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. 1	Nam	1e							
historic		Lowr	y, James,	House					
and/or co	ommon	Harr	ison Hous	e					
2. L	Loca	ation							
street &	number	Ashevill	⊬₩૫ e Highway				N/A	not for pub	lication
city, tow	'n	Greeneville	mic.	<u>X</u> vic	inity of	congressional di	strict	First	
state		Tennessee	code	047	county	Greene		code	059
3. (Clas	sificat	ion						
	trict ding(s) icture	Ownership public x private both Public Acqui in proces	S	Status _X_ occupi unoccu _x_ work ir Accessible X_ yes: re yes: ur no	ipied i progress e stricted	Present Use agriculture commercia educationa entertainm governmer industrial military	al al ent	museur park X private religiou scientif m transpo	residence s ic
4. (Own	er of P	roper	ty					
name		Dr. and Mrs	. Keith Ha	arrison					
street &	number	1000 T	usculum B	lvd.					
city, tow	n	Greeneville		N/ <u>A</u> vic	inity of	:	state	Tennessee	37743
5. L	_oca	ation of	Lega	l Des	criptic	on			
courthou	ıse, regi	stry of deeds, e	tc.	Greene (County Cou	ırthouse			
street &	number			Court Sc	quare				
city, tow	n			Greenevi	ille	•	state	Tennessee	37743
6. F	Rep	resenta	ition i	n Exis	sting 9	Surveys			
title			N/A		has this pro	perty been determin	ned ei	egible? ye	es <u>X</u> no
date			N/A		N/A	federal	sta	te county	local
deposito	ory for su	ırvey records	N/A				-		
city, tow	n		N/A		,		state	N/A	

Condition excellent goodX fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered altered	Check one X original site moved date	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

The James Lowry House is located in Greene County approximately three miles southwest of Greeneville on the Asheville Highway. Situated atop a grassy knoll, the house has an imposing view of the mountains around it.

This structure was built circa 1850 by Daniel Allen for his daughter Nancy and her husband James Lowry. Stylistically it presents itself as a rural conception of Greek Revival architecture with austere lines and rather formidable details. The house consists of a square two story main block with a two story ell projecting from the rear elevation. Both the main block and the ell are covered with hipped standing seam metal roofs, and all brick work is executed in American common bond. The main block is three bays wide and is accentuated on the facade with a central one story portico supported by wooden pillars. A multi-light transom and side lights enhance the double-leaf front door which opens into a central hall. Elaborate one story porches are situated on the north and south sides of the ell and are accessible from two exterior doors in the first room of the ell. Fenestration is symmetrical throughout with windows having twelve light over eight light single hung sash.

In addition to the portico and side porches, other significant exterior details include: elaborate window surrounds with shouldered architraves; louvered window shutters; bracketed eaves; and three corbelled brick chimneys.

In plan, the principal block is a center passage double pile house with two interior chimneys bisecting the transverse interior walls. The ell, which is contemporary with the main block, consists of one room on each of the two floors which are connected by a narrow enclosed stair.

The entrance hall and the parlor are embellished with egg and dart plaster cornices and with inordinately large plaster ceiling medallions. Most of the original interior trim is intact including the mantels, doors, architraves, and trim. Few changes have occurred on the second floor with all rooms retaining their original paint colors inleuding marbleized mantels and grained doors. In addition, the stair risers from the first landing to the second floor retain their original marbleized finish.

8. Significance

1700–1799 art		engineering exploration/settlement .	music´ philosophy	humanitarian theater
prehistoric ard 1400–1499 ard 1500–1599 ag	riculture	community planning conservation conomics	landscape architecture law literature military	e religion science sculpture social/

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criteria

The Lowry House is significant as an example of rural Greek Revival architecture and for retaining many of its nineteenth century decorative painted finishes.

Family tradition holds that the Lowry House was built by Daniel Allen for his daughter and her husband James Lowry who were married in 1850. Allen was a prosperous farmer and landowner who accumulated thousands of acres of land in Greene County during his lifetime. Little is known of James Lowry except that he too was a farmer.

The Lowry House is significant as an example of rural Greek Revival architecture which has survived almost unaltered from its construction. This structure is particularly interesting because of such details as the plaster cornices and ceiling medallions which reflect the owner's desire for interior refinement normally associated with more imposing plantation houses of the Greek Revival period. In addition, the Lowry House with its bracketed cornice represents the beginning of the transition from the Greek Revival to the Italianate style of architecture.

It possesses many of its original interior decorative finishes including three different types of marbleing on mantels, marbleized stair risers and oak graining on upstairs interior doors. These examples of decorative painting are rare survivors and to have so much in one house is exceptional. The current owners are restoring the house as a private residence and are preserving the original decorative finishes.

9. Major Bibliographical References



Doughty, Richard, Greeneville, Tennessee: A One Hundred Year Perspective.

<u>10. Ge</u>	<u>ographi</u>	cal Data	1		
	inated property <u>i</u> ne <u>Davy Crock</u> e s		messee-N.C.	Q	uadrangle scale <u>1:24000</u>
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lude the 2.7 f the Simpso	acre tract o	occupied by t , 1 inch = 20	he house; see O feet) and (e area outli Greene Count —	Lowry House were drawn to ned in red on attached su y Tax Map (1 inch = 400 f
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
11. FOI		ss, Historica	-	ficer	June 1001
street & number	4721 Trousda	<u>istorical Cóm</u> ale Drive	11551011	telephone	June, 1981 615/741-2371
ity or town	Nashville	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	•	state	Tennessee 37219
12. Sta	te Histo	oric Pres	servatio	n Office	er Certification
he evaluated si	gnificance of this	property within th	e state is:		
	national	state	X local		
665), I hereby no according to the Deputy	minate this prope	rty for inclusion ir dures set forth by	the National Reg	ister and certify	ation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- that it has been evaluated ecreation Service.
Itle Executive	Director, Te	ennessee Hist	orical Commis	ssion	date $2/12/82$
For HCRS use		Annual Monte of the Control of the C		ister	date 3-/25/82
Keeper of the i	National Registér				date