

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

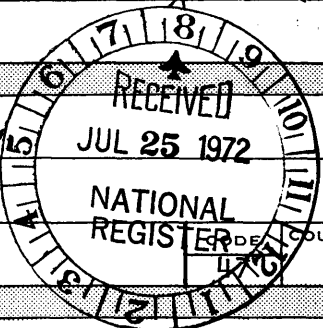
STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Sullivan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 14 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Pemberton ~~Oak~~ <sup>and oak</sup> and Mansion House (Representative James H. Quillen)  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
*about 9 miles Route #3*  
CITY OR TOWN:  
*of Bristol Tenn. 34*  
Bristol *via.*  
STATE: Tennessee COUNTY: Sullivan CODE: 163



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP:	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Tree is located on privately owned farm</u>			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. N. Kelly Vaughan and Mrs. John W. Clark  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Route #3  
CITY OR TOWN: Bristol STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Sullivan County Register's Office  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Courthouse  
CITY OR TOWN: Blountville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

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	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Sullivan	
ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 14 1973	DATE

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pemberton Oak is a magnificent and growing tree, believed to be 700 to 800 years old. It is estimated to have a height of nearly 100 feet and a branch spread of 125 feet.

The tree is located on "Royal Oak Farm," approximately 44 feet from the Pemberton Mansion House, a two-story brick structure built in 1877-78. The grounds are typical of those found surrounding the dwelling house of a sizable functioning and prosperous farm. There is some formal planting such as the double row of boxwood lining the main walkway.

This brick house replaced a log house which had been built by Col. John Pemberton around 1780 on his land grant in Sullivan County. The log house stood until 1878 as the family of Thomas D. Pemberton, Sr., builder of the brick house, was moving into their new home. A fire occurred destroying the old log house and the parlor portion of the new house. The parlor was reconstructed immediately but the log house was gone forever. However the log smokehouse and springhouse which were contemporary with the main log house are still standing on the site in good condition along with a large frame barn that was built around 1890.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century             | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation |   |  |  |

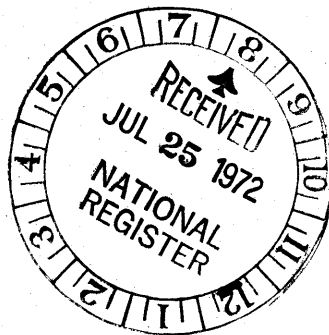
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pemberton Oak is located on land granted to Colonel John Pemberton (1742-1813), who settled in upper east Tennessee in the 1770's. In late September, 1780, Colonel Pemberton, then a captain, assembled, under the giant tree, his command for service against the British. Joined by units from Virginia, the troops marched to Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga. From there, the entire force, under Colonel William Campbell, went on to defeat the British at King's Mountain, South Carolina, on October 7, 1780.

Following the Revolutionary War, the Pemberton Oak continued to serve as mustering and/or camping grounds for soldiers in four subsequent wars: the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, and World War II. During these years, the Pemberton family maintained ownership of the farm, which is presently owned by two great-great-granddaughters of Colonel John Pemberton.

The Pemberton Oak is listed in the tree Hall of Fame of the American Forestry Association. Conservationists have worked with the property owners to insure protection of the tree.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Brandau, Roberta Seawell, ed. History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee (Nashville: The Parthenon Press, 1936).

Draper, Lyman C. King's Mountain and Its Heroes. (Cincinnati: Peter G. Thomson, Publisher, 1881).

Pemberton Family Papers. Owned by Mrs. N. Kelly Vaughan.

Ramsey, J.G.M. The Annals of Tennessee (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott and Company, 1860).

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	° ' "	° ' "	36°	33'	45"
NE	° ' "	° ' "	82°	04'	22"
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **8**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Ellen Beasley**

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission**      DATE: **7/17/72**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**403 Seventh Avenue North**

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville**      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: *Michael J. Smith*  
 Title: Executive Director  
Tennessee Historical Commission  
 Date: July 17, 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Robert W. Utley*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/14/73

ATTEST:  
*[Signature]*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3-7-73

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS