

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 2 1987

date entered

MAR 6 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Greenlevel

and/or common Greenlevel

2. Location

street & number 853 Collierville - Arlington Road South NA not for publication

city, town Collierville X vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Shelby code 157

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	NA <input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lee Cottam, Jr.

street & number 853 Collierville -Arlington Road South

city, town Collierville X vicinity of state Tennessee

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Shelby County Register

street & number 160 Mid -America Mall

city, town Memphis state Tennessee

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date N/A N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located approximately two miles north of Collierville (pop. 7,839), Shelby County, Tennessee, Greenlevel is an imposing, two story Greek Revival house constructed circa 1830 and embellished with a two story pedimented portico in around 1850. The house, with a principal east/west axis facing Collierville-Arlington Road, is built of braced frame construction. The exterior of Greenlevel follows an irregular plan that has been shaped through its two periods of alteration, each providing a major contribution to the overall character of the house. Capped by an asphalt shingle gable roof, the weatherboarded house rests on brick piers. The interior of Greenlevel is highlighted by a curved stairway, molded wood trim, and several built in cabinets. During the 1960s, the foundation was enclosed, a rear addition built, and the house was modernized. Situated on a gentle knoll, pastures, ponds, woods, and lawn areas surround the house, providing a picturesque setting.

The front (east) facade is dominated by a pedimented portico added in the early 1850s. Four decagonal (10 sided) columns form the main support while triple crown moldings form the capitals for these columns, as well as the two apparent pilasters to their rear. These pilasters are actually a column which has been built, cut in half, and the inside used for cabinets and bookcases within the house. A simple molding decorates the pedestals of the columns and pilasters. Both the pedimented portico and eaves are enhanced by the application of scalloped trim and simple moldings. A plain frieze and cornerboards delineate the edges of the residence. A six-panel pegged door (ca. 1830s) with transom and sidelights forms the main entrance. The architrave rails between door and glass panes are reeded and meet in nailhead blocks. Heavy molding topped with dentils and pilasters complete the doorway treatment. A similar doorway (ca. 1830s) three inches shorter appears just above to allow access to a cantilevered second story balcony (ca. 1850s) that runs almost the entire width of the portico. A turned wood balustrade with four square panelled posts topped by nailhead ornamentation matching those on the architrave graces the balcony. This balustrade assembly was replaced in the 1960s and reflects the care taken during that restoration process. The eight pedimented 6/6 double-hung sash windows date to the 1830s with the exception of some sash and glazing replacements. Shutters on these windows have been replaced utilizing original hardware.

The principal feature of the north elevation is a large brick chimney that bisects the original portion of the house. Cornice returns are seen on both this elevation and the south elevation. To the left (east) of the chimney is one pedimented 6/6 double-hung sash window while situated to the west are two additional pedimented 6/6 double-hung sash windows. A one-story section was constructed in the 1960s on the foundation of a circa 1850s room. This room, which now serves as a kitchen, has paired casement windows with diamond shape panes. These windows (ca. 1910) were removed from a house being razed in Memphis during the 1960s. Exposed rafters which are visible on the addition will soon be covered with scalloped bargeboard of the kind on the original part of the house.

The west (rear) elevation reveals both the two story portion (ca. 1830s) and all of the modern one story additions. These additions form an irregular pattern for the lower floor with two gable roofs projecting from the original portion connected via a shed roofline. Above the shed roof is a single pedimented window placed midpoint in the second floor. Overhead a scalloped bargeboard trim, identical to that which appears on the facade, is situated below the eave. Downstairs and to the left (north), a gable roof addition projects some 18 feet west from the original portion. This addition (ca. 1960s) envelopes a laundry room and a kitchen. Though the kitchen was reconstructed on the site of an earlier

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addition, the laundry room is a totally modern addition. On this elevation, the kitchen has a single casement window identical to those on the north elevation. The laundry room has a single 6/6 double-hung sash window of modern construction facing south. The second addition, a bedroom with bath (ca. 1960s), appears to the right (south). Its gabled roof projects nearly 24 feet to the rear (west) of the main structure. The bedroom displays French doors (ca. 1900) composed of four individual ten-panel glass doors fronted by four ten-panel screen doors. The entry is capped by a round arch transom with radiating muntins. Brick steps, the full width of the door, lead down to the yard. These two additions are connected via a porch (ca. 1850s) which at one time ran from the present kitchen to the southern corner of the house. During the 1960s restoration the porch was rebuilt and enclosed using the original foundation and roofline. A 35-panel window provides light for the enclosure and a pedimented doorway provides outside access to a brick patio.

The south (side) elevation, like the north, is dominated by a chimney that bisects the original part of the house. A single pedimented 6/6 double-hung sash window is upstairs on the left (west) side of the chimney. To the left (west), a single story addition (ca. 1960s) incorporates a bedroom. A 9/9 double-hung sash window in the bedroom proportionally matches a 6/1 double-hung sash window for the bathroom.

The main portion of the house conforms to a central hall plan with a large central hall and two rooms on each floor. This plan was often used in the area during the early 1800s. Floor joists, ceiling joists, and rafters indicate that the rear addition and portico were built after the introduction of the circular saw to the area (post-1840), and confirm that the main portion was built prior to that time, being constructed of hand split lumber. Study of the foundation reinforces this point, for the bricks used under the main part of the house are of more crude manufacture and were most likely fired on the site, where as bricks under the portions built after 1850 show a more uniform shape and temper, an indication of commercial manufacture. The additions made to the rear in the 1850s and 1960s reflect the needs of the occupants of their day. These additions, tastefully done, add to the overall character of the property.

Beyond the front entrance lies the foyer that services the core of the house. The hall ends (west) with a four panel door (ca. 1830s) capped by a transom. This door originally opened to a wooden walkway leading to a detached kitchen and dining room at the rear of the house. It now leads to a hallway which runs north and south, serving the added portion of Greenlevel. In the foyer the random width original oak floor is trimmed with a twelve inch hand split ogee base molding (ca. 1830s); a similar molding surrounds the doors. The two interior eight-panel pegged doors lead to 20 foot by 20 foot rooms. In the northwest corner of the foyer a curved freestanding staircase with turned walnut balustrade leads upstairs. The handrail is supported by the original walnut newel post. Some of the balusters and part of the handrail were replaced in the 1960s using parts from a staircase in the McDonald House (ca. 1830s) which was probably built by the same carpenter, for the replacements fit without alteration. Yellow poplar and walnut woods comprise the stairs themselves.

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The formal parlor lies to the immediate left (south) of the front door. A fireplace (ca. 1830s) in the center of the southern wall forms the focal point of the parlor. Pilasters, a plain frieze, and a simple mantel shelf frame the fireplace opening. Brick surrounds and hearth complete the treatment, with wainscoting (ca. 1960s) flanking both sides of the fireplace. The east wall features a beautifully detailed mahogany bookcase (ca. 1850s) built into the rear of a pilaster. A 6/6 double-hung sash window on each side sits above a wood panel section (ca. 1830s). The windows as well as the entrance are trimmed with ogee shaped architrave molding. The ceiling is framed by molding with a reeded band and a twelve inch baseboard (ca. 1850s) trims the random width oak floor (ca. 1830s). This baseboard appears on three walls (east, west, and north) and is more ornate than that used in the foyer. Original plaster walls and ceiling have been replaced with sheetrock. A plaster ceiling medallion (ca. 1870s) is not an original feature but adds to the overall decor.

Across the foyer to the north is a room of identical size with a similar fireplace centered on the north wall. The fireplace is flanked by two 6/6 double-hung sash windows with wood panels below (ca. 1830s). All of the windows and doors are trimmed with architrave molding. The handsome mahogany cabinet that divides the east wall is built into the rear of a pilaster. Wainscoting (ca. 1850s) is found on all four walls. This wainscoting is trimmed with detailed ribbed base mold and chair rail. The oak floors in this room are not original. Both the walls and the ceiling are a combination of sheetrock and plaster. A door on the west wall opens to a room added in the 1850s.

The original 1850s addition was used as a doctor's office but by the 1960s it was no longer extant. A kitchen (ca. 1960s) was built on the site and features vaulted ceiling with exposed rafters. Ornate molding frames the windows and doorway. A door leads to the north/south hallway (ca. 1960s), which once stood as a rear porch. The hallway features beaded board wainscoting (ca. 1960s). A laundry room is accessible via folding panelled doors to the west. All doorways are trimmed with detailed heavy moldings.

At the south end of the hall, a bedroom with bath added in the 1960s blends beautifully with the rest of the house. Architrave molding surrounds the doors and windows and resembles the type and style of the 1850s molding in the hallway. The bath off the bedroom has wainscoting similar to that in the formal parlor.

Returning to the foyer, the original plaster wall extends up the freestanding staircase to an upstairs central hall. The original oak flooring, still stained with blood from a time when it was used as a Civil War hospital, shows years of wear. To the west, a four-panel pegged door opens to a bath. The bath, originally a cloakroom, is floored with ceramic tile and has one original 6/6 double-hung sash window with architrave molding (ca. 1830s); the doorway is similarly trimmed.

To the south of the upstairs hall, a bedroom floored in original yellow poplar has three original 6/6 double-hung sash windows which provide views of the grounds. Molded panels lie below each of the windows, which are trimmed with architrave molding. A fireplace

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(ca. 1830s), 20% smaller than those downstairs but otherwise identical in style, divides the southern wall. A bookcase (ca. 1850s) built into the rear of a pilaster divides the east wall. All molding and window treatment upstairs dates to the 1830s except for trim on built in bookcases which were added in the 1850s. A closet on the north wall was added in the 1960s. This closet, so well executed, is difficult to distinguish from the original works. Another bedroom lies to the north of the upstairs hall. This room has a built in bookcase, fireplace, and windows similar to the southern room. Original yellow poplar flooring remains. A huge closet (ca. 1960s) has two six-panel nine foot sliding doors.

During the restoration and rehabilitation work completed at Greenlevel in the 1960s, exhaustive measures were taken to retain and repair as much of the original materials as possible. Sheetrock was used to replace much of the plaster which was in ruin. This was done in such a way that it is difficult to distinguish between the two. Plumbing and electrical wiring were introduced at this time. Antique gas and kerosene lighting fixtures were wired and placed throughout the house. These fixtures provide the main lighting and add to the overall appeal of the house. The house still retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

A cypress barn built in the 1960s with a gabled steel roof 160 feet north of the house is the only existing dependency (non-contributing). It is known that there was a cow barn (ca. 1850s), carriage house (ca. 1850s), well house (ca. 1900s), and slave quarters (ca. 1830s) on the property at one time. None of these outbuildings are extant.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				health/medicine

Specific dates ca.1830; ca.1850–1880 **Builder/Architect** unknown; ca.1830/Ace Edwards: ca.1852

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Greenlevel is being nominated under National Register criteria A, B, and C for its local historical and architectural significance. Architecturally, the house is a fine example of the Greek Revival style. Built for Judge John Overton, a founder of Memphis, in the 1830s, the house received its massive Greek Revival portico during an 1850s remodeling by builder/architect Ace Edwards. Greenlevel served as the residence of Dr. Virginus Leake and his family who figured prominently in the development of Collierville. Leake, a noted physician, used his residence as a hospital during the Civil War. His son, E.K. Leake, resided in the house until 1880. Like Virginus, he was a well-known physician and developer of Collierville. Alterations and changes to the building in the 1850s and 1960s have added to and not detracted from the overall ambience of the property.

The earliest known history of this land begins in the late 1600s. At this time the Chickasaw Indians were in control of the area. One of their favorite hunting grounds was the land along the Nashoba River (Wolf River), some 30 miles from the Mississippi River and the fourth Chickasaw Bluff. The land was described as being full of game, with soil luxuriantly rich and fertile. It is here, 30 miles up the Wolf River, that Greenlevel sits on a small knoll overlooking all the land between it and the river. Multitudes of Indian artifacts are still found today with each turning of the soil.

In 1782 James Logan Colbert, the Scotsman who had become chief of the Chickasaws, found the Wolf River a handy hiding place from which his flotilla of Chickasaw pirates could pounce on Spanish river traffic. The hunting grounds were used as a second encampment from which attacks on the Spanish were staged. Greenlevel, being the high ground, may have been used as the actual campsite by the Chickasaws.

William Lawrence came to Shelby County in 1818. He was a man of more than ordinary scientific and commercial ability. A civil engineer by profession, he laid off the town of Memphis from the bayou, north, to Union Street, and from the river to the alley east of Third Street. He surveyed many large tracts of land in the district, and was at one time Surveyor-General. Lawrence selected for himself a tract of land along the Wolf River which had beauty beyond comparison.

On July 14, 1825, Samuel Overton, an officer serving General Andrew Jackson in Pensacola, Florida, sold to his uncle, Judge John Overton, a 340 acre tract which he had purchased from William Lawrence. It is not clear exactly when construction on the house was started, but a letter to John Overton from Sampson Williams dated June 3, 1828 is probably in reference to problems with construction on the house and supports an old family legend. The legend refers to a free negro blacksmith who worked on the original construction of the house. Slaves working along side him became upset because of his preferential treatment. The letter refers to Overton's blacksmith named Harry who had been claiming to be a free man. Overton was proud of his blacksmith and did treat him preferentially. The matter was settled with Overton assuring Williams that Harry was a slave.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 11.4452 acres

Quadrangle name Collierville, TN 416SW

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References

A

1	6	2	5	7	7	5	0	3	8	8	7	4	7	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

B

1	6	2	5	7	7	4	0	3	8	8	7	2	3	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

C

1	6	2	5	7	5	0	0	3	8	8	7	2	5	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

D

1	6	2	5	7	5	0	0	3	8	8	7	4	9	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

E

Zone	Easting		Northing											

F

Zone	Easting		Northing											

G

Zone	Easting		Northing											

H

Zone	Easting		Northing											

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donald Lee Cottam, Jr.

organization N/A

date October 30, 1986

street & number 853 Collierville - Arlington Rd.

telephone (901) 853-1973

city or town Collierville

state Tennessee 38017

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Bayne

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 1/27/87

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register entered in the National Register

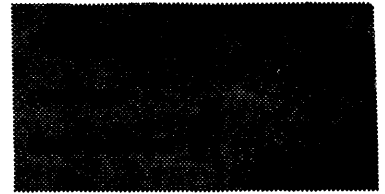
for Al Loust Byer
Keeper of the National Register

date 3-6-87

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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The house, situated on the highest piece of ground near the center of the property, uses braced frame construction with mortise and tenon joints to hold the massive hand hewn beams. Strips of bark, some of which remain, were used to tie rafters into place. The hand split rafters are tapered, being wider at the eaves and narrower at the crest of the roof. All lumber was cut from trees on the site and all bricks for the foundations and chimneys were made by slaves at the site.

It is also unclear as to the date when construction of Greenlevel was completed. Since over thirty slaves were absent from Overton's home, Travellers' Rest (NR 12/30/69) outside Nashville, at the time of the 1830 census, it is safe to assume that Greenlevel was still under construction at that time. These slaves had returned prior to Overton's death in 1833 indicating a completion date between 1830-1833. It is doubtful that Overton ever saw the completed Greenlevel for he was ill the last year of his life and remained close to Travellers' Rest. The orchards and vineyards Overton loved at Travellers' Rest would not be repeated at Greenlevel.

As a result of Overton's death, Greenlevel passed into the hands of his daughter, Ann Overton. In 1841, Ann married Robert C. Brinkley. By this time, Greenlevel had come into a state of disrepair and the unkept grounds were overgrown. Brinkley attempted to use the house as a summer home but this met with disfavor from his wife due to the generally poor condition of the property. Brinkley was already one of the wealthiest men in Tennessee in 1844. He went on to build the original Peabody Hotel and the first plank road to Germantown and Collierville. Later he was instrumental in the development of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. On December 18, 1844, Greenlevel was sold to Bennet Bagby.

Bennet Bagby, married to Frances Leake Lewis, widow of John Lewis, set out to convert the property into a guest house. Bagby's father-in-law, Samuel Leake, was an esteemed country innkeeper. Assuredly, Samuel contributed knowledge and money to the project. Greenlevel's location between the highly traveled Wolf River and the road from Raleigh (Raleigh-LaGrange) provided easy accessibility to travelers. On October 5, 1848, Bagby purchased the complete furnishings of the City Hotel in Memphis from George Redford. These furnishings were used to upgrade those already at Greenlevel. However, the attempt to operate an inn was futile for the Wolf River was slowly filling in with run off from recently cleared farmland and the small paddle wheelers were finding it increasingly difficult to go up river. This fill in of the Wolf River resulted in annual flooding of the area around Greenlevel, which stopped all traffic for 2 to 3 months each year, starting about 1845. Bagby, faced with eventual failure and mounting debt, sold Greenlevel to his brother-in-law, Dr. Virginius L. Leake on May 1, 1850.

Virginius Leake, married to Martha Anderson Field, moved into Greenlevel and made it his home. He hired Ace Edwards in around 1852 to design and build a portico for the front, as well as an office and porch at the rear. Several interior improvements were also planned and much of the interior trim and some of the flooring was replaced during this period. Rafters on the north side of attic, and some attic and floor joists were also replaced.

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Ace Edwards, also responsible for building the Ecklin House in Cordova and Glendale in Bartlett (both in Shelby County) was a close friend of the Leakes and a relative of Virginus' wife, Martha. Edwards completed the project at Greenlevel late in 1854. Virginus and his family had left the residence during the construction period and returned in the spring of 1855. Today the facade appears the same as it did to him on that spring day in 1855.

Virginus Leake was a prominent doctor in the region. He had an office attached to the rear of his house and an office in Collierville. Due to flooding during the winter, Virginus had great difficulty reaching Collierville. He eventually had his slaves construct a levee road to Collierville, in order to facilitate transportation during the flooding season. To build the road, dirt was removed from areas next to the road leaving what appears to be bayous on either side. These are still visible on both sides of Collierville-Arlington Road today.

During the Civil War Virginus was called upon to aid the Confederate cause. He did so by operating a hospital at Greenlevel. Normally only a handful of men were treated at any one time, but after the battle of Shiloh, a train arrived from Corinth with 119 wounded soldiers. The upstairs central hall was used for surgery because of the large amount of light available. Soldiers came and went from the hospital until September of 1864 when Union troops placed all Confederate troops at Greenlevel under house arrest. Many Confederate soldiers were buried at Greenlevel some still remain in unmarked graves.

After the War, Harrison Irby and Dr. Leake bought ninety acres of land, divided it into lots, and sold them. This moved the town of Collierville nearer to the railroad, from its earlier location on the State Line Road. They also set aside a small area for a park. This park is the present "Historic Town Square of Collierville." Virginus is mentioned in Who's Who in Tennessee and was a State Senator in the 38th General Assembly. Leake died in 1873 in Nashville, where he was attending the legislative session. His body was escorted back to Collierville by a special legislative group.

Leake's children went on to contribute to the community. E.K. Leake lived with his family at Greenlevel until the marriage of Nellie Leake to Dr. Maurice Fletcher in 1880. E.K. Leake practiced medicine, and like his father was thought of as the most prominent doctor in the area. E.K. Leake served as Mayor of Collierville around the turn of the century. He installed the first telephone, had the first automobile, and organized the first baseball team, the Collierville Athletics. As his father had in two earlier yellow fever epidemics, E.K. Leake was responsible for saving many lives while living at Greenlevel.

Other children of Virginus also contributed to the Collierville community. Reverend Millard F. Leake was a Methodist minister and leader in the Methodist Church. He was a teacher and principal of the Collierville Male Academy. The third son of Virginus, Tignal S. Leake, studied law, but, according to Mrs. Gladys Leake Bicknell, his daughter, he did not prosper in that profession and became a machinist. The only daughter of Virginus, Martha Ellen (Nellie) Leake lived at Greenlevel with her husband, Dr. Maurice Fletcher. They had a son, Irby Ray Fletcher, who lived in the house until after the birth of his two sons, Irby Ray and Frank. From the 1920s to the 1960s the house became rental property and fell into complete disrepair. One of the original columns and some of the

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staircase were used as firewood.

In the 1960s, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barzizza, Sr. bought Greenlevel and began restoration of the house. It was during this restoration that the plans for the house with 1850s additions were found drawn on the inside of the north pilaster. These plans are safely sealed behind the downstairs cabinet built in the north pilaster. Also in the 1960s the house had no electricity and no indoor plumbing. Mrs. Barzizza took great pains to insure the house was fitted with antique plumbing and lighting fixtures which remain to compliment the overall appearance. All that could be saved or reused was. The property was given to the Barzizza's son and daughter-in-law, Alex J. and Patty Barzizza as a wedding gift in 1981. They, in turn, sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Don L. Cottam, Jr. in July of 1986, the current owners.

Greenlevel, although restored in the 1960s, is showing signs of wear and neglect. The new owners plan underpinning the foundation, roofing with wood shingles, removal of modern storm windows and doors, installation of wet plaster ceilings, construction of a wood porch using original plans, construction of detached kitchen and dining room utilizing original foundation, construction of a replica of slave quarters utilizing original foundation, and addition of proper landscaping for the original period. Structurally, the house remains in good condition, though some wood needs replacement. An archeological survey of the property is planned for April of 1987, with excavation of privies and cistern to begin thereafter.

Historically, Greenlevel played an important role as a hospital during the Civil War. Associatively, Greenlevel was the residence of the Leake family, who contributed in significant proportions to the development of West Tennessee. Architecturally, Greenlevel stands as a good example of Greek Revival design. Interesting details of the house include the pedimented portico and unusual bargeboard trim. The interior retains many fine features, including the stairway and molded wood trim. The various additions and improvements to the house have been in keeping with the historic character of the house.

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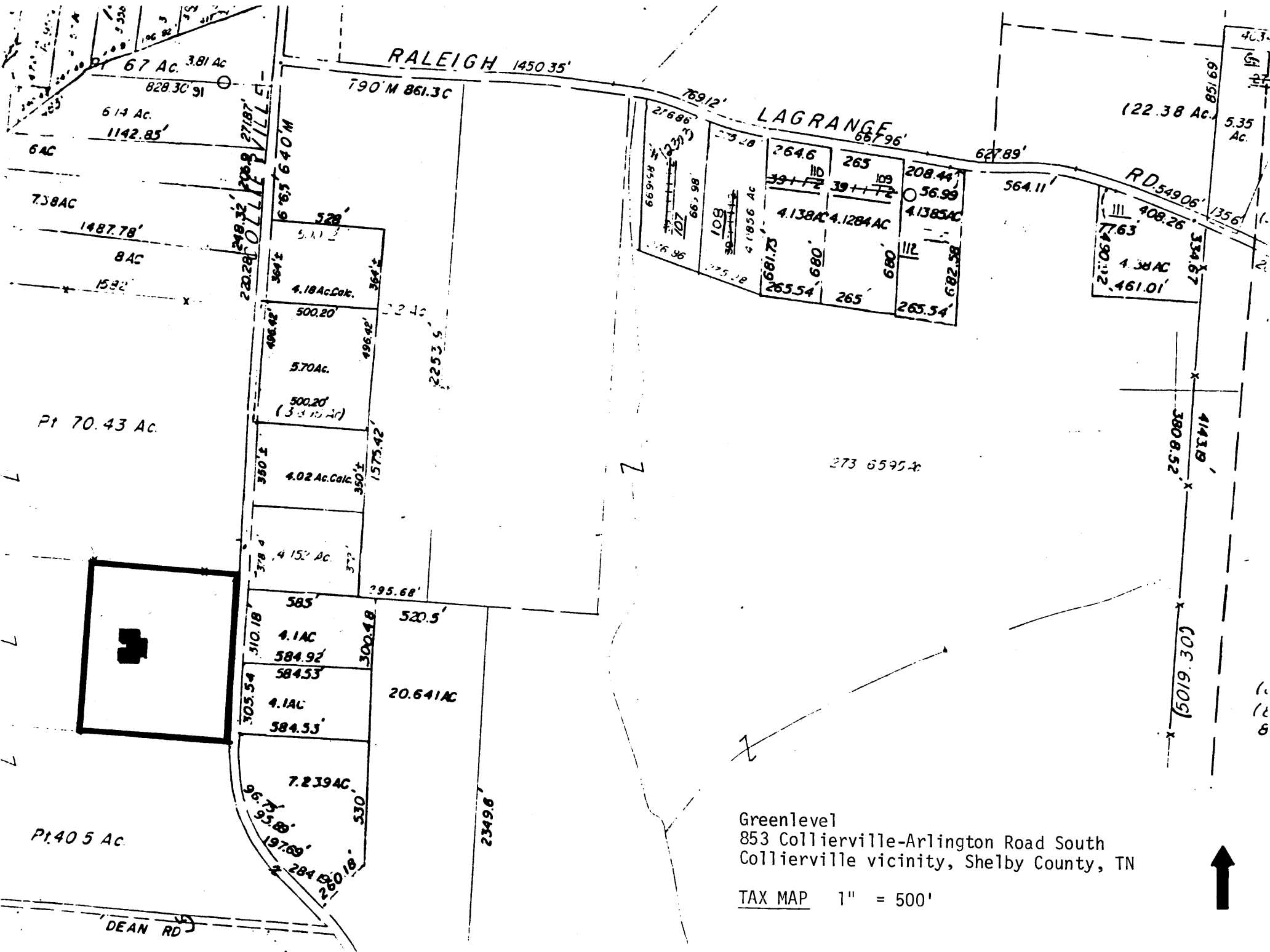
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is rectangular in shape. The boundary is as follows: beginning at a point in the centerline of Collierville-Arlington Road 2175.96 feet southward from the centerline of Raleigh-LaGrange Road as measured along the centerline of Collierville-Arlington Road; thence south 00 degrees 42 minutes west along the centerline of Collierville-Arlington Road 727.97 (call 726) feet to a point in the northerly line of the Coulter tract; thence north 88 degrees 18 minutes 25 seconds west along said northerly line 673.79 feet to a fence corner; thence north 01 degree 03 minutes 25 seconds west along fence line 728.72 feet to a point in the southerly line of the old Hammer tract; thence south 88 degrees 18 minutes 25 seconds east along said southerly line 696.13 feet to the point of the beginning containing 11.4452 acres. This contains enough land to protect the historic setting and architectural integrity of Greenlevel. It is all of the historic property currently associated with the house. This is the current legal description of the property, however the National Register boundaries exclude the portion of the Collierville-Arlington Road (center line to edge of yard). See tax map.



RALEIGH 1450.35'

LAGRANGE 687.96'

COLLIERVILLE

RD. 549.06'

DEAN RD

Pt 70.43 Ac.

Pt. 40.5 Ac.

273 6595.4

20.641 AC

Greenlevel
 853 Collierville-Arlington Road South
 Collierville vicinity, Shelby County, TN

TAX MAP 1" = 500'

