

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96001318

Date Listed: 11/20/96

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Property Name

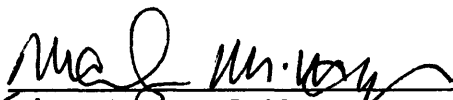
Robertson  
County

TENNESSEE  
State

N/A

Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
for Signature of the Keeper

11/21/96  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 5

This nomination is amended to change 1 building (the c. 1930 metal shed), 1 structure (the c. 1940s well), and 1 object (the 1940 gas pump) from contributing to non-contributing, since they do not contribute to the architectural significance claimed for the resource.

Section No. 8

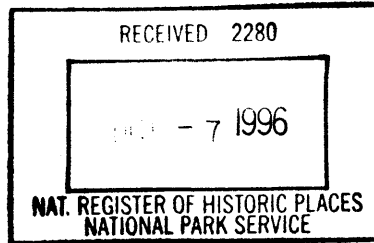
The period of significance for the property is changed to end in 1930.

These changes have been discussed with the Tennessee SHPO.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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 Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 6360 Highway 25 East  N/A not for publication  
city or town Springfield  vicinity  
state Tennessee code TN county Robertson code 147 zip code 37172

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 L. Hays 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Ms J. M. Way 11/20/96  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Name of Property

Robertson County, TN  
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

3	buildings
2	sites
2	structures
7	objects
7	Total

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

N/A

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

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 influence

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick/Concrete Block/Stone

walls Brick

Vinyl Siding

roof asphalt

other wrought iron

**Narrative Description**

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

See 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1809 - 1940

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is: N/A

- 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.

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**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:

Robertson County Library

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Name of Property

Robertson County, TN  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 1 acre

Youngville 306SE

### UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 159120 4045240  
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 Yolanda G. Reid, Roberston County Historian and Bradley Wolf, Intern

organization N/A/Tennessee Historical Commission date July 24, 1996

street & number (Reid) 3512 Pleasant Grove Road telephone 615-672-0523

city or town White House state TN zip code 37188

### 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 Leon Tate

street & number 4125 Cross Plains Road telephone 615-654-3368

city or town White House state TN zip code 37188

**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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

## VII. Description

The Dr. Martin Walton House is situated in a rural area northeast of Springfield, Tennessee on Highway 25. It is surrounded by other farms and fields of wheat, corn and tobacco. A marker on the southeast corner of the fence states that Dr. Martin Walton received an original land grant for the property in 1802. By 1809, he had constructed a two story brick residence with a hip roof and two end chimneys. A detached kitchen (non-extant) was located behind the house. In 1866, William and Susan Cook purchased the house and renovated the house in 1870 to a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate style. At this time a front porch and an elaborate cast iron fence were added along with extensive renovations to the interior. The Cook family owned the building until 1956, when the current owner, Leon Tate, purchased the house. The Dr. Martin Walton House is a good example of an early building being renovated into a local interpretation of the Italianate style.

The Walton house contains an unusual floor plan. The plan seems to be a formal central passage with rooms flanking the formal entrance, which has a staircase on the west side.<sup>1</sup> The west flanking room is a typical large room with an exterior chimney on the west wall. However, the east side of the house is divided into two rooms of equal proportion. They contain back to back corner fireplaces with an interior chimney. These rooms and the central passage would suggest a Penn plan, which is a modified hall and parlor plan.<sup>2</sup> Study of the basement shows a continuous stone foundation and matching brick, so the entire floor-plan was original to the 1809 construction, not added in the 1870s. The first floor plan is mirrored on the second floor. At the north facade, a one story addition was constructed before 1917. It contains the kitchen and may be the location of an original detached kitchen. Thus, the current floor plan is a T-plan on the first floor and a rectangle on the second floor.

The roof of the Walton house is a moderately pitched hip roof with a ridge covered in composite shingles. The roof has moderately overhanging eaves with paired scrolled brackets added in the 1870 renovation. These brackets are of the Italianate style. Like the front facade of the house, the end chimneys are of Flemish bond brick. The west end chimney is exterior, while the east end is interior.

The south/front and east facades have an elaborate wraparound porch dating from the 1870s renovation. The porch roof is a low pitched hip with composite shingles. Scrolled brackets from the eaves extend from the ten chamfered columns. A balustrade with elaborate scrolled balusters extends around the porch. The porch is set on rusticated concrete block and the concrete slab on the porch was replaced circa 1950. On the east facade, the porch has been enclosed, circa. 1920, with the same block as the

<sup>1</sup> James Patrick, *Architecture in Tennessee, 1768-1897* (Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 63.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 61-62.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

foundation on the north end to house a stairway to the basement. The enclosure contains a 1/1 double-hung window on the east side and a door on the north side.

The south/front facade has four bays. The first story, going from west to east, contains two tall 4/4 double-hung windows, then an elaborate double door, and finally another 4/4 double-hung window matching the others. The windows have non-functional louvered shutters, currently painted black. The main entrance double doors date from the 1870s renovation and each door is composed of two panels of unequal size. The top panel is the largest and contains a single pane of glass surrounded by fluted pilasters and paterae in the corners. The smaller lower panel is surrounded by the same decorative elements, but the panel has two fan designs sculpted in the wood. The double doors are identical and are surmounted by a fixed single pane transom. The entire entrance is surrounded by fluted pilasters. Modern glass double storm doors have been installed for energy conservation. On either side of the entrance are light fixtures with a black finish installed in the 1950s. The second story has four 6/6 double-hung windows with decorative louvered shutters on each. These windows are smaller than the first story windows.

The east facade has the wraparound porch attached to it. A single door with a modern storm door over it is located in the southeast side of the facade. A light fixture similar to the ones on the south facade is located on the north side of the door. Also visible is the one story rusticated concrete block enclosure. The second story of the facade contains no bays.

The north/rear facade first story has one 4/4 double-hung window on the east side and the one story addition which was constructed by 1917. The second story has four 6/6 double hung windows identical to the south facade, but has no shutters. The west facade has only the exterior chimney with no bays.

The circa 1917 addition has a gable roof with composite shingles and a brick foundation. The exterior has vinyl siding and a porch at the west facade has been bricked in with stretcher bond during the late 1970s. The east facade of the addition has four bays. A two paneled door with a nine pane window is located on the south portion of the ell next to the original house. A single 6/6 double-hung window is located just north of the door, then paired 6/6 double-hung windows are located north of the other window. The north facade of the addition has paired 6/6 double-hung windows and an air conditioner unit installed just east of the windows. A small 1/1 double-hung window with a storm window is located on the bricked in portion of the north facade of the porch. The west facade of the addition is a stretcher bond bricked-in porch. It has a modern door, a storm door and a bank of four windows with glass storm coverings. The original hollow core concrete base of the porch and slab are still in place. The addition was extensively remodeled in the late 1970s. The roof was removed and the pitch changed, plus the chimney was removed, though the fireplaces still remain in the addition. Though these renovations

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

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

compromised the integrity of the addition, the size and place of the addition on the rear of the facade does not detract from the overall integrity of the house.

The interior of the Walton house dates from the 1870s renovation and renovations done by Leon and Mickey Tate in the mid-1950s. The first floor is tongue and groove oak wood which was installed in the 1950s. Much of the first floor has renovations that date to the 1950s, while the second floor retains much of the 1870s renovations. The walls are either plaster or board.

The central passage of the house has a staircase, circa 1950, with a four step winder at the bottom on the west wall leading to the second floor. The balustrade is simple with two unadorned balusters per stair, except on the winder. A staircase to the basement was dug in the stairwell during the same period. Beneath the staircase on the west wall is a single six paneled door that opens into the west room with banded hinges that date to the 1870s.

The north wall has a double door that leads to the 1917 addition. The doors have two panels the height of the door beside each other instead of the more common one over another. A seven pane fixed transom window is above these doors.

The east wall contains paired doors that open into the east rooms. The doors have four panels and are identical to the door on the west wall. The wall is composed of tongue and groove vertical siding. This wall is interesting since there are no studs; the wall is two layers of the tongue and groove paneling.

The southeast room of the first floor has plastered walls on the north, south, and east walls and tongue and groove paneling and the west wall. The entrance from the central passage is located in the northwest corner of the room. A fireplace is located in the northeast corner of the room. The mantle dates to the 1950s renovation. It has twin fluted pilasters on each side. A door to the exterior is located next to the south corner of the east wall. A window is located in the middle of the south wall.

The northeast room is similar to the southeast room. The entrance from the central passage is located in the southwest corner of the room. The north, south and east walls are plaster, while the west wall is tongue and groove. A 1950s fireplace mantle, identical to the northwest room mantle, is located in the southeast corner of the room. The fireplace flue was closed circa 1956 to extend the flue into the basement for a new fireplace. A window is in the middle of the north wall. A window looking into the 1920s enclosure of the porch is located on the northern portion of the east wall.

The west room has plastered walls with a distinctively large chair rail molding extending around the room. A fireplace is located in the center of the west wall. The mantle dates from the 1950s renovation and follows Colonial Revival influence with twin fluted pilasters. It is identical to the mantles in the



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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

southeast and northeast rooms. Two equidistant windows are located on the southern wall. The northern wall contains a door which enters into the dining room in the addition.

The addition contains the kitchen, dining room and a modern bath. The dining room south wall has an entrance from the west room. The west wall contains a 6/6 double-hung window that looks onto the enclosed porch. The north wall contains a circa 1917 fireplace flanked by doors that lead to the kitchen. The mantle has decorative dentils and dates to the 1950s renovations. The east wall has an opening to a hall area.

The kitchen extends along the north side of the addition. A fireplace mantle, from circa 1917, is saddlebacked with the dining room fireplace. It is very simple with only two decorative brackets. The west wall of the kitchen contains the door to the enclosed porch. The north wall has paired windows. The east side contains the cabinets and appliances from the late 1970s renovation. Paired windows adorn the east wall.

The bathroom is located east of the dining room. The entrance is on the south wall of the bathroom and is seen from the central passage. A window adorns the east wall of the bathroom. It dates to the late 1970s renovations.

The second floor is entered from the stairs in the central passage. The ceilings throughout the second floor are wood planks that have been painted white. The second floor central passage is similar to the first floor. The floors are original to at least the 1870s renovation, and possibly the 1809 construction date. The walls are plaster on the north, south and west wall, but the east wall has the same tongue and groove paneling as the first floor. The north wall contains a window instead of a double door. The east wall has two doors identical to the ones on the first floor. The south wall has a window and in the southwest corner above the stairwell is a closet with names, mostly illegible, scribed in pencil on the wall. One name, "Thomas M. Gorham, 1864" is legible, but it is not known if he owned the house. The west wall is where the staircase and a six paneled door to the west room are located.

The southeast room is almost identical to the first floor southeast room, except there is no door in the east wall. The entrance from the central passage is located in the northeast corner of the room. The fireplace mantle dates to the 1870s renovation. It has simple lines with two panels. A segmental arch opening reveals a small cast iron and stone firebox. An unusual feature of the fireplace is the two rectangular alcoves located above each corner of the mantle. The chair rail, identical to the first floor's thick molding, extends around the room, but stops at the corners of the wall the fireplace is on. Carpet currently covers the 1870s poplar floor boards. The walls are made of plaster on the north, south and east side, while the west wall is vertical tongue and groove paneling.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

The northeast room is almost identical to the first floor northeast room. The north, south and east walls are plaster, while the west wall is tongue and groove paneling. The floors are poplar. In the southeast corner is a fireplace with an identical mantle to the northeast second floor room. An arched alcove is located off center above the fireplace. A window is located in the middle of the north wall. The chair rail molding is the same as in the southeast room and also stops at the wall the fireplace is on. The entrance from the central passage is in the southeast corner.

The west room has the poplar floors from the 1870s and plaster walls all around. On the west wall, the mantle dates from the 1870s and is the same simple pattern of the other second floor mantles, but is larger and the opening for the firebox is rectangular, not a segmental arch. The area between the firebox and mantle has a brick veneer from the 1950s. A heavy chair rail molding identical to the first floor west room is also present. The north wall has two windows equidistant from each other. The south wall is identical to the north. The east wall contains the entrance from the central passage on the northern end of the wall. The door is the same six paneled door as the west room on the first floor.

The basement of the house can be entered by either the stairway in the central passage or the stairway from the porch enclosure in the northeast corner. A concrete slab was added to the basement in the 1950s, along with a fireplace of red brick. The flue from the northeast bedroom was closed and extended to the basement for this fireplace. The fireplace has a railroad tie supported by brick brackets for its mantle. The basement has stone exterior walls and a brick partition wall which has a rough opening. The ceilings are the exposed floor joists of the first floor. It currently serves as a bedroom.

A brick wall of stretcher bond encloses the space between the original house and the addition on the northeast corner to form a rectangular courtyard. The wall is attached to the edge of the concrete porch with a small gate at the corner to provide an entrance. The wall extends to approximately three feet longer than the addition then turns at a right angle and extends to a point about three feet north of the addition. Between the end of the wall and the addition is another gate. At the corner of the gate is a dinner bell, which is said to be the bell from the turn of the century when Mickey Tate's grandmother lived at the house.<sup>3</sup>

Within the boundaries of the nominated property, there are historic resources that contribute to the significance of the Walton house. A cast iron fence, three feet high, circa 1870, is contributing and extends from a few feet either side of the south facade of the house to within six feet of the highway. It forms a rectangle with the house, but does not connect to it, since it only has three sides, south, east and west. The fence has concrete foundation underneath its entire length. The fence is constructed of cast iron by the Stewart Irons Works of Cincinnati. It is elaborate with decorative darts and hearts formed

<sup>3</sup> Mickey Tate, resident of Martin Walton House, interviewed by Bradley Wolf, 25 June 1996.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 6

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

within its structure. On each corner end and on either side of the gate are cast iron posts with the look of turned spindles with a ball capping it.

A contributing historic marker sits about three feet east of the southeast corner of the wrought iron fence. It is a rectangular slab of rock about one meter high and two meters wide. A plaque is inscribed with "Original Land Grant of Dr. Martin Walton, October 1802." This marker was set on the property circa 1930.

A garage is included within the boundaries. It was constructed around the turn of the century. The structure appears to have been either a chicken coop or shed and was converted into a garage with the addition of a garage door on the south gable end circa 1930. It has a front gable roof of corrugated metal panels. It is set on a concrete foundation and has white aluminum siding. The garage door on the south/front facade is a recent metal door. The east facade has two small four pane windows. The west facade also has two four pane windows and a rectangular batten door. Even with the changes, this outbuilding still retains integrity.

A gas pump, circa 1940, is located due north of the garage and next to the north side of the rear driveway behind the house. It is red with a white light fixture with the red "Texaco" star. It stands approximately five feet in height. This piece of equipment was used until it broke and a replacement was put closer to the barns further north on the property. The original was kept and a garden placed around it. This is a contributing object because it was used in the everyday operations of the Walton farm.

A circa 1930 metal shed stands at the northeast corner of the boundary. It has a front end gable roof with corrugated metal panels. The foundation is concrete and the shed is sided with corrugated metal. Two small six pane windows are located on the south facade. The east facade has a large batten double door in its center. It is attached with two hinge straps per door. The top corners of each door are cut at a 45 degree angle giving an arched effect. The north facade has two six paned windows. There are no openings on the west facade, but a fenced in area is attached here. A small wire fenced in area with wood posts serves as a dog pen. A small prefabricated dog house is located within the pen. Even with the changes, this is a contributing structure to a farm that has evolved with technology in farming.

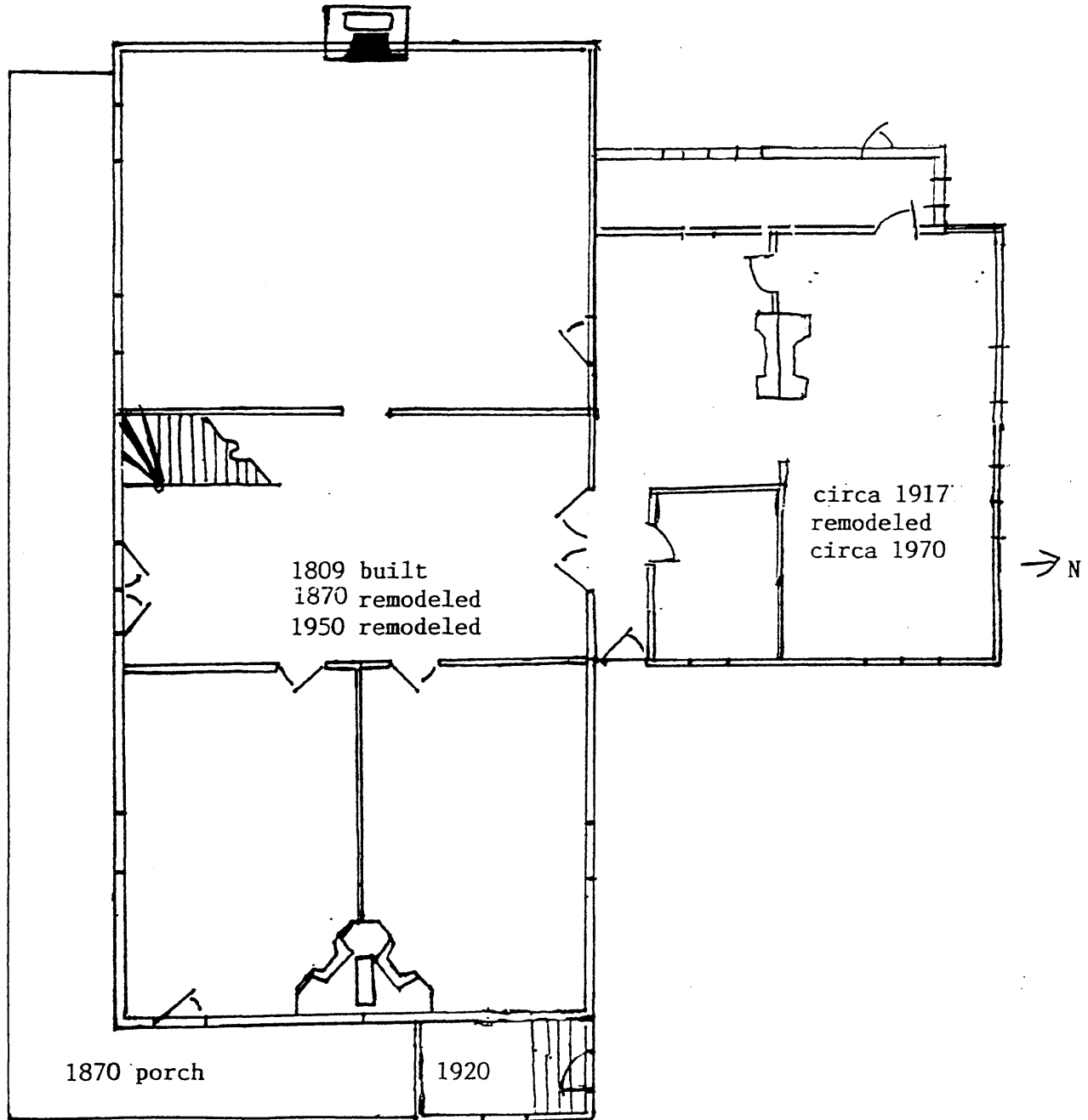
A few feet south of the shed is a well. It is about two feet high and four feet square. A metal lid covers its top and a spigot is located on the west side. It was constructed circa 1940s. This is a contributing structure, in that it shows the evolution of farm technology from a hand pump to an electrical well.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN



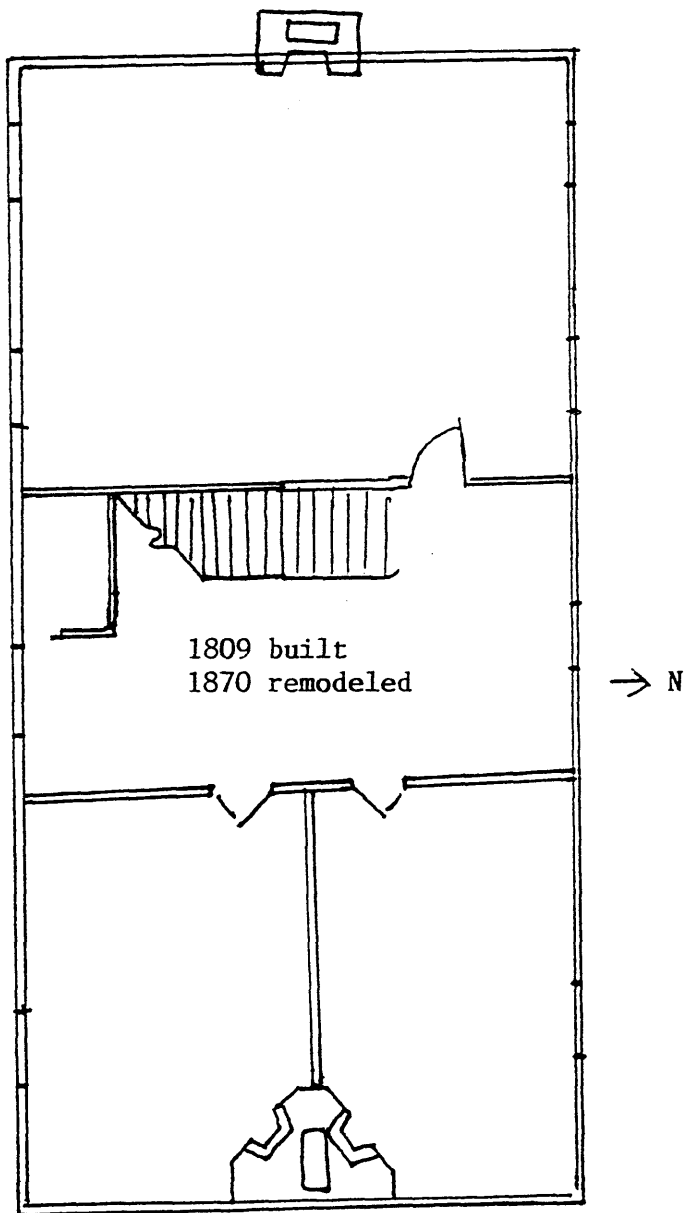
Dr. Martin Walton House - 1996 Floor Plan  
First Floor

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN



Dr. Martin Walton House  
Second Floor Plan — 1996



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

## VIII. Statement of Significance

Built in 1809 and remodeled in 1870, the Dr. Martin Walton House on Highway 25 northeast of Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee, is a locally significant property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its significance in architecture. Dr. Walton's House is a local example of the vernacular Italianate style applied to an early nineteenth century dwelling. The contributing outbuildings are also good examples of their type.

Dr. Martin Walton moved to Robertson County from Louisa County, Virginia, taking advantage of the inexpensive land in the state of Tennessee. Dr. Martin fought in the Revolutionary War on and off for 18 months from 1777 to 1781 and took advantage of the newly opened western lands by purchasing lots in the newly formed county seat of Robertson County, Springfield.<sup>1</sup> Dr. Martin joined his brother and sister who had previously moved to the area.

A circa 1930s marker on the site states that in 1802, Dr. Walton received a land grant for the property. He constructed his house there by 1809; the date is etched in stoned above the front door, but is now covered by the porch roof.<sup>2</sup> The original floor plan consisted of a central hall flanked on the west side by a large room and on the east side by two smaller rooms; the second floor is of identical design. The house was constructed of Flemish-bond brick on the south/front facade, stretcher bond brick on the other facades, brick chimneys at each end of the house, and a stone basement.<sup>3</sup> A detached kitchen was located in the rear of the building (non-extant).

Dr. Walton was a large landowner and a community leader. Robertson County was known for two products in its early years, cotton and whiskey. Whiskey was made by the sour-mash process, which used corn. Thomas Woodard (Woodard Hall, NR 10/10/75) and Arthur Pitt (Pitt, Arthur House and Distillery, NR 12/18/73) had a distilling operation and farm in the vicinity of the Walton house and Dr. Walton probably grew cotton and corn for necessity and profit. Doctors in the frontier of Robertson County were probably rare and Dr. Walton provided much needed services of the area from his house.

<sup>1</sup> "Martin Walton" TMs [photocopy], Record group 283, Jean M. Durrett Collection, Robertson County Library, Springfield, Tennessee.

<sup>2</sup> Mickey Tate, resident of Martin Walton House, interviewed by Bradley Wolf, 25 June 1996.

<sup>3</sup> Deborah Kelly Henderson and Jean McClanahan Durrett, Robertson County's Heritage of Homes, (Springfield, TN: Robertson County Antiquities Foundation, 1979), 77.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

Dr. Walton also helped organize the Hopewell Baptist Church in Robertson County, TN. The church organized as Missionary Baptist in 1826, after splitting from the Cave Springs Baptist Church. Dr. Walton served as pastor of the church during its early years. Of the many families that attended the church, the Cooks were often mentioned in the church bulletins.<sup>4</sup> The members of the Cook family would become the owners of the Walton house in later years.

Dr. Walton and his wife, Elizabeth, reared five children. Dr. Walton died intestate in 1844 at the age of 83 and his son David administered the estate and sold the property to William Pope in 1845. Two slaves murdered David on the farm the following August. The new owner died soon after and the chain of title became unclear.

William Archibald and Susan Gorham Cook were the next people to purchase the house. William Cook fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War in Company I of the 14th Tennessee Infantry.<sup>5</sup> He was discharged in 1861 and by 1866 had purchased the Walton house.

In 1870, the Cooks remodeled the house following vernacular Italianate influences of the Victorian period. This new style is shown in the 1870 porch with milled columns, brackets and railing. The two ornate double doors were added to the main entrance at this time. Scrolled paired brackets under the eaves also provide the house with an Italianate influence. A cast iron fence from the Stewart Iron Works of Cincinnati was also added to enclose the front yard. Mickey Tate, current owner and descendent of the Cooks, related a story he heard from his grandmother of a pump located in the southwest corner of the property. Since the house sat next to a main road to Springfield,<sup>6</sup> travelers would stop here to water their horses. There is no evidence of the pump today.

Though an exact date is not known, by 1917, the Cooks had added a one story addition to the rear of the house with a brick foundation. It consisted of beveled siding with 6/6 double-hung windows. A porch extended from the west and east facades of the addition. A chimney stood in the center ridge gable. In 1920, the east facade of the porch on the main house was enclosed to add a stairway to the basement. In the 1930s a farm utility building was converted to a garage. The 1930s garage door was replaced with a metal one in the 1990s. The Cook family did not do any more significant alterations. They sold the property to Earl Swann in 1946, who did no significant alterations.

---

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Charles Durrett and Mrs. Clyde Bellflower, Churches of Robertson County, TN 1786-1900 (Springfield, TN: Charlotte Reeves Robertson Chapter, DAR, 1977), 112.

<sup>5</sup> Billy R. Allen, "Robertson Countians of the Civil War" TMs [photocopy], p.15, Robertson County Library, Springfield, TN.

<sup>6</sup> Mickey Tate, resident of Martin Walton House, interviewed by Bradley Wolf, 25 June 1996.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

In 1956, Conely Tate and his wife, descendants of William and Susan Cook, purchased the house. In 1957, the Tates replaced the staircase in the central hall to the second floor and dug a stairway to the basement beneath this new staircase. The fireplace mantles on the first floor were replaced and the floors covered in hardwood. In the late 1970s the addition was extensively remodeled, with a new roof being added, the chimneys shortened, vinyl sided added, and the porches were enclosed. The fireplace mantle in the dining room was replaced, but the mantle in the kitchen is original to the circa 1917 construction. Though the addition has been extensively remodeled, its place and massing does not detract from the integrity of the main portion of the house.

The Dr. Martin Walton house is significant as an early Middle Tennessee house renovated in the 1870s to a Folk Victorian Italianate style. The house represents construction methods and materials available to the new formed county of Robertson and the state of Tennessee. These would include the brick, probably fired on site, the limestone foundation and the poplar wood floors. It also represents a transitional period of floor plans in Middle Tennessee, from the Penn plan to the central passage, which would dominate Middle Tennessee architecture for the next forty years.<sup>7</sup> Though the house has undergone changes, it still retains much of the historic fabric from the 1809 and 1870 dates. The house still has the original brick, 6/6 double-hung windows, chimneys, and 1870s porch on the exterior. The interior of the house contains the original plaster walls and paneled doors with fluted surrounds and chair rail moldings. The second floor contains the 1870s fireplaces mantles. The Dr. Martin Walton House is an excellent example of how a rural house is adapted to the styles and needs of a period, while still retaining much of its historical features.

---

<sup>7</sup> Patrick, Architecture in Tennessee, 61-65.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 13

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

## Section IX. Bibliography

Allen, Billy R. "Robertson Countians of the Civil War" TMs [photocopy]. Robertson County Library, Springfield, TN.

Durrett, Mrs. Charles M. and Mrs. Clyde Bellflower. Churches of Robertson County, TN 1786-1900. Springfield, TN: Charlotte Reeves Robertson Chapter, DAR, 1977.

Gaston, Kay Baker. "Robertson County Distilleries." Tennessee Historical Quarterly 43 (1) (1894): 49-67.

The Goodspeed Histories of Montgomery, Robertson, Humphreys, Stewart, Dickson, Cheatham, Houston Counties of Tennessee. Columbia, Tennessee: Woodward & Stinson Printing Co., 1972.

Henderson, Deborah Kelley and Jean McClanahan Durrett. Robertson's County's Heritage of Homes. Springfield, TN: Robertson County Antiquities Foundation, 1979.

Holman, Catherine and Jean Durrett. Historic Robertson County, Places and Personalities. Photographs by Dennis Noon. 1970.

Love, Charles H. The Springfield I Have Known. Springfield, TN, c1946.

"Martin Walton" TMs [photocopy], Record group 283. Jean M. Durrett Collection, Robertson County Library, Springfield, Tennessee.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1994.

Mulloy, James. Reminiscences of Robertson County. Springfield, Tennessee, n.d.

Patrick, James. Architecture in Tennessee, 1768-1897. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 1981

Tate, Mickey. Resident of Martin Walton House, Interviewed by Bradley Wolf, 25 June 1996.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   14  

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

Thomason and Associates. "Architectural/Historical Inventory, Route 840, Robertson County, Tennessee, February 1995" TMs [photocopy], pp.32-44. Thomason and Associates Preservation Planners, Nashville, Tennessee.

Winters, Ralph L. Hospitality Homes and Historic Sites in Western Robertson County, Tennessee. Clarksville, Tennessee, c1971.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number   10   Page   15  

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

### **Section X. Verbal Boundary Description**

The National Register boundary includes a rectangular lot bounded on the south by SR 25 approximately 15 meters (50') from the dwelling, on the north by a fence, which is approximately 15 meters (50') from the dwelling, on the east by a driveway which is approximately 22 meters (75') from the dwelling, and on the west by a driveway which is approximately 15 meters (50') from the dwelling. The boundary encompasses the house, adjacent garage, storage shed, cast iron fence, marker, gas pump, and well.

### **Boundary Justification**

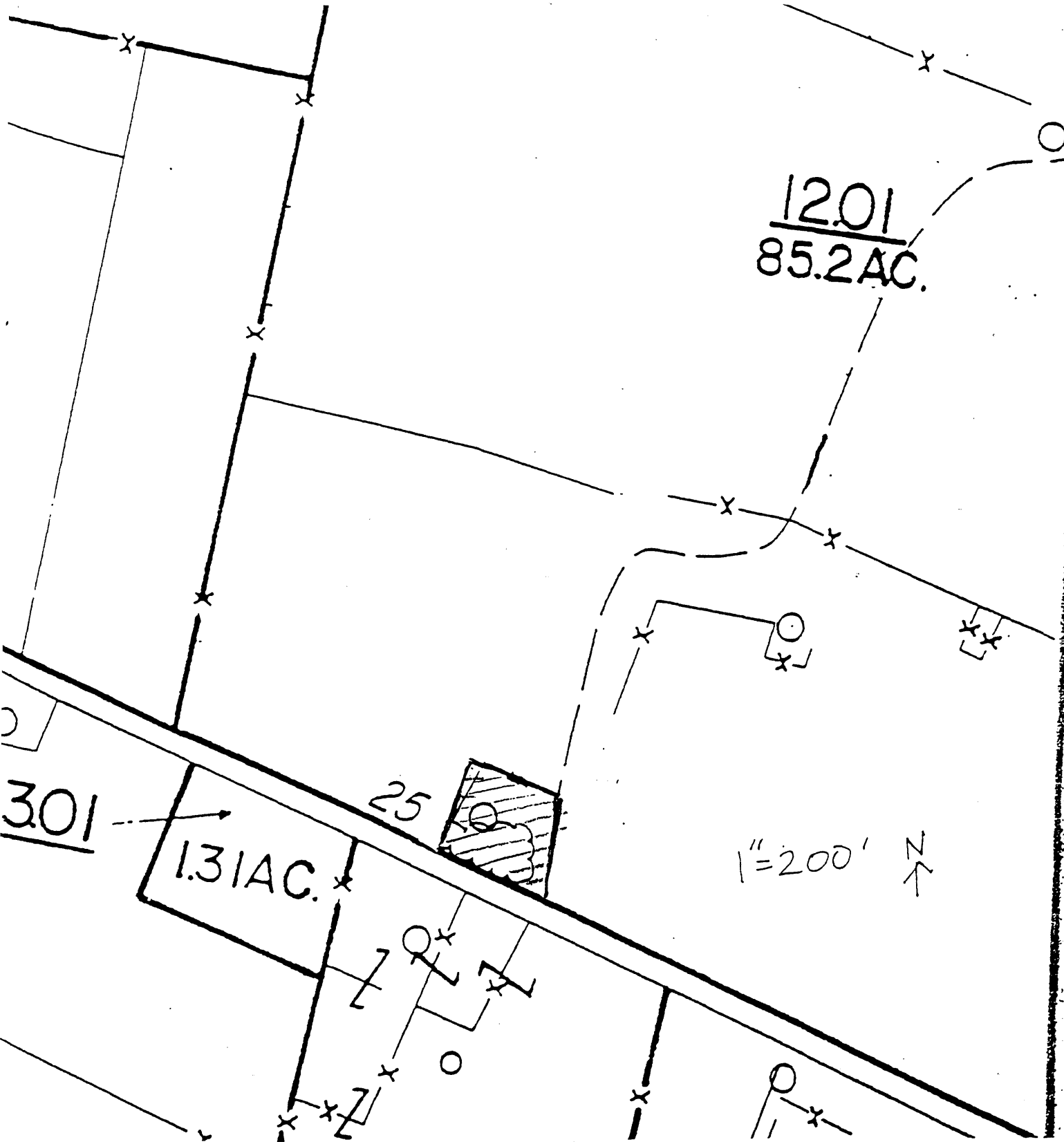
The boundaries contain all the historic elements pertinent to the Walton house and its evolution as an historic structure.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 16

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number    Photos    Page    17

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

**Dr. Martin Walton House**

6360 Highway 25 East

Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee

Photos by:    \*Joseph Reid, Mrs. Leon Tate and #Bradley Wolf

Date:        \*May 1996 and #July 1996

Negatives:    Tennessee Historical Commission  
                  Nashville, Tennessee

1 of 24

\*Aerial view, facing northeast

2 of 24

\*Aerial view of front facade, facing north

3 of 24

\*Front (south) facade and fence, facing north

4 of 24

#Front (south) facade, facing northeast

5 of 24

\*East facade, facing west

6 of 24

\*North facade, brick wall, and east and north facades of addition, facing southwest

7 of 24

#West facade and west facade of addition, facing east

8 of 24

\*North and west facade of addition, facing southeast

9 of 24

#Front (south) facade porch pillar and balustrade details, facing north

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number    Photos    Page    18

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

10 of 24

\*Interior detail, entrance to addition first floor, double doors, facing north

11 of 24

\*Interior detail, coupled doors to first floor rooms on east side, facing east.

12 of 24

#Interior detail, mantle in southeast first floor room, facing northeast

13 of 24

\*Interior detail, door to central passage from west first floor room, facing east

14 of 24

#Interior detail, dining room with mantle in addition, facing northwest

15 of 24

#Interior detail, mantle in kitchen part of addition, facing south

16 of 24

#Interior detail, second floor central passage, facing south

17 of 24

#Interior detail, second floor northeast room mantle and alcove, facing southeast.

18 of 24

#Interior detail, second floor west room mantle, facing west

19 of 24

#Interior detail, basement mantle, facing southeast

20 of 24

\*Land grant marker and fence, facing northwest

21 of 24

#Garage, facing northeast

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number      Photos      Page     19    

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

---

22 of 24

#Gas pump, facing southwest

23 of 24

#Well, facing southwest

24 of 24

#Utility building, facing northwest

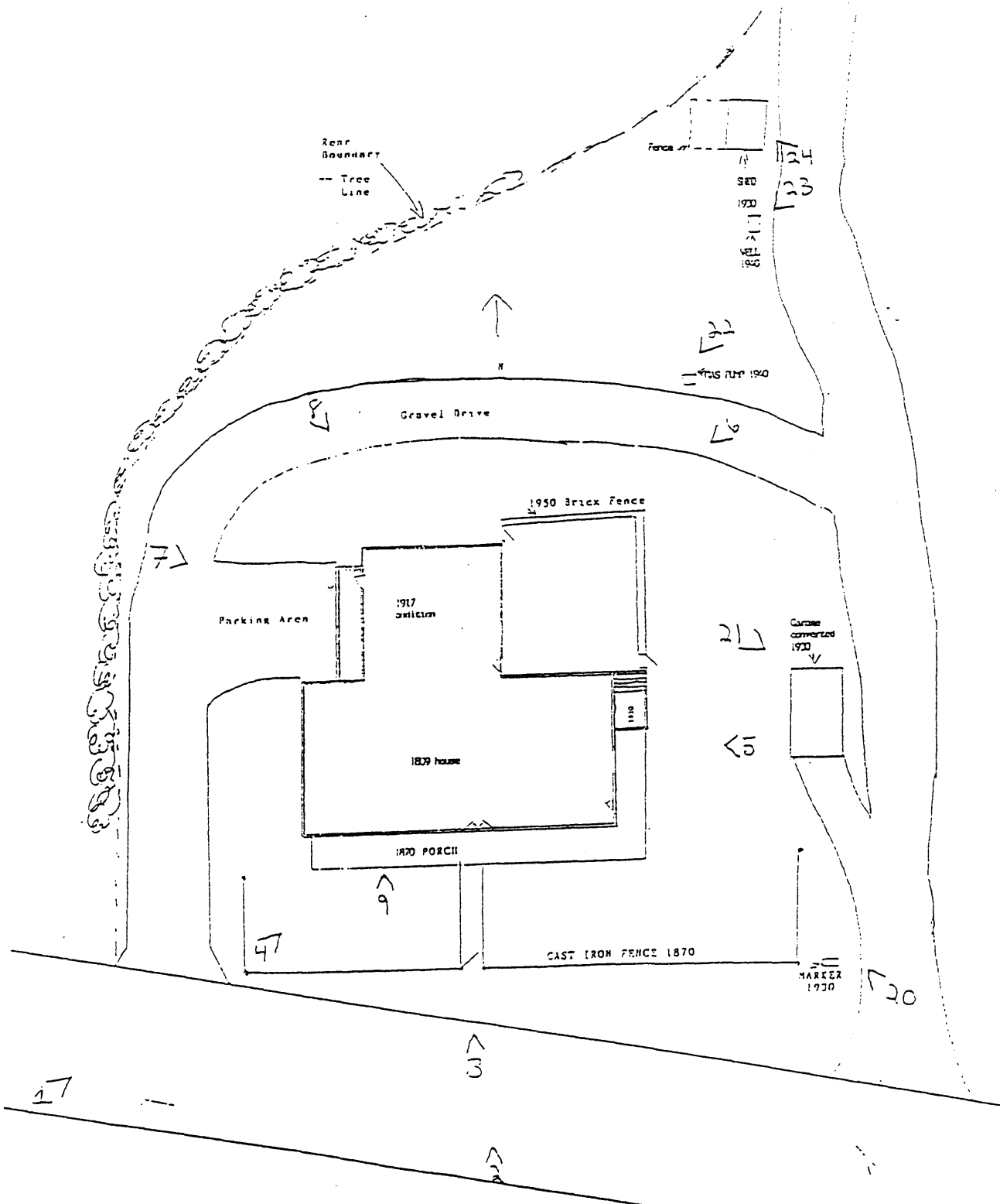


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      Photos      Page     20    

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN

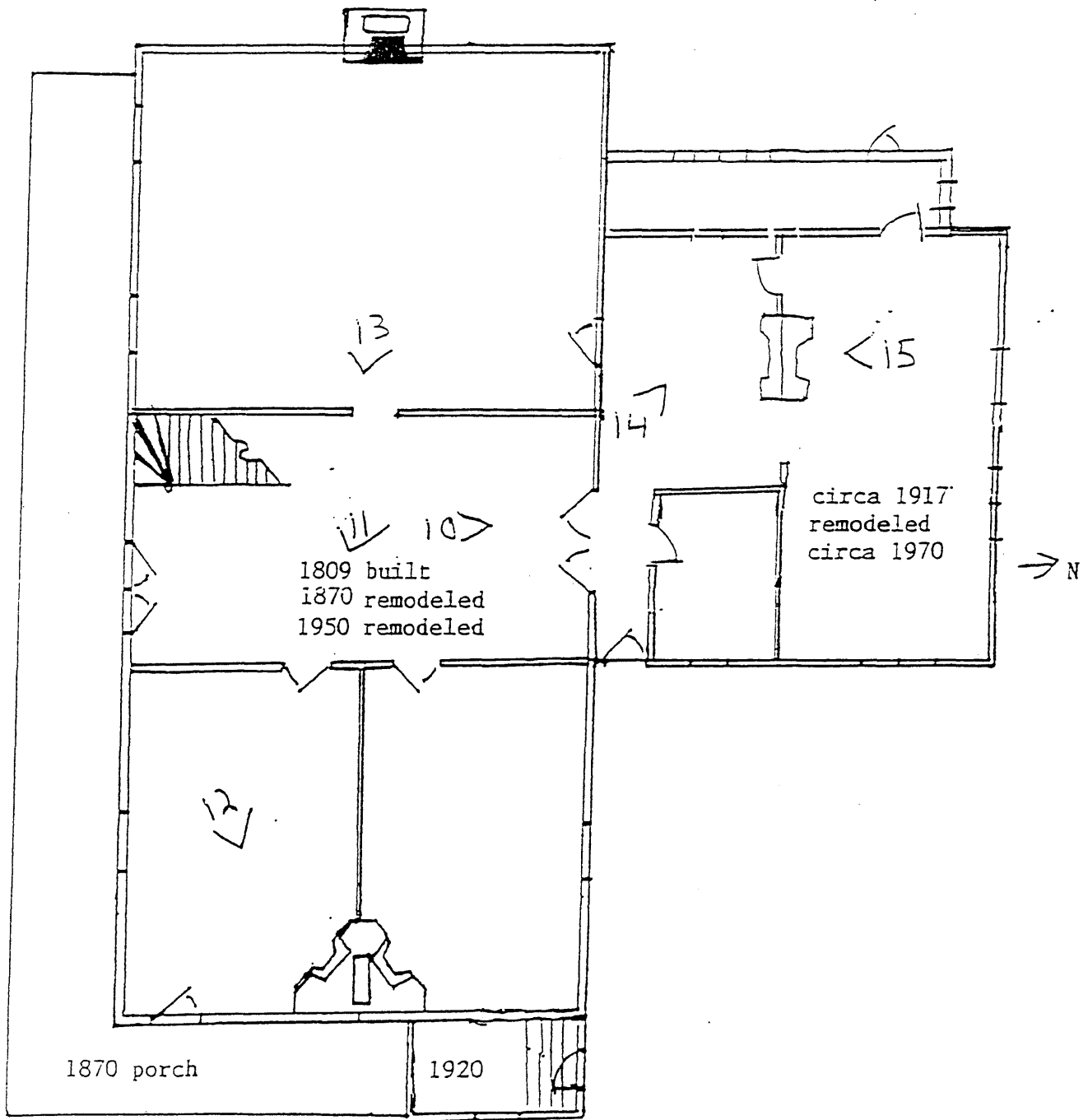


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      Photos      Page   21  

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN



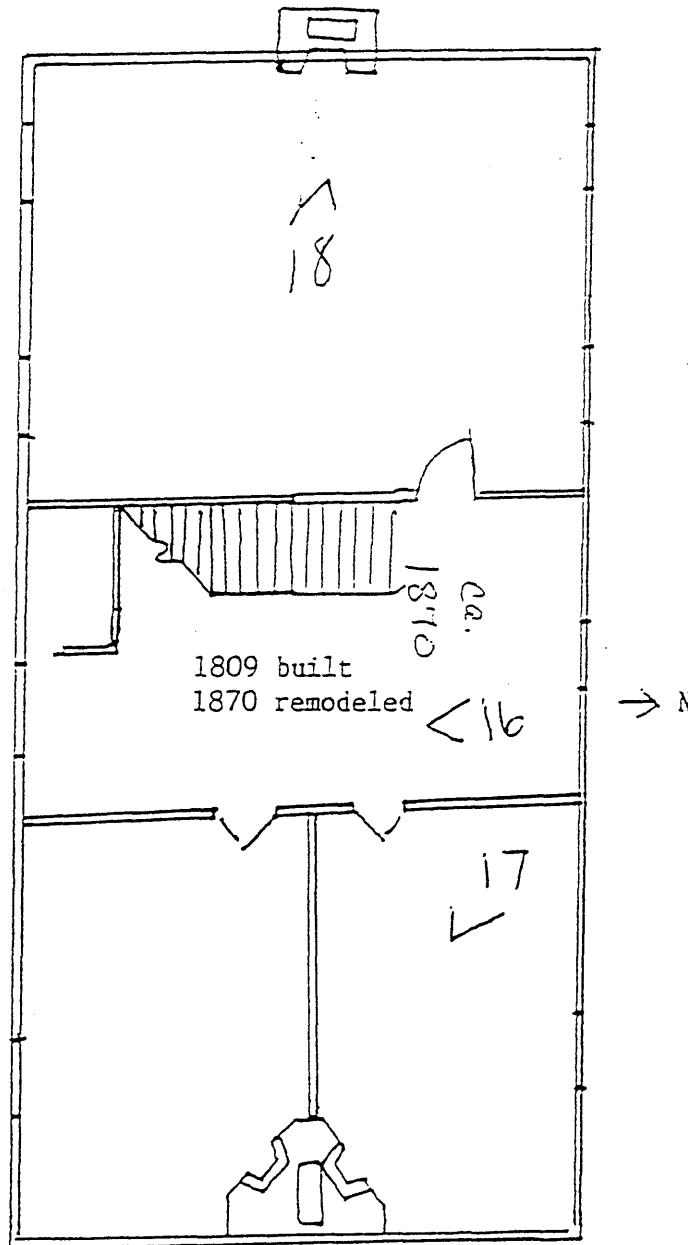
Dr. Martin Walton House - 1996 Floor Plan  
First Floor

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      Photos      Page   22  

Walton, Dr. Martin, House  
Robertson County, TN



Dr. Martin Walton House  
Second Floor Plan — 1996