United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Page		
SUPPLEMENTARY	Y LISTING REC	ORD
NRIS Reference Number: 99000364	Date List	ced: 3/31/99
Peters House Property Name	Knox County	TENNESSEE State
Knoxville and Knox County MPS Multiple Name		
This property is listed in the National Park Service certific documentation. Signature of the Keeper	ination docum or amendmen ation includ ————————————————————————————————————	entation subject to the
Amended Items in Nomination: Section No. 8		
This nomination is amended to dele	te circa 1855	and circa 1878 from the

DISTRIBUTION:

selected (circa 1890).

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

This change has been confirmed with the Tennessee SHPO.

list of significant dates, since they precede the period of significance

NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



OMB No. 10024-0018

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural

1. Name of Property
historic name Peters House
other names/site number White Columns; Peters, George W., House; Kilgore, Chester, House
2. Location
street & number 1319 Grainger Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Knoxville vicinity N/A
state Tennessee code TN county Knox code 093 zip code 37917
3. Ştate/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \(\) 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \(\) meets \(\) does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \(\) nationally \(\) statewide \(\) locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property \(\) meets \(\) does not meet the National Register criteria. (\(\) See Continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau
4. National Park Service Certification
I hereby certify that the property is: I hereby certify that the property is: I hereby certify that the property is: I hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet See continuation sheet A hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register ☐ removed from the National
Register.

classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative

items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

Peters House		_Kr	nox Co., TN	
Name of Property		Co	ounty and State	
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)		rces within Property y listed resources in count)	
☑ private☐ public-local☐ public-State☐ public-Federal	☑ building(s)☐ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object	Contributing1	Noncontributing 0	buildings sites structures objects
		1	0	_ Objects Total
Name of related multiple (Enter "N/A" if property is not part		Number of Contrib	outing resources previ gister	ously listed
Historical & Architectural F Knox Co., TN	Resources of Knoxville &	0		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions	5)	Current Functions (Enter categories from in		
DOMESTIC: Single Dwelli	ng	DOMESTIC: Single	e Dwelling	
7. Description				
Architectural Classificati	ion	Materials	<u>,</u>	
(Enter categories from instructions		(Enter categories from in		
Colonial Revival		foundation BRICK		
		walls WEATHER	BOARD	
		roof ASBESTOS	3	
		other WOOD		

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Peters House	Knox County, Tennessee
Name of Property	County and State
9 Statement of Significance	
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.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE
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 who's components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance circa 1890
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	
Criteria Considerations N/A (Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates circa 1855; circa 1878; circa 1890
Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (complete if Criterion B is marked) N/A
C moved from its original location.	Cultural Affiliation
D a cemetery.	N/A
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
F a commemorative property	Architect/Builder
☐ G less than 50 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	unknown; Barber, George F 1890 Remodeling
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation shee	ts.)
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on	one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A 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 #	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal Agency Local Government University Other Name of repository: Knoxville-Knox Co. Metro Planning Commission
recorded by Historic American Engineering	

Peters House	Knox County, Tennessee				
Name of Property	County and State				
40 Geographical Data					
10. Geographical Data					
Acreage of Property Approximately 5 acres Knoxville Qua	ad 147 NW				
UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)					
1 17 236800 3986450 3					
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing				
2 4					
	See continuation sheet				
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)					
11. Form Prepared By					
name/title Ann K. Bennett, Senior Planner; Edited Susan A. Besser organization Knoxville-Knox Co. Metro Planning Comm.; TN Hist. Comm. street & number 403 City County Building, 400 Main Avenue tele	date February 8, 1998				
	ephone <u>423-521-2500</u>				
	FN zip code 37902				
city or town Knoxville state Additional Documentation					
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city or town Knoxville state Additional Documentation submit the following items with the completed form:	rN zip code 37902				
City or town Knoxville state Additional Documentation submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps	tion				
City or town Knoxville state Additional Documentation submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's local	tion				
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Additional Documentation submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's local A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acrea Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items	tion				
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Additional Documentation submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's local A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreal Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	tion				

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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7. DESCRIPTION

The Peters House, also known as White Columns, George W. Peters House, and Chester Kilgore House is located at 1319 Grainger Avenue in a residential neighborhood. Constructed circa 1855 the original-hall-and-parlor Italianate house underwent modification with the addition of an interior kitchen circa 1878. The present day distinctive Neoclassical design is the handiwork of George F. Barber, nationally and internationally recognized architect. Barber's design, circa 1890s, incorporated a two-tiered two-story front porch as well as modifying the hall-and-parlor plan. The influence of the Neoclassical elements of Barber's design dominates the architectural styling of the house reflecting the architectural trend and return to classicism by late nineteenth century architects. The Peters House sits on a heavily landscaped lot that falls sharply away to the rear, towards First Creek.

The Peters House is a frame structure, resting on a brick foundation. The exterior walls of the house are weatherboard. The roof is side gabled, with cross gables to the west on the front elevation and to the east on the rear elevation. The roof covering consists of patterned asbestos oversized shingles. Windows are two-over-two double-hung in the older portions of the house and one-over-one double-hung in the newer portion, circa 1890. Plain sawn wood lintels top the windows throughout the house, and corner boards with inset cove molding mark the corners in the older section of the house. On the west side elevation, imbricated shingles cover the gable end that includes a sawn wood attic vent. On the east elevation, the original pierced and sawn wood attic vent can still be seen. A central interior brick chimney is visible from the street.

The most prominent feature of the house is the two-tiered two-story front porch, supported by fluted wooden columns with stylized lonic capitals and marked by a sawn wood balustrade. A portion of the second floor porch on the east side has no roof, and appears as a balcony. As documented from the plans, originally there was a balustrade along the cornice that would have complemented the balustrade on the first and second story porches. The balustrade was removed, but the present owner intends to replace it recreating this element from the detailed plans of the George Barber & Co., which are in the present owner's possession.

On the west portion of the rear elevation is a raised porch with a simple balustrade of square columns, simple handrails and square balusters. A portion of this porch, part of the Barber addition, originally enclosed, presently has a cantilevered roof. The original porch railing is altered. The owner intends to replace the existing balustrade matching the balustrade on the front of the house.

The first floor front entry is accessed through a single light entry door. The original screen door with sawn wood trim still in place. A handsome L-shaped open-string staircase on the rear wall enhances the entry hall. The balustrade of the stained staircase consists of colonial style turned

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balusters with a colonial style handrail and a paneled newel post. An Art Nouveau electric light fixture sits on the crown of the newel post. Newel posts located on the second floor landing have ball tops. Dropped pendants mark the ceiling trim surrounding the stairwell, the underside is with tongue and groove boards, and a small storage area at the base is identified by a paneled door.

Entrance into the front parlor, part of the original house, is through a wide cased opening on the right from the entrance hall. A fireplace located in this room and has a mantel with reeded columns surmounted by stylized Doric capitals. Applied carvings enhance the capitals and the area below the mantelshelf. The fireplace, tiled in mottled glaze tile, contains the original coal grate and fireplace cover. The fireplace wall in the parlor is solid wood tongue and groove paneling, dating from the 1920s.

Opposite the entry to the front parlor is a wide cased opening to the library. This is part of the addition designed by George Barber. One of the most distinguishing features of the library is a large bay window. Trim in this and other rooms in the 1890s addition exemplify the Neoclassical design, consisting of wide boards resting on plinths. The horizontal member of the window and door frames has a cap trim. Beneath the windows and encased in the trim is a wood panel with raised moldings. In the plans drawn by Barber, a fireplace was designed for the inner wall of this room. Apparently, the plans were modified during the remodeling, because there is no evidence that the fireplace was ever built.

A third cased opening in the entry hall provides access to the dining room. This room is part of the original house, and features window and door trim consisting of bull's eye trim with plain boards. A fireplace located on this wall, and shares the chimney stack with the parlor fireplace. Located to the left of the fireplace is a large china closet with single light glass doors. The ceiling fixture of the dining room is a semi-indirect frosted glass bowl with an acanthus leaf design and hangs by chains from a round ceiling canopy. A plaster ceiling medallion accents the fixture.

The kitchen, probably added circa 1878, is to the rear of the dining room. The large kitchen includes a pantry on the east side of the room, and a five-paneled door with transom, wide door trim resting on plinths and a window on the west room. Both of which lead to the enclosed rear porch. Beadboard wainscot stained to match the trim dates to the 1878 time period. The kitchen was updated in the 1940s. A portion of the pantry was converted to a half bath, circa 1970.

The upper story of the Peters house contains four rooms, a bath and an entry hall. Located on the east or original side of the house are three of the bedrooms. One of them is not accessible from the central hall. As is true in the downstairs portion of the house, the window and door trim in the older portion of the house have bull's eye corner blocks and plain board. The west or Barber addition has Neoclassical door and window moldings, wide board trim with a cap trim along the

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horizontal member. Located at the rear of the central hall is a bathroom, with the original plumbing fixtures.

One of the two original bedrooms has a wall of built-in cabinets that extend from floor to ceiling on the window wall. The built-in to the left of the window consists of two single six-panel doors with a two-panel door above. The built-in to the right of the window consists of double doors composed of six-panels with double doors composed of two-panels above. The window between the built-ins has paneled shutters to unify the wall and has a built-in seat at sill height.

Entry to the second story porch is through a door at the front (south) elevation. This door was the original entry door, and was moved to the second story exit as is noted in the plans. The second story roofed porch contains a sawn wood balustrade, a canvas floor covering, as was specified in the Barber plans, and a small open balcony to the east, marked by a sawn wood balustrade with square posts. An original screen door also appears on the entry to the second floor porch.

The floors in the Barber addition to the house are heart pine, while those in the downstairs, older portion of the house have been resurfaced with oak flooring, probably in the 1920s. It is thought that the house was converted to a central heating system, using coal, when the Barber addition was carried out in 1890. Gas lighting was installed in the house shortly after that time, and the house was wired for electricity circa 1920. Five-panel doors are used throughout the house, on both interior and exterior entrances. The doorknobs throughout the house are dark cobalt blue porcelain. The back plates of Art Deco design are of pot metal.

The Peters House has undergone at least three major alterations. From the circa 1855 hall and parlor Italianate house, it was modified by the addition at the rear of an interior kitchen around 1878. In the 1890s, it was further modified through plans prepared by Barber creating a two story front porch and additional rooms to the east elevation of the house. Barber's designs resulted in the modification of the front entry, as well as some interior features of the original house.

The present owner of the Peters House, Mr. Chester Kilgore, has carried out a great deal of restoration work on the house, taking care to preserve the integrity. He has restored the two story front porch, repaired interior surfaces, and updated the wiring and plumbing, all in keeping with the design of the house following the Barber addition of 1890.

The Peters House is an excellent example of the manner that a hall-and-parlor Italianate house evolved to include kitchen facilities and was ultimately remodeled to reflect the Neoclassical influences of the 1890s. The Peters House demonstrates the method that the middle class modified their dwelling to reflect their status as affluent members of the Knoxville community. Reflecting strong Neoclassical influences the Peters House is a significant contribution by nationally recognized architect George F. Barber. The interior of the original house retains the

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moldings of the circa 1855 period incorporating elements of the Neoclassical period, especially in the staircase, while the interior of the 1890s addition utilizes the moldings of the period.

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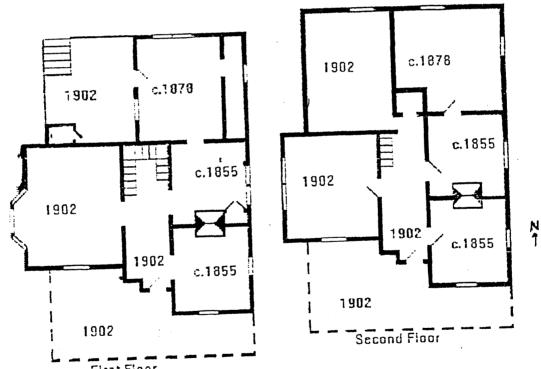
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Peters House Knox County, TN

Floor Plan



First Floor
Peters-Kilgore House - 1319 Grainger - Knoxville, Tennessee
Not to sale

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Peters House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, for its architectural styling following the extensive remodeling designed and carried out by architect George F. Barber in 1890. Evolving from a hall-and-parlor house Italianate house, circa 1855, incorporating an attached kitchen in 1878, and its final evolution to a grand Neoclassical home with a two-tiered two-story porch reflecting the affluence of the descendants of George W. Peters.

The neighborhood where the Peters House is located developed in association with two industries, the Peters-Bradley Mill on Broadway, and Crystal Ice Company several blocks east of Broadway on Grainger Avenue. The first owner of the mill that became the Peters-Bradley Mill probably built the Peters House; the area around the mill was agricultural, and the owner of the mill operated a large farm, or plantation. Prior to the demolition of the mill, in 1961, and the washing away of the mill dam some ten years before that, a bridge at the northern edge of the lot crossed First Creek and provided access to the mill.

The Peters House evolved in stages. The first of these, thought to have been constructed in circa 1855, was evidently a hall-and-parlor Italianate house. The front gable end that is evident on the facade identifies the original dwelling. The core of the original dwelling contained four rooms, two downstairs and two rooms upstairs. In 1878, a kitchen was added to the rear of the house. Prior to that time, the kitchen was detached; the remnants of brick piers and a chimney can still be found on the property. A typical remodeling during the late Victorian period was the addition of a kitchen enabling the woman of the house to complete domestic duties while tending her children, thus demonstrating the influence of prescriptive literature on the Victorian middle class wife and mother.

As a legacy to the Peters House, William Peters built a birdhouse that is said to replicate the original house and is now in Mr. Kilgore's possession. The design shows a cross-gabled house, likely Italianate in design, with a central chimney, and an arched first story front opening. Photographs taken during the remodeling phase of the George Barber addition show elaborate Italianate trim at the front gable of the house.

After working in a mill near Knoxville to learn the milling business, George W. Peters purchased the Koontz (later Peters-Bradley) Mill in 1878. George Peters had served in the Civil War, and was a well-respected businessman. Upon the death of George Peters, his son, William inherited the house at 1319 Grainger (then carrying the address of 117 Grainger) and took over the Peters-Bradley Mill. The William Peters family employed George F. Barber to design an addition to the house to accommodate their growing family. The house was expanded from its five room, Italianate form, to a seven room, one bathroom, house with its distinctive two-story Neoclassical front porch.

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William Peters was a leader in the Knoxville political and industrial society. He was elected to two terms on the Knoxville City Council, during the city-manager phase of city government. The entire council was subjected to a recall petition during his first term. Peters was the only council member unaffected by the recall and went on to serve another term in that office.

Very few changes have occurred to the Peters House since the Barber-designed remodeling was accomplished. The Peters family continued to live in the house until the 1960s. At that time, the A. P. Money family from whom Mr. Kilgore purchased the house in the 1980s purchased it. The Peters family made few alterations during the time they lived in the house, except that they did remove the front roofline balustrade due to deterioration. Since the house cost more to repaint than it cost to build initially, they elected not to replace the deteriorated balustrade. Mr. Kilgore intends to replace the balustrade.

George F. Barber was a prominent Knoxville architect, whose reputation was recognized not only nationally but internationally as well. The Historical and Architectural Resources of Knoxville and Knox County: George F. Barber details the career of this distinguished architect and his significance to the Knoxville area. Consequently, the commissioning of George Barber to redesign one's home is significant of itself. The Peters House is one of the few extant versions of the Neoclassical style designated Classic Colonial. The Peters House is the only documented remodeling by Barber, thus far. Especially noteworthy is that the original floor plans for the remodeling are still in the possession of the present owner of the house.

Barber published architectural booklets that included plans that could be obtained by mail order. The Cottage Souvenir published in 1888 was a "collection of engravings of dwellings cottages and summer houses, with plans, prices, etc. .." ¹ The publication Modern Dwellings contained plans and drawings from the Queen Anne, Romanesque and Colonial Revival. The wide circulation of his periodical American Homes demonstrated the extent of Barber's popularity. In 1899 nearly 9,000 homes received this publication on a monthly basis

The fact that the owners chose to remodel in the Classic Colonial trend was indicative of the mood of the country. According to James C. Massey and Shirley Maxwell in <u>House Styles in America</u> this particular style corresponded to the United States Centennial in 1876 and was inspired by nostalgia for the "good old days" prior to the Industrial Revolution. (Massey & Maxwell, 177) The

12.

¹ Herndon, Joseph L., <u>Architects in Tennessee until 1930: A Dictionary</u>, Thesis, Columbia University, 1975,

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sense of time and place that was lost by changes brought on by mechanization combined with a resurgence in our national pride resulted in the revival of traditional ornamentation in dwellings.

The Peters House is significant for its association with George Barber, and for the integrity of design that the house has maintained with the modifications made in the 1890s. In Knoxville, where the majority of the known Barber designs are from earlier, Victorian-inspired design traditions, the Peters House is unique and, therefore, is significant for its Neoclassical architectural styling and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barber, George F. & Co. Plans for William E. Peters Addition, 1890.

Herndon, Joseph L. <u>Architects in Tennessee until 1930: A Dictionary</u>. Thesis, Columbia University, 1975.

Kilgore, Chester. Personal interview with Ann K. Bennett. 29 July 1994.

Knoxville, News-Sentinel. 9 January 1946.

Massey, James. C. And Shirley Maxwell. <u>House Styles in America: The Old-House Journal Guide to the Architecture of American Homes</u>. New York: Penguin Group, 1996.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Verbal Boundary Description

All of parcel number 7, Block 11200 on CLT Map 81, Knox County, Tennessee.

10

Boundary Justification

This parcel contains the property that has been historically associated with the Peters House since the area was subdivided in the early 1900s.

The tax map for this property has the scale of 1" = 400'. This scale map is prepared by the Tennessee Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1" = 400' adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

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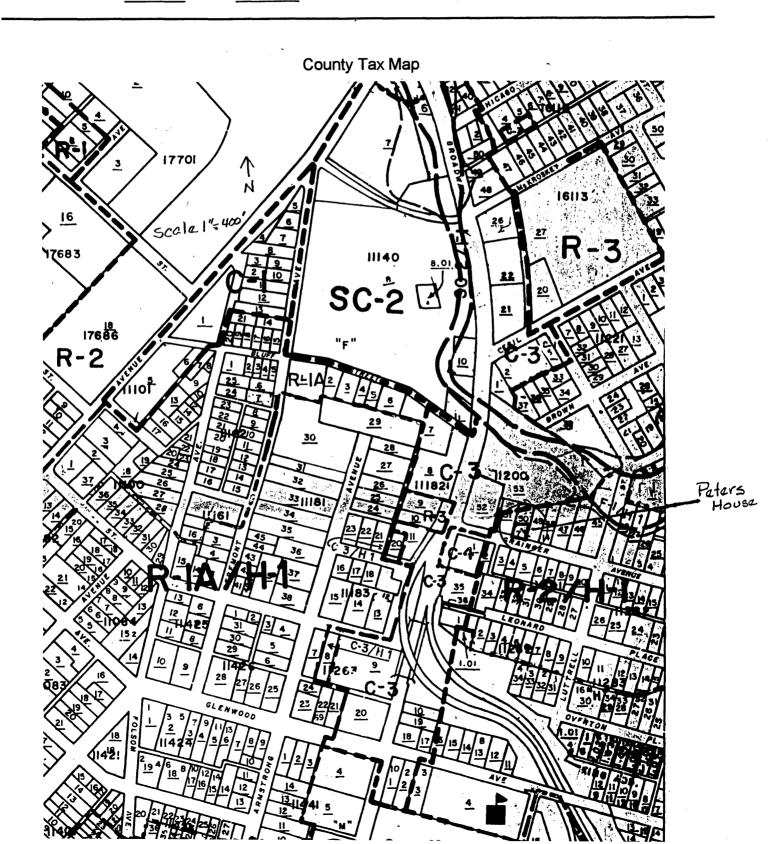
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Peters House Knox County, TN

PHOTOGRAPHS

Peters House 1319 Grainger Avenue Knoxville Vicinity, Knox County, TN

Photos By: Nancy Jane Baker

Date: February 1998

Manatina Tanana

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

2941 Lebanon Road Nashville, TN 37243

Southwest facade, facing northeast 1 of 21

Southwest corner, facing northeast 2 of 21

Northwest elevation, facing southwest 3 of 21

North corner, facing south 4 of 21

Rear elevation (northeast), facing southwest 5 of 21

Southeast elevation, facing northwest 6 of 21

Front entrance 7 of 21

Newel post, entryway 8 of 21

Staircase, entryway 9 of 21

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Detail, front parlor, mantelpiece 10 of 21

Detail showing 1855 door and casing and 1890 cased opening 11 of 21

Detail of panels beneath library windows 12 of 21

Detail of kitchen wainscot, door and window sill 13 of 21

Exterior door in kitchen, door with transom window 14 of 21

Detail, ceiling fixture, dining room 15 of 21

Detail of 1890s door and casing 16 of 21

Upstairs landing, detail of staircase 17 of 21

Detail of 1878 door and casing 18 of 21

Upstairs bedroom in 1855 portion, detail of built-ins, circa 1890 19 of 21

Doll house showing configuration of house 20 of 21

Plans of remodeling, front elevation 21 of 21