

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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

Miles House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

631 Woodland Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fifth

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Davidson

CODE

37

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**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles Williams ✓

STREET & NUMBER

800 Russell Street

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register's Office-Metro Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Tennessee Historical and ARchitectural Survey

DATE

August 1978

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

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

The Miles House is a two-story building, roughly square in plan, of brick on a stone foundation. On both floors two rooms are located on each side of a central hall running from front to back. The stair rises from the left side of the hall. At the center of the front of the house (southeast elevation) is a projecting tower-like bay, square in plan, which forms an entry porch on the first floor level and contains a fifth second-story room opening onto the end of the upstairs hall. At the rear of the hall on the first floor is a concrete addition containing a bathroom.

The northeast side of the entry porch opens onto a veranda running around the corner and half-way back on the northeast side of the house. To the left of the entry is a three-sided bay window projection on the first floor level. Over its windows and the tower entry are decorative tin hoods of vaguely Italianate character. Evidence in the walls and foundation indicates that the veranda and bay window were added and the extension of the central bay increased at sometime after the initial construction of the house.

Second story dormers project from the tin-shingled, slope-sided, flat-topped roof on all four sides. The dormer gables have decorative carved barge boards. The central bay is topped by a high steep pyramid roof.

In the spring of 1977 a fire in the house seriously damaged the roof of the central bay and destroyed most of the interior woodwork. Little structural damage was done and some of the interior woodwork survived. The iron fencing which ran atop the low stone retaining wall in front is intact and is temporarily in storage to protect it from vandals.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES *circa 1860*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Miles House is located in the area of Nashville which was the suburb Edgefield. Edgefield began to develop in the 1850s and was incorporated in 1868. After it was absorbed by the city of Nashville in 1880, Edgefield continued its development as an elite residential neighborhood until a disastrous fire in 1916 which destroyed hundreds of houses and began the area's slow decline which lasted for sixty years. A number of Victorian houses survived the fire and, among the survivors, the Miles House is one of the oldest.

Woodland Street, on which the house is located, is one of the boundaries of the Edgefield Historic District. The district is listed in the National Register and was designated Nashville's first historic zoning district by Metropolitan Nashville Government in June 1978. The Miles House can be seen from a number of points within the Edgefield district, and is a visual focus for East Park, a city park lying along Woodland Street just within the district. The house was cited as one of the most important visual features of the area surrounding the district in a preservation planning study produced by the firm Preservation/Urban Design/Inc. of Anne Arbor, Michigan for Historic Edgefield, Inc., the district neighborhood organization.

Though the Miles House was built as a private residence, it also served as the home of Nashville Female Seminary. From 1870 until his death in 1879, Professor Henry Weber operated the school in this house teaching young women English, foreign languages, music, history, and metaphysics. Professor Weber's son later served as superintendent of Nashville's city schools.

After its return to residential use the house was owned by a Nashville riverboat captain, J. W. Lovell, and by the family of retired Nashville Circuit Judge Roy A. Miles. Most recently the house contained nine apartments. Present owners will soon begin a careful restoration of the exterior and reuse of the interior as offices.

Significant as one of the oldest surviving Edgefield houses and the former home of the Edgefield Female Seminary, the Miles House can also be a significant adjunct to the Edgefield district in its present delineation.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Nashville City Directory 1870-1879, 1884.
 Davidson County Deed Books, Metro Courthouse, Nashville, TN.
 Oral interview with Judge Roy A. Miles.
 1860 City Map of Nashville and Edgefield

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .3

QUADRANGLE NAME Nashville West, TN

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 521530 4003030
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The nominated property is a rectangular lot which measures 75 feet by 170 feet and which is bounded on the southeast by Woodland Street and on the northeast by South Seventh Street.

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

David H. Paine

ORGANIZATION

Metropolitan Historical Commission

DATE

August 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Second Avenue North at Broadway

TELEPHONE

(615) 259-5027

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

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

11/15/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles A. Hays
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1-8-79

ATTEST:

John H. Gilmore
 CLERK OF REGISTRATION

DATE

4/5/68