Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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Tennessee	
COUNTY:	
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FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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7.	DESCRIPTION											
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This stone house was built in 1797 and was the first stone house in Knox County. The architect, Thomas Hope, was brought from Charleston, South Carolina. The two-story stone house has a stark dignity with its flat, unbroken facade and large chimneys that project out from the end walls. Architecturally, it is an early development of the hall-passage-parlor-type of construction, one room deep and two stories high. The central passage has double doors at each end which can be left open in the summer. The parlor and the hall to the left and to the right of the passage contain paneled shutters which fold back into the casements as protection from the Indians as well as the summer sun. The pendant scrolls under the cornices are reminiscent of the French influence which Hope found in South Carolina.

The main part of the house is a rectangle 42' x 24'; in addition to its two stories, it has a deep basement and an attic. The kitchen wing, without basement or attic, is on a lower floor level with three steps leading down to it from the hall or dining room. It was probably the last part of the house built and likely the first attached kitchen in East Tennessee. The main walls throughout the house are rough blocks of red marble, while the corners of the chimneys, and the belt course are quarried blue limestone, giving a variety to the masonry that is effective.

The inside of the house is restored to its original form. The small portice on the front was probably not original since it covers the keystone above the front door and will most likely be removed soon as more study is done by the Knox County Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities group.

ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century		20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	■ Education	X Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	- 22
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	☐ Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was built by an important settler in Tennessee in 1797. Francis Alexander Ramsey was a pioneer citizen and a public official on the Tennessee frontier for 37 years. was the father of the distinguished historian, Dr. James G. M. Ramsey and of Knoxville's first elected mayor, William B. A. F. A. Ramsey served as an official in the Washington County government, in the State of Franklin, in the territorial government and in the State of Tennessee. After building Ramsey House his family grew up there and became productive citizens "Colonel" Ramsey served on the board of Blount College, When he died in 1820 he had later the University of Tennessee. just been appointed president of the Knoxville branch of the new Some of the Ramsey family continued to live there until the Civil War when Alexander, son of the builder, took the family to South Carolina for safety. Later the house was sold and changed hands until 1952 when the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities acquired the property and began restoration.

In addition to the significant family who built the house, Ramsey House marks a transitional period in Tennessee as an example of a fine home that replaced the log house in the latter part of the eighteenth century.

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGR	APHICAL	RF	FERENCES								
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Ramsey House AND/OR HISTORIC: Swan Pond LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: Chorngrove **Knoxville** COUNTY: CODE 41 Tennessee Knox 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY ACCESSIBLE S OWNERSHIP STATUS (Check One) TO THE PUBLIC Z X_{l} Public Yes: Building Public Acquisition: Occupied District 0 X In Process XΠ Restricted Private Structure Unoccupied Being Considered Preservation work Unrestricted X Both Object 📋 in progress No: PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Transportation Comments α Industrial Commercial Private Residence \Box Other (Specify) Educational Military Religious \Box Scientific Entertainment Museum X OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME: Association for Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities ш STREET AND NUMBER: Harding Road at Leake Ave. ш CITY OR TOWN: STATE: Nashville Tennessee 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Register's Office STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE Knoxville Tennessee APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections) NATION :

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PL

Form 10-300

(Dec. 1968)

1. NAME COMMON:

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

CITY OR TOWN:

STREET AND NUMBER:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STATE:

AUG 13 1969

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Knox

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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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This stone house was built in 1797 and was the first stone house in Knox County. The architect, Thomas Hope, was brought from Charleston, S. C. The two-story stone house has a stack dignity with its flat, unbroken facade and large chimneys that project out from the end walls. Architecturally, it is an early development of the hall passage - parlor - type of construction, one room deep and two stories high. The central passage has double doors at each end which can be left open in the summer. The parlor and the hall to the left and to the right of the passage contain paneled shutters which fold back into the casements as protection from the Indians as well as the summer sun. The pendant scrolls under the cornices are reminiscent of the French influence which Hope found in South Carolina.

The main part of the house is a rectangle 42x24 feet; in addition to its two stories, both high, it has a deep basement and an attic. The kitchen wing, without basement or attic, is on a lower floor level with three steps leading down to it from the hall or dining room. It was probably the last part of the house built and likely the first attached kitchen in East Tennessee. The main walls throughout the house are rough blocks of red marble, while the corners of the house, the flat arches above the windows, the corners of the chimneys, and the belt course are quarried blue limestone, giving a variety to the masonry that is effective.

The inside of the house is restored to its original form with the stairs, doors, etc. The small portico on the front was probably not original since it covers the keystone above the front door and will most likely be removed soon as more study is done by the Knox County Association for Preservation of Tennessee group.

5	IGNIFICANCE						
	PERIOD (Check One or M	lore as A	(ppropriate)				
	Pre-Columbian		16th Centu	ry. 🗌	18th Centur	у 🔯	20th Century 🔲
	15th-Century		17th Centu	ry 🗌	19th Centur	у 🗆	
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	Art		Landscape		Sculpture		A REC
	Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-		
	Communications		Literature		itarian		
	Conservation		Military		Theater		
			Music		Transportation		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Ewents, Etc.)

This house was built by an important settler in Tennessee in 1797. Francis Alexander Ramsey was a pioneer citizen and a public official on the Tennessee frontier for 37 years. He was the father of the distinguished historian, Dr. James G. M. Ramsey and of Knoxville's first elected mayor, William B. A. Ramsey. Francis Alexander Ramsey served as an official in the Washington County government, in the State of Franklin, in the territorial government and in the State of Tennessee. After building Ramsey House his family grew up there and became productive citizens as well. "Colonel"Ramsey served on the board of Blount College, later the University of Tennessee. When he died in 1820 he had just been appointed president of the Knoxville branch of the new State bank. Some of the Ramsey family continued to live there until the Civil War when Alexander, son of the builder, took the family to South Carolina for safety. Later the house was sold and changed hands until 1952 when the Tennessee Association for Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities acquired the property and began restoration.

In addition to the significant family who built the house, Ramsey House marks a transitional period in Tennessee as an example of a fine home that replaced the log house in the latter part of the eighteenth century.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1. Bowman, Elizabeth S. & Stanley J. Folmsbee, "The Ramsey House," in <u>Tennessee Historical Quarterly</u>, XXIV (1965), No. 3, pp. 203-218.
- 2. Bowman, Elizabeth S., "Swan Pond: Francis Alexander Ramsey's Stone House," in East Tennessee Historical Society <u>Publications</u> No. 27, (1955).
- 3. Ramsey, J.G. M., Annals of Tennessee, (Charleston, 1853).

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tional 89-665 in the evalua forth b	designated State Liais Historic Preservation A), I hereby nominate thi National Register and co ted according to the cri by the National Park Ser of significance of this n ational State	ct of 1966 (Publ. s property for incertify that it has teria and procedution. The recommination is:	ic Law clusion s been ures set		National	Registe	Archeolog	Com	LLLLY toric Pre	
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