

# 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: Claiborne
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 29 1975

**1. NAME**

COMMON: *Graham* - Kivette House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street and Old Knoxville Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tazewell

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Second

STATE: Tennessee      CODE: 47      COUNTY: Claiborne      CODE: 025

**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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. Inez Kivette

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 6

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tazewell

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE:  
47

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tazewell

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE:  
47

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

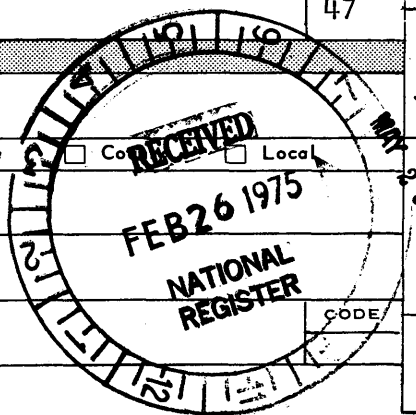
DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Claiborne

ENTRY NUMBER: 885

DATE: MAY 29 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

712 114

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

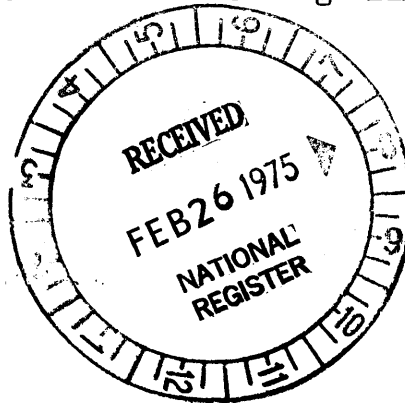
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kivette House is located in Tazewell, the county seat. Built from limestone around 1800, the Kivette home has been altered somewhat over the years.

Originally a four-room house of Federal style, a frame addition was added to the back prior to 1885. Constructed as a bedroom, today the back section contains the kitchen. Another addition is the front porch, having been added by Jim Kivette after World War I. The house is covered by a standing seam tin roof.

The downstairs rooms retain their original dimensions. However, the stair location was changed so that today the stairs face the front door whereas originally they were located in the back of the house. Also, upstairs one of the original bedrooms has been portioned to form two bedrooms. Much of the original woodwork remains, and the two-foot thick walls keep the house warm in winter and cool in the summer.

The grounds are well kept with several large maple and oak trees in the front and side yards. A three-foot high limestone wall runs in front of the house.



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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **circa 1800**

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 checked="" 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

The Kivette House is significant in several respects. It is the oldest home in Tazewell and was one of only a few structures to survive a disastrous fire in 1862. Also, it was built by William Graham, one of the founders of Tazewell.

William Graham was born in Ireland, and is buried in the Irish Cemetery almost directly behind the Kivette home. Graham was Tazewell's first merchant and thus helped make Tazewell an early trading center of the area. He was also a builder and helped erect the first church in Tazewell in 1815. He was responsible for building the Parkey House, a National Register property located a few blocks from the Kivette House.

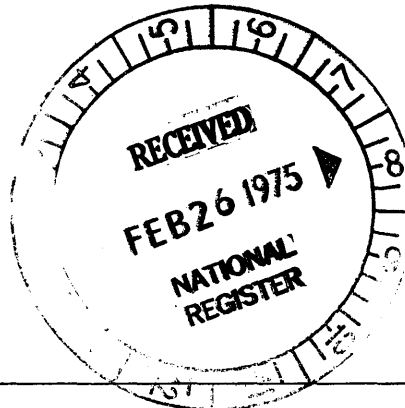
The Kivette House saw the fire which claimed many of Tazewell's first buildings. Confederate soldiers were occupying the town in November of 1862, when the fire broke out. Although the Confederates have been accused of starting the fire--Claiborne County was for the most part sympathetic to the North--it has never been substantiated.

James Kivette acquired the home at the turn of the century from William Yoakum. Kivette was a lawyer and coal mine operator. A daughter, Louis Kivette Redman, published several books.

Jim Kivette's son, J. Kyle Kivette, inherited the home from his father. J. K. Kivette was Claiborne County's judge for several years. Presently the house is occupied by his widow and their son.

The Kivette House remains as one of the fine examples of early Federal style architecture in stone in the area.

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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Citizen Tribune, Morristown, Tennessee, April 14, 1968, "Tazewell Becomes Town in 1801; Area Settled in 1783." Interview with Mrs. Inez Kivette.

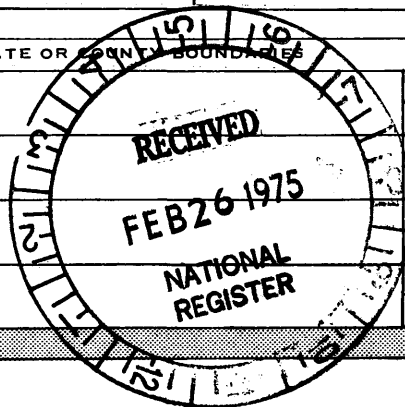
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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° 27' 08"	83° 34' 17"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



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**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Jon Coddington

ORGANIZATION: East Tennessee Development District DATE: 5/16/74

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1810 Lake Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 [Signature]

Title Executive Director  
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date 2/24/75

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

[Signature]  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/29/75

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date MAY 14 1975