

**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

**1. Name**

historic Walling, Joseph Daniel House

and/or common Same as above

**2. Location**

street & number Southeast corner of River Cliff Rd and Old Viola Rd, \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town McMinnville \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Tennessee code 047 county Warren code 177

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Thomas Leighton Walling, Jr.

street & number P.O. Box 329

city, town McMinnville \_\_\_ vicinity of state Tennessee 37110

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Warren County Courthouse

street & number

city, town McMinnville state Tennessee 37110

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1977 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission, 4721 Trousdale Drive

city, town Nashville state Tennessee 37219

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Joseph Daniel Walling House is located at the southeast corner of River Cliff Road and Old Viola Road. Built around 1860, on a hill above the Barren Fork River, the house faces north toward the town of McMinnville. In the mid 1940's a portion of the hill on the west side of the house was cut away to construct Highway 55 North. Two very old elm trees are on the property as well as cedar and poplar. During the years 1968 through 1979 the house, which is now being renovated, sat vacant.

The Walling House is a representative example of Greek Revival Period architecture in Warren County. Two stories in height, the brick structure rests on a hand hewn stone foundation. Brick laid in the common bond pattern was made on the property and sand for the mortar came from the river in front of the house. The L-shaped structure has a gable roof and end chimneys.

The most dominant feature of the three-bay wide house is the two-stage pedimented portico. Two freestanding and two engaged posts support each stage of the portico. The upper porch features a latticework balustrade. Entrances on both the upper and lower levels have narrow sidelights and rectangular transoms with heavy wood molded frames separating them from the main doors. Double paneled doors are found on the first floor and a single paneled door on the second floor. The windows have wood lintels and for the most part are double hung, sash with six over six lights. Two double hung windows (one on the rear elevation and one opening into the enclosed porch) are six over nine lights and may be examples of the original windows.

A one story gable roofed ell with a central chimney extends along the southeast side of the main structure. The porch, which runs along the west side of the south side of the house, was enclosed with clapboard siding ca 1920. A trap door in the porch floor leads to a cold cellar. It was probably at this time that two windows on the east side of the ell were opened as doors. The original wood lintels were retained and two light rectangular transoms added. A small rectangular window was cut into the second floor (southwest side) at this time. In 1979 a small frame addition with vertical siding was added to the rear of the ell. A kitchen and bathroom for use during the renovation of the main structure was incorporated into the addition.

The interior has the central hall floor plan typical of the Federal and Greek Revival Periods in the south. During a remodeling in 1905 the original flooring in the three rooms on the first floor was replaced with narrow board flooring. The chestnut staircase in a variation of a dog-leg was also installed at this time. Interior doors are two-panel with rectangular transoms. Despite the years the house was vacant most of the original hardware and mantels remain.

The buildings included within the boundaries of the nominated property are a smokehouse, barn, silo and garage. The smokehouse, built on a stone foundation ca 1860, is a small brick structure with a gabled metal-covered roof located behind and southwest of the ell. A wood lean-to has been attached to the rear wall of the smokehouse. The two-car frame garage (southeast of the ell) was probably built by John Pitson around 1905. Mr. Pitson was the builder of the barn and silo in 1905. A stone foundation supports the frame vertical board barn with metal covered gable roof. Wood piers support the open lean-to on the west side of the barn. Located near the northeast corner of the barn is the circular concrete silo.

## 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 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 checked="" 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 1860

Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Joseph Daniel Walling was born in White County, Tennessee on June 11, 1818. His family moved from Virginia to White County around 1811. On February 13, 1845, J. D.'s father, Thomas Daniel, purchased six tracts of land in Warren County which he transferred to his son three months later on May 25, 1845. The same year Joseph Daniel purchased an additional fifty acres of land in Warren County. By 1850 Joseph Daniel and his parents were living in Warren County and owned 900 acres of farm land. On November 24, 1854, Joseph Daniel, now 36 years old, married 19 year old Harriet LaBonnie Green of Warren County.

Isaac Carter sold the 112 acres where J. D. Walling built his house around 1855. The house was completed ca 1860 and the Wallings moved in with their three young sons; Smith Joseph, Thomas Dillard, and John. J.D.'s mother, Nancy, then 80 years old, was living with her son at the time of the 1860 U. S. Census.

Joseph Daniel Walling farmed several different tracts of land and served as Warren County Magistrate for a short time. In 1874 he and five other men organized the First National Bank and in January 1882 was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The 1880 Agricultural Census of Warren County lists the cash value of the Walling House tract at \$5,000. One hundred five acres of the one hundred twelve acre tract was planted in corn which yielded 2000 bushels. Joseph Daniel also planted oats and wheat in addition to 250 apple trees that yielded fifty bushels of apples. Walling had livestock valued at \$1,400 in 1879.

It was Joseph Daniel's son, Thomas Dillard, who organized the White County community of Walling in 1883. Thomas Dillard became the railroad agent there when the railroad pushed from McMinnville to Sparta. He also operated the General Store and served as Postmaster.

Following the death of Joseph Daniel on December 21, 1888, his wife, Harriet, continued to live in the house with her oldest son, Smith Joseph. The Walling House remained in the family until 1893.

The Walling House, located high on a hill above the fifteen mile long Barren Fork of the Collins River, overlooks the City of McMinnville. The Greek Revival Period farmhouse is an excellent reflection on the taste and attitudes prevalent in architectural development throughout Tennessee.

In 1976, Thomas Walling, the great, great grandson of Joseph Daniel Walling, purchased the house and 4.02 acres of land. Restoration plans are currently being completed for the house.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

First National Bank Records, McMinnville, TN, p. 50.  
 Hale, Will T. Early History of Warren County, McMinnville: Standard Printing Company, 1930.  
 United States Census, Warren County, Tennessee, 1850, 1860.  
 United States Census, White County, Tennessee, 1820, 1830, 1840  
 United States Agricultural Census, Warren County, Tennessee, 1880.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 4.02 **UTM NOT VERIFIED**  
 Quadrangle name McMinnville, TN **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED** Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>16</u>	<u>610690</u>	<u>3947950</u>	B	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	D	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>
E	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	F	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>
G	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	H	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>

## Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached map. The property nominated is the entire tract owned by Mr. Walling.

## 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 Thomas Leighton Walling, Jr.  
Warren County Historical Society  
 organization (Board of Director member) date January, 1979  
 street & number P.O. Box 308 telephone (615) 473-6318  
 city or town McMinnville state Tennessee 37110

# 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 Herbert L. Hays  
 title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 5/30/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>W. Ray Price</u>	date <u>8/6/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Kristin O'Connell</u>	date <u>7/29/80</u>
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

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Joseph Daniel Walling House

The Joseph Daniel Walling House is one of only a very few of this style extant in Warren County. Other examples of the vernacular influence on the Greek Revival Period in Warren County are found in rural sections of the county. Because of its highly visible location on the outskirts of McMinnville the Walling house is a locally recognized architectural landmark.

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Warren County Marriage Records. Vol 1. McMinnville: Womack Printing Co., Inc.,  
1965. p. 14.

Womack, W. J. McMinnville at a Milestone. McMinnville: Standard Printing Company, 1960.