

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brandau, Roberta Seawell (Ed.), History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee. (Nashville: The Parthenon Press, 1936).
 Grigsby, Blanche, County Historian, Hawkins County. Collections of Newspaper clippings, etc.
History of Tennessee. (Chicago and Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887).
 Interview with present owner, Miss Anne Amis.

H/S
 17/324647
 17/0032040

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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		36 ° 25' 10"	82 ° 57' 21"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ellen Beasley

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission** DATE: **5/15/73**

STREET AND NUMBER:
403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE:

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: Michael J. Amis
 Executive Director
 Tennessee Historical Commission

Title: _____

Date: 5/15/73

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

Robert H. Utsey
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: 6 14 73

6. SIGNIFICANCE

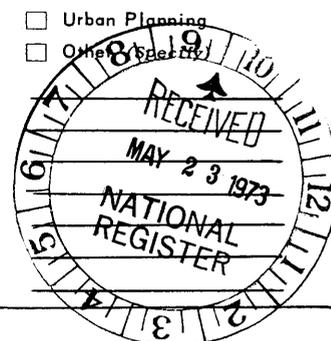
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas Amis was an important figure in the settlement of the Hawkins County section of East Tennessee. As an early settler, he built one of the first stone houses in the area. The house has always remained in the Amis family, and is presently inhabited by the sixth generation. As a result, both the house and its contents serve as important historical and cultural documents in a study of upper East Tennessee.

Originally from a French Hugenot background in North Carolina, Amis moved to Tennessee circa 1781-1782. He had acquired acreage through a land grant, and by adding to his holdings, owned several large tracts by the time of his death in the late eighteenth century. Amis developed his business interests and built his house simultaneously. He owned and operated a store, blacksmith's shop, distillery, saw and grist mills, and tavern. The land on which Rogersville was established originally belonged to Amis. One of Amis' fourteen children married Joseph Rogers, the founder of Rogersville who worked in Amis' store when first arriving in the area. The land on which Rogersville was developed was supposedly a present from Amis to the newly-married couple.

Amis had served as a Captain and Commissary of the North Carolina troops during the Revolutionary War, and had been elected to the Provisional Congress of Carolina held in Halifax in 1776. In 1788-89, he represented Hawkins County in the North Carolina Assembly, at which time he presented the bill for the establishment of a town at "Hawkins Courthouse," as Rogersville was first called.

Traditional history has stated that Amis hired a Pennsylvania stonemason, Thomas Harlan, to build his house. Although there are family papers and records in the house, it was impossible to check them for this information.

The home of this early settler is important as one of the earliest examples of Tennessee architecture extant.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

The Amis House is located outside Rogersville in an area which has remained agricultural. It is an interesting stone and clapboard house exhibiting numerous additions and alterations on the surface. To properly document its history would require an extensive architectural study for this structure which has been adapted to the lives of six generations of the Amis family since its construction in the early 1780's.

Its present appearance consists of the first floor built of undressed and very irregular stone, and the second story and back wing built of clapboard. According to the family, the full second story was built in 1846; until that time, the house was a story and a half. Across the front is a double porch with one end enclosed to shelter a stairway. The roof is pitched with a deep overhang covering the second story of the front porch. The single interior chimney on the main section denotes the division of the two rooms on the first floor. Windows vary in size and number of panes.

Numerous appendages are attached to the house. There is a thatched portico protecting the cellar entrance. The board and batten wellhouse appears to be built on an older stone foundation. The rear porch on the main section was adapted for use as a kitchen by the present owner.

It was possible to see only the first floor which consists of two rooms, including the parlor, in the main section. Both rooms have separate entrances off the front porch. The back wing, also containing two rooms designated the dining room and the kitchen, is reached through an enclosed porch. All four downstairs rooms have fireplaces as well as enclosed stairways leading to the second floor rooms. Woodwork is very simple.

There are several outbuildings of an early date including a smoke-house and a log corn crib. The two barns are of a later date.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Hawkins	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 19 1973	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Amis House (Representative James H. Quillen)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Burem Pike

CITY OR TOWN:
Rogersville

STATE Tennessee	CODE 47	COUNTY: Hawkins	CODE 073
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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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" 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"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Miss Anne Amis

STREET AND NUMBER:
Burem Pike

CITY OR TOWN:
Rogersville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hawkins County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Rogersville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

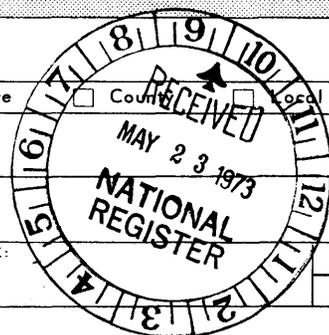
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Hawkins

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 19 1973

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY