NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Listed 10/04/2017

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name Maplecroft Farmstead

Other names/site number Frisbie Farm; KHRI #087-0000-00006 (House); KHRI #087-444 (Barn)

Name of related Multiple Property Listing Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas

2. Location

Street & number 2957 KOA Road ( ) not for publication

City or town Grantville (x) vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Jefferson Code 087 Zip code 66429

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this **x** nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property **x** meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide **x** local Applicable National Register Criteria: **x** A ___ B ___ C ___ D

See file.
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date

Kansas State Historical Society
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register

_____ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

X	private
	public - Local
	public - State
	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

	building(s)
X	district
	site
	structure
	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
7	2	buildings
0	0	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
9	**2**	**Total**

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
AGRICULTURE: Animal Facility; Storage;
Agricultural Outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
AGRICULTURE: Storage; Agricultural Outbuilding
VACANT / NOT IN USE
WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate
OTHER

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE (limestone)
walls: STONE (limestone)
WOOD
roof: OTHER (composition shingle)
other:

Narrative Description

Summary

Maplecroft Farm dates to its establishment by John Kuykendall in May 1854, though the majority of built features date to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The nominated five acres in the NE¼ of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 17 East are located in the fertile black silt loam soil of the Kansas (Kaw) River Valley in the southwest corner of Jefferson County, northeast Kansas (*Figure 1*). The present-day town of Grantville is located about 1.5 miles south of the nominated property; both are in Kaw Township. Maplecroft is accessed by a long east-west driveway off the gravel, county maintained, KOA Road (*Photo 1*). The approximately 3,149 sq.ft. house is situated at its original location to the north of the drive with agricultural outbuildings branching to the south, west, and north as the drive circles back to the house. The original homestead consisted of 160 acres; today, the property resources are clustered among a five-acre farmstead with 50 acres of cultivated agricultural land and scenic woodland along Muddy Creek to the south and west. The nominated farmstead includes 11 built resources: the native limestone, two-story house (begun ca.1862); a unique combination of two large balloon frame / hybrid bank barns set at right angles to each other with prominent hay hoods (ca.1946); a corn crib and shop (ca.1900); one cattle shed (early 1900s); a chicken house (ca.1905); a smoke house (early 1900s); a brooder shed (ca.1900); and an outhouse (early 1900s). A hand-dug well (ca.1878) with windmill is centrally located among the structures. The farmstead is nominated under the *Historic Agriculture-related Resources of Kansas* MPS.

Elaboration

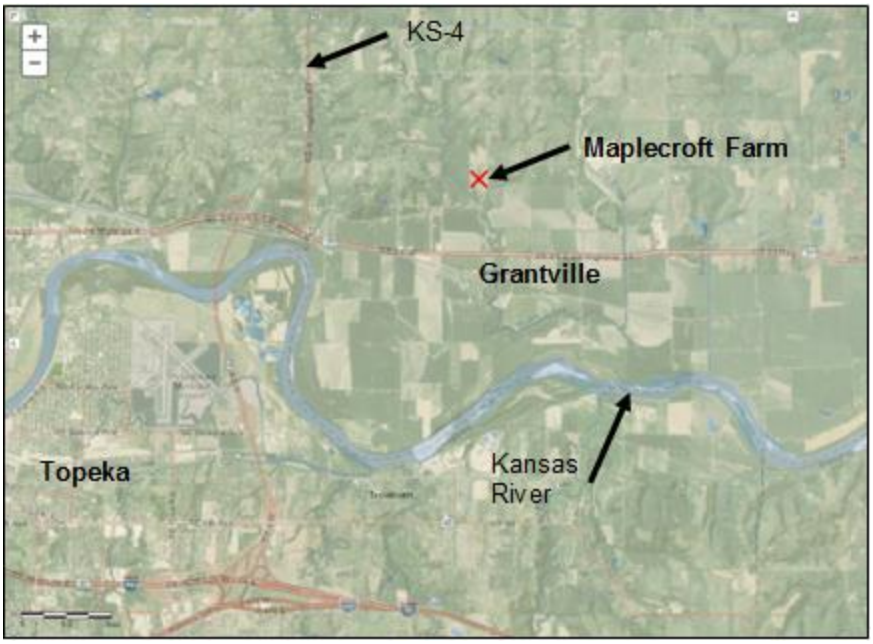

Figure 1: 2014 Aerial. North is up. KS-4 and the Kansas River divide Jefferson County from Shawnee County.

Location and Setting

Early Jefferson County settler J. Butler Chapman described the terrain of what is now Kaw Township in his 1855 *History of Kansas and Emigrant's Guide*, stating, "The Delaware lands on the north side is a fine body of land—containing excellent timber, rock, and stone coal. The bottom land is wide, extending from four to six miles from the river, and but one or two points of narrow strips of highland approaches the river, and that for a short distance."[1] Writing in 1883, Kansas Historian William Cutler characterized the land as "unrivaled in beauty by any other county in the State."[2]

The setting of Maplecroft Farm has not undergone significant changes in the last 100 years. Photographs of the home and farmstead from the early 1900s show very few trees present near the home and outbuildings. Oral history passed down through the family verifies the location of structures and features of the property. The view from the farmstead down to the valley where US-24 Highway is located was relatively unobstructed as recently as the 1990s. Today (2017), volunteer trees and scrub vegetation have invaded the maintained areas; although, removal of unwanted species has begun and great care is taken to conserve woodland assets and improve stands of desirable species.

As part of the Kaw River Valley, the area is a scenic and serene location. One only sees the cultivated fields and the timber line along Muddy Creek looking across the valley to the south, west, and north (*Photos 2 through 4*). Visible to the east is the old Wilson place (the location of the Kaw City blacksmith shop[3]) though it is no longer extant (*Photo 5*). In the

[1] J. Butler Chapman, *History of Kansas: And Emigrant's Guide* vol. I (Akron: Teesdale, Elkins & Co., 1855), 17.
[2] William Cutler, *History of Kansas* (Chicago: A.T. Andreas, 1883), 498.
[3] The blacksmith shop was located to the southeast of the existing 1950s house; it was torn down sometime after the flood of 1951. Interview with Carol Johnson Crawford (her family bought the property from the Wilson's in 1945, she & her husband are the current owners) on 9/26/2015.

winter, the old Haynes place (formerly the Jones farm; site of the Kaw City post office from 1858 to 1866), can be made out on the hill beyond the trees.[4] The sound of the trains a mile and a half south in Grantville have blared through the valley since the first passenger train passed through Kaw Station on January 1, 1866.[5]

The landscape surrounding Maplecroft Farm is significant in respect to its use for hunting, wildlife refuge, timber, and agriculture, including row crops and fruit and vegetable production. The Kaw River Valley is rich with deposits from glacial till. The soils are deep, fertile, and easily cultivated, and the stream beds are full of soft sediments. All of the land included in Maplecroft Farm is listed as, "Prime farmland" on the Important Farmlands map of Jefferson County, Kansas.[6] Most of the soil that comprises the approximately 60-acre farmstead is classified as Gymer Silt Loam. This soil type is characterized by, "deep, moderately sloping soils on uplands."[7] Some of the land to the south and around Muddy Creek is Reading Silt Loam and Kennebec.[8] The native vegetation for these soils is composed of tall prairie grass with some areas of oak-hickory forest with an understory of tall prairie grass. When the Kaw and Delaware Indians lived in this region, it was a wide expanse of prairie with tall, waving native grasses covering the hills and valleys with timber along the streams. The smaller stands of woodlands in this area continue to grow along the waterways and riparian areas; they are the western boundary of the Eastern Deciduous Forest.[9] They are rich with oak, hickory, and walnut and are interspersed with prairie which is dominated by brome and little bluestem. The timber provides critical habitat for many types of wildlife and is full of wild game. Fish, white tailed deer, turkey, and bald eagle are prominent. The wood from the timber provided heat for the house and income for the family when mature specimens were sold. It was also a place for entertainment. Herbert L. Frisbie reported that Muddy Creek provided, "a place to fish, swim, skate and hunt".[10] An article in *The Valley Falls Vindicator* in 1992 reported that the bend in Muddy Creek just south and west of the Frisbie farm was, "the place every kid in Grantville meant when he spoke of the swimming hole".[11] The settlers of these lands found fruit to be scarce; however, some gathered pawpaws and varieties of berries along the streams. They dried and stored wild plums and grapes to eat in the winter.[12]

The grove of maple trees that were present on the property in 1873, when Hanson Z. Frisbie came to it and named it "Maplecroft", suffered greatly during the drought of the 1930s. Only one existing maple tree can possibly be identified as being from the grove that inspired the name of the property. This tree is located near the northeast corner of the house in the front yard.

The nominated farmstead is arranged with the hand dug well and windmill practically at its center (*Map 1*, at end of document). About 16 yards to the east sits the limestone house. About 15 yards to the west is the chicken house. The driveway from KOA Road is about 130 yards from the road to the house. It curves around the southwest corner of the house between it and the well site allowing for a gravel parking area. It continues to curve around west toward the brooder house where the drive continues north toward tilled farmland and south toward the corn crib / shop. It circles in front of the two barns and reconnects with the driveway back to KOA Road. The brooder house is about 35 yards northwest of the house. The outhouse is located to the east of the brooder house, and north of the house. The smoke house is 10 yards northwest of the house. The south barn is 54 yards southwest of the house with the west barn at a right angle to it. The west barn is 48 yards southwest of the house. To the northwest of the barns is the corn crib / shop; they are 48 yards from the stone house.

[4] Grantville Community Historical Society, *History of Grantville, Kansas, 1854-1976,* Vol. 1 (Topeka: H.M. Ives & Sons, Inc., 1976), 122. The Haynes Places was previously owned by James H. Jones, first postmaster; it was the location of a hotel where the democrats held a convention in 1858 (*History of* Grantville, 3).

[5] Ibid., 3.

[6] 1980. Soil Conservation Service, Jefferson County, Kansas. N3901-W9510.

[7] United States Department of Agriculture/Soil Conservation Service & Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, *Soil Survey of Jefferson County, Kansas* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1977), 9.

[8] Ibid., 7 & 36.

[9] Friends of the Kaw, "The Historic Kaw: Natural History," Kansas River web page; accessed on-line at http://kansasriver.org/learn/life-on-the-kaw/the-historic-kaw/ (11/30/2015).

[10] *History of Grantville*, Vol. 1, 42.

[11] Norman Zinn, "The Swimming Hole," *The Valley Falls Vindicator* (April 28, 1992): n.p.

[12] *History of Grantville*, Vol. 1, 1.

Inventory of Resources

1. Limestone House
Contributing Building
Date(s): ca.1862,[13] additions ca.1870, & ca.1920
Coordinates: 39.099659,-95.558926
Photos: 6 through 12

Figure 2: 2014 Aerial image of house, showing original block of house (left) and 1870s block (right). A second story was added to the left portion in 1922. North is up.

The 3,149 sq.ft. Italianate house faces east and is built on a hill with a gently sloping grade in every direction. The stone dwelling was built in three main phases that produced its current irregular plan, measuring approximately 36' wide (north to south) and 52' long (east to west) (*Figure 2*).[14] The original one-story rectangular block dates to ca.1862 and is currently the ground level of the west portion.[15] An L-shaped, two-story block was built to the east of the original portion in the 1870s, and the second level of the west portion was added in ca.1920.[16] The construction of the east portion of the house is attributed to M. R. Dutton, who began construction of the stone house and a limestone barn in the 1870s. Frisbie family history states that the house was under construction when Hanson Z. Frisbie bought the property in 1873 and moved here in 1874.[17] Architecturally, the house is one of the largest residential vernacular stone structures with Italianate details in the county.

Excepting the roof, the entire structure is composed of hand-cut native limestone blocks that were quarried on private property just north of the house in Section 7. The foundation sits on a natural limestone outcropping and supports 18" thick stone walls. It is significant to note that these walls not only comprise the outside of the structure but also include two, two-story interior walls.[18] The masonry is laid with lime mortar, though patching is evident on the north elevation (*Photos 8 & 9*). Repairs to the mortar voids on the west end of the home were completed with type N masonry compound in November of 2015. Additional repairs were made to the west basement stairs, walls, and doorway at this time. The junction between the walls and roof are ornamented by a heavy top cornice molding supported by decorative bracket corbels, primarily in pairs, along the wide overhanging horizontal cornice eaves. The roof is mostly low-pitched cross-hipped with composition shingles; it was repaired and shingles replaced around 2006. Only one of the original five brick chimneys pierce the roof today, the others having been taken down to attic level (one in c1922 and three in 1968) (*Figures 3 & 4*). The extant chimney is located in the north wall of the west block; it is in the northeast corner of the kitchen on the first floor and the laundry room on the second level (*Photos 10 & 11*).[19]

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[13] As recorded in Jefferson County Courthouse, Oskaloosa, Kansas.

[14] These measurements are from the county appraiser's estimation. Two insurance policies from 1934 and 1937 of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company belonging to George A. Frisbie, state the dimensions of the house as 44' x 36' x 22'. These policies also show the east porch as 42' x 7 ½' x 10', the south porch as 16' x 5 ½' x 10', and the basement as 40' x 32'-8'.

[15] It is probable that the Kuykendall family began construction of this original block; they may have had a dugout dwelling, perhaps where the existing pump room is, that they expanded upon. This block pre-dates the two-story east block of the house, which could have been built as early as September of 1864 and completed sometime after December of 1873.

[16] 1937 insurance policy belonging to George A. Frisbie states the age of the roof as 15 years old; that coincides with oral history stating the west second story addition was completed in the 1920s. Additionally, *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1,, page 40, states that George and his family moved to Oskaloosa while he was county treasurer (1913-1921). Oral history states that this was the time when the west second story addition was built.

[17] Helen (Frisbie) Lindley reported this to Elaine K. Frisbie; Helen did not know how much of the house was completed.

[18] One of these walls runs east-west in the center of the east portion of the house; the other runs north-south between the east portion and the west section.

[19] The other four chimneys were located: 1) in the interior limestone east wall of the dining room; 2) in the exterior west wall of the dining room; 3) in the east wall of the living room; and 4) in the northwest corner of the north wall of the parlor. They were removed due to the removal of the wood-burning stoves associated with them (there were never fire places in the house). Evidence of these chimneys is found in round plaster patches in some of the walls and by historic images. A stove was used below in the outside cellar of the basement below the dining room; also, stove pipe patches are evident in the west and east walls of the dining room. Additionally, there was a place for a stove pipe in the basement on the east wall where the chimney extends up into the living room between the door and window. The chimney in the kitchen, where a wood cook stove was located, comes out in the furnace room in the basement.

Figure 3: East side of house, showing chimney above roofline. Notice the absence of the gable-on-hip in the roof. 1917. Unknown photographer.

Figure 4: Detail of two chimneys on north side of house. Pre-1968[20]. Unknown photographer.

There was a woodstove, or possibly a coal stove, in the parlor on the north wall west of the window. Two of the house's wood stoves are stored on the farm property.

[20] Likely taken in 1960 or 1961.

East (Main) Elevation

The main façade faces east and is four bays wide. From south-to-north, the main level Bays 1, 3, & 4 are historic four-over-six floor-length wood windows.[21&22] Bay 2 on the main level is a single historic door that leads into the living room. This door is paneled with wood inserts with rounded crowns and a glass transom and historic wood storm door.[23] In the upper level, Bays 1 & 2 are historic four-over-six floor-length wood windows; Bays 3 & 4 are historic four-over-four wood windows. Each masonry opening has a cut limestone lintel and sill or threshold. Shutters were present on this elevation, but they were removed prior to the 1950s.[24] At the roof, above Bay 2, is a gable-on-hip, presumably added in 1922 when the upper story of the west block was constructed (*Figures 3 & 4; Photo 6)*. It has clapboard within the gable and a historic fixed two-lite window.

The original porch on the east side of the house was decorated with ornately carved, F-shape brackets on square porch posts with beveled edges and no railing or balustrade (*Figure 3*). This porch was removed around 2010 due to severe deterioration to an unsafe state; it had included a wood porch swing which was removed sometime in the early 1980s due to deterioration.[25] The porch's roof line is evident along the width of the façade, indicated by post holes in the masonry and remnants of lime parging added under the porch at an unknown time; however, photographic evidence suggests it was prior to 1917 (*Figure 3*). Recent consultation with a stone mason indicates the parging was intended to serve as a sort of stucco in the original design of the homes' covered porch, with scoring to resemble stone shaped blocks, over the top of the existing smaller stones that make up the east wall.[26]

South Elevation

The south elevation is five bays wide and most clearly shows the three building phases of this house. From west-to-east, Bays 1 and 2 are located in the rear block of the house; Bays 3 through 5 are in the 1870s block. Bays 1 through 4 are on the same plane (*Photo 8*); Bay 5 is in the ell of the main block (*Photo 9*). On the ground level of Bay 1 is a historic one-over-one double-hung sash window with a double soldier brick segmental arch lintel and cut limestone sill; the upper level contains the same type of window unit and sill, but the lintel is also made of cut limestone. A historic wood panel entry door with top light is in the ground level of Bay 2. The historic storm door was removed sometime after 2006. The masonry opening also has a double soldier brick segmental arch lintel. Above this door is a one-over-one double-hung sash window with cut limestone sill and lintel. Bay 3 contains historic four-over-four wood windows with cut limestone sill and lintel on the main and upper levels, matching Bays 3 & 4 of the east elevation. A six-light sash window is located below the main level window, allowing light into the basement. The main level of Bay 4 is a large bay window featuring inset wooden panels. This bay has three four-over-four windows and decorative eave brackets. Above this bay is another historic four-over-four wood window with cut limestone sill and lintel. Another basement window is visible below the bay window.[27] Bay 5 is similar to Bay 2 of the east elevation with a historic door on the main level and a four-over-six window in the upper level. The door allows access to the parlor; it is a paneled door featuring etched glass windows with rounded crowns and transom and a historic wood storm door.

An obvious vertical joint between Bays 2 and 3 indicates where the rear block and main block are connected. Less obvious is the joint indicating the separation between the oldest portion of the rear block and the 1922 upper level addition, but close examination of the stonework shows a change in material two stone courses above the main level window of Bay 1. The windows of the second story also appear to represent this later building era rather than the earliest or 1870s construction. Also evident is the location of the original south porch, which spanned the lower level of the rear block. This porch had turned columns with decorative spandrels along the top rails and no balustrade or railing (*Figures 5*

[21] The historic four-over-six and four-over-four windows typical in this block of the house are multi-panes with true divided lite sashes; very few panes of glass have been replaced. Many of the windows are fitted with metal storm windows.

[22] The four-over-six windows have a hidden sash at the top. When the window is opened, the lightweight board moves up into the wall, and when the window is closed the board drops down to seal against drafts. This system allows the openings to be almost five feet in height when the lower sash is raised

[23] The interior of the living room transom was closed off sometime before 1973, according to a photograph accompanying the article "House for a hundred years," *Topeka Capital-Journal* (January 28, 1973): n.p.

[24] Some of the shutters still remain in storage on the property. Also stored in the attic of the house is a Victorian-era wooden screen door.

[25] Restoration plans incorporate replication of the porch, including the decorative spandrels and the F-shape brackets, using the original components as templates to replace the porch in its original design.

[26] Consultation with Paul Underwood, Mid-Continental Restoration Co., Inc. Fort Scott, KS, November 10, 2015.

[27] The bay window once had brick stacked under it in the same basket weave style as the brick under the east porch. Loose bricks were removed in 1985 to gain access for repairs to the basement window underneath the bay window. The bricks from under the bay window are stored on the property.

Figure 5: South elevation of rear block prior to 1922.

Figure 6: South elevation after second level added to rear block. Post-1922.

Figure 7: West elevation, ca. 1905, with Clarence, Kate, and Ross Frisbie.

and 6).[28] Only the stoop currently exists; the porch was removed around 2000 also due to deterioration.

West Elevation

The west elevation is four bays wide. From north-to-south, Bay 1 is located in the west wall of the main block of the house (*Photo 10*); Bays 2 through 4 are in the same plane in the rear block of the house (*Photo 11*). Bay 1 has a historic four-over-four wood window with cut limestone sill and double soldier brick segmental arch lintel. A shorter version of this window is located in the upper story directly above this window. Bay 2 has a small one-over-one double-hung sash with cut limestone sill and double soldier brick segmental arch lintel; there is no opening in the upper level above this window. The main level of Bay 3 contains an infilled masonry opening on the main level where a historic window opening was located (*Figure 7*).[29] Off-set and above this infilled opening is a taller one-over-one double-hung sash with cut limestone sill and double soldier brick segmental arch lintel.[30] Bay 4 has a wide one-over-one double-hung sash with cut limestone sill and double soldier brick segmental arch lintel on the main level with an upper window identical to the one in Bay 3. Below the lower level window is a covered set of concrete over stone steps leading down to the basement. Centered in the hip of the roof above Bays 2 through 4 is a shed-roof dormer with a non-historic double-pane window. The eave brackets and window arrangement on this elevation (excepting in Bay 1) date to 1922, according to photographic evidence from circa 1905 (*Figure 7*).

North Elevation

The north elevation is four bays wide: two bays in the main block and two in the rear block (*Photos 11 & 12*). From east-to-west, Bays 1 & 2 are identical and are symmetrical within the block. They each contain historic four-over-four wood windows on the main level and shorter four-over-four wood windows on the upper level. Each window has a cut limestone sill and double soldier brick segmental arch lintel. Another covered set of concrete over stone steps to the basement furnace room is located under the main level window in Bay 2. Two central air conditioning units sit between Bays 1 and 2.[31] Bay 3 contains a historic one-over-one wood window at the main level with a shorter one-over-one wood window off-set above it. A historic wood paneled door with top light provides access to the kitchen in Bay 4 and a tall one-over-one wood window is off-set slightly above this door. Each opening has a cut limestone sill (or threshold) and a double soldier brick segmental arch lintel. No eave brackets are located above Bays 3 and 4. A concrete slab is located at the northwest corner of the house. Rain water that ran off from the gutters and downspouts was collected in a cistern under this concrete slab.[32] The cistern connected to a holding tank in the basement pump room under the main block; water was pumped by hand from the cistern to this tank (no longer extant) for use in the house.

[28] George Frisbie's Inventory Journal from 1896 states that from May 30 to June 3, a porch floor was installed and a foundation for the steps was completed by Mr. Massey; this was probably for the south porch. In 1917, Mr. William Massey is the carpenter photographed making repairs on the east porch (on ladder in *Figure 3*). Everett Williamson is pictured with the horses, John & Doll. He & his family lived in the stone house while George A. Frisbie & his family were in Oskaloosa from 1913 to 1921. (Source: notation from Thomas W. Frisbie as recorded per conversation with his father, Herbert L. Frisbie on August 20, 1989).

[29] Little is known about the one-story wood building in the background (left) in this photo. It is possible that it could have been used as a summer kitchen, due to its proximity to the main kitchen.

[30] The brackets for the wood storm windows on the rear block of the house are still visible. Most of the wood storm doors have been removed due to deterioration.

[31] Central air was added to the house in 1976.

[32] In a February 21, 2016 interview with Mildred Ann Frisbie Brunton, who resided here from 1929 until 1949, recalled that there was once a hand crank-type pump on the back porch here used to dispense water for outdoor use.

Interior[33]

The house has 12 rooms: five rooms downstairs and seven rooms upstairs, in addition to the attic and basement. On the main level, the west (oldest) block contains the kitchen (10'-9" N/S x 15'-0" E/W x 9'-8" H) in the north half and the dining room (14'-6" N/S x 15'-0" E/W x 9'-8" H) in the south half.[34] The 1870s block contains a parlor in the northeast ell (14'-9 ¾" N/S x 18'-1/2" E/W x 8'-6" H), a living room in the south (17'-5 ½" N/S x 21'-8" E/W x 8'-6" H), and a den (14'-9¾" N/S x 13'-4¾" E/W x 8'-6" H) to the west of the parlor.[35&36] A doorway in the east wall of the kitchen opens into a hallway of the main block that provides access to the basement stair and to the den through a separate doorway. A stair from the main level to the upper level is positioned directly above the basement stair and is accessed from the hallway between the living and dining rooms. The interior surfaces of the exterior walls are plastered directly over the exterior limestone; the interior dividing walls are lathe-and-plaster over studs with the exception of the two interior limestone walls. Most of the plaster was made using a mixture of small pebbles and horse hair covered with a smooth skim coat. Floors are wood; linoleum covers the wood floor in the hallway to the basement.[37]

The upstairs contains five bedrooms plus a laundry room (8'-7" N/S x 7'-5¾" E/W x 9'-8" H) and a bathroom (8'-7" N/S x 7'-8½" E/W x 9'-8" H). The rooms are arranged around a central hallway (9'-8" H) that connects the main block with the rear block; a former window of the west wall (southeast of the laundry room) was enlarged to create a doorway between the two blocks in 1922. The northeast bedroom is the largest (16'-10½" N/S x 18'-4" E/W x 8'-6" H). The stair to the attic adjoins this room's west wall and the north bedroom's east wall (14'-10½" N/S x 10'-4½" E/W x 8'-6" H); access to the attic stair is from the hallway, and the closets for each of these bedrooms is located under the stairway. Directly across the hall from the center bedroom is the stair between the upper and main levels. In the northeast corner of the rear block, and to the west of the center bedroom, is the laundry room. The smallest bedroom (13'-5" N/S x 7'-8" E/W x 9'-8" H) is located to the east of the stair with its closet located above the stair. A door in the east wall of this bedroom provides access to the bedroom in the southeast corner of the house (13'-5" N/S x 12'-5" E/W x 9'-8" H). This southeast bedroom also has a door in its north wall which provides access into the hallway. Each bedroom in this block has a transom window above the door and each retains most of its historic hardware and knobs.[38] The upper level of the west block, added in 1922, contains the southwest bedroom (13'-4½" N/S x 15'-7½" E/W x 8'-6" H) in the south portion; its closet is at the northwest corner of the bedroom and is accessed from the bedroom. There is a window at the end of the hallway between the north wall of the closet and the south wall of the bathroom. To the north of this bedroom is the bathroom. Like the main level, the interior faces of the exterior walls are plastered directly over the exterior limestone; the interior dividing walls are lathe-and-plaster over studs with the exception of the two interior limestone walls. Most of the plaster was made using a mixture of small pebbles and horse hair covered with a smooth skim coat. The entire upper level has wood floors of varying types.[39]

The house has a basement area under the west block and a basement under the main block that is connected with a historic wood paneled door with top light. Under the west (rear) block are the old pump room in the north and a scullery room with a large sink in the south.[40] The stone walls are parged, and most of the floors are concrete.[41] The pump room has a dirt floor. In the pump room are the remains of a limestone wall, running north-south, that varies in height from about 4' to 6' tall; it curves at the top and intersects with a hand-hewn support beam. It is possible that this area served as a

[33] For the purposes of this nomination, the interior of the house is generally described. The owner has a detailed and thoroughly-documented explanation of known interior alterations to the house over the years; this information is on file with the SHPO.

[34] The east wall of the kitchen and dining room each contained a masonry opening that may have been an exterior entrance or window before the 1870 block was built, creating a basic hall-and-parlor or hall- kitchen form commonly found in early houses; the kitchen was typically smaller than the hall. The doorway from the dining room was partially sealed at an unknown time, as it would have opened directly above the basement stairs added in the 1870s.

[35] The parlor has a closet (4'-9" N/S x 3'-5½" E/W with an upper storage area extending to ceiling height) that was added sometime in the early 1950s.

[36] The house has a consistent ceiling height in the main and upper levels of 9'-8". Some rooms have drop-ceilings, installed in the 1960s, that lower the ceiling height to 8'-6". There is a steel support beam in the living room ceiling which was installed to remedy the sagging upstairs floor around 1966.

[37] The den and parlor have 5-1/4"-wide pine floors; the rest of the rooms on this level are 2-1/8" wide oak installed in 1926. The linoleum was installed in the 1920s but was removed from the kitchen in the 1970s and from the dining room in January 2017.

[38] Elaine Frisbie said that the brass levers used to adjust the transoms had been removed when she and her family moved to the stone house.

[39] Bathroom: 2-1/4" wide maple; laundry, hallway, and south bedrooms: 3-1/8" wide oak; north bedrooms: 5-1/4" wide pine (the north, center bedroom's floor is painted).

[40] The family used the south room for separating cream and for food storage (i.e. potatoes were stored in bins in the southwest corner of the room).

[41] The concrete in the basement was added to the home in the early 1950s.

dugout residence or storage area for John Kuykendall after he purchased the property.[42] The basement under the front block runs under the entire house (excepting the northeast corner) and is completely open except for a room on the north wall known as the furnace room; it is accessed by the cellar doors on the north elevation and by a door from the main basement chamber. This room originally held the wood burning furnace.[43] The basement's stone walls are also parged and the floors are concrete (added in the 1950s) except for the furnace room which is dirt. The interior stair to the main level is located along the west wall in the southwest corner of this block. A dirt floor crawl space is under the northeast corner of the house and can be accessed through the furnace room.

One other interesting feature of the house is that it was built with pipes that carried acetylene gas through the walls to the light fixtures. The original acetylene gas lighting was removed in approximately 1944 when electrical wiring was run through the pipes inside the stone walls.[44]

2. South Bank Barn (Barn Number 1)
Contributing Building
Date: ca.1946[45]
Coordinates: 39.099180,-95.559195
Photos: 13 through 18

Figure 8: Looking south-southwest and south barn (left) and west barn (right). May 2007. Leisa Gale.

The south bank barn replaced an earlier limestone barn that burned in 1946, being built atop the limestone foundation of this older barn, which was encapsulated between concrete walls. The stone foundation extends from the ground on the lower basement level to the ground level on the bank side. It has a limestone floor. Vertical wood planks enclose the sides above the foundation. The bank barn measures 30' (N/S) x 40' (E/W). The structure is balloon/timber-frame hybrid. Walnut timbers from a demolished bridge at Muddy Creek just south of the property were incorporated into the structure as lower-level support beams (*Photo 17*).[46] The structure has a full basement, with limestone floor, and a full upper story (no loft) (*Photo 16*). The side gable roof is covered with metal, installed sometime prior to 1976.[47] A concrete block bearing the date 1947 is located next to the foundation of this barn[48].

There are two large sliding door entrances on each level of the barn. One is on the basement level on the south side of the barn (*Photo 13*), and to the west of this opening is a window; the other entrance is on the bank level on the north side of the barn (*Photo 15*). The south side also has a large exterior sliding loft door on the main level. There is an additional basement entrance on the west side of the barn (*Photo 14*) with a window opening to the north of this entrance. An additional window opening on the basement level is located in the east side, along with a larger opening just south of this window (this was probably a doorway into the carriage house which was not rebuilt after the fire in 1946). There are single

[42] A wood structure of unknown age, visible in Figures 7, 9 and 10, is adjacent to the cistern and pump room. Stones from the foundation of this building are still visible next to the cement sidewalk and stairs of the back porch. Ann Frisbie Brunton recalled that when she was young they tore down a building on the farm but she did not remember if it was this structure or a different one.

[43] The original large wood furnace was replaced with a fuel oil furnace when Jay (Julia E. Frisbie) owned the house and Roy and Helen (Frisbie) Lindley lived here with her. Herbert Frisbie was married in 1926 and sometime after that the propane burners were installed in the furnace. Thomas and Elaine Frisbie had the propane furnace removed in 1976 with a natural gas furnace which is currently the main source of heat for the house.

[44] The old calcium carbide container remains in existence north of the windmill. Some of the original acetylene lamps & glass shades are still stored on the property.

[45] According to the Jefferson County appraiser's Property Report.

[46] Oral family history, Elaine Frisbie.

[47] The Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company 1937 policy lists the roof of Barn Number 1, stone foundation, stone structure and shingle roof, as being 25 years old, indicating that it was replaced in 1912. However, the 1934 policy only lists it as, "old".

[48] In George A. Frisbie's (later entries by Herbert L. Frisbie) 1939-1953 "Apples D. E. Ledger", on page, "GHIJ," there is a list of the cost of labor and supplies for the "barn". He paid "Bill [Frisbie] and Herb [Frisbie] for cutting logs, 1½ days, Metzer falling stone wall, cutting and hauling and 2 big oak logs…Laurence Brown 2 days cutting logs, Knapp sawing lumber, John Ingenthron hauling logs, Doc Brown labor, fir flooring." More building supplies are listed on page 45 of this ledger, "1947 lumber, roofing, cart, hauling, sawing lumber, cement, nails." Another "Ledger", 1947-1954, belonging to George A. Frisbie, lists additional supplies and labor for the barn. This accounting verifies the date of construction and is an example of how family and neighbors came together to help each other in times of need.

six-pane windows under the gable peak on both the east and west sides of the barn. The stairs are located on the south wall, to the west of the loft door.

3. West Bank Barn (Barn Number 2)
Contributing Building
Date: ca. 1946[49]
Coordinates: 39.099284,-95.559288
Photos: 18 through 23

Figure 9: Looking NE at west and south elevations of West Barn (right); house is in background. c.1937.

The west bank barn replaced an earlier wood barn that also burned in 1946. It was rebuilt as a balloon/timber-frame hybrid barn on the previously existing limestone foundation (exposed). The stone foundation extends from the ground on the lower basement level to the ground level on the bank side. Vertical wood planks enclose the sides above the foundation. This barn was built to the west of the original limestone south barn location and sits at a right angle to it (*Figure 8; Photo 18*). The west barn measures 20' (E/W) x 36' (N/S).[50] This barn retains a shake shingle side gable roof with hay hood on the north elevation (*Photos 19 & 20*). It has a full basement, main level, accessed by the bank on the east, and a hay loft. There is a large sliding door on the main level at the east side of the barn and a single pedestrian door on the west side on the basement level (*Photos 19 & 21*). The interior of the basement is divided into three stalls and a feeding trough (*Photo 22*). The floor is limestone. There is a large doorway with a wooden gate on the south end of the barn at the basement level (*Photo 22*). The interior of the main level has stairs leading to the basement located along the west wall to the south of the large sliding door. To the north of the sliding door are the stairs leading to the upstairs loft. Located on the main level at the north end of the barn are two grain storage bins with a loft above (*Photo 23*). There is a pulley system on a rail mounted to the center roofline that allows hay to be moved from the ground level into the loft at the north end of the barn.
In July of 2016, the roof, south, and west walls of this barn collapsed. The north and east walls are still standing.

4. Corn Crib and Shop
Contributing Building
Date: ca. 1900[51]
Coordinates: 39.099516,-95.559506
Photos: 24 & 25

Figure 10: Looking NE at corn crib and shop. ca. 1937.

The corn crib and shop is located southwest of the house and northwest of the barns. The shed-roof structure measures approximately 28' (N/S) x 32' (E/W). The corn crib is located in the south portion of the building. The south elevation is partially open at the top 1/4 with loosely-spaced vertical wood planks on the bottom 3/4. The entrance to the corn crib is located in the center of the south side. The shop is located in an enclosed room on the north portion of the building. It is accessed by a sliding barn door on the east side. The entire structure is built of hand-hewn timber. The north, east, and west sides are

[49] The Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company 1934 policy lists both of the barn's roofs as "old," indicating the first wood barn, with stone foundation and shingle roof, was built prior to 1934. The exact date is unknown. The 1937 policy lists the shingle roof of Barn Number 2 as being 3 years old, indicating it was replaced in 1934, but after May 6, when the aforementioned policy was written. Both the wood barn and the limestone barn burnt on March 1, 1946 and were rebuilt in their original locations and foundations.

[50] The Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company policies from 1934 & 1937 show the west barn dimensions at 22' x 36' x 20'.

[51] Herbert L. Frisbie, born in 1903, recalled that the building was present when he was a child.

covered in vertical wood planks. The roof has metal sheeting, installed at an unknown date, which is partially missing and damaged.

5. Hand Dug Well and Windmill
Contributing Structures
Dates: ca. 1878 (well)[52] & ca. 1915 (windmill)[53]
Coordinates: 39.099697,-95.559115
Photo: 26

A large hand-dug well with stone walls, in good condition, with windmill, in poor condition, is located just west of the house. The well is about 6'-0" in diameter. In 1992 a thick steel platform replaced the existing wood well platform that was deteriorated and unsafe. The hand pump is still operable; however, the wood pole that extends to the head of the windmill is missing. Ann Frisbie Brunton recalled that the well always provided good drinking water even during the, "dirty thirties".[54] Drinking water was collected from the well at the windmill west of the house until 1976.

There once was a small cave dug into the side of the hill where the windmill is located. It was filled in around 1980. It is unknown if this was a naturally occurring feature or if it was dug out to store vegetables.

6. Cattle Shed
Contributing Building
Date: ca. 1900
Coordinates: 39.099532,-95.559803

Located southwest of the house in the cattle feed lot west of the corn crib and shop, this 12'x20' cattle shed has a pole frame with vertical planks on the west, north, and east sides. It is open to the south and has a north sloping roof covered with metal sheeting. This barn, though currently used for storage, is in good condition. A second cattle shed, which measured 20'x40'and was located to the south of this structure, collapsed in ca. 1995. Only the foundation of that structure remains today (see 11 on map).

Figure 11: Cattle Shed, looking northwest. November 2013. Leisa Gale.

7. Chicken House
Contributing Building
Date: ca. 1905[55]
Coordinates: 39.099721,-95.559361
Photos: 27 and 28

The chicken house is located west of the house and directly south and slightly west of the brooder house ruins. The 10'-0" (E/W) x 12'-0" (N/S) building has a metal-covered shed roof; the building faces east and is covered in clapboard. A single pedestrian door is located on the south elevation. Two square windows are on the west elevation. The east elevation also contains two square windows with a pent-roof covered clerestory window. A single square window is centered in the north elevation.

[52] Conversation with Diana D. Frisbie indicates the well was dug around 1878 (8/29/2014).
[53] The earliest known photograph showing the existence of the windmill is from 1917 is in *History of Grantville*, Vol. 1, 41. The date is also on the back of the original photograph.
[54] February 21, 2016 interview with Mildred Ann Frisbie Brunton
[55] Letter from Jack (George Hanson Frisbie) to his mother, Etta, 18 December 1905.

8. Smoke/Ice House
Contributing Building
Date: ca. 1900
Coordinates: 39.099812,-95.559000

Figure 12: Smoke House, looking west. January 2015. Leisa Gale.

A square (9'-0" x 10'-0") one-story stone smoke house is situated to the northwest of the house's west block. The below-grade portion is about six feet deep. The exterior walls are parged and scored to look like cut stone blocks. The pyramidal roof retains its original shake shingle roof but is in poor condition. A single pedestrian door is centered on the east elevation. Herbert L. Frisbie related the following story in *The History of Grantville, Kansas*:

On the farm is a small stone and cement [sic] building where ice was stored. The ice was cut in the winter when very cold and stored with saw dust in this building. The ice was then used in the summer. Later, the building was used as a smoke house for curing meat. About five hogs were butchered and meat cured for family use. Beef could not be kept because of the lack of refrigeration. There was no electricity. Kerosene lamps were used for light. Horses were the source of power.[56]

9. Outhouse Ruin
Non-contributing Building
Date: ca. 1900
Coordinates: 39.099922,-95.559019
Photos: 29

The outhouse is located north of the stone house and smoke/ice house. The simple wood-frame structure has a gable-front roof and clapboard sides. Its shingle roof is in poor condition.

10. Brooder Shed Ruins
Non-contributing Building
Date: ca. 1900
Coordinates: 39.100027,-95.559399
Photos: 27

The 12'-0" (N/S) x 30'-0" (E/W) brooder shed is located northwest of the stone house and just north and slightly east of the chicken house. The side gable roof (with shake shingles) has collapsed, and the majority of the south wall, including the sliding door, is gone. The west end of the south elevation retains three screened openings (no longer extant in 2017). The east elevation contains a single pedestrian door. The north elevation contains a clapboard-covered access door. The entire structure is covered in clapboard. The interior is divided into two rooms. The interior is finished with lathe-and-plaster walls with a dividing interior door between the east and west ends. The north and south sides have a concrete ramp where a wagon could be pulled in and out. Ann Frisbie remembered gathering eggs from the east end of the brooder shed when she lived at the stone house. She said the chickens would roost in the west end.[57]

Integrity of House and Farmstead

The two-story limestone Italianate house and its outbuildings have remained largely unchanged for the past 90 years, thus conserving the historic integrity of the property. Some alterations have been made to the house, mostly in the removal of the decorative porches on the east and west elevations; however, the house remains in good condition. Restoration plans include the rebuilding of these porches using original components as templates for reconstruction. The farmstead also includes two large bank barns (in poor condition), a corn crib and shop (in fair condition), and various outbuildings (in

[56] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 42.
[57] February 21, 2016 interview with Mildred Ann Frisbie Brunton.

various states of repair). Intense deterioration of the barn roofs, particularly the west barn with its 1946 shake shingle roof, has caused further decline of the interior of the structures. In July 2016, the west barn experienced structural failure when the south and west walls collapsed; the north and east walls are still standing. The barns are in immediate need of stabilization and emergency repair.

As a whole, the five-acre farmstead retains sufficient integrity to be listed under the *Historic Agricultural-related Resources of Kansas* multiple property submission. None of the farmstead's resources have been relocated from other farms; all were constructed for Maplecroft Farm. The integrity of the farmstead's setting is excellent as a majority of agricultural buildings remain, even in varying states of repair. Further, though the surrounding agricultural land is not included within the nominated boundary, the larger setting surrounding the historic farmstead is highly intact, enabling the property to exhibit its historic agricultural associations. With the exception of house alterations discussed above, the majority of modifications and additions to resources within the nominated boundaries are minimal and occurred within the period of significance; most buildings even retain their historic materials and exhibit historic workmanship.

According to the MPS, to be eligible, "a property must have at least four associated historic agriculture-related structures, including a barn and at least three other structures. One of these three structures may be a farmhouse."[58] Maplecroft Farm meets the requirements to be listed as a farmstead.

[58] Christy Davis & Brenda Spencer, "Historic Agriculture-related Resources of Kansas" National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form (2004): F-87.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [ ] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

AGRICULTURE

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

Circa 1862 - 1967

Significant Dates

Circa 1862, 1873

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Quinlan, William (attributed builder)

Dutton, Matthew R. (possible builder)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the stone house and continues through to 1967 (50 years ago) to encompass the generations of the Frisbie family who made an impact at Maplecroft from Hanson's purchase in 1873 through to his great-grandson, Thomas', ownership.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The resources comprising the Maplecroft Farmstead represent the agricultural development of Kaw Township, Jefferson County, Kansas. The earliest buildings also are associated with the earliest settlement of the township. Built in circa 1862 the western portion of the house is attributed to James Townsend, son-in-law of John Kuykendall who acquired the first patent for the land later to become Maplecroft. By the end of 1873, Hanson Frisbie was the owner of the land. This farm has remained in the Frisbie family for over 100 years, being the center of the family's agricultural endeavors that included potatoes, apples, and livestock. The five-acre Maplecroft Farmstead is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance in the area of agriculture. Spanning from circa 1862 to 1967, the farmstead's period of significance encompasses the years of its earliest settlement through to Hanson Frisbie's great-grandson's tenure.

Elaboration

Early History and Development of Jefferson County

Kansas Territory was created in 1854. In 1855 the territorial legislature established the boundaries of 33 counties, of which Jefferson County was one. The early history of Jefferson County is characterized by land disputes. Before Kansas Territory was established in 1854, several American Indian tribes, both native and emigrant, inhabited the land now comprising Jefferson County. The land along the Kansas River two miles south of Maplecroft Farm was divided into the "Kaw Half Breed Lands."[59] Four miles east of the nominated property was the western boundary of the old Delaware Reservation.[60] No Euro-American settlement was supposed to occur on Indian lands even when the territory opened for settlement; however, squatters on these lands were prevalent. Kansas historian, William Cutler, explains, "Previous to the land sales, the settlers had no right whatever to the land which they occupied, except a 'squatter's right,' which was simply a right by possession, and with an understanding that each settler should be allowed to bid in [sic] the land he claimed, at its appraised value, on the day of sale."[61] Despite Indian claims, Euro-American settlers were allowed to purchase the Indian lands on which they had squatted.[62]

After 1854 the history of this area is characterized by land disputes primarily between squatters, speculators, and later, railroads for ownership of these Indian lands.[63] Much debate arose over ownership of the land claims and what was considered ownership: a habitation or simply a crude foundation.[64] This latter option was favored by men from other states—many of whom were proslavery men from Missouri—who came to vote on election days and to secure claims for future speculation.[65] These conflicts often turned deadly.[66] Even in the midst of ownership conflicts, settlers made some improvements to their land, building cabins and fences and planting small acreages of crops; although, due to the severe drought in 1854, very few crops were raised.[67] The development of agriculture and the establishment of homes was an important economic activity during this period as it provided the foothold for the settlers that later developed this area.

The story of the struggle for possession of the desirable fertile acres that comprise the Kaw River valley is intertwined with that of the pre-Civil War battle over Kansas' entry into the union as a free or slave state. Cutler, writing in 1883, summarizes the early political situation in Jefferson County, "From the very earliest settlement, there was a contest as to whether the political affairs of the county should be controlled by the Pro-slavery or Free-state party."[68] Tensions between freestaters and proslavery supporters culminated in the Battle of Hickory Point (near Oskaloosa) in September 1856.

[59] This land was given in an 1825 treaty between the US Government and the Kaw Nation.

[60] Paul Wallace Gates, "A Fragment of Kansas Land History: The Disposal of the Christian Indian Tract," *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 6 (August 1937): 227- 240. The *Indian Intercourse Act of 1834* made it unlawful for non-American Indians to settle in Indian Territory and proscribed heavy penalties for those attempting to purchase the land from the Indians.

[61] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 500.

[62] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 1; Gates, "A Fragment of Kansas Land History," 227- 240. The Delaware lands east of the line between Ranges 18 and 19 was sold in Leavenworth in November 1856; the remaining Delaware lands west of there were sold in Ozawkie in July 1857 (Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 500 & 502).

[63] Gates, "A Fragment of Kansas Land History," 227- 240.

[64] According to Cutler, some claimants insisted that their "foundation"–made of four twigs laid in the form of a square–was enough to hold their claim (*History of Kansas*, 500).

[65] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 500.

[66] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 2.

[67] Cutler, History of Kansas, 500.

[68] Ibid.

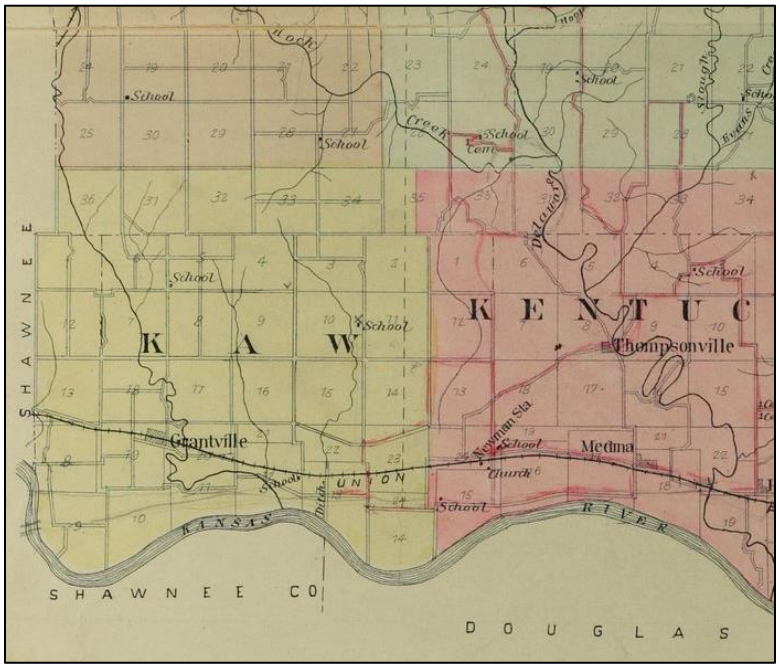

Figure 13: Snippet of 1899 county atlas.

Political tensions in the county became somewhat less violent on the eve of the Civil War when President James Buchanan signed the bill that entered Kansas into the United States as a free state in January 1861.

Kaw Township

In March 1856 the territorial legislature formally organized Jefferson County with government and township divisions.[69] Kaw Township, in which Maplecroft Farm is located, is the most southwestern township in the county, bordering Rock Creek to the north, Kentucky to the east, the Kansas (Kaw) River and Douglas and Shawnee counties to the south, and Shawnee County to the west (*Figure 13*).[70] The first Euro-American settlers in what is now Kaw Township arrived in 1854, making this one of the oldest settled portions of the county.[71] These settlers included John Kuykendall, who is associated with Maplecroft Farm.[72]

Two towns within Kaw Township are worth noting for their associations with Maplecroft Farm: Kaw City (1857-1866) and Grantville (est. 1866).[73] James S. Townsend (1812-1895) arrived in Kaw Township in 1856 when he brought a stock of goods from Platte City, Missouri, and opened a store in a small log cabin on the banks of Muddy Creek.[74] He was the first to establish the business of general merchandise in Kaw Township.[75] In the spring of 1857, Townsend and 24 others formed a town company and laid out a 320-acre town site called Kaw City. A post office was established there on April 30, 1858.[76] In 1865, the Kansas Pacific Railroad was laid out through the area.[77] Kaw City survived until 1866 when the post office closed and was relocated to the farm of D. W. Kleinhans, about one and a half miles south of Kaw City.[78] This short-lived town embraced the land now known as Maplecroft Farm and several neighboring farms; although, very few buildings were erected within the town site.[79] Townsend is also recorded as the first merchant in the community that later became Grantville.[80] The

[69] Kansas Historical Society, "Jefferson County, Kansas," in *Kansapedia*, available at https://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/jefferson-county-kansas/15299 (accessed 5/15/2014); Cutler, *History of Kansas,* 499. The county, named for Thomas Jefferson, was organized by Daniel Morgan Boone (son of Daniel Boone and distant relation of Frisbie family); William and George Dyer; Henry Zen; Henry Chubb; William B. Wade; Sidney Stewart; Aaron Cook; R. P. Beebe; Jefferson Riddle; and J. T. Wilson.

[70] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 528. Kaw Township was part of Kentucky Township until 1858.

[71] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 1; Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 528.

[72] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 1; Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 528; & *First Biennial Report of the State Board of Agriculture to the Legislature of the State of Kansas, for the Years 1877-8* (Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co., 1878), n.p. The *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 2, claims this is Judge James Kuykendall. The Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office records indicate John Kuykendall received the first land patent to land in Kaw Township in 1858; James Kuykendall received the patent for land in neighboring Shawnee County in 1859.

[73] The first passenger train went through Kaw Township on January 1, 1866 (*History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 3).

[74] "Death of James Townsend," *Oskaloosa Independent* (2 February 1895): 3; *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 2; Cutler, *History of Kansas,* 528. Frisbie family oral history suggests that Townsend's trading post was located on Muddy Creek on 11 acres in the northwest corner of the east quarter of section 18-11-17, which was owned by his father-in-law, John Kuykendall, at that time.

[75] *First Biennial Report of the State Board of Agriculture to the Legislature of the State of Kansas, for the Years 1877-8* (Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co., 1878), n.p [transcription online] Kansas Genealogical Web, http://www.ksgenweb.org/archives/1878/jefferson.html (accessed 5/2016).

[76] Robert W. Baughman, *Kansas Post Offices* (Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 1977), 66 & 192.

[77] In September 1865, the Union Pacific Railroad (then known as the Kansas Pacific) secured a 100' right-of-way through the Wilson farm at Kaw City. Interview with Carol Crawford (9/26/2015). Abstract held by Carol Crawford: Warranty deed from Shannon Wilson to the Union Pacific Railroad Company, September 26, 1865. Wilson purchased the land in 1861 and established a blacksmith shop. Farther east, at the top of the hill, in Section 17, one can see the old home of R. P. Haynes. He purchased that property, 180 acres, from James Henry Jones on May 5, 1886 (*History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 50).

[78] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 3.

[79] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 528; *History of Grantville*, Vol. 1, 3.

[80] *History of Grantville,* Vol. 1, 2.

unincorporated town, established in 1866 and named for then-president Ulysses Grant, is still located south of K-24 Highway (*Figure 1*).[81]

The Beginnings of Maplecroft Farm (1854-1873)

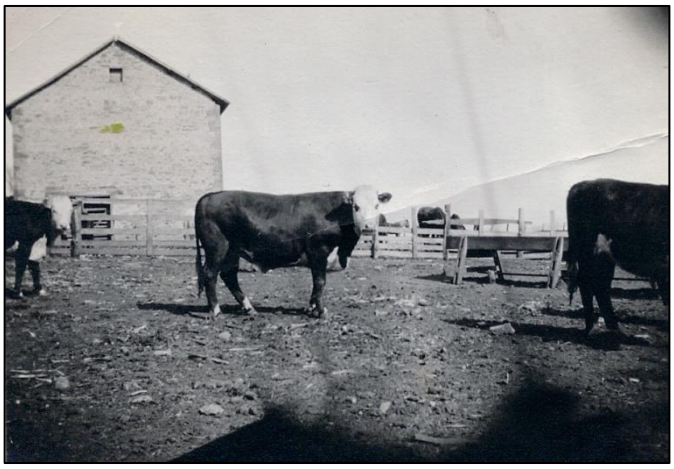

Figure 14: Looking east at west end of original limestone barn. ca 1937. Photographer Unknown.

Between 1854 and 1873 the northeast quarter of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 17 East passed through three owners before Hanson Zebulon Frisbie acquired the land now known as Maplecroft Farm. On May 6, 1854, John Kuykendall (1799-1858) purchased 160 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 18;[82] 60 acres of the original 160 comprise the present-day Maplecroft Farm. John was a brother of Judge James Kuykendall, an early political figure in Jefferson County and a delegate who supported Kansas Territory's 1857 proslavery Lecompton Constitution;[83] both Kuykendall brothers came to Kansas from Platte County, Missouri. The *Annals of Platte County, Missouri*, state that, "[John] was a man of sound sense and clear judgment. He was assessor at Platte [County], and a constable of Carroll Township several terms."[84] In 1850, a J. Kuykendall living in Platte County is listed in the Missouri Slave Schedule as owning two slaves.[85] Both James and John were living in Platte County that year, so it is unclear at this point which was listed in the census. Whether the brothers came to Kansas simply to sway the state's entrance into the Union as a slave state is unknown, but their stories exemplify the era.

It appears that John Kuykendall initiated some type of construction and began farming on the property he purchased in Section 18. In March of 1856, Gabriel Penn (G. P.) Clark set up a saw mill on the banks of the Kansas River where the Big Muddy Creek joins the Kansas River a few miles south of Maplecroft Farm. Orders for building materials were quickly demanded, and large amounts of lumber were purchased by the local settlers.[86] Clark's business ledgers reference sales to John Kuykendall in 1855 for miscellaneous supplies and in 1856 for corn, hay mower and lumber.[87] Sales were also recorded to James' son, J. M. Kuykendall. One of the only other records of John Kuykendall in Kansas Territory is an 1857 list of legal voters of Jefferson County.[88] John died in Platte City, Missouri, in December 1858, shortly after formally receiving the patent for the NE1/4 of Section 18 on October 1, 1858.

The land in Section 18 remained in Kuykendall's immediate family until 1864 when his wife, Elizabeth, and the heirs of his estate sold the property to merchant James S. Townsend.[89] In 1853, at Platte City, Missouri, Townsend was married to the Kuykendalls' daughter, Amelia (1831-1865). A review of federal and state censuses between 1860 and 1885 only

[81] Grantville Community Historical Society, *History of Grantville, Kansas, 1976-2004,* Vol. II (Topeka: Unknown Publisher, 2004), 4.

[82] Kansas Trust Lands Certificate No. 1775, filed on October 1, 1858. The original deed is stored at Maplecroft.

[83] George Benson Kuykendall, *History of the Kuykendall Family* (Portland, Ore.: Kilham Stationery & Printing Co., 1919), 202. For specific information on Judge Kuykendall, see Cutler, *History of Kansas*, 499-500. See also, William McClung Paxton, *Annals of Platte County, Missouri* (Kansas City, MO: Hudson-Kimberly Publishing Co., 1897), 299.

[84] Paxton, *Annals,* 300. The 1850 US Federal Census also lists John as constable.

[85] *Missouri, Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1830-1870,* available from Ancestry.com.

[86] *History of Grantville, Kansas,* Vol. 1, 29.

[87] Gabriel Penn Clark Business Records 1853-1920 [Business Records,] 1853-[192-] Collection No. 134. Kansas State Historical Society, Archives. [Finding Aid online] Kansas Historical Society https://www.kshs.org/p/gabriel-penn-clark-business-records-1853-1920/14096 (accessed 5/19/2014).

[88] Kansas State Historical Society; Topeka, Kansas; *1856, 1857, and 1858 Kansas Territory Censuses*; Roll: *ks1856_1*; Line: *29.* No Kuykendall appears in the 1855 Kansas Territorial Census. Available from Ancestry.com.

[89] Census records indicate Elizabeth resided in Platte County, Missouri, from 1850 through 1880. Whether she lived in Kansas at all is unknown from available records. The Jefferson County Register of Deeds shows the following land transactions to James S. Townsend in 1864: Townsend purchased the undivided 1/5 of 65 acres of the SW corner of the NE ¼ of S18 T11 R17 Jefferson County, Kansas belonging to the estate of John Kuykendoll [sic], deceased, on February 29, 1864 for $50; Townsend purchased 31 acres of part of the NE ¼ S18 T11 R17 Jefferson County, Kansas from Elizabeth Kuykendoll [sic] on May 14, 1864 for $310; and Townsend purchased the undivided 1/5 of 65 acres of the West side of the NE ¼ of S18 T11 R17 of the Delaware Trust Lands, Jefferson County, Kansas from George F. Flemings & Charlotte T. Flemings, heirs of John Kuykendoll [sic], deceased, on November 2, 1864 for $100.

show him living in Kaw Township in 1860 where he had helped establish the town of Kaw City. His obituary claims he moved to Oskaloosa in 1864, and this is corroborated by census records that list him in that town until his death in the 1890s.[90] The name Townsend appears on a number of property abstracts for Jefferson County, indicating that he was somewhat of a land speculator.[91] He owned the property to the east of Maplecroft Farm (NW ¼ 17-11-18) and sold it to a James Jones on May 6, 1854, the same day that John Kuykendall purchased the nominated property.

In 1864 Townsend traded his claim in Section 18 (what is now Maplecroft Farm) for a hotel in Oskaloosa.[92] The hotel mentioned here was that belonging to Matthew R. Dutton located next to the old courthouse in Oskaloosa. Later that year, Townsend sold the Dutton Hotel.[93] Since at least 1861 Dutton had advertised in the *Oskaloosa Independent* for a large parcel of land. One May 15, 1861 ad reads:

> Wanted. A farm of two or three hundred acres, with good water and timber upon it, and to be somewhat improved, and situated within a few miles of Oskaloosa. Any person desiring to sell such a place for cash down, at a reasonable price, will please call upon M. R. Dutton, at the Dutton House, Oskaloosa.[94]

Dutton remained in Oskaloosa at least through 1865 when he is recorded there in the Kansas State Census.[95] The 1870 US Federal Census shows Matthew and Maria Dutton along with four children living in Kaw Township. Matthew's estimated real estate value in 1870 was $6,000 ($115,568 in 2016), indicating substantial improvements were made on this land in Section 18 by the time of the census, including all or a large portion of the main house and two barns (seen in *Figure 14*). County records approximate the date of the house's construction at 1862; although, *The History of Grantville Kansas* states that the house was constructed "by M[atthew]. R. Dutton about 1870…."[96] It is possible that Townsend, or even Kuykendall, began construction of the rear block of the current house during one of their tenure.[97]

The Frisbie Family at Maplecroft

Since January 1874 the Frisbie family has resided at Maplecroft; Hanson Z. Frisbie purchased the property in December 1973. After his passing in 1896, Hanson's son, George, ran the farm until his death in 1951. The farm then went to George's daughter, Julia, and in the 1970s, Julia's nephew, Thomas became the third generation of Frisbies to own Maplecroft.

Hanson Zebulon Frisbie (1819-1896) was born in Orwell, Pennsylvania. By 1840 Frisbie engaged in mercantile pursuits at Orwell; he was admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, in 1850.[98] He also wrote poetry and prose and was a journalist who published in the *Wilkes-Barre Advocate,* among other newspapers. His journals and letters have been a source of important family history and documentation. He married his first wife, Mary Elizabeth Russell, on March 14, 1844. In 1851, he and his family returned to Bradford County where he re-engaged in merchandizing under the firm name of Frisbie & Bronson. This firm continued for two years until Frisbie retired.[99] In 1854 the Frisbies moved to Bellvue, Michigan.[100] Hanson and Mary had four children together, and their infant son, Charles, was only three months old at the time of his mother's death in December of 1858.

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[90] 1860, 1870, 1880 Federal censuses; 1865, 1875, 1885 Kansas state census records; "Death of James Townsend," *Oskaloosa Independent* (February 2, 1895): 3.

[91] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 2. He and a James H. Jones received the patent to the NW1/4 of Section 17, Township 11 South, Range 17 East in October 1858; this was adjacent to the east of the land John Kuykendall patented and was the center of Kaw City. James H. Jones and Martha H. Wilson were the first marriage in Kaw Township on January 17, 1856.

[92] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 2.

[93] *Oskaloosa Independent* (3 December 1864): n.p.

[94] *Oskaloosa Independent* (15 May 1861): 4.

[95] 1865 Kansas state census. Also, US IRS Assessment Lists, available from Ancestry.com, list Dutton as a hotel proprietor in Oskaloosa through October 1864.

[96] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 41.

[97] Oral history from local Bud Quinlan indicates that Quinlan's great-grandfather, William, an immigrant from Ireland, helped construct the house. Census records list William Quinlan, a farmer, living in Kaw Township.

[98] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, Jefferson County Part 24, Kaw Township.

[99] H. C. Bradsby, *History of Bradford County, Pennsylvania: With Biographical Selections* (Chicago: S. B. Nelson & Co., 1891), 666 [digitized online] Google Books http://books.google.com (accessed 5/20/2014).

[100] Cutler, *History of Kansas*, Jefferson County Part 24, Kaw Township.

In March of 1859, Hanson married Julia Sophia Meracle (1836-1915) at Bellevue, Michigan.[101] The Frisbies moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, shortly after their marriage and had two children there. Their daughter, Emma Maria (born 1862), died in 1864. Their second child, George Arthur, was born in December of 1864. While in Battle Creek, Frisbie was a stockholder and one of the directors of the First Bank of Battle Creek, as well as a proprietor of Frisbie & Cookson dry goods.[102]

During the summer of 1872 Hanson Frisbie traveled throughout Missouri, Kansas, and Tennessee, looking for a place to relocate his family due to his failing health.[103] The journal he kept during this period provides insight into his life and state of mind as he tried to find a new home. One particular entry exemplifies his struggle:

> July 27, 1872 – Union City, Tennessee. A fearful state of things—a fearful melancholy, a feeling of discouragement, insane folly is the uppermost idea and am a [loss] whether to go on or return back home, been deluded [sic] have acted unwisely, how to see myself right [sic] is the chief business. Am just coming to my senses but too late to return my last physician. Oh remorseful disappointed feelings. What blasted and withered hopes—mortification preys upon my mind making life impossible and the future look dark and gloomy.

On September 2, 1872, the Frisbie family arrived at Lawrence, Kansas, in a covered wagon.[104] In his journal, Frisbie writes that they moved to the, "Fish House, Lawrence, Kansas. Indiana Street" on December 13, 1872. He wrote, "feel that we have a home once again but how about income" and made an accounting of his income for the year. While in Lawrence he invested in the Lawrence Packing House but lost the investment due to decline in values. He lived in a house in the city of Lawrence and owned property southeast of the city.[105] On December 1, 1873 he purchased Matthew Dutton's property Grantville for $10,500 (over $213,000 in 2016); Frisbie named his new farm Maplecroft for the large grove of maple trees in the front yard.[106] Maplecroft was used as the primary residence for Frisbie and his family, which included his second wife, Julia, their son, George, and three sons from his prior marriage: Clarence, Charles, and Selwyn. Frisbie and his sons, Charles & Selwyn, operated a general store in Grantville from 1874 to 1877, which he purchased from J.M. Christman.[107] Frisbie voted democrat, held the office of township treasurer, belonged to Episcopal Church, and was a Mason.[108] After Hanson's death in 1896, Julia remained on the farm, living with their son, George.[109] Julia died at Topeka, Kansas, in 1915, and her funeral services were held at the stone house.[110]

George A. Frisbie (1864-1951) represents the second generation of the Frisbie family who resided at Maplecroft. His family consisted of his wife, Etta, whom he married in 1887, and children, Julia, Thomas, Helen, Gertrude, Jack, and Herbert. Similar to his father, George kept detailed journals of his activities and financial expenses. He was a philanthropist by nature, assisting many of the less fortunate in the community in times of need.[111] He was also active in getting people in the Kaw Township to join Farm Bureau.[112] George was the first county assessor of Jefferson County and filled that office for two years. He was elected Jefferson County Treasurer in the fall of 1912 and was re-elected in 1914, serving four years. His eldest daughter, Julia (1888-1979), served as deputy county treasurer during this time. During his four years as treasurer, the family, including his mother Julia, relocated to Oskaloosa, returning to Maplecroft in the summers.[113] George was also purchasing agent for the right-of-way, Department of the Kansas Highway Commission, for

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[101] Spelled "Merakle" in her obituary, but spelled "Meracle" in the family Bible

[102] Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas,* Part 24 Kaw Township; *Calhoun County Business Directory for 1869-70* (Battle Creek, Michigan: E.G. Rust, 1869) 273 [digitized online] Google Books http://books.google.com (accessed 5/20/2014).

[103] Journal of H.Z. Frisbie; Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas,* Part 24 Kaw Township.

[104] Journal of H.Z. Frisbie

[105] As of July 28, 1872 date recorded by T.W. Frisbie on the map of Lawrence & vicinity

[106] The Frisbies of Maplecroft entered into ownership of the property when Hanson Zebulon Frisbie purchased 145 1/2 acres of the NE ¼ of S18 T11 R17 Delaware Trust Lands, Jefferson County, Kansas. According to Cutler, Frisbie also owned property in Section 7 of Kaw Township."

[107] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 142. Selwyn also served as postmaster and Cutler referred to him in 1883 as "one of the popular fellow-citizens of the Kaw Valley

[108] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 142.

[109] *The Oskaloosa Times* (November 6, 1896) reported the death of H. Z. Frisbie and his grandson Tommy, 6-year-old son of George A. Frisbie (who both died on November 1, 1896) and described their funeral: "Undertakers De Mass & Penwell, of Topeka, brought two hearses, a black and a white one and conveyed the remains of the two deceased to the cemetery." Family history says that the two laid in state at the stone house with the caskets arranged in the bay window in the living room.

[110] Julia S. Merakle obituary

[111] One example of George's philanthropy is found in his journal on March 8, 1896, "went after coffin for Pete the milk hauler paid price of coffin and shroud $15." Original document located at Maplecroft Farm.

[112] "Frisbie holds oldest policy," Jefferson County Farm Bureau Hot Line, Vol. 1, No. 3 (June 22, 1978).

[113] Julia S. Merakle obituary; *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., 40; "Frisbie holds oldest policy."

Figure 15: Looking southeast at northwest end of west barn. Herbert L. Frisbie and Thomas W. Frisbie with their registered polled Hereford, ALF Prince Leskan 32. June 1959. Photographer Unknown.

four years. He was a member of the Oskaloosa Masonic Lodge No. 14 and the Royal Arch Masonic Lodge No. 9 of Oskaloosa.[114] George left Maplecroft's farmstead and about 60 acres to his daughter, Julia, upon his death in 1951.[115] Prior to her death in 1979, Julia sold her property to her brother, Herbert, and his son, Thomas.

While Herbert sold his interest in Maplecroft to his son, he was a significant member of the family. Herbert (1902-1995) married Dorothea B. Lukert in 1926, and they had two children, Jeanne and Thomas. While attending college in Manhattan, Herbert stayed with the family of Ralph Schneider. Schneider was instrumental in organizing a Farm Bureau in Jefferson County, and at that time, was its president.[116] Herbert joined Farm Bureau in 1928 and served on the board three different times.[117] Dorothea was a respected leader in many organizations in the Kaw Township community and was instrumental in helping to organize a celebratory anniversary meeting of The Kings Daughters at Maplecroft in 1934.[118] Herbert helped organize the first Soil Conservation Board, the Jefferson County Conservation District, in 1946 and served as a board member and District Supervisor from 1947 to 1954.[119] Upon Herbert receiving the Special Soil Conservation Award in 1957, US Representative for Kansas William H. Avery wrote a congratulatory letter, stating, "Department of Agriculture officials tell me that our Northeast [sic] Kansas area leads the nation in soil conservation activities. You are one of the reasons why this is so."

Thomas W. (T.W.) Frisbie, son of Herbert and Dorothea, is the fourth generation of Frisbies who occupied Maplecroft. T.W. (1935-1998) worked part-time for the Soil Conservation Service from 1958 to 1961, the year he married Elaine K. Clark. In May 1976 T.W. moved to Maplecroft with his wife and four children, including Leisa (Frisbie) Gale who authored this narrative. Like his father, T.W. was a District Supervisor of the Jefferson County Conservation District, serving in 1979. He also served as a representative to the Kaw Valley Association of Conservation Districts for two years. He and his father, Herbert, began participating in range management in the 1950s and received a Kansas Bankers Conservation Award at the district's annual meeting January 21, 1981, for their work at Maplecroft Farm.[120] T.W. also served on the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning board and was a county commissioner elect. He told many stories about his younger years at the stone house and was dedicated to preserving the property and the history of the family. He told the story of helping members of the community when several Grantville families took shelter at the stone house during a major flood in 1951. Thomas died at his home in 1998 and left the property to his wife who still resides there and manages the farm.

Maplecroft's Role in the Agriculture of Kaw Township

Maplecroft Farm is significant to the primarily agricultural community of Grantville, Kansas due to its operation as an orchard, crop, and cattle farm. Within a couple of months of moving to the property, Hanson Frisbie planted his first crop of potatoes, which he described in his journal as "early rose pots." Crops such as potatoes were a staple on the farm in the early 1900s, and these crops often were taken to the railroad in Grantville for distribution. Between 1925 & 1935 Herbert Frisbie, Hanson's grandson, was one of the principal potato growers in the area; however, the potato crop was no longer flourishing by the mid-1930s.[121]

[114] George A. Frisbie obituary
[115] The remaining 100 acres of the property were left to his daughter, Helen, and is retained by her descendants.
[116] "Frisbie holds oldest policy."
[117] Ibid.
[118] The Kings Daughters was a predecessor of the Grantville United Methodist Women.
[119] "Range management improves grassland," *The Valley Falls Vindicator* (January 15, 1981): n.p.
[120] "Award winner – Father, son work together in farm operation," *The Oskaloosa Independent* (January 15, 1981): 10.
[121] *History of Grantville,* Vol.1., n.p.

Fruit growing was another successful venture at Maplecroft. By April 1874 Hason had sown oats and planted peach trees.[122] Gilby Wilson, a neighbor of the Frisbies, recalled spending time with Hanson at Maplecroft, "The hillside west of the house was a grape vineyard. The hill north of the house (to the pasture) was an apple orchard and the 3 acres north of the house and east of the road was a pear and cherry orchard."[123] Hanson Frisbie was not the only producer of fruit at the farm. George and Herbert also were active in planting new trees and maintaining the existing orchards through the 1950s.[124] "Fruit growing in the Grantville community was begun at the turn of the century and continued for the next twenty years. Within this period more apples were raised in this community than in any other in the state."[125] The Frisbie orchard was also important in the founding of the present-day Rees Fruit Farm near Topeka. Apple trees from the Frisbies' orchard were purchased by the Rees family when the orchard was established in 1901.[126] The popularity of the Frisbie orchard reached beyond the Grantville community as well. Elaine Frisbie's grandfather recalled visiting Maplecroft as a boy with his father. They brought a wagon from the Meriden community (about nine miles north) to purchase fruit for their family, little knowing that the two families would intermarry almost 100 years later.

Maplecroft also supported livestock throughout its productive years. George Frisbie was considered a principal livestock producer in the late 1890s and early 1900s, raising registered Holsteins and beef cattle.[127] George's son, Herbert, recalled, "As a small boy I can remember helping drive cattle and hogs to the stockyards in Grantville where they were shipped to Kansas City."[128] After World War II, George let his grandson, Bill "have his pick of the herd" to celebrate his return.[129]

Herbert and T.W. continued the tradition of raising fine beef cattle, as they cared for the polled Hereford herd at the farm.[130] In 1965 they received a certificate of brand title. A July 26, 1965 letter from The Farmers Cooperative Commission Co., Hutchinson, Kansas, states, "Every day I read the cattle markets and think of the fine bunch you have. It looks like you are in a good position to take advantage of the market soon. I think that is the best group of steers and heifers I have seen on the Frisbie farm." Elaine K. Frisbie stated that the sires were registered but not all the animals resulting from breeding were registered as some were sold and some were slaughtered for use by the family.[131]

Swine was also a commodity produced at Maplecroft Farm. In George's (and later entries by Herbert) 1939-1953 "Apples D. E, Ledger," there is an entry for, "lumber and roofing hog house."[132] There were several small hog houses in the southwest corner of the cow lot; hog fencing was east of the barns and south around the field, and the hogs were allowed to roam that entire area and had access to the creek.[133] By the 1970s, hogs were no longer raised at the farm.

The farm provided jobs for many laborers over the years. Hired hands helped with the farm duties from the early years until the 1980s.[134] Before the two 1870s barns burnt in 1946, there were as many as nine hired men who once bunked in the carriage house portion of the stone barn.[135]

The extant buildings at Maplecroft represent the generations of men and women who settled this area of Jefferson County and contributed to its agricultural endeavors. Because of these associations, the five-acre farmstead is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as a tangible example of the agricultural history of Kaw Township, Jefferson County, Kansas.

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[122] Journal of H.Z. Frisbie.
[123] Notes from T.W. Frisbie 2-26-1995. Recollections from neighbor Gilby Wilson.
[124] Gilby Wilson recollections; George A. and Herbert L. Frisbie, "Apples D. E. Ledger," 1939-1953; George A. and Herbert L. Frisbie, "Ledger," 1947-1954.
[125] *History of Grantville, Kansas,* 110.
[126] Date of Rees Farm establishment found at their website, www.reesfruitfarm.com (accessed 11/1/2015); also "Apples D. E. Ledger," 1939-1953.
[127] *History of Grantville, Kansas,* 105.
[128] Herbert Frisbie, "Life at Maplecroft," unpublished essay.
[129] Interview with Elaine Frisbie 10/18/2013. William (Bill) Frisbie, son of George's son Jack, served as a tail gunner and aerial engineer in World War II; his plane was shot down on December 23, 1944 and he was taken as a Prisoner of War in Germany (William Frisbie, "Obituary," *The Topeka Capital-Journal* online (January 4, 2001) at http://cjonline.com/stories/010401/obn_frisbie.shtml#.VkFEJ78yPEY (accessed 11/9/2015).
[130] *History of Grantville, Kansas,* 105.
[131] Elaine Frisbie.
[132] George A. and Herbert L. Frisbie, "Apples D. E. Ledger," 1939-1953, pg 45.
[133] Interview with Elaine Frisbie and Diana Frisbie 8/13/2016
[134] From various sources farm accounting and journals.
[135] Interview with Diana D. Frisbie 2/15/2014.

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The Valley Falls Vindicator.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Maplecroft Farmstead
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Kansas
County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
____previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

__x__State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: **Kansas Historical Society**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____n/a_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates **See boundary map for coordinates.
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

A _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude:
B _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude:
C _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude:
D _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
The legal description of the property located in Kaw Township in Jefferson County, Kansas is S18, T11, R17, ACRES 53.75, E990' NE1/4, EXC TR BEG SE COR NE1/4; TH W320', NLY 444'(S) ALG CO RD #1011, NELY 240'(S), S585'(S) TO POB. The nominated portion of the farmstead includes the house and the cluster of farm outbuildings on approximately 10 acres within this larger 53.75-acre tract. The east boundary is KOA Road (minus the right-of-way). The south boundary is an imaginary line that follows the tree line, jogging south and continues west along the fence line south of the south barn. The boundary continues to follow the fence and tree line along the west and north along the north side of the brooder shed running east and west to connect with the imaginary west boundary and the east boundary.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)
The nominated area includes the built historic resources associated with the farming operation of Maplecroft.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leisa Gale, edited by Amanda Loughlin (KSHS)
organization _____ date Summer 2017
street & number 205 Morning Dew telephone 785-342-6300
city or town Hesston state KS zip code 67062
e-mail lmfgale@gmail.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Elaine K. Frisbie
street & number 2957 KOA Road telephone 785-845-1525
city or town Grantville state KS zip code 66429

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

Photograph Log

Name of Property: **Maplecroft Farmstead**

City or Vicinity: **Grantville vicinity**

County: **Jefferson** State: **Kansas**

Photographer: **Elaine Frisbie (EF), Leisa Gale (LG) & KSHS**

Date Photographed: **April 2014 (EF & LG) & April 2011 (KSHS) (Though taken in 2011, these images represent current conditions at the site.)**

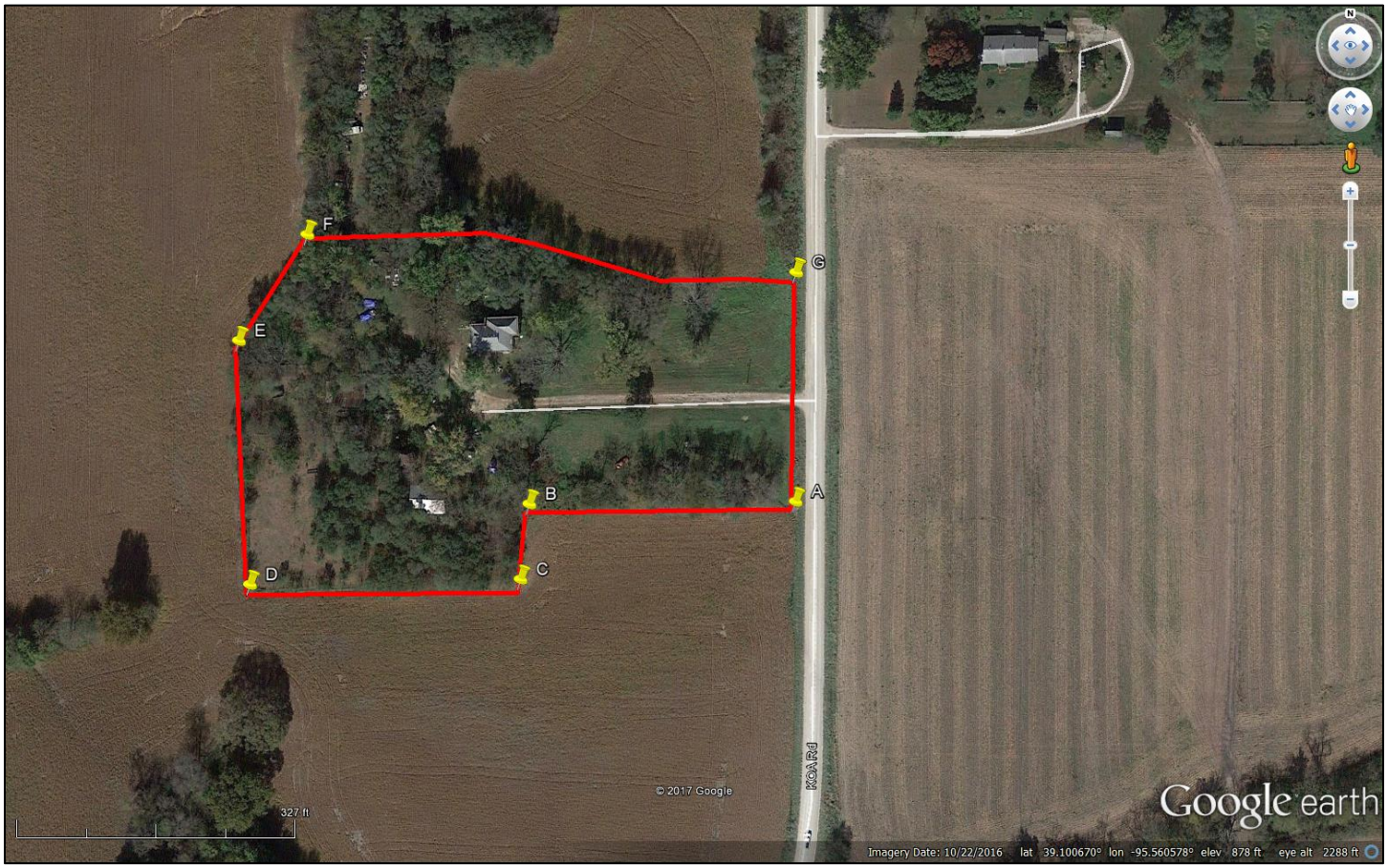
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Site (EF)
1 of 29: Driveway leading west off KOA Road.
2 of 29: View of farmland south of Maplecroft.
3 of 29: View of farmland west of Maplecroft.
4 of 29: View of farmland north of Maplecroft.
5 of 29: View of farmland east of Maplecroft.
House
6 of 29: East elevation, looking WNW (KSHS).
7 of 29: Southeast corner of the house, showing the south elevation of the main block's ell.
8 of 29: South elevation, looking N (KSHS).
9 of 29: West elevation, looking NE (KSHS).
10 of 29: West elevation of main block and partial north elevation of rear block, looking E (EF).
11 of 29: North elevation, looking SW (KSHS).
12 of 29: North elevation of main block and rear block, looking S (KSHS).
South Bank Barn
13 of 29: South elevation (KSHS).
14 of 29: West elevation (KSHS).
15 of 29: North elevation (KSHS).
16 of 29: Interior, upper level, looking east (KSHS).
17 of 29: Interior, lower level (KSHS).
18 of 29: Looking south at south barn (left) and west barn (right) (LG).
West Bank Barn (KSHS)
19 of 29: East elevation.
20 of 29: North elevation.
21 of 29: West elevation.
22 of 29: Interior, lower level, looking southeast.
23 of 29: Interior, main level, showing grain bins.
Corn Crib & Shop (KSHS)
24 of 29: South elevation.
25 of 29: North elevation.
Windmill
26 of 29: Looking west from SW corner of house (KSHS).
Chicken House
27 of 29: Looking north at chicken house (right) and brooder house ruin (left) (KSHS).
28 of 29: East and north elevations, looking SW.
Privy
29 of 29: South and east elevations (KSHS).

Map 1. Maplecroft Farm, showing locations of built resources – adapted by Leisa Gale from Google maps.

Key:
1) Frisbie House 36 x 52
2) South Barn 30 x 40
3) West Barn 20 x 36
4) Corn Crib and Shop 28 x 32
5) Hand Dug Well and Windmill
6) Cattle Shed 12 x 20
7) Chicken House 10 x 12
8) Smoke House
9) Outhouse Ruin
10) Brooder Shed Ruins 12 x 30
11) Cattle Shed Ruins 20 x 40

Boundary Map.



Coordinates (WGS84):

A) 39.099132, -95.557681
B) 39.099127, -95.558776
C) 39.098885, -95.558816
D) 39.098865, -95.559943
E) 39.099648, -95.559982
F) 39.099983, -95.559687
G) 39.099865, -95.557680