#### TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY FORM

Title: Historic Resources of Williamson County

Historic Name: Smithson, Nathaniel, House (WM-354) Common Name: Smithson, Nathaniel, House

## Classification: Building

Owner: Ellis W. Mangrum, Route # 1, Box 1426, Franklin, TN 37064.

Location: On Peytonsville-Bethesda Road at Peytonsville.

Contributing:		Non-Contributing:	
Buildings	2	Buildings	1
Structures	0	Structures	0
Sites	0	Sites	0
Total:	2	Total:	1

#### Description:

The Nathaniel Smithson House is a two-story brick residence constructed ca. 1840 and built in a central passage plan. On the main (south) facade is a one-story porch added ca. 1880. This porch has original milled posts, a railing with square balusters, cut out milled panels, drop pendants and a spindled frieze. The main entrance has an original eight panel door and other doors throughout the house are also of eight panel design. Windows are original nine-over-nine sash on the first story and six-over-six sash on the second story. The windows have added ca. 1960 frame shutters. Over the doors and windows are wooden lintels and the windows have wooden sills. On the north facade is a ca. 1860 frame porch over the entrance with square frame posts, square balusters and eave returns. The main facade has an extended frame dormer which was added ca. 1880 and now has metal siding.

The main facade of the house is of Flemish bond brick construction while the other facades are five course common bond. The house has interior end brick chimneys. On the east facade is a one-story brick kitchen which was originally detached from the main house but the open breezeway has been enclosed with frame and metal siding. The kitchen is of five and six course common bond construction. Windows in the kitchen are six-over-six modern sash. At the rear or north facade of the kitchen is a one-story frame shed roof addition added ca. 1970.

The interior of the house was built in a central hall plan with the main staircase located in the hall. The main staircase has a simple square newel post and square balusters and interior doors are original eight panel design. The interior mantles are ca. 1900 replacements with Doric pilasters. Behind the house are two outbuildings: a one-story frame smokehouse constructed ca. 1880 with vertical siding and a gable roof; and a one story ca. 1900 frame building which was originally used as a store and was moved to this location. The building now has added metal siding and is non-contributing.

Period of Significance: ca. 1840; ca. 1880

MAK 0 3 1988

NATIONAL REGISTER

## Area of Significance: Architecture

## Criterion: C

## Architect/Builder: Unknown

# Statement of Significance:

The Nathanial Smithson House is a notable example of a central passage plan brick antebellum residence with late 19th century additions. The house displays the evolvement of house styles in the 19th century. When it was originally built, the house had Greek Revival detailing on the porch and interior. Around 1880, the original porch was removed and a new porch of Italianate design was added. The house has not been altered since the early 1900s and displays this series of 19th century changes.

The house appears to have been built ca. 1840 by S.W. Smithson who acquired several hundred acres in this vicinity in the late 1830s. Smithson farmed several hundred adjacent acres before the Civil War and upon his death his property was inherited by his son, Nathaniel Smithson. Nathaniel Smithson was born in 1826 and married Margaret Johnson in 1851. Smithson lived in the house in the late 19th century and made additions and alterations during this time. He owned a productive farm of several hundred acres and was profiled in the 1886 <u>Goodspeed</u> biographical index. Smithson died in the 1890s and the house has had several owners in the 20th century. The house is the most visually prominent early residence in Peytonsville and sits on a prominent hill overlooking the community.

Acreage: 3.2 acres

## UTM References: Bethesda Quad 16/520150/3963620

<u>Verbal Boundary Description and Justification</u>: The boundary of the Nathaniel Smithson House is illustrated on the accompanying Williamson County tax map # 143, lot 17.02. The boundary is defined on the west and north by fence lines, on the east by a driveway and on the south by Peytonsville Road. The boundary is drawn to include the house and adjacent outbuildings and exclude modern outbuildings to the north. The boundary includes sufficient property to protect the historical setting of the site.

Supplemental Bibliographical References: Goodspeed's History of Tennessee





\* NOT TO SCALE