

PH0364932

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 18 1977
DATE ENTERED AUG 12 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Goodnight House
Judge Isaac Herschel Goodnight and Mrs. Ella Hoy Goodnight House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
201 South Main Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Franklin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

2

STATE
Kentucky

CODE
021

COUNTY
Simpson

CODE
213

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

American Medical and Environmental Technology Inc. c/o Henry Broderson

STREET & NUMBER

613 South Main

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Simpson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE
Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Goodnight House, built in 1893, is located in the small town of Franklin, which is six miles north of the Kentucky-Tennessee line. It is situated on the southeast corner of Main Street and Madison Avenue. Main Street (U.S. Route 31W) follows the original Louisville-Nashville Turnpike.

The house is a two-story brick structure with a two-story brick ell extending off the center of the back of the main block. Two bays on the south end of the facade project forward under a pyramidal roof with a Flemish kick at the eaves. The front entrance, composed of double doors with the top portions filled with glass, is located in the second bay from the north end. A one-story Colonial Revival porch spans the front entrance and the north bay. The facade windows have single-pane sash with rusticated stone lintels and plain stone sills. The openings on the sides have single-pane sash with segmental brick arches above and stone sills below. A wooden cornice decorated with prominent modillions extends across the facade (see photo 1).

Interior brick chimneys interrupt the front roofline on the north and the south end; the latter is set at an angle behind the pyramidal roof, its position reflecting the corner chimneypieces of the interior. Chimneys are also spaced in the east wall of the main block and in the center of the east wall of the ell.

On the north side of the main block the two rear bays bow out under a shallow eave. The gable of the roof rises above it. Originally the gable was shingled, with a round arched window in the center. However, the surface has been covered with asbestos imitation brick paper. A one-story brick room was also added at a later date off the south side of the ell. In recent years a carport was built off the rear of the ell (see photos 2 and 3).

The front entrance of the house opens onto a hall-parlor with a large parlor off to the right. The mantel in the southeast parlor is composed of a frieze decorated with foliage and corner blocks with concentric circles with grooving radiating out from the circles. The end blocks are supported by inverted balusters. Above is a beveled mirror overmantel with delicate colonnettes and a foliage frieze, similar to the one below. Pearl molding outlines the sides of the overmantel, while rope molding decorates the top. Tile brick is set between the fireplace opening and the mantel (see photo 4).

The mantels in the upstairs rooms are plainer, having a simple shelf and a low beveled mirror overmantel. The only decoration is the foliage centered in the frieze and pearl molding around the inside of the mantel and mirror and some around the exterior (see photo 5).

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1893 BUILDER/ARCHITECT McDonald Brothers

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The late Victorian brick house, located in the town of Franklin, six miles north of the Kentucky-Tennessee state line, was built in 1893 by Judge Isaac Herschel Goodnight and his wife, Ella Hoy Goodnight. Judge Goodnight, a respected lawyer and politician, served as a State representative from 1877-1878, a United States Representative from 1889-1895, and as the circuit judge of the Kentucky 7th District from 1897-1901. Ella Hoy Goodnight, a musician and a supporter of the arts, designed and donated money and land for the construction of a public library and civic center, in memory of her husband, which became the focal point of the social and educational activities in the Franklin community.

Isaac Herschel Goodnight, born in 1849 in Allen County, Kentucky (just east of Simpson County), was the son of Isaac and Lucinda Billingsby Goodnight. Isaac Herschel Goodnight was reared on a farm and received his early education in the local schools. In 1870 he moved with his family to Franklin in Simpson County. Shortly after moving to Franklin, Goodnight attended Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee, where he studied literature and law. Upon graduation in 1873, he returned to Franklin, where he continued to study law and work as a deputy clerk until 1874, when he was admitted to the bar and began the practice of law.

In 1877, Goodnight was elected to the State house of representatives for one term, serving from 1878 to 1879. Ten years later, Goodnight was elected to the United States House of Representatives and served three terms from 1889 to 1895. During this time he also served as the chairman of the State Democratic Convention in Louisville in 1891. When Goodnight completed his last term in Congress in 1894, he returned to his law practice in Franklin. In 1897, Goodnight became judge of Kentucky's 7th Circuit Court District and held this position until his death in 1901. At the time of his death, he was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate.

Isaac Herschel Goodnight married Ella Hoy of Simpson County in 1879. Miss Hoy, born in 1857, was the only child of Captain Thomas Jefferson Hoy and Lucy Milliken Hoy. Ella Hoy Goodnight attended the Franklin schools, graduating from Franklin Female College in 1874, having received a formal education in art and music. Mrs. Goodnight continued her study of the fine arts in Washington, D. C., when her husband was serving as a United States Representative.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beach, Mrs. James, Sr. and James Henry Snider. Franklin and Simpson County: A Picture of Progress 1819-1975. Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe County Press, 1976.

Additional information from Frances Richards, Franklin, Kentucky.

Inland Architect. Vol. 21 (July 1893), p. 78.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6	5	3	7	7	0	0	4	0	6	3	8	0	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B

ZONE		EASTING			NORTHING		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mary Cronan Oppel, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

December 1, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky 40601

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Ebened W. Yelton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3/15/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Wm. M. ...

DATE

8/22/77

ATTEST:

Charles ...

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8-11-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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The staircase, which is toward the back of the front hall-parlor is a dog-leg variation with a lattice-work balister. The wide stringers are decorated with a row of raised circles placed in the center. The posts are capped with finials (see photo 6).

The original hardwood floors remain intact throughout the house, as do the interior wooden shutters.

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In 1896, when the Goodnights returned from Washington, they felt a need for a larger house, and built the present structure at the corner of Main Street and Madison Avenue, which had been the location of the Hoy family house. On a prominent site a block from the courthouse Square, the house is one of the more imposing and well-built turn-of-century residences in Franklin.

After the death of her husband in 1901, Mrs. Goodnight turned all of her attention on their only child, Hoy Goodnight. Tragically, however, her son was killed in 1913 by a stray bullet fired by an unknown person at a carnival. After this second great loss Mrs. Goodnight took several extensive trips abroad. On these trips she collected various items from every country, which were later displayed in the museum of the Goodnight library.

Because of her love for the arts, Mrs. Goodnight saw the need for a public library and civic center. In the 1920s she designed a building which included a library, an auditorium, a club room and a museum. Unfortunately, Ella Goodnight died in 1935 before her plans could be implemented. In her will, however, she provided for over \$30,000 for the construction of the building, allotted the ground for the location of the library, and donated two pianos for the auditorium. She also requested that it be named for her husband, Isaac Herschel. In addition to her bequest, a grant for the library was received from the Public Works Administration, which made the construction of the building in 1936, possible. The Isaac Herschel Goodnight Memorial Library is adjacent to the Goodnight House and continues to play a vital role in the Franklin community.

After the death of Mrs. Goodnight the house was sold and continued to be used as a residence, until recently. Although it is now vacant, a committee of concerned Franklin citizens has been formed to save the house for public use.

According to an item in the Inland Architect under the synopsis of building news, the designer of the Goodnight House was the McDonald Brothers, a prominent Louisville firm (Inland Architect, Vol. 21 (July, 1893), p. 78). The McDonald Brothers built several other structures in Franklin, including the Simpson County Courthouse (1882), the Franklin First Presbyterian Church (1886), and the Franklin Female College (1889).