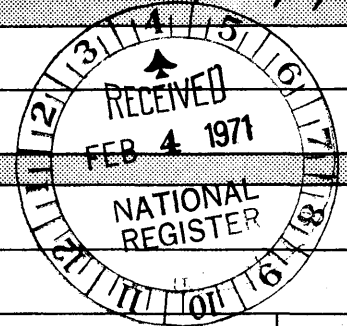


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Davidson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71,547,0017	DATE 5/6/71



1. NAME

COMMON:
Belair

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2250 Lebanon Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047 COUNTY: Davidson CODE: 037

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<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 type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Harry H. Chitwood

STREET AND NUMBER:
2250 Lebanon Road

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Davidson County Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 047

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (photograph only)

DATE OF SURVEY: August 17, 1940 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 011

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Davidson

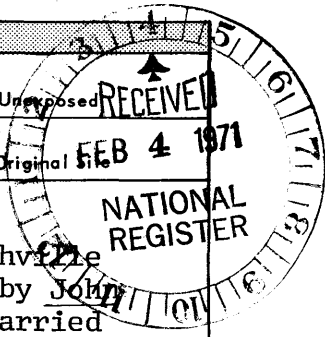
FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: 71,547,0017

DATE: 5/6/71

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		



DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Belair, one of the impressive antebellum homes in the Nashville area, was built in 1832 on a grant of one thousand acres by John Harding of Belle Meade for his daughter, Elizabeth, who married Joseph Clay of Kentucky. Constructed of bricks laid in Flemish bond, the house was built in an L-shape, but has had many additions. In 1838, William Nichol bought the place and added a wing on either end, as well as making changes to the house. The winding stairway, rosewood doors and silver hardware were added at this time, and it is probable that some elaboration to the front of the house was made. In recent years the exterior bricks have been painted white.

The style of architecture of Belair is generally Federal, with some classic revival influence shown in the two-story portico with fluted Doric columns and a one-story deck roof. There are a total of 30 rooms in the house, with four halls and three stairways. At the back of the large entrance hall an elliptical stairway rises to the second floor. The stairway is similar to the one at the Hermitage, as are the two wings added by Nichol in 1838, indicating the possible influence of Andrew Jackson, a neighbor who often visited Nichol.

The floors in Belair are of random width pine and ash. The doors exhibit interesting mouldings and the trim is elaborate with dentil work. Many of the ceilings have been decorated with frescoed plaster.

An interesting feature is a secret room in the second-story ell. A window is opened and the room is entered by stepping down. The room has a fireplace and window and is a large room. There is also a wine cellar that cannot be entered except from inside the house. In the basement of the house are three rooms with two-foot thick stone walls and small windows with iron bars where disobedient servants were kept.

At the rear of the ell is the kitchen with living quarters above, which was built separate from the house but has since been connected and has had extensive remodeling done to utilize it as a playroom. The original dining room has been converted into a modern kitchen.

Elaborate flower gardens were planted under the supervision of Mrs. Nichol, similar to those at the Hermitage, but after the death of Mr. Nichol she sold the house in 1870, and the new owner destroyed the flower gardens. Gone also are the stables and dairy barns, as the area is now in the midst of a crowded residential area. A recent expressway project destroyed much of the yard and some of the old trees, as the road has come to within 35 feet of the west side of Belair.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

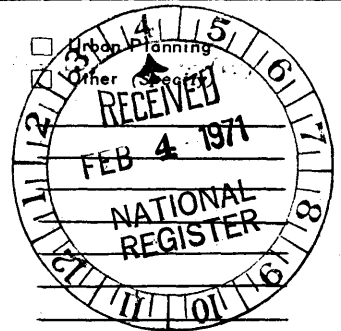
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <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) **1832-39**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 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

Belair is significant and worthy of preservation because of its architecture. Representative of the great houses of the well-to-do Southern landowner in the first half of the nineteenth century, it remains as an example of these houses which once were abundant but are now rapidly disappearing from the scene, a victim of modern progress. Perhaps more important is the fact that it is located in an urban setting where it can be seen by many more people than those which are located in an isolated rural area. Too, those in the urban area are the ones that are more rapidly being destroyed, making it more important that Belair be preserved for the benefit of those who might not otherwise be able to come in contact with such an example of architecture of the Old South.

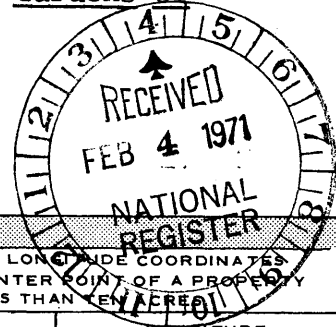
Belair is also important in the historical development of the area, since many families prominent in the social and economic development of Nashville have either lived in or been entertained in Belair. For these reasons, the preservation of Belair is important.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Aiken, Leona T., Donelson, Tennessee (Nashville, 1968).

Brandau, Roberta S. (ed.), History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee (Nashville, 1936).



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° 10' 09"	86° 41' 14"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

16/52810
4002550
HB

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than 10**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Herbert L. Harper, Director of Field Services

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission** DATE: **1-29-71**

STREET AND NUMBER:
403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **047**

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 Stephen S. Lawrence
Stephen S. Lawrence *SS*

Title Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date 2/1/71

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

Ernest A. Connerly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAY 6 1971

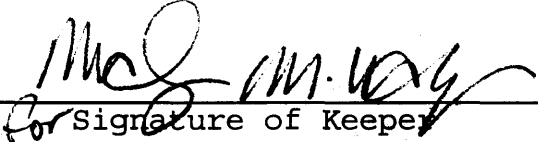
Date _____

ATTES: *William M. ...*
Keeper of The National Register

Date **APR 8 1971**

Belair
Davidson County, TENNESSEE

I hereby certify that the additional documentation for this property is approved.



for Signature of Keeper

4/2/99
Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

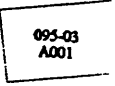
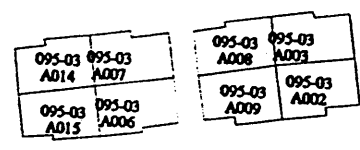
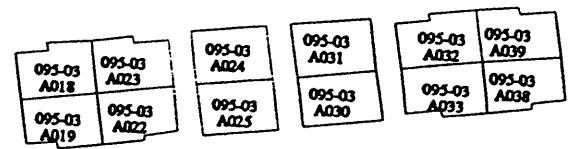
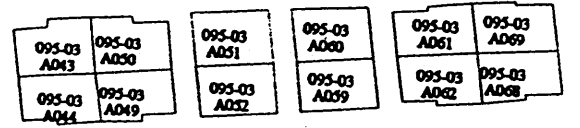
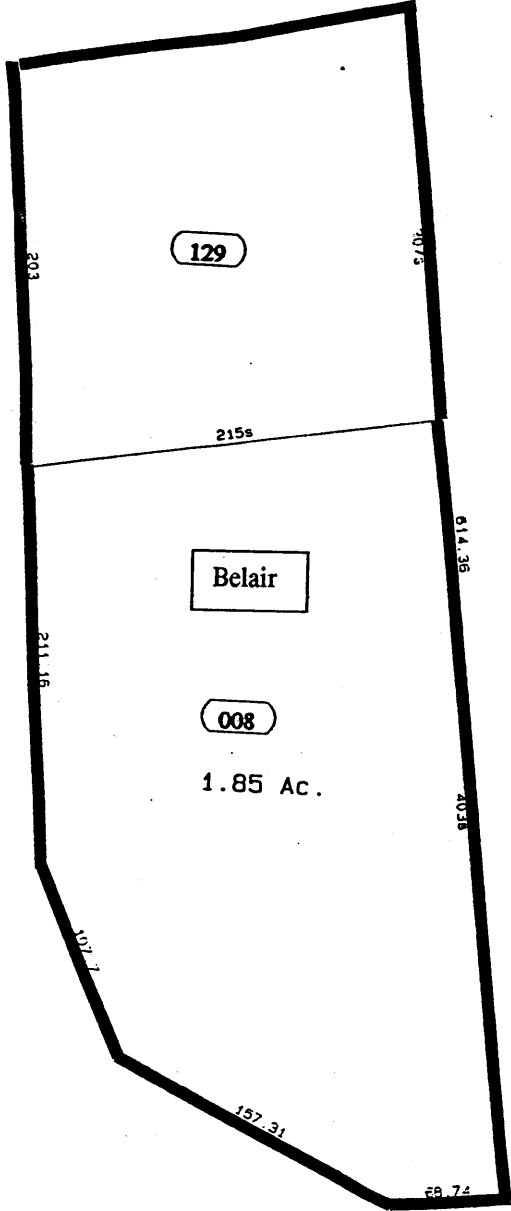
Section number 10 Page NA

Belair
Davidson County, Tennessee

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

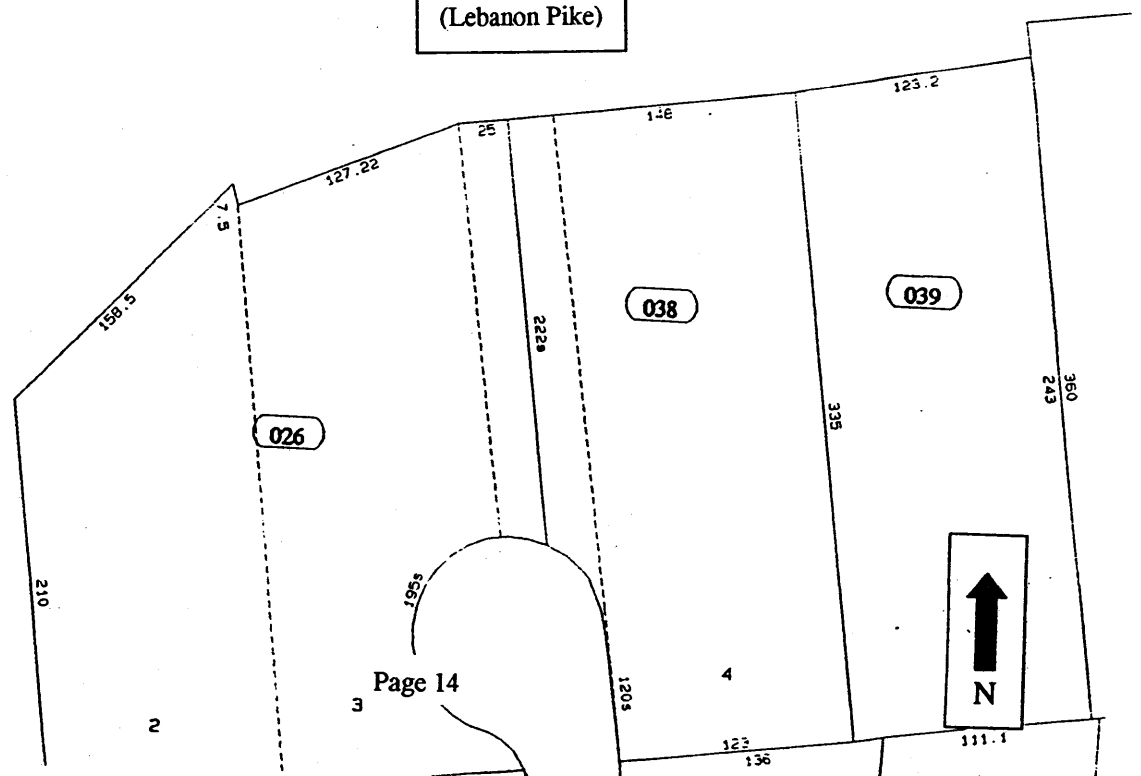
The boundary is the 2.84 acre parcel that has been associated with the historic property since at least 1973, the first year for which tax records are available. The historic property is surrounded by modern road systems and/or modern buildings.

PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES FOR BELAIR



SR-155
(Briley Parkway)

US-70
(Lebanon Pike)



Map is not to scale

