

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Rose Hill

and/or common Pillow Place (preferred) ✓

2. Location

street & number Campbellsville Pike N/A not for publication

city, town Columbia ✓ vic. vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Tennessee code 047 county Maury code 119

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name W.P. Halliday Estate

street & number Campbellsville Pike

city, town Columbia vicinity of state Tennessee 38401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maury County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maury County Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date May 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records South Central Tennessee Development District

city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on a rise overlooking Little Bigby Creek near Columbia, Tennessee, the Pillow Place (Rose Hill), built about 1845, stands as an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture, one of the finest in southern Middle Tennessee. The house is a two-story rectangular structure of red brick, laid in common bond. Built on the double parlor plan, the house is three bays wide, with two large rooms, each 20'-x-20', at either side of a large central entrance hall. The focal point of the main facade is the monumental porch, with four fluted Ionic columns supporting a full entablature accentuated by delicate dentil molding. The entablature is continued on all four sides of the building. The walls of the two-story porch are recessed and plastered in white, offering a pleasant contrast to the red brick walls on either side. The mortar joints are weatherstruck and penciled in white. The foundation is of ashlar cut limestone. The front door is framed by side lights and a three-light transom. The entablature is repeated over the door, contributing to the overall continuity of the design. Very large sash windows with eight-over-eight lights provide balance to the facade; their sills and lintels of white stone further enhance the appearance of the house.

The hipped roof is so low as to appear flat when viewed from the ground. Originally, it supported a reservoir which supplied the house with water -- this has long since been removed. Eight fireplaces are served by four interior brick chimneys located on the end walls.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the house is the magnificent unsupported circular staircase which extends from the ground floor to the roof. The spindles and the railing are made of cherry, the treads of ash. Outstanding workmanship is evidenced in every detail of the staircase. The interior doors and millwork are also of cherry, with the trim painted white. Most of the flooring is the original blue poplar.

The present occupants of the house, the Halliday family, have added closets to the house, but these are in keeping with the original design and in no way detract from the original beauty of the interior. The house has been further altered by the enclosing of the rear frame porch to create additional living space. This frame addition is also in keeping with the original character of the house and does not affect the structural integrity of the building; it could be removed without endangering the original structure.

Pillow Place continues to serve as the main house for a working farm. Accordingly, the site supports all the structures necessary for farm operations, including a brick barn, a detached garage, a one-room log cabin, a caretaker cottage, and a brick smokehouse. Of these, only the barn, cabin, and the smokehouse are original. The nominated property of approximately three acres includes all of these outbuildings except for the barn and is enclosed by a brick wall and wooden 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Early 19th c., c.1845 **Builder/Architect** Nathan Vaught (c.1845?)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Pillow Place (Rose Hill) south of Columbia, Tennessee, on Campbellsville Pike at Pillow Spring is nominated under National criteria B and C for its significance in architecture and in local and Southern history. A large Greek Revival mansion completed by 1845, it is significant for its associations with the Pillow family who played important roles in the history of Maury County and of the South. The house, one of three surviving original Pillow homes is one of the best examples of Greek Revival architecture in south central Tennessee.

The exact construction date of Pillow Place is unknown, for it is unclear if the current house is the result of a major remodeling around 1845 by Granville Pillow, Sr., of his father's earlier house or is an entirely new building constructed at that time on the site of his father's home. In either case, the design of the building is of a very high quality and exceptional craftsmanship. It is possible that the work was done by the local master builder, Nathan Vaught, who designed two similar homes nearby, Clifton Place (1838-9, NR) and Bethel Place (1855, NR) for Granville's two brothers, General Gideon Pillow and Jerome Pillow. The nominated building is one of the finest examples of Greek Revival architecture in southern Middle Tennessee. The main facade of the house is distinguished by an expertly proportioned, two-story Ionic portico. The skillfulness of the exterior design is further shown by the continuation of the portico's entablature with a delicate dental molding across the main facade and around the other elevations of the building. Other important features of the exterior are the recessed entrance and penciled mortar joints on each elevation.

The site of Pillow Place was first settled in 1806 by Granville's father, Gideon Johnson Pillow, Sr., an early pioneer and land surveyor. On this property in that same year of 1806 was born his son, Gideon Johnson Pillow, Jr., who became a leading local lawyer and politician. This Pillow placed the name of his close friend James K. Polk in nomination for presidency of the United States at the 1844 Democratic convention. During the Mexican War he was appointed to the rank of Major General, and took part in the battles of Vera Cruz, Cerro, Gordo, and Contreras. At Chapultepec he was shot out of the saddle by grapeshot while charging the heights. On his great popularity he campaigned unsuccessfully for vice-president in 1852 and 1856. At the outbreak of the Civil War he was appointed Major General in command of Tennessee's provisional army. He defeated Grant at the battle of Belmont, but is mainly remembered for his part in the surrender of Fort Donelson in 1862. He died in a yellow fever outbreak at Helena, Arkansas in 1878.

It is known that the early residence of Gideon Pillow, Sr., and the childhood home of General Pillow was a substantial building. Since there is no record of the house being demolished or any known remains of the building, it is possible that the residence survives as the core of the current Pillow Place. As the fashionable home of Granville Pillow, Sr., the house according to tradition was named Rose Hill for the roses grown there by his wife. The elder Granville Pillow came to Maury County in 1809 as a surveyor and soon established a sawmill on Little Bigby Creek. Like the other members of the Pillow family, he became one of the largest land owners and farmers in the area.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brandau, Roberta S. History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee (Nashville, 1936)
 Garrett, Jill K. Maury County, Tennessee Historical Sketches (Columbia, 1973)
 Interview with Mrs. Evelyn Ridley, May 1983.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 3 acres

Quadrangle name Columbia, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	4	9	3	3	5	0	3	9	3	6	2	1	3	0
Zone				Easting				Northing							

B

Zone				Easting				Northing							

C

Zone				Easting				Northing							

D

Zone				Easting				Northing							

E

Zone				Easting				Northing							

F

Zone				Easting				Northing							

G

Zone				Easting				Northing							

H

Zone				Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard H. Quin

organization South Central TN Development District

date July 26, 1983

street & number P.O. Box 1346, 805 Nashville Hwy.

telephone (615) 381-2040

city or town Columbia,

state Tennessee 38401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Herbert L. Haynes

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 10/31/83

For HCRS use only

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

John M. ...
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
 National Register

date 12/8/83

Attest

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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received
date entered

Continuation sheet Pillow Place Item number 8 Page 2

On December 19, 1864, three days after the Battle of Nashville, General Nathan B. Forrest made Pillow Place his headquarters during Hood's retreat. A Confederate staff officer recalled a dinner of fried ham with "plenty of bread and coffee". Granville Pillow, Jr. served in the Army of Tennessee and received a wound in the Streight raid on Sand Mountain.

Tragedy struck the family on January 9, 1870, when two of Granville Pillow, Sr.'s, sons, Granville and William, were murdered near Leighton, Alabama, apparently in a robbery attempt. Their bodies were brought to the Pillow Place cemetery for burial.

The Pillow Place has been in continuous production since 1806, and is possibly Maury County's oldest continuing farm. The farm today is home of the Wick Halliday family; Mr. Halliday is a direct descendent of the first Gideon Pillow.

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Continuation sheet Pillow Place

Item number 10

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Verbal boundary description

The nominated property is bounded on the east by a wire fence, on the south and west by stone walls, and on the north by a wooden fence which runs flush with the front wall of the smokehouse. This north boundary makes a jog that goes around the side and rear walls of the smokehouse so as to include it within the nominated area. The nomination includes the minimum land needed to protect the house and its outbuildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Pillow Place Maury County, TENNESSEE

ADDITION DOCUMENTATION

Keeper *Amy Surlagel 1/29/89*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet**

DEC 28 1988

Pillow Place

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

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Pillow Place was listed with 3 acres of land on 12/8/83 with the wrong USGS location and UTM coordinates. The correct coordinates are 16/492640/3936230.

Hubert L. Stapp