

JUN 12 1982

Carter Family Thematic Nomination, Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks  
Thematic National Register Nomination Inventory Form

Historic Name: Maybelle and Ezra Carter House  
Street Address/Rt. No.: Rt. 614  
Vicinity of: Maces Spring  
USGS Quad: Hilton 7.5

Common Name: Maybelle & Ezra Carter House  
VHLC File Number: 84-15  
Owner: Johnny & June Carter Cash  
Henderson, Tennessee

Date(s): Early 20th century  
Original Use: Dwelling  
Present Use: Dwelling  
Condition: very Good  
Altered xx; unaltered    

Architect/Builder: Garn Larkey, 1936  
Style: rennovations  
Vernacular

Physical Description:

The Maybelle Carter House began as a five-room dwelling, which was substantially remodeled during the Carter occupancy. Family members recall that the first, and only, floor contained four rooms, two across the front and two, divided by a small hall, behind these. A breezeway off the back provided access to a detached, one-room kitchen.

In 1936 Garn Larkey, a local carpenter, enlarged the house, creating its present form. At this time, several renovations were made to the original block; the partition between the front rooms was taken out and the hall dividing the back rooms was removed, but the two rooms were retained. Larkey added a third file of rooms along the back, removing the detached kitchen. Additional bedrooms were created on a new second floor, lighted by shed dormers along each side. On the exterior, a new wrap-around porch with turned columns, extending across the front and the length of both sides, highlighted the renovations. Other alterations included the construction of a bathroom, the excavation of the basement, and the modernization of the interior. The only change since that date is the spindle frieze added to the porch in 1981.

This small farm presently includes a wood-frame smokehouse behind the house, a small barn built by Ezra near the smokehouse, and a two-level, cinderblock garage and workshop, also built by Ezra.

Statement of Significance:

The primary significance of this dwelling rests with its association with Maybelle Carter, an original member of the Carter family. Ezra and Maybelle Addington Carter moved to this house soon after their marriage in March, 1926. Both were related to the two other members of the original Carter family; Ezra was a brother to A. P. Carter and Maybelle was a cousin to Sara Carter, coming from the Copper Creek community of Scott County. They spent most of their married life here, giving birth to and raising their three daughters, Helen, June, and Anita. After the original Carter family disbanded, Maybelle and her daughters continued to remain active in the music business, as Mother Maybelle and the Carter Sisters. In the early 1950s, Grant Carter bought their Clinch Mountain house. His widow remained here until June of 1981, when she sold the property to Maybelle and Ezra's daughter, June, and her husband, Johnny Cash.

Besides its primary significance in its connection with the Carters, this house with its gable-end facade, and simple rectangular form, illustrates a familiar and very representative small house form for early twentieth century rural Virginia. The 1930s renovations clearly suggest the bungalow style growing in popularity during these years.

Geographic Data/Acreage: Approx. 2 Acres

Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a point on the left side of dirt access road approx. 475' N of intersection of said road with VA 614 which lies approx. 3000' (continued)  
Boundary Justification: The bounds have been drawn to include the house, outbuildings, and immediate house yard.

UTM: 17/374660/4059420

Prepared By: Ann McCleary, Architectural Historian

Date Prepared: February, 1985

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Verbal Boundary Description continued:

Maybelle & Ezra Carter House  
84-15

E-NE of intersection of VA 614 with VA 691; thence following left side of dirt road for approx. 200' N; thence following said road approx. 250' NE; thence approx. 300' W; thence approx. 400' S; thence approx. 200' E to point of origin.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 5/3/85  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Carter Family Thematic Resources

State Scott County, VIRGINIA

Nomination/Type of Review

Cover 6/20/85

Date/Signature

52 1. Carter, A.P., Store

**Substantive Review**

Keeper

[Signature] 6/14/85

Attest

2. Carter, A.P. and Sara, House

**Entered in the  
National Register**

for Keeper

[Signature] 6/12/85

Attest

3. Carter, Maybelle and  
Ezra, House

**Entered in the  
National Register**

for Keeper

[Signature] 6/12/85

Attest

4. Mt. Vernon Methodist  
Church

**Entered in the  
National Register**

for Keeper

[Signature] 6/12/85

Attest

5. Carter, A.P., Homeplace  
(Previously listed 7/30/76)

Keeper

Attest

6.

Keeper

Attest

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

Rec # 85001412

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Carter, Maybelle and Ezra, House (Carter  
Family TR)  
Scott County  
VIRGINIA

Working No. MAY 3, 1985

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86

Date Due: 5/30/85 - 6/17/85

Action: ACCEPT 6-12-85

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

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**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*