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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>historic name</th>
<th>Cleburne Jersey Farm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>other names/site number</td>
<td>Campbell Farm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Location

| street & number | 2319 Sugar Ridge Rd. |
| city or town | Spring Hill |
| state | Tennessee |
| county | Maury |
| zip code | 37174 |

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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of certifying official/Title</th>
<th>Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of certifying official/Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State or Federal agency and bureau</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- [ ] entered in the National Register.  
- [ ] determined eligible for the National Register.  
- [ ] removed from the National Register.  
- other, (explain:) ______________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of the Keeper</th>
<th>Date of Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cleburne Jersey Farm  
Maury County, Tennessee  
Name of Property  
County and State
5. Classification

Ownership of Property  Category of Property  Number of Resources within Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)  (Check only one box)  (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

- private  ☑ building(s)  Contributing  Noncontributing
- public-local  ☐ district
- public-State  ☐ site
- public-Federal  ☐ structure
- ☐ object

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buildings</th>
<th>Sites</th>
<th>Structures</th>
<th>Objects</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Historic Family Farms in Middle Tennessee, 1780-1945 MPN

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)  (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC; single dwelling; secondary structures  DOMESTIC: vacant; secondary structures
AGRICULTURE; storage, agricultural outbuilding;  AGRICULTURE: storage, agricultural outbuilding;
    processing; animal facility; agricultural field  animal facility; agricultural field

7. Description

Architectural Classification  Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)  (Enter categories from instructions)

ITALIANATE  foundation  Limestone; Concrete

walls  Weatherboard; Limestone; Concrete

roof  Asphalt Shingles; Metal

other  Wood; Metal

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 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)
AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
circa 1872-1950

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the 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 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Dates
circa 1872, 1878

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:
MTSU – Center for Historic Preservation
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  approximately 107 acres Spring Hill, TN, 63 SW

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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  Amanda Wild and Carroll Van West
organization  MTSU Center for Historic Preservation  date  May 1, 2000
street & number  PO Box 80, MTSU  telephone  615-898-2947
city or town  Murfreesboro  state  TN  zip code  37132

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  Flora McLain
street & number  4412 Northwood Drive  Telephone  423-288-5762
city or town  Kingsport  State  TN  zip code  37664

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.
VII. Description

The Cleburne Jersey Farm is located at 2319 Sugar Ridge Road, in the vicinity of Spring Hill, Maury County, Tennessee. The nominated 107 acres contains both the primary historic domestic and work complexes of the property, which are located on the south side of a prominent hill, near a still flowing spring. The overall combination of a high concentration of extant historic resources and the surrounding hilly pasture land well convey a sense of time and place for a significant historic family farm of the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries.

Built for the Campbell family in 1872, the two-story, weatherboard, central hall plan dwelling is embellished with prominent Italianate-styled architectural features. The dwelling rests on a limestone foundation and is capped by a medium pitch metal roof with wide-eave overhangs and original metal gutters. The house, built on a slight hill, has latticework, similar to that found at the adjacent stone dairy, providing a screen for the limestone foundation and supporting walls on the facade. A root cellar is accessible from the east elevation.

The symmetrical south facade has three bays. The center bay on the first story has a four-paneled door with a semicircular door surround. Ornamental corner blocks accentuate the door surround, as well as the door panels. A semicircular transom with etched lace design and two rounded, etched sidelights flank the front door. Two Italianate style, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows with shutters, semi-circular arched hoods and keystones flank either side of the central door. Three Italianate style hooded two-over-two, double-hung sash windows with shutters comprise the second story of the house. A centrally located pedimented dormer with a diamond vent, flanked by corbelled brick interior chimneys, accentuates the facade. Four sets of paired Italianate brackets support a wide cornice along the facade. Denticulation accents the porch roof, main roof and pediment.

Spanning the length of the facade is a one-story Italianate style porch. A staircase of nine wood steps leads to the porch; a wood railing with turned balusters runs along both sides of the steps. Square wood posts linked by thirteen Italianate-styled arches support the low-pitch gable roof of the porch. Brackets located above each column support the eave overhang of the porch roof. A wood balustrade, with turned spindle porch supports, six in each section and eight in two middle sections, surrounds the perimeter of the porch on the first story entrance. Outlining the porch roof is a wrought iron balustrade.

The west elevation contains four bays. The original two-story portion of the house contains two bays on the first and second story. The first, most southern, bay is a side-gable roof with a wide-eave overhang, dentils, and two sets of paired brackets below the gable returns. Two Italianate style windows are contained within this bay. A long two-over-two, double-hung sash window with shutters, arched hoods and keystone is located on the first story and a smaller two-over-two, double-hung sash window of the same design is located in the upper story. The third bay is a circa 1924 addition to the house, when the owners enclosed the back stairway and added a kitchen on the first floor. The roofline is slightly slanted and contains no ornamentation. One two-over-two, double-hung sash rectangular window with shutters is located in the upper story and a small fixed two light window is located in the first story. The final bay is a one-story addition, circa 1960, with a metal shed roof. At this same time, the interior of the kitchen and den were modernized. Two concrete steps lead to a metal storm door.
The north elevation shows the house’s evolution between circa 1872 and 1960. In the forefront is a one-story addition, circa 1960. It has a metal shed roof and its weatherboard wall has four sliding glass windows, each with two lights. Within this section is a three panel, metal frame storm door, with glazing in the upper panels, that provides the rear entrance into the house. The next visible section to the west contains a twelve-light sliding window on the second story that was part of the circa 1924 addition to the rear. The section to the east is part of the original circa 1872 construction. It has a gable roof accented by Italianate brackets, gable returns and a wide eave overhang. Symmetrically located in the east section is a four-over-four, double-hung, sash window, with original shutters.

The east elevation is as detailed as the facade. The original portion of the house consists of two bays. The first, most southern, bay contains a side gable roof with a wide eave overhang, dentils and two sets of paired Italianate brackets. The first level contains a three-sided bay window with pilasters separating the three double-hung, two over two Italianate windows. A wide eave overhang, four sets of paired brackets and dentils accent the roof of the bay window. A wrought iron balustrade surrounds the perimeter of the bay window roof. A single Italianate-style hooded two-over-two double-hung sash window with shutters is located above the bay window; it matches the other Italianate windows of the house. Moving northward is the east elevation’s second prominent bay, which contains a partial width side porch with a turned balustrade that matches the front porch. Four basket-handle arches support the porch. The balustrade encloses all but the north side of the porch. Two long Italianate style hooded two-over-two, double-hung sash windows are contained within the porch. Italianate brackets support the wide eave overhang of the side porch roof. A wrought-iron balustrade runs along the perimeter of the porch roof. A single Italianate style hooded two-over-two, double-hung sash window with shutters is located on the second story. The roofline consists of wide eave overhang, dentils, and Italianate brackets. The third bay contains the one-story circa 1960 addition to the house. The addition has a metal shed roof. This bay contains two windows. The southernmost window is a one-over-one, double-hung sash window and the northern-most window is a twelve light sliding glass window.

Outside of the circa 1924 enclosure of the rear porch, the addition of electricity in 1948, and the circa 1960 remodeling of the den and kitchen, the house has undergone few alterations since its construction circa 1872. The primary historic rooms are intact and contain most of their original decorative features. The interior is organized around a central hall. Original hardwood floors with six-inch baseboards, original wood mantels, and grained doors are retained throughout the house, both on the first and second floors. Some of the doors and mantels have been feather grained and others are painted in two colors to emphasize the architectural details. Most of the rooms are roughly seventeen feet square and have plaster walls and ceilings, with a height of approximately twelve feet. A wide band of molding surrounds the doors and windows throughout the circa 1872 parts of the interior.

**First Floor**

The primary entrance opens to a central hall. A prominent, well-crafted staircase is located along the west wall. The curved staircase is decorated with a bracketed stringer, a wood stair rail and an octagonal newel post. Turned ornamental “fancy” balusters comprise the balustrade. A bead and reel molding runs along the outer edge of the stringer. The hall has two sections, with an original grained wood door separating the front and rear halls.
Flanking the front hall are a southeast parlor and a southwest bedroom. An original grained wood four-paneled door, with a single light awning transom, leads into the parlor. A fireplace is located on the north wall of the room, demarcated by a rectangular chimney breast. The hearth and facing are of limestone. An ornamental grate and original wood shelf with wood pilasters and high relief detailing complete the fireplace. A picture molding runs along the upper perimeter of the walls. The most important interior feature is the hand-stenciled Victorian style decoration of the floor. The hardwood floor has been stenciled with a geometric and floral motif with green and gold as the dominant colors. The stenciling creates a highly creative decorative border around the entire room. A three-sided bay window is located on the west wall of the parlor. A molding surrounds the window and a grained wood panel is located below each of the windows. One long arched two-over-two, double-hung sash window is located on the south wall.

Across the hall is the southwest bedroom, which has an original grained four-paneled wood door with a single light awning transom. A fireplace with a rectangular chimney breast is located on the north wall, with an original grained wood mantel. The hearth and facing are of limestone with a wood shelf and high relief wood pilasters. Original hardwood floors are retained and circa 1920 linoleum floor covering covers the central portion of the floor. A grained wood door with a single light awning transom is located on the north wall and leads into the northwest first floor bedroom.

The northwest first floor bedroom is smaller than the southwest first floor bedroom. A built-in circa 1980 closet has been added to the south wall. The wood floor is lighter in color and the baseboards are approximately three and one-half inches wide. The room retains an original grained wood door and wood mantel. The hearth and facing are limestone; high relief wood pilasters support a grained wood shelf. The grate has been removed and the opening is covered by a tin plate. A grained wood door on the north wall leads to a downstairs bathroom, installed circa 1872. A grained wood door with a single light awning transom on the east wall leads into the rear hall.

The dining room flanks the northeast side of the back hall. An original grained wood four-paneled door with a single light awning transom leads into the room. A fireplace is located on the south wall of the room, demarcated by a rectangular chimney breast. The original grained wood mantel has limestone facing, brick hearth, ornamental grate, and high relief wood pilasters. A circa 1940 floral-patterned linoleum floor covers the center section of the original hardwood floors. A grained wood door on the north wall leads into a pantry. The lower half of the pantry has original wood panels while the upper half is white plaster. A circa 1940 linoleum covering, identical to the kitchen floor, covers the floor of the pantry. A door opening from the pantry leads in the kitchen. A second grained wood door is located on the northwest wall and leads into a china closet.

The kitchen, den, and rear stairway comprise one large open space. The kitchen has circa 1960 linoleum and dark stained wood paneling. The den has a wood floor. A bathroom, installed circa 1872, is located in the northeast corner and contains a historic tub and a modern sink and toilet. The original rear elevation of the house is intact and comprises the south wall of the den. This wall covering matches the weatherboard on the exterior of the house. A post in the den defines the boundaries of the original house plan. The rear staircase is located on the north wall of the den. It has a fancy turned newel post and rectangular balusters comprise the balustrade. A landing at the top of the circa 1872 stairs is covered with circa 1960 linoleum.
Second Floor

The second floor shares many similarities with the first floor: original hardwood floors, plaster walls, roughly seventeen-foot square rooms, grained woodwork, and a central hall plan with a front and rear hall sections.

The front hallway retains original hardwood floors. A historic circa 1920 linoleum floor covering covers a portion of the floor. The front hall contains the staircase and the walkway from the front hall to the back hall. A grained wood door with single light awning transom, on the south wall, leads to the walkway. The walkway is raised one step to accommodate the front staircase. A balustrade with fancy turned balusters, of the same design as the balusters on the main stairway, is located along the walkway.

Flanking the front hall is a southeast bedroom. A grained wood door with a single light awning transom leads into this bedroom. A fireplace, with a rectangular chimney and original wood mantel, is located on the north wall of the bedroom. The fireplace has brick facing and hearth, ornamental grate, high relief pilasters, and mantelshelf. A small water basin, with marble surround, is located on the east wall of the bedroom. A grained wood door, with a single light awning transom, is on the north wall.

The southwest bedroom flanks the west side of the front hallway. A fireplace with original grained wood mantel is located on the north wall with a rectangular chimney breast, an ornamental grate, brick facing and hearth, and original grained wood pilasters with grained wood shelf. A grained wood door flanks the east of the fireplace and leads into a small closet. A grained wood door with single light awning transom, is on the east wall.

Bedrooms also flank the back hall. Both rooms are accessible by original grained wood doors with single light awning transom. The northeast bedroom retains circa 1950 linoleum covering over most of the floor. A fireplace is located on the north wall with a rectangular chimney breast, brick facing and hearth, ornamental grate, and a simpler grained wood mantel. Two grained wood doors flank either side of the fireplace. One door, on the east, leads to a small closet; an original grained wood door, on the west, with a single light awning transom, leads to the southeast bedroom.

The northwest bedroom of the back hallway is the only bedroom without a fireplace. A door on the north wall leads into a bathroom with an original circa 1872 marble sink. The walls and ceiling of the bathroom are paneled and are painted pale green. A grained wood door, on the south wall, with a single light awning transom leads into the southwest bedroom. (C)

Outbuildings

The Cleburne Jersey Farm has an important collection of historic outbuildings, with the earliest generally clustered around the dwelling, another set from circa 1878 to 1940 located on the hill northwest of the dwelling, and the farm’s modern dairy operation, circa 1950 to 1990, to the northeast of the dwelling.
The farm’s initial dairy and domestic complex is defined by a group of buildings, arranged in a rough U-shape around the rear of the dwelling as well as a wire fence, supported by wood fence posts, that was installed at least circa 1970.

To the north and slightly west of the house is the significant limestone dairy house, constructed circa 1872. This is the earliest known extant Jersey dairy house in the state. It has a tin, hipped roof with Gothic-influenced bargeboard trim detailing. Latticework, of the same design as the latticework on the house, covers the lower exterior of the east wall and wraps around on either side of both the north and south wall. A double-hung sash window with wood muntins, and wood lintel and sill is located on the south exterior wall. The east facade provides the entrance into the dairy. A door of latticework with a simple latch leads to the interior, which retains some historic period hardware, equipment, and water trough. A small single window is located in the upper portion of the building. The south elevation has two small windows with wood lintels and sills. The west or rear elevation of the dairy has a single, hinged window in the upper portion. A small brick chimney is located on the northeast portion of the roof. The building still has its historic churn, a Davis Swing Churn that was purchased from the Vermont Farm Machine Company. The dairy house is a contributing building. (C)

A concrete water trough, circa 1930, which held water from the spring for the use of the Jersey cattle, is located to the west of the dairy. It is a contributing structure. (C)

Located north of the springhouse is the separator house, circa 1872. This one-story structure has weatherboard exterior walls, side-gable tin roof, and a small brick chimney. A wood hinged door on the east facade leads into the structure. Two pipes connected the steam boiler to the separator, which continued to operate by steam until the installation of electricity in 1948. A metal pipe between the dairy house and the steam boiler in the separator house also powered a churn in the dairy house that produced butter for sale. The interior of the structure is a single room with beaded board interior walls. It is a contributing building. (C)

A hand laid limestone wall, circa 1872, is located north of the house. This wall was built in order to raise the back yard for the construction of the original kitchen, which is no longer extant but the outline of foundations are visible. The limestone wall is a contributing structure. (C)

To the northeast of the farmhouse is the smokehouse, circa 1900. This structure is built on a hill and is supported by stone blocks. A porch supported by wood beam stilts is located on the, south facade. The weatherboard smokehouse is partitioned into three sections. The middle section has a metal front gable roof with a single entrance. Two metal shed roof sections flank either side; both have single door entrances. This is a contributing building. (C)

In the east and southeast sections of the domestic complex are early to mid-twentieth century resources. The garden and grape vines form a rectangle at the southeast corner of the domestic complex. Installed at least by 1920, neither the garden nor the grape vines are currently cultivated. This is contributing site. (C)

The “buggy house,” later an automobile garage, is a weatherboard building of three sections, built circa 1900. The central section has a metal front gable roof, double-paneled hinge door, and an upper level small rectangular window. The southernmost section consists of a drop shed roof and a large open entrance. The structure is built on a slight rise and the northernmost section is supported by limestone supports. This section consists of a drop shed roof and a
hinged, paneled, double door. The rear, or east, elevation contains an upper level doorway in the central, gable section of the building. This is a contributing building. (C)

Northeast of the buggy house is the farm’s modern dairy operation. Two large concrete silos (circa 1960) are the most prominent elements of this complex. Together they comprise two non-contributing structures due to the date of construction. (2 NC, due to dates of construction)

A metal equipment shed (c. 1980) contains a shop to repair machinery, a half-bath, and stalls for the storage of various machines. It is a non-contributing building, due to its date of construction. (NC, due to date of construction.)

The milk house (c. 1980) is a rectangular-shaped concrete and metal building with a metal gable roof. It is a non-contributing building due to its date of construction. (NC, due to date of construction).

Closer to the spring, and located northwest of the domestic complex, is the farm’s dairy operation area from when electricity was installed in 1948. A metal gable roof, three-aisle frame cattle barn, with a limestone pier foundation and vertical board walls, was constructed between 1876 and 1878. This is a contributing building. (C)

The metal gable roof concrete block wall milking barn was constructed circa 1948. This is a contributing building. (C)
To the immediate south, and connected by metal tubing that sent milk into the milk cooler tank, is a metal gable roof, concrete block wall spring house, constructed circa 1948. Some concrete blocks have fallen out of the east wall of the building, but it still retains structural and architectural integrity. It is a contributing building. (C)

Immediately in front of the cattle barn is a concrete silo, which has supporting metal bands that wrap around its circular walls, constructed circa 1920. The roof to the silo is no longer extant, but the concrete walls are structurally sound. This is a contributing structure. (C)

Along the northern boundary of the nominated property, facing Wilkes Lane, is the one-story frame residence of Will Barnes, who was a long-term African-American tenant on the farm. Constructed circa 1940, the metal gable roof frame dwelling, with concrete foundation, has a facade of three symmetrical bays. It is a contributing building. (C)

Fields for cattle pasture exist to the east, west, and south of the dwelling. They retain their historic configuration and use, and together with an extant farm road system that provides access to the domestic and work complexes, they comprise a contributing site to this nomination. (C)
Annual Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

VIII. Statement of Significance

The Cleburne Jersey Farm, in the vicinity of Spring Hill, Maury County, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local and statewide significance in agriculture, particularly in the history of the dairy industry, a key component of Tennessee’s agricultural economy from 1870 to 1980. A 1927 count by American Jersey Cattle Club recognized Cleburne Jersey Farm as the second Jersey cattle farm established in the United States, and in 1927, it was also recognized as the oldest still operating Jersey dairy farm in the country. The nominated property also is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its local significance in art and architecture. The nominated property meets the registration requirements of the Historic Family Farms in Middle Tennessee, 1780-1945 MPS.

The Cleburne Jersey Farm is an excellent example of the reorganization of Middle Tennessee agriculture that occurred in the decade following the Civil War. In his study of the impact of war on Middle Tennessee, historian Stephen V. Ash concludes: “no Middle Tennessean in 1870 could rightfully have denied that the decade just ended had been one of agricultural decline rather than progress. Wartime destruction, the end of slavery and its replacement by a less productive labor system, crop failures, and soil depletion had all sapped the strength of Middle Tennessee’s nurturing heart. Vibrant and robust in 1860, the region’s agriculture entered the 1870s languid and frail.” (Ash, 189) In Maury County, the war had hit hard, especially the traditional major crops of corn and livestock. According to census data, the value of livestock declined in the county by 40 percent between 1860 and 1870. Moreover, the armies had wrecked the county’s rail connection, the Nashville and Decatur, and it needed to be rebuilt before commerce and agriculture could return to normal. These years also witnessed the creation of many new farms, but as the research of both Ash and Robert Tracy McKenzie shows, the war and Reconstruction did not lead to a fundamental shift in the allocation of wealth. The rich antebellum planters were not near as wealthy as before, but they still retained economic hegemony. Once they convinced federal officials to return confiscated properties, they soon began to rebuild their lives and plantations in new ways.

A good example of this process is the evolution of one of Middle Tennessee’s largest antebellum plantations, that of George Washington Campbell in Williamson and Maury counties. Immediately after the Civil War, the farm was divided into two important stock-raising enterprises, both named in honor of Confederate generals. One of these, the Ewell Farm, has previously been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. A second farm, belonging to McCoy Campbell and known as the Cleburne Jersey Farm, established circa 1872, is the subject of this National Register nomination.

The roots of the Campbell plantation lay with the early land purchases of George Washington Campbell, a significant attorney, judge, U. S. Senator, and American minister in the early antebellum era, and his brother Colin Campbell. Colin Campbell owned one tract of family land several miles west of the nominated property along Carter’s Creek. After Colin’s death in 1834, his son Archibald A. Campbell became patriarch of the family. Colin’s rich brother George put together by far the larger plantation. Circa 1808, George Washington Campbell had begun acquiring land in Middle Tennessee and continued to do so for the next twenty years. When he prepared his will in 1844—four years before his death—Campbell left the largest and most developed property he owned in Giles County to his son George. He left his recently widowed daughter Lizinka Brown a tract of 3,000 acres on the border of Maury and Williamson counties, an amount he valued at $40,000. Since her father was Minister to Russia at the time of her birth, Lizinka was born in St. Petersburg in 1820 and was named in honor of the Czarina. She married James Percy Brown, who was
then an attaché to the American embassy in Paris, in 1839. Their son Campbell Brown was born in 1840. Her land was near that of her father’s nephew Archibald Campbell, whose family could be counted on to assist their cousin, or at least watch over the property. One reason Lizinka’s land was so valuable was that it was located within easy access of the Franklin to Columbia Turnpike, in which Campbell had been a large initial investor. The land further gained value in the late 1850s when the tracks of the Nashville and Decatur Railroad ran along its eastern boundary. George Washington Campbell never resided on his Maury and Williamson county land although he possibly leased it for cultivation.

Upon her father’s death in 1848, Lizinka Campbell Brown assumed full ownership of the Spring Hill vicinity plantation of her father. Although she often solicited advice from friends and neighbors, she actively managed the plantation even though she often stayed in Nashville at her father’s home (which she inherited in the 1850s from her brother). She hired overseers to supervise the daily work on the farm. Wealthy through her inheritances from father, brother, and husband, Lizinka Brown was prominent socially in Nashville in the late antebellum period. It was also during these years that Lizinka corresponded regularly with her first cousin, Richard Henry Ewell, a bachelor graduate of West Point who at the time was a lieutenant in the United States Army.

The Civil War overturned Lizinka’s world, as it did those of other women throughout the state. She was a strong Confederate supporter. In April 1861 she helped to outfit the “Brown Guards,” Company G of the First Tennessee Infantry. Her cousin, George W. Campbell, a son of Archibald A. Campbell, who now headed the family’s Carter’s Creek plantation, organized the company and served as its captain. Among his officers was McCoy Clemson Campbell—known as Mack Campbell—who was his brother and the cousin closest in age to Lizinka’s own son Campbell Brown. A month later, in May 1861 her son Campbell Brown joined as 2nd Lieutenant of Company E of the Third Tennessee Infantry. In Nashville, Lizinka helped to organize the Ladies Hospital Association and served as its superintendent. After Union troops arrived to occupy the capital city of Nashville in 1862, Lizinka Campbell Brown quickly left the state. She tried to protect her Nashville home from being taken and occupied under the Confiscation Act by transferring its title to known pro-Union residents Martha and Mary Nicholls, but since the transfer occurred after pro-Confederates had begun to evacuate Nashville, federal officials voided the transaction. In May 1862, the prominent Campbell-Brown mansion was turned over to Military Governor Andrew Johnson and it became his official residence.

Lizinka Brown moved to Richmond, Virginia. Anxious to secure her son a more prestigious and more proximate command, she convinced her first cousin, General Richard Henry Ewell, to place young Campbell Brown on his staff. Ewell agreed and 2nd Lieutenant Campbell Brown of the 3rd Tennessee became Major Campbell Brown on the staff of the Army of Northern Virginia. Her problems in Tennessee, however, were not over. Having abandoned the state, and with her son in the Confederate army, Lizinka’s Spring Hill plantation met the criteria of an “abandoned plantation,” enabling federal officers to lease it to willing and interested Unionists. She lived for the duration of the war in Richmond and during this time, she nursed to health General Richard Henry Ewell. Brown and Ewell married in May 1863 but stayed in Virginia for the remainder of the war.

After the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Courthouse in 1865, Lizinka Brown Ewell quickly worked to regain the freedom and amnesty of her husband and son. She secured a private meeting with now President Andrew Johnson in Washington, D.C., who agreed to offer amnesty to Ewell and Brown. It took longer for Lizinka to reacquire her plantation, but by circa 1866-1867 (the exact date is not clear), she and Ewell had returned to
Tennessee and taken up residence at what now became known as Ewell Farm (5/24/76). The Ewells were soon joined there by their son Campbell Brown and by their cousin McCoy Clemson Campbell, and the two young men became the active managers of the farm, under the overall direction of Lizinka and Richard Ewell.

In 1867 Campbell Brown and Mack Campbell were both young men in their twenties, Confederate veterans fresh from the scars of war. They were first cousins who had spent time together as children. Both were recently married. In 1866 Campbell Brown married Susan Polk, the daughter of Lucius J. and Mary Eastin Polk of Hamilton Place plantation (NR ) also in Maury County. Mack Campbell married Alice Louise Baugus of Columbia in 1866. And to provide for their new families, they both faced tremendous challenges in returning the old Campbell plantation back to prosperity. Most of the plantation’s livestock was gone; the slaves were emancipated, the fields were in tatters, and their agricultural prospects for the traditional major cash crops—livestock and cotton—were none too promising.

Between 1867 and 1872, however, their joint efforts placed Ewell Farm on the road to recovery and led to the creation of the agriculturally significant Cleburne Jersey Farm. The exact progression of events that led to the creation of two different farms is not always clear in the scattered records of the time. We can say, with greater certainty that between 1867 and 1872, the following related events took place:

1) General Ewell, Campbell Brown, and Mack Campbell convinced Lizinka to provide money for the initial purchase of three Jersey cattle bulls from a herd in Maryland. Only two bulls made it to Tennessee: Tormentor 3533 and Topsawyer 1404. Brown and Campbell began to experiment with these jersey bulls as a way of improving their livestock. But, it appears that large-scale dairying did not take place in these first years, judging from comments that Campbell Brown made about agriculture in Maury County in Joseph E. Killebrew ‘s immensely influential Resources of Tennessee (1874). Brown reported that “a good deal of improved stock had lately been brought into the county,” with the cattle including “a number of excellent Short-horns, some good Devons and Jerseys.” (Killebrew, 836) But, tellingly, he did not report about any substantial dairy activity in the county. In fact, Killebrew only found the Nashville area to have established a dairy industry. Killebrew did, however, boost the potential profits of that market, and urged Tennessee farmers to improve their stock and go into the business.

2) a frame, two-story symmetrical five bay central hall plan dwelling, with ornate Italianate style detailing, was constructed as a joint residence for Richard and Lizinka Ewell and for Campbell and Susan Brown. This house incorporated portions of the earlier house at the site owned by Lizinka before her marriage to Ewell. This house became known as the Ewell Farm and is still extant.

3) a frame, two-story symmetrical five bay central hall plan dwelling, with more plain Italianate style detailing, was constructed on original Campbell-Brown-Ewell land as the family residence of McCoy Clemson Campbell. This house is the primary dwelling being nominated in this nomination of the Cleburne Jersey Farm.

These two houses are strikingly similar, which leads credence to an interpretation that they were built at roughly the same time even though Mack Campbell did not acquire title to his farm until the death of the Ewells in 1872. But Mack Campbell was working the farm in 1867 and he, like Campbell Brown, was starting a family. Living at the Ewell Farm was the logical place for Mack Campbell and his family since that was where Mack Campbell and Campbell Brown’s dairy operation was located. Since the first Jersey bulls were imported between 1867 and 1870, it would make sense then that the house was also built during that time. However, for clarity’s sake, the dating of the
house for this nomination will be circa 1872 since that was the year that Mack Campbell would actually acquire title to his own land separate from the farm of Campbell Farm.

4) Richard and Lizinka Ewell died in 1872 and full control of the farm passed to Campbell Brown, who immediately sold 310 acres to Mack Campbell. Campbell immediately changed the name of his part of the former Ewell Farm to Cleburne Farm, in honor of Confederate General Patrick Cleburne of the Army of Tennessee.

It is not clear what happened at the two farms between 1872 and 1878, but it is very clear that the true beginning of the Jersey dairy industry in Tennessee dates to 1878, when Mack Campbell, with financial assistance from Campbell Brown and William J. Webster of the Webster Farm (NR 1996), began the state’s first Jersey herd. Investing in Jersey cattle took money due to the prices commanded by purebred stock. So throughout the early years of developing his herd, Mack Campbell and Campbell Brown sought additional investors. In the 1878 purchase, Mack Campbell imported three cows, Oonan 1485, Bisma 3d 1870, and Parapli 6134, to mate with Brown’s earlier Jersey bulls, Tomentor 3533 and Topsawyer 1404. Two years later, Campbell added another cow, Kate Gordon 8387 and purchased another bull Lord Harry 3445 in 1882. In a January 19, 1927 article titled “Half Century Spent With Jerseys: Cleburne Farm, Tennessee’s Oldest in Continuous Operation in America Today as a Jersey Breeding Establishment,” published in the Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World magazine of Indianapolis, Indiana, the unnamed author gushed: “Had Capt. Campbell stopped here and never purchased another Jersey the world would be indebted to him today, for I know of no other five jerseys that have done so much to make Jerseys worthy of the title—‘The Profit Breed.’”

It was in the 1880s that the property began to be called the Cleburne Jersey Farm. In 1885, Campbell significantly expanded the herd at Cleburne Jersey Farm after he, Major Campbell Brown, and John Trotwood Moore (later better known as the Tennessee writer, historian, and archivist) purchased a herd of purebred Jersey cattle from R. R. Foster of St. Louis. Out of this purchase, Campbell received three cows, Moyane 21595, Lottie Dorey 21578, and Baron’s Sophie 17615. Campbell and Brown then sought another third investor, Thomas H. Malone, to purchase another bull, Ida’s Stoke Pogis 13658 for $5,000.

After these acquisitions, Campbell had enough stock to not only run a profitable dairy, but also to sell the cattle for the creation of still additional Jersey herds across the country. In 1892, McCoy Clemson Campbell expanded his interests into general stock breeding, especially horses, when he purchased Cleburne Stock Farm, a 250 acre property near Spring Hill, from Colonel Allen Brown and constructed a race track to train and exercise his horses. Brown Hal, a champion racer of the 1880s and 1890s, was at stud here. Campbell Brown died in 1893, and from that point on it appears that Mack Campbell invested alone at both the dairy farm and the stock farm. To improve and expand his breeding operation, in fact, Campbell began to import directly from the Isle of Jersey. In 1897, for example, he acquired the cows Countess Le Brocq, Golden Francis, Golden Celia, and Maitland and the bull, Mona’s Glory, which was considered one of the most valuable Jerseys in the breed. According to the 1927 article in the Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World, “Mona’s Glory brought such fame to Cleburne Farm that his sons were in demand all over the United States.” In 1900, he imported still another bull, Lowland King, to breed with the daughters of Mona’s Glory, but unfortunately this bull died after four years of service. It did produce, however, Captain McCoy 71414. In 1902 Campbell imported six cows and two bulls from the Isle of Jersey and purchased three more cows from T. S. Cooper.
McCoy Clemson Campbell died in 1906. A year previous, a book titled *Century Review, 1805-1905: Maury County, Tennessee* was published and it provided an excellent summary of the evolution of Campbell’s farm over the last three decades. At this time, the dairy farm of 310 acres had 75 “fine” Jersey cattle. (p. 130). His son Allen Campbell, who had taken agricultural courses at the University of Virginia, now managed Cleburne Stock Farm on 260 nearby acres. It still specialized in raising horses, especially pacers. His daughter Mary Campbell Polk and her husband H. M. Polk owned a third farm between the Ewell Farm and the Cleburne Stock Farm. Mary Campbell Polk died in 1900. The Cleburne Jersey Farm and the Cleburne Stock Farm remained separate, but related, enterprises after Mack Campbell’s death in ??. This nomination only concerns the Cleburne Jersey Farm. Whatever remained of the Cleburne Stock Farm was demolished when the Saturn Corporation developed its automobile factory on that land, and other farms, during the mid-1980s. In its description of important Maury County properties, the *Century Review* also includes Ewell Farm, which it describes primarily as a horse-breeding farm. Thus in the forty years since the end of the Civil War, the historic Campbell-Brown-Ewell Farm had evolved its distinctive reputation, and agricultural significance, for horse breeding while the Cleburne Jersey Farm, which evolved from the Campbell-Brown-Ewell property in 1872, had developed a similar national reputation for Jersey cattle breeding.

The agricultural significance of Cleburne Jersey Farm did not end with the death of its founder McCoy Clemson Campbell in 1906. Under the control of his sons, especially George Campbell, the farm continued to improve its herds. In 1907 George Campbell imported three prize-winning cows and its next great bull, Rochette’s Golden Lad, from the Isle of Jersey. The *Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World* of January 19, 1927, described Rochette’s Golden Lad as “a worthy successor to the long list of great sires that serve Cleburne Farm where a bull has a hard time measuring up to the rigid standard that has always existed there. The best bull money can buy has always been the motto.” His offspring were important to the later development of the Jersey cattle industry in Marshall County, Tennessee, along with providing breeding stock for Jersey herds in Washington State and British Columbia. In 1917, George Campbell bought out his brothers, and assumed control of the dairy farm. He continued the farm’s pre-eminence into the 1920s when its success as a source for high quality cows and bulls began to generate competition from other Jersey dairy farms, especially in Marshall County.

George T. Allman introduced the animal to Marshall County in 1871. But the active development of local herds did not come until the purchase of cows and bulls from Cleburne Jersey Farm in the early 1900s. Marshall County dairymen established the Jersey Breeder’s Association, with Jimmy Joe Murray as president, in 1911. Local cattlemen later registered their purebreds with the American Jersey Cattle Club. After the first county fair in 1919, farmers established the Marshall County Cooperative Cow-Testing Association, a voluntary association for the testing of butterfat, and later reorganized the Association in 1920. During the 1920s, Lewisburg mayor (and later Governor) James M. McCord became a nationally recognized auctioneer for Jersey cattle, the Farm Bureau organized three cooperative creameries in 1924, the Marshall County Jersey Cattle Club was established in 1926, the Borden milk company opened a Lewisburg plant in 1927, and county officials and farmers organized the nation’s first Jersey Production Show and the Marshall County Cooperative Creamery in 1928.

The following year brought the establishment of the United States Dairy Experiment Station in Marshall County. James N. McCord, Jersey cattle farmer Jimmy Joe Murray, and Tennessee Governor Henry Horton, all from Marshall County, had called upon their friend and political ally U.S. Senator Kenneth McKellar to lobby Congress for the creation of a federal dairy demonstration farm that would specialize in Jersey cattle. In 1928 Congress appropriated $50,000 for the construction, equipping, and staffing of a dairy demonstration station. Horton then convinced the
General Assembly to match that amount in order to acquire land for the station. Officials initially purchased the farms of R.L. Brown and R.L. Richardson, a total of 480 acres; in 1954 they purchased an additional 135 acres from Frank and Gladys Medearis.

The station’s first 24 Jersey cows came from Vermont, Maryland, and Louisiana. Its first superintendent was John Simms, who served until 1939. Working with the local agricultural extension agent, the federal officials assisted farmers in creating the Dairy Herd Improvement Association in 1930. Two years later, the U.S. Department of Agriculture sent 14 additional jersey cows from its Research Herd at Beltsville, Maryland. Improvement on many farms came quickly. By 1940 the Marshall County Jersey Cattle Club published its first survey of Jersey bulls for breeding. The station successfully promoted the breeding and production of Jersey cattle and taught local farmers how to increase the yield and the percentage of butterfat produced by their herds. Officials also experimented with alfalfa and other hays to improve pastures for the cattle. They conducted classes, traveled throughout the region to give workshops and seminars, and wrote articles about Jersey dairy production in leading agricultural magazines. Superintendent A.G. Van Horn oversaw the merger of the federal station with the University of Tennessee’s Extension Service program in 1948. The following year, officials counted 12,000 Jersey cows in Marshall County alone. By the mid-1950s, also during Van Horn’s superintendence, officials decided to end the importation of females to the herd as they had raised the quality of animal desired for modern dairy production.

Three years after the creation of the experiment station, Chicago candy maker Frank Mars decided to open a major private stock breeding farm south of Cleburne Farm, on U. S. Highway 31 in Giles County. He named his 2,800-acre property, Milky Way Farm (NR ), after his most popular candy bar. Together, the new federal experiment station, the Mars estate, and the expansion of the Jersey breed across southern Middle Tennessee ended the near monopoly power yielded by Cleburne Jersey Farm over the Jersey dairy industry in Tennessee. From the 1940s on, leadership in the field lay with the developments at the experiment station, effectively ending the statewide agricultural significance of Cleburne Jersey Farm although its local significance in Maury County agriculture extends on to 1950.

Throughout its existence, the Cleburne Jersey Farm was like many farms in that it was part of a larger social organization. Historian Mary Neth explains, “The family farm was not isolated, but part of community ties that connected farms and families in rural neighborhoods.” (Neth, 2) McCoy Clemson Campbell retained community ties not only in his business and farming interests with his neighbors, but in other ways as well. In 1884, Campbell and many of the men he conducted farm business with joined together to charter the Beachcroft Female Academy in Spring Hill. Among those on the charter were McCoy Clemson Campbell, Campbell Brown, H.A. Brown, J.W. Alexander, and H.P. Wade. This school operated until the turn of the twentieth century. Its establishment not only demonstrates the social organization of the men and community efforts, but also the growth of Spring Hill during these years. According to historian Lisa Tolbert, “Female colleges occupied a prominent, highly visible place in the renovated townscape because their male designers defined them as integral to larger economic and cultural town goals.” (Tolbert, 151)

By this time, clearly, Mack Campbell was taking on the various attributes of a man of property and community spirit. Not only did he invest in the local female college, he also kept beagles for fox hunting; therefore, in some ways maintaining the aristocratic ways associated with old world traditions. He had time for social engagements and gentlemanly pursuits, because he could afford to hire others to do the hard work of dairying and breeding. Before the
Civil War, his family owned slaves. Indeed, Campbell took a black male named Ike to serve as his body servant during the war. According to a story in the *Maury Democrat* October 22, 1896, Ike was a well-known and well-regard black preacher, who served as the unofficial chaplain for approximately fifty other slaves accompanying the regiment until 1863, when he escaped to the lines of Union General William Rosecrans. In his dairy and breeding work, Campbell also relied on African-American tenants and laborers. One tenant, Will Barnes, grew up with George Campbell on the farm. Friends as boys, they worked the farm together as adults. Will Barnes was included in the photographs accompanying the January 1927 article in the *Jersey Bulletin and Dairy World*. That same article makes mention of “the old negro man who has become as much a part of Cleburne Farm as the Jerseys themselves;” this individual is believed to be Barnes’ father. George Campbell, after he purchased control of the farm from his brothers in 1917, continued in the tradition of his father, but he also expanded operations. In 1929, in response to the new competition, George increased the acreage of the farm, purchasing sixty-five acres of the original Ewell Farm adjacent to his property. Today the farm contains 310 acres, divided between different heirs. The nominated property contains 107 acres.

In contrast to his father who had several house servants, George only hired one, who was primarily helped with the laundry and watching the children. Her name was Evelyn Kittrell. Under George’s ownership, the farm followed what Mary Neth finds as a farm dependent on the help of family and friends. She states, “Family farm agriculture depending economically on the labor of families and neighbors. Farm people did not simply sell products for cash; they also produced good that could be used directly on the farm or by the family or could be exchanged to meet the needs of entire neighborhoods.” (Neth, 2)

Similar to farming in McCoy Clemson Campbell’s day, George Campbell and his family relied on social networks. Mary Neth finds that on many farms, “the farm, the family, and community continued to supply much of their own sustenance; and economic transactions were often by the practices of kinship and neighborhood as much as by the market.” (Neth, 3) One of the most demanding jobs was wheat production and many farm families helped one another out threshing the wheat. The far room of the “buggy house” contained a room for storage of wheat. The threshed wheat was then taken to the mill and traded for flour. The family farm provided most of the family’s needs. They raised hay, corn and wheat for the family and the animals. A large garden, circa 1920, was located to the east of the house providing fresh vegetables and a small orchard was located in close proximity of the garden. The cattle supplied dairy products. Everything was either stored in the root cellar or the springhouse because they did not have refrigeration. It was not until the 1940s, and the arrival of the rural electric power program, that the house was modernized with gas heat and refrigeration.

Christine Campbell, the wife of George Campbell, not only maintained the household, but she also helped with the farm duties. In the smokehouse she prepared the case-sausage, supervised the curing of hams, and sewed them with burlap and twine for shipping. The family kept some of the meat for themselves, but made a profit by shipping it. Flora McLain, daughter of George and Christine, recalls that the sausage was ground very fine and packaged it in three-pound cases. To cure the hams the trough was packed with salt and a recipe of molasses pitted with black pepper was used for curing and smoking. Apparently, the quality of their products was well known and a country club in Miami had a standing order for 350 pounds of case sausage every Christmas. The children also helped out with farmwork and Flora especially remembers collecting the eggs from the chickens. Christine Campbell was a registered nurse, who voluntarily served the community on numerous occasions, from the influenza epidemic of 1918 to occasionally assisting in the delivery of babies, and in helping with sick children.
The house underwent several changes during the years that George Campbell owned it. Originally, the kitchen was detached from the house and located on the hill to the north, rear, of the house. A lattice hallway connected the kitchen to the main house. The kitchen consisted of two rooms, one for storage and the other for cooking and also was used as eating area. In the years that McCoy Clemson managed the property, servants most likely carried the food from the kitchen into the dining room. When George’s family resided at the farm, without the assistance of several servants, the detached kitchen became inconvenient. Circa 1924, it was torn down and a kitchen was added to the rear of the house. The dining room originally contained two pantries, the larger china closet and a smaller pantry. When the kitchen was added, they made the smaller pantry accessible to the kitchen. Also, approximately where the limestone wall now stands was the cook’s house. This was a one room dwelling with a high front porch, latticework, and a central fireplace. The limestone wall was hand built after the kitchen and cook’s dwelling were torn down.

George Campbell continued to expand his cattle herd, with the goal of having about 35-40 producing milk at one time. The peak size of his herd was approximately 75 cattle. He was meticulous about caring for the cattle. In the winter, the cattle were bedded in the barn. The Jersey milk was sold as butter and pure cream to markets in Birmingham. The remainder of the milk was kept for the family and given to the tenant families, and the skim milk was given to the hogs. He also raised sheep.

Several tenant families continued to reside on the farm after George Campbell assumed ownership. Will Barnes’ dwelling still exists. The tenants typically sharecropped tobacco. A tobacco barn was located on the farm, but burned circa in 1960. Usually three tenant families lived on the farm. Flora recalls that her father was “so good to the hired help,” and provided each family with garden space and milk.

In order to survive the depression, George Campbell and his wife did not buy on credit, but only used cash. An agricultural survey of Maury County completed for the Civil Works Administration in 1934 found that the buildings on the farm were in medium condition, and reported that the house had no conveniences except water from the spring on the hill. This report, clearly, was in error in that the family had some original running water facilities in the house; perhaps the surveyor did not enter the house or the person answering the survey questions did not understand what a “convenience” was supposed to be. George Campbell had fifty registered Jersey cattle at the time while the crops planted included tobacco, corn, and hay. A primary source of income came from dairy and tobacco but the dairy was still the most important operation. In 1939 George Campbell bred the highest rated Jersey bull in the United States, Observer King Onyx, who produced 150 registered daughters and continued the Cleburne Jersey Farm’s tradition of leadership in the breeding of fine Jersey stock.

In 1948, George Campbell died and his sons George Jr., and John McCoy Campbell took over the management of the farm. Electrification of the farm and the dwelling occurred in this same year. George Jr. handled the cattle end of the business and John McCoy handled more of the planning and management of the farm. The brothers began the development of a more modern dairy operation to the northeast of the house. After several years, George sold his one-third share to John, who continued to run the farm. John’s son, Pat, continues to raise the Jersey cattle, sustaining the tradition that his great, great grandfather established in 1878.

The Cleburne Jersey Farm is also locally significant for its vernacular architecture and interior decorative painting. The dwelling, built circa 1872, is an excellently preserved example of Italianate style. This was a popular
architectural style for domestic structures from 1850 to 1880. The craftsmanship of the home reflects the family’s prominence and wealth. Original hardwood floors, grained wood doors, high relief mantels, and an ornate staircase reflect the architectural details of the house. Decorative painting techniques are reflected by the floor stenciling in the parlor and the grained wood mantels and doors throughout the home. According to Anne-Leslie Owens’s thesis about interior decorative painting in Tennessee Victorian homes, grained wood and stenciling were among the most common decorative painting techniques during the nineteenth century. Through her research, Owens, however, found no extant examples of stencil painting on the floors; thus the intact parlor floor of the Campbell house may be a rare surviving example of this art form. Although the artist of the stenciling in the Campbell home is unknown, Owens finds that in many cases “Itinerant painters and journeyman decorators, with their materials on horseback, carried designs and interest in stenciled walls from town to town.” (Owens, 15) The common colors of stenciling included reds, greens, yellow and black. The stencil in the parlor is primarily in green, red, and gold. The interior decorative painting is in keeping with the elite status held by Mack Campbell and his Campbell family relatives and the house interior retains several good examples of this painting tradition. The doors and mantels in the house are wood grained. Some are painted using feathers and other doors and mantels are painted in two colors to emphasize architectural details. Several of the pilasters supporting the mantel shelf, for example, are painted in a lighter color and the stiles and rails of the doors are painted in darker colors while the recessed panels are painted a lighter color. Moreover, the dwelling has original bathrooms of circa 1872, with some original features still intact.

In addition to the architectural and art significance of the dwelling, the various outbuildings, structures, and barns surrounding the dwelling are an excellent example of the building types and craftsmanship of rural vernacular architecture from circa 1870 to 1940. Of particular importance are the original stone dairy house and separator house, which may be the oldest such dairy house and separator complex in Middle Tennessee. No other older examples are known. The various architectural details of the dairy house, especially the quality of its hand-cut and hand-laid limestone block walls, its Gothic-influence bargeboard trim, and its extant interior features, including the original churn, are indications of its importance in the history of the farm.

In 1964, the Tennessee Jersey Cattle Club formally declared the Jersey herd at Cleburne Jersey Farm to be the oldest Jersey herd in the United States. The nominated buildings, and intact setting of the farm, still convey strongly the history and accomplishment associated with this property. The Columbia Herald of January 29, 1964, that announced the designation noted that the significance of the farm was “an accepted even if little known fact for many years in this area.” That observation is still true almost forty years later. Eclipsed in past narratives by the fame of the adjoining Ewell Farm, Cleburne Jersey Farm deserves its own special niche in the history of Tennessee agriculture as the place where the significant Jersey cattle industry of Tennessee began in the aftermath of the American Civil War.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9  Page 20  Cleburne Jersey Farm  Maury County, TN

X. Bibliography


Campbell Farm, Maury County. Civil Works Administration Farm Survey Records. Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville.

*Century Review, 1805-1905, Maury County, Tennessee.* Columbia: Board of Mayor and Aldermen, 1905.


1860 Census, Maury County, Tennessee.

1870 Census, Maury County, Tennessee.


Garrett, Jill. ‘Hither and Yon’


McLain, Flora Campbell. Interview by Amanda Wild.


Polk-Brown-Ewell Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives.


Warden Collection, Gore Center, Middle Tennessee State University.


York, Katherine. Interview by Amanda Wild.
X. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description
The nominated property contains 107 acres, which is marked with a heavy black line on the attached Maury County Tax Map 11, Parcel 1. The black lines follow fence lines that were installed around the 107 acres after heirs divided the property in 1999. There has been no new tax map prepared for the farm since this division of property.

The tax map for this nomination has the scale 1” = 400’. This scale map is prepared by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1” = 400’ scale adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

Boundary Justification
The nominated boundaries contain all of the extant significant resources of the Cleburne Jersey Farm and are under individual ownership. The nominated 107 acres remains in family ownership and continues to be used for agricultural purposes.
Cleburne Jersey Farm, Maury County, TN

Photos by: Carroll Van West
             MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Date: February 2000

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
           Nashville, TN

South facade, facing north
1 of 50

East elevation, facing west
2 of 50

East elevation, detail, facing southwest
3 of 50

North elevation, facing south
4 of 50

West elevation, facing east
5 of 50

Entrance door, first floor, facing east
6 of 50

Center hall staircase, facing north
7 of 50

Staircase, detail, facing northwest
8 of 50

Rear hall, first floor, facing south
9 of 50

Transom and door into east parlor, facing northeast
10 of 50

Door, east parlor, facing west
11 of 50

Decorative stenciling, east parlor, facing northwest
12 of 50
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10  Page 24

Cleburne Jersey Farm
Maury County, TN

Decorative stenciling, mantel, east parlor, facing north
13 of 50

Bay window, east parlor, facing east
14 of 50

East parlor, facing southwest
15 of 50

Mantel, painting of McClemson Campbell, facing north
16 of 50

Southwest bedroom, first floor, facing south
17 of 50

Dining room, first floor, facing west
18 of 50

Dining room, first floor, facing northwest
19 of 50

Dining room, facing south
20 of 50

Linoleum flooring, dining room, facing west
21 of 50

Northwest bedroom, first floor, facing southeast
22 of 50

Northwest bedroom, first floor, facing northwest
23 of 50

Northwest bathroom, first floor, facing southwest
24 of 50

Den and rear staircase, first floor, facing southwest
25 of 50

Den and kitchen, first floor, facing east
26 of 50

Rear enclosed porch, first floor, facing east
27 of 50
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 25

Cleburne Jersey Farm
Maury County, TN

Center staircase, second floor, facing northwest
28 of 50

Landing, second floor, facing northwest
29 of 50

Rear hall, second floor, facing south
30 of 50

Landing to southeast bedroom, second floor, facing east
31 of 50

Southeast bedroom, second floor, facing north
32 of 50

Northeast bedroom, second floor, facing southwest
33 of 50

Rear hall staircase, second floor, facing west
34 of 50

Southwest bedroom, second floor, facing north
35 of 50

Northwest bedroom, second floor, facing south
36 of 50

Northwest bedroom, second floor, facing northeast
37 of 50

Original sink, northwest bathroom, second floor, facing southwest
38 of 50

Dairy house and separator house, facing northwest
39 of 50

Dairy house, facing north
40 of 50

Dairy house, interior, facing west
41 of 50

Separator house, facing northwest
42 of 50
Limestone wall, smokehouse, facing northeast
43 of 50

Concrete trough, dairy house, and domestic complex, facing southeast
44 of 50

Cattle barn, facing northwest
45 of 50

Milking barn, facing northeast
46 of 50

Spring house, facing east
47 of 50

Circa 1920 silo, facing north
48 of 50

Garden site, buggy house, fields, facing southeast
49 of 50

Buggy house and circa 1960 silos, facing northeast
50 of 50