

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Knox	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.5.47.0013	DATE 5/6/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Marble Springs

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: S of Knoxville on
Neubert Springs Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047 COUNTY: Knox CODE: 093

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 type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Tennessee

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

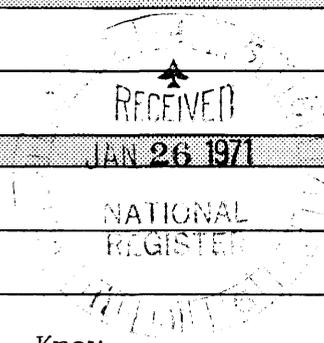
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Knox

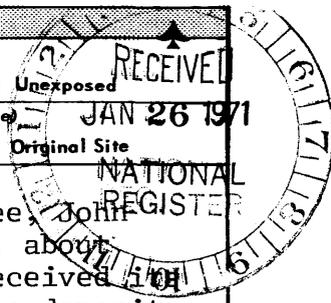
ENTRY NUMBER: 71.5.47.0013

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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	



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Marble Springs, the home of the first governor of Tennessee, John Sevier, is located at the foot of a spur of Bays Mountain, about five miles south of Knoxville off U.S. Highway 441. It received name from Sevier because of the numerous springs and marble deposits nearby.

The property on which Marble Springs stands had belonged to Sevier prior to 1790, and was part of a grant of 640 acres he had received from the State of North Carolina. A pioneer station or outpost had been in operation on the site when Sevier acquired the property, and some buildings were in existence. These were put to use and additional structures, such as a corncrib, springhouse, smokehouse, barn, stables, and servants' quarters were added. In addition to these, several two-story guest houses were constructed. The eventual cluster of buildings has been likened to a Hamlet and as such made an ideal place to receive friends and official guests, as well as to accomodate his large family.

Of all the original log buildings, only the main cabin remains. The property passed from the Sevier family in 1818 through a succession of owners who farmed the land until farm operations proved unprofitable to small producers. Through the years various changes were made. In the 1930's, the exterior of the logs were covered with weatherboarding and a tin roof was put on the cabin. The interior walls were covered with pine ceiling boards. In 1929 the kitchen was destroyed by fire.

In 1941 the Tennessee legislature appropriated funds to purchase the site and restore the only remaining home of the state's first governor. Little was done toward restoration until 1957 when a log caretaker's house was built. In 1961 and 1962 work continued on repair and restoration on the main building, including the replacing of some logs, rebuilding of the stone chimney and fireplace, repairing the floor and joists, and chinking and daubing the logs. A new roof of hand-riven shingles from a large white oak on the place was put on the cabin.

The two-story structure, made of pine logs, measures 20 feet by 24 feet, and consists of two rooms, one upper and one on the ground floor. A narrow stairway in the northwest corner leads to the upper quarters where a single window afforded light. The flooring is of native pine, and the rafters are made of pine poles.

The kitchen, rebuilt in 1963 according to the original dimensions, is 13 feet by 17 feet, and is constructed of oak logs obtained nearby. It is east of the main cabin, separated by a dogtrot, and has a lean-to built on the back. At the east end is a spacious hearth and fireplace. The stick chimney is of heart poplar, plastered with mortar.

Reconstructed outbuildings include a springhouse, smokehouse, and loomhouse. Future plans include the reconstruction of other outbuildings to restore the site to its original appearance when Sevier lived at Marble Springs.

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) 1790's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Marble Springs is significant because of its architecture, typical of the style of the early Tennessee frontier which is rapidly disappearing. Its primary significance, however, lies in the fact that it is the only remaining home of Tennessee's first governor, John Sevier, who occupies a place in importance second to none in the building of the state.

Sevier was born in the present Rockingham County, Virginia, on September 23, 1745. He attended the common schools of Fredericksburg and Staunton Academy. Appointed a captain of Colonial Militia by Governor Dunmore, he fought in some final battles of the French and Indian war under George Washington. In 1773 he settled on the Watauga in what is now East Tennessee and became a leader in the Watauga Association. He engaged in farming and various business ventures, when necessary foregoing all else to lead in warding off Indian attacks or rounding up militia to pursue the Indians after one of their frequent raids. He established such an invincible reputation that settlers and Indians alike developed an awesome respect for his military prowess. Historians record thirty-five Indian battles to his credit without a single defeat; all with a loss of only fifty-six men. As an organizer of the "Mountain Men" mustering at Sycamore Shoals, he was instrumental in the defeat of the British at King's Mountain on October 7, 1780. In recognition of his skill in battle, in 1791 President Washington appointed him Brigadier-General of the Washington District of the territory south of the River Ohio.

As illustrious and successful as it was, Sevier's military career was equaled, if not exceeded, by his civil and political services spanning over forty years. One of the commissioners of the original Watauga Association, his leadership was sought thereafter for virtually every official undertaking of the western settlers. He was elected governor of the short-lived state of Franklin, serving from 1785 to 1788 and, as the earliest representative from the Mississippi Valley, was sent to the first United States Congress by North Carolina. Upon the admission of Tennessee as the sixteenth state of the Union, Sevier was elected as its first governor and served for six terms, 1796-1801 and 1803-1809. After his gubernatorial service he became a member of the State Senate and later represented Tennessee for two terms in Congress until 1815.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gilmore, James R., John Sevier as a Commonwealth-Builder (New York, 1887).
 Ramsey, J.G.M., The Annals of Tennessee (Charleston, 1853).
 Rose, Norvell S., "John Sevier and Marble Springs," Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXIX (1970) No. 3, pp. 205-226.
 Turner, Francis M., Life of General John Sevier (New York, 1910).

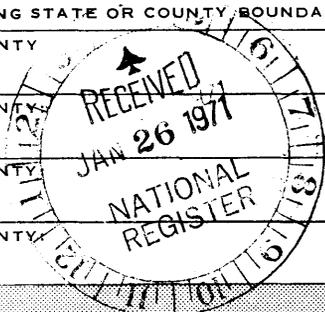
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		35 ° 53' 45 "	83 ° 52' 20 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 10

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



UTM
17/240750
3976040
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Herbert L. Harper, Director of Field Services

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 1/4/71

STREET AND NUMBER:
403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

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: Stephen S. Lawrence
 Title: Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission
 Date: 1/19/71

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

Ernest A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 MAY 6 1971

Date: _____

ATTEST:
William M. ...
 Keeper of The National Register
 APR 18 1971

Date: _____

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

8. Significance (cont.)

Sevier was appointed by President Madison to establish the boundary line between Alabama and the Creek Nation. He left Marble Springs June 10, 1815, became ill and died on September 24. He was buried near Fort Decatur, Alabama, and in 1889 his remains were moved to Knoxville and re-interred in the courtyard.

Marble Springs served as Sevier's home from 1790 to 1815, with the exception of the time spent in Knoxville while he was governor. It stands today as a visible memorial to one of Tennessee's most outstanding leaders.

