

**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. Name

historic Patton-Bejach House

and/or common Four Flames Restaurant

2. Location

street & number 1085 Poplar _____ not for publication

city, town Memphis _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Eighth

state Tennessee code 047 county Shelby code 157

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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 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 Harlan and Gladys Fields

street & number 1085 Poplar

city, town Memphis _____ vicinity of _____ state Tennessee

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Shelby County Register's Office

street & number 160 North Main

city, town Memphis _____ state Tennessee

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historical & Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date October 1977 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission, 4721 Trousdale Drive

city, town Nashville _____ state Tennessee

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 Patton-Bejach House at 1085 Poplar is an excellent example of Victorian architecture. Built in 1884, the red brick house is two stories tall; with a two and one half story cross gable on one end. Four exterior chimneys, two on each end wall, and a low-pitched standing seam metal roof, top the house. Cast iron ventilation grills appear at the attic and foundation line. The structure has a wooden cornice, and dentil-molding on the fascia. Pressed tin brackets act as apparent cornice supports.

The windows and doors are segmentally arched, with arched glass panes. In the facade (north elevation) of the house these windows extend to the floor, with arched transoms above single hung windows; other windows have double hung sashes. Each sash has a single vertical mullion. The house has both a front bay and a side bay; the front bay has an ornamental iron balcony, while a double door on the side bay leads to a small side porch.

The brick front porch is bordered by a wrought iron railing. Paired wrought iron columns support a second floor balcony, also with a wrought iron railing. The porch and balcony extend from the front bay to the end of the house along its front elevation.

Arched doors mark the front entry, leading to a small vestibule. An interior door, also arched, leads to the entry hall. A wide staircase with two landings goes to the second story. The staircase has square newel posts with recessed panels and panelling on the interior wall. Many of the original moldings and doors remain in the house, as do the cast iron mantels and tile hearths.

The structure has been changed in several respects. First, the stairway has been altered. Second, a freestanding kitchen to the rear of the house has been incorporated into the structure by enclosing a breezeway which originally linked the structures. The third instance of change is the addition of a large room to the rear of the structure.

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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1877, 1884

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Patton-Bejach House, according to oral history, was first constructed on this site in 1833. However, existing records and city directories for the period indicate a construction date of 1877; they further indicate that fire damaged the house in 1883 and it was renovated in 1884 without altering the original floor plan. The builder of the original house was Thomas N. Patton, a Tennessean who fought with Nathan Bedford Forrest and then moved to Memphis to work with Patterson Transfer Company, a barge and riverboat transportation company; he also repaired the house after the fire.

The Patton-Bejach House was purchased by Samuel Bejach, a Russian immigrant and Memphis merchant in 1900. His son, Lois D. Bejach, was a prominent jurist and attorney, and a member of the state legislature. The Bejachs sold the house in 1915, and after a succession of owners, it was adapted to its present use as a restaurant.

The Patton-Bejach House is architecturally significant. It differs from the Victorian detached urban houses which survive in small numbers in other sections of town; its wide front porch and arched french doors leading to balconies, the front porch and other entrance points, are unique in the city. No other Victorian-era house in the city retains these entrances, nor the elaborate front entryway. The structure is also unusual in its location. Other houses of this era were located much closer to the business district, while this house was built as a plantation house far removed from the center of nineteenth century Memphis. It is also noteworthy that this house provides an outstanding example of the adaptive reuse of older structures, and that it continues to lend its distinctiveness to the streetscape of Poplar Avenue.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Memphis City Directories, 1876 through 1922

Personal interviews by Elizabeth S. Moore, October 21, 1977 with Mrs. Nancy Patton Metcalf, Mrs. Demetra Patton Quinn and Miss Susan Patton

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .35

Quadrangle name Northwest Memphis, Tenn.-Ark.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	5	7	7	1	1	7	0	3	8	9	2	9	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing							

C

Zone		Easting				Northing							

D

Zone		Easting				Northing							

E

Zone		Easting				Northing							

F

Zone		Easting				Northing							

G

Zone		Easting				Northing							

H

Zone		Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification The property nominated is a rectangular tract which measures 200' by 80' and is bounded as follows: beginning at a point at the northeast corner of the lot; thence west 80' along the Poplar Avenue right of way; thence south 200'; thence east 80'; thence north 200' to the beginning. This is the entire parcel of land owned by Harlan and Gladys Fields.

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 Ann K. Bennett, Preservation Planner

organization Memphis Landmarks Commission

date May 1979

street & number 22 North Front Street, Suite 901

telephone 901-528-2834

city or town Memphis

state Tennessee

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert P. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 6/18/79

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Charles O. Hays</u>	date <u>7-27-79</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Jann H. Gilmore</u>	date <u>July 27, 1979</u>
Chief of Registration	