



TENNESSEE CENTURY FARMS

The Land • The People • The Legacy

A joint program of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Fall 2007

Vol. 4 Issue 2

Century Farms and the National Register of Historic Places



Riverside Farm, Rutherford County

Some Century Farm owners choose to take the documentation of their property to the federal level by requesting listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the federal government's official honor roll of important historic buildings and other cultural resources. In addition to recognizing significant places and sites, National Register listing assures that these properties will be taken into account in the planning of federally funded projects. This consideration of the impact of projects that receive federal funding on historic buildings and sites is the primary protection offered by the National Register. While some confusion continues to exist, listing on the National Register does not place any obligations or legal restrictions on the use or disposition of the property by the owner. Local historic district zoning or landmark designation may entail main-

tenance and repair standards, but the National Register does not. Listing on the National Register does, however, require the owner's consent.

Before a property is considered for the National Register, extensive evaluation and research is conducted by the Tennessee Historical Commission (the state historic preservation office), a qualified individual, or an organization such as the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation (CHP). The completed nomination is presented to the commission and the Tennessee National Register Review Board for approval. Upon review and approval by the board, the nomination is forwarded to the National Park Service, which is responsible for administering the National Register program, for final consideration.

continued on page 2

The Tennessee Ag Tag!

Consider purchasing an Ag Tag license plate and help fund projects including 4-H, FFA, and the Century Farms sign program.



Congratulations to These New Century Farms!

The following farms were certified since the summer 2007 newsletter. While farms may have more than one owner, we list only the first contact owner of record, as supplied on the farm application by the family, because of space limitations.

BAKER FARM

County: Hamblen
Owner: Larry D. Baker
Date Founded: 1906

COBURN FARM

County: Madison
Owner: Mary L. Coburn
Date Founded: 1875

BENTLEY FARM

County: Sumner
Owner: Vincie L. Barber
Date Founded: 1906

COOPER FARM

County: Cannon
Owner: Raymond Cooper
Date Founded: 1902

BREEZY KNOLL FARM

County: Franklin
Owner: Jeffrey M. Gamble
Date Founded: 1892

COX FARM

County: Union
Owner: Katie C. Cox
Date Founded: 1864

Please help us keep the information about your farm current in our files and on the Web site by letting us know when changes occur.

Farms certified after November 15, 2007, will appear in the next newsletter.

Century Farms and the National Register of Historic Places continued from cover

Over 30 Century Farms are now listed on the National Register. Most recently, Bag End Farm in Williamson County and Riverside Farm in Rutherford County were added. These nominations were prepared by Elizabeth Moore, field work coordinator for the Center for Historic Preservation. The CHP is recognized across the state and nationally for its 25-year record of successful nominations

of historic farmsteads and other properties to the National Register. If you would like more information about the National Register, contact either the Tennessee Historical Commission at 2941 Lebanon Rd, Nashville, TN 37243-0442, (615) 532-1550 or Ms. Moore at the CHP at emoore@mtsu.edu or (615) 898-2947.

F & W FARM

County: Chester
Owner: Robert M. Frank
Date Founded: 1893

THE HOMEPLACE FARM

County: Henry
Owner: Shirley A. Flanagan
Date Founded: 1821

JOHNSON FARM

County: Cheatham
Owner: Myrtle Ruth Johnson
Date Founded: 1867

LANCASTER/O'FALLON FARM

County: Smith
Owner: Elva O. Hart
Date Founded: 1856

MOUNT FARM

County: Crockett
Owner: Ann Stanley
Date Founded: 1860

MOUNTAIN COVE FARM

County: Franklin
Owner: Glenn T. Wilkerson
Date Founded: 1902

NELSON CAMPBELL FARM

County: Claiborne
Owner: Billy B. Campbell
Date Founded: 1907

NORMAN FARM

County: Gibson
Owner: James Edward Norman
Date Founded: 1847

PATTERSON FARM

County: Perry
Owners: Rex and Wilda
Patterson
Date Founded: 1845

PINEYHILL FARM

County: Haywood
Owner: Georgia W. Elizer
Date Founded: 1876

RHODES FARM

County: Decatur
Owners: Claudean and
Cleo Rhodes
Date Founded: 1853

ROCK CREEK FARM

County: Moore
Owner: Todd E. Jennings
Date Founded: 1894

SPENCER BROTHERS FARM

County: Fayette
Owner: Jimmy N. Spencer
Date Founded: 1907

SOUTHERLAND FARM

County: Greene
Owner: Gwyn Southerland
Date Founded: 1900

STILL HOLLOW FARM

County: Greene
Owner: Jay D. Birdwell
Date Founded: 1857

WHEELLEY SPRINGS FARM

County: Macon
Owner: Larry Law
Date Founded: 1850



**The counties
with the largest
number of
Century Farms
are as follows:**

Wilson – 68

Smith – 46

Greene – 44

McMinn – 37

Blount – 31

Claiborne – 31

Robertson – 29

Giles County – 26

Montgomery – 26

Obion – 26

Williamson – 26



*The granary at Still Hollow Farm (Greene County)
now serves as The Farmer's Wife Gift Shop.*

Barns of Tennessee Book in Progress

Thanks to the Century Farmers who responded to the call for photographs of their barns. The readers of *Tennessee Magazine* and Century Farm owners submitted more than 3,000 photographs! Regrettably, only about 250 photographs can be used in the book. The selection process is slow because of so many excellent entries.

The publication is sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association in cooperation with Donning Publishers, and the authors are Caneta S. Hankins and Michael T. Gavin with the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation. Altogether, the photographs and accompanying information form an invaluable survey and research collection that documents Tennessee barns from the early 19th century to the 21st century. If your photo is to be included in the book, you will be notified around the end of January. The book is scheduled to be available in late summer or early fall 2008. Again, many thanks for taking the time to submit photos of your barns.



The Tennessee Century Farms Program, a joint effort of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, documents, recognizes, interprets, and supports the conservation of farms that have been in continuous production and owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

Please direct comments and inquiries regarding applications, existing farm files, the Web site, and this newsletter to

CANETA HANKINS
Director, Tennessee Century Farms Program
Center for Historic Preservation
Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
chankins@mtsu.edu
(615) 898-2947

Please direct questions about Century Farm signs to

LYNNE WILLIAMS
Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Ellington Agricultural Center, P.O. Box 40627
Nashville, TN 37204
Lynne.Williams@state.tn.us
Fax: (615) 837-5194

Visit the Century Farms Web site at
<http://histpres.mtsu.edu/>.

This Tennessee Century Farms newsletter is produced as a public service by the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU.

MTSU, a Tennessee Board of Regents university, is an equal opportunity, nonracially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. AA124-1107

2-25400

Tennessee Century Farms Program
Center for Historic Preservation
Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

MIDDLE
TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 169
Murfreesboro, TN