

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED MAY 9 1975

DATE ENTERED JUN 18 1975

**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

Kincaid-Ausmus House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION *NE of Speedwell off*

STREET & NUMBER

TV
~~State Highway~~ 63

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Speedwell

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Claiborne

CODE

025

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Richard Welch

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Speedwell

VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Claiborne County Register's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Tazewell

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kincaid-Ausmus House is located on a dirt road about one mile southeast of Highway 63 in the Powell Valley. The house sits on a small knoll thus enhancing its antebellum grandeur.

A two-story brick built in the Federal style, the two story pillared porch was added during the late 1930's replacing a smaller one story porch. The house has retained its original "L" shape with the inner portion of the "L" now serving as a patio area. One elevation of the brick wall of the "L" has been painted white. In its early years the house settled on its north-east corner, but the settling apparently has not caused any structural damage and the gaps have been well pointed.

The house is different from other homes of similar vintage in the area because it has three doors in the front. Apparently this was part of the original design for the door going into the living room still shows the ax scars made by Union soldiers to gain entry into the house. The wood on the first floor still bears the imprint of their horses' hooves. The house was built just prior to the Civil War.

The present owners have sought to retain the antebellum integrity of the house. The rooms have been tastefully furnished and their original large dimensions retained. The only exception to this has been the widening of the opening from the back portion of the "L" to the main house. Also an iron spiral staircase has been added to the back portion of the house.

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1851

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kincaids were a major influence in Powell Valley, particularly just prior to the Civil War. John Kincaid was one of the first settlers in the Powell Valley arriving around 1800. His son, John Kincaid II, became a major slave and land owner. It has never been determined the source of John Kincaid II's wealth. It is known he minted his own money which contained more silver per ounce than the official U.S. currency. Tradition has it that he knew of a secret silver mine in Union County and thus secured his wealth from it. There are lead mines in Union County and apparently lead is often associated with veins of silver so there may be merit to the story.

It was John Kincaid II who commissioned all the existing antebellum brick homes in the Valley. The Kincaid-Ausmus home was built for John Kincaid II's son, John Kincaid III, in 1851. Slaves burned the brick and quarried the limestone base. There is excellent craftsmanship throughout, in the woodwork and particularly in the perfectly cut limestone.

The Kincaids were strongly for the South in the Civil War. John Kincaid III was a Captain and apparently lead renegade troops through the Valley after the war had ended. He was accused of killing a man named Vanbebber and thus had to flee with his family. He and his family died of cholera in Missouri.

When he left, John Kincaid III left his house to his brother Alvis. Alvis in turn sold the home to Jordan Longmire. Some of the older residents of the Valley still refer to the home as the Longmire Place. Around the turn of the century, William Ausmus acquired the house and its 150 acres. The property deteriorated under William Ausmus until his son, Frank, took charge. It was Frank Ausmus who added much of the present mechanical systems. Frank Ausmus died during the 1950's. The house is presently owned by the Welch family.

The Kincaid-Ausmus House is significant architecturally as one of the few antebellum houses in the Powell Valley. It is also important because of its connection with the Kincaid family, among the first and most influential settlers in the Powell Valley.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

LaFollette Press, April 9, 1970 and July 1, 1971.

Interview with Col. Edgar A. Holt, Claiborne County Historian.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9

NO UTM
HM

UTM REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jon Coddington, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

East Tennessee Development District

DATE

6-21-74

STREET & NUMBER

1810 Lake Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Knoxville

STATE

Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Lauren [Signature]

5/5/75

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]

DATE

6/18/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

[Signature]

DATE JUN 17 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Grid tick marks are not located on the Ausmus quadrangle. The latitude and longitude coordinates of the Kincaid-Ausmus House are:

Latitude
36° 29' 44"

Longitude
83° 48' 15"