

PH0509451

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATA SHEET

RECEIVED NOV 29 1977

DATE ENTERED APR 26 1978

**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

**

Rosemont

AND/OR COMMON

Josephus Conn Guild House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

810 South Water Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Gallatin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Sumner

CODE

165

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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	<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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Jo Conn Guild III

STREET & NUMBER

810 South Water Street

CITY, TOWN

Gallatin

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sumner County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Gallatin

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Tennessee Historical and Architectural Survey

DATE

1973

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Rosemont is located approximately two miles south of the courthouse square in Gallatin. Facing east, this magnificent Greek Revival style home is located 220 feet back from the highway, where it is almost completely hidden from view by a bank along the road which is planted with shrubs and trees. Large trees fill the lot and shade the circular drive and areas where the formal gardens and various outbuildings once stood. The original 500 acres have been reduced to five acres which include the open farmland extending out behind the house on the west side.

The brick plantation house was begun in 1828 and completed by slave labor in 1834. Constructed with hand-made, double brick bearing walls throughout, the unusual "T" shape plan consists of three separate two-story brick buildings with a one-story wing for the dining room, extending out from behind the center section. This middle section forms the east-west axis, consisting of 20' x 20' adjoining twin parlors built one behind the other. A suite of bedrooms of the same dimensions are located above. A double basement consisting of two rooms is located under the parlor rooms in this section of the house.

Featuring a balanced plan, the principal center section is fronted by a wide, recessed, double story veranda porch, running between the dependencies on each end. The recessed porch and dependencies form an unbroken line for the north-south axis, across the main facade. The office room located in the north dependency has an entrance from the gallery and a main entrance from the two-story portico built across the north elevation. Access to the bedchamber above is from the gallery. The dependency on the south end is identical with the exception of the out-standing chimney replacing the formal portico on the opposite side of the house. Each section of the house has entrances leading from the wide, front galleries and corresponding open corridors, running from east to west between the three building sections.

The original brick kitchen house which stood in the center of the southwest ell behind the house has been dismantled. The double gallery porch built across both sides of this ell was enclosed for additional rooms in 1874. The one-story dining room wing is built several feet lower than the main section. There was a lower porch for the entrance with a path leading out to the old kitchen. This lower porch was connected to the galleries above. The 20' x 30' dining room wing has been converted for use as the present kitchen and family dining room. A new access doorway was cut through the double-brick bearing walls with steps leading up to the back parlor room which is used for the formal dining room today. This doorway was built across the wall where presses flanked the old dining room fireplace.

A tornado struck the house in 1969 and tore open the roof and destroyed some of the two-story columns on the northwest ell porch. The original columns were carved from cedar logs 35' tall. These columns have been replaced by boxed columns. The owner is restoring the house as part of the routine maintenance. He has paid special attention to detail to bring out the quality of the original materials and features

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of the design. Original materials include the poplar floors, pine wainscoting, chair rails, hand-carved mantels and the original Sheffield silver keyhole escutcheons on the doors. Each of the six bedrooms have the original hand-carved mantels. The parlor fireplaces were changed in the 1880s for the present cast iron fireplaces. The original roof may be under the old standing seam metal roof, which is now covered over with asbestos roof shingles. Many of the original furnishings remain in the house, heirlooms that date back to Judge Josephus Conn Guild's occupancy prior to the Civil War.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1828-1834

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Judge Josephus Conn Guild

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rosemont, built in 1828-1834, is one of the finest examples of the Greek Revival style of architecture in Sumner County. The splendid design of this building reflects the life and times of one of Middle Tennessee's most prominent early citizens, Judge Josephus Conn Guild (1803-1883), an influential politician who was appointed judge and who served several terms in the State legislature.

The unique plan for Rosemont makes it one of the most unusual remaining examples of the Greek Revival style in the state. The two-story brick house is constructed in three, two-story sections, separate buildings united by a wide, double recessed porch across the front, with verandas and open galleries running between the different sections for entryways to the various rooms on both stories. The construction began in 1828 and took six years to complete by slave labor. During those years, Judge Guild and his wife Katherine Montgomery Blackmore lived in the "front yard office" where they observed every detail of the work. When the house was finally completed it contained nine large rooms with twelve foot ceilings. Arranged in perfect symmetry, the plan featured a double ell formed by the center section and one-story wing extending out from the back. This room was built for the dining room. In addition to the manor house, the property contained outbuildings including the separate brick kitchen house built in the center of the southwest ell, a double brick toilet, a smokehouse, carriage house, icehouse, barns, stables and brick slave houses, each located toward the back of the lot.

Rosemont was situated on a five-hundred acre plantation. The front of the house was landscaped like a park with the formal garden located to the right side of the house. Beginning in his youth Judge Guild was intensely interested in horses and raised thoroughbred stock. He entered many of his fine horses in races held throughout the south where he won many trophies. The Rosemont farms were widely known for the quality of stock and for the festive horseracing events held there.

Josephus Conn Guild had a colorful career as one of Sumner County's most influential politicians and one of the state's most outstanding lawyers. As an orator, Guild charmed his audiences with his wit and forcefulness as he campaigned across the state for Democratic presidential candidate Franklin Pierce. He also distinguished himself by his military service in the Seminole War in 1836. In his later years he became an accomplished author publishing an invaluable account of early Tennessee history in Old Times in Tennessee.

Judge Josephus C. Guild's successful career is a testimony to the self-made man. He was born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, on December 14, 1802. At the age of two he moved to Houston County, Tennessee, with his parents and older brother James.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Brandau, R. S. History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee, 1936.
 Cisco, Jay Guy. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, Nashville, 1909.
 Clayton, W. W. History of Davidson County, Tennessee, Nashville, reprinted 1971.
 Durham, Walter. Old Sumner, Sumner County Library Board, 1972.
 Guild, Josephus Conn. Old Times in Tennessee, 1878.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	5,5,0,0,0,0	4,0,2,5,6,1,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property being nominated consists of a rectangular shaped lot being described as follows: Beginning at Point A, the northeast corner, thence 290' parallel with Highway 109; thence 300' west; thence 290' north; thence 300' east to the point of beginning.

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 Debbie K. Henderson, Research Aide
Gail E. Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

October 1977

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

615-741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville,

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

DATE

11/22/77

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Gail Hammerquist

DATE

4/26/78

~~DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION~~

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Walter Cole

DATE

4-25-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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They relocated around 1810 to a farm near the headwaters of Bledsoe's Creek in Sumner County. Almost three years after Major Guild moved, both he and his wife died from "milk sickness." Josephus was only eleven years of age when he and his brother were placed in the custody of their uncle, Josephus H. Conn. Much of Guild's early life was influenced by his uncle, who was a friend of Andrew Jackson, a frequent guest.

Guild began his education in a nearby log schoolhouse; later he attended the academy at Gallatin and eventually studied under George McWhirter and Rev. Thomas B. Craighead at an academy near Nashville. It is recorded that Guild walked to Nashville in search of a lawyer to study law under. After witnessing the great skill that Colonel Ephraim H. Foster displayed in court, he went directly to Foster and asked to read law in his office. Foster accepted Guild's offer and immediately Guild began his studies. Within eighteen months Guild was prepared to take the bar exam and was licensed to practice by both Judge Haywood and White. In November 1822, at the age of twenty, Guild returned to Gallatin to begin a successful law career with Bailey Peyton, a close friend. The Guild-Peyton firm became one of the most prominent partnerships in the state.

Guild also served in the legislature and military. He was a member of the General Assembly in 1833, 1835 and 1852 and in the Senate in 1837 and 1845. In 1836 he resigned his seat to serve in the Seminole War. He advanced from the rank of captain to lieutenant colonel.

He began his career as a judge when he was elected chancellor for the seventh chancery division of the state in 1860, but his term was discontinued in 1861 because of the war. In 1870 he returned to the courts as an elected judge in Nashville for an eight-year term. In 1878 when the court was abolished, Judge Guild returned to private practice. On January 8, 1883 he died of heart failure.

Rosemont has always been in the ownership of the Guilds. Successive generations have taken care to preserve the house in keeping with its original form.