

IDENTIFICATION	Historic name: <u>Rice-Marler House</u>	STATUS	Open to public: Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted ___
	Common name: <u>Jones House</u>		Visible from road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Address: <u>Goodfield Valley Road</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee</u>		Occupied: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Owner's name: <u>Ken Jones</u>		Present use: <u>Private residence</u>
	Owner's address: <u>Route 2</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee 37322</u>		Current condition: <u>Good</u>
	Classification: <u>Building-private</u>		Alterations: <u>Aluminum siding covers original weatherboards. (Removal planned for siding.)</u>
	Tax map reference: <u>Dist. 2, Map 51, Parcel 22-01</u>		Site features: <u>200 yds. west of house are foundations of slave cabin. Remains of brick walk in front of house. Large spring (Marler Spring) immediately south of house.</u>
Acreage: <u>2.8 acres</u>			
UTM reference: <u>Zone 16 N 3928060</u> <u>E 696410</u>			
HISTORY	Date of construction: <u>1856</u>	SOURCES	Bibliographical data:
	Architect/builder: <u>Captain Jones</u>		<u>Pardue, Bob. "Bob Pardue Writes History of Old Marler Home," Meigs County Herald, April 20, 1961.</u>
	Original or previous owners: <u>1. Mr. Almeda Rice;</u> <u>2. John K. Brown; 3. J. B. Neil(a trustee);</u> <u>4. Mrs. Mary Tennessee Marler; 5. Jim Marler;</u> <u>6. Mrs. Jim (Odie) Marler</u>		
	Original use: <u>Private residence</u>		Form prepared by: <u>Ann Toplovich</u>
	Theme/s: Primary <u>Architecture</u> Secondary <u>Agriculture</u> Other <u>N/A</u>		Title: <u>Cultural Resource Surveyor</u> Organization: <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u> Date: <u>10/2/81</u>
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Rice-Marler House is a two-story frame house covered with aluminum siding over weatherboards and is built on a stone pier foundation. Rectangular in plan, the house has a later one-story ell attached to the rear elevation. The house and ell are covered by stamped metal gable roofs; the roof of the main section of the house has a boxed cornice with open returns. Two exterior gable end brick chimneys are on the house and an interior brick chimney is on the ell. The facade (east elevation) of the house is five bays wide and features a central double leaf door with rectangular transom and sidelights flanked on each side by two 6/6 light windows with louvered shutters. A two-tiered pedimented portico covers the central bay of the house. The first floor of the portico has two square posts; the second story gable roof is supported by four square pillars with Ionic capitals and a turned balustrade. The second story doorway</p>		
SIGNIFICANCE	<p>The Rice-Marler House was built in 1856 for Almeda Rice. A steamboat captain named Jones supervised construction of the house. Interior features of the Rice-Marler House make it unusual in Meigs County. It is the only house in the survey with graining on interior doors and marbling on mantelpieces. The house is also one of the few I-houses in Meigs County to feature a five bay facade and gable end chimneys; the majority of I-houses in Meigs County have three bay facades and interior paired chimneys. Located in the Goodfield Valley, one of the county's earliest areas of settlement, the Rice-Marler House was originally the seat of an 1800 acre plantation. The plantation was worked by slave labor, and the site of at least one slave cabin</p>		

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA

Photographer: Ann Toplovich

Date: 3/15/79

Negatives on file: Tennessee Historical
Commission

Photographer facing: S & E elevation-facing NW

Photograph number 41 of 55.

CONTINUATION

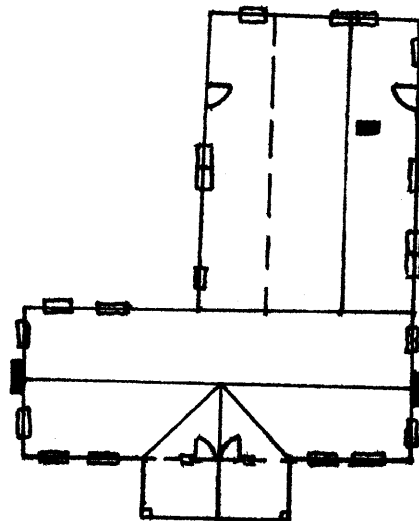
Description:

is a double leaf door with rectangular transom and sidelights. The Rice-Marler House retains several original interior features. Interior doors are grained and the house's imported English mantles are marbled. Unaltered plank ceilings are still in the rooms of the house. A cherry staircase with handcarved balustrade and rail is located in the entrance hallway.

Significance:

is still visible 200 yards west of the house. Few of the other farms in Meigs County exceeded 200 acres in size, and few Meigs farmers were slave owners. An important feature of the Rice-Marler property is the large Marler Spring south of the house. At one time the spring

SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow



**United States Department of the Interior
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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - RICE MARLER HOUSE (#33)

Significance:

was considered as a source for water for the town of Decatur. The Marlers bought the Rice plantation in 1910 and owned the house until the 1970's. In the late 1800's a store and blacksmith shop operated by Joe Neal stood across the lane from the Rice-Marler House.

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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - Rice-Marler House (#33)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

33. The boundaries begin at a point on the driveway on the west side of Goodfield Valley Road 400 feet south of the northeast corner property line, thence northwesterly along said driveway 350 feet to the fence, thence south 375 feet along the fence line to the treeline, thence southeasterly along the treeline 300 feet to Goodfield Valley Road, thence north along said road 325 feet to the beginning, consisting of the house and approximately 2.8 acres.

Historic Resources of Meigs County,
Tennessee

(Partial Inventory: Historic and
Architectural Resources)

RICE-MARLER HOUSE (#33)

25
70.2AC.

23.01
60AC

24
206AC

23
38 AC

22.01
59.57AC

22
4349.10

21
254AC.^c

GOODFIELD

VALLEY

N
1" = 400'

