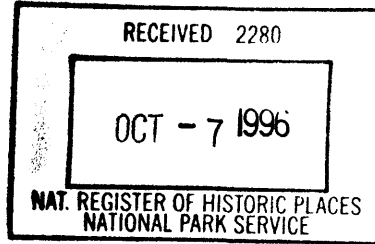


1215

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties 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 Butler House (preferred)  
other names/site number Albermarle; Simerly, Elijah, House; Harris, Nathaniel E., House

**2. Location**

street & number 206 Main Street NA  not for publication  
city or town Hampton NA  vicinity  
state Tennessee code TN county Carter code 019 zip code 37658

**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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert I. Hugen 9/30/96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet
  - determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet
  - determined not eligible for the National Register
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper 11.2.96 Date of Action

Entered in the  
National Register

Butler House  
Name of Property

Carter County, Tennessee  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

2	buildings
_____	sites
_____	structures
_____	objects
2	Total

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

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof METAL

other WOOD

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations N/A**

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** moved from its original location.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

Circa 1867-Circa 1920

**Significant Dates**

NA

**Significant Person**

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A**

- 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:

Butler House  
Name of Property

Carter County, Tennessee  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre Elizabethton 207 SW

### UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 17 394630 4015810  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_

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 Margaret Jane Butler Umholtz/Claudette Stager  
organization NA/Tennessee Historical Commission date June 1996  
street & number 206 Main Street/2941 Lebanon Road telephone 615/532-1558  
city or town Hampton/Nashville state TN zip code 37658-37243

## 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 Margaret Jane Butler Umholtz  
street & number 206 Main Street telephone 423/725-2231  
city or town Hampton state TN zip code 37658

**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 listing. 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 20303.

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Constructed in the small unincorporated community of Hampton circa 1867, the house now known as the Butler House is an imposing two story solid brick Italianate residence. The house has a rectangular front section with a two story rear ell and a circa 1900 one and one-half story addition. The front portion is topped by a metal hip roof with deck, while the rear metal roof is gable shape. Originally, the deck had decorative cresting. Scroll brackets are situated on a wide cornice that encases the house. Five tall chimneys pierce the roof line near the deck section; one chimney is situated on the rear ell. The entire building rests on a brick basement and foundation. Landscaping in the yard is minimal and a circa 1920 garage is the only outbuilding on the property. The house retains a high degree of integrity on the exterior and interior.

The three bay north facade of the Butler House is dominated by the wood porch. On the first story, the porch spans the entire facade, while on the second story, the porch only covers the center bay. At one time, the balustrade on the second story porch spanned the width of the house. The first story porch retains its original wood floor and is supported by squared reeded columns with simple caps and no bases. Decorative features include scroll brackets and a turned wood balustrade. The second story porch has similar features as the first story, although it has a sawn wood, somewhat heart-shaped pattern, balustrade. This part of the porch is topped by a pedimented gable end enhanced by brackets and an arched window with y-tracery. The entire porch rests on a brick and cinder block foundation.

The primary entry to the house is a double leaf door surrounded by multi-light sidelights and a transom. Reeded pilasters flank the door and sawn wood trim in the shape of circles and triangles surround the transom on three sides. The paneled doors are covered by historic wood screen doors. Additional pilasters are located on both sides of the door and near the corners of the residence on the facade. Windows on the first story are paired four over four double hung sashes. They rest on wood sills and are capped by protruding segmental arch cornices with small scroll brackets. Windows on the second story are similar, except they have a flat cornice. The second story facade entry is exactly the same as the first story entry.

The main block of the west elevation is two bays wide. Windows on each story follow the same style and pattern as windows on the facade. A one story half-hip roof porch covers the rear ell. Like the rest of the exterior wood trim on the house, the porch trim is elaborate. The balustrade is composed of sawn panels separated by solid panels. Narrow porch posts lead to a trefoil pattern trim below the porch cornice. Modern latticework shields the foundation on this elevation and two sets of modern wood stairs lead up to the porch. Situated behind the porch are two six over six double hung sashes and a single leaf original door. Second story windows on this elevation are two over two double hung sashes. A U.S. Geological Survey bench mark plaque is embedded in this wall of the house.

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# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

The south rear elevation is primarily composed of the one and one-half story rear addition and the two story ell. The addition has three six over six double hung sashes and a cellar entry; it wraps around to the east elevation. Visible on the second story of the main block are four over four double hung sashes with scroll brackets and protruding cornices.

The east elevation of the main block has three bays. Like the facade and the west elevation, windows with arched cornices are located on the first story and windows with flat cornices are on the second story. A small frame cellar entry is located on this elevation of the house. Three eight over eight double hung sashes and a single leaf entry are located on the one story addition. Fenestration on the second story above the addition consists of four two over two double hung sashes.

The interior of the house continues the exuberant woodwork of the exterior. The main block of the house consists of a wide central hall flanked by two rooms or parlors on each side. The rest of the first floor plan is more irregular. South of the hall and parlors are a back hall, dining room, kitchen, library, old kitchen, and a breakfast room. The rooms retain their original plaster, fireplaces, wood trim, and wood floors.

The central hall is punctured by four single leaf doors surrounded by paneled casings and pilasters. Small incised hearts are located at the base of the door trim and the doors are topped by three light transoms and tall cornices. The cornices are designed with molded wood trim at the top and scroll sawn trim in a curvilinear pattern. Somewhat flat in appearance, they gracefully arch out from the pilasters on the wall. The main staircase is located at the south part of the hall. A narrow turned wood newel post and simple turned banisters and railing make up the balustrade. Although most of the wood trim in the house is painted white, the staircase is dark stained wood. Sawn scroll decor is found on the stringer of the staircase. In addition, a molded wood wall string extends into the wide molded baseboard, which is found throughout much of the house. A historic circa 1908 light fixture, with two tapering glass shades, hangs from the hall ceiling. Today, the walls are papered with circa 1950 wallpaper depicting Monticello and the wood floors of the hall and staircase have been covered with carpeting.

Constructed of wood, the fireplace in the northwest parlor includes a molded mantle shelf, paired colonettes, and a reeded central tablet. A coal burning grate and cover hide the fireplace opening. A circa 1908 light fixture with four bellcast glass shades hangs from the center of the room. The windows, which appear to be paired when viewed from the exterior, are surrounded by one casing inside, giving the appearance of a single large window. Paneled wood wainscoting is located below windows in this room and windows in all of the first floor parlors. One of the most elegant features of the house is the doorway leading from this parlor into the parlor to the south. The wide opening is encased in paneled wood and there are four paneled wood doors that can be

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# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

folded back up to the wall. Surmounting this large opening is a tall cornice with molded trim and sawn wood in a ellipse pattern. Molded wood pilasters flank the opening. This type of opening is repeated between the two parlors on the west side of the hall.

Like the rest of the first floor, the southwest parlor has molded baseboards and window casings and a circa 1908 ceiling light fixture. This room also contains a closet and bathroom constructed circa 1908. The northeast parlor repeats the decorative features found in the other first story parlors, but it also has a built-in cupboard next to the fireplace. The cupboard consists of two single leaf paneled wood doors, one on top of the other, that extend nearly to the ceiling. The fireplace in this room has reeded pilasters, a molded mantle shelf, and a plain central panel. The opening to the southeast parlor is comparable to that on the other side of the hall, except the sawn cornice woodwork is much more rounded with trefoils and curvilinear patterns. The southeast parlor contains a wood fireplace mantle with a coal grate and molded wood trim .

An enclosed staircase separates the back hall from the dining room. Adjacent to this is a built-in storage space. A single leaf paneled door hides the narrow stair with winders on the first floor. East of the stair is original storage space and a circa 1908 bathroom that retains many historic features. A single leaf door on the west wall leads to the porch. Doors in this area have shouldered architrave trim.

The dining room spans the width of the house and is divided by a square wood column. The room contains a built-in cupboard with double leaf wood paneled and glass doors. Abutting this is a fireplace mantle with paired colonettes and a molded mantle shelf. There are two circa 1908 light fixtures in the room. One is located in the west half and it is more elaborate than others in the house. It consists of a hanging metal plate from which are suspended five metal chains with glass shades at the ends. The second light fixture is similar. A single leaf wood paneled and glass door leads onto the side porch on the west, while a French door on the east wall leads outside. Historic linoleum remains on the dining room floor.

South of the dining room are the library and the room used as a kitchen today. The library has no ornamentation, while the kitchen contains a built-in cabinet and historic linoleum flooring. Both a small breakfast room and the original kitchen are located south of here. The kitchen still retains a historic stove, historic linoleum, and shouldered architrave woodwork. The breakfast room has beaded board siding on one interior wall.

The upstairs is not as intricately detailed as the first floor. The front portion contains four rooms separated by a central hall. Molded baseboards, doors, and window trim; paneled doors; and fireplaces with molded mantle shelves and reeded pilasters are decorative characteristics found upstairs. Circa 1908 hanging light fixtures and built-in closets with paneled doors also remain in these rooms, as does the historic straw matting in one room. The stairway leads into the large

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# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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attic space, while a paneled door leads to the ell, south of the main portion of the house. There are two bathrooms with historic bathtubs and toilets, and two more rooms with simple wood fireplace mantels, built-in closets, and historic linoleum and straw matting on the floors.

The basement of the house, like all of the house's exterior walls, has eighteen inch thick brick walls. The original coal stove is extant. The basement remains unfinished.

Situated southwest of the house is a one story, frame garage constructed circa 1920. The garage retains its integrity and is a contributing resource. At one time the Butler House property was larger than it is today. However, in 1969 a portion of the property containing a spring was sold to the city of Elizabethton. Today, a modern building and chain link fence are located on this land.



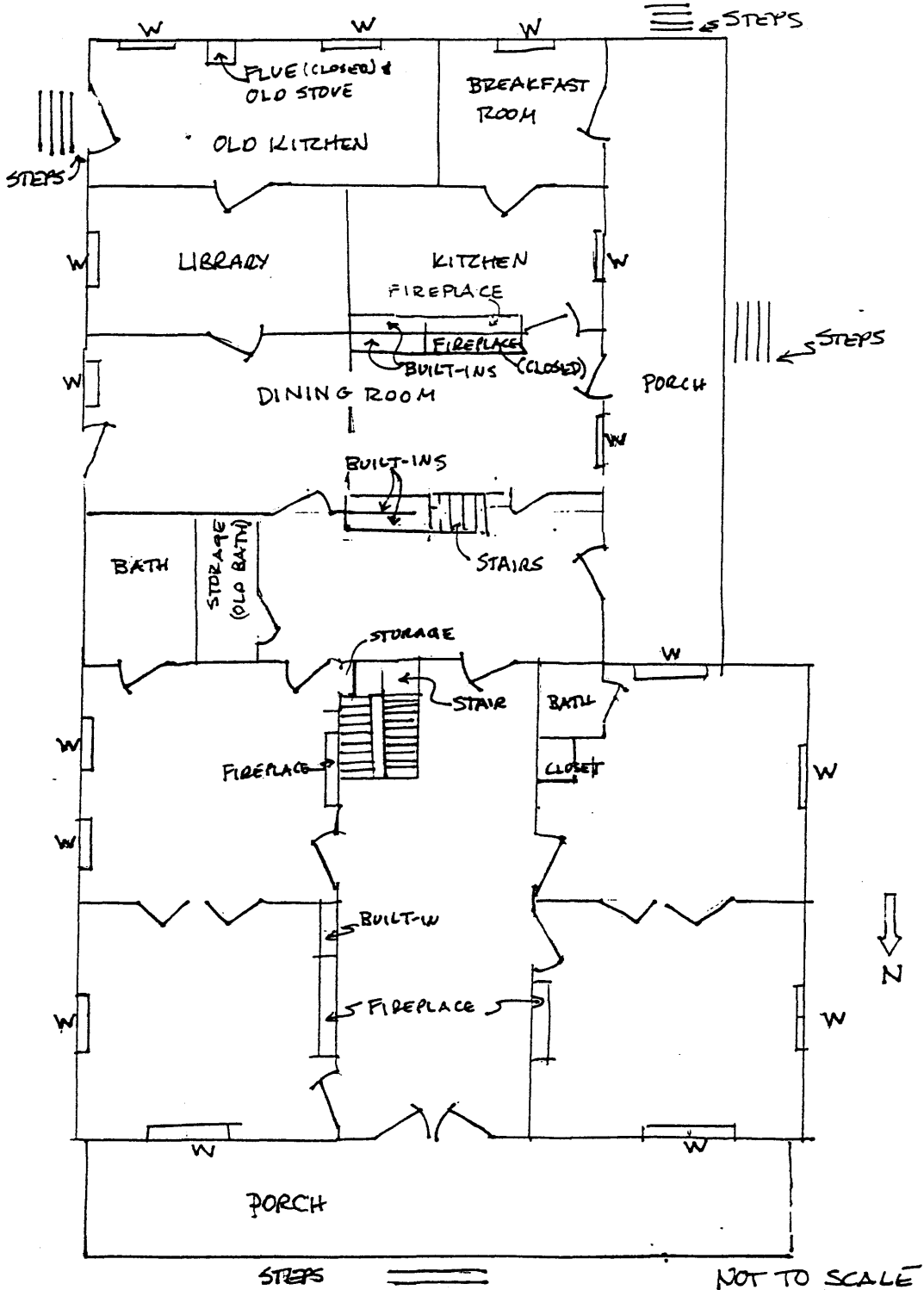
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee



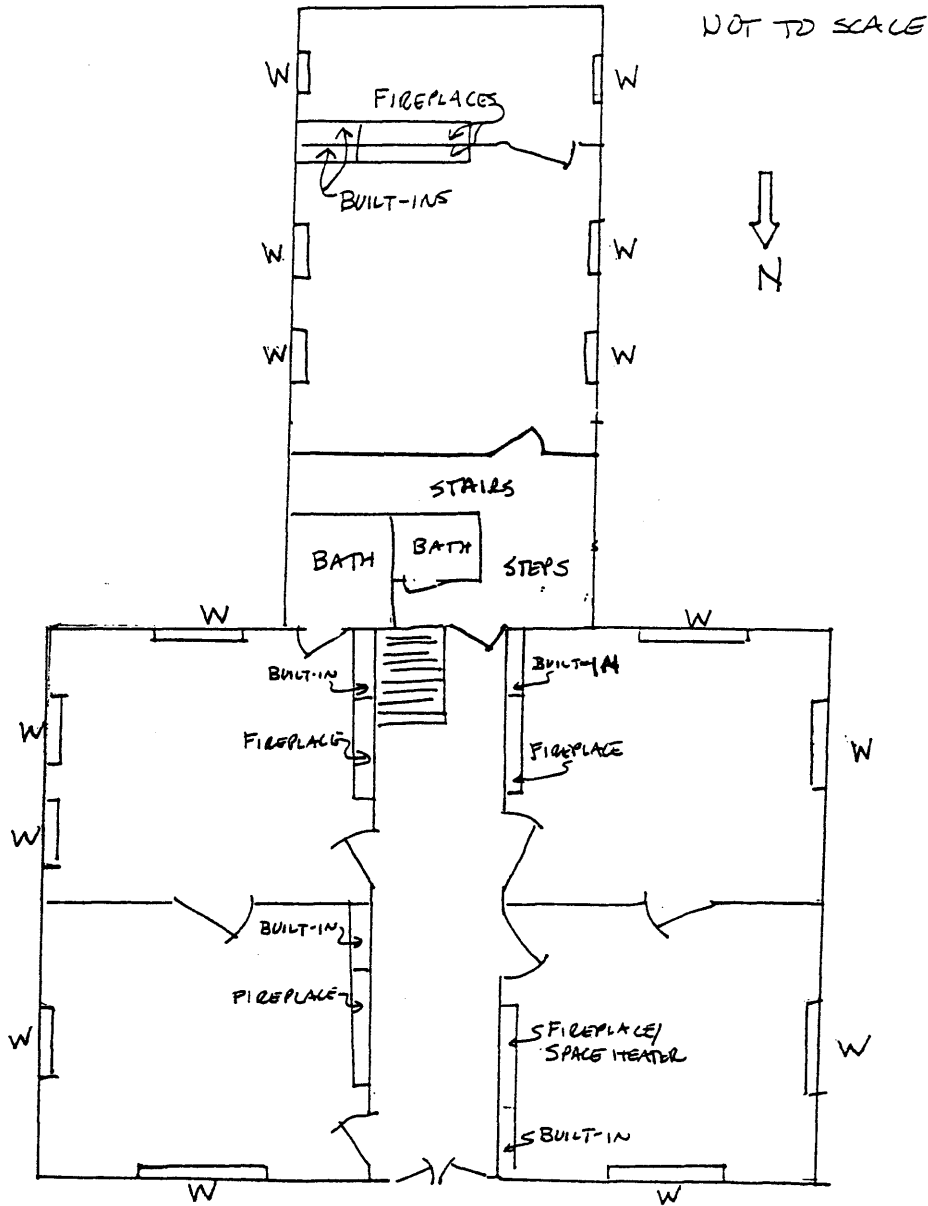
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee



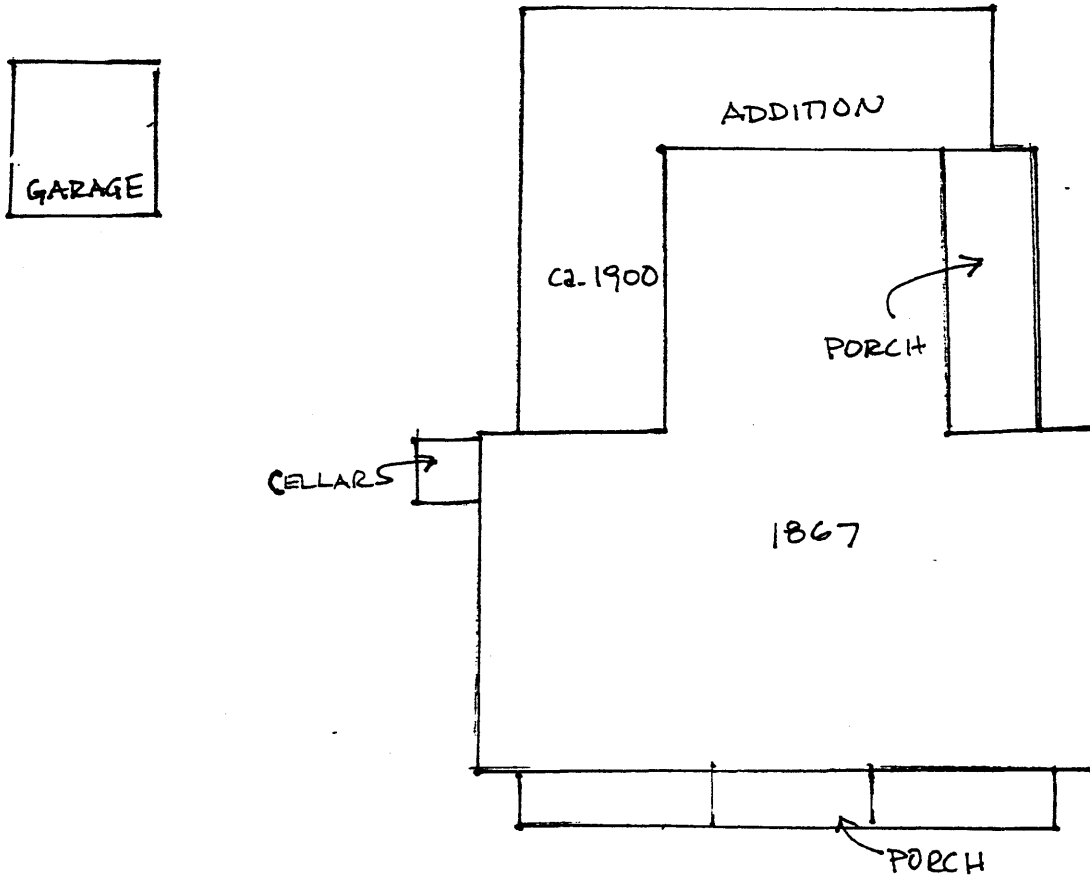
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee



SITE PLAN  
NTS



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# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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### **NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Butler House is nominated to the National Register under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. The circa 1867 house is an excellent example of an Italianate style residence. The Italianate style is typified on the exterior by the massing of the front portion of the house, the hip roof embellished with scroll brackets, and the elaborately detailed facade entry and porch. Inside, the house retains appealing examples of mill work, particularly in its parlor doors, fireplaces, and built-ins. Overall, the Butler house retains its architectural integrity.

On September 9, 1867, Elijah Simerly purchased land in District 3, Doe River Cove and began the construction of a two story brick residence. Simerly was born in Carter County, Tennessee on October 25, 1820. In addition to constructing his own residence, Simerly platted the village streets and named the community in honor of his wife, Mary E. Hampton. He was also very active in the political life of the community and state. From 1854-1860 Simerly was the sheriff of Carter County and he served in the state legislature from 1865-1867. In business, Simerly was the president of the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad between 1867 and 1871. The Simerly's had thirteen children.

The house changed hands in 1907 when A.H. Robinson purchased it. Robinson was purported to have added indoor plumbing and electricity. Today, the house still uses the old "knob and tube" system to operate the ceiling lights. In 1910, Hattie Jobe Harris purchased the house and used it as a summer residence for herself and her husband, Nathaniel E. Harris, the governor of Georgia from 1914-1916. Mrs. Harris, the second wife of Nathaniel E. Harris, was born in Elizabethton, Tennessee. Nathaniel E. Harris (born January 21, 1846) from Jonesborough, Tennessee founded the Georgia School of Technology in 1885. A photograph from the early 1930s shows the house with a hotel sign, suggesting that it was used as a hotel or boarding house for a short time.

In 1936, Ralph U. Butler came to Hampton to operate the Cedar Hill manganese mine (1936-1939). At the same time, he operated a manganese mine in Shady Valley, Tennessee. He also ran mica and feldspar mines in western North Carolina. Both the timber and mining industries were major employers in Carter County. Butler's operation provided employment for many people who worked in the mines themselves and in the processing plants. Manganese from the Cedar Hill mine was used for making steel during World War II, including steel used for the battleship North Carolina. The Cedar Hill mine closed in 1939. Butler was born in Albermarle County, Virginia on July 24, 1892. His wife, Marguerite Strickler, was born in Shenandoah, Virginia on January 2, 1893. Margaret Strickler Butler was very active in the community. She was a graduate of the University of Virginia and did private duty nursing in local hospitals. She was an active member of numerous social and civic organizations in the community. These organizations

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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included the Hampton Garden Club, Carolyn Perry Circle of the Hampton Christian Church, Elizabethton Women's Club, Carter County Library Board, Carter County PTA, and the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Their only child, Margaret Jane, owns the house. She uses it as a summer home and continues to offer it for use by the community. Because of the Butler family's long association with the residence, the house is being nominated with that name.

The Butler House is a classic example of the Italianate style and the only house in the community with this elaborate detailing. Italianate styles were popular in the U.S. and Tennessee from the 1840s until the 1880s. Some versions of the style were designed by architects, but it was such a popular style that it appeared in many plan books. Individuals desiring this style building could copy these plans or adapt elements according to their own tastes and availability of materials. Pedimented window hoods, double hung windows, arches, and prominent porches are standard features of the Italianate style residence. The Butler House is a fine representation of this popular architectural style.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Massey, James C., and Maxwell, Shirley. *House Styles in America*. New York: Penguin Books USA Inc., 1996.

Umholtz, Margaret Jane Butler. Personal files.

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
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# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number   10   Page   11  

Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The area nominated with the Butler House is Parcel 11, Block D, Carter County Tax Map 66-C.

### JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is all of the land currently associated with the Butler House.

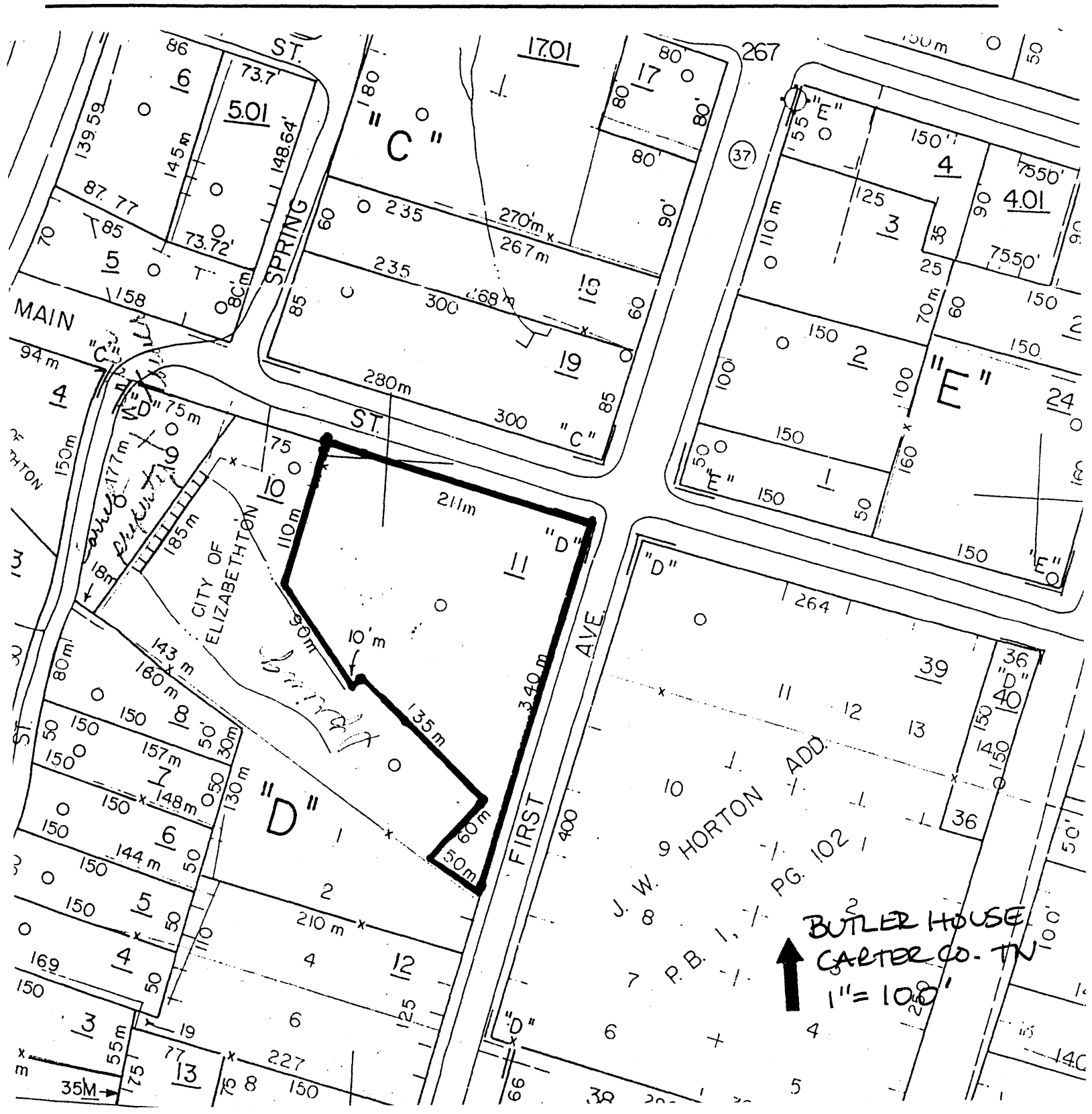
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee





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**United States Department of the Interior**  
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# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Butler House  
206 Main Street  
Hampton, Carter County, Tennessee  
Photos by: Claudette Stager  
Date: October 1995  
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tennessee

North facade, facing southeast  
#1 of 23

Detail of first story facade entry, facing south  
#2 of 23

Detail of second story facade entry, facing south  
#3 of 23

West elevation, facing northeast  
#4 of 23

West elevation, facing southeast  
#5 of 23

Detail of west elevation porch, facing east  
#6 of 23

South elevation, facing north  
#7 of 23

East Elevation, facing northwest  
#8 of 23

Typical second story window  
#9 of 23

Typical first story window  
#10 of 23

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**National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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Butler House  
Carter County, Tennessee

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First floor central hall  
#11 of 23

First floor central hall, doorway detail  
#12 of 23

First floor parlor fireplace  
#13 of 23

First floor circa 1908 light  
#14 of 23

First floor west side parlor doors  
#15 of 23

First floor west side parlor doors, single leaf door, and part of fireplace  
#16 of 23

First floor, east side parlor doors  
#17 of 23

First floor, east side parlor doors, built-in cupboard, and part of fireplace  
#18 of 23

Parlor fireplace  
#19 of 23

Parlor fireplace and doors  
#20 of 23

Dining room, door to west elevation porch  
#21 of 23

Dining room built-in cupboard  
#22 of 23

Dining room with circa 1908 light  
#23 of 23