

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Union
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 4 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
Baite Ousley House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1 1/2 mi. SW of Tazewell, N of Norris Lake on
Big Valley Road

CITY OR TOWN: ~~Sharps Chapel~~ Tazewell via. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47 COUNTY: Union CODE: 173

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"/> 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"/> 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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Baite Ousley

STREET AND NUMBER: Big Valley Road

CITY OR TOWN: Sharps Chapel STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER: Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Maynardville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

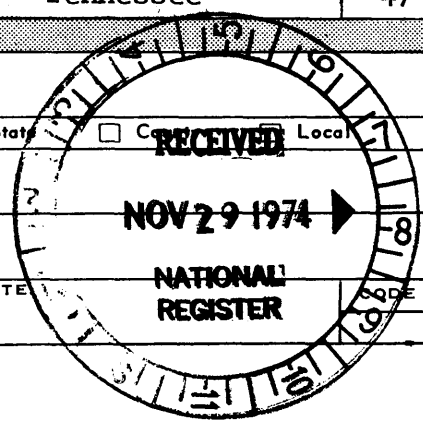
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Union
ENTRY NUMBER	MAR 4 1975
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Baite Ousley house sits at the end of a country dirt road in Union County. Norris Lake, the first TVA built lake, can be seen from the house. The house, built in the Federal style around 1840, is the largest and oldest ante-bellum brick in the county. It consists of 14 rooms excluding the basement. With the exception of two partition walls upstairs, the rooms have retained their original dimensions. The woodwork and mantels over the fireplaces are also original. The upstairs floors are of pine, 10" wide, the downstairs floors are oak about 3" wide. A second kitchen floor has been added. The original kitchen was in the basement where the slaves made meals from a large walk-in oven. The fireplaces on the home's south side have been blocked off to conserve heat which is now provided by a gas furnace. The house was wired in 1937 just after TVA started providing power to the area. Indoor plumbing was added in the early 1930's prior to TVA.

The house originally had a front porch extending the entire width of the house. However, this was replaced upon deterioration by a smaller entry porch in the early 1940's. The enclosed back porch, which fills in a portion of the "L" of the house, was added 10 years ago. The back wall of the house began to bow out and has been buttressed by concrete blocks, done in 1958.

The grounds contain two barns and a brick springhouse. The grounds are graced with large maple, white oak and cypress trees. To the rear of the house rise the Big Ridge Mountains.

Presently the house needs some attention. Bricks need to be pointed, particularly over several window lintels. On the inside some plaster walls need mending and a few ceilings show waterspots. The present owner lives alone in the 14 room house.



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)

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 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

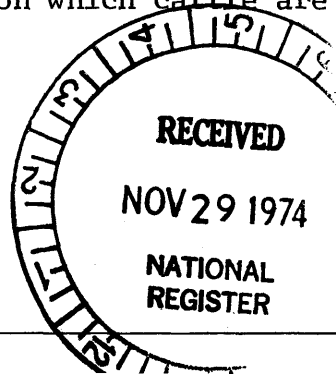
The Ousley house's primary significance is that it is one of three ante-bellum brick homes left in the county. Union County is one of the poorer counties in East Tennessee, both materially and historically. Much of the county's richer farmland, that which was farmed by the first settlers, has been inundated by TVA's Norris Dam project. The county has steadily lost population causing discontinuity of the area's traditions and sense of community. It is in this perspective the significance of the Ousley Home should be viewed.

The Ousley house has continually served as a farm home for its owners. Most of the material for the home was taken from the site. The bricks were burned and set by slaves and the stone lintels were quarried from the property. Much of the wood in the house is also from the property. The oak joists were hewed by the slaves.

The house was built by Jake Sharp, who was a farmer, store owner, and Methodist preacher. The original tract was 550-600 acres. It was after the Sharp family that Sharp's Chapel was named. Jake Sharp eventually moved to Jefferson County where he built a similar home. Alf Stodley owned the house for 8-10 years until Jake Ousley bought it in 1874. Jake Ousley was Baite Ousley's father. Baite Ousley is 92 years old and still actively farming the land.

Prior to the coming of Norris Lake the house was a stopping off place for loggers who were floating their logs down to Chattanooga. The home was also a "social center" with dances and picnics held on the front yard. Today TVA owns water rights up to 8' in the house. However, only once has flood water reached the front yard. The farm now comprises about 300 acres on which cattle are raised.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. Baite Ousley, owner of the property.

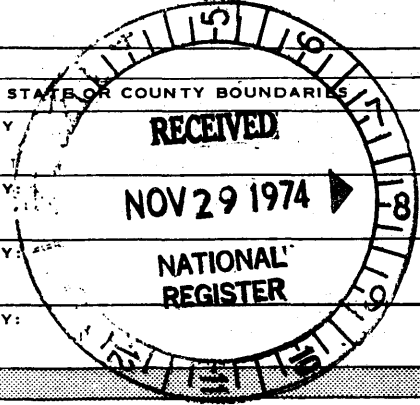
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		36 ° 19' 05 "	83 ° 51' 15 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO
UTM
HM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jon Coddington

ORGANIZATION: East Tennessee Development District DATE: 4-30-74

STREET AND NUMBER: 1810 Lake Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Lauren [Signature]

Title: Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date: 11/22/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/4/75

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2.25.75