



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

Summer 2007

Vol. 4 Issue 1

The Barns of Tennessee

SEND YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR AN UPCOMING BOOK

Barns have been a part Tennessee's landscape since the late 1700s. On working farms, barns provide shelter for livestock, feed, and equipment while serving as the central heartbeat of farm life. Today, many farms are being lost to deterioration or development, and barns that were once so visible and necessary are disappearing. In honor of Tennessee's agrarian history, the staff of the *Tennessee Magazine*, the Donning Company Publishers, and authors Caneta Hankins and Michael Gavin will be producing a book photographically documenting Tennessee's barns. The limited-edition, 160-page pictorial keepsake is scheduled to be released in late summer or early fall of 2008.



The 1932 tobacco barn is on the McKee Farm (founded in 1906) in Sumner County. (Courtesy McKee family)



This barn, which dates from 1900, is on Cedar View Farm (founded 1788) in Sullivan County. (Courtesy Torbett family)

Hankins, assistant director of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and director of the Tennessee Century Farms Program, and Gavin, preservation specialist with the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area at the Center, will tell the stories of the barns and describe their type, construction, and function as part of the lives of farmers across the state.

This is your chance to be published in this important project. We need high-quality photographs from you. We're looking for any kind of barn in any condition. Your photographs will fill the book with images of barns old and new, leaning or fallen, abandoned or bustling with activity. Please see the entry form and instructions with this newsletter.

The Tennessee Ag Tag!

Consider purchasing an Ag Tag license plate in 2007 and help fund projects including 4-H, FFA, and the Century Farms sign program.



Congratulations to These New Century Farms!

Since the last newsletter (fall 2006) the following farms have been certified. While the farm may have more than one owner, because of space limitations the list shows only the first contact owner of record as supplied on the Century Farms application. The list represents the newest certifications up to June 30, 2007.

Please help us to 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 July 1, 2007, will appear in the December newsletter.

ALLEN DAIRY FARM

County: Smith
Owner: Sam Allen
Date Founded: 1891

ATKINSON FARM

County: Franklin
Owner: Richard S. Atkinson
Date Founded: 1868

BEDFORD WISEMAN FARM

County: Moore
Owner: Helene Lusty
Date Founded: 1904

BROOKSIDE FARM

County: Washington
Owner: Charles A. Keys
Date Founded: 1793

BUIS RIDGE FARM

County: Claiborne
Owner: Joanna B. Kennedy
Date Founded: 1897

CYPRESS CREEK FARM

County: Crockett
Owner: Joe S. Emerson
Date Founded: 1890

DAVENPORT FARM

County: Warren
Owner: Wilma C. Davenport
Date Founded: 1850

DODSON FARM

County: Overton
Owner: Ken E. Dodson
Date Founded: 1858

FAIRVIEW FARM

County: Jefferson
Owner: Mary E. James Musick
Date Founded: 1894

Grants Available to Change, Expand, Improve Farming Operations

Tennessee's farmers have the opportunity to receive cost share grants through the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP). This program is funded through an appropriation for farm programs in the state's budget as proposed by Governor Phil Bredesen and supported by the Tennessee General Assembly. Cost share programs include cattle genetics and handling equipment, hay storage facilities, and producer diversification.

The hay storage facility program began accepting applications July 2, 2007.

The producer diversification program began accepting applications July 2, 2007.

The cattle genetics and handling equipment program will begin accepting applications August 1, 2007.

Applications, guidelines, and deadlines for each program can be found online at www.picktnproducts.org or by calling the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Market Development office.

For more information, contact Lynne Williams, P.O. Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204; (615) 837-5081; or at Lynne.Williams@state.tn.us.

HAROLD PRATER FARM

County: Blount
Owner: Harold W. Prater
Date Founded: 1906

HAWKINS FARM

County: Bedford
Owner: James M. Hawkins
Date Founded: 1896

HOMER TAYLOR FARM

County: Cumberland
Owner: Homer Taylor
Date Founded: 1899

J. M. BAILIFF FARM

County: DeKalb
Owner: Kevin L. Brady
Date Founded: 1875

JONES-ROGERS FARM

County: Fayette
Owner: Edward H. Rogers
Date Founded: 1881

LONG FARM

County: Coffee
Owner: William A. Long
Date Founded: 1889

MCGAUGH FARM

County: Obion
Owner: Donald W. McGaugh
Date Founded: 1887

MURLEY-WHITE FARM

County: Lauderdale
Owner: Steve White
Date Founded: 1902

PRATER FARM

County: Knox
Owner: Elsie L. Prater
Date Founded: 1905

RINEHART ACRES

County: Montgomery
Owner: Chris Rinehart
Date Founded: 1833

**ROBERTSON'S 1849
RIPPLING WATER FARM**

County: Sevier
Owner: Ralph Robertson
Date Founded: 1849

STRICKLAND PLACE

County: Robertson
Owner: Wesley Pepper
Date Founded: 1903

TERRY FARM

County: Hamblen
Owner: Steven Terry
Date Founded: 1893

TERRY FARM

County: Trousdale
Owner: Connie R. Massey
Date Founded: 1868

TOM BELL FARM

County: Dyer
Owner: Will Tom Bell
Date Founded: 1906

TOWRY FARM

County: Lincoln
Owner: Jerry Weldon Towry
Date Founded: 1904

VINSON FARM

County: Cannon
Owner: Robert W. Vinson
Date Founded: 1890

**WADDELL NOLACHUCKEY
RIVER FARM**

County: Greene
Owner: Darwin Waddell
Date Founded: 1889

The Barns of Tennessee

Submit photos for new book!

HOW TO ENTER

Take a high-quality photograph of as many Tennessee barns as you like. Generations of family members photographed with the barn are especially of interest.

We need strong photographs with great light, interesting composition, and compelling subject matter.

Vintage or historic photographs are also of particular interest to the project. Please don't send the original. Contact a professional photographer or photo lab in your area and get a high-quality scan or copy made.

To the best of your ability, provide information on each barn as requested on the entry form.

Print at least a 5x7 inch, high-resolution print and complete the entry form. If your original is a digital file, please include it on a CD along with a 5x7 print.

Make sure your entries are postmarked by August 15.

Send photo entries to

Tennessee Magazine
Tennessee Barns
P. O. Box 100912
Nashville, TN 37224

IMPORTANT

Due to limited space, we will not be able to print all the photos we receive. The staff of the Tennessee Magazine and the authors will select images to be published, researched, and possibly reshot at our discretion. Unfortunately, due to the volume of entries expected, we will not be able to return any materials. By entering you give your permission to the *Tennessee Magazine* and the Donning Company Publishers to use your photograph in the project as described. Pre sales of the book will begin in summer 2008.

Whiskey Making in Tennessee: What's Your Story?

We all know about Tennessee's two most famous distilleries—Jack Daniel and George Dickel. There are other stories, too, of distilleries that operated on individual farms in the 19th and 20th centuries before Prohibition. The production of fine whiskey in Robertson County, for example, reached a peak in the 1880s but ceased in 1909. If your farm's history includes making whiskey, please let Caneta Hankins know by giving her a call at (615) 898-2947 or e-mailing her at chankins@mtsu.edu. Or simply drop a note to Box 80, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. Just provide a name, phone number, and brief message. She will get back with you to follow up on your farm's story for a research project on the relatively unknown whiskey industry of Tennessee farms. As always, we thank you for sharing the stories of your farm



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.

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

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TENNESSEE CENTURY FARMS

The Barns of Tennessee

ENTRY FORM



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____ Fax _____

Name of photographer _____

Photo title _____

Barn location (be as exact as possible) _____

County barn is located in _____

Builder of barn _____

Owner of barn _____

Approximate age of barn or year built _____

Additional information and description _____

E-mail _____

Original image format Slide Negative Digital

Send entries to *Tennessee Magazine* • Tennessee Barns, P. O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224

Each photograph you enter must be accompanied by a completed entry form. You may make photocopies as needed. Entries must be postmarked no later than August 15, 2007. Early entries are encouraged and are being accepted now.