

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 22 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 7 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Benjamin F. Turley House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Kentucky 35, 2.5 miles north of Sparta
CITY, TOWN Sparta VICINITY OF 4
STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Gallatin CODE 077

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Lowe
STREET & NUMBER Route 2
CITY, TOWN Sparta VICINITY OF Kentucky 41086 STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Gallatin County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Warsaw STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
DATE 1976
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN Frankfort STATE Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Benjamin F. Turley House is located on a sharp rise overlooking State Highway 35 in rural Gallatin County. Facing eastward, the brick structure is approximately 2.5 miles north of the small community of Sparta.

Built in 1863, the Turley House is a two-story brick Gothic Revival structure with a one-story wing added in 1938.

The house, built on a fieldstone foundation, has a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof with wheel windows in each gable. Windows are six-over-six-pane. Plain interior chimneys are featured, with the absence of polygonal pots common to Gothic structures.

An enclosed porch in the Romanesque style is a distinctive feature of the Turley House. Two large brick pillars with semi-circle arches form three openings onto the porch, accented by a second-story window centered above the middle arch. Similar arcades are characteristics of those found at Shawnee Springs in Mercer County (listed on the National Register in 1976) and Pleasant Lawn in Woodford County (see Three Cohen Mural Houses: nomination of February 1976). Accenting the arches, as well as all bays, are corbeled brick hoodmolds.

The house contains four rooms on the first floor and four rooms on the second floor with three doorways opening out onto the porch. The flooring is original throughout the house. The mantels feature characteristics of both the Greek Revival and Gothic styles (see photo 6), while the doorways are of Greek Revival design.

The house, barn, and Turpin cemetery are all located on a rise overlooking State Highway 35 with the boundary drawn to include this natural setting. The Turpin cemetery marks the rear boundary with State Highway 465 and State Highway 35 serving as the northern and eastern boundaries respectively. The frame barn, of popular construction, is located 300 feet behind the dwelling. The barn was built at the same time as the house as is evidenced by the axe-hewn posts and the wooden pegs in the hay loft. The small cemetery, located 350 feet behind the barn, is the burial plot of Horatio Turpin, his wife, and other members of his family. The cemetery is approximately 60 feet by 30 feet, and is enclosed by a fieldstone fence.

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 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 1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benjamin F. Turley House located near the vicinity of Sparta is architecturally significant in being an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival style in sparsely populated Gallatin County.

The two-story brick dwelling was constructed in 1865 by Benjamin F. Turley, an early settler of Gallatin County. Turley, a farmer and merchant by vocation, served as county judge for several years.¹ Prior to the Civil War he purchased a portion of the Horatio Turpin estate which included the Turpin homestead known as "Beech Park." Turpin had come to Kentucky from Virginia in 1820, and had acquired 4,300 acres of land which extended from Eagle Creek to the Ohio River.² He constructed a Two-story brick residence sometime before his death in 1826. Turpin and members of his family were buried in their cemetery located behind the house.

Benjamin Turley and his family lived in the Turpin house for several years until the construction of their own house. After the completion of the Gothic style structure, the Turpin place, which was situated directly behind the new structure, was torn down.

The Gothic style is unusual for Sparta as well as the rest of Gallatin County. According to Mrs. Mary Ann Turley Allnutt, a daughter of Benjamin Turley, the use of the Gothic Revival was at the request of her mother. Mrs. Turley had grown up in Covington across the Ohio River from Cincinnati and no doubt was influenced by the architectural styles found in this area. The enclosed porch was also incorporated in the construction of the house at the request of Mrs. Benjamin Turley.³

¹Mary Turley Allnutt, "The Home of Long Ago," pp. ii-v; Gallatin County Tax Assessment Record of 1865, p.26; Gypsy Gray, History of Gallatin County, Kentucky, p. 72.

²Gallatin County Deed Book F, p. 81.

³Allnutt, p. ii.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Allnutt, Mary Turley, The House of Long Ago. New Orleans: by the author, 1947.
 Atlas of Sparta, Kentucky. 1877.
 Gallatin County Deed Book F, p. 81.
 Gallatin County Tax Assessment Records for 1862-1865.
 Gray, Gypsy. History of Gallatin County, Kentucky. Covington, Ky.: Kentucky Historical Societies, 1968.
 Collins, Richard H. History of Kentucky. Vol. II. Covington: by the author, 1874.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____ QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 6	6, 8, 1	6, 6, 0	4, 2, 8, 5	3, 2, 0	B	1, 6	6, 8, 1	7, 2, 0	4, 2, 8, 5	2, 2, 0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	
C	1, 6	6, 8, 1	5, 0, 0	4, 2, 8, 5	0, 8, 0	D	1, 6	6, 8, 1	4, 6, 0	4, 2, 8, 5	14, 0
E						F					
G						H					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at point A at the southwest corner of the intersection of Kentucky State Highways 465 and 35 proceeding 400 ft. Southeast along the ^{West} East side of State Highway 35 to point B; thence 925 ft. Southwest to point C; thence 300 ft. Northwest to point D; thence 930 ft. Northeast along the South (con't.)

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

William G. Johnson, Sr. Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

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

Edward W. Nuttall

TITLE

DATE 2-2-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *[Signature]* DATE 3-7-79
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature] DATE 3/9/79
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED	MAR 7 1979

Benjamin F. Turley House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 2

Verbal Boundary Description (con't.)

side of State Highway 465 to point A.



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Please check the log file to find out the details.