

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Robertson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 30 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Rock Jolly (Representative Richard Fulton)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
N.E. of Cross Plains off Tenn. 52

CITY OR TOWN:
Cross Plains *etc.*

STATE Tennessee	CODE 47	COUNTY: Robertson	CODE 147
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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 <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Sinclair Buntin

STREET AND NUMBER:
Belle Meade Apartments

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Robertson County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Springfield

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

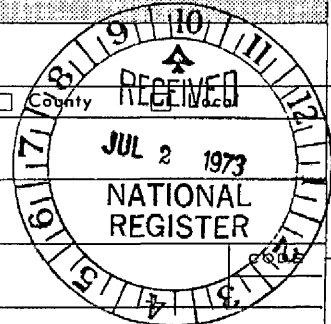
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



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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

This house was constructed circa 1830 by William Johnson. The walls are of 18 inch thick solid rock which was quarried from the nearby bluffs and hauled to the site by oxen. The actual construction work was done by slave labor. Evidence of the work of different craftsmen is visible through varying styles of masonry. The corners of the house are tied with alternating small and large rocks. The windows and doors are deeply recessed due to the thickness of the walls.

The house consists of six total rooms. The main portion of the house is two story. It is only one room deep with a connecting hallway. The staircase is located in the hallway. To the rear of the two story portion is a one story wing, with two rooms. The first room is the kitchen and was an original part of the house. Beyond the kitchen is a second room. It was originally the smokehouse and was detached from the main house. It, too, was constructed of stone. It was attached to the house in its present position at some unknown date.

The house originally had a narrow two story wooden front porch. In 1965 this porch was removed and the present rock terrace was constructed.

There are four outbuildings which remain from the early days of Rock Jolly. Down the hill from the main house is a small white clapboard barn. At the right of the house a log carriage house remains. Behind the house are two more log structures. One appears to have been slave or servants quarters. It is now a guest house. The other was probably a storage house and is so used at the present time.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

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7. DESCRIPTION

Although it is not known exactly how Rock Jolly received its name, family tradition has it that a relative who was an attorney for the Reconstruction Finance Committee in Washington, made frequent visits to the place and had such good times there that he gave it the name.

There are no records to establish the fact, but it is felt that the entire house was built at the same time. The basement is a full basement and shows no signs of having been built at two different times. The owner says that two different stone masons were working on the house at the same time and their work is not exactly alike, but the same workmanship is shown over the entire house.



8. 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)

c. 1830

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 type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rock Jolly is significant because of its simple but dignified architecture. This two story stone house is constructed of native limestone and is federal in style. A house of this size and form was unusual in Robertson County and is probably the only nineteenth century stone house remaining in the county. Except for the front porch, the house remains as it was originally. The several early outbuildings add to the significance of the total complex.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

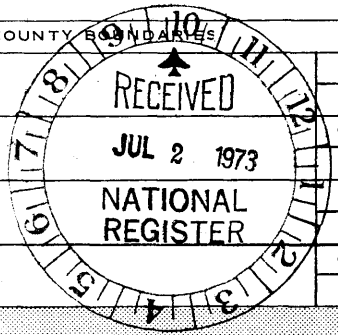
Pratt, Dorothy and Richard. A Guide to Early American Homes-South. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. New York: 1956. p.179.
Interview with owners.

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 ° 34 ' 44 "	86 ° 37 ' 23 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 7

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO
LTM
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Linda O'Neal

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 6-15-73

STREET AND NUMBER: 403 7th Avenue, North

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: Michael J. Smith Title: Executive Director Tennessee Historical Commission Date: 6-30-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
Ernest A. Connelly
~~Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Resources~~
Associate Director, Professional Services
Date: OCT 30 1973
ATTEST: Wm. M. ...
Keeper of The National Register
Date: 10-25-73

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

Rock Jolly is significant because it is the only nineteenth century stone house in Robertson County and one of the few in Middle Tennessee. No historically significant event occurred there and no famous people have been associated with the house. It has been owned by the Buntin family, a prominent Middle Tennessee family, since 1937. Its Federal style architecture and its massive appearance are notable. It is nominated solely for local significance, and it has certainly been one of the outstanding landmarks of the county for over a century.

