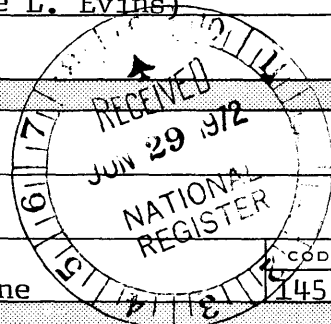


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Roane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 31 1972	DATE



1. NAME

COMMON:
Southwest Point (Representative Joe L. Evins)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Fort Southwest Point

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Kingston

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47 COUNTY: Roane CODE: 145

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant</u>
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Kingston

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Kingston STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Kingston 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: Roane

ENTRY NUMBER: JUL 31 1972

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

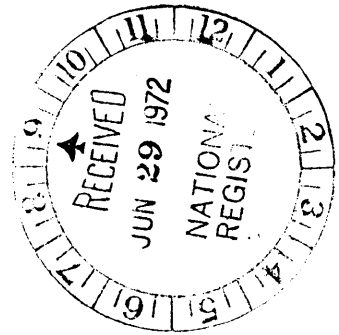
Fort Southwest Point, located at the junction of the Clinch and Tennessee rivers, just south of present day Kingston, was erected by General John Sevier in November, 1792. The fort, one of a series of similar fortifications located in the western section of what was then the State of North Carolina, and the Territory Southwest of the River Ohio, commanded an imposing position on a high hill overlooking the confluence of the two rivers. From this point a person can see one mile upstream on both rivers and over three miles downstream on the Tennessee River. The position was advantageous also because of the transportation facility of the waters and the availability of supplies by water from the east.

When the first blockhouse was being built, the militia troops dug a deep ditch leading to the nearby spring and covered it with logs, so that in the event of an Indian attack, the defenders of the blockhouse would have access to their water supply.

The blockhouses have long been gone, but there are still visible indentations that could be either the remains of foundations of the blockhouses or gun emplacements. It is hoped that archaeological work can soon be done on the site to determine what still remains from this early period.

At the present time the slopes of the hill are used by the City of Kingston for recreational facilities, but as yet the strategic top of the hill has not been disturbed and remains unused. Plans are being discussed for the restoration and preservation of the area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



3. SIGNIFICANCE

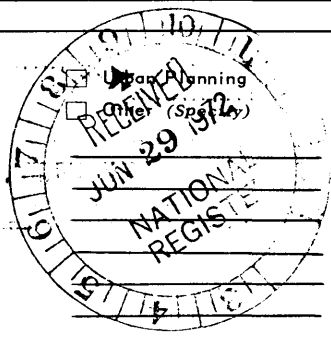
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" 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) **1792-1807**

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"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy
<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 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 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

Fort Southwest Point is one of the most important sites in Tennessee because of its prominence in the struggle between the white settlers and the Indians and the settlement of Middle Tennessee.

Following several years of treaty-making with the whites and increasing encroachments upon their lands, the Cherokees became more and more hostile in the early 1790's. As reports of hostilities mounted, Governor William Blount of the Territory Southwest of the River Ohio reacted by activating units of the territorial militia. General John Sevier was placed in command of these forces with instructions from the Secretary of War, through Blount, to operate cautiously and limit his troops to defensive measures. As Sevier departed Knoxville, both he and the enemy were aware of the strategic importance of the hill rising above the forks of the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers. Sevier, however, reached the site first and began to erect fortifications, completing the blockhouse in November, 1792.

The function of the fort proved to be two-fold. Founded by frontiersmen of the territorial militia to protect them and their homes from Indian depredations, the fort performed that function for about two years. Troops were used as escorts for settlers into the Cumberland area of what is now Middle Tennessee. Many instances of encounters with the Indians are recorded. The fort served as a refuge for whites attacked by Indians.

In 1794 a regular garrison of United States Army troops replaced the militia and remained at Southwest Point until its abandonment in 1807.

In 1796, Congress approved "An Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier." This act prohibited white settlement on Indian lands and authorized the use of military force to remove squatters. Thus, the fort during its latter years protected the Indians from the white man, providing something of a paradox. The dominant feature of the final years of the post's history is the work of the Cherokee Indian Agency located there after June, 1801. Colonel Return Jonathan Meigs, a distinguished veteran of the American Revolution, served as Indian agent, and under his leadership the Cherokee agency worked successfully to secure and maintain the government's goal of peace along the frontier, and troops stationed at the post assisted the Agent.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Banker, Luke H. "Fort Southwest Point to 1807," unpublished manuscript, 1972.

Haywood, John, The Civil and Political History of the State of Tennessee (Knoxville, 1823).

Knoxville Gazette, various dates, 1792.

Ramsey, J.G.M. The Annals of Tennessee (Philadelphia, 1853).

NW 16/72 2940/3971270
 NW 16/72 3280/3971340
 SE 16/72 3330/3971030
 SW 16/72 3000/3970950

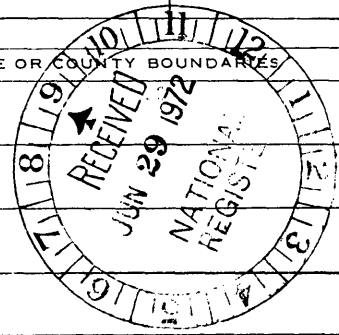
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	35° 51' 43"	84° 31' 51"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	35° 51' 46"	84° 31' 39"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	35° 51' 35"	84° 31' 37"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	35° 51' 32"	84° 31' 49"		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **27**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission** DATE: **June 5, 1972**

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. Amick Date: 7/31/72

Title: Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Comm.

Date: June 5, 1972

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

Robert H. Wiley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:
Spencerford
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/19/72

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Tennessee	
COUNTY Roane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 31 1972	

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (cont.)

Fort Southwest Point, therefore, played a most important part in the history of the Indian-White relationship in the settling of Tennessee, and deserves to be preserved as a reminder of this most important period of the state's history.

