

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 22 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Dandridge Historic District (Rep. James H. Quillen)

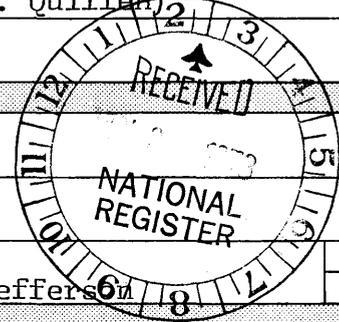
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Dandridge

STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47** COUNTY: **Jefferson** CODE: **089**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple owners

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Dandridge** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: **Dandridge** 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: **Jefferson**

ENTRY NUMBER: **JAN 22 1973**

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Both Jefferson County and its quiet county seat, Dandridge, were formed in the late eighteenth century. Most of the early buildings, which range in date from the early to the late nineteenth century, are concentrated on three streets, Main, Meeting, and Gay Streets. The proposed historic district encompasses this section which is bordered on the east by Mill Street extended to the dike, on the south by the dike, on the west by a line approximately 800 feet west of Gay Street, and on the north by a line approximately 900 feet north of Meeting Street.

Within the district are at least 26 buildings predating the twentieth century, plus additional points of historical interest including two early cemeteries. The Dandridge commercial area, along Gay and Main streets, consists of early structures interspersed with groupings of flat-roofed and nondescript twentieth century store buildings. Although a few recent businesses also front Meeting Street, the district, with its predominance of earlier buildings, and its plantings and occasional openspaces, retains the atmosphere of a small but prosperous nineteenth century community.

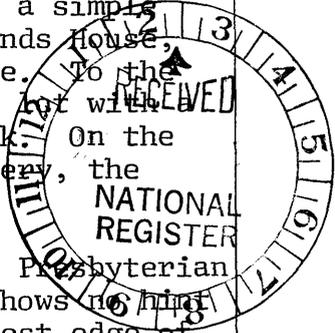
The greatest modern influence on Dandridge was the creation of Douglas Lake, a TVA project which threatened inundation of the town in the early 1940's until President Roosevelt intervened. Providing a surprising but not objectionable backdrop for the buildings on the southeast side of Main Street is a million-dollar dike of native stone set in tons of solid earth.

Near the dike are two buildings of major importance, the Hickman House and the Shepard Inn. Built in 1845, the two-story Hickman House with double chimneys and stepped gables on each end, is the most distinguished of several brick residences in the district. The building has been adapted for use as a community center, city hall, public library, and other offices. Directly across the street is the Shepard Inn, the original 1820 section covered with a subdued Victorian frame front.

Dominating the district is the Jefferson County Courthouse, built in 1845 on the site of the original log courthouse. It is a simple brick neo-classical building. Across Gay Street is the Hynds House, a two-story frame rectangular dwelling typical of Dandridge. To the north and east of the Hynds House is a sizeable landscaped lot with a spring considered by some to be ideal for a small town park. On the east, the Hynds property joins the Revolutionary War Cemetery, the burial ground of several men who fought in the war.

Another prominent building in the district is the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, built in 1879. The red brick building curiously shows no hint of the Victorian age in which it was built. On the northwest edge of the district is the Fain House, a recently restored two-story red brick structure with an l-wing. When built in 1845, it was considered one of the most elegant dwellings in the area. A combinations smoke and wash-house, and a row of slave quarters also remain on the property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

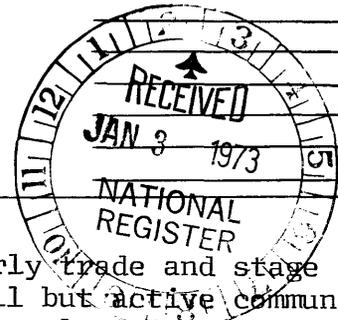
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The location of Dandridge along important early trade and stage routes, resulted in the development of a small but active community in the years before the Civil War. It also resulted in a citizenry prosperous enough to build substantial and sometimes fashionable dwellings, which form the core of the proposed district.

In 1783, thirteen years before Tennessee became a state, the first permanent white settlers were attracted to the Dandridge area by the French Broad River and a good spring (located near the Hynds House). Two years later, the Hopewell Presbyterian Church was organized. By 1792, the settlement had grown to such an extent that Governor William Blount designated the new county of Jefferson in the Territory South of the Ohio River. Francis Dean, a wealthy landowner, gave 50 acres for Dandridge which became the county seat in 1793. It bears the distinction of being the only town in the United States named for Martha Dandridge Washington.

Dandridge became a regular stop for boats carrying provisions up and down the French Broad River. It was also a major stage stop on the road between Abingdon, Virginia, and Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as a road traveled by stock traders operating between Tennessee and North Carolina. As a result, it had an abundance of early taverns, three of which are still standing--the Roper Tavern, Shepard's Inn, and the Hickman House. According to Eastin Morris' Tennessee Gazetteer, published in 1834, Dandridge had by that time 300 inhabitants, including "three lawyers, three doctors, two divines, one academy, two schools, four stores, two taverns, four blacksmiths, one bricklayer, two carpenters, three cabinetmakers, one painter, one hatter, two tailors, two shoemakers, one saddler, two tanners, one wagonmaker, and one wheelwright." The list illustrates that the town had developed sufficiently to support a variety of artisans as well as the usual and necessary professions. The period through the 1850's continued to be prosperous because during that decade several banks were established and the first newspaper was published. After the Civil War, however, trade shifted to towns and cities located on the railroads and Dandridge began to decline.

Little is known about the earliest structures in Dandridge, although it is probably a safe assumption that they were log. When the first frame or brick buildings were built is also unknown. The

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Conversations with and files of Mrs. Jean Bible, journalist and historian, Dandridge, Tennessee.
 Floyd, Don. "Frontier Advance Makes Its Way to Dandridge Area in 1783," in Citizen Tribune, Morristown, Tennessee, July 7, 1968.
History of Tennessee. (Chicago and Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1887.)
 Morris, Eastin. The Tennessee Gazetteer. (Nashville: W. Hasell Hunt and Company, 1834.)

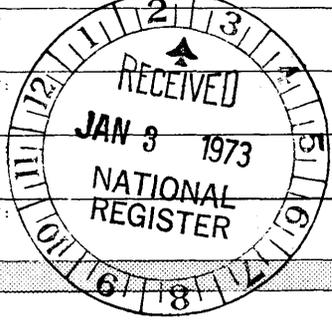
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	36°	01'	06"	83°	25'	11"	0			0			
NE	36°	01'	11"	83°	24'	44"							
SE	36°	01'	00"	83°	24'	35"							
SW	36°	00'	43"	83°	25'	02"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **100**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



412
 17/30/5/40
 222640
 100000
 275
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ellen Beasley

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission** DATE: **12-20-72**

STREET AND NUMBER:
State Library & Archives Building

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

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

Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Name Michael J. Smith

Title Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission
12-27-72

Date

Date 1/22/73

ATTEST

Conrad Santay
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 1-22-73

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

majority of nineteenth century structures remaining in the proposed district predate the Civil War and are in simple classical revival styles. Although there is an occasional evidence of "gingerbread," later nineteenth century structures are modest in scale and almost devoid of any ornament. There remains an obvious correlation between the architecture of Dandridge and the economic and commercial growth and decline of the town.

