

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 21 1976

DATE ENTERED JUL 25 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bowen-Campbell House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Jackson Road

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Goodlettsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

 VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Sumner

CODE

165

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER: Vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

City of Goodlettsville

STREET &amp; NUMBER

117 Memorial Drive

CITY, TOWN

Goodlettsville

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sumner County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

Gallatin

STATE

Tennessee

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Tennessee Historical and Archaeological Survey

DATE

April 1976

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

The Bowen-Campbell House, located in southwestern Sumner County about 300 yards from Mansker's Creek, was completed in 1787 or 1788. William Bowen, a Virginian who achieved some prominence as an Indian fighter and Revolutionary War officer, settled in Davidson (later Sumner) County in 1784. He first erected a double-crib log house and resided there with his large family until the two-story brick house was finished. Except for the addition of a single-story ell, the building retained its original appearance until sometime after 1910. It has remained vacant for many years and has deteriorated considerably.

Although possessing the characteristic symmetry of Tennessee Vernacular houses, the Bowen-Campbell House also displays stylistic elements found in the early eighteenth-century houses of the southern coastal states. The limestone used in the coursed-rubble foundation resembles the outcroppings still seen nearby. The bricks in the main section, reputedly fired on the property, were laid in the Flemish bond pattern in all four walls. The ell, which was probably built in the early or mid-nineteenth century has common bond walls and a cut stone foundation. The original roofing material, probably wood shingles, was replaced in recent years with galvanized iron sheets. The chimneys have two unusual features: first, the stack rises only about a foot about the ridge of the gabled roof, and second, the chimney in the north wall is of internal construction while the one on the opposite wall is external. The simple roof trim consists of close verges and plain, boxed cornices.

The main (south) elevation contains a pair of windows on each floor which flank the double entrances. All windows have been so badly damaged that it is difficult to determine the light patterns. The first story windows have plain lintels and sills while those in the upper story feature radiating voussoirs and plain sills. Although drastically altered, traces of the voussoirs over the entrances remain visible. Before the addition of the ell, the east elevation may have been identical to the main facade. The attic is lighted and ventilated with a single small window placed along side of the chimneys on both the north and south walls. A large portico, with four slender, square columns and two pilasters and a simple balustrade, was removed early in this century, only the decaying platform and stone steps remain.

The ell has two rooms, separated by a central chimney, and a shed porch on the south side. Although built many years later than the main section, it has deteriorated considerably more. No outbuildings have survived.

There are two large rooms on each floor. The upper story can be reached by a narrow, enclosed staircase located in the southeast corner of the east room. A door in the north wall opens to the shed porch of the ell, and a similar opening in the west room connects the main section to the ell. Many of the interior doors and mantles and most of the woodwork appear to be original.

# 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES      1787-88                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      William Bowen

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Bowen was born in Fincastle County, Virginia, in 1742. He married Mary Henly Russell in ca. 1777 and fathered eight children. One of the earlier permanent settlers in Middle Tennessee, Bowen arrived four years after the parties led by John Donelson and James Robertson settled in Nashville. He built his first and second houses when Indian depredations presented a constant hazard to the pioneers. Bowen died on December 15, 1807.

Bowen's daughter Catherine married David Campbell in 1806, and William Bowen Campbell was born in the following year on February 1 in the Bowen-Campbell House. Although trained as an attorney, Campbell was attracted to the military and served in the Seminole War under William Trousdale. During the Mexican War he commanded the First Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers, the "Bloody First", which fought at Monterrey, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo. After briefly serving as state attorney general, Campbell was elected in 1835 to the Tennessee General Assembly. Two years later, and again in 1839, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1847 he was selected as a circuit court judge by the legislature. Campbell defeated William Trousdale in the 1851 gubernatorial election and held office for two years as the last Whig governor of Tennessee. He supported John Bell in the presidential election of 1860, vehemently opposed secession a year later, and briefly held the rank of brigadier general in the Union army. A Democrat in 1866, he was elected to the U.S. Congress where he supported the Johnson Plan of Reconstruction. Campbell died in Lebanon, Tennessee, on August 19, 1867.

Very few eighteenth-century buildings of any architectural style remain in the state. The Bowen-Campbell House, possibly the oldest extant brick residence in Middle Tennessee, is said to be the first brick house in this region. Recently the city of Goodlettsville purchased the building and approximately ninety-seven acres, and the Bowen-Campbell House Association, Inc., a nonprofit organization, was established to restore and develop this historic building as a community cultural and recreational facility.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Morrow, Sara Sprott. "The William Bowen House," Tennessee Historical Quarterly, XXXII (Spring 1973), 59-66.

White, Robert H. Messages of the Governors of Tennessee, 1845-1857, Vol. IV, Nashville: The Tennessee Historical Commission, 1957.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1,6	5,2,7,8,8,0	4,0,1,9,5,1,0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert E. Dalton, Director of Field Services

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Tennessee Historical Commission

August 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

170 Second Avenue North

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Nashville

Tennessee

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Herbert L. Hager*

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

8/14/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/25/77

ATTEST:

*Charles Adams*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-22-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER