

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 21 1975
DATE ENTERED	JUL 7 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC ~~Ter Mac~~ USE Wheatlanos (suggested by enclosed letter from Stat.)
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER W of Sevierville on
Old Knoxville Highway, ~~Boyd's Creek~~ Vicinity
CITY, TOWN Sevierville tn VICINITY OF First
STATE Tennessee CODE 47 COUNTY Sevier CODE 155

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME ~~Mr. and Mrs. William G. Gheesling~~ Mr. James T. Holley
STREET & NUMBER Route 10, Boyd's Creek
CITY, TOWN Sevierville VICINITY OF Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sevier County Register's Office
STREET & NUMBER Courthouse
CITY, TOWN Sevierville STATE Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ler-Mac is a two story brick structure with an ell built by John Chandler in 1825. It is located on the Old Knoxville-Sevierville Highway at the bend of Boyd's Creek where John Sevier and his militia engaged the Cherokees in battle. The highway, now a secondary road, was once one of the major routes to Knoxville from upper East Tennessee and Virginia. The home remained in the hands of John Chandler's descendents until the late 1960's. Only minor alterations have taken place; the present owners with their respect for the structure's Federal lines have kept the exterior appearance intact and have made only necessary renovations inside. The house originally contained a parlor, sitting room, dining room and adjoining kitchen on the ground level. Upstairs were two large bedrooms and two smaller rooms which were probably servant quarters. The dining room, kitchen, and servant quarters form a rear wing. Unlike the other rooms of the home which have 12 foot ceilings, these rooms have ceilings which vary in height from 7'6" to 9'. The large rooms were heated by fireplaces; and the ornate wood mantels are found in all rooms. The kitchen has been modernized with range and other conveniences, however, the fireplace and hearth are still utilized. The home underwent three series of renovations. During the late 19th century the home was somewhat Victorianized with the major alteration being the installation of "Queen Anne's" windows (i.e. varying stain glass panes which are set in a bordering sash in each window) and the addition of a one-story ballustraded front porch. In the present century, plumbing fixtures were added. Around 1930 the entrance to the living room was widened to an archway from the central hall. The height of the walls inside the home are broken by chair and picture rails; various patterns of wall-paper from the Williamsburg collection have replaced the faded paper. Outbuildings include a former servant cabin which is now an apartment. The smokehouse and storage shed are still in good condition. A small black community nearby bears witness to descendents of Chandler's servants; these people were given a tract of the Chandler land and have remained there over the years farming the land and teaching in the county.

6 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1825 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Chandler

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The earliest recorded history connected with the Ler-Mac site is the Battle of Boyd's Creek. This engagement with the Cherokees was the first of John Sevier's battles with the Indians. Sevier led his 200 men across the French Broad at War Ford (or Christians Ford) and attacked the retreating Cherokees at the bend in Boyd's Creek--the same area where Ler-Mac now stands.

The original owner of Ler-Mac was John Chandler who came to the Boyd's Creek vicinity from the Rocky Springs Community in 1791. Chandler added various tracts of land to this original land grant and eventually accumulated about 4600 acres. His original home burned in 1824 and the home Wheatlands (later known as Ler-Mac) was built of handmade brick, heartpine floors and plastered walls and ceilings; the tin roof, now covered with shingles, was imported from England. The name Wheatlands was derived from Chandler's extensive wheat fields. The farm also included a commissary, tannery and distillery. Chandler was a slave owner, but deplored the practice of breaking up families and selling individuals to different owners. By the outbreak of the Civil War he had accumulated 188 slaves.

The name of the home Ler-Mac is derived from taking syllables from the family names of Chandler and McMahan who married into the original owner's family. The late Timothy McMahan was the last male descendent of Chandler to inhabit the home.

Ler-Mac is an important landmark in the community, the home of a prominent early settler. It is a significant example of the Federal style architecture in East Tennessee during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Typical is the adaptation of late 19th century changes to reflect the Victorian era, a common practice of those who were financially able to "keep up with the times".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carberry, Michael, Historic Sites in Blount, Cocke, Monroe and Sevier Counties
(Knoxville, 1973).

Knoxville Journal, May 14, 1965.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9

*NK M OK
NF*

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 259240 39781030
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Carberry, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION

East Tennessee Development District

DATE

6-15-74

STREET & NUMBER

1810 Lake Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Knoxville

STATE

Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Lauren C. Healy

9/19/75

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. P. Winters

DATE

7/7/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. Huntington

DATE

7-7-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting