

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED FEB 22 1979  
DATE ENTERED MAR 7 1979

**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

Benjamin F. Turley House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Kentucky 35, 2.5 miles north of Sparta

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Sparta

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Gallatin

CODE

077

**3 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:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Lowe

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2

CITY, TOWN

Sparta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 41086

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Gallatin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Warsaw

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Benjamin F. Turley House is located on a sharp rise overlooking State Highway 35 in rural Gallatin County. Facing eastward, the brick structure is approximately 2.5 miles north of the small community of Sparta.

Built in 1863, the Turley House is a two-story brick Gothic Revival structure with a one-story wing added in 1938.

The house, built on a fieldstone foundation, has a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof with wheel windows in each gable. Windows are six-over-six-pane. Plain interior chimneys are featured, with the absence of polygonal pots common to Gothic structures.

An enclosed porch in the Romanesque style is a distinctive feature of the Turley House. Two large brick pillars with semi-circle arches form three openings onto the porch, accented by a second-story window centered above the middle arch. Similar arcades are characteristics of those found at Shawnee Springs in Mercer County (listed on the National Register in 1976) and Pleasant Lawn in Woodford County (see Three Cohen Mural Houses nomination of February 1976). Accenting the arches, as well as all bays, are corbeled brick hoodmolds.

The house contains four rooms on the first floor and four rooms on the second floor with three doorways opening out onto the porch. The flooring is original throughout the house. The mantels feature characteristics of both the Greek Revival and Gothic styles (see photo 6), while the doorways are of Greek Revival design.

The house, barn, and Turpin cemetery are all located on a rise overlooking State Highway 35 with the boundary drawn to include this natural setting. The Turpin cemetery marks the rear boundary with State Highway 465 and State Highway 35 serving as the northern and eastern boundaries respectively. The frame barn, of popular construction, is located 300 feet behind the dwelling. The barn was built at the same time as the house as is evidenced by the axe-hewn posts and the wooden pegs in the hay loft. The small cemetery, located 350 feet behind the barn, is the burial plot of Horatio Turpin, his wife, and other members of his family. The cemetery is approximately 60 feet by 30 feet, and is enclosed by a fieldstone fence.

# 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 1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benjamin F. Turley House located near the vicinity of Sparta is architecturally significant in being an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival style in sparsely populated Gallatin County.

The two-story brick dwelling was constructed in 1865 by Benjamin F. Turley, an early settler of Gallatin County. Turley, a farmer and merchant by vocation, served as county judge for several years.<sup>1</sup> Prior to the Civil War he purchased a portion of the Horatio Turpin estate which included the Turpin homestead known as "Beech Park."<sup>1</sup> Turpin had come to Kentucky from Virginia in 1820, and had acquired 4,300 acres of land which extended from Eagle Creek to the Ohio River.<sup>2</sup> He constructed a Two-story brick residence sometime before his death in 1826. Turpin and members of his family were buried in their cemetery located behind the house.

Benjamin Turley and his family lived in the Turpin house for several years until the construction of their own house. After the completion of the Gothic style structure, the Turpin place, which was situated directly behind the new structure, was torn down.

The Gothic style is unusual for Sparta as well as the rest of Gallatin County. According to Mrs. Mary Ann Turley Allnutt, a daughter of Benjamin Turley, the use of the Gothic Revival was at the request of her mother. Mrs. Turley had grown up in Covington across the Ohio River from Cincinnati and no doubt was influenced by the architectural styles found in this area. The enclosed porch was also incorporated in the construction of the house at the request of Mrs. Benjamin Turley.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mary Turley Allnutt, "The Home of Long Ago," pp. ii-v; Gallatin County Tax Assessment Record of 1865, p.26; Gypsy Gray, History of Gallatin County, Kentucky, p. 72.

<sup>2</sup>Gallatin County Deed Book F, p. 81.

<sup>3</sup>Allnutt, p. ii.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Allnutt, Mary Turley, The House of Long Ago. New Orleans: by the author, 1947.  
 Atlas of Sparta, Kentucky. 1877.  
 Gallatin County Deed Book F, p. 81.  
 Gallatin County Tax Assessment Records for 1862-1865.  
 Gray, Gypsy. History of Gallatin County, Kentucky. Covington, Ky.: Kentucky Historical Societies, 1968.  
 Collins, Richard H. History of Kentucky. Vol. II. Covington: by the author, 1874.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	6	8	1	6	6	0	4	2	8	5	3	2	0
ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

B 

1	6	6	8	1	7	2	0	4	2	8	5	2	2	0
ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

C 

6	6	6	8	1	5	0	0	4	2	8	5	0	8	0
ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

D 

1	6	6	8	1	4	6	0	4	2	8	5	1	4	0
ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

E 

ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

F 

ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

G 

ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

H 

ZONE	EASTING					NORTHING								

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at point A at the southwest corner of the intersection of Kentucky State Highways 465 and 35 proceeding 400 ft. Southeast along the East side of State Highway 35 to point B; thence 925 ft. Southwest to point C; thence 300 ft. Northwest to point D; thence 930 ft. Northeast along the South (con't.)

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

William G. Johnson, Sr. Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

## 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

TITLE

DATE

2-2-99

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

3-7-79

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3/7/79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 22 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 7 1979

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Benjamin F. Turley House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 2

---

Verbal Boundary Description (con't.)

side of State Highway 465 to point A.





# SPARTA

**PRECINCT No. 4**  
**GALLATIN CO.**

*Scale 2 Inches to the Mile*

### SPARTA BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- DR. WM. A. LINDSAY, Physician and Surgeon.
- NAT. CARPENTER, Justice of the Peace.
- J. C. HAMILTON, Justice of the Peace.
- J. P. ROSELL, Dealer and Breeder of fine Stock.

Property Jusley, Benjamin F., House

79500989

State Ky.

Working Number 11.1.78.4403

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 6  
Maps 1

UHM incorrect call  
Signature?

**CONTROL**

pl  
11.2.78

**HISTORIAN**

Significance not fully assessed. Refer to Mrs. Lowe's letter for intangible qualities of local history & associations w/ early settler, farmer, merchant, & judge. (Sandblasted?)

Joe Tomner  
12-07-78

Refer to architectural historian

ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT AS A WELL-PRESERVED RURAL ADAPTATION OF THE GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE. ALTHOUGH THE HOUSE WAS EXECUTED IN THE GOTHIC REVIVAL MODE, THE TRIPLE ARCH ENCLOSING THE PORCH FORESTERS THE POPULARIZATION OF THE ROMANESQUE.  
INADEQUATE V.B.O.

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

call/accept.  
Built 12/9/70

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

Return  
labouch  
12/22/78  
weak #8, no vhd, no boundary justified

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_ Send-back 1.9.79 Entered \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Re-submit 2.22.79

INT:2106-74

NAME OF PROPERTY Benjamin F. Turley House; Beeches STATE KY

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

**7** Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**8** Statement of Significance: Beeches - please elaborate on Federally inspired features that make house a significant example of the style.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9** Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_

**10** Geographical Data -- Acreage: Turley House <sup>Beeches &</sup> - please provide more complete <sup>verbal</sup> boundary

UTM Reference(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description: Turley House - please justify boundary

(descriptions of properties have been requested from Gloria Mills)

**12** Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographic Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Map Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Barbara Handy / Herbert Brito on the National Register staff, telephone 202-343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Bill Iborach <sup>to</sup>  
Chief, Branch of Registration

Date: 1/9/79



Property

*Jurley, Benjamin F., House*

79000989

*2nd control*

State

*Ky.*

Working Number

*11.1.78.4403*

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 6

Maps 1

**CONTROL**

*OK 2.23.79*

**HISTORIAN**

*Accept  
Lightner  
3-2-79*

*Although significance was questioned during previous review, no additional information was requested on return sheet. Property was accepted for architectural significance. Boundary justification & VBD have now been provided. OK.*

*AN ADEQUATE VBD HAS NOW BEEN PROVIDED. THE HOUSE'S DESIGN REPRESENTS A STYLISTIC TRANSITION BETWEEN THE GOTHIC REVIVAL AND THE ROMANESQUE. ALTHOUGH SLIGHTLY ALTERED, THE ORIGINAL ARCHITECTURAL INTENT IS WELL-PERCEIVED.*

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

*ACCEPT  
H. Smith  
3/7/79*

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*ACCEPT  
H. Smith  
3/7/79*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up

4-3-79

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered MAR 7 1979







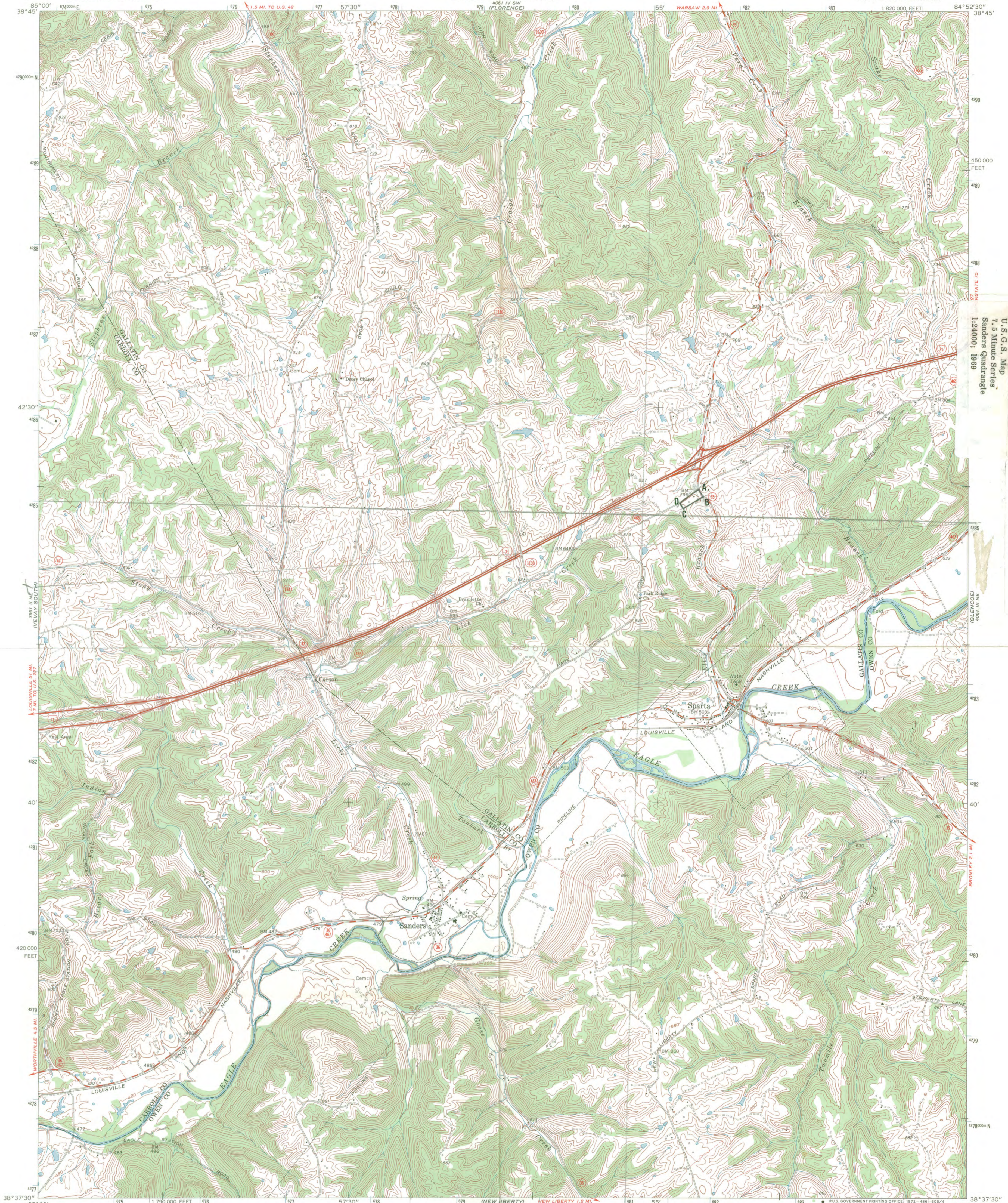








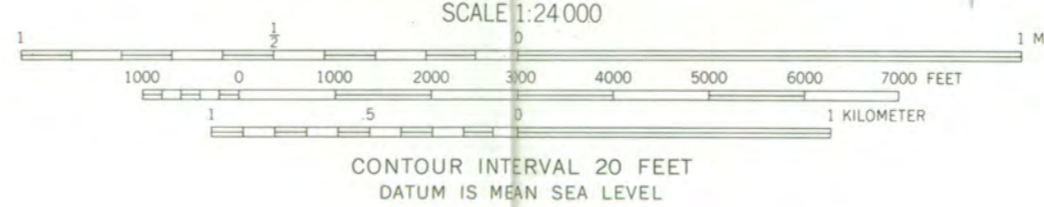




Benjamin F. Tutley House  
Gallatin County  
Kentucky  
Map 1  
U.S.G.S. Map  
7.5 Minute Series  
Sanders Quadrangle  
1:24,000; 1969

UTM References:  
A. 16/681/660/4285320  
B. 16/681/720/4285220  
C. 16/681/500/4285080  
D. 16/681/460/4285140

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1949. Field checked 1951. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1969  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242,  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

RECEIVED NOV 1 1978  
NATIONAL REGISTER  
MAR 7 1979

SANDERS, KY.  
NW/4 OWENTON 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3837.5-W8452.5/7.5  
1969  
AMS 4061 III NW-SERIES V853



RECEIVED  
SEP 13 1978  
KY. HERITAGE  
COMMISSION

September 9, 1978

RECEIVED  
NOV 1 1978  
NATIONAL  
REGISTER

Mr. William G. Johnson,  
Senior Historian  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
104 Bridge Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I wish to express to the Heritage Commission the thoughts my husband and I have regarding the nomination of our home, Provincia Cana, to the National Register of Historic Places.

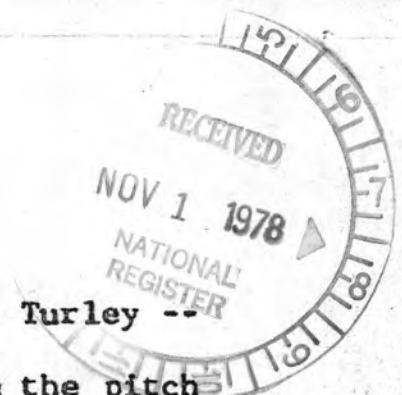
Although no treaties were signed here nor any individual of great political stature lived in our home, the builder of Provincia Cana was an American who should not be forgotten. He is the enduring heritage alive in each of us.

Our home was built by Mr. B. F. Turley, a County Judge and an esteemed person. Mr. Turley was a family man. He cared very much for their needs. This is evidenced by the quietly elegant, red brick Gothic home he had built for them.

Care went into the selection of the building site - horseback riding distance of his church, his store and the educational facilities available for his children. His children were educated locally by York and Willis and later attended Belle Wood Seminary in Louisville. He realized that only through knowledge are people free.

Mr. Turley served his fellowman and his country. He held the position of County Judge for many years. Often, he was away from his home discharging the duties of his office.

Mr. Turley served God. He and Mrs. Turley rode horseback to attend worship services at the Ten Mile Baptist Church, the first Baptist congregation known to exist in the County. The Ten Mile Baptist Association which today remains a healthy, active organization is responsible for the building of many area churches.



The house reflects the very nature of Mr. Turley -- simple, enduring, practical, sometimes harsh in the pitch of its many gabled roof. Yet a warmth, a gentleness is achieved in the use of arches on the columnar porch and the multicolor brick.

Generosity and hospitality are displayed in this house by the "side of the road." The entrance hall is graced by a door 4' in width.

Mr. Turley was a farmer, obviously a good one. His fields were not only income producing, but he maintained orchards of every kind of fruit imaginable and gardens complete with the herbs necessary to satisfy his family's appetite and provide remedies for their ails. Traces of his orchards are still present in the form of a lone apple tree scattered here and there in the fields adjacent to the house.

Mr. Turley was heritage conscious. Great care was taken to maintain the walled, family cemetery of the original owner of his land, Captain Horatio Turpin. This cemetery is still intact as a result of his efforts. Tombstones in the cemetery are dated from the middle 1700's. Mr. Turpin's family were among the first settlers in Gallatin County. His family history is attached.

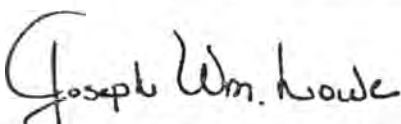
Mr. Turley belongs to a unique group of Americans who quietly go about doing unrecognized, important functions -- maintaining a family life, serving God and being a good citizen. Mr. Turley achieved no greatness of magnitude. He did accomplish what you and I are attempting to do -- our best -- in all our hands are set to. Unintentionally and yet intentionally, preserving the American heritage.

Provincia Cana has observed the citizenry of Gallatin County since 1865. There is not one individual who having lived here of any duration has not reflected upon its unique architecture and longevity.

Provincia Cana is an historical monument not only in architectural style and age, but it stands as a monument to the everyday, unassuming Americans of their achievement and exercise of a democracy.

My husband and I want our home on the National Register for just this purpose to stand as a symbol to all those who pass by that this has been and will continue to be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph Wm. Lowe (Mrs.)



Sparta Ky  
Sept. 14. 1978

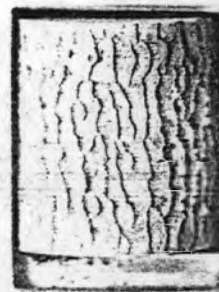
The Ky Heritage Commission  
Historical Preservation Review Board

I would like for the  
home "provincia Cannai" of my  
son and his wife Joseph and  
Harriett Lowe to be placed  
for nomination on the National  
Register

I am enclosing pictures  
of the cemetery and the history  
of Horatio Turpin. he and  
his family are buried there  
as he served with General  
Washington at Valley Forge.

The house is beautiful gothic  
architectural work you have  
the story of the Turley's who  
built the house

It's on the cross roads of  
highway no 35 and what is



known as the "Old Boone trail"  
It is thought that he camped  
on these grounds

Gauss Truby

Mrs Alva Lowe

Sparta

#2.

Ky

41086



Dr. William J. Murtagh

October 23, 1978

Page 2

Benjamin F. Turley House, Gallatin County, Kentucky

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

1 Map

6 Photographs

2 Letters of Support



Turley, Benjamin F., House  
11-14-78

December 8, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh,  
Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Re: H32 - NR

I wanted to express to you my sincere desire for our home to be placed on the National Register. It is a beautiful house but probably its most qualifying attribute is the fact it has stood as a landmark to three generations of local citizenry. In its location near the Sparta exit of I-71 many people have observed and will observe its endurance and be encouraged in a world of change that some things do survive and remain useful throughout time.

Attached are comments which I made before the Kentucky Heritage Commission of its worthiness for listing on the National Register and also a copy of research documented by records retained in the Gallatin County Court House, Warsaw, Kentucky.

December 8, 1978

Page 2

I am grateful to Dr. Carl Bogardus, our local historian for his efforts and time spent in acquiring the information.

It is my sincere conviction that my home would be an admirable asset to the national Register; and I eagerly anticipate the results of the nomination.

Very sincerely yours,

Joseph Wm. Lowe

Joseph Wm. Lowe (Mrs.)



THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	
DATE LISTED	DEC 12 1978
STATE	NSF (ATTACHED)
COUNTY	
LOCAL NAME	
FEDERAL NAME	
DATE ACTION TAKEN	12/15/78
INITIALS	ST

YP

possibly with some (12/15/78)

with structure located

structure the results of the nomination

equivalent to the national register and I believe

to be an accurate comparison that all some money be an

time

for the structure and time spent in establishing the structure

and the structure to be a national register and local nomination

page 2

December 2, 1978



*Kentucky Heritage Commission  
104 Bridge Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601*

*Recvb.*

*2.22.*

February 6, 1979

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
440 G. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

RECEIVED

FEB 22 1979

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is the National Register form for the Benjamin F. Turley House in Gallatin County, Kentucky, which was returned by your office for additional documentation, which has now been completed.

If there are further questions, please contact our agency as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

*Eldred W. Melton*

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton  
Executive Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer

EWM:lt

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered      MAR 7 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Turley, Benjamin F., House	Sparta vicinity Gallatin County

Also Notified

Honorable Wendell H. Ford

Honorable Walter (Dee) Huddleston  
Honorable M. G. (Gene) Snyder

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Eldred W. Melton  
Director  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
104 Bridge Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

NR      Byers/bjr      3/8/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

April 29, 1759, in Chester Co., Penna., and died Oct. 31, 1839, at "Beech Park", Gallatin County, Ky.

Horatio Turpin's name appears frequently in 1784-5 land entries, whereby the Commonwealth of Virginia paid off Revolutionary War claimants with Kentucky Lands.

In 1820 Horatio and Mary Ann Turpin decided to move from Virginia and sold 800 acres of the home place. An extensive caravan of wagons, cattle, riding and work horses and retainers made the very arduous journey over the Wilderness Road to Kentucky. Lexington was their first home, but shortly after they moved to Gallatin County, where he died in 1826 in his 72nd year. His remains, and those of his immediate family, are interred in the stone-walled family buryingground at "Beech Park" near Warsaw.

It will be of interest to note that the youngest of their twelve children, Anna Cornelia Turpin, born Oct. 8, 1825, died Oct. 11, 1892, married Mr. Absalom B. Chambers (1820-1872), of Warsaw, and it was their granddaughter, Louise Chambers Corkran, who bequeathed the present clubhouse to the Warsaw Women's Club.

The Turpins of Gallatin County also had a close connection with the noted Butler family of Carroll County, in that Philip Ashburn Turpin, born in Virginia, Oct. 1805, died in Carroll Co., May 20, 1872, son of Horatio and Mary Ann Turpin, married Mary Ellen Butler, daughter of Thomas Butler (son of Gen. Percival Butler and daughter of William Orlando Butler).

By  
Carl S. Hayward, Sr.  
Warsaw, Kentucky

THE TURPIN FAMILY  
OF  
BEECH PARK, GALLATIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

1755  
Horatio Turpin was born in Virginia, 4-13-1755, and died at his home "Beech Park", in Gallatin County, Kentucky, on Oct. 8, 1826. He was the 11th and youngest child of Thomas Turpin "Gentleman", born in Virginia, May 9, 1708, died in Powhatan Co., Va., June 20, 1790, and Mary Jefferson (date unknown) daughter of Captain Thomas and Mary (Weld) Jefferson who were married in 1730.

Thomas Turpin was made a Lieut. Col. on Aug. 31, 1745, in the Virginia Militia by Gov. Dinwiddie. He lived in the Five Creek Mills neighborhood of what later became Powhatan Co. He served as Vestryman of Southern Parish from 1745 to 1779.

Horatio Turpin and his wife lived at "Palmyra", their plantation near Five Creek Mills, Powhatan Co. During the American Revolution he was an Ensign in the 15th Virginia Line, Gen. Gibbs' detachment, 15th Regiment of Foot (Infantry) Capt. James Harris, Major Gustavus B. Wallcut. Ensign Turpin was with Gen. Washington at Valley Forge from Feb. 7 March 1778, and in August, 1778, he was at White Plains.

In 1780 he was a Lieut. in Capt. Littleburg Masby's Volunteer Cavalry Troop from Powhatan Co., participating in actions around Richmond, Williamsburg, Mattom's Ridge and Petersburg. In 1781 he was Capt. of a Cavalry Company under Maj. Masby in action around Petersburg. He also saw action at Kings Mountain and Cowpens under Gen. "Light Horse" Harry Lee.

Thomas Turpin (1708-1790) left property to his eldest son, Peterfield Turpin (1751-1790), to pass to Horatio's acres in Buckingham Co. passed to Horatio, on March 30, 1803. Horatio Turpin married ~~Elizabeth~~ Mary Ann Bancroft, born July 12, 1786, died Sept. 20, 1865, at Beech Park, daughter of Mr. Daniel Bancroft, who was born Nov. 2, 1746 at Westfield Mass, and died March 7, 1796 at Philadelphia, and his wife Mary Magdalene Vasson Bancroft, who was born



Research in the Clerk's office at the Gallatin  
County Court House, Warsaw, in Book F, page 81,  
shows that on June 1, 1925, John L. May and  
Mary Effes, heirs of John May, deceased, of  
Virginia, deeded to Horatio Turpin 4,300 acres  
of land, being the upper part of James French's  
survey of 15,913 acres in Gallatin County. It  
was stated in the deed that there had been  
an agreement between John May and Horatio  
Turpin, dated Aug 10, 1784, enabling Turpin  
to buy the 4,300 acres (extending from Eagle  
Creek to the Salmon River) for 50 cents an acre.

KENTUCKY ANCESTORS  
1809

The first house that was built on the north side of Eagle Creek was a long white brick house, built out on top of the hill "we call Mount Inne Wilson Farm" this house was built around 1801 or 1802. A man by the name of Horatio Turpin with a bunch of slaves came to this site and bought some 4000 ac of land and cleared it up built a long brick house with a row of log cabbins for the slaves. Then he went back to Virginia and got his family. He died in 1826, and is buried in the old Family grave yard, out back of where the house set. of course after the slaves were freed they staid on and built them a homes and lived there. some of their great-great grandchildren are still there. there is one family in 1977 that still lives in the community. They had their own school and still have therie church. it is very strong.

In 1865 the Turley's had moved in and Mrs. Turley had this house that stand's now built in 1865. at a cost of? well you can read all about it in the folling pages. >

Our nex house was the old stone house at Sanders, Kentucky. built in 1809 by Nathaniel Sanders (1741-1846) who was a native of Spotsylvania County, Virginia, and served in the Revolutionary War.

He settled at the Forks of Elkhorn where hr built a mill on South Elkhorn and another on the North Fork, according to early Woodford County, Ky., recorded (1787 and 1788) .

After the Mississippi was opened to Kentucky shipping, he built a warehouse and mill on Eagle Creek near the Kentucky River (Sanders) This house, used as the home of the miller, stood untill 1916 when it was torn down and stones used for a new mill dam. Records indicate it was a voting place in the 3-day election of 1810. Mr. Ed Keith and his family was the last ones to live in it before it was torn



"THE HOME OF LONG AGO"  
"DANIEL BOONE"  
1800 to 1973

In the southern city of NEW ORLEANS sits a little old lady to-day, (thi was Dec. 1947) in her ninetieth year, who turns the pages of memory to visualize the day she lived on a Gallatin County farm not far from the north border of Owen County. She is MARY ANN TURLEY ALLNUTT, <sup>daughter</sup> widow of Mr. and Mrs. B.F. Turley, early Gallatin pioneers. A number of Owen and Gallatin residents are familiar with the large Gothic dwelling house not far from the Sparta limits on the Warsaw pike, now state highway number 35. English in design, the house is different to others along the highway. Visitors to the home are now welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Johnson and their interesting little daughter, Nancy, who have owned the place about two years. This gabled brick residence is the former home of the Frank Wilson of Sparta. Prior to this the place was in possession of the Turley heirs, of whom our Mrs. Allnutt is a proud survivor. Since the Johnson's occupancy, the house and 100 acres of land surrounding have both undergone some repairs, including a new barn. The red brick Gothic referred to in the memoirs of Mrs. Allnutt is now a "WHITE" brick, due to the redressing the Johnsons gave the place about a year ago. This brick Gothic dwelling stands on historic grounds, (Daniel Boone past by this place and could of camp on this ground for it was high up where no one could slip up on you) The site being adjacent to the path follow by Daniel Boone, on his trip thru Gallatin to what is now Carroll County.

Turning from the Sparta-Warsaw road onto Boone's trail for a few feet and then thru the gateway up a sloping drive to the house, one finds a place which from early days to this has remained one of the elegant country places in this section.

will be a comfortable and convenient home. Our author writes that: MARY ANN TURLEY planned the new brick after the family had lived in the long white brick home of the HORATIO TURPING family. She wanted a brick inside porch, two large brick pillars, round at the top, the staircase with sides forming three openings and a porch of good size.

The home near Sparta built about the close of the CIVIL WAR by Judge R. F. Turley and Mary Ann Pearce Turley. The above picture is enlarged from a kodak snap shot and was made more than a year ago before the brick received its present coating of white paint. The house and 100 acre farm are owned by Mr and Mrs Evert Johnson and was formerly the property of the late Frank Wilson".

Door open to the hall and parlor, another to the sitting room and one to the long dining room Pillars form three round openings and made three entrances into the porch! Proud is Mrs Allnutt to add that she, a bride, stood to be married in the middle arch on a beautiful fall night in 1881. A huge crowd of witnesses standing in the yard. The ceremony, she said, was read by the Rev. Dr Tom Hale of Louisville. The staircase, circular and graceful, is among the show place of the home at present, as well as its massive walls. Widely used in homes in this part of Kentucky near a century ago, few, if any residences, are so constructed today.

In several letters to the editor, Mrs Allnutt, a subscriber to this newspaper, has set down many facts of the past as her remarkable memory recalled them and at the insistence of her younger sister, Mrs Herbert Culling of California, The story is being placed in print. Both desired something to be written concerning their "HOME OF LONG AGO" For the copy work on the article and other assistance, we are indebted to Mrs E. C. Threlkeld of Warsaw, The former Lelia Wilcox of Grayson, Ky. and to Dr Threlkeld for his research and contribution of facts concerning the Boone Trail. Time after time I have passed my father's home A red brick two-story Gothic style house two miles from Sparta in Gallatin County, as my husband's nephew, ALLIE ALLNUTT, accompanied me to his home in Covington. It made me feel very sad and looked as if it were a tall



... was all one could wish—land on both sides of the pike—  
loads of fruit, cherries, peaches, apples, quince, pears—must have  
been old orchards as the bodies of some trees, especially the May che-  
ries, were very large. "The English style house was built by father,  
... Turley, who employed men from Warsaw near the close of the C  
... father, with his parents, three sisters and eight brothers, join  
a caravan which came from NORTH CAROLINA and settled near Mount Ster  
in Montgomery County, Later moving to Gallatin County. They establish  
in the region of Ten-Mile CHURCH, His Father gave the land on which  
Ten-Mile CHURCH was built. All the family owned farms but one who wa  
a Teacher. My English mother was MARY ANN PEARCE TURLEY, Her Father  
was wed in California to Mary ANN JOINER and migrated when she was A  
child to Covington. "Ten-Mile CHURCH was burned some time ago I felt  
sad, as it was a great CHURCH where many of my relatives attended. I  
in my later years, mother and father retained membership there and r  
10 miles horseback to attend services. In that period I was a baby a  
was carried on a pillow horseback. "My mother, as a school girl saw  
OHIO river frozen over between Covington and Cincinnati and skated  
across to visit an aunt there. Among her stories she told us of the  
"BLACK CHOLERA" which so frightened the citizens. When one grave was  
dug there were more than one body to be placed in it.

"Mother had come on a visit to Gallatin County and became attracted  
father when she saw his picture in oil painting. Following their wedd  
ing, they first settled near Napoleon but father wanted more land and  
they came twelve miles or more to the place near Sparta where stands  
the red-brick Gothic. after he bought we lived some years in the long  
white brick home of the TURPINS. Materials were high then it cost him  
\$8,000. to build. HORATIO TURPIN had come years before from The South  
with a host of black slaves and put up the white brick which stood i  
the rear of the one there now. It had a LARGE hall in center, rooms o  
both sides and rooms upstairs with dormer windows, I can almost see



The row of cabins built for the slaves from the yard Gate to the barn—those little log cabin homes: "Mother and the servants cooked many meals for the soldiers. They came in bunches and droves during the Civil War. Ordered dinner, too, and partial to ham and eggs. Once a bunch were waiting to eat, some in the big hall on the floor where mother had to pass. One of them spoke unkind words to her. She flew to the door and called the Captain: When you have these soldiers treat me as a lady I will get you a fine dinner, but not before. The captain came and made them get into the yard. She fed many meals to them in those days. One night they came and announced there was a rebel hid there, but after searching found none. I always got a goodhold on mother's dress until the soldiers were out of sight. Things were high then: coffee \$1. per pound; Flour \$20. bbl; Irish potatoes \$5. basket—and so much to do, fruit to dry and can... when the slaves were set free in 1863, Rose, my nurse, would not leave us. Father had bought her to see after my steps for mother was busy and I was yiny until two years of age and often they would find me in the orchards. He paid \$500. to a Mr Kemper for her. Rose later married father's blacksmith, the wedding taking place in the hall of the white-Brick Turpin house. They gave a big wedding to her folks. Then they went to the kitchen, had music and a supper for all the servants. (Mrs Allnutt remembers the former surrounding of her home so vividly, that once or twice in her writing she did a diagram of the yard and orchards, showing the paths and roses, where the "MABILLI" cherry trees were located and how far it was along to the currants, gooseberries, raspberries, then other flowers, the sage and countless other good things, all utilized in some way by the early settlers. Another of her letters follows: Colonel Landram of Warasw was a great friend to father though they differed in politics. In father's absence, if mother was in trouble by unruly servants, or if soldiers took the team, she would send for the colonel to help her. More than once he met the soldiers in WARASW and had her team returned.

One thing, though, he could never trace the silver Masonic medal taken along with a gold locket and testament and other valuables from a box while she was feeding the soldiers. The TURLEY name was on the emblem but a keepsake for my young grandson it would be! He is the only grandchild in the family. "There was no country school in those days so they rented the big home and put us children in school at WARSAW, York and Ellis had a great school there and we enjoyed Sunday School and Church. Father ran a grocery and tried to keep up his farm on the pike seven miles away. "I remember my first appearance on the stage at the school entertainment when I spoke "TWINKLE, twinkle, little star" in a blue dress trimmed with gilt stars and a white crown with more stars. I could not read then, but could memorize and was not as scared as when I had seen the drive of soldiers in the country. "Time went on and we had to return to the farm for it was not run as father wished. How glad we were to get back to that wonderful country home!. We went to school in the country then. One teacher I remember was Miss Mollie Perry. My crippled sister who used crutches, and was five years older than I, was sent to school at Ghent and then to the Belle Wood seminary near Louisville, Ky. the three girls together, she, Sallie Bond and Nancy Chambers. That was near the close of the WAR, 1865". Mrs Allnutt, in her mental meanderings on the past, recalls for her readers the much-talked of eclipse of the sun when she was a small child, when "everything was black as night, with chickens flying to the henhouses and the children frightened" She has been stunned by lightning three times in life, once when 12 years of age while swinging under a tree; again as she stood in the kitchen door and the "Ball of fire rolled to the door" and again in adult life as the Allnutts returned from protracted meeting one night at NEW LIBERTY, lightning struck "near the big gate in sight of home" "A ball of fire came down the tree, she recalls, thinking of the latter experience, "glanced off the yard wire fence and rolled by my side of the buggy under the horse; it knocked her flat and knocked off her four shoes and spokes out of the buggy wheel,



While laying me flat in the bottom part of the buggy. The nag got up and ran down to the BEARTA pike, my husband holding the reins trying to stop her. The commotion awakened Lyman Jones, a good and faithful colored boy on the place. (he now lives in Owenton), and they got me to the house. My little buggy mare! When they started towards her, carrying a lantern she took to the far end of the field, thinking it was more lightning. I was disappointed to miss the good meeting but thankful the LORD had saved us. Mr Baker came to shake my hand and would say, "The lady proof against lightning?" Mrs Allnutt carried a scar many years from the first experience and walked on crutches after the latter and even now. A storm brings back her Mother's words, she says "to never stand at a window or at an open door in a storm", and adds "I've seen too many balls of electricity". There are Countless other references Mrs Allnutt has made to the old homestead and to Sparta and Warsaw communities which might be of interest if space permitted their repetition. In the language of one nearing 90 she delights to reminisce on past happenings and loved ones now gone. In closing her life's scenes reference is again made to the eclipse but she adds, "GOD gave us a greater sight in the summer of 1881 when he sent the "Great comet" Great, glorious and brighter than the moon, it appeared each evening after sunset. To the naked eye it seemed as large as a wash-tub and we needed no more light at all" In mention of former personalities these are included: Miss Sigurner Ross, teacher of the country school above Sparta; "Bug" Revel of NEW LIBERTY who frightened the ladies one day when they looked from the parlor and saw him stumbling in the front hall door; Dr Lindsay for whom the servants were hurriedly sent to Sparta when the family needed a physician, and of "Mother who passed on at the age of 84, just after joining in the chorus of the "SWEET BYE AND BYE" Another interesting manuscript concerned Rev Louis Salin, the converted Jew. As our author's memory serves her, Rev. Salin was on his way to Warsaw one bitter cold night to fill an appointment. He knocked at the dining room door of the red-brick Gothic and was nearly frozen when the

family got him inside. Using her excellent recollection for details, Mr Allnutt who was then Mary Turley, recalls what was on the table that night for supper. Two big pans of squab pie! And she adds, Bro Salin said he never ate any better, Parents and seven children to help him". Squab pie, decidely an old-fashioned dish but even new, in such a seasonable one to read about this December, week. It gives proof that our ancestors were far from backward when it came to culinary affairs. Perhaps future generations will look charitably upon many of our delights and smilingly comment that, Maybe it wasn't so bad in the old days. After all.

Now there are a few stones out in the grave yard that can still be read some that do not have no writing at all, some that have covered with age are not readable.

HERATIO TURPIN, Father Born April 18, 1755.  
Died Oct 3, 1826. (41)

Mary A wife of Heratio Turpin born July 12, 1788  
Died Sept 20, 1865, age 77 years 2 monts and 8 days.

Mary M. wife of Dr D. Bancraft Born April 28, 1759.  
Died Oct 3, 1839. (26)

Eliza M. wife of William P. Garritt Born January 25, 1779  
Died April 14, 1819. (40)

Eliza J. wife of H. A. TURPIN born May 3, 1810.  
Died September 28, 1841. (31)

Mildred J. wife of H. H. TURPIN born March 16, 1821.  
Died Oct 20, 1850. (29)

Daughter of H. and M. Turpin Born June 19, 1821.  
Died Sept 3, 1846. (25)

HERATIO H. TURPIN Born Dec 10, 1814.  
Died July 31 1864 age 49 years 6 monts 21 days.

TURLEY, BENJAMIN F., HOUSE  
Gallatin County, KY



# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Turley, Benjamin F., House  
 ② OTHER NAMES:  
 ③ date of entry: MAR 7 1979  
 ④ county code: 077

⑤ LOCATION street & number: 2.5 mi. N of Sparta on KY 35  
 city / town: Sparta  
 vicinity of: Sparta  
 state: KY  
 county: Gallatin  
 ⑥ NPS REGION: SE

⑦ OWNER  PRIVATE  STATE  MUNICIPAL  COUNTY  MULTIPLE  FEDERAL (agency name)  
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:  
 ⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS  HABS  HAER  NHL  FUNDED?  YES  NO ⑩ CONGRESS. DISTRICT 4 ⑪ SOURCE of NOMINATION  STATE  FEDERAL if state who prepared form?

⑫ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES, NAME  NO  
 ⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?  YES, NAME  NO  
 ⑭ ACREAGE  LOCAL  PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑮ CONDITION  deteriorated  altered  original site  
 excellent  ruins  unaltered  moved  
 good  unexposed  reconstructed  unknown  
 fair  unexcavated  excavated  
 ⑯ FEATURES: INTERIOR  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-4  NOT APPLICABLE-7  
 EXTERIOR  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-5  NOT APPLICABLE-8  
 ENVIRONS  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-6  NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑰ ACCESS  YES-Restricted  YES-Unrestricted  No Access  Unknown ⑱ ADAPTIVE USE  YES  NO ⑲ SAVED?  YES ⑳ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?  yes  no

㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2  COMMERCE-6  ENTERTAINMENT-26  ENGINEERING-11  LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15  POLITICS/GOVT.-21  RECREATION-28  
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1  COMMUNICATIONS-7  EXPLORATION-12  LAW-16  RELIGION-22  SETTLEMENT-29  
 AGRICULTURE-3  CONSERVATION-8  HEALTH-27  LITERATURE-17  SCIENCE-23  URBAN PLANNING-31  
 ARCHITECTURE-4  ECONOMICS-9  INDUSTRY-13  MILITARY-18  SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24  OTHER (SPECIFY)  
 ART-5  EDUCATION-10  INVENTION-14  PHILOSOPHY-20  TRANSPORTATION-25  
 ㉒ CLAIMS: explain 'first'   
 'oldest'   
 'only'

㉓ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:  
 ㉔ dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:  
 ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

㉖ architectural style(s): ㉗ architect: ㉘ master builder: ㉙ engineer:

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer: ㉛ interior decorator: ㉜ artist: ㉝ artisan: ㉞ builder/contractor:

㉟ NAMES give role & date  
 PERSONAL:  
 EVENTS:  
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP