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7. DESCRIPTION								
(Check One)								
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CONDITION		(Check O	ne)			(Che	ck One)	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cleveland Hall was built in 1839-40 by Stockley Donelson on part of a land grant given to the family. It has been in the Donelson family since it was built.

The house sits back a short distance from Old Hickory Boulevard in the midst of ancient red cedars that lined the drive when the house was built. Its architecture is of the Federal style with a one-story Greek portico having four fluted Doric columns, typical pediment, and triglyphs on the frieze. It is rectangular in shape with a kitchen ell and rear wood porch. Above the two main floors is an open half-story storage space. There are two chimneys at each end, connected by a brick wall.

The <u>bricks</u> used in the building were made on the place, and the stone for the foundation was also quarried on the place. The porch floor is made of large square stones. The bricks are laid in <u>Flemish bond on the front and in American bond on the end</u> walls of the house.

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The front entrance leads into a wide hall which has a partition separating the front and back halls. In the back hall are winding stairs leading to the hall above, and from there a narrow stair continues up to the attic. On the first floor are the dining room and parlor with folding doors between, and also having folding doors opening into the hall. Across the hall are two bedrooms, one of which opens onto the back porch. On the second floor are four bedrooms and a library. The downstairs ell was the kitchen and pantry. The kitchen had a large open fireplace with a stone hearth extending almost to the center of the room. This area has undergone recent remodeling.

The fine interior yellow poplar woodwork is original, as are the floors, which are poplar except those in the entrance which are white ash. The hardware is also original.

Back of the house is a <u>brick smokehouse</u> built in 1910, replacing an earlier one. Several hundred yards back of the house remains a <u>slave cabin built</u> of <u>cedar logs</u>, the last of several such buildings which once were there.

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SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	(ppropriate)		
🔲 Pre-Columbian	16th Century	🔲 18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	🗙 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) 1839		
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			111111

Cleveland Hall is significant and worthy of preservation not only because of its architectural value as a fine example of early architecture in Tennessee, but also because of its connection with the Donelson family.

Colonel John Donelson, grandfather of Stockley Donelson, builder of Cleveland Hall, was one of the earliest settlers of Middle Tennessee. In 1779 two expeditions set out from the Watauga settlement in East Tennessee for what is now Nashville. James Robertson, known as the founder of Nashville, led the overland expedition composed of men, goods, and some horses and other livestock. This expedition proceeded through the Cumberland Gap and Kentucky, then south into what is now Tennessee. The other party, led by Colonel Donelson and composed of a flotilla of about forty boats carrying the women and children and most of the household goods, embarked on a voyage down the Holston and Tennessee Rivers, and up the Ohio and Cumberland River to. the present Nashville. Among the passengers was his daughter, Rachel, who was to become the wife of Andrew Jackson.

Captain John Donelson, son of Colonel John Donelson and father of Stockley Donelson, was a soldier and a surveyor and was prominent in the early settlement of the Nashville area. He built in 1804 a large log house called the Mansion near the site of Cleveland Hall. Here Stockley Donelson was born.

Cleveland Hall is built near the Hermitage, and <u>Andrew Jackson</u> was often a visitor there. When Stockley married Phila Ann Lawrence, an elegant dinner was given by General Jackson.

Stockley was a lawyer and a planter, very influential in the area. He remained a close friend of Jackson's and helped to attend to some of Jackson's business affairs while Jackson was in Washington. The Donelson family has remained a prominent family in the area.

Aiken, Leona T., <u>Donelson, Tennessee</u> (Nashville,1968). Burke, Pauline W., <u>Emily Donelson of Tennessee</u> (Richmond, 1941) Walton, Emily D., <u>Autobiography of Emily Donelson Walton</u> (Nashville, 1942).	
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Nashville Tennessee STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION	047
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-	
tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law	in the
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion National Register.	
in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set	
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