

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received **MAR 6 1984**  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic White, Dr. Aaron C. House

and/or common  White Hall (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number Duplex Road N/A — not for publication

city, town Spring Hill N/A — vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Maury code 119

**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 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 checked="" 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 Mrs. Hazel G. Morton

street & number P.O. Box 104

city, town Spring Hill — vicinity of state Tennessee 37174

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maury County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Maury County Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date August, 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records South Central Tennessee Development District

city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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

Situated on the south side of Duplex Road on the eastern edge of the town of Spring Hill, White Hall is a two-story frame central-passage plan house with a one-story rear service ell composed of former dependencies. Built in 1844, the Greek Revival house rests on a limestone foundation and has a shallow hipped roof. The building retains its architectural integrity.

The main facade faces north to the lane. A monumental pedimented portico is centered on the five-bay front; it is supported by four square paneled pillars with tin Tower-of-the-Winds capitals. The pediment has a raking cornice end and a plain weatherboard tympanum. A heavy molded entablature with a dentil course encircles the entire house. Center doorways on the ground and upper floor are identical; double-leaf paneled doors are separated from two-light sidelights by plain tapered pilasters, and each entry is topped by a four-light transom and a shouldered architrave hood. The upper doorway opens onto a cantilevered balcony with a decorative rail. The eight large windows on this front have 9/6 lights and louvered shutters.

On the east elevation, an inset brick chimney is situated about twelve feet from the corner of the front of the house. Double-leaf doors at the center open onto a new brick stoop. A building seam about two-thirds of the way down the side indicates the enclosure of the rear porch. There are two shuttered 4/4 windows on the rear part and a fixed 8-light window over the center door. The west facade is plain, with an inset corbeled brick chimney.

The original rear porch and gallery were enclosed in the late 1800's. There are two 6/6 light sash windows on the rear; one on the upper story is very large and has shutters, and may have been moved from the main block of the house. A small center-pivot window opens into a bath.

A narrow shed section is joined to the rear porch at this point. There is one large 6/6 shuttered window, again probably moved from the main block, and roof extends another three feet, supported by square posts connected at the top by a latticework frieze.

Two original dependencies were long ago joined to the west facade to form an ell addition. The original two-story frame kitchen is connected directly to the house. The kitchen portion serves as today's dining room and the upstairs room is used for storage. The exterior has a large 6/6 window moved from the main house, a glass-paneled door opening onto a rear porch, and smaller 6/6 windows in the upper left. An original quarter is joined to the rear of the old kitchen structure, and serves as the modern kitchen. Its exterior appearance is basically unchanged from the time it served as a residence. Its front side faces east and has a batten door and 6/6 window opening onto a shed porch. There is a small lookout and another 6/6 window is on the south end and two on the west, rear side. The porch floor is raised on stone piers, connected by latticework. The structure has a steep tin roof; the loft is now used for additional storage.

The interior of the house is a modification of the common central-passage plan house. The staircase is not located in the entrance hall but rather on the enclosed rear porch. The house retains its original significant interior features, including doors and mantels with shouldered architraves and original ash floors.

No original or later outbuildings are located on the property. The house is approached from Duplex Road on a wide herringbone brick sidewalk and is set in a park of mature trees.

# 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 checked="" 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**      1844                      **Builder/Architect**    Henry White

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

White Hall, on Duplex Road in the northern Maury County town of Spring Hill, is nominated under National Register Criteria A, B and C for its local significance in architecture and for its associations with its first owner, Dr. Aaron White, and for its local role in Civil War history. The large frame house was built for Dr. White in 1844 by his younger brother Henry. White was a large landowner and early surgeon and doctor of medicine in the Spring Hill community. His residence on the eastern edge of the village is one of the best vernacular adaptations of the prevailing Greek Revival in this part of the county. The 2-story L-shaped central-passage house has an imposing pedimented portico supported by pillars with Tower-of-the-Winds capitals, detailed doors and entries, and other intricate examples of excellent local carpentry. The house retains its original interior elements and has not been significantly altered. White Hall is the largest surviving frame structure within the corporate limits of the town and the best frame example of classical architecture.

About 1844 Dr. Aaron C. White, son of General William White III who had moved to Nashville, Tennessee from Virginia, moved from his plantation at Elkton, Giles County, Tennessee, to Spring Hill with his wife, Eliza Fain, daughter of Samuel Fain and Susan Wharton, early settlers in the western Maury County village of Williamsport. White had previously purchased a 300 acre tract east of the village of Spring Hill, and had a large frame structure constructed there by his younger brother, Henry. The house faced Mt. Carmel Road (now Duplex Lane) and the rear of the farm extended to beyond the Kedron Pike. The whitewashed frame house was christened "White Hall".

Although a medical graduate of the University of New York and a doctor of medicine, Dr. White farmed in Spring Hill for a number of years before selling off 266 acres at the eastern edge of his farm to Seth Sparkman. He sold two one-acre lots on the Kedron Pike, and donated another 2 acres to the town of Spring Hill for the erection of a boys school. This was the site for many years of the Spring Hill Male Academy, and in compliance with Dr. White's expressed desire that it should always remain for educational purposes, it is now the site of the Spring Hill Public School.

This left Dr. White exactly 30 acres surrounding White Hall. He resumed his medical practice attending to the sick for many miles surrounding Spring Hill. His wife assisted him and ministered to as many of his patients as she could reach. In doing so, she contracted yellow fever in an epidemic which struck Spring Hill and died in 1853.

A year later Dr. White met Margaret Fain, a cousin of his late wife Eliza, daughter of John Fain, merchant and owner of Forest Hill, a large plantation on the French Broad River. After a brief but ardent courtship, he married her and brought her to White Hall. They had six children, all christened in the old Presbyterian Church; Rose, Ellen Amelia, John Fain, Lucy Gillespie, Mary, and Caroline Wharton White. Dr. White died in 1874, and left his wife to cope with the six young children. He is buried in the Spring Hill cemetery.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Cheairs, Irene M. and Rose W. Cheairs, "History of White Hall: A Story of Prewar Dixieland" typed MSS, September, 1961.  
Garrett, Jill Knight. "The Ghost Rider at White Hall". (Columbia) Daily Herald, 9 June 1973, Supplement.  
~~Interviews with Martha Cheairs, 1983.~~

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4 1/2 acres

Quadrangle name Spring Hill, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	5	0	6	7	4	0	3	9	5	6	2	6	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 is bounded on the west by Walnut Street, the north by Duplex Road, and on the east and south by adjoining property lines. The nomination includes only the land currently conveyed with the house. It is the minimum property needed to protect the integrity of the house.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Quin, Historic Preservation Planner  
Bo Childress, Cultural Resources Surveyor

organization South Central Tennessee Development District date October 1983

street & number P.O. Box 1346 telephone (615) 381-2040

city or town Columbia state Tennessee 38402

## 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.

Deputy

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Herbert L. Hays*

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 2/27/84

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Entered in the  
National Register

date 4/5/84

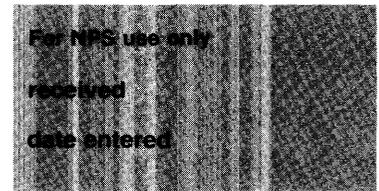
*J. William Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet White Hall

Item number 8

Page 3

Architecturally, the large frame house White Hall is interesting for its modified central-passage plan; its monumental portico supported by pillars with Tower-of-the-Winds capitals; ornate door surrounds, balcony rails, and the heavy cornice on the exterior; and original mantels stairways, and other interior millwork and details. The original detached kitchen was long ago joined to the main part of the house by a dining room wing, but this rear addition adds to the overall character of this fine residence at the edge of the quite little town of Spring Hill.

