

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: Bedford
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAR 4 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
Grassland Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:
(Alexander Greer House)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Snell Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Shelbyville *vic*

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Fourth

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"/> Both	<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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

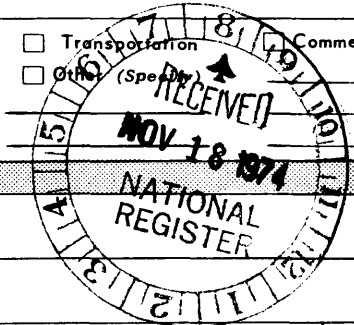
Agricultural
 Commercial
 Educational
 Entertainment

Government
 Industrial
 Military
 Museum

Park
 Private Residence
 Religious
 Scientific

Transportation
 Other (Specify)

Comments



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bennett

STREET AND NUMBER:
Snell Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Shelbyville

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

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: 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
COUNTY: Bedford
ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 4 1975
DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

It is believed that construction on this two-story clapboard house began in the early 1800's, however, the external appearance of the house today indicates a construction date closer to the mid-nineteenth century. The Grassland Farm Home is a classic example of Tennessee Vernacular Architecture with its amalgamation of various architectural styles. Influences of the late Federal period are seen in the symmetrical fenestration and in the dentilation of the front facade. Exterior chimneys and closed gables are exemplary of the Southern influence on American architecture. The portico which now adorns the front facade is evidence of the effect of the Greek Revival on Tennessee and was probably added in the 1840's. A sturdy second story porch divides the eight square pillars of the portico, and a gabled pediment provides the crowning touch. The four pillars and two pilasters of the lower level are fluted and marked at the top by wood strips cut in a scroll with key design, while the pillars and pilasters of the upper level are decorated at the top with wood strips cut in the shape of an Ionic curve. Transoms and sidelights outline the doors at both levels.

A two story ell extends from the left rear side of the house. Located immediately to the rear of the ell is the original two-room brick kitchen which has recently been conveniently attached to the house by opening a doorway from the left end of the ell and completely re-siding the left facade of the ell. A sheltered gallery is located along the rear of the house.

The interior of the main house and ell originally consisted of three rooms on each level and a "dogtrot" entrance hall at the lower level. Doorways on each side of the hall open into the downstairs rooms of the main wing, and a stairway on the left side of the hall leads to the upper level landing. The stairs are complemented by a fine but simple balustrade, and a paneled wall enclosed the single closet beneath the stairs. Each lower level room has a large fireplace with mantels standing five feet and seven inches from the floor. The three rooms of the lower level are wainscoted, and there, as in the rest of the house, the wood trim is of poplar. Floors on the upper level are of poplar while ash flooring was used on the lower level.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input 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 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

Construction at the site of this house is thought to have been begun by Alexander Greer in the early 1800's. Greer was a veteran of the Battle of Kings Mountain, a significant Revolutionary War battle which ended in a patriot victory. Alexander Greer's brother, Joseph, carried the message of victory at King's Mountain to the Continental Congress. Alexander Greer came to the Bedford County area from Carter County in 1805 and was prominent in the early organizational years of Bedford County. Sources indicate that Greer died in 1810.

Beyond the nebulous relationship of Alexander Greer to the site, (military significance of the house) the house is significant as an outstanding example of Tennessee architecture during the early and middle nineteenth century. It stands today as a testimony to the quality of the craftsmen who built it more than one hundred years ago.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bedford County Historical Society, Doorways to the Past. Shelbyville, Tennessee, 1969
 Draper, Lyman C. King's Mountain and It's Heroes. Cincinnati, 1881
 Cross, R. Paul. "Bedford County: Settlement to Secession, 1785-1861."
 Unpublished Master's thesis, Middle Tennessee State University, 1974.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

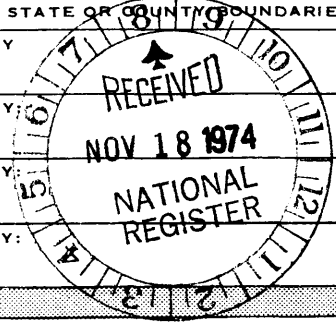
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES														
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE														
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds										
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	35	°	24	'	16	"	86	°	30	'	44	"	
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"													
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"													
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"													

16/544 316
 3917801
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5

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:
 R. Paul Cross

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE: Nov. 8, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
 170 Second Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville

STATE: Tennessee

CODE: 47

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: Lauren [Signature]

Title: Executive Director
 Tennessee Historical Commission

Date: 4/12/74

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