

RECEIVED

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY FORM

MAR 03 1988

Title: Historic Resources of Williamson County

Historic Name: Buford, Spencer, House (WM-732)

Common Name: Roderick

NATIONAL REGISTER

Owner: Barbara Freeman, Columbia Pike, Thompson Station 37179

Location: On Highway 31 one half mile south of Critz Lane junction.

Classification: Building

Contributing:

Buildings	1
Structures	0
Sites	0

Non-Contributing:

Buildings	1
Structures	0
Sites	0

Total: 1

Total: 1

Description:

The Spencer Buford House is a two-story brick side passage plan residence constructed ca.1820. The side passage plan is unusual in the county and the doorway displays excellent Federal detailing. On the main (north) facade is the main entrance which is located in a projecting bay and features one of the finest Federal style doors in the county. The door is of eight panel design with an elliptical fanlight transom. The door surround is ornate with engaged Doric motif colonettes, beaded molding, garland and swag designs, floral decoration, bead and reel moldings, medallions, dentils, and drop pendants.

The windows are both original and replacement nine-over-nine sash on the first floor and six-over-nine sash on the second story. The brick is of five-course common bond on the main and west facades and Flemish bond on the east and north facades. The original section of the house has exterior end brick chimneys. At the rear of the house is a two-story ca.1980 frame addition with weatherboard siding, nine-over-nine sash windows, and multi-light doors. The house rests on a limestone foundation and has a gable roof.

The interior of the house retains original Federal style mantles with fluted moldings. Also on the interior are original chairrails and a simple staircase with square newel post and balusters. There are no significant outbuildings. At the rear of the house is a ca. 1970 brick garage which is connected to the rear ell addition by an open arcade.

Period of Significance: ca.1820

Area of Significance: Architecture

Criterion: C

The Spencer Buford House is a notable example of a brick ante-bellum Federal influenced side passage plan residence of the early 19th century. The house is the only example of this style in the rural areas of the county. Its doorway is

perhaps the finest example of an Adamesque entrance in the county. Despite additions to the rear of the house the original plan and design of the house remains evident.

Spencer Buford was an early settler of the county and married Elizabeth Giddens in 1801 whose family owned nearby estates. Buford owned several hundred acres and 14 slaves in 1820 when he began construction of this two-story brick residence. Tradition states that he employed an architect from New York to design and help construct the residence. The doorway and side passage plan design are unusual in the county and this assertion appears likely. Before the Civil War the Buford family were prosperous farmers. During the Battle of Thompson Station in 1863, Nathan Bedford Forrest's horse, Roderick, was killed and buried near the house. The house was renamed for the horse in his memory.

Despite alterations to the rear of the house the basic side passage plan remains intact. The doorway is an excellent example of 19th century craftsmanship and is the best Adamesque influenced entrance in the county. The house retains its original site and setting.

Acreage: 6.4 acres

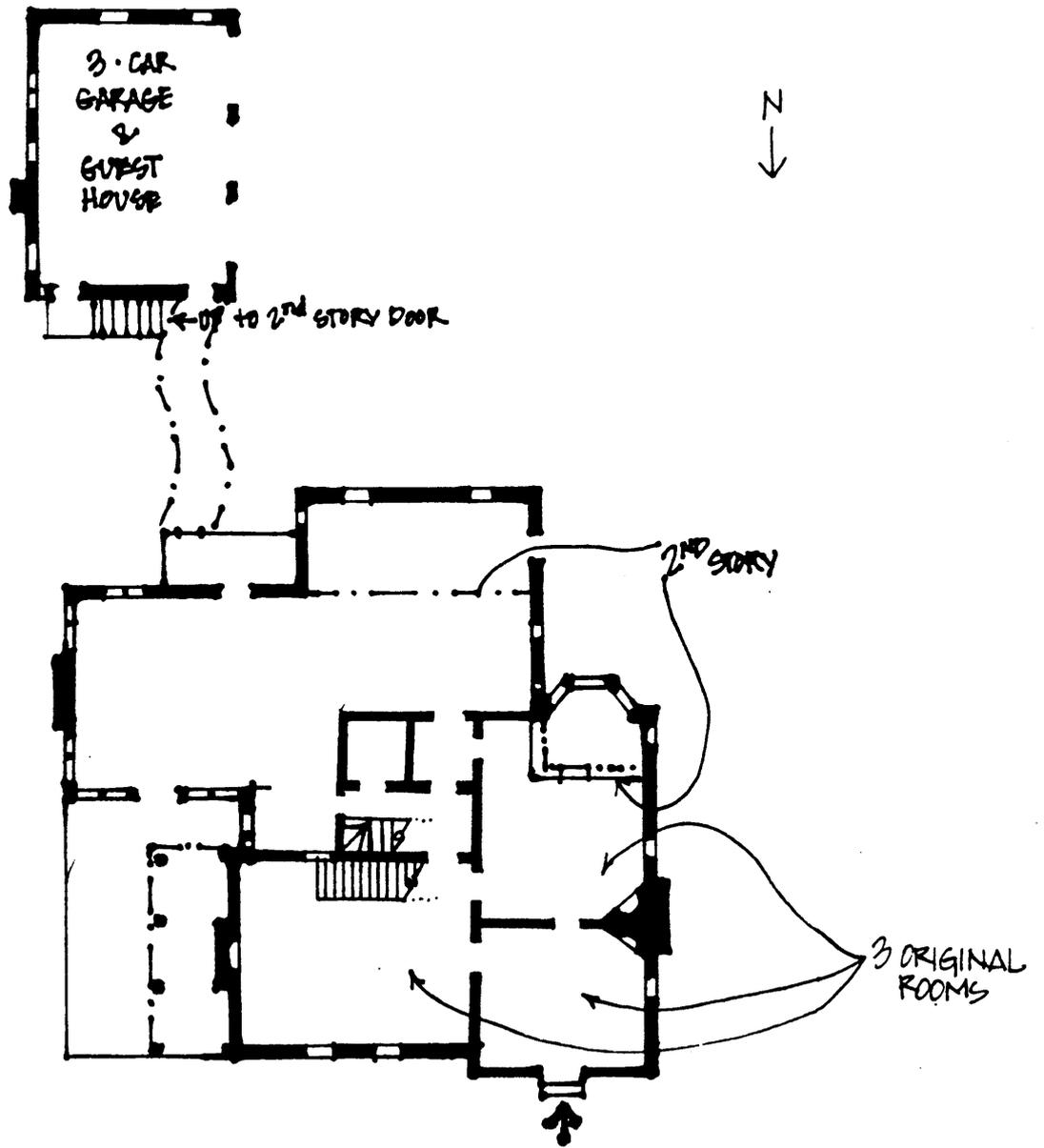
UTM References: Spring Hill Quad/16/509 280/39625 60

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification: The boundary of the Spencer Buford House is illustrated on accompanying Williamson County tax map 145, lot 15. The boundary is drawn to include the main house and connecting garage and exclude modern outbuildings to the east and south. The boundary is defined by fence lines on the north, east and south and on the west by Highway 31. The boundary is drawn to include sufficient property to protect the historical setting of the site.

Supplemental Bibliographical References:



\* 722 SPENCER BUFORD HOUSE



\* NOT TO SCALE