

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Tennessee</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Robertson</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>OCT 2 1973</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Glen Raven (Representative Richard Fulton)**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Glen Raven**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Sw of Cedar Hill on Washington Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Cedar Hill *vic***

STATE <b>Tennessee</b>	CODE <b>47</b>	COUNTY: <b>Robertson</b>	CODE <b>147</b>
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**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 type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered 	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No 
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ 

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**G. S. Moore and Son**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Washington Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Cedar Hill**

STATE:  
**Tennessee**

CODE:  
**47**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Robertson County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Springfield**

STATE:  
**Tennessee**

CODE:  
**47**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

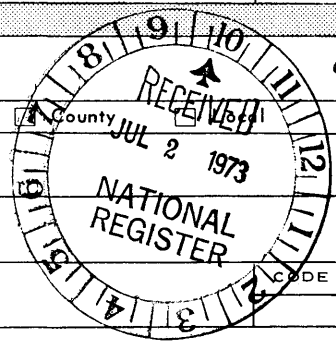
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



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ENTRY NUMBER: <b>001 2</b>
DATE: <b>1973</b>

FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

In 1893 Jane Washington Ewing inherited the Glen Raven tract from her father, George Augustine Washington. In 1897 she and her husband, Felix Grundy Ewing began the construction of the Glen Raven mansion. It was not completed until 1902.

Glen Raven is a three story house with a full basement. It is primarily Victorian in style. The white clapboard siding is constructed of yellow poplar which was cut from the land. The roof is multi-gabled, especially by the many alcoves on the third floor. The windows have elaborate wood trim, and there are several bay window areas in the house. There are massive stone columns at the front entrance. Smaller columns support lesser entrances on each side and at the rear and also for the base of the porch which extends across the front and half way down the sides of the house. These stones were quarried on the farm and the bricks used for the basement and foundation were also made there.

The Glen Raven mansion was of massive proportions. It had twenty-four rooms and ten baths. A ballroom covered the whole third floor. The interior construction was lavish. The interior wood trimming included oak, cherry, and walnut, all cut from the land. Expensive tapestries were often used for wall paper and a hand-painted French hunting scene graced the wall above the six foot chair rail in the dining room.

There were wood burning fireplaces in almost every room at Glen Raven. An elevator was installed to aid in distributing fuel to the upper floors. A duct system was built into the house but a furnace was never installed. The house did have its own battery operated telephone system with extensions in every room. The light fixtures throughout the mansion could be powered by either electricity or gas.

The lavish proportions of the Glen Raven estate did not end with the big house. The estate had its own church and school, post office, store, mill and tenant houses. The tenant houses were one and a half story white clapboard with unusual hipped tin roofs. Many of these are still in excellent condition and used by the present tenants. A white clapboard carriage house with a similar hipped tin roof remains in good condition. It now houses farm equipment instead of carriages.

The church and school were housed in a single white clapboard building. An Episcopal priest was brought from Nashville periodically to conduct services. The school was run under the auspices of the Robertson County Board of Education and had up to eighty pupils at one time or another. Most of these children lived on the estate. In 1934 the church and school building was dismantled.

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7. DESCRIPTION (cont.)

The store was located on the main road that passed through the Glen Raven estate. It was a red brick structure with a wooden porch across the front. The post office, which was in operation from 1896 until 1910, was also located in the store. Across the road from this building was the meal and flour mill. It was a two story clapboard structure with a one story front porch. The mill was run by electricity which was generated by a power house on the creek behind it.

A bell tower behind the big house remains in good condition. The bell was rung as a signal during the early days of the estate. A pavilion house which was built on the bluffs above the creek no longer remains.

Most of the structures on the Glen Raven estate are well preserved. The mill and store are in fair condition, but the other structures are in excellent condition and are still in use.



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7. DESCRIPTION (Cont.)

Surviving original buildings include, besides the main house, several barns, a clapboard mill, store building, carriage house, and approximately forty two-story clapboard tenant houses. The original church and school building was moved. Today insurance inventories list 101 buildings on the 2,500 acre farm.



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

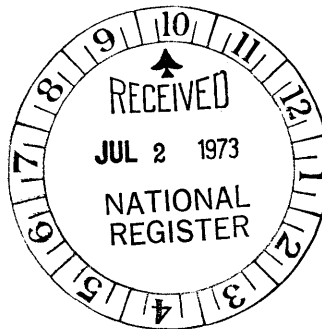
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Glen Raven estate is significant as it represents an attempt to form a self-contained economic unit at such a late period in history, circa 1900. Felix Grundy and Jane Washington Ewing were determined to build their own empire. They lived very well for a while, but they could not make the Glen Raven estate profitable. In 1935 Mr. and Mrs. Ewing became bankrupt and lost their beloved estate. They spent the remainder of their lives in relative poverty in a downtown Nashville hotel. Although no one building has particular architectural significance, the collection forms an interesting study of late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures as built in a rural area of Middle Tennessee.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Holman, Catherine and Jean Durrett. Historic Robertson County. Robertson County Board of Education. p.15.

Winters, Ralph L. Hospitality Homes and Historic Sites in Western Robertson County. Privately Printed, Clarksville, 1971. p. 38-66.

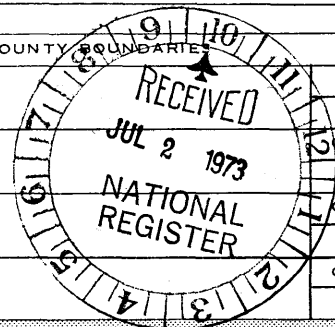
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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
NW	36°	32'	18"	87°	04'	40"			
NE	36°	32'	18"	87°	03'	39"			
SE	36°	31'	29"	87°	03'	39"			
SW	36°	31'	29"	87°	04'	40"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **550**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. Linda O'Neal**

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission**      DATE: **6-15-73**

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  
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date: 6-28-73

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

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

Date: 10/2/73

ATTEST:

Wm. Stewart  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 9.28.73

NW 16/4943000  
 4043450  
 CD  
 NE 16/494520/4043440  
 SE 16/494520/4041920  
 SW 16/493000/40411940  
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COUNTY Robertson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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8. SIGNIFICANCE (Cont.)

Glen Raven was built as a self-contained plantation-type operation on 2,500 acres of good agricultural land. A mill on the farm, a store, school and church and separate electrical and telephone system were all a part of the attempt to operate a self-sufficient farm for forty tenant families as well as the owners and numerous guests.

