

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 23 1977
DATE ENTERED	DEC 2 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

Turpin House

Philip O. and Mary Eleanor Butler Turpin House

AND/OR COMMON

Butler Mansion

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Butler State Park off Eleventh Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carrollton

__ VICINITY OF

4

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Carroll

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

__PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

__YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Kentucky Department of Parks

STREET & NUMBER

Capital Plaza Tower

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort

__ VICINITY OF

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Carrollton

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1975

__FEDERAL STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Turpin House is located on the western edge of the General Butler State Park, east of Carrollton. It lies on the crest of a hill and is surrounded by large trees. The lawn in front of the house gently slopes down to Eleventh Street, with the Kentucky River a mile beyond to the west.

The house constructed in 1859, is a three-bay two-story brick structure on a stone foundation. The brick is laid in common bond. Paired interior brick chimneys are located at the north and south ends of the block (see photos 1 & 3).

The front entrance, located in the center bay, is flanked by four pane sidelights and is sheltered by a one-bay one-story porch on stout square posts. The modillions and the row of dentils below, which form the cornice around the porch, reflects that of the facade. The fenestration of the house is composed of six-over-six pane sash openings with stone sills and lintels. A smaller four-over-four pane sash window is located in the peak of the gable ends. The wide cornice which extends across the facade, consists of brackets interposed with dentils (see photo 2).

In the interior, two rooms extend off each side of the central hall. The stairway, of dogleg plan, is placed on the north side of the central hall and has cherry balusters and handrail. The door and window moldings on the first floor are of the Greek "ear" design, while the trim above the second floor openings form segmental arches (see photos 5 & 7). The mantelpieces in all the rooms are simple Greek Revival with plain pilasters supporting an unadorned frieze. The original high baseboards remain intact throughout the house (see photo 6).

A one-and-a-half story stone kitchen is located several feet south of the main block. The structure, which was originally twice as long, is connected to the house by a roofed porch. The kitchen is now composed of one room with an interior stone chimney in the south wall (see photos 4 & 8). The many other outbuildings which composed the original complex are no longer extant.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Turpin house, located on a wooded hill facing the city of Carrollton and the Kentucky River, was built in 1859 by Philip O. Turpin and his wife, Mary Eleanor Butler. Built as a farmhouse, it is a late Greek Revival structure with Italianate influence, as reflected in the bracketed cornice. Both the Turpin house and land are associated with the members of the Butler family who, through their military and political leadership, achieved recognition on the local, state, and national level. Philip Turpin, a farmer of moderate wealth, built his residence near the site of the original Butler family house.

Philip Osborne Turpin, a native of Virginia, was born in 1808. Sometime prior to 1833 he moved to Gallatin County, Kentucky. In this year he was elected from Gallatin County to serve as a representative in the state legislature. He served a one-year term.

A few years later, Philip Turpin married Mary Eleanor (Ellen) Butler, the daughter of Thomas L. Butler. Thomas L. Butler (1789-1880), the oldest son of Percival Butler, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and returned to Carrollton in 1815. He was elected sheriff of Carroll County in 1819 and served to 1825. Butler also served in the state legislature in 1826 and again in 1847. He was an active and successful farmer as well (Armstrong, p. 127).

In 1859 Philip Turpin purchased from his wife's uncle, William O. Butler, several hundred acres of the Butler family homestead outside of Carrollton, which included the log house built by Percival Butler (1760-1821).* (See the General William O. Butler House, Carrollton, Carroll County, listed on the National Register May 28, 1976)

The same year, 1859, Turpin and his wife built the present brick house. Although characteristic of the Greek Revival period in massing and design, there is a slight Italianate influence in the bracketed cornice which extends across the facade. The interior woodwork is simple with Greek "ear" moldings. Altogether the house is a fine example of mid-19th century farmhouses in the state. (Although the house is now commonly known as the Butler mansion, it was referred to then as the Turpin farmhouse.) When the Turpin family moved into their new house, Thomas L.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

An Atlas of Carroll and Gallatin Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Company, 1883.

"General William Orlando Butler." Dictionary of American Biography, p. 371.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 6	6 5, 9 5, 9, 0	⁴²⁸¹ 4 2 8, 0 4 7, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

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 Opel, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

DATE

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

Eldred W. Meeter

TITLE

DATE

May 18, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 12/2/77
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charlotta [Signature]

DATE 11-30-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Philip O. & Mary Eleanor Butler Turpin House

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Butler was living with them. He continued to reside there until his death in 1880. Only a year after the completion of the house in 1861, Mary Eleanor Butler died.

In 1880 the farm and house was sold by Turpin to H. J. Whitehead. Philip O. Turpin died two years later. A contemporary biography, published in 1878 describes Turpin as being "an influential farmer of Carroll County" (Armstrong, p. 127).

After the property was sold in 1880, it passed through several hands until 1931 when the land was donated to the state of Kentucky for use as a park. The house was restored and opened to the public as a house museum.

*Percival Butler, a native of Pennsylvania, came to Kentucky in 1784. He had served under Generals Washington and Lafayette in the Revolutionary War. Percival Butler was one of the brothers who served in the Revolution of whom General Lafayette said "when he wanted something well done, he ordered a Butler to do it" (D.A.B., p. 371). He also served as the first Adjutant General of Kentucky, continuing in that position for almost twenty years. In 1796 Butler moved to the confluence of the Kentucky and Ohio Rivers at what is now Carrollton, Kentucky, where he constructed a two-story log house, which was located about 200 yards north of the Turpin House. The log house was destroyed by fire in 1863.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

"Report on the Structural Restoration and Construction, Butler Mansion and Grounds,"
for Herbert Evison, Region One National Park Service, 801 Grace Securities
Buildings, by Richard W. Herron.

The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky of the Dead and Living Men of the
Nineteenth Century. Cincinnati: J. M. Armstrong & Co., 1878.

CARROLLTON

PRECINCT CARROLL CO.

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

