

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



1985
5 1985

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

1. Name

historic Dr. John W. Franklin House

and/or common Oakley (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 2243 Nashville Pike N/A not for publication

city, town Gallatin X vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Tennessee code 047 county Sumner code 165

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Frank T. and Dorothy Gee

street & number 2243 Nashville Pike

city, town Gallatin N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37066

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sumner County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Gallatin state Tennessee

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Student Survey, Volunteer State
Community College

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission

city, town Nashville state Tennessee

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Oakley is a Gothic Revival style house, two stories in height, constructed of brick, and located five miles southwest of Gallatin, Tennessee, the seat of Sumner County. It was built in 1852 for John W. Franklin, a physician and farmer. The house sits on two acres of land facing U.S. 31-E. It has a pastoral setting with rolling farmland to the east, north, and west and Old Hickory Lake to the south, several hundred yards behind the house. Oakley has been altered very little and retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Alterations primarily consist of 1930s additions to the rear and one-story ell of the house. Outbuildings to Oakley include an 1850s one and a half-story brick smokehouse, now joined to the kitchen ell of the house, a mid nineteenth-century log cabin, a 1930s brick garage, and an early twentieth-century rectangular-shaped frame gazebo.

Oakley is a two-story house with common bond brick walls, a cross-gable roof, four interior brick chimneys, and a three-bay symmetrical facade with a central two-story gabled pavilion flanked by one-story verandas. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick foundation supports the house.

On the facade are four entrances, each comprised of tall, narrow double-leaf doors with original screens, wood shutters, and corner block flat lintels, located in the first and third bays and on each side of the pavilion. Rectangular 2/2 windows with wood shutters are located above the doors in the first and third bays. The windows extend from the veranda roof up to break the boxed cornice and plain frieze of the house's roof. The verandas have shed roofs, boxed cornices, plain friezes, and paired slender wood posts with delicately sawn brackets and balustrades.

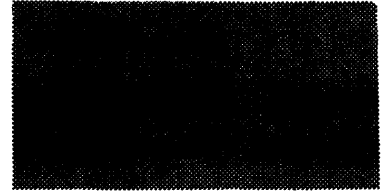
The pavilion has a tall, three-sided bay window on the first story with four lancet-arched 4/4 windows with Y-tracery, wood shutters, and a continuous stone lintel. The bay window is crowned by a decorative stone cornice, which has short round arches on the sides and a short, wide ogee arch on the front, and which supports an iron balustrade with Gothic grillwork. The boxed cornice and frieze of the pavilion's gable have wood brackets.

The east and west elevations of Oakley each have a centered 6/6 rectangular window with wood shutters and corner block flat lintels on both stories. In the rear, a one-story veranda has been partially enclosed, ca. 1935, with brick and 4/1 windows to create a hallway. Standing seam tin covers the shed roof of the veranda. Only one original first story window of the house, located at the westernmost bay, is visible. Like the facade, the rear elevation has a central pavilion. It has close gable eaves, and a central 6/6 rectangular window and a single-leaf door, both with corner block flat lintels, are located on the second story.

The one-story ell is comprised of a dining room, kitchen, and smokehouse, which was detached originally. The ell has a metal-covered gable roof and a partially enclosed veranda on the west side elevation. A large brick chimney is located at the south end wall of the kitchen. The smokehouse, attached ca. 1935 to the kitchen by enclosure with brick walls, is rectangular-shaped and has an asphalt shingle gable roof. A ca. 1935 frame addition is attached to the east wall of the kitchen. It has a metal gable roof, is covered with board and batten on the east and south elevations and with weatherboard on the north elevation, and has rectangular 3/1 windows.

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Continuation sheet Oakley

Item number 7

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The interior of Oakley is three rooms wide with a staircase located in the rear pavilion. All rooms have fireplaces, original mantels, baseboards, and doors. Some rooms have original crown molding. The woodwork is simple in design and characteristic of the Gothic Revival period. Door frames have drip moldings. Most doors have panels and a few have solid vertical panels. The rooms of the main part of Oakley have been altered little, except for the addition of a bathroom in one upstairs room.

A small, single-pen log cabin is located directly behind the house. It has half-dovetail log notching, a short, single-leaf door on the north elevation, an asphalt shingle gable roof, and a ca. 1940 frame addition to the east wall of the log pen which doubles its size. An early twentieth-century frame storage shed is located east of the house. It has a gable roof, is rectangular-shaped, and appears to have been converted into a gazebo with addition of latticework. A 1930s two-car garage is located west of the house. It is constructed of brick, has a gable roof with exposed rafters, and has weatherboarded gable ends.

Oakley and its outbuildings sit on two acres of land landscaped with mature shade and magnolia trees and large boxwoods. Rolling farmland with tree-lined, fenced fields surround Oakley on three sides. Old Hickory Lake is located a few hundred yards behind and below the house.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1852 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Nominated under National Register criteria B and C, Oakley is significant on a local level because of its historical association with its builder, John W. Franklin, a Sumner County physician and farmer, and on local and state levels because of its architectural significance as an outstanding and unusual example of Gothic Revival style architecture in Sumner County and Tennessee.

John W. Franklin was a prominent physician and farmer in Sumner County. Born in the county in 1819, the son of John and Elizabeth (Rawlings) Franklin, he was educated at Hallowell's Quaker School at Alexandria, Virginia, studied medicine under Dr. John J. Franklin in Sumner County, and then graduated from Transylvania Medical University at Lexington, Kentucky in 1841. He married Florida Neal, daughter of Reverend Dr. Silas M. and Maria Noel of Frankfort, Kentucky, and they had three children, Adele, John A. and Edward N. After his wife's death in 1848 he married Sarah F. Baker from Sumner County and they had six sons and three daughters. Dr. Franklin has begun medical practice in Memphis, Tennessee in 1842. He moved to Gallatin in 1845 and bought 162 acres of land on the Nashville Pike (U.S. 31-E) and constructed Oakley in 1852. Franklin was a leading physician in Sumner County, with a lucrative and extensive practice, and he was a successful farmer with productive land. In 1861 Franklin was appointed surgeon of the Confederate Seventh Tennessee Regiment.

Tradition accredits the design of Oakley to William Strickland, noted architect of the Greek Revival style Tennessee State Capitol (NHL 1971) and St. Mary's Church (NR 1970) and the Egyptian Revival style First Presbyterian Church (NR 1970), all of which are located in Nashville. Strickland was known to have been commissioned to design several private residences in Middle Tennessee during his ten year stay in the state prior to his death in 1854; however, no documentation has surfaced to prove conclusively this was one of them.

Oakley remains as one of a few Gothic Revival style houses in Middle Tennessee and it is a unique example of the style. Gothic Revival style building was varied and by comparison with Federal, Greek Revival, and Italianate period building, few in number. Oakley's delicate Gothic detailing applied to a more vernacular, traditional form and massing makes it an unusual example of the style and period in Tennessee.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Durham, Walter T. Old Sumner: A History of Sumner County, Tennessee. Gallatin, Tennessee: Sumner County Public Library, 1969.
The Goodspeed Histories of Sumner, Smith, Macon, and Trousdale Counties of Tennessee.
 Reprinted from Goodspeed's History of Tennessee, pp. 797-991. Columbia, Tennessee: Woodward and Stinson Printing Co., 1972.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.81 acres

Quadrangle name Hendersonville, Tenn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	5	4	4	1	8	0	4	0	2	2	9	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries are outlined in red on the accompanying Sumner County property assessment map and were selected to include the 1.81 acres of land on which the house and its outbuildings sit. This includes enough acreage to protect the historical setting and

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shain Dennison

organization N/A date March, 1985

street & number 4017 Dodson Chapel Road telephone 615/889-2071

city or town Hermitage state Tennessee

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

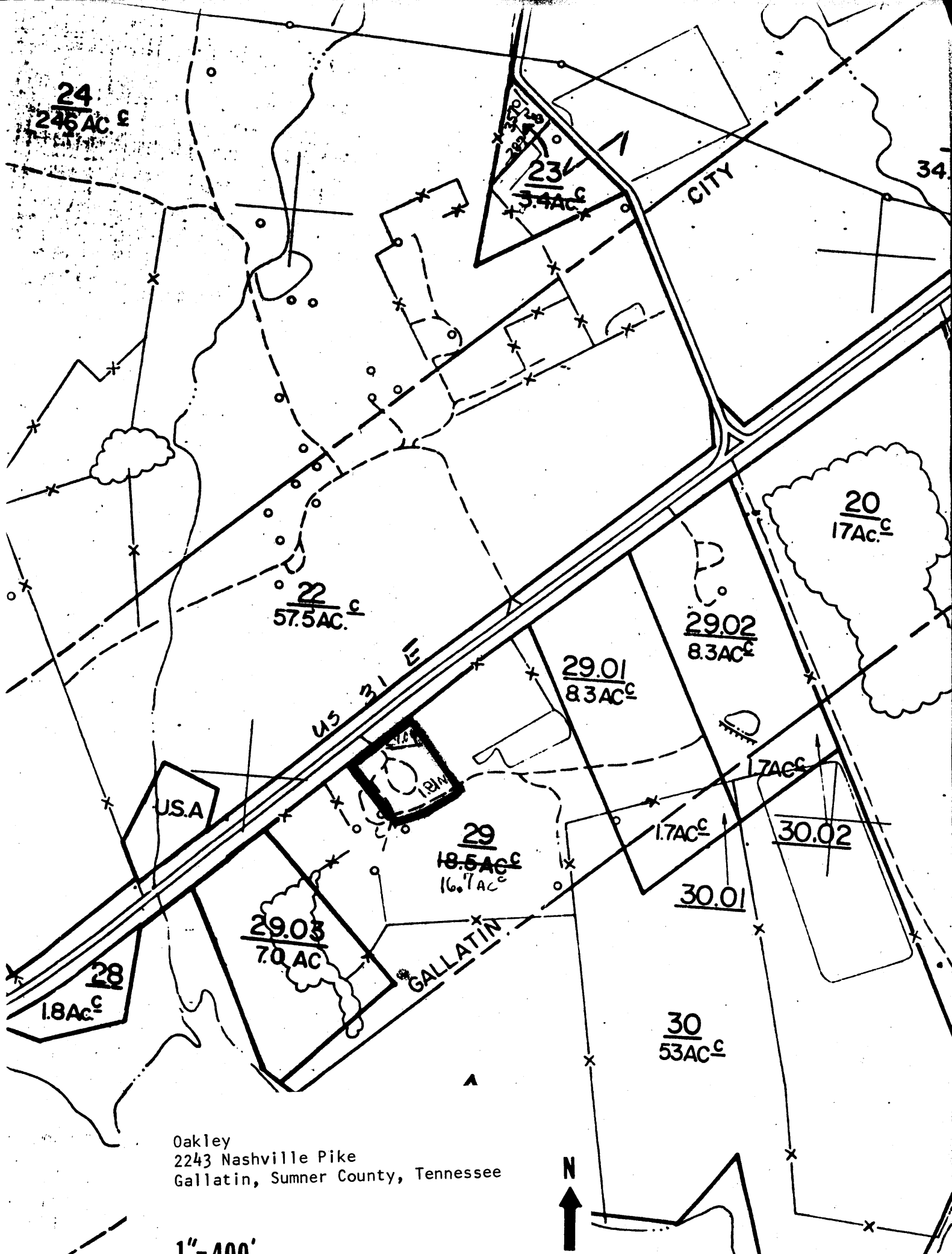
national state local

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

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Stuger

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 6/5/85

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the
<u>for Deborah Byers</u>	National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>7-25-85</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	



24
245 AC

23
3.4 AC

22
57.5 AC

29.01
8.3 AC

29.02
8.3 AC

29
18.5 AC
16.7 AC

29.03
7.0 AC

28
18 AC

30.01
1.7 AC

30.02
1.7 AC

30
53 AC

USA

GALLATIN

CITY

Oakley
2243 Nashville Pike
Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee



1" = 400'