

# DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee
COUNTY: Cocke
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 16 1975

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Yett-Ellison House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street (Greeneville Highway)

CITY OR TOWN:  
Parrottsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE:  
47

COUNTY:  
Cocke

CODE:  
029

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Occupied	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>occasionally</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. Ann Balch

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Jefferson City

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE:  
47

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Cocke County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE:  
47

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  
 State  
 County  
 Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

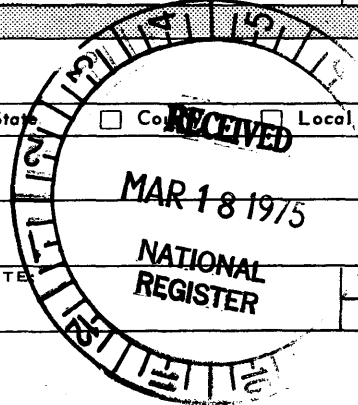
STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Cocke

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE: APR 16 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent   
  Good   
  Fair   
  Deteriorated   
  Ruins   
  Unexposed

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(Check One)

Altered   
  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved   
  Original Site

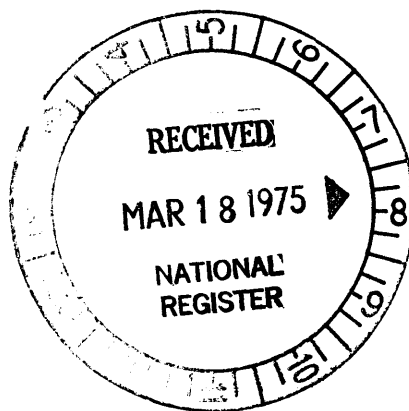
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Yett-Ellison House is located on the Greeneville Highway on the outskirts of Parrottsville, an old rural community in Cocke County. The house sits close to the highway (Parrottsville's "Main Street") behind a nicely landscaped run of boxwoods. The majority of Parrottsville's old buildings have been lost; the Yett-Ellison House is one of the oldest and certainly the most intriguing.

The Yett-Ellison House is a two-story brick Federal structure built in 1857 by Hamilton Yett; the home was damaged by fire in the late 19th century and reconstructed according to the original plan. The central portion of the home is not large; a parlor and sitting room are on the ground level and two bedrooms are upstairs. A rear wing set perpendicular to the central portion contains the kitchen facilities and dining room. The facade is an attractive one, typical of Federal style; the main door is outlined by glass panels and the upstairs door opens onto a simple balustraded porch, which was added at some later date. On each level the doors are flanked by one window. The finishing exterior touches accentuate the character of the home; these include the corbelled bricked cornices, chimneys and their corniced tops, and the slate roof. It is said that the attic was used as a jail during one portion of the nineteenth century.

The outbuildings include a natural stone spring house and log smoke house. The late Mrs. Ellison kept the home remarkably preserved in its original state; her daughter of Jefferson City continues to have the grounds maintained although she only occasionally occupies the house. She plans to make it her home upon her husband's retirement.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1857

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Parrottsville is one of the oldest communities in the state. It was settled in the 1780's by a group of German immigrants whose names such as Ottinger and Yett are common in the vicinity. The Federal style Ellison Home was built by Hamilton Yett, the son of one of these German immigrants.

Hamilton Yett grew up outside Parrottsville on the large farm of over 1000 acres of his father, William Yett. The Yetts had originally settled in Pennsylvania; William, who spoke German all his life, came to Cocke County around 1810. He built a large box-like frame home near Clear Creek. The family burial ground is upon the hill opposite the Yett Home which is still standing on Greeneville Highway. Hamilton, born in 1817, was one of at least nine children. He married Sarah Faubion of the same community and settled on a portion of his father's farm. He built the brick home which is now known as the Yett-Ellison House (because of the late owner) in 1857. He was pro-Confederate during the Civil War; although not engaged as a soldier during the conflict, he is said to have raised havoc with local Union soldiers who were retained as prisoners in Parrottsville. After the war, he and his family moved to Burnet County, Texas.

The home partially burned in the late nineteenth century. It was restored according to the original design and stands as an excellent example of Federal architecture in this old community. It is a vital part of Parrottsville, one of the state's earliest towns, as it represents one of the few remaining structures relating to early Parrottsville and the German immigrants who settled it.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Carberry, Michael, Historic Sites in Blount, Cocke, Monroe, and Sevier Counties (Knoxville, 1973).  
 Selected clippings, Stokely Memorial Library, Newport.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

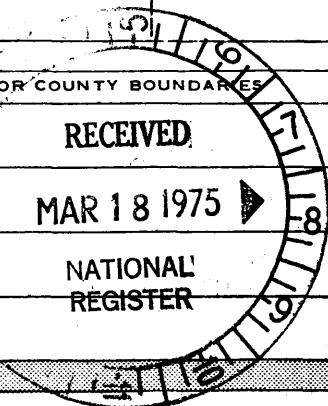
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36 ° 00 ' 29 "	83 ° 05 ' 20 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

17/311750  
 3986600  
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Michael Carberry, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION: East Tennessee Development District

DATE: 6/20/74

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 1810 Lake Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee

CODE: 47

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Lauren C. [Signature]

Title Executive Director  
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date 3/13/75

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/16/75

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of the National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_