

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee
COUNTY: Hamblen
FOR-NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 30 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Rural Mount
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION *8 mi SE of Morristown off TN 160*

STREET AND NUMBER: .5 mile east of Tennessee Route 160, 7.8 miles southeast of Morris-			
CITY OR TOWN: Morristown <i>VICINITY</i>		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Town.	
STATE Tennessee	CODE 47	COUNTY: Hamblen	CODE 063

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Valleydale Packers, Incorporated		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Bristol	STATE: Virginia	CODE 51

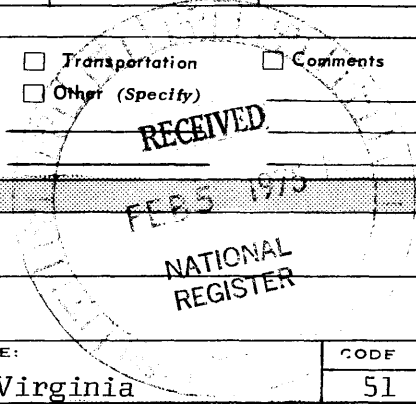
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hamblen County Register's Office		
STREET AND NUMBER: Courthouse		
CITY OR TOWN: Morristown	STATE: Tennessee	CODE 47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1974	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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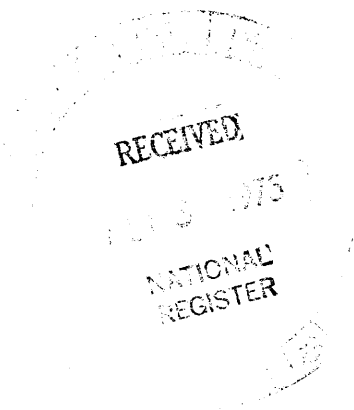
7. DESCRIPTION

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 Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two-story random grey limestone ashlar residence is rectangular in shape and has a central hall plan. It is five bays wide and is one room deep. Its gable roof is covered with asphalt and its ridge is parallel to the facade. The front and rear facades are identical and have identical one-story wooden porches - one oriented to the river, the other to the road. It features a later wood cornice with frieze on the exterior and an open well two-flight staircase and elaborately carved wood mantels on the interior.

A one-story red Flemish bond brick (all sides) addition, three bays wide and one room deep was built circa 1830. A 2 x 4 wood frame one-story shed with asphalt siding was added circa 1910. Otherwise, few alterations have been made.



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Rural Mount is a two-story, five-bay, Federal style house of random ashlar gray limestone construction. Attached to the left (north) gable-end wall of the house is an early nineteenth century single story brick kitchen addition, of Flemish bond, and added to this, is a small early twentieth century frame storage shed, further extending the rectangular plan.

The main block of the house is remarkably unspoiled. Capped outside end chimneys and splayed limestone lintels, together with the large, carefully laid flush quoin stones, exhibit the skill of an anonymous mason. A number of moldings in the cornice attest to the variety of planes which the carpenter owned. Wooden double hung windows and frames have nine-over-nine light sashes on the first floor and six-over-nine lights on the second floor. Also admitting light to the attic are four, four-light, single-sash gable end windows, one on each side of the two end chimneys. The two major facades--front and back--are furnished with a single story three-bay frame shed porch set upon brick piers with wooden lattice infill, in front of which are four wooden steps.

The house's interior consists of a center hall plan, with a single room on either side, and an open well, two flight, two-run staircase, with scrolled brackets and a molded handrail reminiscent of those found in late 18th century architectural handbooks. There are three bedrooms upstairs: one over each of the downstairs end rooms and one small bedroom (a single bay in width) at the head of the stairs. The floors throughout are of wood planks, well worn, and the walls and ceilings are of plaster on lath.

The kitchen/dining room addition, which is two bays wide and two-thirds the depth of the main block of the house, is much simpler in detail and has been spared the attention given to the previously described spaces. A large hearth in the northernmost (end) wall is covered with plasterboard and the floor is covered with linoleum flooring. Below, entered from a small exterior stairway in the backyard, is a brick cellar, with a dirt floor.

The frame shed addition, now used as a pantry, is covered on the exterior with imitation brick, composition siding, while on the interior, the two-by-four studs remain exposed. The roof of the main block of the house is of pressed metal shingles; the roof of the brick addition is of composition shingles, and that of the frame addition is of standing seam sheet metal (galvanized tin).

Approached from the west, Rural Mount stands at the end of a long (1/2 mile)

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tree-lined drive amid a larger group of trees. The family cemetery is in the field to the north, while to the east the house commands an impressive view of the valley of the Nolichucky River and its tributaries. Below, at the bottom of the hill, as one descends to the river valley, is a single story stone springhouse, which has been greatly neglected.

Unfortunately, neglect has been the recent history of the house too, for it has been economically separated from the plot it stands on. The house is fenced off within a small yard and continues to be leased to whomever will pay the nominal rent; while the land has been transformed into a feed lot and thus has been stripped of much of its green cover.

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" 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) 1799.

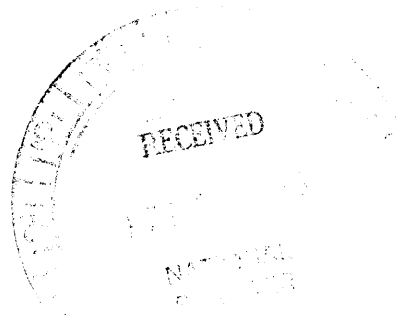
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <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 Architecture | <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

Rural Mount was reputedly built in 1799 by Alexander Outlaw for his son-in-law, Joseph Hamilton. Both of these men were instrumental in founding the States of Franklin and later of Tennessee. Outlaw was also a vast landholder in East Tennessee and other parts of the state as well. He was an important leader in the writing of Tennessee's first Constitution.

Rural Mount commands an impressive hilltop position overlooking the valleys of the Nolichucky River and its tributaries. Its random ashlar construction is similar to several houses of the period in this vicinity. The interior stair brackets and mantel pieces resemble designs illustrated in the late Eighteenth Century builder's handbooks.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jefferson and Hamblen Counties' Records, Dandridge and Morristown, Tennessee.
Citizen Tribune, Morristown, Tennessee. June 30, 1968.
Goodspeed's History of Tennessee. 1887.
 Ramsey, J.G.M., The Annals of Tennessee to the End of the Eighteenth Century. Walker and James, Charleston. 1853. Reprt 1926 with Fain's Index. Kingsport Press.
Tennessee. The Volunteer State 1769-1923. Vol. II., S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago and Nashville. 1923.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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 ° 08 ' 43 "	83 ° 11 ' 24 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
 17/303000
 4002100
 HL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Joseph L. Herndon, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Historic American Buildings Survey DATE: 9/1/74

STREET AND NUMBER:
National Park Service

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

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 Lauren [Signature]

Title Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date 7/30/75

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/30/75

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JUL 30 1975

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Statement of Significance

In circa 1799 Alexander Outlaw built Rural Mount for his third daughter-- Penelope--and his son-in-law--Joseph Hamilton. The architect of the house is unknown.

Rural Mount commands an impressive hilltop position overlooking the valleys of the Nolichucky River and its tributaries. Its random ashlar construction is similar to several houses of the period in this vicinity. The interior stair brackets and mantel pieces resemble designs illustrated in the late Eighteenth Century builder's handbooks.

A vast landholder in Tennessee, Outlaw reputedly gave to each of his four children and their husbands estates including a residence. Jefferson County Deed Records indicate Outlaw's gift of land to his daughter and son-in-law. Recorded 7/14/1793:

All of Jefferson County in the territory of the United States south of the River Ohio.

Recorded: 2/28/1796:

a parcel of land lying and being in Jefferson County and on the north side of Nolichucky River...containing 450 acres.

Joseph Anderson married another Outlaw daughter. Her dowry was a large tract of land on the Nolichucky River where Judge Anderson built a home--"Soldier's Rest." Soldier's Rest was an adjoining plantation and sister to Rural Mount. It was demolished for the present American Euka Plant.

Both Alexander Outlaw and Joseph Hamilton were prime movers in the organization of the states of Franklin and later Tennessee. A lawyer, Outlaw was one of the first representatives to the first House of Representatives for the State of Tennessee from Jefferson County. He was elected Speaker of the House at the first session of the Third General Assembly and as member to the Senate from Cocke and Jefferson Counties. He also played a significant role in writing Tennessee's first Constitution. From 1810 to 1825, Outlaw was clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County.

Outlaw's son-in-law--Joseph Hamilton--was also one of the chief organizers in the state. In addition to being the first clerk of Jefferson County, Hamilton was also one of the original trustees of Greenville College--the first state school. From 1792 to 1821 he was clerk of the Jefferson County Court.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Rural Mount, reputedly built in 1799, was constructed by Alexander Outlaw for his son-in-law, Joseph Hamilton. Both of these men were instrumental in founding the states of Franklin and later, of Tennessee, and in bringing representative government to this area of the new frontier.

The topography of Rural Mount is impressive. A tree-lined drive provides a long, straight axial approach to the house. Rural Mount stands on a hilltop, overlooking the broad valley of the Nolichucky River and its tributaries. Both of these topographical features are reminiscent of an early plantation, but are unusual for the area. Considering that the soil in East Tennessee is not generally good for growing staple crops and that there have never been many landed gentry in this particular area, Rural Mount is somewhat of an anomaly.

Constructed of random ashlar limestone walls, Rural Mount is architecturally significant as one of the oldest and largest (extant) stone houses in East Tennessee. Derivative of an English center hall with open staircase plan, with details resembling those in architectural handbooks, Rural Mount is different from the other stone houses of the area, which are of the banked, two-story Germanic type. This stone house was certainly an impressive building for its time and, despite its recent neglect, remains so even today.