

PH0670191

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED SEP 7 1976
DATE ENTERED AUG 16 1977

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 ******
Peter Simmons House
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *about 11 mi S of Winchester*
U.S. Highway 64, Old Salem
CITY, TOWN Winchester VICINITY OF FOURTH
STATE Tennessee CODE 47 COUNTY Franklin CODE 51

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Hoskins and Fred T. Shadows
STREET & NUMBER U.S. Highway 64, Old Salem
CITY, TOWN Winchester VICINITY OF STATE Tennessee

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Franklin County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Winchester STATE Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Peter Simmons House is an early, two-story brick house which has retained its original form. The tall profile and narrow rectangular shape are typical of the Tennessee vernacular style. It is one room deep with a service wing extending to the back at one side. The main front section faces the pike.

A cellar is located under the main block at the west side. This section of the house was built first. The original design featured bilateral symmetry, three bay over three bay fenestration with plain end walls and enclosed chimneys constructed in the gable ends. There is a room and a porch located in the shed extension on the right, west-end wall. The front of the house was extended to the left with the addition of two bays. The main entrance was changed when the center hall was constructed between the adjoining rooms. A former porch attached to the entrance has been removed. There are nine rooms in the existing plan and the major rooms are twenty foot square. The structural system consists of double-brick bearing walls, and the Flemish bond pattern is featured across the front. The bricks are hand made and were manufactured at the site. A sculptured brick watertable extends across the front. The main entrance features double-leaf doors with a rectangular shape transom and side light panels. The lights are etched and painted.

The plan forms a double ell where the service wing is joined to the rear wall. The shallow ell is the courtyard area for the rooms of the service wing. The larger ell was reserved for landscape gardening. The ell is constructed of brick and was designed in a reduced scale with the one-story smokehouse attached to the end.

The back staircase pre-dates the main staircase. It connects the west bedroom to the first-story rooms below. The main staircase ascends the right side wall of the center hall where it is met by a wide, mid-stage landing. The sturdy construction features square newel posts, balusters, and a plain, ramped hand rail. There is a balustrade in the hall above the open stairwell. The floors are constructed of wide, beaded planks laid over hand-hewn, heavy timbers, joists and beams. The woodwork is hand-fashioned and unpainted with the exception of the mantles, paneling and baseboards which have been hand-painted, grained, and marbelized. Double case-ment windows open out to the garden from the east bedroom.

The present owner operates a plant farm on the acreage directly behind and to the ease side of the property. The house and lot are vacant at the present time. When gold coins were discovered behind one of the mantel pieces, the publicity caused many sightseers and trespassers to visit the property.

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 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 checked="" 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 1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Peter Simmons

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Peter Simmons House is an historic landmark in Franklin County. The house is located on a portion of land above Beans Creek, where the pike crosses the creek. The property was a part of the 400-acre tract of land settled by Peter Simmons before 1820. Peter Simmons built this house to serve as his residence and as a stagecoach stop for the Nashville-to-Huntsville, Alabama-route. Salem was a principal stopping place and the area below the house on Beans Creek was a major campsite for travelers passing through this area. Members of the Simmons family owned and maintained this property until 1941. The house is in its original form. Many of the historic structures located in this region are being restored, and this property is being offered for sale at the present time.

The Peter Simmons House is an historic building, worthy of preservation as it represents an outstanding example of early, hand-craftsmanship and construction, designed in the vernacular style unique to Tennessee. The bearing walls were constructed of brick which was made at the site. The progression of subsequent additions to the original plan are well defined in the present form. The bearing walls are three courses thick and the wood joists and heavy timber beams are all hand hewn. The original front section was enlarged and the main entrance was changed at that time. All of the woodwork, mantles, doors, staircases, window fenestrations and wood balustrades are original, and they were all hand carved and joined in the traditional way. Refinements include the etched and hand-painted transom lights and side lights. This type of painting and etching of hand-blown glass has not been found in any other region of Tennessee. The original mantles and woodwork have been hand-painted, grained and marbelized.

Peter Simmons became a prominent citizen in this county. He established a plantation and promoted the establishment of a new enterprise--river transportation for products to the major markets from this area. He was dedicated to the success of agricultural production from this region, and he helped to develop a cotton market in Salem. When Salem became a chief cotton market, Peter Simmons, John R. Patrick and Richard Holden were principal cotton dealers. Cotton crops were marketed in New Orleans, via the river routes established by these early pioneers. Cotton was stored in Salem until the rivers reached a sufficient level for the flatboat barges to navigate the Elk River which led to the Tennessee River and on to the Mississippi. The establishment of trade and industry improved the economy of this region, and the town of Salem became a trade and social center in Franklin County. The history of navigation on the Elk and Tennessee rivers is a colorful chapter in the history of Tennessee.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hunter, Dorothy Franklin County Historical Review Volume II, #1, December 1970.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.5

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>16</u>	<u>567630</u>	<u>3881920</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Gail Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

March 1976

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Harriet E. Hagen

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

9/1/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. [Signature]

DATE

8/16/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8-12-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER