

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Carter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sabine Hill (Representative James H. Quillen)

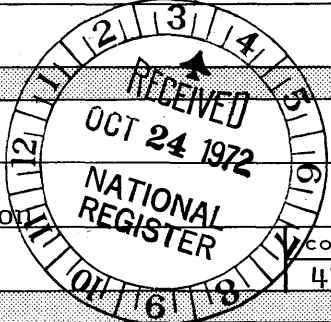
AND/OR HISTORIC:
"Happy Valley" "Watauga Point" KH 3/21/73

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
off Tenn. 67 Route #6

CITY OR TOWN:
Elizabethton

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47 COUNTY: Carter CODE: 019



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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
James L. Reynolds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route #6

CITY OR TOWN: Elizabethton STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Elizabethton 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:	Carter
ENTRY NUMBER	APR 11 1973
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Sabine Hill is located near Elizabethton on an eminence overlooking the Watauga or Happy Valley. It is a two-story clapboard house with exterior brick chimneys on each end and a stone foundation. Added to the main structure at an unknown date was the one-story wing having a large stone chimney. The openings are original, as is much of the glass in the nine-over-nine window panes. Early photographs, probably dating from the late nineteenth-early twentieth century, show the house without shutters; those now on the house were installed by the present owner. The front entrance is in the Classical Revival style with flat pilasters on each side supporting a carved pediment and with a fanlight over the door. The dentiling and carved cornice are still visible on the weathered back or east side of the house.

The main entrance hall is flanked on each side by a single room running the length of the house. None of the original woodwork can be seen in the room on the north, although traces of it may be under the new paneling. To the south side is the parlor, an untouched room with handsome details on the fireplace, wainscoting, and cornice. The paint colors appear to be original: the wood ceiling is a darkish blue; the dentiled cornice, chair rail, and window and door frames are cream; the walls are white plaster; and the wainscoting is red graining with gold line decoration outlining the panels. The mantel has been stripped to the natural wood, the only change in the room, which presently serves as a workshop.

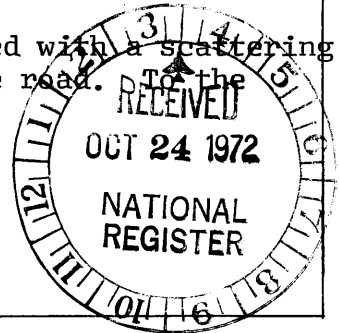
The staircase in the main entrance hall is simple. Determining the original room arrangement on the upper story is difficult. There are two well-executed mantels on this floor, one with a carved sunburst in the center.

The kitchen appears to have been in the wing, which now has two rooms, perhaps defining the kitchen from a dogtrot connecting to the main structure.

Early photographs, including those taken about 25 years ago when the current owner acquired the property, suggest that the house was virtually unchanged from the time it was built, circa 1814-1816, until very recently. It still retains much of its original character. The restoration of the house has been both good and bad, resulting from a lack of money and restoration knowledge coupled with a great enthusiasm and advanced carpentry skills.

The front yard of the property is simply landscaped with a scattering of trees making the house clearly visible from the road. To the rear of the structure are several sheds.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

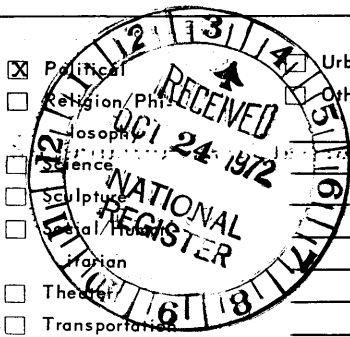
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <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

Not only is Sabine Hill one of the more architecturally interesting structures in upper east Tennessee, it is also associated with a major figure in the establishment of the area, General Nathaniel Taylor (1771-1816).

General Taylor's father, Andrew, and his family left Rockbridge County, Virginia, for the Watauga Valley in 1778, when Nathaniel was seven years old. By the time Nathaniel married Mary Patton in 1791, the Taylor estates in east Tennessee were extensive. General Taylor added to his father's estates, owning land to the south in Tennessee, to the north in southwestern Virginia, and as far west as the Mississippi River. His properties included coal and iron lands.

General Taylor was active in the governmental growth of east Tennessee. During the Territorial Period, he served as Justice of the Peace for Washington County, and when Carter County was organized in 1796, he was appointed to establish county boundaries. He also served as sheriff, and as a trustee of the Duffield Academy in Elizabethton. In 1804, he was elected a brigadier general and at the Battle of New Orleans, he commanded a regiment of Tennessee troops.

It is believed that Sabine Hill was built upon General Taylor's return from the south. He built it on a tract of about 3000 acres, covering a major part of "Happy Valley." Taylor died on February 20, 1816, supposedly before Sabine Hill was completed. He is buried in the family graveyard overlooking Sycamore Shoals.

General Taylor's descendants were also prominent in Tennessee history. His son, James P., was an Attorney General of the state. James' son, the Rev. Nathaniel Taylor was a minister, Congressman, and Commissioner of Indian Affairs under President Andrew Johnson. Rev. Taylor's sons were Robert Love and Alfred, both Tennessee Governors, who opposed each other for that office in the "War of the Roses."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

17/4020640

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical Directory of Tennessee General Assembly, 1796-1969. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Brandau, Roberta Seawell, History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee. (Nashville, the Parthenon Press, 1936).

Merritt, Frank, Early History of Carter County, 1760-1861. (Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society, 1950).

Williams, Samuel Cole, Brigadier General Nathaniel Taylor. (Johnson City, The Watauga Press, 1940).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	0	0	36	19	33
NE	0	0	82	16	10
SE	0	0			
SW	0	0			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **8**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Ellen Beasley**

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission** DATE: **10/11/72**

STREET AND NUMBER: **403 7th Avenue, North**

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville** 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: Michael J. Smith Title: Executive Director Date: 10/11/72

Tennessee Historical Commission

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/11/73

ATTEST: W. J. Montgomery
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4.3.73

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sabine Hill

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Carter

DATE RECEIVED: 12/24/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/07/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 73001755

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1-27-10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 1-27-10

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number boundary Page 1 Sabine Hill
Carter County, Tennessee

Boundary clarification

Sabine Hill was listed in the National Register on April 11, 1973 with an undefined 8 acre boundary. There was a *technical error* in the original boundary calculation for the nomination. The boundaries at that time were between 4 and 5 acres. The current boundary in the deed is 4.28 acres and the parcel number is 048G A 001.00. The State of Tennessee purchased the property on March 27, 2008, for use as a state historic site museum. This should be the corrected National Register boundary.

Elaboration

The parcel (048 103.00) to the southwest was developed in the 1930s as the Elizabethton Golf Course. The large 2.75-acre parcel to the east (048G A 002.00) features a 3,878 square foot Ranch-style home built in 1950. The smaller parcels to the south (048F A 009.00 thru 048F A 012.00) are part of a residential development adjacent to the golf course dating from circa 1950; the Ranch-style houses located directly behind Sabine Hill were constructed from 1955-1963. These are located along Hillrise Avenue, Golf Course Drive, and Sabine Street.

The northern boundary of the Sabine Hill parcel was formed by transportation facilities, including the ET&WNC Railroad (1880-1882) and State Route 67 (US 321), which apparently evolved from an old wagon road to an automobile road before 1910, connecting Elizabethton with Milligan College (est.1881). A separate concrete highway (State Route 91, Glanzstoff Highway) was built in the late 1920s connecting Elizabethton's rayon factories with Johnson City. These two highways (State Route 67 and State Route 91) intersected just northeast of Sabine Hill. The ET&WNC Railroad operated passenger service from 1882-1950 with a stop at the Watauga Point Station located northeast of Sabine Hill (the depot is gone, exact location is unknown, probably near the Fort Watauga Monument).

In the early 1970s, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) built a limited access 4-lane highway, using state funds, from this intersection to Johnson City, which required the acquisition of right-of-way from the northwest corner of the Sabine Hill parcel. TDOT constructed an elevated 4-lane bridge over the ET&WNC Railroad at the northwest corner of Sabine Hill's parcel. The old section of State Route 67 that ran in front of Sabine Hill was decommissioned. It is unknown what the precise boundaries of Sabine Hill were at this time or how large the right-of-way acquisition was.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number boundary Page 2 Sabine Hill
Carter County, Tennessee

The current 4.28-acre parcel includes the main house, two detached outbuildings, and landscaped yard.

Parcel research was completed by Robbie Jones of Parsons Brinckerhoff, Nashville.

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.

December 16, 2009

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., SHPO Tennessee Historical Commission

Date

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number boundary Page 3 Sabine Hill
Carter County, Tennessee

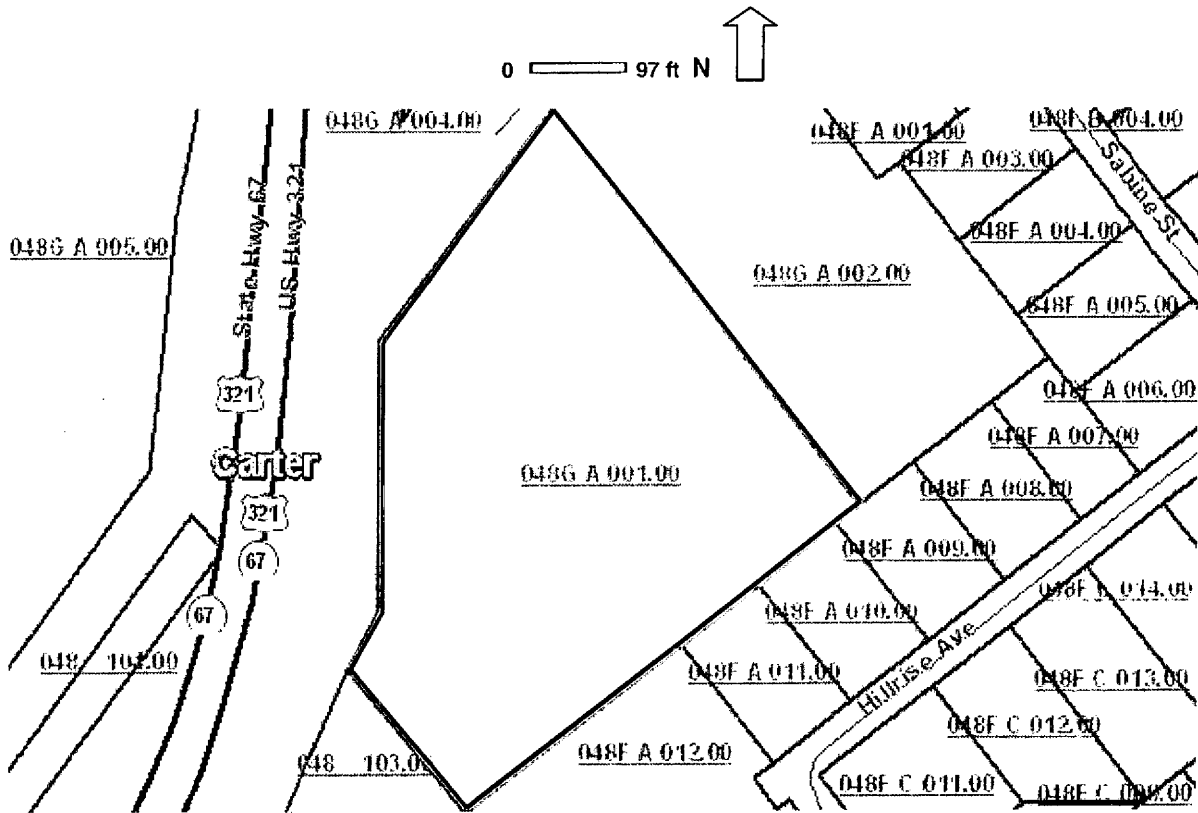


Sabine Hill boundaries and surrounding properties (dashed line is railroad line)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number boundary Page 4 Sabine Hill
Carter County, Tennessee



Sabine Hill tax map for boundaries