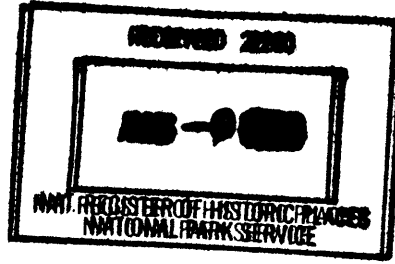


United States Department of Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Weston's Antique Apple Orchard
other names/site number Weston Family Farm

2. Location

street & number 19760 West National Avenue N/A not for publication
city or town New Berlin N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Waukesha code 133 zip code 53146

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 state-wide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

8/6/96

State or 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 commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Weston's Antique Apple Orchard

Waukesha

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

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.

___ See continuation sheet.

___ removed from the National Register.

___ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Brall

9.6.96

Entered in the
National Register

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as
as apply)

private

___ public-local

___ public-State

___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

___ building(s)

___ district

___ structure

site

___ object

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

contributing noncontributing

2 2 buildings

1 sites

 1 structures

 objects

3 3 total

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

None

**Number of contributing resources
is previously listed in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facility

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Stone

walls Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Narrative Description

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

Weston's Antique Apple Orchard
Name of Property

Waukesha
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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)

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1906-1946

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Koeffler, George (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Weston's Antique Apple Orchard
Name of Property

Waukesha
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- 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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 10.95 Acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/6 4/0/5/0/8/0 4/7/5/5/1/1/0
Zone Easting Northing

3 1/6 4/0/5/3/3/0 4/7/5/5/1/1/0
Zone Easting Northing

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

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

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	Jane Eiseley	date	11/15/95
organization	Historic Preservation Consultant	telephone	608-249-8818
street & number	3433 Richard Street	zip code	53714
city or town	Madison	state	Wisconsin

Weston Antique Apple Orchard
Name of Property

Waukesha
County and State

Wisconsin

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/title	Alice Weston	date	
organization		telephone	414-679-1784
street&number	19760 West National Avenue	zip code	53146
city or town	New Berlin	state	Wisconsin

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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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

INTRODUCTION

Weston's Antique Apples is a small apple orchard situated on Prospect Hill in Waukesha County, 12 miles west of the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Prospect Hill was one of the first three settlements in Waukesha County. Presently it is the site of a grouping of historic buildings listed as historic landmarks by the City of New Berlin Landmarks Commission. The property being nominated herein was listed by the Commission in 1991. It is a triangular, 10-acre site, sloping down steeply to the north from the Milwaukee-Janesville road, now called National Avenue and designated County Hwy ES. Two lots in the northeast corner of the triangular plot were taken in the 1850s for a school site and the site of the extant Freewill Baptist Church. The north boundary of the property is Barton Road. Ranged along the uphill edge of the property, parallel to National Avenue and beginning from the east, the buildings include a frame, Craftsman-style house, built by local builder George Koeffler in 1910, a frame, gambrel-roofed, bank-basement dairy barn with a stone foundation, built in 1906, and a long narrow non-contributing building consisting of a two-story section that was once the center section of a "Janesville" chicken house, flanked by a greenhouse and double garage.¹ Between the barn and the former chicken house are two additional small non-contributing structures, a water tank, used to fill an orchard sprayer, and a corrugated metal shed that houses a hydraulic lift used in picking apples, both dating from the 1950s (after the end of the period of significance.) Buildings that contribute to the historic significance of the property include the house and barn, which are intact in their original condition except for an inconspicuous addition at the rear of the house. The property is locally significant in Agriculture for its buildings and for two landscape features that recall the history of apple culture in New Berlin: a very old orchard which recalls a feature of the typical Wisconsin farmstead from the earliest settlements, and a small commercial orchard, typical of many in the vicinity of New Berlin in the first part of this century. Unlike other orchards which survive and a few which have been established since 1940, the

¹ Information on the history of the buildings is taken from the New Berlin Landmark Nomination by Commissioner Libbie Nolan, from an interview 8/30/95 with Kenneth Weston, and "A Living Museum on an Historic Hill," Landmark 34,3, Autumn, 1991 by Libbie Nolan.

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Section 7 Page 2 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

Weston orchard preserves the varieties of the original farm orchard and as it was expanded, has specialized in historic apple varieties.² The well-preserved farmhouse and barn, were built in an era of rapid expansion of family-run commercial dairies in Wisconsin.³ The conversion of the farm buildings, expansion of the orchard during the Great Depression and the use of the Civilian Conservation Corps labor in expanding the orchard recall the economic strategies of families and the nation at that time and is also of interest as a well-documented and well-preserved example of the changes that occurred on the land and to buildings in the early stages of ex-urban development on the periphery of the Milwaukee metropolitan area.

BUILDINGS

The farmhouse is a two-and-one-half storey frame, side-gabled structure with Craftsman details. The plan of the original house is rectangular, approximately 24' square. There is a modern 1-storey, flat roofed addition across the rear of the house, which extends to the west to form a small, gabled rear entry wing. The rear addition is approximately 12' deep. There is a full-width, 6' deep porch, supported by pillars, across the front of the house, facing south onto National Avenue.

The roof of the house is red asphalt tile. The walls of the first and second stories are white weatherboard while the attic gables are covered in brown wood shingle. The foundation appears to be fieldstone, parged with cement.

The front-facing roof has a wide shed dormer with a ribbon of five narrow windows. Small window bays supported on wood brackets break the gable-end

² CRMP Vol II, "Agriculture" 6-13; Wisconsin Horticulture November 1943, pp 36-40 "The Three Periods of Horticultural History in Wisconsin." Geographer Carl Sauer (Selected Essays, p. 87-8) notes, "The farm orchard, once as ubiquitous as the horse, is now about as rare. The common element was the apple tree...A well kept orchard had a dozen kinds or more..." The history of farm apple orchards in New Berlin is discussed in Section 8.

³ CRMP. Vol.II "Agriculture," and Eric E. Lampard, The Rise of the Dairy Industry in Wisconsin: A Study in Agricultural Change 1820-1920, Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1963.

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Section 7 Page 3 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

(east and west) walls of the first storey. There is also a shallow bay in the front wall, under the porch roof. The front door has 15 small panes, and there is a small window with diamond-shaped panes in the east second-floor wall (at the top of the interior staircase.) Other windows have 1/1 double hung sash. The house does not have the extended rafters typical of the Craftsman style, but it does have bargeboards that extend below the eaves at each corner of roof. Other wood trim consists of modest architrave moldings above the windows and below the shingled area in the gables, and a wooden water table. The square porch pillars are slightly slanted, with small capitals.

The gambrel-roofed barn is approximately 28' wide and 40' long. The gambreled end walls face east and west and the axial walls are parallel to National Avenue. The barn is set into the downhill slope away from National Avenue, allowing an entry ramp directly from the road to a wide sliding door in the center of the axial wall, giving into the mow. A steep gravel drive curves down and around a stone retaining wall to two entrances in the eastern foundation wall of the barn, facing the house. There are two doors and three windows in the north-facing foundation wall of the barn, opening downhill toward the orchard. The foundation of the barn is constructed of massive fieldstone boulders, and is 2 1/2 feet thick. An inscription in the mortar in the inside of the north wall reads "August 21, 1906." The upper portion of the barn is constructed of nailed timbers, covered with vertical boards, painted white. The basement area of the barn is used for apple storage. The mow is used to store equipment and machinery.

A long, narrow wood-frame building west of the barn consists of three sections: a narrow, central, two-storey section with a front-facing jerkin-headed gable roof formerly housed the entryway and feed storage for two long chicken sheds. In place of the chicken sheds, but built on the original poured concrete foundation walls, gabled one-story wings contain a garage extending west and a greenhouse extending east. The greenhouse is entirely glass on wood framing, and is about 12' wide and 48' long. It has movable glass sections in the roof to provide circulation, and a suspended propane heater with a metal stovepipe in the center. The garage is about 35' long and 12' wide. There are two large overhead garage doors in the axial wall facing National Avenue and another, similar door in the gabled end wall. The garage and the central section consisting of the original chicken house are weatherboarded. The foundation and center section of this building pre-date

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Section 7 Page 4 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

the arrival of the Westons in 1927 and were probably constructed in the early 1920s. The conversions to garage and greenhouse occurred in the 1960s and 70s, respectively.⁴ All sections of the building are dirt-floored, except for a poured concrete apron in the west end of the garage. Because of extensive alterations, this building is non-contributing.

Between the east end of the greenhouse and the barn is a corrugated metal shed, approximately 7' wide and 18' deep, with a shed roof sloping west and open on its south end, facing National Avenue. It houses a tractor and a trailer with a hydraulic lift, used to elevate a human picker to the higher branches of the apple trees. Standing between the shed and the west wall of the barn is a cylindrical metal tank, about 6' in diameter and 10' high, which receives water from two downspouts on the barn. It is used to provide water for spraying the apples. The shed and tank date to the early 1950s and are noncontributing.

ORCHARD

The apple trees themselves represent two stages of apple production in Wisconsin: the home orchard (approximately 1840 to 1900) which "began in pioneer days when settlers brought in fruit trees or seeds to plant a home orchard, and continued through the testing of varieties in an effort to find kinds that would be hardy in this state."⁵ A second stage of apple culture in the state began in the 1890s with the establishment of experiment stations and the planting of large commercial orchards. A third stage of development began in the 1920s with expansion of horticultural research, a reduction in the variety of apples grown, and the increasing dependence of orchardists on spraying and disease-resistant varieties due to invasions of apple scab and the codling moth. While the equipment of the Weston orchard encompasses the beginning of the third stage of apple production, the orchard and buildings are the result of a deliberate effort to preserve an early home orchard and the varieties of apples that existed in stage one, and the relatively small-

⁴ Information in this section from an interview Kenneth Weston, October 1, 1995

⁵ "The Three Periods of Horticultural History in Wisconsin," op.cit.

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Section 7 Page 5 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

scale planting of improved varieties for marketing that occurred in stage two. In respect to size of the trees the Weston orchard is of interest because it is almost entirely "standard" size trees, which can live for 100 years or more, whereas commercial apple orchards today consist of dwarf trees that are much shorter-lived. Today the Weston orchard represents the evolution of apple culture in Wisconsin and particularly on the urban fringe of Milwaukee around New Berlin, as well as the Weston's antiquarian interest in apple varieties.

Immediately behind (north of) the house is a copse of shade trees and dense undergrowth. Downhill from the copse, still to the rear of the house, are the oldest of the apple trees. This part of the orchard can be seen on the 1941 aerial photo to be different from the rest of the property: the trees are already large and well-established, while the trees planted in 1939 in the adjacent field are not yet discernable.

To the west of the original orchard, behind (north of) the barn and extending west in a widening area between National Avenue and Barton Road are the trees planted by the Westons. The newer trees are visible in the 1950 aerial photo, and in photos from 1963 and 1969.⁶ Approximately 500' from the east end of the property a fence row, now grown up with small trees and bushes, extends south to north across the property from National Avenue to Barton Road. (Similar wild growth borders the property along its entire boundary at Barton Road.) The orchard continues west of this fence row, which is broken in several places to allow passage between the two parts of the orchard. Parallel to National Avenue along the uphill, south edge of the property, a dirt drive leads from the barn, past the garage/chicken house/greenhouse, between the orchard and the road and then downhill through a gap in the fencerow and into the western portion of the orchard. Continuing along National Avenue, a hedge of wild growth begins at the fencerow and borders the orchard westward. The effect of the hedge and the fence row, and the close spacing of the apple trees, is to create an enclosed and private world in the western portion of the orchard, in contrast to the section nearer the

⁶ Aerial photos are from aerial surveys by the US Geological and Natural History Survey, National High-Altitude Photography, 1941, 1950, 1963 and 1969, available at the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format
(Approved 1/92)

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Waukesha County, WI

buildings, which is more open and offers commanding views from the top of Prospect Hill.

The catalog issued by Weston's Antique Apples lists 74 varieties, with dates varying from the Calville Blanc d'Hiver (1598) and the Gravenstein (1600) to the Jonagold (1968.) Included are a number known in colonial and Revolutionary War-era America, such as the Black Gilliflower (late 1700s,) the Snow/Fameuse (1730s,) and the Esopus Spitzenburg (1790.) Also represented are the Russian apples introduced late in the 19th century during the search for hardy varieties, such as the Alexander (1700,) the Duchess of Oldenberg (early 1700s,) and the Red Astrachan (1780,) and the American apple whose story is known to every schoolchild, the Jonathon (1826.) Deliberate crosses, produced through horticultural research include Red Gold (1930,) Cortland (1926,) and Mutsu/Crispin (1928) as well as more recently developed apple varieties.

CONCLUSION

Weston's Antique Apples is a small complex which includes an unusual orchard that well represents the historical development of apple varieties and apple culture in Waukesha County, and buildings that are significant as well-preserved examples of changing agricultural use, from the beginning of commercial dairying to the 20th century shift in ex-urban areas from extensive land use to intensive use for specialty food production.

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Section 8 Page 1 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

INTRODUCTION

Weston's Antique Apples, a small apple orchard located in the rapidly developing fringe of the Milwaukee metropolitan area, is locally significant under Criterion A, in Agriculture, for its land use pattern and its buildings. Since 1931, the owners have preserved a settlement-era orchard, have planted in addition 74 named varieties of apples, and have preserved and adapted buildings associated with turn-of-the-century commercial dairy farming. The buildings and land use pattern of this 10-acre historic district represent several important developments: the planting of apple orchards to provide cider, vinegar and fruit in the near-subsistence economy of the early settlers, the advent of commercial dairying after about 1880, followed in Waukesha County by the development during the 1930s and 40s of intensive land use and specialty food production on the urban fringe of Milwaukee. Both in the size of their business and in the number of kinds of apples grown, Weston's Antique Apples is significant as an example of a distinct type of commercial apple production in southeastern Wisconsin.

The historic importance of the apple varieties themselves lies in the evolution of apple culture in America and specifically in southeastern Wisconsin, where home orchards of the type represented by the oldest part of the Weston orchard were an important feature of settlement-era farming. Late in the 19th century commercial apple production for local markets evolved from these home orchards and continues on a limited scale in New Berlin township to the present day. Some of the apple varieties cultivated by the Westons were important in these stages of development; others are of interest because of their extreme antiquity in Europe or because they date from Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary America.

From the settlement period to the present in New Berlin, apples and cider were a source of income to farm families that depended upon a variety of crops, and in the 20th century, often a wage earner as well.¹ Although the

¹ Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin Vol II, "Agriculture" 6-13 shows a map of commercial orchard regions in Wisconsin. New Berlin township lies at the extreme southwestern edge of an area along Lake Michigan that includes the Door County peninsula and extends west of Lake Winnebago. Note that the referent is commercial orchards in 1915. At that date dairying was predominant in New Berlin. The small orchards that are so noticeable on aerial photos of Waukesha County were planted later.

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Section 8 Page 2 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
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search for the best apples for commercial production had been underway in America throughout the 19th century, a large number of named varieties and many wild strains were found in Wisconsin in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.² During this period the family-run commercial dairy became the

² Martin, Alice A. All About Apples, Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1976 gives a good history of apple culture. Folger, J.C. and S.M. Thomson, The Commercial Apple Industry of North America, New York, MacMillan, 1921, p. 79, relates of Wisconsin, "Apples are grown largely in home orchards, most of which are distributed throughout the Southeast part of the state and particularly in the counties bordering Lake Michigan...Fameuse, McIntosh, Oldenburg, Northwest Greening and Wealthy are the principle varieties." However, the same authors identify Door, Richland and Eau Claire counties as the principal "commercial areas" for apple growing, implying a shift to large orchards.

The oldest part of the Weston orchard was presumably planted near the turn of the century, and continued to provide a harvest when the Westons came to the farm; a "home orchard," as described above. When these orchards were planted the varieties were far more numerous. UW Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin #45, "Apple Culture; Notes and data from 172 orchards," Madison, July 1895, reports a statewide survey. To account for 88% of the trees in production, it was necessary to enumerate 27 varieties, and the remaining 2,312 trees were reported under 188 different names. In the context of severe winters that had killed off many orchards, and the effort of agricultural specialists to standardize apple varieties, the author of the Bulletin decries this fact: "This forms an instructive object lesson of the tragic history of apple culture in our state...Of the 10 varieties that stand first in the list, but three are of Russian origin..." But the picture was brighter in southeastern Wisconsin, where, "...perhaps the majority of farms maintain more or less of an orchard...it is clear that in the southern and eastern parts of our state...apple culture is in a fairly healthful and growing condition...there is on the whole abundant reason for hope in the future..." By 1978, standardization was a reality; the Wisconsin Agricultural Reporting Service, Madison, reported in Apple Trees in Wisconsin that 27% of the trees in the state were McIntosh, 24% Red Delicious, 11% Cortland. Five varieties, Northwest Greening, Wealthy, Jonathon, Golden Delicious and Paula Red, accounted for another 25%.

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typical Wisconsin farm. (The house and barn on the property represent this era.) Farms in the New Berlin area produced apples and cider to supplement their income, especially during the hard times of the 1930s.³ At the same time the growth of Milwaukee, only 12 miles away, brought the beginnings of ex-urban patterns of land use, with residents occupying smaller parcels of land and commuting to jobs in Milwaukee or its satellite towns. Harvey Weston, husband of the present owner of the nominated property, is an example of this development; he was working as a printing foreman in 1928 when he and his family moved to the site.⁴ His wife, Alice, worked in Milwaukee as a secretary. Together they made a daily commute into the city to work.

By maintaining a relatively small-sized, family-operated business, catering to a specialty market by offering antique varieties of apple, the Weston family has been able to preserve the scale of operation of the small commercial home orchard associated with mixed farming in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Like the farmers of that era, the Westons have sought only a supplemental income from apple sales. Significantly for this nomination, the Westons, who acquired ownership of the property in 1931, and began to plant new apple trees in 1938, have made a conscious effort to preserve, acquire and propagate many of the early apple varieties. Alongside their antiquarian interest in apple varieties, some of which go back to the late Middle Ages, they have coincidentally preserved the landscape features of their farm.

APPLES ON THE FRONTIER

The urgent need of the frontiersman for apples is something that the twentieth century can easily overlook...apples meant not just fruit in season; they were one of the few crops that remained basic through the year. Choicer varieties provided a family with hand-eating and cooking from the first mellowing in the summer until...early spring. Bushels of them were cut and dried...many bushels more were cooked down into

³ An example is recounted by Ruth Schmidt, "The Great Depression: Apples and Mellow Memories," Landmark, Autumn, 1973 pp 8,9.

⁴ Interview, New Berlin, WI, 8/24/95, Alice Weston

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Section 8 Page 4 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
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gallons of apple butter, one of the few preserves that the pioneer housewife with her limited equipment could keep for many months.

Late every autumn all the remnants of the crop...were hauled by the wagon load to the cider presses for the precious juice. It was the cider age in American history. No well-established home could exist long without, and usually many barrels were essential. The sweet drink was luscious and healthful in early autumn,...hard cider was a normal social drink,...cider was a concern of fundamental practical importance, for boiled cider and vinegar were the two basic flavorings and preservatives without which (the) normal winter store of pickles, preserves, butters and mincemeats would have merely dropped out of existence...apple brandy...would be one of the first important inland products to be shipped on down the Mississippi to the markets of New Orleans.⁵

APPLE GROWING IN NEW BERLIN

The above description pertains to the Ohio Valley around 1800; apple culture in Waukesha County was not dissimilar, as recounted by Libbie Nolan:⁶

...Those were the days when the Yellow Bellflower, Grimes Golden, Seek-No-Further, Ben Davis and William's Favorite were popular...as in Thomas Faulkner's Prospect Hill orchard. He had set out those varieties in 1856 and added Wolf Rivers, Pewaukees and others as they were introduced...

...John Cooper, another pioneer Yankee who settled near the Milwaukee County line in the 1840s set out Wealthies, Dutchess, Northern Spies and Black Jersies, then experimented with his own creations...

...Cornfalza Farms set out acres and acres of orchards along both sides of Racine Ave. in the 1920s and 1930s. By 1938 they were harvesting 10,000 bushels from their young trees...Thousands of bushels of Cornfalza Farms' MacIntosh, Winter Banana, Willow Twig, Golden and Red Delicious were shipped all over the United States.

⁵ Price, Robert, Johnny Appleseed: Man and Myth, Bloomington, Indiana University Press, 1954, p.39-40

⁶ "New Berlin ripe in apple history" New Berlin Citizen, October 6, 1983.

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Among the orchards around Prospect Hill was the old Winton orchard growing on the southeast slopes. Bees making honey from the spring apple blooms, were said to have provided cash for young Louis Winton to attend this country's Centennial celebration in Philadelphia in 1876.

...In the 1920s, the Paul Sprengels⁷ bought the Winton place, adding more apple trees and selling them at their roadside stand and at the West Allis market. Their son Ray⁸ set out a much larger orchard at...the orchard now owned by the Glennies...

In 1924 Waukesha County counted 82,983 apple trees growing on its rolling hillsides. Waukesha County's famous Dairy Show held each spring at the Stock Pavilion in the 1930s to 1950s also featured apple raising. Many of the prize winning plates of apple specimens had been picked from New Berlin orchards...

Old folks used to recall that a cider mill once operated in Civil War time ...Many more folks still recall the Biber Cider Press...

That press is described by Terry Biber: "The Biber Cider Press, 1892-1955," Landmark, Autumn 1980, pp. 9-10. The author describes the purchase in 1891 of a still earlier press. The use of the press and the changing uses of the cider is described in this article and in one by Ruth Schmidt, concerning the processing of apples in the 1930s:⁹

People from miles away came... with apples and we often waited in lines of four to ten vehicles before we could back our truck up to the chute...so we could pour out our forty to a hundred bushels of apples...This operation continued from early morning until after dark on the day of the week when Reinders pressed cider...They were primarily farmers and eventually gave up the extra work of cider pressing. We had to go to Tess Corners, and later to Germantown, to find a cider press...We made 100 to 400 gallons a week...When it was fermented too much to sell at the roadside stand as sweet cider, we had three choices

⁷ Across the road from Westons' Antique Apples

⁸ The son's name was Baywood, according to Kenneth Weston

⁹ "Cider," Landmark, Autumn 1989, pp.30-31

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of disposal: dump it, make it into hard cider for ourselves, or sell it very cheap to people who wanted to make sour wine.

While the reference to a pre-1891 press and the existence in the county of occasional very old trees testifies to the settlement period use of apples, the histories cited describe the type of production typical of the early commercial period, when apples were a sideline to other types of farming, mainly dairying. The Schmidt article also indicates the beginning of the ex-urban pattern of specialty food production for the local market, in response to the automobile. Today New Berlin township is dotted with orchards, mainly consisting of the newer dwarf varieties, and roadside businesses, some of them quite elaborate, offering not only apples but a variety of fruits, vegetables, crafts, hayrides, house plants, nursery stock, etc. as well as the occasional householder offering eggs or honey and the many ex-urban home-based businesses such as septic tank cleaners, and boarding kennels.

Thus apple culture has influenced the changing landscape of Waukesha County from the earliest days of European settlement. The Weston orchard retains a remnant landscape of the farm orchard when apples were an essential component of the domestic economy. The orchard continued to exist in the period when apple and cider production was a sideline in an economy of mixed crops and commercial dairying. Today the ancient remnant orchard and the small commercial orchard survive as an example of land use in the 1930s and 40s when ex-urban families sought extra income to supplement wages. Like many of their neighbors, the Westons raised chickens and vegetables and sold them along with apples and cider from a roadside stand. An aerial photo of the orchard, attached to this nomination, shows the early farm orchard as it existed in 1941, probably a century after it was first established. A photo from 1950 shows the maturation of the small commercial orchard planted by the Westons beginning in 1938, and larger commercial orchards nearby. Photos from 1963 and 1969 show the growth of highways and the encroachment of suburban development that makes the Weston orchard locally outstanding as the area's most authentic surviving example of early 20th century fruit-growing for the local market.

HISTORY OF NEW BERLIN

The history of New Berlin is almost entirely the history of its farms and orchards. New Berlin township was first settled in 1836, by settlers moving

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westward from Michigan.¹⁰ However, settlers in New Berlin were "largely German...The farms are thoroughly tilled, debts paid, and taxes are hardly ever delinquent in New Berlin," according to the 1880 history. Prospect Hill, where Weston's Antique Apples is located, was one of only three settled hamlets in 1907, when it had a population of 200. Roads leading to Milwaukee, Janesville, Racine and Waukesha intersect near the highest point of the hill, which is 600 feet above the level of Lake Michigan and gives a commanding view. A hamlet has been located there since 1840 and its history has been preserved by a descendant of the founder of the Freewill Baptist Church, Libbie Nolan. The Freewill Baptist Church which is the most prominent feature of the site today, was constructed in 1858.

"The Swartz farming family put New Berlin on the map with its progressive farming techniques," Nolan told the New Berlin Citizen in an article published October 6, 1983. The Swartz farm, Cornfalga Farms, was 440 acres in 1904, and included a large orchard.¹¹ This was the peak of the rural development of New Berlin. The first gasoline powered car appeared in the county in 1905. "Some farmers in New Berlin and other rural areas were downright hostile. They'd built the roads for the convenience of themselves and their neighbors, not for road racing." Soon the rural stores began to close; rural free delivery took the postal customers away, and the business customers went to the larger stores in the city. But the period after World War I became the golden age of agriculture in Waukesha County, thanks to machines and progressive scientific methods of dairying and cropping. "A clue to the future of New Berlin made its appearance before 1914. Our first subdivision--Conrad Park--was platted just north of the Rapid Transit lines at 124th Street...But most of the farmers in New Berlin had no plans to give up their land. Mechanization was helping them do their work easier, so actually they could add more land..." But "...Piece by piece small parcels of land were being picked up by developers...Before 1930 the Pabst Farm...had

¹⁰ Memoirs of Waukesha County, Madison, Western Historical Society, 1907, p. 261, and History of Waukesha County, Chicago, Western Historical Society, 1880, p. 319.

¹¹ "Cornfalga & Rapid Transit & Church School" New Berlin Citizen Section 2, June 23, 1976. The material that follows is taken from this article. A picture is subtitled: "The apple was once king of all New Berlin crops. In 1930 New Berlin was the largest producer of apples in Waukesha County...Cornfalga Farms was one of the larger apple growers as well as pioneers in the raising and use of alfalfa, silos and Karakul sheep."

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become the Buena Park subdivision, and Sunny Slope #1 and Calhoun Homesteads had already been negotiated...Thus, more farmland was absorbed by people looking for space outside the crowded city..."

The township was incorporated as the City of New Berlin in 1959. By 1981 the Waukesha Freeman was analyzing life in New Berlin in terms of latchkey children and vandalism, in a changing landscape where "even the orchards at Cornfalga Farms, the Swartz showplace farm, became a subdivision." ¹² Today, parallel to National Avenue, less than a half mile to the south, is Interstate 43, and in every direction the view from Prospect Hill is marred by huge quarries, making the remaining orchards and farmsteads ever more valuable.

HISTORY OF THE WESTON FARM

Title to the present-day Weston farm begins in 1839 with transfer of 160 acres to Bartimeas White. The modern boundaries of the farm first appear in 1849 when John Superno acquired the ten and 95/100 acres lying between the Janesville Road and what is today Barton Road. The school lot and the Freewill Baptist Church lots, both at the eastern tip of the triangular property, were separated in 1853 and 1858, respectively. Several owners followed Superno until, in 1866 the property was transferred to Frank Weiland. Weiland died in 1900. Five years later, in 1905, title was acquired by Emma Korn, who built the house and barn. She owned it until 1917. The property passed through several hands between 1917 and 1927, when Otto and Minnie Hertel acquired it. In 1928 the Marckwardt/Weston family moved to the farm. William Marckwardt bought it in 1931. His daughter, Alice Weston, inherited it from his estate in 1949.

The earliest description of the property is contained in two letters, copies of which were received by Jackie Hermann, President of the New Berlin Historical Society, in an inquiry from Anne W. Hayden, of Concord, Massachusetts. The letters were mailed from Prospect Hill by Ms. Hayden's great-great-grandfather in 1853 and 1854. The letters include a sketch map of "Prospect Hill and Vicinity" with a numbered key to buildings. A school house is shown at the corner, on the lot separated from the nominated property in 1853. On Barton Road, near the midpoint of the north boundary of the sloping, triangular property, is a structure called in the accompanying key "Our Log Shop." Accompanying the second letter is a sketch of the log

¹² November 2, 1981

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shop; behind it is an "Orchard of Apple and Peach Trees 2 Acres enclosed by Rail Fence." Since the map is not to scale it is impossible to be certain but it appears that the northwest corner of the present orchard must encompass this site. About 20 houses, some log and some frame, are enumerated on the accompanying list, along with a Post Office and store, a blacksmith shop, and various barns, pig stys and wells. Altogether 47 structures are identified, clustered around the five-point intersection of roads to Milwaukee, Janesville, Racine and Waukesha, at the top of Prospect Hill. Barton Road is called, simply "Road into Woods."

According to a landmark nomination prepared by New Berlin Landmarks Commissioner Libbie Nolan in May, 1991,¹³ Frank Weiland, who owned the property from 1866 to 1900, operated a cobbler and shoemaking shop in a cream brick house on or near the site of the present house; there were at that time three houses on the property, in addition to a well with a sweep, and an ice house.¹⁴ After she acquired the property in 1905, Emma Carpenter Korn had the brick house torn down and a new house built by George Koeffler. This house burned, about 1910. Koeffler then built the present house. Mrs. Korn also built the barn, in 1906. And, according to Mrs. Alice Weston, there was a brooder house, which burned about 1960.

The Marckwardt/Weston family, consisting of grandfather William Marckwardt, his daughter, Alice, her husband Harvey Weston and their children Kenneth and Genevieve, moved to the farm in 1928, as tenants. The owner, Otto Hertel, was ill with tuberculosis. He committed suicide in the barn, according to Alice Weston.¹⁵ He had had an extensive chicken operation and also sold apples. The varieties in the orchard at that time were Maiden Blush, Duchess, Pewaukee, Transparent, Wealthy, Patton Greening and White Parmain.

¹³ Mrs. Nolan is the long-time editor of Landmark, the publication of the Waukesha County Historical Society. She gives as her sources for her nomination the title abstract, church records, Waukesha County directories for 1918 and 1928, county atlases, school records and the 1850, '60 and '70 censuses, as well as interviews with a descendant of George Koeffler, who built the present house, and longtime resident Walter Vanderpool.

¹⁴ Telephone interview with Libbie Nolan, August 11, 1995.

¹⁵ Interviewed on August 24, 1995 and again on October 1, 1995. Mrs. Weston retains a clear memory of the events of the 1920s and '30s. Her daughter, Genevieve and son Kenneth were present at the second interview.

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Of these, the last three still exist. The White Parmain is believed to be the world's only known surviving tree of this variety. From a roadside stand, the family sold apples, chickens, baked goods, applesauce, melons, raspberries, and vegetables. Most of the land was rented, and planted to corn.

William Marckwardt bought the property in 1931, to protect his family from the Great Depression. He was a machinist and a molder. For a time he operated a brass and aluminum foundry in the basement of the barn, making barrel stays and nutcrackers. This and the chicken operation were not successful, and were discontinued. In 1936¹⁶ Harvey and Alice Weston decided that the soil was being depleted on the rented work land. They determined to plant an apple orchard.

The family dug the holes for the trees during the fall of 1937, by hand. 400 holes were dug, with some help from a Civilian Conservation Corps enrollee. The first order, for 105 apple trees, has been preserved. It was to the Stark Brother's Nursery in Louisiana, Missouri. The varieties were McIntosh (10), Double Red Rome Beauty (10), Double Red Baldwin (10), Northern Spy (10), Stayman Red (10), Starkling (10), Jonathon (10), Red York (10), Willow Twig (5), Banana (5), and Grimes Golden (5). In addition three varieties of plum and one of cherry were on the order. The total price, with the "demonstration discount," was \$57.90.

The following year 70 more trees were ordered from Stark. The varieties were Red McIntosh, Starkling Delicious, Golden Delicious, Jonared, and Stayman Red. Fourteen cherry trees and four plum were also on this order. From McKay Nursery in Waterloo, Wisconsin, 350 trees were ordered, including 100 McIntosh and smaller numbers of Melba, Yellow Transparent, Jonathan, Milton, Wealthy, Early McIntosh, Wolf River, Tolman Sweet, McCoun, Cortlandt, Northwest Greening, and Snow. Ten cherry trees were also in this order. In the years that followed, Alice and Harvey Weston continued to research and order apple varieties. Some came from the Montgomery Ward catalog. The current list of apples available from Westons' Antique Apples shows 74

¹⁶ This date was given by Alice Weston on October 1, 1995. Published sources, including Libbie Nolan, "A Living Museum on an Historic Hill," Landmark, Autumn, 1994, pp.8-13, and Linda and Fred Griffith, The New American Farm Cookbook, New York, Viking, 1993, pp.409-13, give the year as 1938. It appears that the digging probably began in 1937, with the first plantings by the Westons in the spring of 1938.

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varieties. There are also 15 wild varieties in the orchard, sprung from seedlings. Altogether there are about 100 kinds of apples on the property, as well as several types of pears, plums and cherries.

The apples and other produce were sold at the roadside and also at markets in West Allis and Milwaukee. Alice Weston recalls that there was stiff competition between herself and the Sprengels' stand across the road for the customers who drove along National Avenue. When one added an item, such as baked goods, the other would try to match or outdo it.

BACKGROUND: APPLE VARIETIES AND CULTURE

The history of apple varieties in America has both formal and folkloric dimensions. Named European apple varieties were imported from the beginning of settlement, and from the eighteenth century forward new varieties were developed and propagated, particularly in New York State.¹⁷

The apple as a species resists standardization. Rosanne Sanders says (p. 137)

¹⁷ Rosanne Sanders, in the The Apple Book, New York, Philosophical Library, 1988 writes, "Experts have yet to agree...on when and where the cultivated apple first made its appearance, southern Europe and western Asia being the most likely points of origin...the cultivated apple has been with us ...for thousands of years." Alice A. Martin, in All About Apples, Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1976, writes that the French planted orchards in Canada even before 1625, when William Blaxton planted the first orchard in the U.S. German settlers brought seedlings from the Palatinate, and William Penn had "apple grafts" among his supplies in 1686. There was a 2500-tree orchard of named varieties in Virginia in that same year, and nurseries had been established in Connecticut and Long Island. (pp. 14-17) In 1903 the New York State Agricultural Station in Geneva published a compendium, The Apples of New York giving the description and history of nearly 1000 apples. However, Martin notes (p. 35) "Most of the varieties listed are no longer in existence, or survive in obscurity, and it is too late to know what all but a few dozen taste like." This was the result of a decision by the growers to settle on a few varieties. Martin quotes an anonymous interview with a grower born about 1890: "So the apple growers of New England and New York and the Dept. of Agriculture people, we all got together...ane decided what varieties we'd promote...The seven varieties were McIntosh, Red Delicious, Rome, Northern Spy, Greening, Cortland, and Baldwin." (p. 42-3)

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"Because the apple does not grow true from seed the only way of perpetuating and multiplying a desired cultivar is by vegetative means. It is an interesting thought that of the many thousands of Cox's Orange Pippin trees (a favorite variety in England) in existence today they all stem from one single apple seedling raised by Mr. Richard Cox at Colnbrook Lawn, Slough in 1825."

The role of genetic variation is explained by Price: (p. 41-42)

No one today ever plants seedling orchards or would suppose their fruit worth marketing...it is one of the commonplaces of horticulture that appleseeds rarely grow up to produce fruit that is true to the parent type. Large apples may give small ones, yellow ones green, and sweet ones sour...The "wild" or "native" or "common" or "Johnny Appleseed" apples, as seedlings are called today in various parts of the country, are never cultivated now except for a rare individual tree that chances to give desirable fruit and that may be worth perpetuating as a valuable new variety.

But it was seedling stock that started the pioneer apple orchards across America. Not that grafting and budding were unknown...But the transporting of such stock into new country was a difficult and expensive venture...Even if such trees could have been imported, few of the first settlers could have afforded to buy them...

Whatever the quality of the seedling fruit, it would be useful for something. Almost any apple would make butter or cider. A few seedlings in every lot were bound by the law of chance to be fairly good, and some would be superior.

Furthermore, once the seedling trees had been set to growing in an orchard plot, the pioneer could "top-work" them to his heart's content with grafts and buds from better fruit wherever he could find it.

J.C. Folger and S.M. Thomson ¹⁸ observe, "It is said that approximately 7000 varieties have been described...since 1804," despite the fact that "Practically all varieties of fruit are the result of chance discovery of seedlings...Experiments...in crossing different varieties of apples have been

¹⁸ The Commercial Apple Industry of North America, New York, MacMillan, 1921 pp 388-89

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inconclusive and unsatisfactory." Even if the number of varieties was to be limited to make the apples easier to market, it was desirable to have a range of ripening dates, especially before refrigerated shipping.

In 1921 Folger and Thomson noted (p. 79) that in Wisconsin "Apples are grown largely in home orchards, most of which are distributed throughout the Southeastern part of the state and particularly in the counties bordering Lake Michigan...Fameuse, McIntosh, Oldenburg, Northwest Greening and Wealthy are the principle varieties." Their history of apple production is also revealing: good prices in the mid-19th century led to over planting in the 1880s and a subsequent crash, with whole orchards being pulled out in the 1890s. Prices rose again in the WW I period, but when the large orchards in the Pacific Northwest entered the market, there was another price crash. (p.8)

Despite the discouraging market, the organized pursuit of profitable apple growing took off in Wisconsin in the 1890s, with the establishment of trial stations by E.S. Goff of the University of Wisconsin.¹⁹ The list of varieties tested is a long one, ²⁰ few of which are known today. The article continues, "In addition to the work already outlined, a commencement has been made...in collecting scions of promising varieties of apples and plums...and in propagating trees from these...Most of these seedlings have been top-grafted upon old trees as a means of hastening their bearing." The reason for the almost feverish search for new varieties described in this historical issue of Wisconsin Horticulture was three-fold: the beginning of large commercial-scale planting, the arrival of the codling moth and apple scab in the 1880s, and the occurrence of "disasterous winters" in 1856-57, 72-73, 84-85, and again in 1889, (p. 17-21) prompting an interest in Russian varieties. With the wisdom of hindsight the Wisconsin Horticulture in 1943 observes, "...in the light of our knowledge in 1943, one cannot help wondering why these men paid so much attention to the Russian varieties which were of such low quality even though hardy and failing to try out the one variety at least that has become Wisconsin's leading apple, the McIntosh." (p. 40) Despite

¹⁹ The history of commercial fruit-growing in Wisconsin is covered in Vol.II, "Agriculture", 6-7,8 of Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin.

²⁰ "The First Trial Orchards in 1890," in "The History of Seventy-five Years of Active Service: Wisconsin State Horticultural Society," Wisconsin Horticulture 34 (3), pp 1-82, November, 1943

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the "low point in Wisconsin horticulture" of 1889, the efforts of the professors were successful: Prof. J.G. Milward took the Wilder medal at a meeting of the American Pomological Society in 1909 with a display of Northwestern Greening, Wolf River, McMahan, Windsor Chief, Pewaukee, Milwaukee, Gem City and Newell apples. (p.41)

Two histories among those of specific varieties, related in the historical issue of Wisconsin Horticulturist (p.42) will illustrate the folkloric nature of apple culture.

McMahan: The seed that produced this beautiful apple...was planted by Mrs. Isaac McMahan in her garden, (in Richland County, Wisconsin) in 1860, the seed being obtained from a large red apple coming from Ohio, presumably an Alexander.

In the fall of 1869, McMahan exhibited (it) at the Richland County Fair...The fruit was so large and fine many could not believe it was a seedling, but A.L. Hatch...was so sure of the trees being seedlings he cut all the scions and sprouts from the roots and it was through these scions the (variety) was introduced to the public through the Richland County Nursery...The McMahan's White proved so satisfactory that it became one of Wisconsin's leading varieties in the early days.

Gem City: The seedling was discovered by the Society when in February, 1905, a premium was offered for 'Best new apple named (locally) and in bearing for five years but not on the Society fruit list.'

The award was made to Mrs. Robert Ramsey and Mr. A.D. Brown of Baraboo...

The following statement was made by Mr. William Toole of Baraboo at the meeting in 1905:

'The original tree of the Gem City (Townsend) apple was a chance seedling which came up close to the house of Mr. Charles Dickinson, now dead, whose farm was near Dodgeville.

'The young tree being in the way, was cut down twice, but the third growth was allowed to stay until it had borne fruit. Mr. George Townsend of Baraboo, while visiting with Mr. Dickinson, was much attracted by the fruit...Mr. Townsend seems to be the only one who realized at that time the possible value of the apple. He procured some scions...These trees seemed to be as hardy as any of the Russian varieties...Mr. Townsend distributed young trees of his own grafting to various persons, among them A.D. Brown and Mrs. Robert Ramsey, who exhibited...the fruit which attracted so much attention at the winter meeting of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society in Madison,

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February 9, 1905.'

Along with the preservation of famous old varieties of apple, Weston's Antique Apples has preserved this folkloric tradition of apple cultivation, as indicated by a short piece in Landmark, Autumn, 1990:²¹

It's not every day that a building will support its own cause. That's why it's unique that the 132-year-old Freewill Baptist Church on New Berlin's Prospect Hill is helping to raise funds to restore itself.

Five years ago ²² an arsonist set the historic building on fire, destroying its roof, chimney and windows. It's been an uphill job for the church's friends to raise enough funds to restore it. Imagine their surprise when the volunteer apple tree growing near the northwest fieldstone foundation blossomed last spring. Intrigued, the Westons next door sprayed the tree along with their own historic variety apple trees. This fall when the church's apples ripened, they were shiny crisp-sweet round red fruit.

Their story, as well as their own mouth-watering appeal made them much sought after. Its eight bushels sold by the pound at several local and Madison markets, brought a pretty penny.

And Dr. Ken Weston, chairman of the Prospect Hill Restoration Foundation, who brainstormed the apple project has named the new seedling variety: Old Church Apples!

CONTEXT: DAIRY FARMING IN NEW BERLIN

New Berlin's dairy industry was part of 'Cow Country USA,' at its peak world famous during the years between the first and second World Wars. Many New Berlin cattle were sent to South America to start new herds. The first Brown Swiss cows in Wisconsin were brought to New Berlin by Charles Wilde. Besides Brown Swiss we had Jersey, Gurnsey, Holstein and Ayrshire--the five most important breeds of milk cows in the United States. As Milwaukee spread out to the suburbs, subdivisions sprang up

²¹ By Libbie Nolan, p. 15

²² i.e., 1985

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on many farms forcing the dairy industry out...²³

Among the platted subdivisions and the small commercial orchards of New Berlin township are a number of surviving dairy barns. A few are similar in size to the Weston barn, many are larger. Few if any are still being used to house dairy herds. A history that seems typical was reported in the New Berlin Citizen, January 25, 1990, "Farm family reflects area history:"

... In 1980, the Garbes received their Century Farm Award because the farm has been in the family since 1868...Garbe said that his grandfather...was born in Germany...He planted an orchard of fruit trees back in 1868...(his son) Henry farmed the 40 acres raising cows, pigs, chickens, growing vegetables and planting more fruit trees. He also made butter and buttermilk to sell...Today only four acres remain with the orchard and buildings.

An examination of this farm showed a house and barn similar in style to the Weston's, although somewhat larger. They were built, according to the Citizen, in 1916 and 1902, respectively. In the next generation, "Their operation included a dairy herd, chickens, pigs, the orchard and growing vegetables. The milk was picked up by the Gridley Dairy, but fruit, eggs and vegetables were still sold on a route in the Milwaukee area." The same article offers a context for the large chicken house that existed on the Weston farm: "The Garbes... went into the business of raising chickens...'We went all over with the egg route and had it for 20 years. We had chickens (1,200) all over the place,' Mrs. Garbe said."

The prosperous era of commercial dairying is reflected on the Weston farm by the early 20th century house and dairy barn. The abandonment of dairying in favor of food crops that could be raised on smaller holdings and marketed directly is represented by the re-use of the dairy barn and the orchard the Westons planted in 1938.

CONCLUSION

Weston's Antique Apple Orchard is an unusual property significant for its agricultural orchard and for a house and barn which reflect a period when southeastern Wisconsin was an important center of the apple industry. The

²³ New Berlin Citizen, June 23, 1976, Section 2

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landscape features of the farm, which reflect changing land use patterns over more than a century beginning with settlement in the 1840s and 50s, include a remnant apple orchard of the type that was an important feature of 19th century farmsteads, and an expanded orchard planted in the 1930s as an adaptation to the economic pressures of the Great Depression and in response to increasing population density and automobile traffic which brought customers to roadside stands and made sales in nearby urban marketplaces feasible and profitable. The Weston property illustrates a period of horticultural experimentation and adaptation that is reflected in the buildings and landscape as the apple industry developed and varieties were hybridized, tested, and eventually standardized.

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Verbal boundary description

Part of the North West 1/4 of Section 32, Township 6N of Range 20E, Town of New Berlin, Waukesha County, Wisconsin. Commencing at a stake or point on the North side of said Section at a point where the Section line crosses the center of the Janesville Road: thence West on said Section line 17 chains and 21 links to a stake and stones; thence South to the said Janesville Road, thence North East along the center of the Janesville Road to the place of beginning, being 10 and 95/100 acres, excepting the following two lots used respectively as the school lot and the church lot, said school lot being: commencing at a point on the Section line on the North side of Section 32 in the center of the Milwaukee and Janesville Road, thence West on the Section line 2 chains and 81 links, thence South 2 chains and 16 links to the center of said road, thence North 52 degrees 51 minutes East along the center of the road 3 chains and 51 links to the place of beginning, containing 30/100 acres. Church lot: All the parcel situated in the North West 1/4 of Section 32 commencing at a stake in the Section line at the North West corner of the school lot, running West 1 chain and 78 links, thence South parallel with the schoolhouse lot 3 chains and 52 1/2 links to the center of the Janesville Road, thence North East on the center of the Mukwanago Road 2 chains and 26 links, thence North 2 chains and 16 links to the place of beginning, containing 1/2 acres, more or less.

Justification

The 10.95 acre parcel is first identified in the title abstract in 1849. The school lot and the church lot were separated in 1853 and 1858, respectively. The remaining parcel was acquired by the father of the present owner in 1931 and comprises the historic apple orchard and farmstead. A second five-acre parcel was acquired by Alice Weston, owner of the historic orchard and farmstead, about 1950. It adjoins the historic property to the west. It is not included in the nomination because its development as an orchard took place outside the period of significance.

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Photo #1 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
House, view from southeast

Photo #2 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
House, view from west

Photo #3 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Barn, view from south

Photo #4 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Barn, shed and water tank, view from northwest

Photo #5 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
"Janesville" chicken house, view from southeast

Photo #6 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Garage, view from west

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Photos Page 2 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

Photo #7 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Garage, chicken house, greenhouse, shed and barn,
view from southwest

Photo #8 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Orchard, barn, shed, greenhouse, chicken house
view from northwest

Photo #9 of 9
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
New Berlin, Waukesha County, WI
Photo by Jane Eiseley, October 1, 1995
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Orchard, greenhouse, barn, view from north

NPS Form 10-900-a
(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format
(Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Owner Page 1 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

The owner of Westons' Antique Apples is

Alice Weston
19760 West National Avenue
New Berlin, WI 53146

Archeological Potential

A known archeological site exists nearby but the archeological potential of Weston's Antique Apple Orchard is unknown.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Exhibits Page 1 Weston's Antique Apples, New Berlin,
Waukesha County, WI

Exhibit 1 of 5
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
Waukesha County, Wisconsin
USGNHS Aerial Survey, 1941
Portion of a print on file at Arthur H. Robinson Map Library,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Section 29, Town of New Berlin

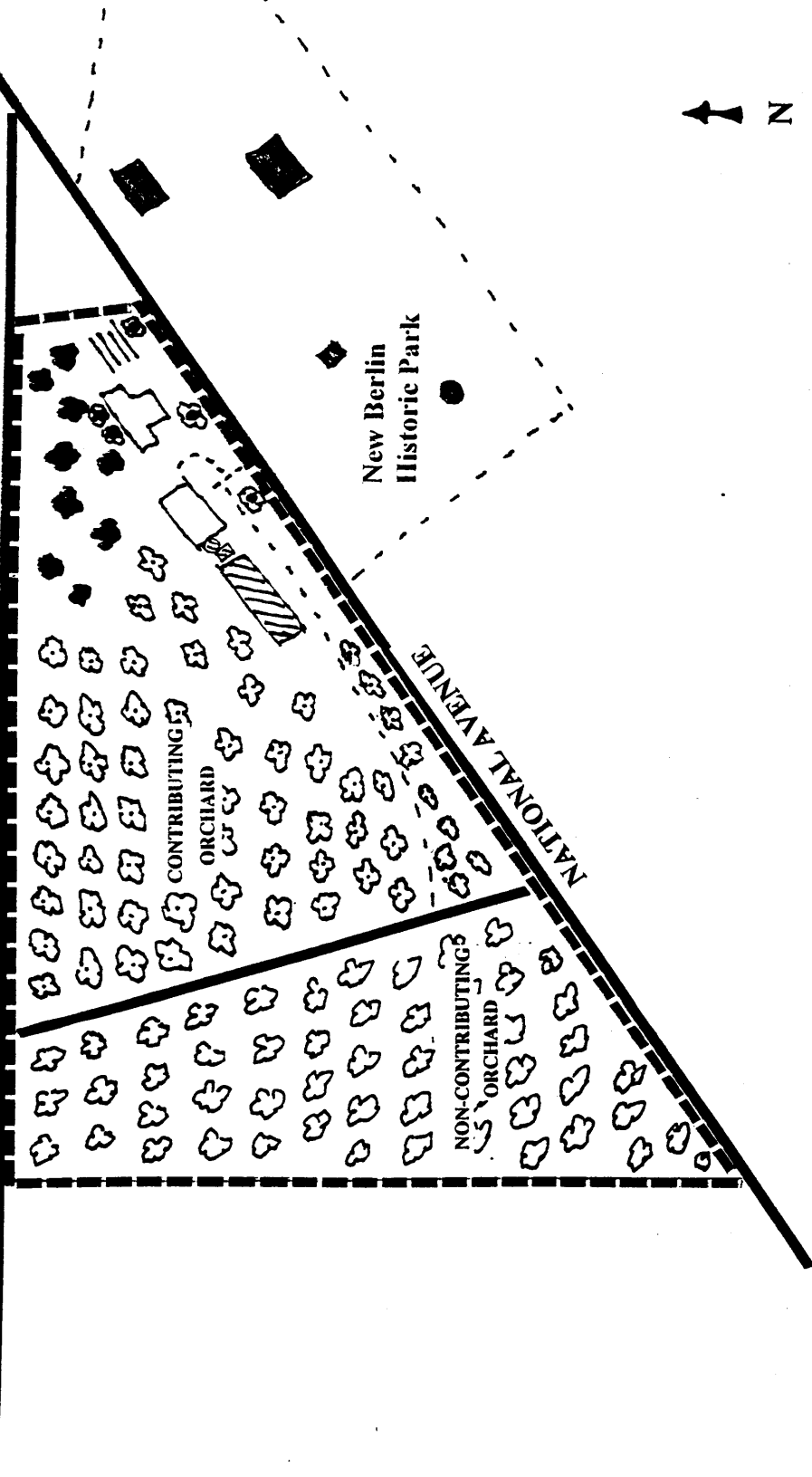
Exhibit 2 of 5
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
Waukesha County, Wisconsin
USGNHS Aerial Survey, 1950
Portion of a print on file at Arthur H. Robinson Map Library,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Section 29, Town of New Berlin

Exhibit 3 of 5
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
Waukesha County, Wisconsin
USGNHS Aerial Survey, 1963
Portion of a print on file at Arthur H. Robinson Map Library,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Section 29, Town of New Berlin

Exhibit 4 of 5
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
Waukesha County, Wisconsin
USGNHS Aerial Survey, 1969
Portion of a print on file at Arthur H. Robinson Map Library,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Section 29, Town of New Berlin

Exhibit 5 of 5 (3 sheets)
WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES
Waukesha County, Wisconsin
Catalog of Apple Varieties, 1995

BARTON ROAD



New Berlin
Historic Park

NATIONAL AVENUE

NON-CONTRIBUTING
ORCHARD

CONTRIBUTING
ORCHARD



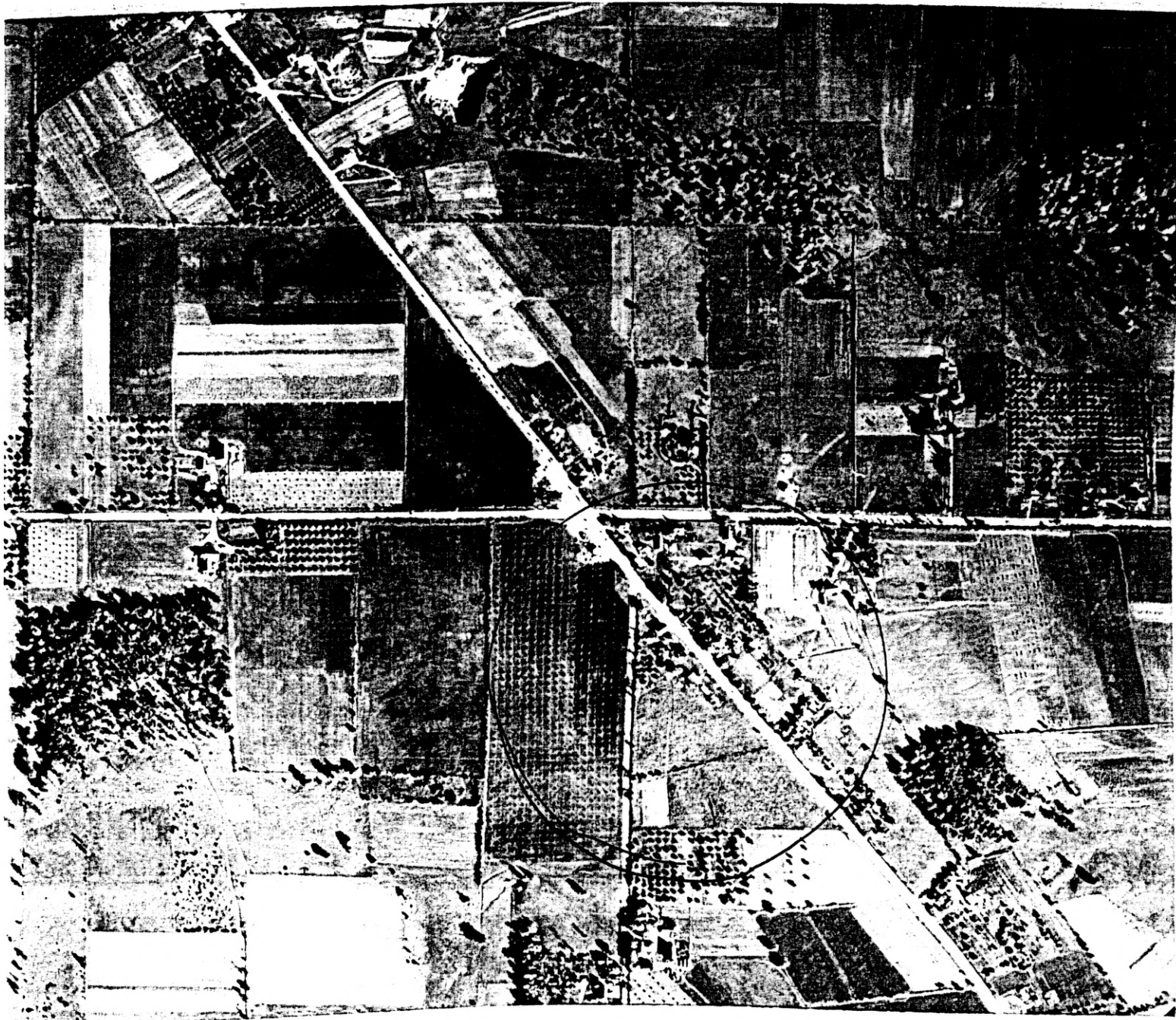
NOT TO SCALE

KEY

- Driveway
- ||| Garden
- ☼ Pioneer orchard
- ☼ Shade tree
- ☼ 1938-1946 fruit tree
- ▨ Hedge row
- ▨ Non-contributing Buildings
- ▨ Contributing Buildings
- ▨ District Boundary
- ▨ Outside boundaries

WESTON'S ANTIQUE APPLE ORCHARD
NEW BERLIN, WAUKESHA COUNTY, WI

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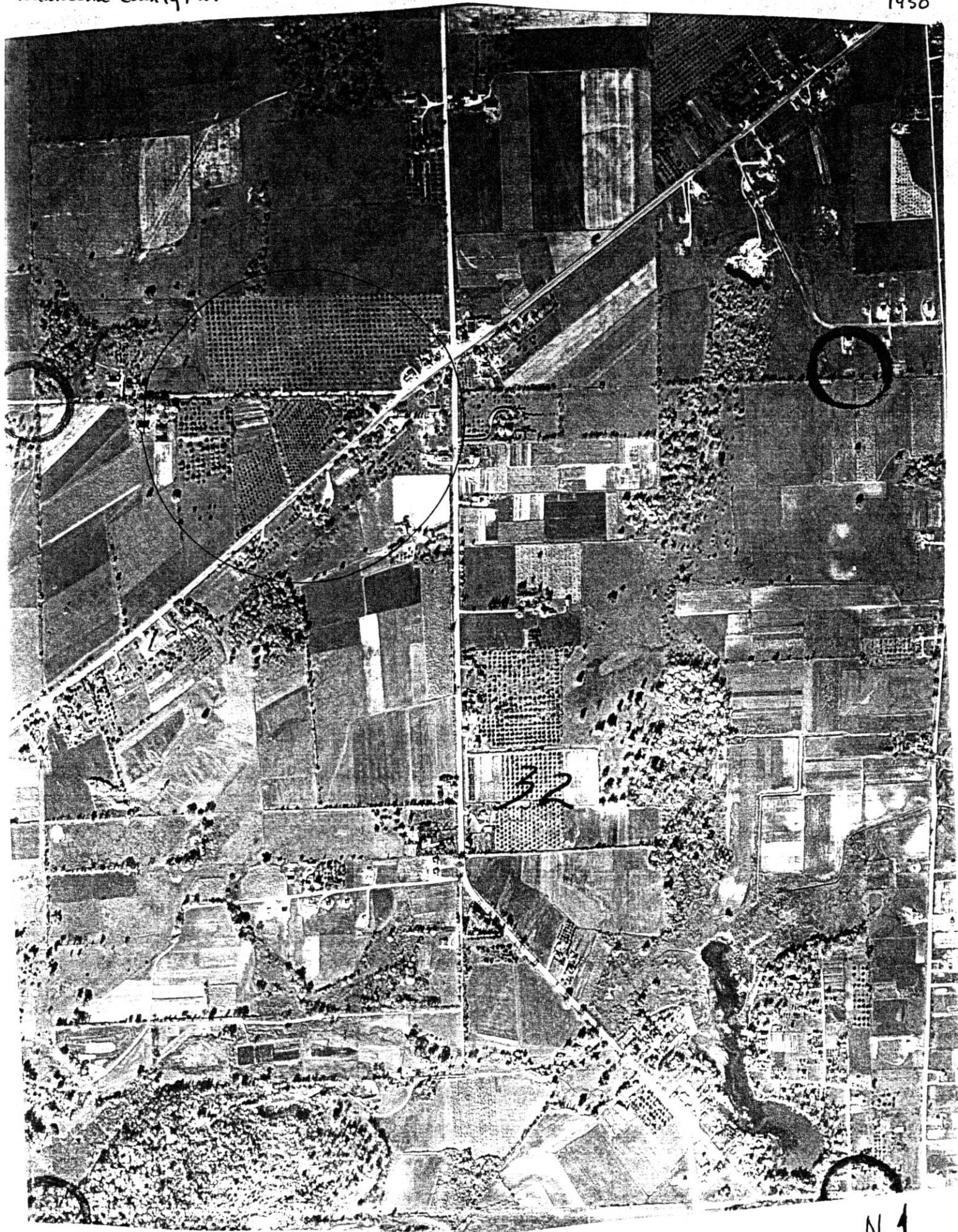


Westons'
Antique
Apples
Waukesha County,
WI

Exhibit 1
Aerial Photo
1941

Westons' Antique Apples
Waukesha County, WI

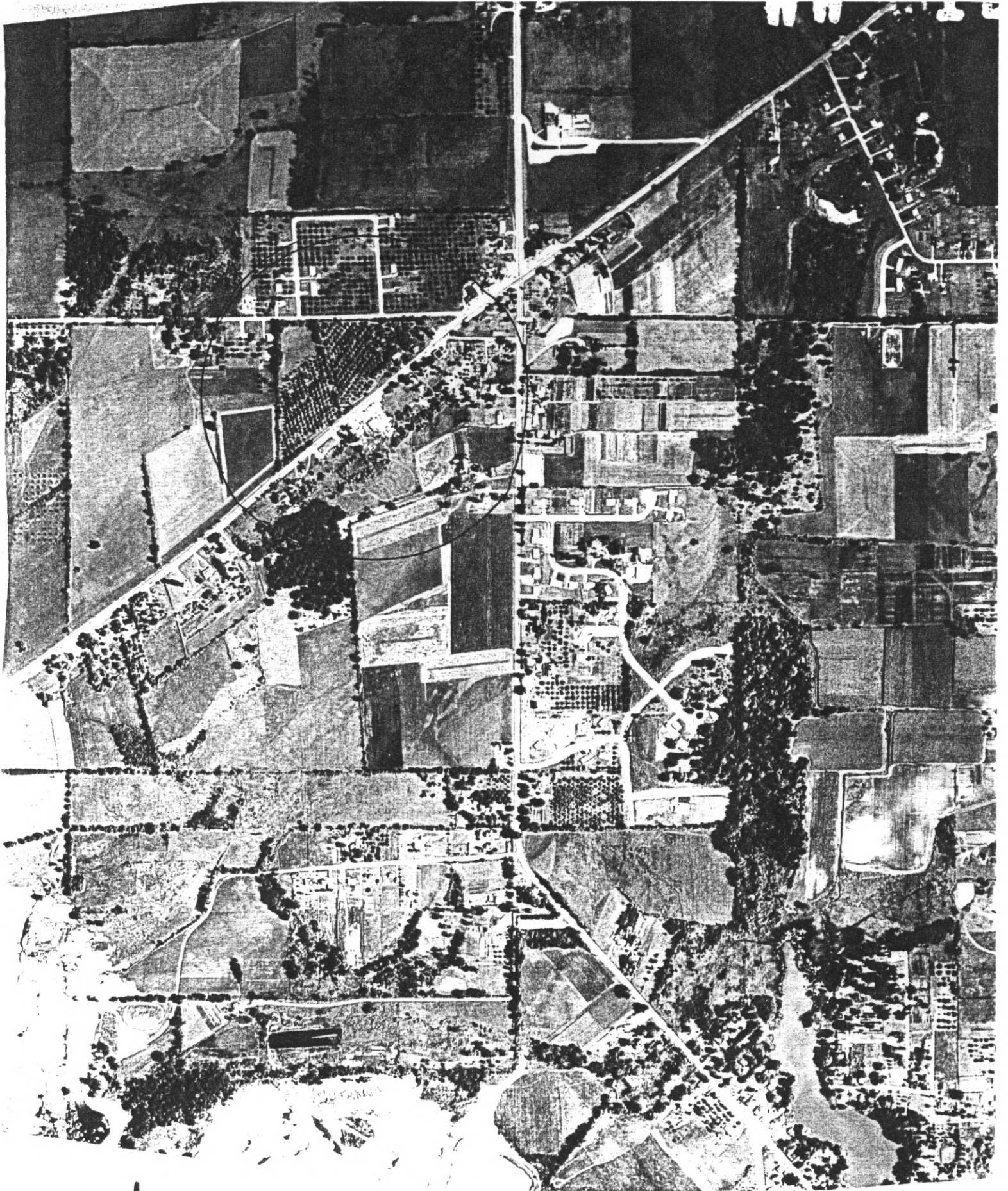
Exhibit 2 - Aerial
Photo
1950



N 1

Westons' Antique Apples
Waukesha County, WI

Exhibit 3
Aerial Photo 1963



N 1

Weston's Antique Apples
Waukesha County, WI

Exhibit 4
Aerial Photo 1969

↑
N



WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLES

- Alexander — (1700, Russia) Crispy tart. Cooks to juicy lemon puree.
- Ashmeads' Kernel — (1790, England) Strong, sweet sharp interior flavor. Long esteemed by connoisseurs.
- Autumn Berry/Wild Berry — (USA) Yellow flesh. Very aromatic. Flavor resembles pineapple.
- Avocado Apple — (USA) Oval shaped. Semi-sweet, unusual flavor.
- Beacon — (Canada) Excellent tart eating.
- Black Gilliflower — (late 1700's, Connecticut) Pear like flavor.
- Black Twig — (1833, Tennessee) Ultimate tart apple. Excellent eating. Tannic juice adds kick to cider.
- Calville Blanc d'Hiver — (1598) Mentioned in 1627 by Le Lectier, procurer for Louis XIII. Grown in the King's gardens at Orleans. Still served for dessert in the finest Paris restaurants.
- Chenango Strawberry — (1800's, Chenango County, New York) Very fragrant flavor resembling the scent of roses.
- Cornish Gilliflower — (1813, United Kingdom) Knobby exterior conceals yellow perfumed flesh. Intensely flavored after cloves. Very aromatic. Prized by Victorians. Still grown in gardens.
- Cortland — (1926, New York, Ben Davis x Macintosh)
- Cox's Orange Pippin — (1830 England) Finest flavored apple.
- Criterion — (modern, Red Delicious x Golden Delicious x Winter Banana)
- Duchess of Oldenberg — (Early 1700's, Russia) Savory, brisk, juicy, soft, deep creamy flesh. Tart eating apple. Cooks to highly flavored puree. Excellent for pies.

- Early Macintosh — (1930, USA, Macintosh x Red Delicious) Sweet with some acidity. Mainly an eating apple.
- Early Red Bird — (1850, Canada) First apple of season. Brilliant lemon acidity, yet plenty of sweetness. Often definite raspberry flavor.
- Egremont Russet — (1872, United Kingdom) Very distinctive flavor. Often described as nutty with the scent of crushed ferns.
- Empire — (Modern, Macintosh x Red Delicious) Crisp, clean taste. Sweet with a hint of Macintosh flavor.
- Esopus Spitzenburg — (1790, USA) Rich, nutty flavor. Live acidity. Hard, very crisp, almost yellow flesh. Still fruitfully good in March. Favorite apple of Thomas Jefferson.
- Florence Crab — Very good eating with a very spicy flavor. Produces a red apple jelly.
- Gala — (Modern, Red Delicious x Cox's Orange Pippin)
- Geneva Early — (Modern, USA) First dessert apple of season
- Golden Delicious — (1916, USA) Honeyed with crisp, juicy, almost yellow flesh.
- Golden Russet — (1845, USA) Sugary, honeyed taste, firm cream flesh, makes a yellow green colored cider.
- Gravenstein — (1600, Europe) Savory, crisp, yet melting flesh. Excellent for pies.
- Grimes Golden — (1832, USA) Honeyed flavor. Very crisp juicy, almost yellow flesh. Parent of Golden Delicious but better flavored. Tradition holds that it arose from a pip planted by Johnny Appleseed.
- Hawaii — (California, Golden Delicious x Gravenstein) Pineapple flavor.
- Holiday — (1940, USA, Macoun x Jonathon) Sweet, crisp, strawberry flavor.
- Hooples Antique Gold — (Ohio) One of the most beautiful of all apples. Bud mutation from Golden Delicious. Extraordinary flavor.



WESTONS' ANTIQUE APPLE ORCHARDS
 Prospect Hill Settlement Historic District
 Open Sundays
 September to November
 1 pm to Dark
 (414) 679-2862