

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION:	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Valentine Sevier Station, or Sevier Blockhouse, sits atop a rocky hill overlooking the Cumberland and Red Rivers. Built of native limestone, it is the only remaining evidence of Sevier Station. The property on which the station is located was purchased on July 11, 1792, by Valentine Sevier, a veteran of the Indian Wars and the Revolutionary War, and a brother of Tennessee's first governor, John Sevier. He immediately began to build a station as protection from the hostile Indians. A palisaded fence enclosed the few log cabins and the final refuge, a stone block structure of two rooms, adequate to house nearby residents and neighbors.

The stone structure measures 32 feet by 18 feet overall and is divided into two rooms with interior measurements of 15 feet by 15 feet and 12 feet by 15 feet. A large stone fireplace was built in the larger rooms but the chimney has been removed and roofed over. A huge log lintel over the fireplace still is in good condition. It is believed that the smaller room was used for animals and storage during the time of Indian attacks, while the larger room served as a place of safety for Sevier and his family and neighbors. An exterior door enters each room, but there is no door between the two. It contains two windows, one in each side. The floors are of dirt. Some of the original timbers in the roof still exist, and a crude door with strap hinges is also thought to be original.

In the 1820's a two-story frame house was built onto the front of the blockhouse, with a dog trot between. A stone chimney, evidently built partly from the stones of the chimney in the blockhouse that had been removed, was built between the two. The house has since had shingles applied to the exterior weatherboarding.

Sevier sold the property in 1795, and it has passed through a succession of owners. The blockhouse was threatened by destruction in April, 1965, and two concerned citizens obtained an option to purchase the property, thus preventing its destruction. The property was later deeded to Montgomery County and plans are now underway for the restoration of the blockhouse and the development of the site. Archaeological work is currently underway inside the blockhouse.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS