

PH 0665401

# DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **MAR 22 1978**

DATE ENTERED **OCT 3 1978**

## 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 **Allen House**  
AND/OR COMMON **Allendale**

### LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER **Allen-Griffey Road** NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CITY, TOWN **Clarksville** VICINITY OF **Sixth** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
STATE **Tennessee** CODE **47** COUNTY **Montgomery** CODE **125** ✓

### 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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:

### OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME **William Bailey Allen and Thomas K. Hartz** ✓  
STREET & NUMBER **Route 4**  
CITY, TOWN **Clarksville** VICINITY OF **Tennessee** STATE

### LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Montgomery County Courthouse**  
STREET & NUMBER **Third and Commerce Streets**  
CITY, TOWN **Clarksville** STATE **Tennessee**

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE **Tennessee Historical and Architectural Survey**  
DATE **June 1977**  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **Tennessee Historical Commission**  
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 Allen House and its dependencies are located on a hilly farm in north central Montgomery County. The two-story, rectangular residence was built of hand-made brick in 1858 in the popular Tennessee Federal style. It rests on a brick foundation with seventeen-inch thick walls. The gable roof is covered with standing seam metal roofing, topped with two brick chimneys in the end walls which are trimmed at each side with a simple boxed cornice with returns. Common bond brickwork was used in the facade (south elevation) and in the remaining three walls. Stone lintels and sills and louvered shutters accentuate the evenly spaced, rectangular shape, six-over-six light, sash type windows. A simple portico with hip-roof, square columns and pilasters projects from the center bay at the entrance. The wooden porch floor was replaced in recent years with concrete and the entry platform extends east and west almost completely across the facade. Engaged columns, transom and sidelights flank the front door, completing the entrance treatment. Except for cellar vents, the east and west elevations are quite plain. The rear (north) wall resembles the facade; the second story lacks the center window. Attached to the center of the first story is a frame ell of recent construction which connects the main building to the south wall of a two-story log building, an early Allen family house.

A member of the Allen family built the log house in ca. 1800, soon after Abraham Allen had purchased the farm. His descendents erected a new house in 1858, rather than enlarging the earlier homestead; later the two buildings were joined. According to the present owners, the poplar logs were weatherboarded in ca. 1842, and this was replaced with the present board and batten siding about thirty years ago. A massive stone chimney is attached to the east wall. Concrete blocks have replaced the original stone pilings and roll roofing material was installed in place of the original wood shingles. All door and window openings appear to be original in size and location.

The interior of the brick house retains its original floor plan. Sixteen by sixteen foot rooms flank the large central hall. A single-run staircase provides access to the second floor, the plan of which duplicates the lower level. Each room has an attractive wooden mantle which has been enclosed to provide for a coal grate. Evidence in the full basement reveals that the walls have rived lath and that the joists are sash sawn. The reverse side of the basement door retains its wood graining. The rafters and sheathing in the attic are also sash sawn. Although the roof structure lacks a ridge pole, the rafters are nailed, not pegged.

The log building has a single room on each floor, and these are connected by a narrow, steep quarter-turn staircase with winders; this element is in its original location. Random width poplar flooring and paneling and exposed beaded joists are found in the first floor room. Sash sawn, half-lapped and pinned rafters comprise the roof structure; there is no ridge pole. The plaster on the second floor walls and ceiling was applied to rived lath.

A few yards northeast of the Allen House is a clapboard frame building which originally served as a kitchen; it has two doors in the south elevation and a single window in the north wall. A story-and-a-half, frame tenant house stands east of the kitchen; this was built in ca. 1900, and like the kitchen, is in poor condition. To the northeast and west of the kitchen, respectively, are located a new implement shed and

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a modern garage. Approximately thirty yards west of the Allen House is a story-and-a-half log house with a one-story board and batten addition attached to the north wall. This building originally stood about one half mile to the northeast on another part of the Allen farm but was moved to its present site two or three years ago and renovated. The house, which was built in ca. 1800, had two stone chimneys, however, the present design includes only one chimney, and this is contemporary in design.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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      ca. 1800, 1858      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Allen family

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Captain Abraham Allen of Orange County, North Carolina, a Revolutionary War veteran, purchased approximately 1,275 acres in the new state of Tennessee on July 11, 1796. The land Allen acquired was first awarded to James Campbell by North Carolina land grant No. 65; Campbell sold his grant to Philemon Hodges, who in turn sold the property to Allen for 637 10 . Shortly after completing the transaction, Allen relocated his family and his sons' families to Montgomery County, some five or six miles north-northwest of the burgeoning town of Clarksville, the county seat. The Allen family has owned the farm since 1796 and over the years has cultivated corn, tobacco, and possibly hemp, and raised livestock there. Seven generations of Allens have lived on the farm; the family still owns 300 acres of the original tract.

The log Allen House is one of the older dwellings in Montgomery County. Since the logs have been covered for more than 135 years, they are probably in remarkably good condition, and the building appears to be structurally sound; most of the changes made in the building are largely superficial. The brick Allen House is still occupied, in a good state of preservation, and remains in nearly original condition. It stands as a fine example of the Federal style of architecture as interpreted by Tennesseans during the late antebellum period. Both buildings contain Allen furniture and heirlooms which have been passed from generation to generation.

The changing fortunes of this middle-class farming family can be traced in the buildings standing on the Allen farm. The log house was built primarily for shelter and materials readily available and easily worked--logs, rocks, and wooden shingles were used in its construction; this building served the family's needs for about sixty years. During the relatively prosperous years before the Civil War, the family erected the stately brick house using slave labor. That few improvements were made in the building after the war testifies to economic uncertainties of Reconstruction and the instability of Tennessee's agricultural economy in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The second log house on the property represents still another developmental stage. One branch of the sixth generation of the family relocated and rehabilitated the old building. This act indicates both an appreciation of the family heritage and a willingness to renovate the old building rather than erect a new one.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with James Bailey Allen, June 30, 1977

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.9

QUADRANGLE NAME Clarksville

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	4	6	6	8	7	0	4	0	5	0	8	0	0
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B 

1	6	4	6	6	8	9	0	4	0	5	0	7	0	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

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D 

1	6	4	6	6	7	2	0	4	0	5	0	7	8	0
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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the rectangle whose vertices are marked and given by points A, B, C, D above.

### 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

Robert E. Dalton, Director of Field Services

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

January 4, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

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

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

*Robert E. Dalton*

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

3/16/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

12/3/78

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*William Belovich*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

Sept 30, 1978