

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only  
received JUN 31 1980  
date entered JUL 2 1980

**1. Name**

historic Wyatt Hall

and/or common same

**2. Location** U.S. 31

street & number Route 5, U.S. 31  not for publication

city, town Franklin vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 6

state Tennessee code 37064 county Williamson code \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name William Hubert Wyatt and wife Margaret Early Wyatt

street & number Route 5, U.S. 31

city, town Franklin vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Tennessee 37064

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Williamson County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Franklin state Tennessee 37064

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title \_\_\_\_\_ has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

Wyatt Hall is located on an 11.15 acre portion of the original Major Anthony Sharp and David McMahon land grant about one mile north of the City of Franklin on Highway U.S. 31, which is also known as the Nashville-Franklin Turnpike. It is within close proximity to two Williamson County landmarks known as Roper's Knob, a prominent hill which was the site of a large Civil War earthwork used as a center for message relay, and the McEwen cabin, which is considered to be the oldest structure in the county built ca. 1798 on Spencer Creek.

The house is situated on a pronounced rise approximately 150 feet from the highway and is approached by a short driveway leading from the road to the front yard, which slopes south toward the road from the house. A low stone wall encloses Wyatt Hall and the yard is shaded by persimmon, maple, and magnolia trees and planted with boxwood and ivy. The original spring used by settlers and travellers between Nashville and Franklin continues to serve Wyatt Hall.

Wyatt Hall was constructed in the Federal style typical of early nineteenth century Tennessee architecture. Although the exact builder is not known, the period of construction dates ca. 1800-1810. The house, remaining much the same as it was when completed, is a two story, rectangular-shaped brick building which rests on a rough cut limestone foundation. An exterior brick chimney stands at each end of the low gable roof, which is covered with composition shingles. A one story section the full depth of the house is attached by a breezeway which has since been enclosed to serve as the dining room. The two rooms of this dependency were originally used as a kitchen and smokehouse and are served by a central double fireplace. A small, frame porch is attached to the rear of the kitchen.

The facade, which is laid with bricks in the Flemish bond pattern, is a symmetrical five bays wide and comprised of two 9/9 light windows on each side of a central door on the first story. Like windows are situated on the second story above each structural opening of the first story. The windows are framed by flat brick radiating voussoirs, flat wood sills, and wood louvered shutters. A multi-lighted transom tops the single leaf central door.

Both the west and east side elevations have no structural openings. The rear, or north, elevation is finished in the same manner as the facade, except the central door has no transom, the windows lack shutters, and the window located directly left of the door has been cut into a doorway and partially bricked in from the top of the single-leaf wood door to the flat brick radiating voussoirs. The latter is evidently an early alteration, for the masonry is matched extremely well. The brick pattern on all elevations other than the facade is common bond.

Seven bays comprise the front or south elevation of the one story section of Wyatt Hall, beginning at the left with three sash windows, then a single-leaf glazed door over which hangs a composition shingle awning supported by wood posts, then two windows, and ending at far right with a screened, single-leaf wood door. No structural openings are found on the end or east side elevation of this section of the building. Three doors alternate with two windows to comprise the rear elevation of this section. However, all openings except for the window and door leading from the enclosed breezeway are concealed from exterior view by the small, frame porch addition.

Wyatt Hall's interior retains its fine staircase and woodwork. Its staircase is U-shaped with a rectangular landing and is located in the central hall which divides two rooms on each story. Beautifully detailed, original Federal mantles are located in each of the four rooms and an unusual book and dentil motif is used on the parlor mantle. Target molding frames the doorways and original chair rails and single-leaf, four-panel wood doors remain in the first floor rooms. Poplar floors 1½ inches in depth remain intact as well.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED	JUN 3 1980
DATE ENTERED	JUL 2 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Two log structures which have been moved to the site are located in the rear garden. Although they have no historical association to Wyatt Hall, they date at least to the early nineteenth century and remain as good examples of half-dovetail log pens. Presently, one is used as a smokehouse and the other as a guest 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 checked="" 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** ca. 1800-1810

**Builder/Architect**

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The 11.15 acres surrounding Wyatt Hall were part of a twenty-nine acre land grant one mile north of Franklin to Major Anthony Sharp and David McMahon. The construction of Wyatt Hall dates ca. 1800-1810, although the builder is not known. In 1826 a tanner named Daniel Youngman and Dr. W. Y. Dickinson acquired the property. Dickinson sold his interest in 1833 to Youngman who three years later sold the property to William Hardeman. Hardeman was a member of the Nicholas Perkins family who settled in Williamson County between 1810 and 1840 and built several substantial Federal style houses in the vicinity of Wyatt Hall and the Harpeth River in the western portion of the county.

In 1847 Wyatt Hall was sold by the Hardeman family to retired Methodist Bishop Joshua Soule, who in The Story of Methodism by Lubbock and Hutchison is regarded as ". . . probably the most influential interpreter of Methodist law the church has ever known." At the 1846 general conference at Petersburg, Virginia, Soule was considered an influential force in the establishment of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It was after this conference that he resided for several years in Williamson County, making Wyatt Hall his home.

From 1852 until 1856 the house was occupied by another Methodist minister, Reverend John Wesley Hanner, at which time the Tennessee/Alabama Railroad was located near the east corner of the house. The location of the railroad near Wyatt Hall proved useful for passing soldiers during the 1860's when an upstairs room may have been occupied by General Earl VanDorn. His name is written in pencil on the plaster wall, which is now papered, on the south side of the second floor east room. After the Battle of Franklin, the property was used as a Federal ammunition commissary. Numerous artillery, cannonball, and miniball have been unearthed by the present owners in certain garden spots in the yard.

The house was purchased from Mrs. Henry Cannon in 1946 by W. H. Wyatt and his wife, Margaret Early Wyatt, who then began a faithful restoration of the house. Wyatt Hall stands practically unaltered as a fine example of early Federal architecture. As such, and because of its associations with social and religious leaders, Wyatt Hall remains an important reminder of the history of Williamson County.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Hutchinson, Paul and Halford E. Lubbock. The Story of Methodism, Methodist Book Concern, 1926.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 8.4 acres

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Quadrangle name Franklin

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

A 

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5	1	2	9	6	0
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3	9	7	7	0	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the Wyatt Hall nomination are shown as the red line on the accompanying Williamson County property assessor's map #63. The boundaries follow the legal property description and are visually formed by the highway to the west and the railroad to the east.

### 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 John E. McGaw

organization Independent Researcher date March, 1980

street & number 3803 Brighton Road telephone (615) 269-4190

city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37205

## 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Michael L. Hoyle

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 5/29/80

**For HCRS use only**

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

John W. Ray Luce date 7/2/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristin O'Connell date 7/1/80  
Chief of Registration

Williamson County Property Tax  
Assessment Map #63 - Parcel 29.00

