

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Love, Col. Thomas C., House, Love Ridge Fruit Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number

not for publication

city, town Seymour

vicinity of

state Missouri

code 29

county Webster

code 225

3. Classification

Category

district

building(s)

structure

site

object

Ownership

public

private

both

Public Acquisition

in process

being considered

NA

Status

occupied

unoccupied

work in progress

Accessible

yes: restricted

yes: unrestricted

no

Present Use

agriculture

commercial

educational

entertainment

government

industrial

military

museum

park

private residence

religious

scientific

transportation

other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Lamb

street & number R #1

city, town Seymour

vicinity of

state Missouri 65746

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Recorder of Deeds

street & number Webster County Courthouse

city, town Marshfield

state Missouri 65706

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historic Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984

federal state county local

depository for survey records Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176

city, town Jefferson City

state Missouri 65101

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

The Col. Thomas C. Love House, "Love Ridge" is a two story brick house built in a vernacular Italianate style in a modified T-plan with a one story brick rear wing to which a frame leanto is attached to the rear while a small brick wing abuts its west wall. The cross gable roof of the house has boxed cornice with returns at each gable end. Graceful brackets with pendants accent the frieze below the cornice, but not raking cornice, of the main block. A two story porch spans the long block of the primary facade. Beneath it is a balustraded balcony cantilevered from the wall. Windows are tall and slender and have segmental brick arches as do the doors. Entrance doors occur at both stories and have sidelights and large transoms. A rear porch, coming off the east wall of the one story wing has been removed.

On the interior, the hall is the most stylish original room. It has a straight run stair of walnut, with a graceful bend as it approaches the second floor, that is announced by a tapered octagonal hewell post. Its design is echoed by the balusters. The hall ceiling has a simple circular medallion. Principal doors and windows have molded architraves.

The house is in excellent condition. As no outbuildings from the occupancy period of Thomas C. Love survive, only the house and its yard are being nominated.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Ca. 1868-70 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Love, Col. Thomas C., House is significant under Criteria B and C to wit: That it is associated with Thomas C. Love a locally prominent person whose life is an important case study of a successful southerner operating in a variety of arenas in the post-Civil War era in Southwest Missouri, and that the Love House, "Love Ridge", embodies the distinctive characteristics of the vernacular Italianate style of the post Civil War period manifested in a house which was the first pretentious brick house built in Webster county. The significant activities of Thomas C. Love can be summarized under the following areas of significance:

Military: Love came from a distinguished military family, and enlisted in the cause of the Confederacy in 1862. He participated in several engagements, was wounded, and captured. This experience probably had a formative influence on his later life.

Politics: Love's grandfather had been a distinguished democratic politician in Tennessee; Love followed in his footsteps to a lesser degree, serving in the State Legislature for a term and functioning in two important political appointments in Springfield.

Agriculture: Building on the farming operation established by his parents, engaging in a diversified Livestock/Farming type of agriculture, he maintained the largest farm in his township, a dominance the Love family enjoyed for several decades.

Architecture: Love built the first pretentious brick house in Webster County, in a vernacular version of the Italianate style. It was an expression of an innovative trend in post Civil War architecture away from a regional southern vernacular building idiom in the direction of a national architectural idiom.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .6
Quadrangle name "Mansfield, N.W., Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	7	5
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5	2	1	3	9	1	6	1	5
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. James M. Denny

organization Department of Natural Resources date June 20, 1984

street & number P.O. Box 176
1915 Southridge Dr. telephone 751-4096

city or town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title John Karel, Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/23/84

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet: Love, Col. Thomas C., House Item number 7

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The house at Love Ridge Farm, R #1, Seymour, Mo. is executed in vernacular Italianate Design. The entire house is constructed of brick that was reportedly made on the farm by freed slaves that stayed on the farm, except for a backroom added later and now sided in vinyl. The house is built in a T-plan sometime between 1858-69 and is reported to be the first brick structure in the county. The main portion of the house is two stories excepting the kitchen and backroom. The house now is part of a dairy and small fruit farm comprising 238 acres.

EXTERIOR

The house faces north and measures approximately 44' 2" x 46'. There is one front entrance on ground floor and one on porch upstairs of same segmental arch design shelters a second floor balcony with doors flanked by sidelights and surmounted by transoms. The two-story front porch is attached to house by beams coming through from upstairs floor from cement porch floor on ground.

The red brick is laid in common bond. Walls are two thickness of brick with air space between resting on a stone foundation. There is crawl space under each room.

The windows are narrow, rectangular, double-hung sash with four-over-four lights. They have segmental brick arches and stone lugsills. The cornices are boxed with returns and have brackets with pendants along the north, east, and west ends. The east end of the ell has no windows.

The roof is of cross-gable design and covered with green asphalt shingles. At one time the roof had cedar shake shingles as they can be observed along edge of roof. There is a west entrance sheltered by a small porch of vernacular Eastlake design. The one step is of stone. The west side also has an exterior chimney that had blown off at roof line years ago. In March 1981 the chimney was rebuilt. The house has three other chimneys which are situated so each room has an opening into a chimney for a stove pipe. At one time there was a wooden porch along the wall of the rear one-story addition. There are two doors, now boarded up, one up and one down on south wall of house that led out to this porch. A door led out to this porch from east wall from what was the dining room. This door is now a window in the bathroom. The small vinyl-sided backroom has one entrance with cement steps. In the fall of 1979, all loose mortar was scraped and brick re-painted on the entire house except on the bottom half of the east L end which was covered with ivy and in good condition.

INTERIOR

The interior of the house seems to be basically of its original character. The kitchen is small and partially remodeled. A brick fireplace in the kitchen has been opened up. The chimney has been lined and a small wood stove set into the hearth.

The backroom has a back stairway going up to a backroom that possibly quartered

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household servants. There is also a small trap door and stone steps leading down to a brick floored fruit cellar located under the kitchen that have been bricked in. There also was a cistern at one time in southeast corner of the backroom.

A room off the kitchen that was originally the dining room, is now the bath and den. The kitchen has cupboards that opened through to dining room and the room had a linen closet with double doors. In 1975, the closet was opened up to make an entrance into kitchen from what is now the den. The room north of the kitchen, at one time was a hallway to sitting room with a bedroom off the hall, the partition between hall and bedroom was removed and it is now the dining room.

The living room - originally the sitting room is served by a fireplace. It has a gas log in it due to the danger of using wood in the old chimney. From the living room one enters a large hall where front door entrance is and the graceful curved stairway. The upstairs hall has a front door entrance from upstairs porch. Both down and upstairs halls also have doors leading out to east porch that is no longer there. Upstairs are three bedrooms and the servants quarters backroom now used as storage. Downstairs, a bedroom, originally the parlor, is on east side of hall. This room has more decorative woodwork.

The walls are in good condition and papered to period of house. The woodwork is all painted. Originally the walls were white with grained woodwork. The wide woodwork is reported to be walnut and the curved stair rail to be cherry. Railing and balusters are now painted white. Floors are painted and now covered with carpet for warmth. The parlor at one time had a decorative ceiling with plaster medallions and wide cornice. The house is basically in very good condition. Rotted window sashes have been replaced, storm windows and doors added, lightning rods attached and the attic insulated.

There are ample double closet in what is now the dining room and two upstairs bedrooms. A closet was put in the downstairs hallway under the stairs in in 1971. The wooden porch on east side is hopefully soon to be replaced.

SITE

The Love Ridge Farm was homesteaded in 1842 with approximately 600 acres. Mules, corn and cotton were reportedly raised on the farm with slave labor. The farm was set to orchard in the late 1800s and was an orchard till around 1965 when all trees were cut down. A brick walk was uncovered in 1971 by present owners leading from the west side porch to the front porch and also a brick walk going from front porch to road. The westside porch and backroom entrances have large pieces of cut stone for walks. A building sets in field 800 feet south of the house made of rock with a tin roof. It was reportedly a place where barrels were made for shipping apples and where apples were stored. There is a cemetery to southwest of house about 300 feet that originally had a stone wall around it and where T. B. Love, his wife and children are buried. The stone wall has long been gone with only a few remains. The cemetery now has a wire fence to keep animals out and the broken tombstones repaired. Reportedly, slaves were buried around outside of stone wall with small markers for each that are now gone.

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FOOTNOTES

1. Abstract: Information gained from reading or property abstract in possession of present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Lamb, R #1, Seymour, Mo., January 3, 1981.
2. Interview: Alta King Standifer, 1615 Lawn, Kansas City, Mo., who lived in house from 1911 to 1918. Her father was overseer of farm. Interviewed by Helen Lamb 5-25-81.
Betty Love, 1024 E. Stanford, Springfield, Mo., Granddaughter of Co. Tom C. Love. Interviewed by Helen Lamb 6-11-81.
3. Book: History of Webster County,
Co. Plat Book 1. Page 43
Directory of Towns - Webster Co., Mo.
Compiled by Arthur Paul Moses, Page 9

Military Service Records

Washington, DC : Muster Rolls 5-5-81 (received)

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Introduction: The significance of the Thomas C. Love house is reflective of the prominence of the Love family in Webster County from 1842, the date of Thomas B. Love's arrival from Tennessee, through 1910, when his son, Thomas C. Love finally moved from the homeplace. While the house is not stylistically a southern house, it is still the expression of a distinctively southern success story that took shape over three generations. The Loves' life style and achievements, while typical of those of the better class of Southern plain folk throughout the Upper South, are distinctive within the context of the region to which they brought their southern folkways. The scale at which they pursued their diversified farming/stock raising operation and the number of slaves that made up their work force in antebellum times was far above that of any of their neighbors who seemed for the most part to be slaveless semi-subsistence farmers with modest holdings and valuations. In this sense the Loves established an outpost of southern culture in Southwest Missouri planted on a moderately fertile upland section of the Ozark highland. Despite the Love's late arrival to Missouri, several decades following initial settlement, they could have still chosen to locate in one of the prosperous southern settlement regions along the Missouri or Mississippi River valleys, where 500-1000 acre, 10-20 slave farms like theirs were not uncommon. Or in southwest Missouri they could have located on the fertile Springfield Plain with its many cultural and economic crossroads, which was only a few miles to the southwest from where they actually did settle. They instead chose to locate on the remote eastern fringe of the Springfield Plain in the Central Plateau sub-region, an extent of small prairies surrounded by hills on three sides, having moderately productive soil, but economically isolated because of the hill belts separating the plateau from the Missouri, Mississippi and Arkansas valleys. But the subregion did have unimpeded access to the Springfield Plain, and to Springfield, thirty-five miles distant, the major trading entrepot and livestock market center from Southwest Missouri. This locale was also a major settlement enclave for transplanted Tennesseans, like the Loves themselves. The Springfield connections of the Love family, a respected name in Tennessee, probably date from early in the Missouri residency of the Loves and are expressed, after 1880, by the actual removal of Thomas C. Love to Springfield. In any of several Greene County townships in and around Springfield were men who could match Thomas B. Love in acreage, slaves, or cash valuation, but in Hazelwood Township, Webster County, the Loves were by far the largest farming operation, and the family would maintain that dominance for seven decades or more. They choose to be the big fish in a little pond, at least to the point in 1883 when Thomas C., desiring a world with larger vistas in which to raise and educate his children, left the Webster County homeplace and moved to Springfield, ultimately severing the Love family connection in Webster County. The main sources concerning the Loves that were examined included biographical sketches in county histories and census and probate records; from this information a portrait of the Love family can be derived which forms an interesting case study of several aspects of mobility and culture as expressed in a distant reach of the Old South. Because of the centrality of the family unit and kinship to Southern social structures, it is necessary to look beyond the discrete accomplishments of Thomas C. Love, builder of the Love house; his achievements and values will be evaluated in a generational context in which not only property but also values are passed down and enlarged upon.

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Military: Of the several ways in which the Love family demonstrated traits of Southern character, a central pillar must be their military prowess. A recent study makes a strong argument for the central role of the concept of honor, a complex set of ethical codes, in cementing together the regional culture of the Old South, regardless of class or status. Valor was an essential aspect of honor. The Love family, over three generations, subscribed passionately to that code; it was key to the formation of their sense of worth and to their achievement of community status. Thomas Love, grandfather of Thomas C. Love, young and recently arrived to North Carolina from Ireland, unhesitatingly enlisted in the patriotic cause in the American Revolution. He rose to the rank of Colonel and the command of a North Carolina regiment. After his removal to Tennessee, he became a general in the state militia. The general's eldest son attained the rank of colonel during the War of 1812, but his son, Thomas B., was too young to fight and got to do no more than join a party to assist in provisioning Andrew Jackson's troops on their march from New Orleans after the conclusion of the war. He received his older brother's sword which became a prized family heirloom - a totem of valor. Thomas B.'s oldest son, a lieutenant in the Mexican War, died on the march to Mexico. Thomas C. Love traded the opportunity of an education for the battlefield in defense of the sacred cause of the Confederacy, and his brother Joseph also joined up. Thomas was 17 or 18 when he enlisted as a private in 1862. He participated in five engagements in Arkansas and Missouri, was shot through the lung, captured and released, once escaped capture by swimming a river, and was ultimately discharged in 1865. The pistol ball he carried in his body from his wound was an emblem of courage and was noted in every biographical sketch of him. His three years of fighting were the formative event of his life, the proof of his mettle, the stamp of his worthiness. The old southern order he knew as a child, that he nearly died for, crumbled in defeat and humiliation; the world in which he achieved his later success was a very different one in many ways. But his passion for the lost cause of the Confederacy was lifelong. As an old man with a grey goatee and gold rimmed spectacles, he posed seated for a photographer in a confederate officers uniform, a sheathed saber in one hand, a braided hat in the other. In 1883 he was appointed co-collector of funds to improve the Confederate cemetery in Springfield. He was the only man to be elected twice to the post of camp commander of his chapter of the United Confederate Veterans. In 1914, when he was seventy, he was elected brigadier-general of the Western Brigade, Missouri Division of Mounted Confederate Veterans.

Politics: Another southern trait revealed in the three Love generations was a deep adherence to the Democratic Party. One of the Love family totems was a lock of Andrew Jackson's hair owned by Thomas B. and passed on to Thomas C. The south generated a rich political culture that could provide an avenue of advancement. To varying degrees, the Loves were active in politics and reaped benefits from their involvements. General Thomas enjoyed the most success in this respect by serving thirty consecutive years in the Tennessee Legislature. For a number of terms he was speaker of the house. Thomas B. was not an office seeker, but Thomas C. was, although on a much smaller scale than his illustrious grandfather. He held county office as sheriff and circuit clerk and recorder, and in 1882 was elected state representative. During his term he helped secure funds to build a new courthouse and jail. After this term, he was able to secure political appointments in Springfield, first as deputy collector of internal revenue and then as postmaster.

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Slavery: The main institutional bulwark of the Old South was slavery. In combination with land proprietorship, the number of slaves possessed was a measure of wealth and status. By both counts, Thomas B. Love and later his widow, operated at well above the norm for plain folk southerners. In 1850 and 1860 respectively, they were the county's largest slave holders; Thomas owned 18; his widow ten years later had 21. One county history noted that Thomas B. was a compassionate master. Limited corroboration of this assertion is found in his will where he stipulated that married slaves not be separated should they be sold. Benevolent paternalism was an important tenet of the cult of patriarchy on which so much of the mythology of the old south was based.

Agriculture: It would be interesting to know why Thomas B. Love, at age 49; decided to uproot his family and move from Tennessee to southwest Missouri. He most likely already owned several slaves, and was in possession of the means to purchase 600 acres of land from the government. The agricultural census of 1850 noted considerable progress in eight years: 225 improved acres, a valuation of \$3,500, 22 horses, 44 mules, 24 oxen, 17 cattle, 65 sheep, 50 swine. He produced 300 bushels of wheat, 1000 bushels of oats, 4000 bushels of corn, 1211 lbs. of tobacco, 150 lbs. of wool, 20 bushels of peas and beans, 250 bushels of Irish and sweet potatoes, 480 lbs. of butter, 5 bushels of flax seed, and 50 lbs. of beeswax. Home manufactures were valued at \$150; value of animals slaughtered at \$160. This is a typical profile of the type of successful diversified farming/stock raising operation conducted by the majority of southerners - the great middle class, the "plain folk", described by Frank Lawrence Owsley. Thomas B.'s death in 1852 did not halt the growth in extent and value of the Love's farm. Under the direction of his widow Elizabeth, the farm grew by 1860 to 450 improved and 1264 unimproved acres, and was valued at \$9350. Stock and crop production either increased or remained the same as in 1850. Livestock was valued at \$14,895. Her slave holdings stood at 21. In every respect her farm exceeded by far any other in the county in both acreage and production, and she was also the largest slaveholder.

In 1848, when Thomas C. was but four years old, his father drafted a will that insured that his young son would some day be the master of Love Ridge Farm. He placed a large portion of the farm along with the major improvements, under the stewardship of his wife until son Thomas C. should come of age. Other provisions may have been made for 17 year old son Joseph, or he may have been bypassed for some reason. Thomas C., although he was twenty-one the year of his discharge in 1865, did not immediately return home to assume his role as master of Love Ridge. Perhaps because of lingering anti-Rebel feelings in Webster Co., or for other reasons, Thomas C. spent three years in Texas raising cotton on a rented plantation. While there, he married the daughter of another exiled southern Missouri family.

Architecture: The common assumption is that Love Ridge was constructed soon after the return of Thomas C., his bride Sallie, and their young son, Joseph, to Missouri. Also around this time, in 1869, occurred the death of Thomas C.'s mother, Elizabeth. How the Love family lived prior to the erection of Love Ridge is uncertain. Probably they followed the common homestead pattern of living modestly, in perhaps nothing more than a

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single-pen house, while devoting their primary energies to developing a successful farming operation. That would have been the typical pattern for southwest Missouri. Even on the Springfield Plain, brick mansion houses were relatively rare before the Civil War. Most large farmers probably lived like Nathan Boone, Daniel's son, in log houses, or modest timber frame houses of the story and loft type. In Webster County there were few, if any, pretentious houses before the Civil War. Thus it is critical to appreciating the local context of Love Ridge to realize that it was probably the first pretentious house to built in Webster County. One legend states that it was the first brick house to be built in the county, another that it cost \$4000 to build, not an inconsiderable sum in that area. Pretentious houses have an important value as one of the most fundamental and powerful representations on the cultural landscape of the highest achievements in wealth and refinement of a given region or neighborhood. The Love family had long had the dominant farming operation of Hazelwood Township. Why it took more than a quarter of a century for them to erect a highly visible symbol of the dominance may have something to do with timing, with the fact that having lost their slaves and the wealth they represented, the Loves desired a substitute symbol. Or it may be the peculiar product of Thomas C.'s pride and ambition and his desire to impress his new bride. In any case, it was a remarkable building project in scale and pretention for a young man in his mid-twenties. The house, for all its inevitable cultural lag, was also a symbol of innovation and progress within its region. Its style was a turning away from the vernacular building tradition of the Upper South that had prevailed throughout the entire pre-civil war period, and which lingered well into the twentieth century in certain "Little Dixie" areas of Missouri. It was one of the first outstate examples of the Italianate Style, a victorian style and national, as apposed to regional, one. This style was introduced to Missouri from St. Louis where architects like George I. Barnett were designing Italianate residences beginning in the late 1840's. Love Ridge is a typical post Civil War vernacular example, its T-shape being a common variation along with the cubic form and several I house versions. The T-form in its most pretentious manifestations had a tower at the angle of the blocks, but Love Ridge, sans tower, was more typical of the way the Italianate style was encountered in the common landscapes of Missouri: sparingly decorated, but with new Victorian elements such as bracketting, elongated windows with segmental arched heads, Italinate designed porches, interior door and window architectraves of built up half round moldings, straight run main stairs with octagonal newel posts, etc. Love Ridge has virtually all these features and is a completely typical expression. What gives the house its distinction is the regional context it enjoys. Were it in any of a number of moderately sized towns of the day, it would have been a typical Middle Class house; in Webster County it stood alone, and was in a very real sense a latter day "big house".

Agriculture, cont'd: With the 1870 census of agriculture, the Love farming operation again comes into focus. The picture is very impressive for a young man of 26 and his small family, a young man who had also just built the most impressive house Webster County had ever seen. There was more to Thomas C. Love than simply the luck of inheritance. From his war experiences he must have gained a sense of inner worth that compensated for the course of study he had intended to pursue at the University of

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Missouri, but for the intervening beckon of the Civil War. Honor was more important than mere advancement. In later life he was described as a tall fair man who always wore a big hat and walked proud, but who was fair in his dealings and well liked. These traits were probably nurtured by his farming youth and baked hard by the rigorous and dangerous tests of his war years.

By age 26, Love had already consolidated the accumulations of his parents into a solid farming operation. The Civil War had caused no long term disruption of the livestock/diversified crop market oriented type of operation that had been showing up for Loves in the agricultural census of 1850 and that of 1860. He had 400 acres, 250 of which were improved. This, in a township where the average number of improved acres was around thirty. His farm was valued at \$10,000. The average for the 225 farms of his township was \$892. He had fewer numbers of livestock than his parents and raised smaller quantities of crops as well. But his figures were still respectable considering the pilferage of stock the Loves experienced during the war and the broader economic disruptions caused by the conflict and its aftermath. He also had a new expense: the wages he had to pay to the farmhands he needed to hire. His expenses in 1869-70 in this respect were \$720.

The census figures for 1880 reveal steady growth both in the Love family where three new sons were added and in the farm which had grown to 495 acres, 365 of which were tilled. Its value remained at \$10,000. He was actively involved in cattle trading, purchasing 283 head in 1879, selling 279 of them. He produced a large corn crop, 3000 bushels, and a 700 bushel wheat crop. His farm produced a wide variety of products: 65 dozen eggs, 520 lbs. of butter, 20 lbs of honey, 15 cords of wood. He had also launched a sizable orchard: he had 230 bearing trees on 7 acres. He was still the township's leading farmer by far, and one of the leading farmers in the county as well. In the 1890's he turned his farm into an apple orchard.

Conclusion: As Love approached his 40th year, his horizons broadened. He had firmly established one of the fine farms of Webster Co. He turned his attention to politics. His legislative term led to appointive positions in Springfield, and so in 1883, he left Love Ridge. In Springfield his children would have access to the superior education he never got. His children all achieved success: one became a medical doctor, one a veterinarian, one an attorney, one a banker, and one a manufacturer. In 1899, at age 55, he returned to Love Ridge and remained there twelve years. Around the time of his wife's death he returned to Springfield. Around 1909 he sold part of the farm to a group of 7 owners. By 1922 the farm had completely passed from his ownership. By the 1960's the farm had ceased to be an orchard. In 1971, it became the property of the present owners.

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3. U. S. Census Records - Wright County 1850
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5. Fairbanks, Johnathan, 1915, Past & Present of Green Co., Mo.
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6. George, Floy Walter, History of Webster Co. 1855-1955
Pages 34, 45, 71, 92, 128
7. History of Laclede, Camden, Dallas, Webster, Wright, Texas, Pulaski, Phelps and Dent
Co., Goodspeed Publishing Co. 1889. Pages 230, 191-2, 192, 237, 251.
8. Love, Betty, personal interview with Helen Lamb, 6-11-81.
9. Military Service Records, Washington D.C., Muster Rolls
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11. Webster County Historical Society Journal #5, April 1977, Page 3, Article by Fred
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet: Love, Col., Thomas Co., House item number 10

Page I

The Love, Thomas C. House is bounded by a rectangle oriented on the house whose center point is the above referenced UTM coordinate. The north line comprises the south right of way of County Road V and runs parallel to and 60 feet from the north wall of the house; the west line, comprising a wood rail fence, runs parallel to and 70 feet from the west wall of the house; the east line, comprising a wire fence, runs parallel to and 70 feet from the east wall of the house; the south line, comprising a wire fence, runs parallel to and 60 feet from the south wall of the house. The resulting rectangle whose dimensions are 145 feet north-south by 180 feet east-west coincides with the yard of the house and forms a compact and convenient boundry for the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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

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date entered

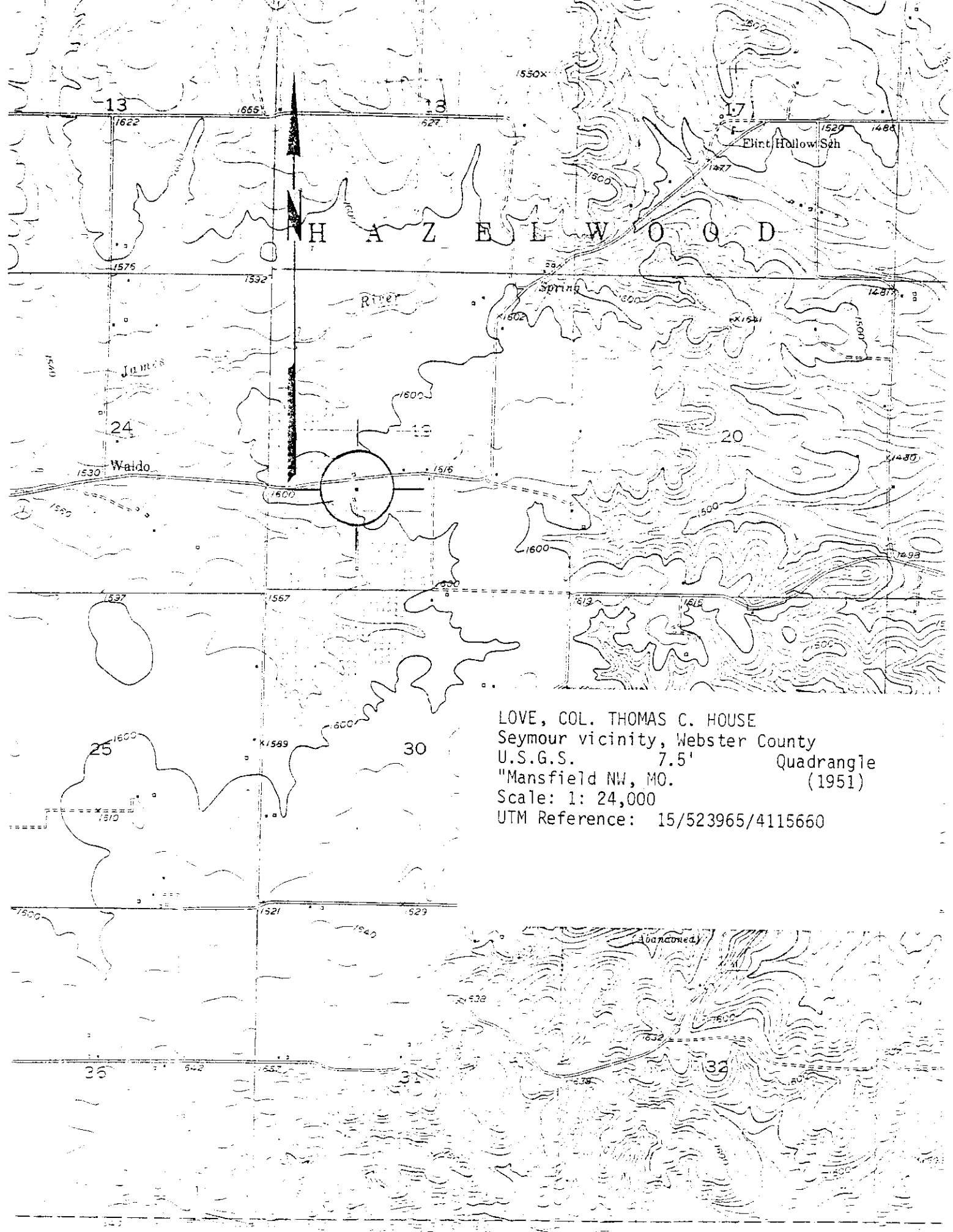
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2. Mrs. Helen Lamb

Rt. 1
Seymour,

May 1, 1982
417-935-4983
Missouri 65746



LOVE, COL. THOMAS C. HOUSE
 Seymour vicinity, Webster County
 U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
 "Mansfield NW, MO. (1951)
 Scale: 1: 24,000
 UTM Reference: 15/523965/4115660

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
LOVE RIDGE
SEYMOUR, MISSOURI

NOT TO SCALE

