

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JAN 29 1979  
DATE ENTERED MAR 15 1979

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 Riverview  
AND/OR COMMON Ben Folly

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER *W of Clarksville on*  
Route 12, Box 3, Cumberland Heights Road  
CITY, TOWN Clarksville *nc* VICINITY OF Sixth  
STATE Tennessee CODE 47 COUNTY Montgomery CODE 125

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Hayden B. Jolly, Jr. ✓  
STREET & NUMBER Route 12, Box 3  
CITY, TOWN Clarksville VICINITY OF Tennessee 37040

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER 129 North Second  
CITY, TOWN Clarksville STATE Tennessee 37040

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Historical and Architectural Survey  
DATE June 1978  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Tennessee Historical Commission, 170 Second Avenue, North  
CITY, TOWN Nashville STATE Tennessee 37201

# 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		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Riverview is situated on a bluff overlooking the Cumberland River in the outskirts of Clarksville, Tennessee. The small lawn surrounding the house is reasonably level; the remainder of the 4.5 acre site is wooded and falls off steeply in all directions.

Constructed about 1830 the house is a one-story, brick cottage on a raised brick basement. Two interior brick chimney stacks bisect the ridge of the gable roof. On the facade (west elevation) a small portico supported by paneled pillars frames a doorway with a transom, which is the center bay of this five-bay, symmetrical elevation. On the east wall, paneled pillars support a three-bay, full-height portico with a gallery at the first floor level. Two small windows in the north gable end light the attic chamber. The bricks on the facade are laid in Flemish bond and the east elevation in six-course American bond. The exterior walls are painted white. Four iron tie rods connect the front and rear walls.

In plan, a center passage with open stairway separates a single room on the north side of the house from a pair of rooms on the south. The basement level is similarly arranged; but the attic contains only one finished chamber and one unfinished storage room. Bathrooms have been inserted in the passageways, the only significant alterations to the plan.

The major part of the original interior woodwork survives. On the main floor all three mantels are Tennessee vernacular interpretations of late Federal designs. In the small chamber above, the fireplace opening is framed by a simple molding of a design and arrangement frequently used in the late eighteenth century. On the ground level, a small portion of the original brick floor is still visible, although most has been concealed under a modern flooring and carpeting. At the main level, modern hardwood flooring has been installed. The original flooring survives, however, at the upper level.

The property nominated (4.5 acres) is the entire parcel of land owned by Hayden Jolly, Jr. The attached survey map indicates the precise boundaries of this tract.

# 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 checked="" 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 ca. 1831

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the 1930s Riverview was purchased by Ben Tate for his brother Allen Tate who, with his wife Caroline Gordon, lived in the house until the mid-1940s. Tate was at this time developing a strong reputation as poet-critic and was an active member of the Fugitives, a group of writer-scholars who in the mid-1920s established at Vanderbilt University a literary magazine called The Fugitive.

The Fugitive group, as they have since been called, was made up of sixteen men, the most prominent being Robert Penn Warren, Tate, John Crowe Ransom, Donald Davidson and Merrill Moore. These men were to publish among them over a hundred volumes on a vast range of subjects. They founded or renovated the most important literary journals of their time and established what has come to be called the "new criticism." They garnered the highest literary honors for themselves, transformed the study of literature in the United States, and established a new profession of letters.

Tate and Gordon became hosts to the group following their university days, and reunions of the group held at Riverview produced several poems like Davidson's "Voices on the Cumberland," recounting a poetry-reading session before the fireplace. Such noted guests as poet-critic Malcolm Cowley and William Faulkner shared the hospitality.

During their stay at Riverview Caroline Gordon wrote a novel, Children of Innocence, set in the house and Tate published one of his most widely acclaimed poems, "Ode to the Confederate Dead."

Possibly as a result of Ben Tate's patronage of his brother who, to the community, was one of those strange "artist-types," locals began to call the house "Ben Folly."

Architecturally, the house is a well-preserved example of the raised-cottage style built throughout the South during the early nineteenth century. Although one of the oldest houses in the area, it retains almost all its original Federal style mantels and interior trim. In plan, also, the house remains virtually unchanged.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bradbury, John M. The Fugitives, A Critical Account. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1957.

Cowan, Louise. The Fugitive Group, A Literary History. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1958.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.5

QUADRANGLE NAME New Providence

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 465900 4039680  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Montgomery County Deed Book 131, page 409; also see attached Survey map.

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

Hayden Jolly, Jr.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

June 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Route 12, Box 3

TELEPHONE

(615) 552-7254

CITY OR TOWN

Clarksville

STATE

Tennessee

# 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

*Herbert L. Hays*

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

1/25/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

3-15-79

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3/15/79

*[Signature]*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

1585 TO INTER-  
SECTION CUMBERLAND  
HIGHTS ROAD &  
CLARKSVILLE ROAD &  
ROAD WAVERLY

ROAD TO  
BOTTOM

N 29-30' E 46'

N 78-30' E 113'

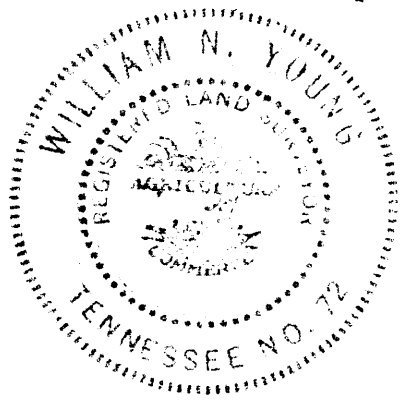
N 88' E 146'

N 50° W 256'

N 65° W 100'

N 75° 30' W 75'

N 80° W 100'



SURVEY  
HAYDEN JOLLY JR.

TRACT 1, REC. D. 3, 131, 56 400  
SCALE 1" = 100'

WE CERTIFY THIS TO BE A TRUE AND  
ACCURATE SURVEY OF PROPERTY SHOWN  
TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND  
BELIEF.

DATE May 15, 1972

WILLIAM N. YOUNG

*with a copy of*

