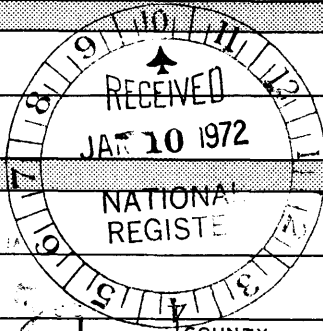


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Tennessee</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Bedford</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>APR 14 1972</b>	DATE



**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Martin House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Route #1**

CITY OR TOWN: **Wartrace**

STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47** COUNTY: **Bedford** CODE: **003**

**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	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **Mr. and Mrs. Walker W. Isom**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Rt. #1**

CITY OR TOWN: **Wartrace** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **047**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER: **Court House**

CITY OR TOWN: **Shelbyville** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **047**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Tennessee**

COUNTY: **Bedford**

ENTRY NUMBER: **APR 14 1972**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

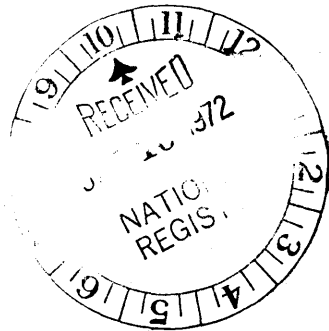
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two-story brick house of federal style was built in 1809 and has undergone few changes since. The bricks were made on the place and the house has walls that are eighteen inches thick. The solid wall remains between the upstairs bedrooms dividing the boys and girls quarters. The house originally had two front doors which opened into each of the two front rooms; in recent years as main roads changed, the original front of the house has become the side in relation to the road. These doors have been bricked up partway and made into windows.

The house has two large chimneys with four fireplaces, one in each of the four main rooms. The house has a very simple floor plan with no hall but two large rooms below and two above. An attached spinning room as a one-story ell still remains intact and an addition has been made providing for the present kitchen. Although it is a simple floor plan, the building was pretentious with its solid cherry woodwork and wrought iron hinges, dentil work under the eaves, and flemish bond brick work. The original kitchen and smokehouse were located in a separate building from the house and have been razed.

With the exception of changing the front doors to windows and the addition of a small kitchen of asbestos shingles, the integrity of the house has been preserved. All original hardware, woodwork, ash floors, chairrails and mantles remain. Some repair has been made to brick work on exterior, but eight generations of the Martin family have owned and lived there since it was built.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1809**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

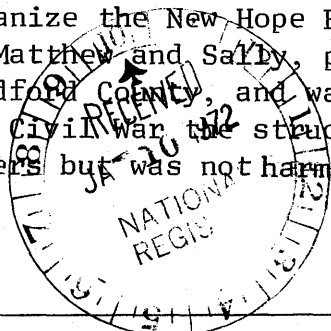
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant because it was built very early, is one of the few old houses remaining in the county, and has stood through the years as a monument to the prominent family who settled in Bedford County and built it. Although it is no architectural gem, it is important as an example of the simple federal house as built in Middle Tennessee very early. It has been owned and inhabited by eight generations of the Martin descendants who have populated Bedford County and have been leading citizens as were their early forefathers, Barclay and Matthew Martin.

This historic house was built in 1809 in a rural area of Bedford County only one year after the county was organized. Two brothers, Barclay and Matthew Martin, came to Tennessee in 1807 with their wives following the American Revolution. Barclay and Matthew were from South Carolina and both participated in the war serving under George Washington where Barclay was made colonel and Matt served as captain. Following the war they received a land grant in Kentucky, but hearing of the Tennessee land, they moved here and bought between 2500 and 5000 acres of land between Fairfield and Beech Grove. The brothers married sisters, Rachel and Sally Clay of Kentucky, cousins of Henry Clay. Matthew and Sally produced 13 children while Barclay and Rachel had none.

Shortly after coming to Tennessee the brothers helped to organize the county and its first government. Col. Barclay served in the Tennessee General Assembly from 1813 until his death in 1815.

The brothers and their families contributed largely to the growth and development of Bedford County both civically and religiously. The family helped organize the New Hope Baptist Church which still stands. Matt, the son of Matthew and Sally, practiced law in Shelbyville, county seat of Bedford County, and was made a colonel in the Confederate Army. During the Civil War the structure housed both Union and Confederate soldiers but was not harmed by the armies.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Clippings from Shelbyville papers.  
Doors to the Past, published by Bedford County Historical Society,  
 1969  
 D.A.R. papers on Matthew and Barclay Martin.

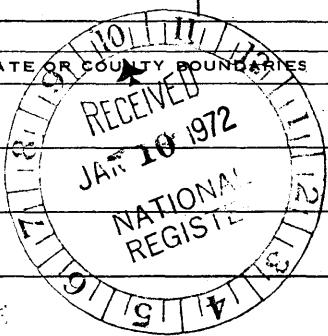
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		35 0 35	86 50 15	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **8**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
May Dean Eberling -- Director of Programs

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 1/4/72

STREET AND NUMBER:  
403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

**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 Herbert L. Harper  
 Title Director of Field Services  
Tennessee Historical Commission  
 Date 1/4/72

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/14/72

ATTEST:  
William J. Cloutier  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date APR 14 1972

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Tennessee	
COUNTY Bedford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 14 1972

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

The house still serves as the central residence on a farm of much smaller size than the original purchase. The graves of its builders are nearby the house in a family plot which has been preserved and marked by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

