

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JUN 20 1985

date entered JUL 18 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Booker, Merritt H., House

and or common Booker Place

2. Location

street & number Scott Hollow Road N/A not for publication

city, town Culleoka —X vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Maury code 119

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dan Ingram

street & number Route 2, Scott Hollow Road

city, town Culleoka — vicinity of state Tennessee 38451

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maury County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maury County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission

city, town Nashville state Tennessee 37219-5237

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on a gentle rise near the head of Scott Hollow, two miles northwest of the town of Culleoka in southern Maury County, Tennessee, the Merritt H. Booker House is a small but exceptional brick residence in the Federal style of architecture, one of the best surviving examples in Maury County. The nine-room, one-and-one-half-story brick structure is of simple plan but contains an outstanding interior with interesting corner rooms, a central hall with cantilevered stair over a curved rear wall, original mantels and doors of very high quality, and chair rails, cornices, and other interior trim. The basement contains two large rooms lined with stone walls, one used as a winter kitchen. A small frame cabin is located on the property a slight distance north of the main house. The farm is located on fertile lands along the headwaters of Fountain Creek.

The Merritt H. Booker House is laid out on the central-passage plan, with small corner rooms opening off the side parlor and bedroom. The house is of brick construction, laid in Flemish bond, and rests upon a raised stone foundation, the full basement containing an interesting stone-lined winter kitchen on the south side and another large room on the north. Two large bedrooms are located in the upper half-story. Extended from the rear of the house, a one-story frame gabled section, added in 1963, occupies the site of the original detached kitchen; this section, not visible from the main facade, contains a kitchen and service wing.

The main facade of the house faces west. This facade is five bays wide, arranged around a central one-story pedimented portico supported by Tuscan columns, the cornice supported by slender brackets. This porch replaces the house's original porch, which had deteriorated and was removed before work began in 1963. The ten-panel door is topped by a four-light transom. Two sets of 9/9 light double-hung sash windows flank the entry on either side. The windows are topped by plain lintels with ball-and-target cornerblocks. Below these, small six light windows in the stone foundation provide light to the full basement; these windows are topped with arched brick lintels. A thin molded wooden cornice extends across the entire front. Three small gabled dormers with 6/6 light windows range across the side-gable roof; these were added during the 1963 restoration when work on the roof disclosed the ghosts of the original dormers.

The north and south gable ends are similar, each featuring two inset brick chimneys. Two 9/9 light sash windows, one on each floor, are centered between the chimneys on the south end; the north end features only a single 9/9 light window centered on the upper story.

A one-story frame section extends from the center of the rear. The tee section, built from the remains of the 1833 Goodrum House which once stood near McCains, Tennessee, is framed in vertical siding and is topped by a gable roof of composition shingles. The frame section features a glass-paneled rear door and a number of 6/6 light sash windows.

The interior of the house is particularly outstanding. The nine rooms are arranged around a central hall with a dogleg staircase cantilevered over a semicircular rear wall. The hall's floors are of white ash. A doorway on the north opens into the main parlor, a large room distinguished by a Federal style mantel with a thinly molded shelf supported by Tuscan Order columns, an eleven foot ceiling with a molded cornice, a molded wooden baseboard, and a chair rail on all walls. Behind this room is a small corner bedroom, an interesting room with a small arched fireplace and original built-in cupboard with paneled doors built between the chimney breast and east wall.

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The large room on the south has long served as a bedroom. It features another fine Federal style mantel, identical to that in the parlor, and a 9/9 light window on the south wall, added about 1890 to provide a view to the barn. The room features ash floors and other decorative features similar to those in the parlor. Part of this room has been enclosed as a bath.

The upstairs contains two bedrooms flanking the central stair hall; both are lit by dormers and gable end windows. Floors are of yellow poplar and a chair rail encircles the walls. The bedroom on the south side features a small fireplace in the southwest corner. The two rooms are connected by a commodious bath at the rear of the stair hall.

The main section contains two large rooms below grade level. The stone-walled room on the north side has traditionally served as a "winter kitchen;" it features a large stone fireplace behind a radiating stone arch, six-light fixed windows on the west wall, vertical batten doors to the east and south, exposed joists of large poplar beams, and a brick floor, made of brick from the old Jackson College on Rutherford Creek. The room on the south is similar, but features a slab floor instead of the brick.

The one-story frame section at the rear contains a modern kitchen and dining area. The section, added in 1966, replaces a 1935 extension, which in turn replaced an earlier addition. It features poplar paneling, doors, and windows, a vertical-paneled door to the rear, a pine floor, and 6/6 light windows. This section was constructed from the remains of the Goodrum House which stood near McCains, Tennessee.

A small frame ca. 1930 tractor shed with a shed roof is located just behind the house; the structure is in fair condition. One hundred yards or so northeast of the house is a small frame building, possibly dating from before 1860. This small weatherboarded structure consists of one large room with a rear shed section, and features a stone chimney on the north end and a paneled front door. The cabin rests on stone piers and is topped by a side-gable roof of corrugated tin.

The Merritt H. Booker House and its outbuildings are located on gently rolling lands near head of Scott Hollow, and are surrounded by well-maintained fields in all directions.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1828 **Builder/Architect** Merritt H. Booker

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Booker Place, The Merritt H. Booker House near Culleoka in southern Maury County, Tennessee, is nominated under National Register criteria B and C for its significance to Maury County in architecture and local history. Historically the house is significant for its association with Merritt H. Booker, an early settler and owner of considerable property in southern Maury County. The house is one of the best surviving examples of the Federal style of architecture in the south central Tennessee region. The one-and-one-half story brick house features paired gable and chimneys, 9/9 windows with flat lintels, a wide dentiled cornice, and a dormered front. Few other houses of this size in the area feature such careful attention to interior detail; all rooms retain their original decoration, including mantels decorated with engaged columns supported heavily molded shelves interesting corner fireplaces in a number of rooms, rabbeted-panel doors, and original wainscot, chair rails and cornices. The house is set on a small knoll overlooking the farm's fertile fields.

The house was built in 1828 by Merritt H. Booker, a Virginia native who came to Maury County sometime in the 1820s, to join his brother Peter, soon to become the richest man in Maury County. Merritt Booker lived in the house until his death in 1839. He is buried in the family cemetery across the fields. His wife, Martha Frances, lived on in the house for a number of years. She is remembered for establishing the Culleoka Reading Club, the first attempt at a library in this part of the county.

At the death of the Bookers, the house passed to their daughters, Charlotte and Sally. Charlotte Booker married James Smiser in 1847. The property remained in their possession through the Civil War. To this day the farm is still known as the "Booker Place."

Despite the name, the house has had a longer association with the Ingram family, as the farm has belonged to this family for more than a century. The property was purchased shortly before 1880 by Jonas Ingram. He held the farm a short time before conveying the property to his son John Ingram. The property has remained in the Ingram family ever since; Dan Ingram, the present owner, is the grandson of Jonas Ingram.

The house was not occupied for much of the twentieth century. About 1963, restoration of the house was begun by Dan Ingram. All work was done with antique tools from the period. Work on the roof disclosed that a set of three dormers was an original feature of the house; the small gabled dormers were replaced during the restoration. A rear frame section was added to the house sometime during the nineteenth century. It was razed and replaced by another frame ell about 1920. During the 1963 renovation of the house, this section was also razed and replaced with a third small frame rear section, a one-story gabled-roof section constructed of timbers from the 1833 Goodrum House near McCains, Tennessee.

Architecturally, the house is one of the very best examples of Federal style architecture in Maury County. The house features a symmetrical five-bay front arranged around a small classical entry porch, paired inset brick chimneys at the gable ends, nine-over-nine windows

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Be Sure to See the Kitchen When Touring Booker Place." Columbia Daily Herald. n.d.
"Booker Home in Ingram Family for 100 Years." Columbia Daily Herald. n.d.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property four acres
Quadrangle name Lynnville, Tennessee Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References LATITUDE 35°28'6" LONGITUDE 87°00'43"

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is L-shaped, four acres in size and bounded on the east, south and southwest by fencelines and on the north and northwest by adjoining property lines. The boundary includes sufficient acreage to protect the historic setting and architectural integrity of the Merritt H. Booker House.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Quin, Historic Preservation Planner

organization South Central Tennessee Development Dist. date February, 1985

street & number P.O. Box 1346 telephone 615-381-2040

city or town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hayer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 5/28/85

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Allison Byers Entered in the National Register date 7-18-85
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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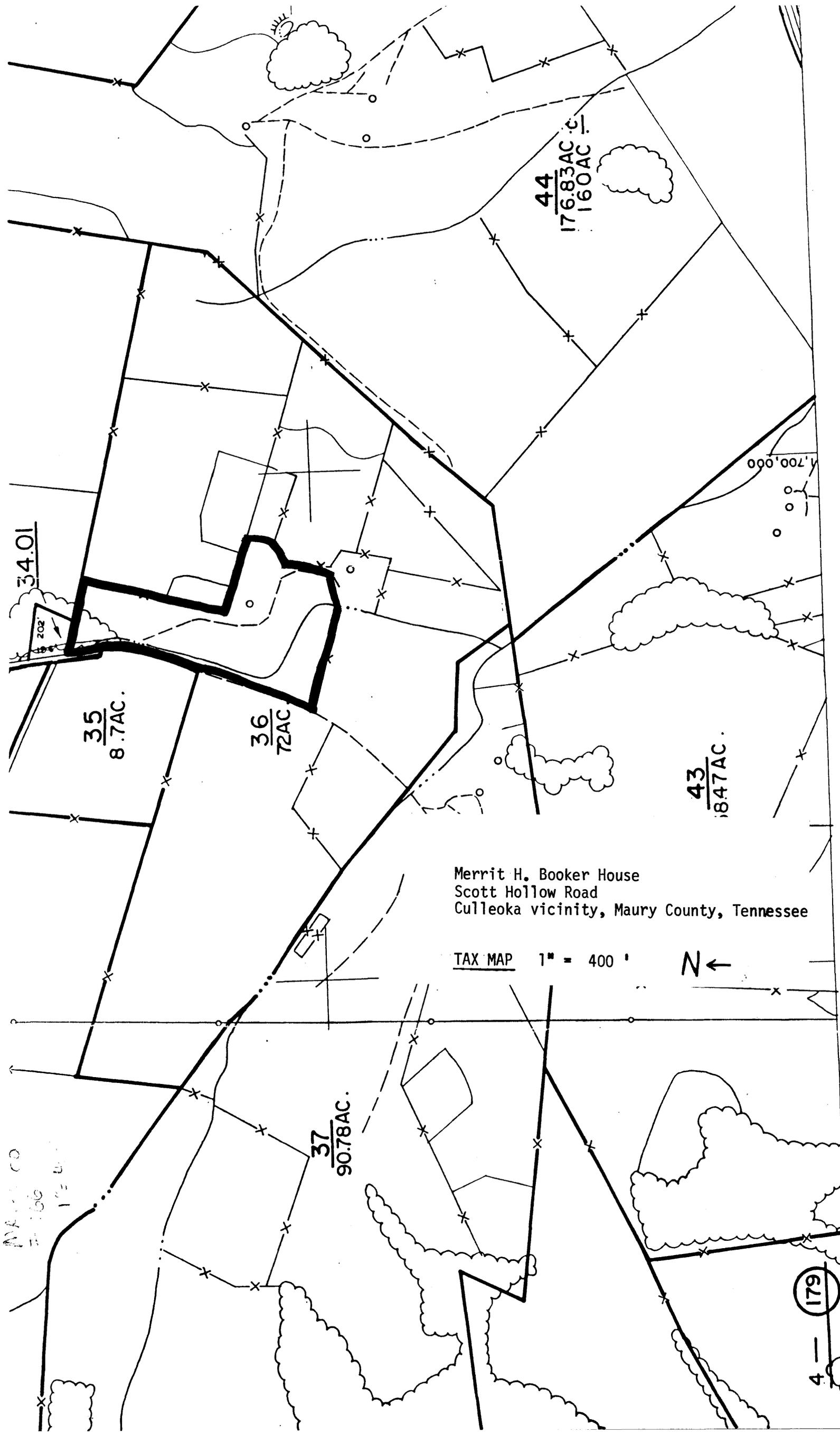
received

date entered

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with stone lintels decorated with stars, and a raised stone foundation over a full basement. The interior is notable for its generally small but well-decorated rooms, the interesting corner fireplaces in several rooms, and especially for the stone-walled winter kitchen in the house's basement. Mantels are supported by thin engaged columns and feature intricate shelves with many slender moldings and fillets. The main part of the house retains almost all of its original elements - doors, mantels, staircase - and has only been slightly altered, to provide for wiring and additional closet space. The frame rear section replaces two earlier rear additions and is constructed from timbers from the 1833 Goodrum House near McCains, Tennessee; the small board-and-batten section is not visible from the main front of the house and complements the historic brick structure.

Few houses of such scale in Maury County are so nicely detailed. Federal style architecture is relatively scarce in the area, and the Merritt H. Booker House is one of the county's finest survivors. As an excellent example of the country carpenter's art, the Merritt H. Booker House is well-deserving of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Alterations to the structure date from the 1963 renovation of the house, and were executed in a sensitive manner. Despite these changes, the Merritt H. Booker House retains its historical and architectural integrity.



Merrit H. Booker House
Scott Hollow Road
Culleoka vicinity, Maury County, Tennessee

TAX MAP 1" = 400' N ←

MAURY CO
7-166
1" = 400'

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National Park Service

7/22/91

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Booker, Merritt H., House Maury County, TENNESSEE

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

James Andrew Byers
8/1/91

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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The correct UTM for the property should be: 16/499180/3925060.

Herbert L. Harper
Herbert L. Harper, Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

7/13/91
Date