the Bedford County campaign of 1863 plundered his livestock.

Retiring from politics after his last term in the State Senate in 1857, Dean devoted himself to his homeplace, expanding its size to 209 acres by the time of his death in 1881. The only son of Thomas and Cassandra Brewton Dean was Peyton S. Dean who inherited the homeplace upon his father's death in 1881. Peyton had been directing the farm's operation for sometime; he lived in a grand two-story I-house with a Greek Revival/Italianate portico. (The house is no longer extant.) Interestingly, the family has a copy of Joseph Killebrew's Resources of Tennessee, which was given in 1874 (the year of its publication) to Peyton Dean by George N. Tillman, the Bedford County representative in the Tennessee General Assembly. Tillman was an officer of the Nashville and Decatur Railroad and later the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway. Consequently, the gift of Resources of Tennessee in 1874 may be an early example of a Middle Tennessee railroad man urging the ideas of progressive agriculture upon a local farmer. Peyton continued the farm's tradition of raising livestock and he added mules to the farm's agricultural products. Four years later, on November 20, 1885, Peyton Dean conveyed his father's farm of 209 acres to his daughter Elizabeth Dean, upon her marriage to local schoolteacher Walter Crigler.

In 1886, the Criglers took the farm into the Victorian age by commissioning local builder Jeff Baxter to construct a new farmhouse. The Maple Dean farmhouse is an architecturally significant example in Bedford County of a gable-front and wing dwelling, a vernacular Victorian house type popular in the Mid-South. The design ideas of Charles Eastlake clearly influenced the fretwork of the front porch and the dwelling can be described as a gable-front dwelling with exterior Eastlake-influenced

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

detailing. In a survey of historic homes in Bedford County, conducted by the Bedford County Historical Society in 1969 (4), the Maple Dean farmhouse was the only such gable-front and wing dwelling, with Eastlake-influenced detailing, that was included in the survey. It was also the only dwelling that identified Jeff Baxter as the builder.

The Maple Dean farmhouse is also significant in art in Bedford County due to its interior decorative painting by painter Fred Swanton, who worked in the southern Middle Tennessee area of Coffee, Moore, and Bedford counties. The Green-Evans House (NR 12/17/92) in Moore County has already documented Swanton's work in his painted landscapes on grained wainscoting in the house parlor. The remaining work at the Maple Dean farmhouse, however, "represents the most complete statement of Swanton's decorative painting." (5) The front hall bedroom possesses four different free-hand landscapes in each of the four corners of the ceiling, three separate landscapes in the cornice, a painting in the center of the mantle, and a painted firescreen of a waterfall. The ceiling paintings depict four different landscape scenes, featuring mountains and forests. The mantle painting is of a lake surrounded by trees. The cornice work, however, departs significantly from Swanton's other work documented in three other houses in Moore and Coffee counties. Here he painted a fantasy-like castle, sitting on an island, surrounded by a lake that contains two boats and a bridge. Another cornice landscape is of a tree-covered island in the middle of a lake. The third is of mountains surrounded by trees.

These paintings were part of a larger decorative scheme for the work, a scheme that closely followed the design ideas of Charles Eastlake. "Eastlake was a British designer who wrote the immensely popular and influential Hints on Household Taste, first published in the United States in 1872. He argued for a tripartite wall division within domestic interiors. Wainscoting, or wallpaper if the actual woodwork was not available, comprised the bottom third of the wall. Wallpaper covered the rest of the wall, topped by a decorative cornice of either painted wood or wallpaper. Ceilings, too, should be covered to complement the overall effect of the room's decoration; most designers recommended readily available wallpapers to do the job." (6) Fashionable homes only had white ceilings if the the rest of room

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

was also painted that color.

"The Maple Dean bedroom is an almost perfect example of Eastlake's ideas translated into a rural southern setting. The room lacks wainscoting, but Swanton grained the baseboards to make them a more distinguished part of the room. The blank wall was covered with wallpaper. The cornice is truly remarkable. Swanton first free-hand painted a repetitive design of flowers to define the very top of the wall. To connect this to the ceiling, he designed and built a wood cut-out on which the cornice design was repeated, with four landscapes placed in each of the four corners. From the corners Swanton painted a white band to the painted medallion in the center of the ceiling. Between each band of white, he painted the ceiling a lavender color. The room's color scheme thus matched the standard of Victorian designers: "the ceiling was the lightest color, the walls and dado [wainscoting] darker, and the woodwork the darkest." (7) "What makes the room so unique are the landscapes in the ceiling corners and in the cornice, together with the very fact that Swanton painstakingly painted the ceiling rather than the normally recommended use of wallpapers." (8)

Under the supervision of Walter and Elizabeth Crigler, the Maple Dean Farm continued its nineteenth century pattern of mixed agriculture, with surpluses traded at Shelbyville markets. In 1907, Walter Crigler served as Surveyor for Bedford County.

In 1911, the farm was conveyed to the only child of Walter and Elizabeth, John Peyton Crigler, who began to convert farm operations into a model progressive operation. Working with the same 209 acres originally accumulated by the founder Thomas Dean, Crigler soon installed electric power in the house by means of a generator and between 1912 and 1918 (the era of extremely high agricultural prices during World War I), he constructed a series of new outbuildings such as a three portal barn, a silo, a small livestock barn in which he converted one of the original slave/tenant log cabins into a log corn crib, and a long rectangular gable roof dairy and livestock barn. The silo may be a model of the Concrete Silo Company of Bloomfield, Indiana. John Peyton Crigler's farm papers, still in the family's possession, contains copies of that company's sales information. John Peyton Crigler operated a small dairy as well. Crigler also

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

improved the breeds of livestock on the family farm.

In 1948, all 209 acres of the historic farm was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Crigler. Jacob Crigler began to plant burley tobacco and in 1948, he built a new tobacco barn on a hill which overlooks the domestic complex of the farm. In 1976, the Maple Dean Farm was certified as a Tennessee Century Farms by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. Mr. Crigler, who is the great great grandson of Thomas Dean, continues to live at the farm with his wife and supervise its operations on the same original 209 acres.

ENDNOTES

1. Spartanburg Carolina Spartan, March 2, 1892. For a brief biographical sketch of Thomas Dean, see Robert M. McBride and Dan M. Robison, Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, Vol. 1: 1796-1861 (Nashville: Tennessee State Library and Archives and Tennessee Historical Commission, 1975), 191.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Doors to the Past (Shelbyville: Bedford County Historical Society, 1969).
5. The following section of analysis is taken from Carroll Van West, "Middle Tennessee Houses and the Plain Painter Tradition: The Work of Fred Swanton in the Late Victorian Era," Tennessee Historical Quarterly 53(Spring 1994): 58-59.
6. Ibid., 59.
7. Gail Casey Winkler and Roger W. Moss, Victorian Interior Decoration: American Interiors, 1830-1900 (New York, 1986), 126.
8. West, "Middle Tennessee Houses," 59.

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National Park Service

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

X. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The Maple Dean Farm lies about one mile south of Flat Creek, Bedford County, and is west of the Shelbyville Mulberry Turnpike. The nominated boundaries correspond with the marked boundaries for lot 6 on the attached Bedford County Tax Maps 134-135. The Tax Map for this nomination has the scale of 1" = 550'. This scale map was prepared by the Bedford County Tax Assessor for the property owner. The Tennessee Historical Commission has found that this scale adequately meets its office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

Boundary Description

The nominated boundaries contain all of the property still in family hands that is associated with the historic farm.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

PHOTOGRAPHS

Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

Photos by: Carroll Van West
MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Date: May 1994

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, TN

East facade, facing west
1 of 39

Detail, fretwork, east facade, facing west
2 of 39

South elevation, facing north
3 of 39

South elevation, facing northeast
4 of 39

West elevation, facing east
5 of 39

North elevation, facing southeast
6 of 39

North elevation, gable extension, facing south
7 of 39

Woodshed/ smokehouse, facing southwest
8 of 39

Cistern house, facing northwest
9 of 39

Three-portal barn, facing south
10 of 39

Stock/ dairy barn with silo, facing south
11 of 39

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

Equipment shed, facing northwest
12 of 39

Livestock barn, fields, facing west
13 of 39

Livestock barn, facing east
14 of 39

Slave house/ single pen log house, in livestock barn, facing east
15 of 39

Domestic complex and primary barns, from livestock barn, facing
northeast
16 of 39

Burley tobacco barn, facing west
17 of 39

Hay fields, from African-American cemetery site, facing east
18 of 39

Fields, from tobacco barn, facing northwest
19 of 39

Headstones, African-American cemetery, facing west
20 of 39

African-American cemetery site, facing east
21 of 39

Hayfields, facing southeast
22 of 39

Entrance hall (ceiling paneling), Maple Dean Farmhouse, facing
west
23 of 39

Entrance hall, Maple Dean Farmhouse, facing northwest
24 of 39

Painted ceiling, cornice paintings, front bedroom, facing south
25 of 39

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Maple Dean Farm, Bedford County, TN

Painted mantle, cornice, front bedroom, facing north
26 of 39

Painted mantle and wainscoting, front bedroom, facing northwest
27 of 39

Family room, facing south
28 of 39

Parlor, facing south
29 of 39

Middle bedroom, facing southeast
30 of 39

Middle bedroom, facing northwest
31 of 39

Middle bedroom into modern bathroom, facing north
32 of 39

Kitchen, facing south
33 of 39

Kitchen, facing southwest
34 of 39

Kitchen, facing northwest
35 of 39

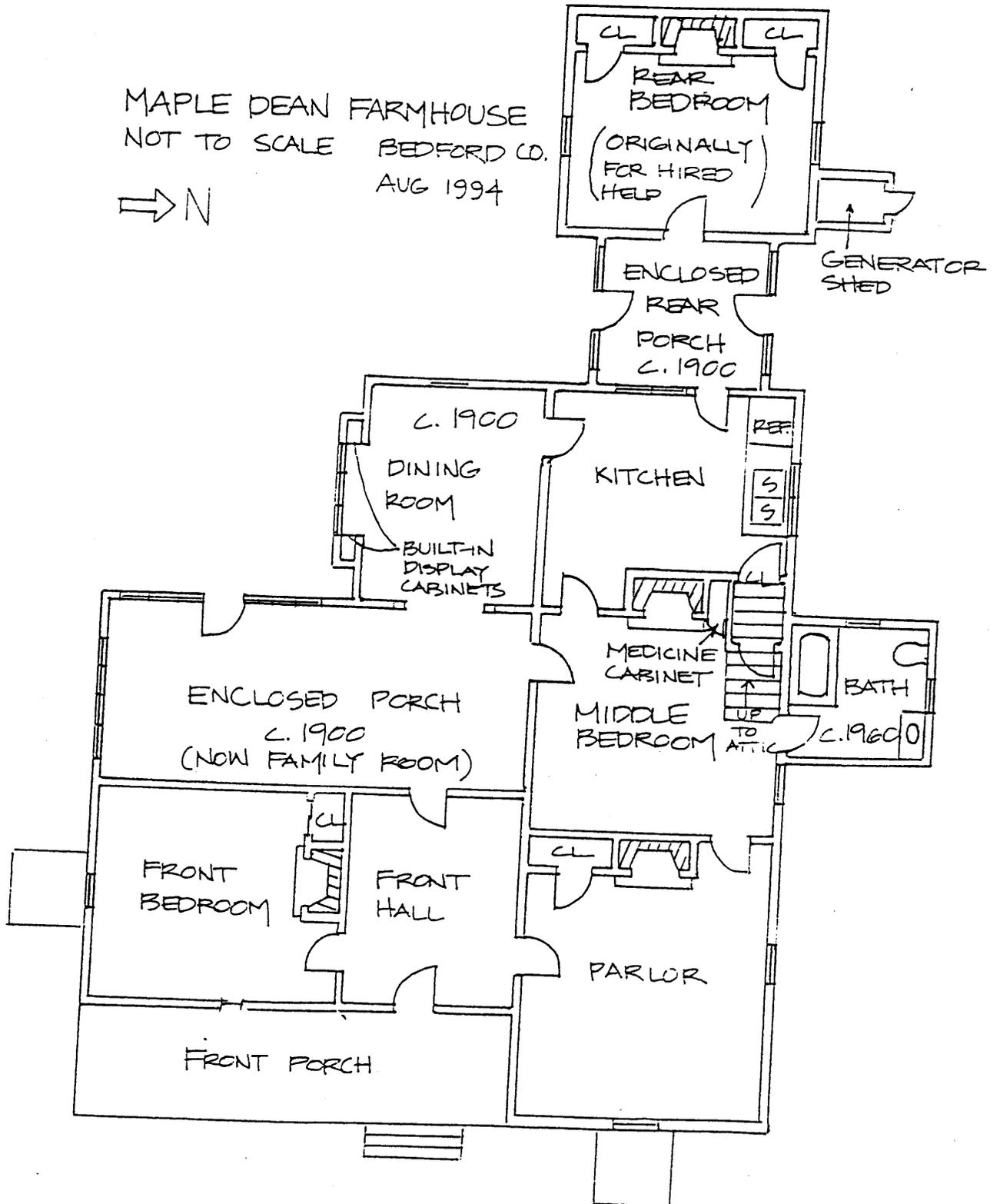
Enclosed rear porch, facing east
36 of 39

Enclosed rear porch into rear bedroom, facing west
37 of 39

Rear bedroom, facing west
38 of 39

Rear bedroom, facing east
39 of 39

MAPLE DEAN FARMHOUSE
NOT TO SCALE BEDFORD CO.
AUG 1994



☐ barn

Ⓜ W

☐ tobacco barn

Ⓜ - slave cemetery

wire fence

picket fence

☐ shed

wire fence (nc)

☐ smokehouse/woodshed

Ⓜ silo
☐ barn

cistern ☐

☐ house

☐ barn

picket fence

picket fence (nc)

Ⓜ S

Ⓜ N

creek

creek

Mt. Herman Road

Ⓜ E

Maple Dean Farm, Bedford Co., TN: Distribution of buildings structures sites plan

Map 134

Map 135

Maple Dean Farm
Bedford County
TN
1" = 550'

