

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Harry S Truman National Historic Site
Missouri



Truman Farm

Cultural Landscapes Inventory



August 2014

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The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics as character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved inventory records when all required data fields are entered, the park superintendent concurs with the information, and the landscape is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places through a consultation process or is otherwise managed as a cultural resource through a public planning process.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS) in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2001), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that responds to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two goals are associated with the CLI: 1) increasing the number of certified cultural landscapes (1b2B) servicewide; and 2) bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (1a7). The CLI is maintained by the Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, WASO, and is the official source of cultural landscape information servicewide.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated and approved at the regional level. Each region annually updates a strategic plan that prioritizes work based on a variety of park and regional needs that include planning and construction projects or associated compliance requirements that lack cultural landscape documentation. When the inventory unit record is complete and concurrence with the findings is obtained from the superintendent and the State Historic Preservation Office, the regional CLI coordinator certifies the record and transmits it to the national CLI Coordinator for approval. Only records approved by the national CLI coordinator are included in the CLI for official reporting purposes.

Relationship between the CLI and a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)

The CLI and the CLR are related efforts in the sense that both document the history, significance, and integrity of park cultural landscapes. However, the scope of the CLI is limited by the need to achieve concurrence with the park superintendent, and resolve eligibility questions when a National Register nomination does not exist, or when an existing nomination inadequately addresses the eligibility of landscape characteristics. Ideally, a park's CLI work (which many include multiple inventory units) precedes a CLR because the baseline information in the CLI not only assists with priority setting when more than one CLR is needed it also assists with determining more accurate scopes of work for the CLR effort.

The CLR is the primary treatment document for significant park landscapes. It therefore requires a more in depth level of research and documentation, both to evaluate the historic and the existing condition of the landscape and to recommend a preservation treatment strategy that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

The scope of work for a CLR, when the CLI has not been done, should include production of the CLI record. Depending on its age and scope, existing CLR's are considered the primary source for the history, statement of significance, and descriptions of contributing resources that are necessary to complete a CLI record.

Chapter 1: Inventory Unit Summary

Inventory Unit Description

The Truman Farm is a 5.26 acre site located in the City of Grandview, Jackson County, Missouri. It, along with an additional adjoining 5 acres of land, comprises the Grandview unit of Harry S Truman National Historic Site. The Truman Farm landscape, which centers on the historic farm home, is a final remnant of the 600 acre farm that Harry S Truman helped his family operate from 1906 to 1917.

The property is accessed on the west side from Blue Ridge Boulevard. From the entrance, a paved drive extends approximately 93 meters, accessing a small parking loop. There are three historically significant buildings. The Truman Farm Home sits about 15 meters north of the parking area, and is accessed by a paved walkway system. The Truman Farm Garage sits about 10 meters east of the parking area. The Truman Farm Poultry House is located about 30 meters northeast of the home. Interspersed among these contributing structures are three noncontributing outbuildings. Directly adjacent to the east side of the garage is a maintenance shed that dates to circa 1995. About 18 meters north of the shed sits a small wood frame building known as the “smokehouse.” It was moved to the property in 1985. A few meters west of the poultry house sits a nonfunctioning privy, which was also moved to the property in 1985.

The small cluster of buildings is centrally located on the property. The landscape is ornamented with scattered stands of trees and shrubs, but is largely defined by the open grassy expanses that stretch to the east and west boundaries. Indications of the historic landscape are evident in the remnant stone posts that once defined gateways and fences. In addition to the posts that stand in place, there are piles of posts that were unearthed by encroaching commercial developments and deposited on the remaining farm property. Although there is little to see of the farm that once existed, substantial archeological features have been identified, including numerous foundations from non-extant structures.

To the west, the landscape is bounded by Blue Ridge Boulevard. To the south and east, it is bounded by a solid tree-line and intermittent fence. To the north, it is bounded by a post and wire fence. Although the historic landscape is heavily impacted by the surrounding urban encroachment and a paucity of remaining farm structures, a visitor can still glean a sense of the landscape that shaped Harry S Truman’s most formative years.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Truman Farm
Property Level: Landscape
CLI Identification Number: 500439
Parent Landscape: Truman Farm

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Harry S Truman National Historic Site-HSTR
Park Organization Code: 6460
Park Administrative Unit: Harry S Truman National Historic Site

Chapter 2: Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Incomplete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

Initial research conducted in FY1999 by seasonal employees Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford helped determine the number of potential landscapes for the park. This work was reviewed by the cultural landscape program leader at the time, Sherda Williams, and Historical Landscape Architect Marla McEnaney. Research, data entry, and site work was completed in 2010 by Dan Jackson. Final concurrence was given in April 2010.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: 4/14/2010
National Register Concurrence: Listed to the NRHP- 5/5/1978

Site Visit Conducted: 2010

Chapter 3: Geographic Information & Location Map

State & County:

State: Missouri
County: Jackson County

Size (Acres): 5.26

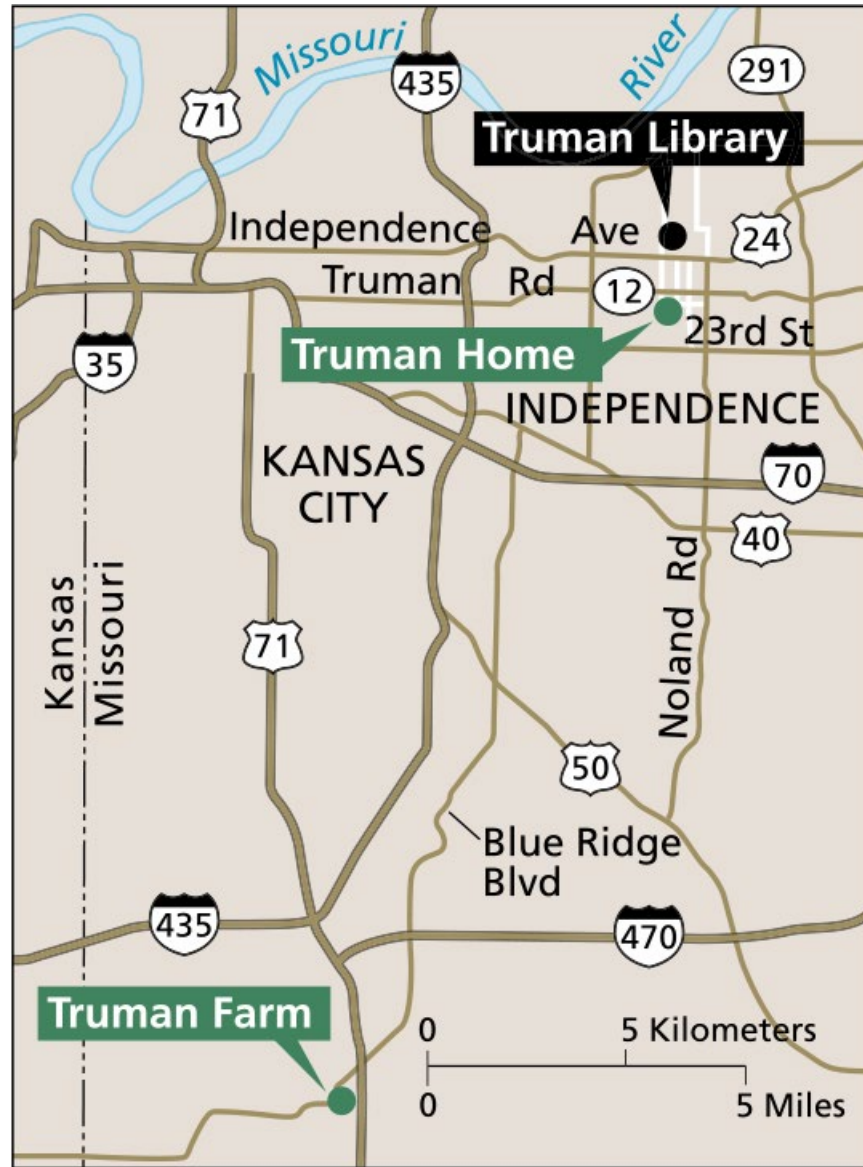
Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point on the north line of the north half of the northeast quarter of Section 14, Township 47, Range 33, which is 1247.05 feet west of the east line of said half-quarter Section; then south parallel with the east line of said half quarter Section 250 feet; then west parallel with the north line of said half quarter Section 924.07 feet to the easterly line of Blue Ridge Boulevard Extension; then north and northerly along the easterly line of said Blue Ridge Boulevard Extension to its intersection with the north line of said half quarter Section; then east along the north line of said half quarter Section to the point of beginning.

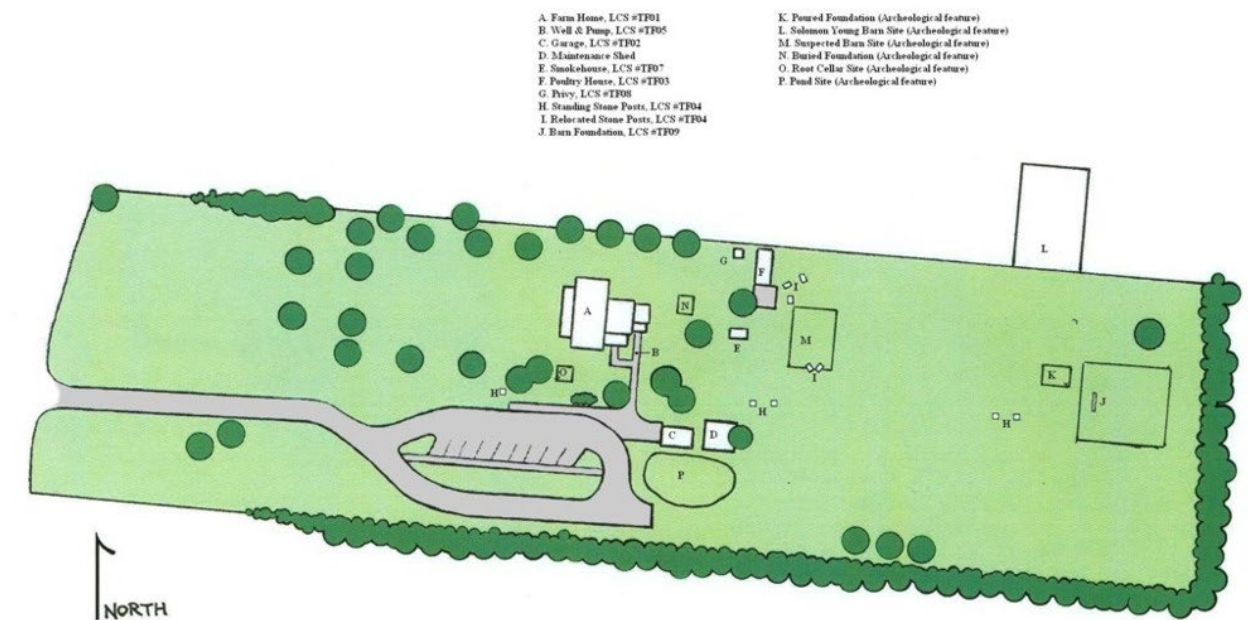
Boundary UTMs

Source: GPS- Uncorrected
Point Type: Polygon
Datum: WSG84

Map Point	UTM	Easting	Northing	Long/Lat
1	15	367128	4307014	-94.532306, 38.901974
2	15	367400	4306993	-94.529166, 38.901828
3	15	367395	4306915	-94.529214, 38.901118
4	15	367110	4306941	-94.532498, 38.901315



Map of Harry S Truman Historic Sites in Missouri (NPS 2006).



Truman Farm Site plan, showing selective archeological sites Jackson/(NPS 2010).

Chapter 4: Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Agreements and Legal Interest

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Undetermined

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

Public access to the Truman Farm grounds is unrestricted. However, the Truman Farm Home is only open for public tours during the summer operating season, with paid admission.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Description:

The Truman farm is located within in a commercial district of the City of Grandview. Because of the close proximity of modern structures on all sides of the five acre landscape, historic view-sheds are non-extant. Two tracts of land adjacent to the southern boundary of the landscape are owned by the National Park Service and form a 5 acre buffer zone against further encroachment of modern development. This area primarily consists of a grassy field, with an inaccessible paved drive that passes through from east to west. Although this buffer zone does not directly contribute to the significance of the farm, it retains a small portion of the open space that was once a dominant feature of the surrounding landscape.

A Western Sizzlin' restaurant is across the street from the entrance to the Truman Farm. The rear entrance to the restaurant, which is directly west of the Truman Farm Home, is marked by two posts built of stone and mortar. These are the original posts that still mark the historic entrance to the farm. A view of the Truman Farm through the portal of the two posts offers a sense of the scale of the historic farm landscape. Beyond the stone posts, there are no other features or aspects of the landscape adjacent to Truman Farm that contribute to its significance.

FMSS Location Numbers

93570	Farm Home Barn Foundation
71995	Farm Home Garage
45592	Farm Home Pin Oak Plaque
81696	Farm Home Poultry House
81698	Farm Home Privy
81697	Farm Home Smokehouse
41437	Farm Home Stone Posts
41438	Farm Home Well and Pump
71788	Truman, Harry S, Farm Home

Chapter 5: National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered -- Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Truman Farm was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 5, 1978.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: 5/5/1978
Contributing/Individual: Individual
National Register Classification: Site
Significance Level: National
Significance Criteria: B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Period of Significance: 1906-1917
Area of Significance: Politics/Government

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register: HSTR Harry S Truman National Historic Site
NRIS Number 85001248
Other Names: Harry S Truman Farm Home
Primary Certification: Listed to the National Register
Primary Certification Date: 5/5/1978

National Register Information (cont.)

Statement of Significance:

The Truman Farm was entered into the National Register of Historic Places on May 5, 1978 and is listed at a national level of significance. The property is significant under Criterion B for its association with Harry S Truman, who served as the thirty-third president of the United States. The period of significance spans from 1906 to 1917, consisting of the eleven years Truman spent helping to operate the family farm.

The history of the farm dates back to 1867 when Solomon Young, Harry S Truman's maternal grandfather, purchased the majority of the farmland and built the first house and initial outbuildings. Solomon Young died in 1892, leaving his widow, Harriet Louisa Young, to run the 600 acre farm with the help of their son, Harrison Young. With Harrison ready for retirement by the early 1900s, he recruited his brother-in-law John Truman to take his place in management of the operation. In 1905, John and Martha Ellen Truman moved to the farm. At the time, Harry and his brother Vivian were working in Kansas City as banking clerks. At John Truman's request, both his sons came to help work the farm. Vivian arrived in late 1905 and Harry followed in 1906.

Harry S Truman lived and worked on the Grandview farm for eleven years, from 1906 until 1917, when he left to serve in World War One. The hard work and wide-ranging responsibilities proved crucial in Truman's character development. Aside from the basic labor agricultural work demanded, Truman had to supervise large groups of workers, particularly during planting and harvest times. As his father's health declined, Truman also took over accounting and overall management. "Harry experimented with new agricultural techniques such as crop rotation and soil conservation. Under his careful management, farm production steadily increased" (York 1984, 2). During this period he also honed his social skills and developed a standing in the Grandview community. Truman served in the Army National Guard and as postmaster. He joined the Farm Bureau and the Freemasons, and also courted his future wife, Elizabeth "Bess" Wallace during this period. His letters to her often reflected the many frustrations and occasional satisfactions he experienced on any given day.

Harry S Truman's entry into World War One decisively ended his farming career. Although he returned to Grandview briefly in 1919, he had no interest in resuming a career in agriculture. As Truman soon began a remarkable political trajectory that culminated in his presidency, he often referred back to the lessons learned on the farm and used his experiences there as guideposts in later times of great decision.

Chapter 6: Chronology and Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape type:	Historic Vernacular
Current and Historic Use/Function:	
Primary Historic Function:	Farm (Plantation)
Primary Current Use:	Recreation/Culture- Other
Current and Historic Names:	
Name:	Type of Name:
Solomon Young Farm	Historic

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1844-1867	Land Transfer	In 1844, Solomon and Harriet Young acquired 398 acres of property north of Grandview. In 1867 they moved to the property and built a house of frame construction, as well as numerous outbuildings associated with farm operations, including a large barn.
CE 1894	Destroyed	In October of 1894, the house built by Solomon and Harriet Young was destroyed by fire, with nothing saved but some bedding.
CE 1894-1895	Built	Between the end of 1894 and sometime in 1895, Harrison Young built the farm house that now stands.
CE 1905-1917	Developed	During the years the Trumans operated the farm, numerous additional outbuildings were constructed. Structures added included two new barns and an outhouse. Other extant structures at the time included the barn built by Solomon Young, a coal shed, and a 200 gallon cistern.xxx
CE 1912	Altered	In May 1912, Harry S Truman noted he painted the handle of the pump outside the house white. This is the first dated reference to the pump that replaced the windlass over the open well.
CE 1914	Moved	In 1914, Harry S Truman moved the garage to the farm. The building had formerly functioned as the Grandview Post Office.

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1916	Neglected	On February 2, 1916, Harry S Truman wrote in a letter to Bess that “the old house is going to wreck for want of repairs,” indicating the Truman Farm Home was in a period of structural decline.
CE 1919	Altered	In 1919, after Harry S Truman’s return from WWI, the family ceased farming operations, although Martha Ellen and Mary Jane Truman continued to live there until 1940. Equipment and livestock were auctioned, and much of the land was leased out (Evans-Hatch 2001,82-83).
CE 1920-1930	Built	During the 1920s, Blue Ridge Boulevard was extended south, cutting across the Truman Farm property. In 1927, Highway 71 was constructed, again splitting the Truman property.
CE 1922	Land Transfer	In 1922, Martha Truman sold 200 acres of the farm to a real estate developer.
CE 1927-1930	Developed	In the 1927, Vivian Truman purchased a portion of the land to the north of the Truman Farm Home. In 1930, he built a house, a barn, and several outbuildings (Evans-Hatch 2001, 84).
CE 1938	Purchased/Sold	By 1938, the Truman family had sold off more than half of the farm’s original acreage, with only 287 acres remaining (Evans-Hatch 2001, 87).
CE 1940	Land Transfer	On July 26, 1940, a mortgage held on the farm by Jackson County was foreclosed upon, forcing Martha and Mary Jane Truman to move (Evans-Hatch 2001, 86-88).
CE 1944-1962	Altered	Between 1944 and 1962, the gable ends of the Solomon Young Barn were significantly altered, with the roof-line simplified and interior hay loft space expanded.
CE 1945-1946	Purchased/Sold	On February 24, 1945, Charles F. Curry, E. Kemper Carver, and Tom Evans purchased the 287-acre farm from Jackson County for \$43,500. They then sold the property back to Harry S Truman (Evans-Hatch 2001, 92-93).

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1956-1982	Inhabited	From 1956 until 1982, the Williams family rented and occupied the farmhouse. They replaced the old stone columns that supported the kitchen with a cement foundation, screened in the back porch, installed a concrete patio off the kitchen door, installed a concrete floor for the front porch, and shingled the roof (Evans-Hatch 2001, 88-89).
CE 1957	Destroyed	A tornado in 1957 destroyed the last of the maple trees originally planted by Solomon Young.
CE 1958	Purchased/Sold	In 1958, Harry, Vivian, and Mary Jane Truman sold 220 acres of the farm to B.F. Weinberg and Associates for \$220,000. This land was then developed for commercial and residential purposes (Evans-Hatch 2001, 95-96).
CE 1966	Destroyed	On November 6, 1966, the barn commonly referred to as the “Solomon Young Barn,” located just beyond the current north boundary of the property, was destroyed by fire.
CE 1983-1984	Restored	Between 1984 and 1985, the Truman Farm Home Foundation undertook an extensive restoration of the farm home. The front porch was rebuilt, exterior siding was completely replaced, modern additions were removed, the roof was replaced, chimneys were rebuilt, the interior was renovated, and extensive woodwork was replaced.
CE 1985	Moved	In 1985, the Truman Farm Home Foundation moved the smokehouse and the privy to the property in order to convey the farmstead landscape to visitors.
CE 1987	Developed	In 1987, construction of the Truman Farm Shopping Center began on the plot adjacent to the north boundary of Truman Farm. This plot was the site of the Vivian Truman Farm, which historically was part of the original 600 acre farm. Several structures were razed, and stone posts that were located on the construction site were relocated to Truman Farm.

Chronology

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1994	Land Transfer	On April 4, 1994, Jackson County conveyed the Truman Farm deed to the federal government and the National Park Service assumed management of the property.
CE 1994-2009	Restored	Beginning in 1994 and occurring in stages to 2009, the National Park Service completed extensive garage restoration work. During this time the Farm Home was shingled and painted, and gutters were added. Floorings were also replaced on the front and south porches.
CE 1995-1996	Built	Circa 1995-1996, the National Park Service built a maintenance storage shed next to the garage.
CE 2006	Altered	In 2006, the Truman Farm Home was upgraded with a geothermal heating/cooling system.

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative

1841-1904

“Solomon and Harriet Louisa Gregg Young, the maternal grandparents of Harry S Truman, immigrated to Jackson County, Missouri from Kentucky in 1841. Young bought farmland near present-day Grandview three years later, and built a small brush-roofed log cabin on the property shortly thereafter” (York 1984). Solomon Young was an active land speculator and eventually expanded the Grandview property to cover a 600 acre tract. The Young Family did not actually move to the property until 1867, after which they built a house of frame construction, a large barn, and several outbuildings. Solomon died in 1893, and in October of the following year the house he built burned to the ground. By the end of 1894, Solomon and Harriet’s son Harrison began construction on a new house, which he completed in 1895. The house appears to have been completed in two stages; “the portion that includes the kitchen was built first, and the front two-story portion with the north-south gable housing the sitting room, the parlor, and the two bedrooms was built later” (Evans-Hatch 2001, 17).

It is difficult to ascertain a full picture of the farm’s appearance during the 1800s. When the original farm home was destroyed by fire in 1894, all the records kept by Solomon Young went with it. Accounts given by family members and photographic evidence indicate that two barn structures that survived into the

mid-1960s were first constructed by Solomon Young. One was a transverse crib that measured 59’x 27’. It was known as the “main barn” and in a caption under a 1906 photograph of the structure Mary Jane Truman wrote it was “the barn that Grandpa built” (Ferrell 1991, 39). In a 1962 newspaper article about the barn, Vivian asserted it was built by Solomon Young, who used the walnut beams and siding from Hickman’s Mill, a pre-Civil War steam-powered mill that was razed in 1867 (Steele 1962). The site of this structure is located just outside the northern boundary of the Truman Farm landscape, now covered by the Truman Farm Shopping Center complex. A smaller structure that was located about 80 meters further north was known as the “hay barn.” It was situated on a



Circa 1906 image of the “main barn” which is attributed to Solomon Young (Harry S Truman Library and Museum)

tract of land that would later become part of Vivian Truman’s farm. Although the “main barn” would later be modified with an extended gable, the locations of both it and the “hay barn” are clearly identifiable in a 1944 United States Soil Conservation Service aerial photograph.

An interesting possibility is that Solomon Young also constructed a third barn prior to the other two. On the eastern end of the Truman Farm landscape, about 115 meters due east of the farm home, are the foundational ruins of a structure that measured approximately 60’x50’. In his 1983 archeological survey, David Bray identified the foundation as the ruin of an “elaborated transverse crib” barn (Bray 1983, 47). Remote sensing procedures indicated that most of the buried foundational stones had been removed. This suggests the possibility that Solomon Young first built a barn at this site, then later used the materials from this

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative, continued

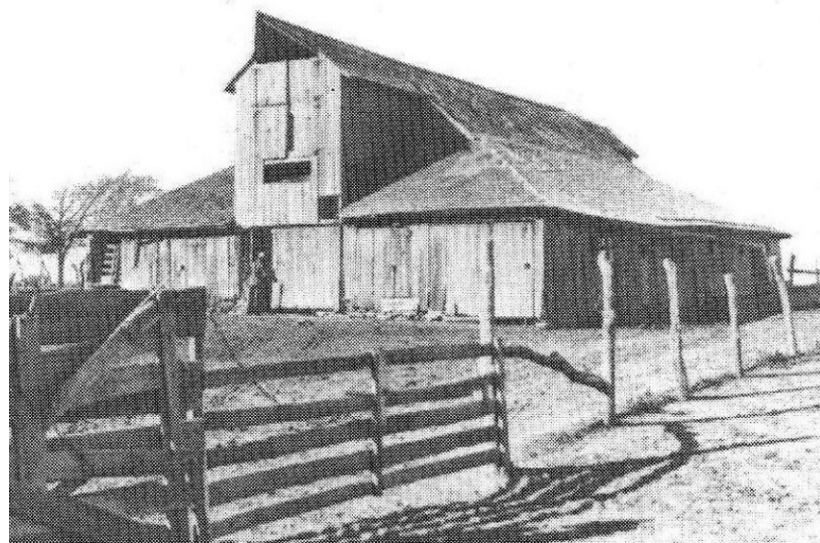
structure for another construction project. As of yet, there is no conclusive evidence pointing to the barn's appearance or date of construction, so much of this remains conjecture. However, analysis of historic data coupled with modern GPS readings and satellite imagery conclusively rule out that this is the site of the barn that burned down in 1966, or of the granary that was extant at least into the 1940s. One other possibility that remains is that this is the site of a barn which Harry S Truman helped construct, which will later be detailed.

1905-1958

Martha Ellen Young, born on November 25, 1852, was the seventh and last child born to Solomon and Harriet. In 1881, she married John Anderson Truman, who lived on a neighboring farm. The couple moved south to Lamar, Missouri, where Harry S Truman was born on May 8, 1884. He would be the oldest of three children, with his brother John Vivian born in 1886 and his sister Mary Jane born in 1889. In 1887, the Trumans first moved to the Young farm to help with the work. Harry spent three childhood years there, until his parents moved to nearby Independence and then, thirteen years later, to Kansas City. In 1905, when the Trumans once again moved, this time to a small farm in Clinton, Missouri, Harry and Vivian remained in Kansas City to work for a bank. "In late 1905 or early 1906, the parents moved back to the Young farm, where they would remain" (Evans-Hatch 2001, 26). Vivian soon joined them and Harry arrived about a year later, probably late 1906 or early 1907.

As the Truman family assumed operation of the farm, the landscape continued to evolve. Most images of the farm from the early twentieth century are undated. However, there are scattered frames of reference that can be used to establish broad periods of time during which structures were extant or absent. For example, in a letter to Bess from May 1912, Harry wrote that he painted the hand pump white after bumping into it the dark. Although the date the hand pump was first installed is unknown, it is at least known that any images that show a windlass over the well instead of a hand pump predate 1912.

Images in which the windlass is extant show, to the east of the house, a barn with a roof line that runs east-west. This wood frame structure has vertical board siding and a broken roof-variant gable roof. It appears that the upper hay loft overhangs the lower cribs on the west end. It is not clear when this barn was constructed or when it was removed. Further east beyond the first barn, a second barn is visible. This is the 59'x27' structure known as the "main barn" or "Solomon Young barn."



View of the "Solomon Young Barn" following structural alterations that extended the gables and added hay hoods (Evans-Hatch 2001, 14)

A photograph taken at a later date, again facing the house at a northeast angle, shows a different barn occupying the same approximate location. In this image, the windlass housing over the well is no longer extant. An addition has been added onto the porch at the southeast corner and the house is also painted wholly white, without the green trim that is seen in earlier pictures. Visible to the east of the house is what appears to be a transverse frame barn with a roof line that runs north-south. The gable roof features a hay hood on

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative



The Truman Farm House between 1906 and 1909. Harriet Louisa Young is seated in the rocker; Martha Ellen and Harry S Truman stand behind her (Ferrell 1991)

the south end. It is not known when this barn was built or when it was removed. The structure is not extant in the 1944 aerial photograph.

Harry S Truman helped to construct at least one large barn during his time at the farm. In an April 17, 1911 letter to Bess, while referring to the prospects of a possible barn dance, Truman wrote, "There will be a smooth floor fifty feet by seventy-two feet, and I think that is large enough. The barn probably won't be done though until July" (Ferrell 1983, 28). It is uncertain exactly which barn Truman was referring to, but his stated dimensions – 50'x72' – come very close to the estimated 50'x60' dimensions of the foundation that remains

extant in the east field.

There is little direct evidence to provide a comprehensive chronology of landscape and structural changes at Truman Farm. The 1944 aerial photograph, for example, shows that the additions to the east of the house were already in place, but a specific time frame for the alterations not documented. Over the years, various family members have related accounts and descriptions of the farm's layout and development, but the passage of time renders memories subjective and fallible. In different instances, photographic evidence and archeological data have directly conflicted with oral history narratives.

While much of the developmental history of the farm remains elusive, other aspects are well-documented. Harry S Truman departed to serve as an artillery officer in World War One in 1917. After a brief return to the farm in 1919, his marriage to Bess precipitated a move to Independence and a final break from farming. Without his continued involvement, the Truman family decided to lease several tracts of the farmland and auction off "farm property, hogs, horses, cattle, and farming implements" (Evans-Hatch 2001, 83). John Truman had died in 1914, so only Martha and Mary Jane remained at the house. In 1920, however, Vivian purchased a portion of the farmstead on the north side of the house. "In 1930, he built a house, a barn, and several outbuildings" (Evans-Hatch 2001, 84).

With the death of Harriet Young in 1909, a legal dispute arose between her children. Harriet's will stipulated that Harrison Young and Martha Ellen inherited her substantial estate, while the other five children only received five dollars each. The other siblings contested the will, and a lengthy legal battle ensued. Although Harrison and Martha won a decision in their favor in 1914, the family incurred massive legal bills. They had to pay a settlement of \$9,500 to their relatives and owed \$3,000 to their lawyer. Consequently, Martha took out a \$7,500 mortgage on the property to cover expenses (Ferrell 1983, 87-90). The debt was further exacerbated by several failed business speculations undertaken by Harry S Truman, mostly financed by money borrowed from his mother, Martha. "In February 1917, she increased the home farm mortgage to \$25,000"

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative

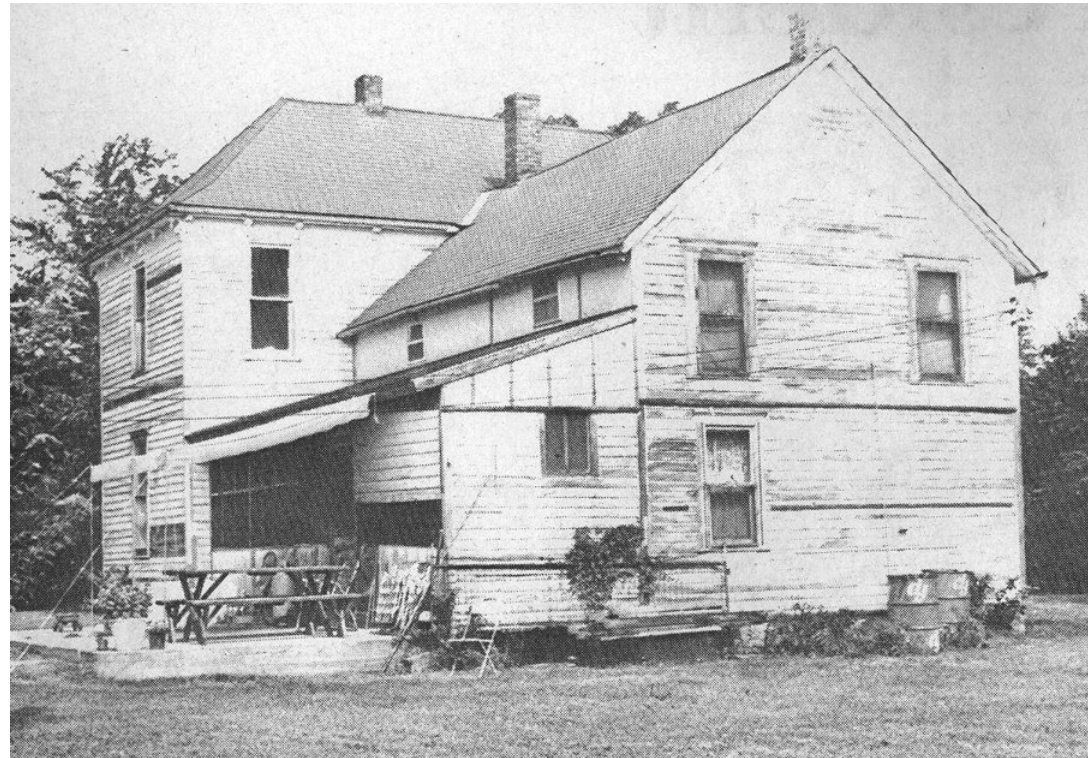
(Ferrell 1983, 97). By 1938, the Truman family had sold off more than half of the farm's original acreage, with only 287 acres remaining. Even so, the Trumans could not pay off their mortgage and the property was foreclosed upon in 1940.

In February 1945, while Harry S Truman was vice president, the farm was put up for sale by the sheriff. Three of Truman's friends from Kansas City purchased the property for \$43,500 and gradually sold the entirety of the acreage back to Truman as he came up with the money. Once the farm was back in the Truman name, Vivian's sons Harry and Gilbert moved back onto Vivian's farmstead until the family sold the property in 1958.

1958-2010

Harry, Vivian, and Mary Jane had all shared ownership of the farmstead. In 1958 they sold 220 acres to B.F. Weinberg for \$220,000. Weinberg was a commercial land developer who planned a shopping center and housing areas. While this land deal finally ensured financial security for the three siblings, it left them with only 67 acres remaining of the farm. The construction company that built the Truman Corners shopping center occupied the old hay barn on Vivian's property and then later dismantled it. The larger Solomon Young Barn was still used by the Truman family for storage until it burned down in 1966 (Ferrell 1983, 109-110).

"From 1956 until 1982, the Williams family rented and occupied the farmhouse" (Evans-Hatch 2001, 88). During their occupation, they replaced the stone columns that supported the kitchen with a cement foundation, screened in the back porch, installed a concrete patio outside the kitchen door, installed a concrete



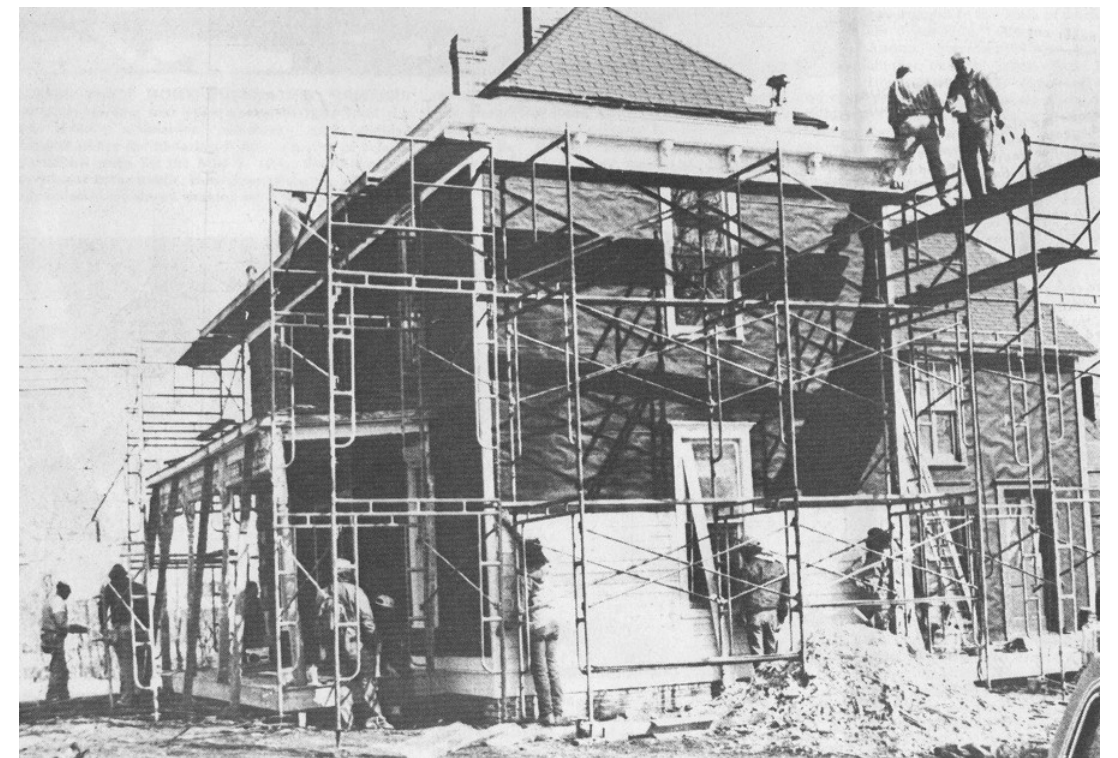
View of the southeast elevation of the Truman Farm Home in 1983, prior to restoration (Jackson County Advocate 1984)

Cultural Landscape Physical History Narrative

base for the front porch, and shingled the roof. Despite these improvements, the property was still in a significant state of decline. The last of the maple trees originally planted by Solomon Young was destroyed by a tornado in 1957. The Trumans rarely mowed or maintained the grounds, and the house itself had unpainted, rotting siding and a leaky roof. The Trumans continued to sell off pieces of the property, until only 20 acres were left (Ferrell 1938, 111).

In the mid-1970s, efforts to preserve the farm began to coalesce. The farm was entered into the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. By 1980, the Harry S Truman Farm Home Foundation was actively working to preserve and restore the property. They organized a purchase of the remaining property by Jackson County through a \$378,250 grant provided by the Department of the Interior. In 1983, the Truman family "agreed to sell the property to Jackson County for half of its \$700,000 appraised value" (Evans-Hatch 2001, 98).

In late 1983, a complete restoration of the house was begun, led by master carpenter George Fogelsong. The expensive and exhaustive process stretched into 1985. During this time a new maple grove was planted on the property and additional outbuildings were added to enhance the feel of an old farmstead. The Truman Farm became a National Historic Landmark in 1985. Despite the significance of the site, Jackson County and the Farm Home Foundation lacked the funds to properly manage the Truman Farm. Thus, after years of solicitation and political wrangling, the National Park Service assumed ownership of the property on April 15, 1994 (Evans-Hatch 2001, 103-109). Since that time, the Harry S Truman National Historic Site has maintained the Truman Farm as part of its Grandview Unit.



The Truman Farm Home during the restoration process in early 1984 (Jackson County Advocate 1984)

Chapter 7: Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity

Summary:

LOCATION

Location refers to the place where the cultural landscape was constructed or where the historic event occurred. The location of Truman Farm – though its footprint is diminished – remains unchanged.

DESIGN

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape. Within the bounds of the remaining Truman farm landscape, a sense of the historic scale and plan remain evident. As it does today, the west side of the home faced the road, though set back a long distance and screened by trees. There were no topographic constrictions upon the placement of structures within the landscape and it can be surmised that efficiency and expediency dictated. On the eastern half of the property, the placement of stone posts and the remnant barn foundation provide hints of the historic layout. Overall, partially due to the visual openness of the property, the historic design remains tangible.

SETTING

The aspect of setting refers to the physical environment of a property, or how the site is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and spaces. During the period of significance, Truman Farm was a 600 acre agricultural operation that was situated in a rural environment. The entrance drive stretched all the way out to Grandview Road. Large barns and outbuildings were spread in a loose cluster primarily to the north and east of the home. A garden plot was north of the home and a large grove of maple trees planted by Solomon Young occupied the expanse between the home and Grandview Road. Extensive fencing crisscrossed the landscape, defining pastures, farmyards, and fields. All of that is now gone, except for the home, two original outbuildings, and the remaining stone posts, diminishing the setting

MATERIALS

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the historic period. All types of construction materials and other landscape features are included under this aspect of integrity. Most of the structures that once occupied the landscape are no longer extant. Vegetation patterns and original plantings have also disappeared with time. The three primary contributing structures at Truman Farm – the house, garage, and poultry house – appear to have varying degrees of material integrity. The poultry house and garage appear to retain a significant portion of original materials. In the early 2000s, the National Park Service restored the extremely dilapidated garage and provided fairly adequate documentation of what parts were saved and what was replaced. The farm home, on the other hand, is of a more questionable nature. After suffering years of neglect and deterioration, the house was restored in 1984. Modern structural additions were removed, a new front porch was constructed, and much of the woodwork was replaced. It appears that a substantial amount of the original structural fabric is no longer extant.

WORKMANSHIP

Workmanship refers to the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular period. The Truman Farm Home, which Harrison Young first constructed circa 1895, provides an archetypal example of a dwelling for a fairly prosperous Midwestern farm around the turn of the century. Other extant historic features of the landscape reflect the vernacular nature of the building materials. Harry S Truman brought the garage to the property when it was no longer needed as a post office. Stones used in the construction of posts and foundations were quarried from the nearby river valleys. The poultry house is a of a utilitarian design common to its era. Overall, the original workmanship that remains in evidence demonstrates the practicality and judicious use and recycling of building materials that defined the agricultural lifestyle.

Summary, continued:

FEELING

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time period. Components of Truman Farm – such as the home, the garage, and the poultry house – convey a sense of the site's appearance in the early twentieth century. However, the surrounding landscape has since changed drastically. A thoroughfare cuts through the west lawn and the former entrance gates occupy the edge of a restaurant parking lot. Stores, condominiums, and restaurants clutter the viewshed from every direction. Not only are views associated with the former 600 acre farm gone, so too are nearly all of the historic structures. Because most of the structures and vegetation patterns that were associated with the daily operations of the farm are no longer extant, the property has lost a great deal of the historic aesthetic.

ASSOCIATION

Association refers to the direct link between the historic event and the cultural landscape. The landscape is not considered significant by its own merits, but because of its association with the life of Harry S Truman. As compromised as the historic Truman Farm may now be, it still conveys a semblance of the setting that shaped Truman's character and provides a striking contrast to the city that has grown around it.

INTEGRITY OF THE PROPERTY AS A WHOLE

Truman Farm retains integrity in location, design, workmanship, and association. According to National Register guidelines, a property either does or does not retain its overall integrity, and does or does not convey its significance. Even though there have been significant changes since the historic period, the landscape retains a representation of the characteristics, physical attributes, and historic associations it had during the period of significance, from 1906 to 1917.

Aspects of Integrity:

- Location
- Design
- Materials
- Association

Landscape Characteristics:

- Buildings and Structures
- Small Scale Features
- Circulation
- Archeological Sites
- Vegetation
- Natural Systems and Features

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics

The Truman Farm Home is a contributing feature. Built circa 1884-1885, it is a two-story, three-bay, irregularly T-shaped building comprised of three sections that connect on the first floor. The frame structure has clapboard siding, traditionally painted white. Most windows are 6 feet tall 1-over-1 double hung sash windows. The western section of the house is set on a brick foundation, while the two gable-roofed sections to the east are on stone and brick foundations. The main, west facing, portion of the house has a hipped roof with eave brackets and a front porch with a hipped roof on turned posts. The primary entrance is centered on the west façade. There are screened shed roof porches with entrances on the south side of both eastern sections. The house has 4 brick chimneys, a shingle roof, and a stone cellar under the middle section. The bedroom on the second floor of the middle section is accessible only from the first floor of that section. The same is true of the bedrooms on the second floor of the main section -- they can be accessed from the floor directly below them, but not from the second floor of the middle section.

The Truman Farm Home Foundation undertook a complete restoration of the house in 1984, guided by master carpenter George Fogelson and costing at least \$142,198. By that time the structure had deteriorated significantly. "Vandals had damaged the home, writing graffiti on the walls and destroying some of the woodwork. Workers had to destroy the front porch, removing the concrete that had been added and putting the wood back in its place" (Sportsman 1994). The roof was "covered with four separate layers of roofing which all had to be stripped away to allow laying of the new roof. Three layers of the common 'composition' tar-type shingles covered what was believed to be the original wooden shingles" (Turnbaugh 1984). New wood shake roofing was installed. Chimneys had reached "the crumbling stage and required brick-by-brick removal and total reconstruction using the original blocks. Dry rot destroyed the siding, which had to be matched exactly and replaced" (Smith 1985). Rooms which had been added on to the southeast side were removed and the back porch was restored. Extensive renovations of the interior also occurred.

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics

Feature: Truman Farm Home
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Truman, Harry S, Farm Home
LCS ID Number 70144
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF01

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367249 Northing: 4306982

Longitude: -94.530903 Latitude: 38.901705

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Pages 35 and 36



Truman Farm Home, northwest elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics



Truman Farm Home, southeast elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).



Truman Farm Home, northeast elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The Truman Farm Garage is a contributing feature. Moved to the farm in 1914, the structure is a single bay 18'x27' wood frame garage. It has a gabled roof with boxed rafter tails and horizontal plank siding covered with rolled asphalt roofing. Double swinging doors are on the west facade and panel doors are on the east and west. The structure has interior walls of lath and plaster, a wood floor, and a log sill that rests on limestone rocks. The word "Grandview" was visible in the east gable end prior to the rolled roofing being applied. The exterior is covered in a metal "brick" siding that is painted white. After years of deterioration, the structure was stabilized internally with cabling in 1994. For several more years it remained in poor condition, with a distinct list to one side and evidence of severe termite damage. In 2003 funds were received to perform additional stabilization and preserve the building envelope. By 2009, the extensive stabilization and preservation work was complete, with the building stable and in good condition.

Feature: Truman Farm Garage
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Garage
LCS ID Number 70145
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF02

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367266 Northing: 4306955

Longitude: -94.530707 Latitude: 38.901466

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Pages 36 and 37

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Truman Farm Garage, southwest elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).



Truman Farm Garage, northeast elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The Truman Farm Poultry House is a contributing feature. Built circa 1900, it is a 12'x 30' wood frame structure. The walls are vertical board and batten, and the shed plank roof is covered with corrugated metal. There is a log perimeter sill, vertical plank doors, and a wire mesh covers all openings. The interior is divided into three sections. The north section has a dirt floor, while a concrete pad covers the other two sections and extends to form a small court south of the building exterior. In 2005, a park woodcrafter replaced rough sawn rafters in-kind and replaced the roof sheathing, using new metal sheets as well as original roofing material.

Feature: Truman Farm Poultry House
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Poultry House
LCS ID Number 70146
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF03

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367288 Northing: 4306998

Longitude: -94.530463 Latitude: 38.901851

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Pages 37 and 38

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Truman Farm Poultry House, southwest elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).



Truman Farm Poultry House, southeast elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The Truman Farm Smokehouse is a noncontributing feature. It is a wood frame structure with a gable roof. It has vertical board siding with battens on south and east walls. It is raised with log posts sitting on small concrete pads. It has a wood floor, a vertical board door on the west side, and a small fixed window on the north side with a solid wood awning shutter. The smokehouse is not original to the Truman Farm. It was moved to the site by the Truman Farm Home Foundation in 1985 after a 1983 archaeological survey indicated a similar building may have stood close to this building's current location. It was intended as an interpretive aid to help convey a farmstead atmosphere to visitors to the site. In 2005, the Missouri SHPO determined the structure to be ineligible for the National Register.

Feature: Truman Farm Smokehouse
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Smokehouse
LCS ID Number 70150
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF07

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected
 Point Type: Polygon
 Datum: WSG84
 Zone: 15 Easting: 367281 Northing: 4306981
 Longitude: -94.530536 Latitude: 38.901702

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 38



Truman Farm Smokehouse, northwest elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The Truman Farm Privy is a noncontributing feature. The wood frame structure has a gable roof with boxed ends and rafter tails. The walls feature vertical board and batten siding. The interior features a wood floor and a bench with two holes. The Farm Home Privy is a non-historic, non-functional structure placed at site circa 1985 by the Truman Farm Home Foundation for interpretation. The 1983 archeological survey indicated that the original privy was located farther south. In 2005, the Missouri SHPO determined the structure to be ineligible for the National Register.

Feature: Truman Farm Privy
Contributing? No
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Privy
LCS ID Number 70151
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF08

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected
 Point Type: Polygon
 Datum: WSG84
 Zone: 15 Easting: 367281 Northing: 4307001
 Longitude: -94.530545 Latitude: 38.901876

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 39



Truman Farm Privy, southeast elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Buildings and Structures: Landscape Characteristics, continued

The Truman Farm Storage Shed is a noncontributing feature. Located directly behind the garage, the storage shed is of similar size and dimensions. It has a gabled roof with boxed rafter tails, and the walls feature plywood panel and batten siding. A garage door is located at the center of the north façade and five metal vents are interspersed across the other three walls. The building rests on a loose stone foundation. The shed was built by the National Park Service circa 1995-1996. It is used to store equipment and materials required for site mowing and maintenance. Construction of the shed was considered an adverse impact and required consultation with the Advisory Council. The National Park Service plans to remove the structure following the eventual acquisition and renovation of a nearby commercial building that currently houses a paint store.

Feature: Truman Farm Maintenance Shed

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type:

Datum: WSG84

Zone: Easting: Northing:

Longitude: Latitude:

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 39



Truman Farm Maintenance Shed, northwest elevation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics

At Truman Farm, there are numerous small scale features. Most are modern intrusions upon the landscape that facilitate park operations and visitor interpretation. Located on the south side of the entrance are a large wood National Park Service "Truman Farm Home" sign and a hay rake. The hay rake is a catalogued in the park museum collection as HSTR 30021. Within the parking loop is a fire hydrant, and a modern water spigot stands in the yard on the north side of the drive. There are two interpretive wayside markers, a trash barrel, and a modern flagpole. There are a number of floodlights situated around the Farm Home to provide nighttime illumination.

Fencing is featured along three sides of the property. Along the south and east sides, wire is intermittently strung along wood posts and trees. It is not known precisely when this fence was first installed, but it was sometime during the latter part of the twentieth century, well after the period of significance. The fence line along the north boundary was installed by the National Park service circa 1995-1996. It consists of metal fence posts and woven fence wire.

Located on the south side of the Farm Home, in the middle of a concrete slab that forms a segment of the paved walkway, is the Farm Home Well and Pump. The well itself is original and dates to the period of significance. The iron hand pump situated over the well is a modern addition that is a likeness of the original. Although the pump is not a contributing feature, it serves as a useful interpretive aid, and also marks the site of the well, which is a contributing feature.

Stone posts are located at various points in the landscape. They are constructed of coursed limestone and mortar, with average dimensions at 30" square and 5' high. Iron hardware remnants are attached that once held gates or fencing. There are five posts still standing. Four of the posts are divided into two pairs, indicating the onetime presence of gates. The fifth post stands alone. Additionally, there are several piles of similar stone posts and associated rubble. When Vivian Truman's former farm was razed for commercial development, the stone posts there were removed and dumped on the Truman Farm property. The stone posts are contributing features.

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Truman Farm Well and Pump
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Well and Pump
LCS ID Number 70148
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF05

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367256 Northing: 4306977

Longitude: -94.530826 Latitude: 38.901656

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 43



Truman Farm Well and Pump (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Truman Farm Pin Oak Plaque
Contributing? No
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home- Pin Oak Plaque
LCS ID Number 70149
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF06

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367271 Northing: 4306992

Longitude: -94.530649 Latitude: 38.901793

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 45



Pin Oak Plaque (LCS/NPS 2013).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Truman Farm Stone Posts
Contributing? Yes
LCS Structure Name: Farm Home Stone Posts
LCS ID Number 70147
LCS Historic Structure Number: TF04

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Point	UTM	Easting	Northing	Longitude	Latitude
1	15	367348	4306958	-94.529765	38.901506
2	15	367342	4306959	-94.529827	38.901507
3	15	367290	4306963	-94.530434	38.901540
4	15	367283	4306963	-94.530506	38.901542
5	15	367227	4306967	-94.531155	38.901565

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Pages 43 and 44



The stone post located in the front yard near the wayside sign (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued



A pair of stone posts located on the eastern portion of the property (Jackson/NPS 2009).



Displaced stone posts located behind the poultry house (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Truman Farm Flagpole

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367253 Northing: 4306961

Longitude: -94.530852 Latitude: 38.901512

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 45



Truman Farm flagpole (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Interpretive Waysides

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Point	UTM	Easting	Northing	Longitude	Latitude
1	15	367229	4306966	-94.531138	38.901553
2	15	367260	4306961	-94.530780	38.901515

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: No Image

Feature: Entrance Sign

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367132 Northing: 4306953

Longitude: -94.532246 Latitude: 38.901421

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: No Image

Small Scale Features: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Hay Rake

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Point

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367128 Northing: 4306948

Longitude: Latitude:

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: No Image

Feature: Boundary Fence

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Line

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367399 Northing: 4306974

Longitude: -94.529177 Latitude: 38.901658

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: No Image

Circulation: Landscape Characteristics

The Truman Farm is accessed from Blue Ridge Boulevard by a paved entrance drive that terminates in a loop that contains nine parking spaces, as well as curbside space to accommodate larger vehicles such as tour buses. Blue Ridge Boulevard was at least in place by the early 1940s, but does not date to the period of significance. During the time that Harry S Truman spent at the farm, the entrance drive extended west to Grandview Road, where the original entrance posts still stand. The modern entrance drive is roughly parallel and slightly north of the original drive trace, although the parking area itself does overlap. In sum, both Blue Ridge Boulevard and the entrance drive are intrusive elements that do not contribute.

Paved walkways are located within the parking loop and also connect from the parking area to the garage and house. There is also a wooden wheelchair entrance ramp which connects from the walkway to the western entrance on the south side of the house. Construction of the paved walkways dates to the mid-1980s, while the wheelchair ramp dates to 1996. Aside from spanning the area between the house's two southern entrances and the garage – an area that would have naturally seen heavy foot traffic, the walkways do not specifically follow any established historic circulation routes and are not contributing features.

Circulation: Landscape Characteristics, continued

Feature: Entrance Drive and Parking Area

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367205 Northing: 4306954

Longitude: -94.531411 Latitude: 38.901443

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 47

Feature: Paved Walkways

Contributing? No

LCS Structure Name:

LCS ID Number

LCS Historic Structure Number:

Locational Data:

Source: GPS- Uncorrected

Point Type: Polygon

Datum: WSG84

Zone: 15 Easting: 367250 Northing: 4306962

Longitude: -94.530890 Latitude: 38.901524

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 47

Circulation: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Eastern portion of parking area and paved walkways (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Archeological Sites: Landscape Characteristics

In the 1983 archeological survey of Truman Farm numerous subsurface archeological sites were documented, including substantial foundational footprints of several buildings.

Just west of the Farm Home and partially overlaid by the front porch is the buried foundation of the first farm home that burned to the ground in 1884. The foundation measures 43'x18' and consists of angular slabs and chunks of limestone. Evidence of the fire remains in the form of "quantities of charcoal, reddened stone, melted glass, and charred wood and bone" (Bray 1983, 24).

A filled root cellar was identified at a location about 10 feet south of the Farm Home. This feature measures 10'x8', with 6' long down-ramp entrance. It is estimated the depth of the cellar is between 6 and 6.5 feet.

About 20 feet east of the Truman Home is a buried 17'x17' foundation of detrital limestone. It is considered possible this was the site of the original log pen cabin.

About another 20 feet east of the second foundation is a buried 20'x12.3' brick foundation. In a historic photograph, this building appears to have been of frame construction and painted white, though its function is unknown.

Some 40 feet south of the brick foundation is the site of a filled privy pit. The 6'x3.4' wood frame structure was removed following damage from a windstorm. It is believed that construction of this feature postdates the Harry S Truman period.

A foundational remnant which retains a trace of above-ground visibility is included on the LCS as "Farm Barn Foundation." "This was a relatively massive stone foundation measuring some sixty feet east-west. Two north-south partitions were formed by two interior foundations. The plan seems to have been an elaborated transverse crib" (Bray 1983, 47). Remote sensing procedures indicated that most of the foundation stones north of the south east-west line had been removed. In the opinion of Robert T. Bray, the archeologist who conducted the 1983 survey, this foundation represented the earliest barn to have been built on the property. It is possible that foundation stones and other materials were removed to be used in the construction of a later barn.

Additional archeological findings have included foundational remnants of smaller outbuildings, fragments of pottery, metal objects associated with aspects of farm labor, loose foundational stones, a road trace, and a filled-in pond which was not first constructed until sometime after the period of significance.

Because of a lack of written and photographic documentation of the farm landscape, especially from 1867 through 1917, it remains a challenge to conclusively match many of the subsurface archeological features to buildings seen in historic photographs or referenced in journals and oral history interviews. Like most farms, the Truman Farm landscape was somewhat transitive in nature, continually evolving to accommodate the practical demands of daily operations.

Archeological Sites: Landscape Characteristics, continued

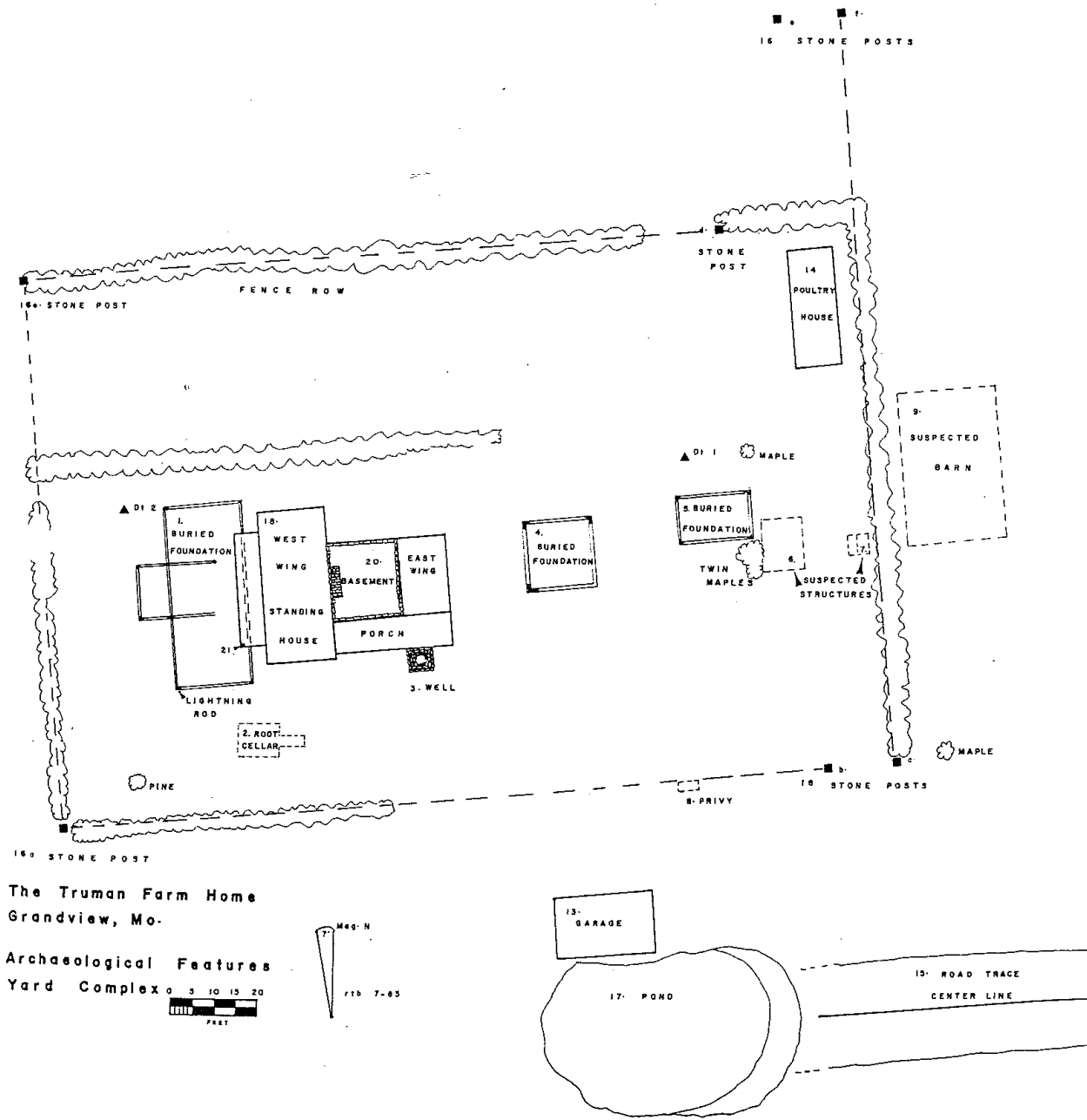
Feature:	Truman Farm Barn Foundation	
Contributing?	Yes	
LCS Structure Name:	Farm Barn Foundation	
LCS ID Number	318701	
LCS Historic Structure Number:	TF09	
Locational Data:		
Source: GPS- Uncorrected		
Point Type: Point		
Datum: WSG84		
Zone: 15	Easting: 367363	Northing: 4306971
Longitude: -94.529588		Latitude: 38.901620

Associated Image Page Numbers in CLI: Page 49



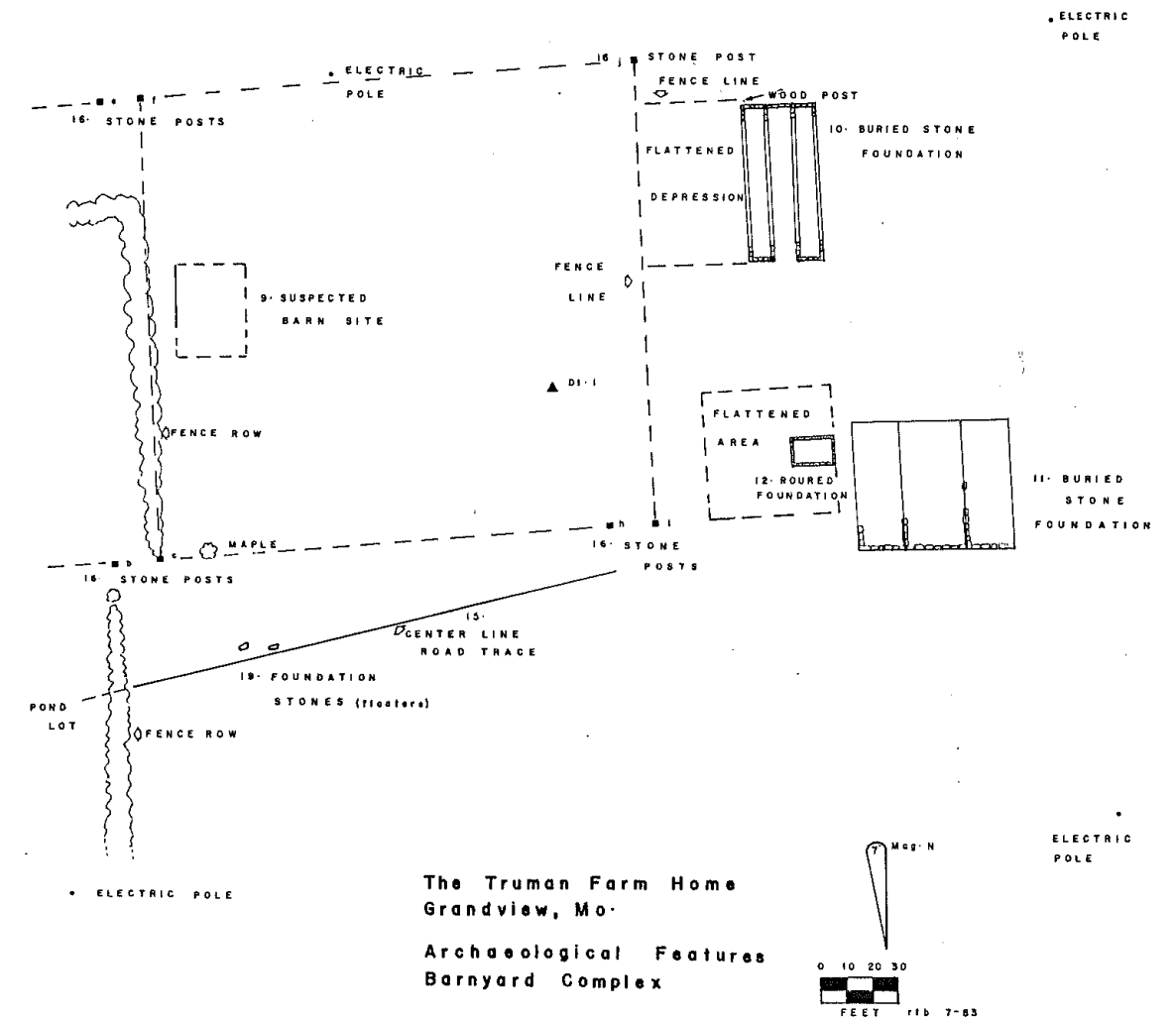
A visible wood threshold to the barn foundation (Jackson/NPS 2009).

Archeological Sites: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Archeological features located within the central third of the Truman Farm site, as identified in Robert Bray's 1983 survey (Bray 1983, 16)

Archeological Sites: Landscape Characteristics, continued



Archeological features located in the eastern third of the Truman Farm site, as identified in Robert Bray's 1983 survey (Bray 1983, 17)

Natural Systems and Features: Landscape Characteristics

Grandview is situated on rolling topography at elevations ranging between 920 and 1060 feet above sea level. The area of the Truman Farm is relatively flat, at an elevation of 1050 to 1060 feet, with gentle slopes toward the southeast. Elevations become increasingly irregular west toward the Big Blue River, and east toward the Little Blue River. Both streams are approximately 805 feet above sea level.

Directly underlying the surface soils at varying depths is Iola limestone; the uppermost member of the Kansas City Group, Middle Pennsylvanian System. Additional underlying strata include Chanute shale, Westerville limestone, Cherryville shale, Winterset limestone, Galesburg shale, Ladore shale, and Hertha limestone. Rocks used in foundational footings at Truman Farm have been identified as Hertha limestone and Ladore shale, and were likely obtained from the nearby river valleys.

Soils of the Truman Farm belong to the Sharpsburg-Grundy-Ladoga-Pershing association. All were originally derived from loess that once blanketed the region to a depth of many feet. The Sharpsburg and Ladoga are positioned on the ridge-tops, while the Grundy and Pershing occur on lower gentle slopes where the loess thins out over the underlying limestone. The topsoil at the Truman Farm was determined to range from 20 to 24 inches thick, with very little residual stone. These soils were formed under a prairie environment and are high in inherent fertility (Bray 1983, 2-4).

Vegetation: Landscape Characteristics

While portions of the vegetation pattern may represent an approximation of what existed during the period of significance, none of the extant plantings bear any historic significance. The majority of the grounds are open and grassy. The lawn that immediately surrounds the house and extends west to the Blue Ridge Highway is regularly mown to a short height. The grounds east of the cluster of buildings are mown only intermittently and retain the appearance of a farm field. Although the west grounds of the property present a well-kempt appearance that is aesthetically appropriate, historic photographs show that this area was often trimmed only by grazing animals and thus remained in an uneven, slightly overgrown state.

The east and south boundaries of the property are bounded by a tree-line that, along with intermittent posts, supports a wire fence line. Although this forested demarcation adds to the vernacular appearance of the landscape, it does not date to the period of significance and is not a contributing feature. A 1944 United States Soil Conservation Service aerial photograph shows no evidence of this tree-line or fence-line. At earliest, it possibly dates to the initial commercial development of the early 1960s, after Truman sold most of his remaining property in 1958.

A significant feature of the early farm was a large maple grove north of the entrance drive that was planted by Solomon Young. It extended west from the house, ending about sixty meters east of the entrance gate. The last trees remaining in this grove were destroyed by a tornado in the 1950s. During restoration efforts of the early 1980s, a smaller grove of new maples was planted to regain a semblance of the historic appearance. While these trees do not detract from the appearance of the landscape, they are not contributing features.

About fifteen feet east of the house, a native pin oak tree was planted by the National Association of Retired Federal Employees in 1987. This tree does not appear to represent a particular historic planting and it is not a contributing feature.

Lilac plantings are located along the south side of the house. It is possible that they date back to the period of significance, but it is ultimately unknown. During the 1983 reconstruction of the house, extensive foundational repair work was undertaken. The extent of surrounding ground disturbance that resulted is unknown, as is the possibility of historic plantings surviving the impacts that may have occurred. The lilacs enhance the feel of the farm landscape, but whether or not they are contributing historic features remains unknown.

In general, the additional trees, shrubs, and other vegetation features maintain a benign presence on the landscape. They may not directly contribute to the cultural landscape, but they help the property to retain a small fragment of the rural character it once exhibited.

Chapter 8: Condition Assessment

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good
Assessment Date: 12/15/2009

Impacts

Impact Type: Exposure to Elements
Internal/External: External

Impact Type: Poor Security/Lighting
Internal/External: Internal

Chapter 9: Treatment

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative

Landscape treatment will be determined by park through an approved NPS planning process.

Approved Treatment Completed: No

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