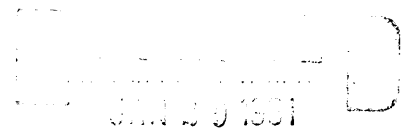


225

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rucker, Benjamine, House

other names/site number Rucker-Betty House

2. Location

street & number 3978 Betty Ford Road N/A not for publication

city, town Compton vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Rutherford code 149 zip code 37130

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
	<u>1</u> structures
	<u>3</u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Herbert L. Saper
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 1/23/91

Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Alonzo Byer

Entered in the
National Register

2/28/91

for
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellingDOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellingDOMESTIC/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: I-house/Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONEwalls BRICKSYNTHETIC/Vinyl Sidingroof ASPHALT, Tinother WOODCONCRETEIRON

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built in 1832, the Benjamine Rucker House is located approximately seven miles from the City of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, (pop. 43,000, 1980) in the eastern section of Rutherford County near the East Fork of Stones River. The property is oriented facing north to the line of Betty Ford Road and is surrounded by gently rolling fields that were once part of the original landholdings of Benjamine Rucker and his descendants. The two story brick house is a fine representative of the design, materials, and construction techniques available in its chronological period, and it retains a high degree of historic integrity. The house is a notable example of an architectural style commonly called an extended I-house. Characteristics of this type include two rooms arranged around a central hall and a rear ell. A prominent feature of the house is the Greek Revival-influenced central portico. In 1987 an addition was placed on the western end of the house, but it is compatible to the design used in the original construction. Another addition, circa 1975, enclosed the original back porch.

The north facade of the five bay original house is symmetrically arranged around a central portico with double-leaf doors. Constructed of brick in Flemish bond pattern, the house rests on a foundation of stone blocks cut from the nearby river banks. The central one story portico has a triangular pediment with a raking cornice and a plain entablature. It is supported by four Tuscan columns at the front and two engaged columns, with identical features, that rest against the facade of the house. The top and bottom rails of the balustrade are mortised into all the columns, while the front balusters are turned wood and the side balusters are square. A circa 1975 brick walk and two brick steps lead up to the plank floor of the portico. Double-leaf doors are surrounded by twelve-light sidelights with paneled lower sections and a diamond-pattern transom. Two reeded pilasters decorate the side door surround. The wooden doors have center panels with an X-pattern chamfered plane mark. They are protected by circa 1975 wood and glass storm doors. Windows on the first and second floors, four on the first floor and five on the second floor, are all 9/9 double-hung sashes with plain timber sills and lintels and hinged wooden louvered shutters to each side. Two basement windows, with vertical iron bars and stone lintels and sides, are centrally-located under the first floor windows. The low pitch end gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the brick exterior end chimneys have corbelled tops. A gutter system runs across the

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facade roofline emptying down the front west end. The one story 1987 addition is compatible to the original house. It uses the same brick pattern, end gable, roof pitch, and materials as the original house possesses. It has two windows that exhibit the same elements as those on the original facade. A gutter system runs across the 1987 addition roofline and empties down the west end.

The west elevation of the original house is solid brick in a common bond variant pattern, which is also seen on the south and east elevations. The central exterior end chimney has been covered over on the first floor by the 1987 addition. The ell of the original house extends to the south and is solid brick except for two symmetrically placed windows on each floor at the southern end. These windows also exhibit the same elements as those found on the facade. The west elevation of the 1987 addition also has two windows with the same elements.

The south (back) elevation consists of the 1987 addition, the ell, the circa 1975 addition which enclosed the original porch, and the main house. The 1987 addition has one window with the same elements noted on the other elevations and a nine-light glass and panel door capped by a three-light transom. There is also a brick patio extending from this door to the ell. The back of the original ell is solid brick except for a later 4/4 double-hung sash located to the east of the central exterior end chimney. The gutter system from the roofline of the ell sides empties across and down the central chimney to a cistern. The back elevation of the main house has five windows, two on the first floor and three on the second floor. All of these windows have the same elements as those on the facade but are without shutters. A gutter system runs across the back elevation between the first and second floor windows connecting to the gutter on the roof of the 1975 addition. This addition, originally the back porch, is covered with vinyl siding and has a pair of 6/6 double hung sashes. (A small portion of the addition was enclosed prior to 1975. See sketch map.) To the east of these windows a wood stove flue protrudes out from the elevation. The asphalt shingle roof has a sloping pitch. A gutter system runs across this roof and the ell back emptying into the cistern.

The east elevation consists of the visible portion of the second floor of the ell, the 1975 addition, and the side gable end of the main house. One window, with the same elements as those on the south elevation, is located at the southern end of the ell. The 1975 addition has two 6/6 double-hung sashes on the southern end, a central nine-light glass and panel door (covered by a wrought-iron security door), and a smaller 6/6 double-hung sash close to the main house. A circa 1975 brick patio with open brick

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walls extends from this addition. The main house side gable end is solid brick except for two small louvered windows located in the gable field on either side of the central exterior chimney. There are also two tie rods with square plates situated between the two floors on the north and south sections of this wall. The gutter system from the facade extends across this end of the main house and the roof of the 1975 addition. Excluding later window additions, all windows and doors of the original house and ell are symmetrically placed, except the far west second floor window in the back elevation of the main house.

The interior of the Benjamine Rucker House is composed of sixteen rooms, nine on the first floor, four on the second floor, and three rooms in the basement. The original house with its ell had eleven rooms. The extended I-house floor plan has a central entry hall with rooms flanking it on either side, currently used as the living room and dining room. A 1987 bedroom addition is entered from the west wall of the dining room. An ell extension, containing the kitchen, is entered from the southern end of the dining room. The 1975 addition, which enclosed the original back porch, is entered from the east wall of the kitchen. From the kitchen an original, partially enclosed stair leads to the second floor. The open-well stair in the central entry hall leads to the second floor where two rooms (Bedroom A and C) again flank the central hallway (now a small Bedroom B). The ell (Bedroom D) is entered from the west room (Bedroom C). The stair in the second floor central hallway continues to lead to the attic floor. There are seven fireplaces - three on the first floor, three on the second floor, and one in the basement. All walls of the original house and ell are solid brick, sixteen inches thick. The original interior woodwork features tongue and groove yellow poplar floors, wide molded baseboards, door and window surrounds, crown moldings, decorative mantelpieces, chair rails, built-in cupboards and closets, molded door panels and doorjambs, and a stair with a wave molding carriage. Although covered by modern paint and wallpaper, the interior also retains most of the nineteenth century plaster walls and ceilings. Some of the original animal hair plaster can be found on the stair wall leading to the basement.

The principal entry to the house is through the double-leaf doors to the central entry hall. The interior side of these doors have plain panels. The wide molded door surrounds exhibit bull's-eye corner blocks, which are also seen on the doorways that lead to the living and dining rooms. Molded interior panel doorjambs are seen in the doorways that lead to the living and dining rooms. At the rear of the central entry hall is a very wide paneled door (46 1/2"), which originally led to the back porch. At some time in the early 1900s this immediate area was converted to a bathroom.

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Under the stairs is another paneled door which leads to the basement. The entry hall's molded baseboard is approximately twelve inches wide and the crown molding is 5 1/2" wide; there is no chair rail. The newel and landing posts of the main stairway are turned, the newel caps are in the shape of a round ball, and the stair balusters are round.

To the east side of the entry hall is the living room. Placed symmetrically for ventilation purposes, there are two windows each on the north and south walls. The molded window surround is ornamented with bull's-eye corner blocks, while a molded wood panel apron is seen beneath each window. The crown and baseboard moldings in this room have the same characteristics as those found in the entry hall. A chair rail (5 1/2" wide) surrounds the room and is similar in detail to the other moldings. A fireplace is found on the east wall. The mantelpiece is supported by two Doric columns and has panels exhibiting the same X-pattern chamfered plane mark that is found on the exterior side of the paired front doors.

The dining room is located west of the entry hall. There are two windows on the north wall that exhibit the same characteristics as those found in the living room. The crown and baseboard moldings, along with the chair rail, are the same as in the living room. The current owners had to replace some of these moldings in the room during the 1975 renovation, but employed the same construction techniques. A fireplace is located on the west wall. It has a mantelpiece supported by two Tuscan columns, and also exhibits the same X-pattern chamfered plane mark in the panels as the living room mantelpiece. A built-in cupboard, with molded panel doors, is located to the right of the fireplace. The cupboard has upper and lower cabinet space and two drawers. Another built-in cupboard was originally to the left of the fireplace, but has been converted into the doors leading to the 1987 bedroom addition. The 1987 bedroom addition exhibits compatible building techniques in duplicating the same type moldings, windows, and doors as found in the original house. On the south wall a central doorway, with molded interior panel doorjamb, leads to the ell.

The ell contains the kitchen. There are two windows, symmetrically placed on the east and west walls at the southern end, that have plain surround moldings. The window on the east wall looks into the 1975 enclosed porch addition. Crown and baseboard moldings, along with the chair rail, are plainer and smaller in width than those found in the main section of the house. The current owners also had to replace some of these moldings. Paneling is seen under the chair rail and a fireplace is located on the south wall. Its mantelpiece is composed of fluted side pilasters and a plain panel. A built-in cupboard is located to the right of the fireplace

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and has the same elements as the dining room cupboard. To the left of the fireplace a small, plain window was added. A partially enclosed stair, with a plain newel post and cap, is located in the northeast corner and leads to the second floor. A molded panel door closes off the landing. A closet is located under the landing. Modern kitchen cabinets and appliances have been added by the current owners. The original back door is located to the left of the window on the east wall. This doorway also has molded interior panel doorjambs. The original timber door sill is still intact and well worn.

The den addition enclosed the original back porch. The porch columns (9" x 9") are still used for support. The columns are chamfered with four sides at the base and eight sides on the shaft. The timber sill to the exterior east wall window and the timber lintel over the back door can be seen in this room. A laundry and half-bath were also included in this addition. Another porch support is seen in that area. A modern door and windows, along with a wood stove, are used in this addition.

The second floor has four rooms. From the first floor landing the stair rises to the second floor central hall, which is currently used as a bedroom. The newel post and cap, along with the balusters are the same as the first run. The baseboard molding, chair rail, and other wood trim in this room and all other rooms on the second floor are plainer in design and smaller in width than those on the first floor. There is no crown molding in the second floor rooms. A built-in peg rack is located on the east and west walls of the central hall. One window is centrally located on the north wall. Another window is located on the south wall, but it is not parallel with the north window. The second floor landing runs across this south wall window. These windows, along with all other windows on the second floor, are plainer in surround moldings and do not exhibit bull's-eye corner blocks, as do those on first floor.

A central doorway, with a hinged molded panel door, opens to the east bedroom (A). There are four windows, symmetrically placed on the north and south walls, and a fireplace on the east wall. It has a mantelpiece with fluted pilasters and a plain panel. A doorway opens from the central hall to the west bedroom (C). There are two windows, with the same characteristics as the east bedroom, on the north wall. The fireplace is located on the west wall. The mantelpiece exhibits the same design as the one found in the east bedroom. Two built-in closets are located on either side of the fireplace. The closet molding surround has bull's-eye corner blocks. A circa 1975 built-in closet is found on the east wall. Another hinged, molded panel door, plainer than the rest, leads to the ell bedroom.

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Two windows are symmetrically placed on the east and west walls close to the southern end. A fireplace is centrally located on the south wall and the mantelpiece is identical to the others in the east and west bedrooms. There are also two built-in closets to either side of the fireplace with plain surround molding. The stair from the kitchen rises one run up to this room and has a plain, square newel post and cap and square balusters.

From the second floor central hall the stair rises another run, has another landing, and rises a final run to the attic doorway. The newel post and cap, as well as the balusters, are plain and square. The attic is two-thirds floored. Two recent louvered window additions are seen on the east wall on either side of the chimney. Evidence of early 1800s craftsmanship can be seen in the mortise and tenon rafter and beam construction with Roman numeral markings.

From the first floor central entry hall, under the stairs, wooden steps lead down to the basement, which also has a central hall with two rooms flanking it on either side. The basement walls are cut stone blocks and there is a fireplace located in the west wall of the west room. Steps to the left of the fireplace were once an outside entrance, but now lead to the crawl space beneath the 1987 addition. The west room has a basement window with vertical iron bars centrally located on the north wall. The east room has two identical windows, one centrally located on the north wall, the other on the south wall. Evidence is also seen in the basement regarding early 1800s construction techniques, such as floor joists, flooring and animal hair wall plaster.

The circa 1832 kitchen/outbuilding is located directly south of the ell and main section of the original house. This one story brick building has a low pitch gable end roof covered in tin. The brick pattern is a common bond variant. The building has two rooms with evidence that the east side room may have been added to the west side room. No records exist to document this addition, but in all probability the east room would have been added by the time of the Civil War. The north facade of the west end of the building has one door and one window, while the east end of the building has a central door with a window on either side. All windows are covered with solid wood shutters and have brick lintels. The hinged plain wooden doors have timber lintels. There is a covered porch addition (date unknown) to the northeast part of the facade. Square wooden porch columns support the shed-type tin porch roof. The west elevation is solid brick with a central exterior end chimney. The south elevation has two windows, each on the far east and west ends of the building. The east elevation has a later garage-type opening.

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The interior of the kitchen/outbuilding contains two rooms. The west room has one window on the south wall. A fireplace, with large hearth, is located on the west wall. The flooring is plank. There is evidence of animal hair plaster over the brick walls. An off-center door in the east wall leads to the west room, which has a poured concrete floor. Two windows with a central door are located on the north wall, with another window located on the east end of the south wall. A garage-type opening is located on the east wall. This is a contributing building.

Also included on the property are two plank shed/outbuildings, circa early 1900s, located to the east of the kitchen/outbuilding and a cistern. These resources are non-contributing because they fall outside of the period of significance of the property.

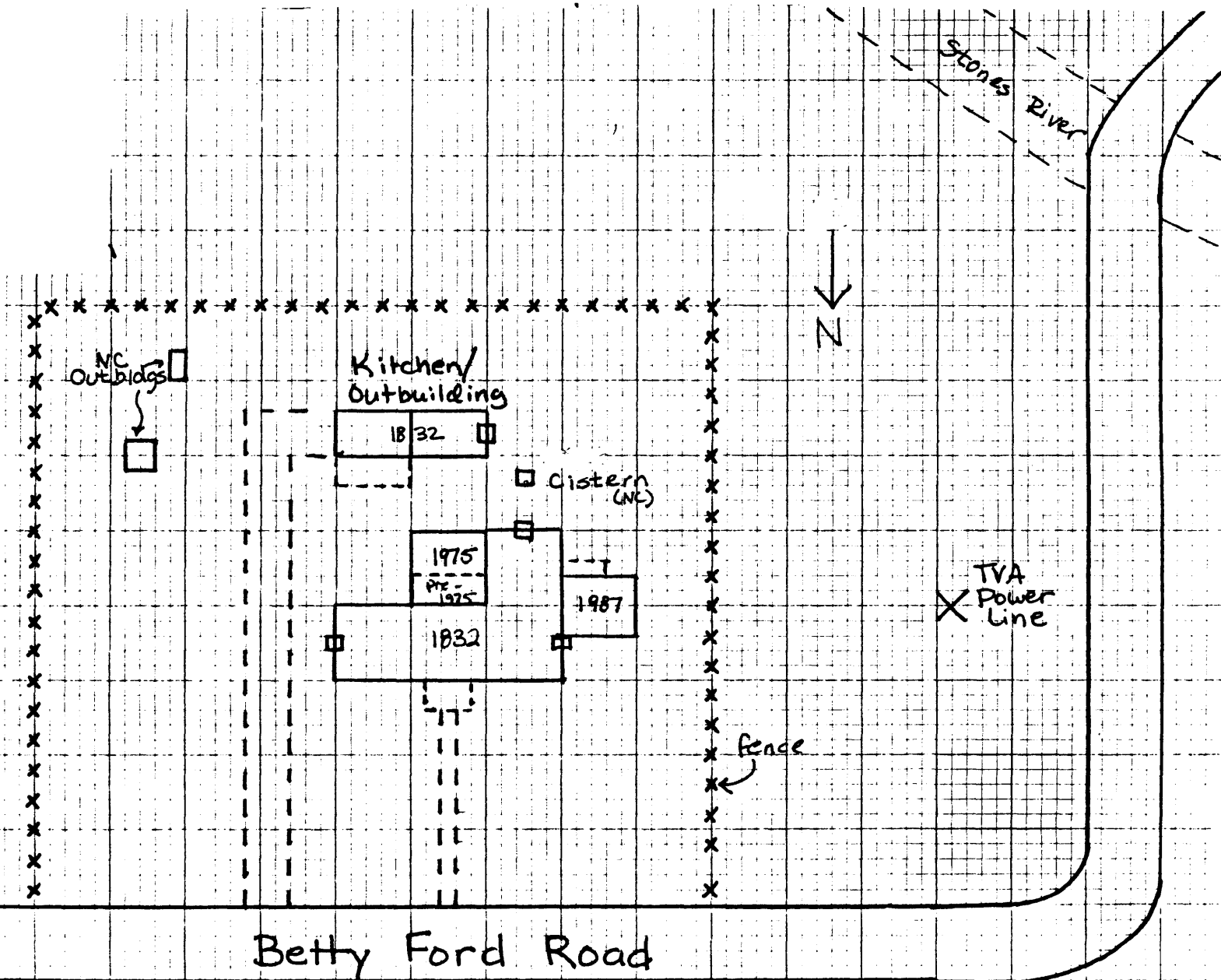
The current owners have been extremely sensitive to incorporate construction techniques and materials that are compatible with the original house. When they built the 1987 bedroom addition they were very concerned that it have as small an impact as possible on the overall design of the original house. The brick used in the addition was specially fired in a way to look like the color and texture of the original brick. It was also laid in the same manner as the original brick, using Flemish bond on the facade and common bond on the elevations. It should also be noted that the 1987 addition does not interfere with how the rooms in the original section of the house are used. More importantly, the smaller scale and setback of the addition diminishes its impact on the historic building and successful efforts were made as well to have the addition's symmetry compliment the symmetry of the original house.

Although the property was large (300 acres) when Benjamine Rucker built the house, the nominated property consists of only 3.5 acres. The property is bounded on the west by a circa 1975 split-rail fence and by wire fencing on the south and east sides. Landscaping consists of several large trees, shrubbery, and flowers. Directly south of the property, situated on a rise close to the river, is a group of trees where, according to oral history, Rucker family members are buried. No evidence of grave markers are found. This property is not owned by the current residents of the Benjamine Rucker House.

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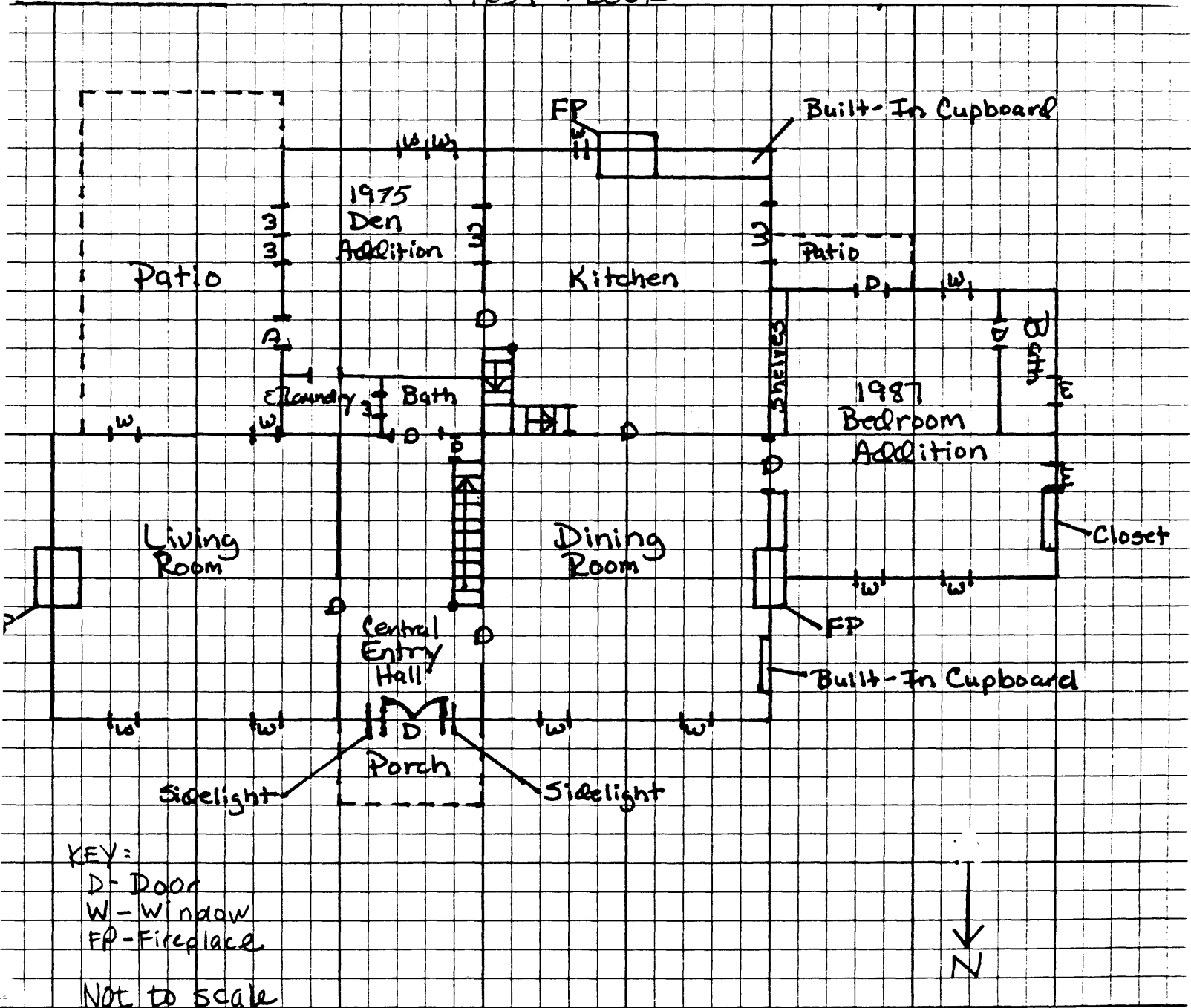


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FIRST FLOOR

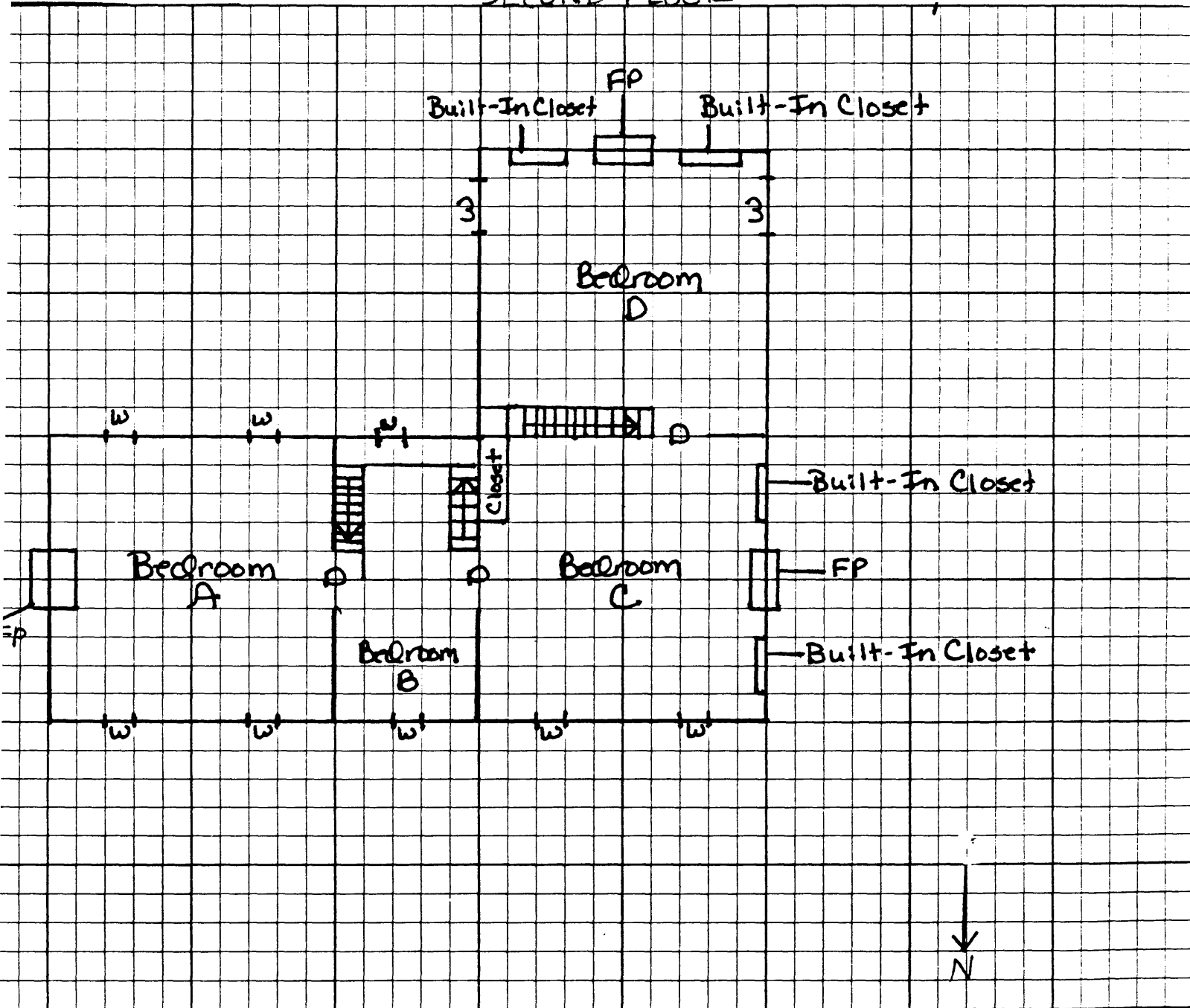


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SECOND FLOOR

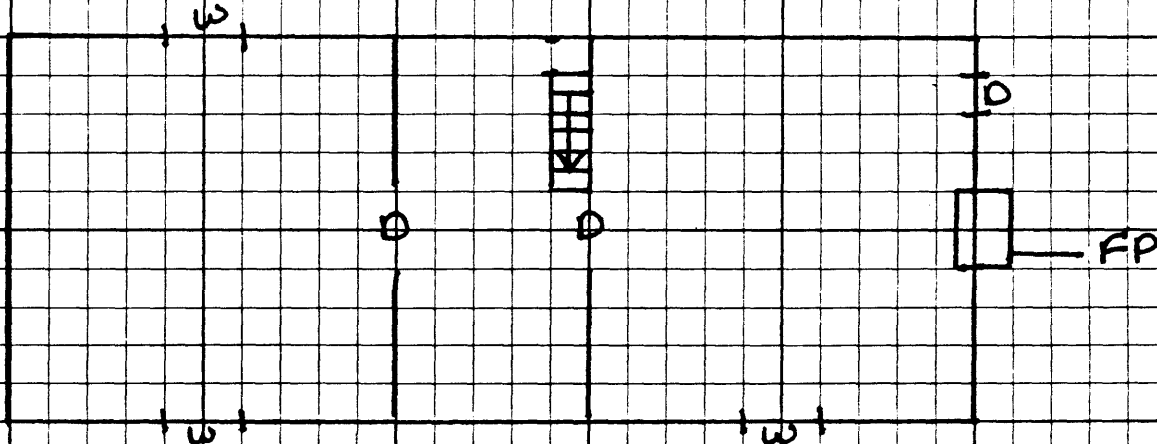


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BASEMENT



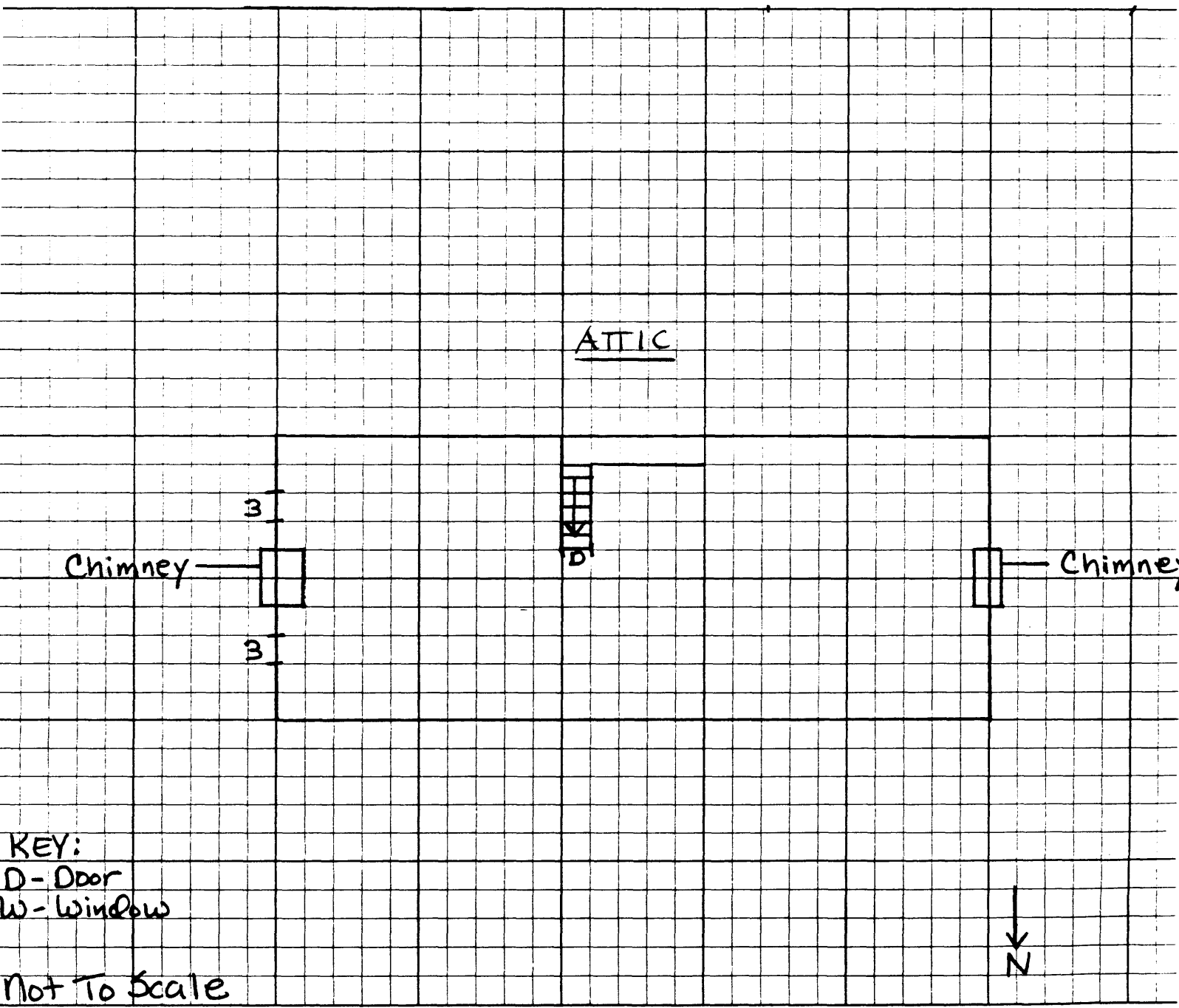
KEY:
D - Door
W - Window
FP - Fireplace

Not To Scale

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

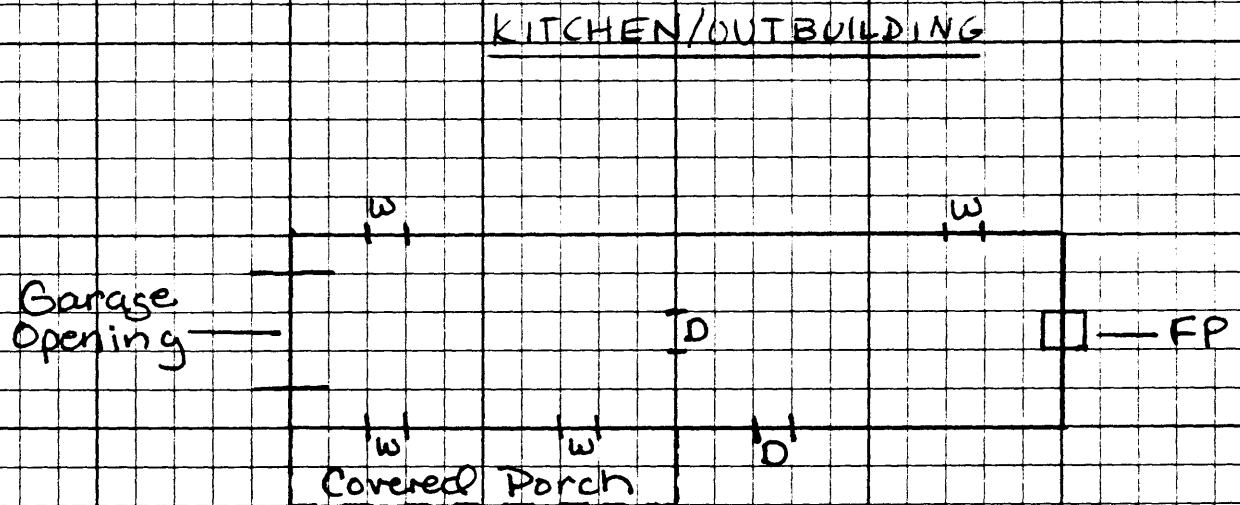
Section number 7 Page 12 Rucker, Benjamine, House



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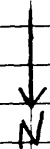
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KEY:
D - Door
W - Window
FP - Fireplace

Not To Scale



8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1832

Significant Dates

1832

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Benjamine Rucker House is significant under National Register criterion C as a fine local example of an extended I-house that is embellished with Greek Revival details. Notable features include the symmetrical arrangement of the facade, the portico, the interior fireplaces, and simple wood moldings. The kitchen/outbuilding is also a good representation of an antebellum outbuilding. Overall, the Benjamine Rucker House and its contributing kitchen/outbuilding retain a high degree of historic integrity. Although modern elements have been added through the years, particularly with the 1975 renovation and 1987 addition, the house still retains much of its original fabric and design.

Benjamine Rucker's father, James Rucker, was a major land owner who was influential in the development of Rutherford County. James, along with his three brothers (Thomas, Bennett, and Gideon), came to Tennessee in 1795 when it was still Davidson County, North Carolina. Each of these brothers acquired 5,000 acres of land. In 1796 Tennessee became a state with Rutherford County being formed in 1799. James and Thomas Rucker's land fell in Rutherford County while Bennett and Gideon's land fell in what became Cannon and Wilson counties. James Rucker's land was between what is now Walter Hill and Murfreesboro at the site of the Veteran's Hospital and extending eastward towards Lascassas. Benjamine Rucker was born in Virginia on June 2, 1790 to James and his second wife, Nancy Ann Ready Rucker. James had a total of fourteen children by his two wives. When he died on September 10, 1819 he left his land to his sons so they could build their own homes. He left about 300 acres to Benjamine. Benjamine Rucker built his house in 1832 close to what later became known as Betty's Ford on the East Fork of Stones River.

Benjamine was married three times, first in 1819 to Sarah Alexander, second to Eliza Whorton (date unknown), and, third in 1835 to Elizabeth Welsh. Benjamine and his father were close friends with Andrew Jackson and were frequent visitors at the Hermitage (NHL12/19/60) where Benjamine's half-sister, Betsy, lived with her husband, Sam Donelson. The Jacksons also

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA
 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
 State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 3.5 acres

UTM References

A

1	6	5	6	0	3	8	0	3	9	7	5	1	3	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer B. Butt
organization MTSU Center for Historic Preservation date 10/29/90
street & number 900 North Maney Avenue telephone (615) 890-3656
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37130

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visited Benjamine, and it is said the two men had similar garden plans and swapped new plants or flowers. Andrew Jackson's artist, Earle, painted a portrait of Benjamine at the Hermitage. The portrait is still in the Betty family, who are descendants of Benjamine's daughter Sophia Burrus Rucker Betty.

Benjamine was one of Rutherford County's antebellum planters, with cotton being his major crop. As part of the county's ruling Democratic elite in the antebellum era, Rucker enjoyed a position of social and economic significance. He was a member in the First Presbyterian Church was involved in the politically significant "Polk Circle". Led by John W. Childress and William R. Rucker, the group served as the foundation for James K. Polk's support in the county and in Middle Tennessee during both his races for the Tennessee governor and United States president. A 1911 affidavit by a Rucker slave, named Alfonzo Rucker, states that Benjamine owned about 200 slaves and had one of the biggest farms in the area.

Alfonzo Rucker also stated in the affidavit that the Union army camped on the property for six or seven weeks during the Civil War, burning all the rail fences and taking hogs, sheep, and horses. Benjamine was poor after the war and even though his slaves were free, few left. Benjamine left his homestead and appurtenances to his daughter Sophia Burrus Rucker Betty (who had married Colonel William Betty of Rutherford County). An accurate date of Benjamine's death is unknown, but his will was recorded by the county clerk on March 15, 1866. The Benjamine Rucker House has since passed through later Betty family members and onto other owners with the current owners purchasing the house on September 26, 1975.

The symmetrical I-house, basically two rooms wide and one room deep, was commonly built in frame and brick during the first half of the nineteenth century. The I-house evolved from the one-story hall and parlor folk house. In the evolution, a second floor was added which created a characteristic found in many I-houses, the tall blank gable end walls. As the evolution continued the I-house was extended, but was still characterized by symmetrical elevations and a balanced plan with rooms of near-equal size flanking an entrance passage. Further appendages, such as ells and rearward extensions, also provided more room as a division of room function and privacy needs emerged. The kitchen was often located in the ell and the family often ate there or in a room away from their living space. The symmetrical elevations and solid gable end brick walls of the Benjamine Rucker House vividly illustrate the exterior characteristics of the I-house architectural folk tradition. The interior rooms of the

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Benjamine Rucker House form a good example of the extended I-house linear floor plan along with a central hallway and ell.

The triangular pediment supported by Tuscan columns and the paired doors surrounded on the sides and top by narrow glass lights seen in the central portico of the Benjamine Rucker House are typical Greek Revival portico and doorway elaborations. Many southern I-houses had stylistic detailing added to them to make the house appear more fashionable. The Greek Revival portico of the house illustrates this technique. It is not known whether this portico is part of the original construction or added later. However, the craftsmanship of the portico does exhibit inherent nineteenth century construction techniques. As previously mentioned in section 7, the balustrade railing is hand hewn and mortised into the columns. Further evidence of the portico's existence during the nineteenth century can be found in the following comparisons with houses in the surrounding area.

The Gideon Rucker house, built around 1802-1804 at Rucker's Knob near Porterfield in Cannon County, Tennessee, has similar features, particularly the Greek Revival influenced portico. (Gideon Rucker was Benjamine's uncle.) It is known that Gideon sold the house at Rucker's Knob to his younger brother Bennett in 1817 and that a Neo-Classical portico was added. The Charles Ready House (NR6/2/73), built in 1829, is even more similar to the Benjamine Rucker House with its symmetrical facade and Greek Revival influenced portico. Charles Ready knew the Rucker family, especially Thomas Rucker (another uncle of Benjamine) since both were involved in helping to establish a permanent seat of government in Rutherford County during 1811-1812. Both of these houses could have served as a model for the Benjamine Rucker House. Also, it is not known whether the Greek Revival porticoes seen on these house were original or later additions. In either case, these two houses along with the Benjamine Rucker House all exhibit similar features.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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' 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. To supplement this map, the nomination includes a detailed verbal boundary description.

The boundary of the Benjamine Rucker House is shown as lot 51 on Rutherford County property assessment maps 59 and 60. The boundary is as follows: beginning at point A, the boundary moves south approximately 300 feet, thence west approximately 550 feet, thence north approximately 300 feet, thence east approximately 550 feet to the point of the beginning.

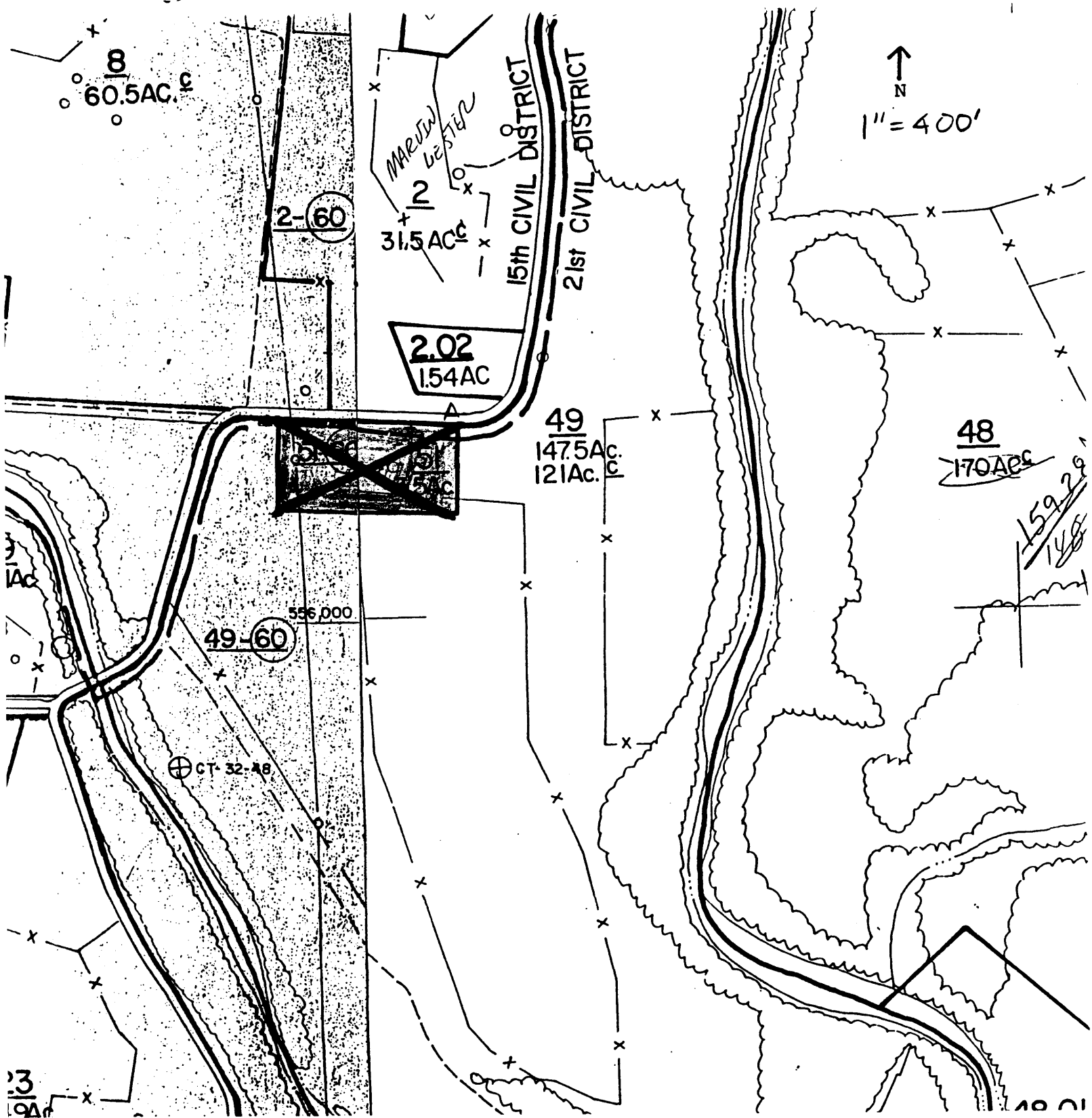
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the nominated property is sufficient to protect the historic setting of the house and the dependency. It includes all land currently associated with the house.

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Benjamine Rucker House
3978 Betty Ford Road
Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee
Photos: Jennifer Butt
Date: March 1990 and October 1990
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

North facade, facing south
#1 of 33

North facade, facing southwest
#2 of 33

North facade and partial west elevation, facing southeast
#3 of 33

West and partial rear elevations, facing northeast
#4 of 33

Rear ell, facing north
#5 of 33

Rear and east elevations, facing northwest
#6 of 33

Kitchen/outbuilding west elevation, facing east
#7 of 33

Kitchen/outbuilding east elevation, facing west
#8 of 33

Non-contributing outbuildings, facing northeast
#9 of 33

Entrance on north facade, facing south
#10 of 33

Facade entrance details
#11 of 33

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Detail of facade portico column and balustrade
#12 of 33

Detail of facade portico column and balustrade
#13 of 33

View of entry hall from doorway
#14 of 33

Detail of exterior side of front door
#15 of 33

Detail of bull's-eye molding and stair
#16 of 33

View of living room from entrance hall
#17 of 33

Detail of living room mantle
#18 of 33

Detail of paneled apron below window
#19 of 33

View of dining room from entrance hall
#20 of 33

Detail of dining room mantle
#21 of 33

Detail of door leading to 1987 bedroom addition
#22 of 33

View of 1987 bedroom addition, facing northeast
#23 of 33

View of kitchen, facing northeast
#24 of 33

View of den addition, facing northwest
#25 of 33

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Second floor landing and stairs, facing south
#26 of 33

View of Bedroom B, facing north
#27 of 33

View of Bedroom A, facing northeast
#28 of 33

View of Bedroom C, facing west
#29 of 33

View of Bedroom D, facing southeast
#30 of 33

Detail of attic construction
#31 of 33

Detail of floor and beam construction viewed from basement stair
#32 of 33

Detail of basement wall
#33 of 33