

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only  
received OCT 31 1984  
date entered NOV 29 1984

1. Name

historic Sturgeon-Gregg House

and/or common Hardin Place

2. Location

street & number U.S. Highway 60 \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Simpsonville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state Kentucky code \_\_\_\_\_ county Shelby code \_\_\_\_\_

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> na in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> na being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Charles E. and Violet M. Stalker

street & number Route 1 Box 175 - U.S. 60

city, town Finchville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Shelby County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Shelbyville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory  
title

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Kentucky

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Sturgeon-Gregg house is located on the north side of U.S. Highway 60 2 miles west of Simpsonville, Kentucky in Shelby County. Its driveway enters from U.S. 60 to the west of the house. Once the main residence for a large farm, Sturgeon-Gregg house is now surrounded by 55 acres.

Facing south is the symmetrically arranged main facade of three bays (Photo 1). The brick of the facade and the east and west flank of this section of the house is laid up in Flemish bond. Brickwork elsewhere in the house and dependencies is common bond, five stretchers to one header. Brick for the house was burned east of the house. Pieces of brick can be found near the location. Brick in the older section of the house is slightly darker and where the two sections are joined the alignment of the bricks is not even. The porch in the central bay is an addition. The second porch was a full length victorian design built by James and Vinette Gregg Hardin shortly after their marriage in the 1870's. (Photo 4 & 22). Shadows on the brick indicate that columns supported an original portico. Chimneys in the east and west side of the front bay are flush with the outside wall. The Greek Revival section has a fireplace in each room. (Photo 13 & 20). The west side of the Greek Revival section has a one-story gallery with a pent roof supported by four wood posts. (Photo 2) A full gallery along the ell's east side has four square wood columns supporting a full entablature (Photo 3). Both galleries are original and have a full ballustrade.

Three paned transom and four sidelights surmounted by a simple entablature form the main entry in the facade. Sidelights and transom have two layers of glass, clear and dark red. The main staircase in the entry hall has cherry railing, spindles, treads and newel post. A window in the north wall at the landing lights the entry for both floors (Photo 10 & 11). East and west parlors have beautiful centerpieces and fresco (Photo 14 - 17). The fresco is the work of German artist, August Knerr. His signature and pencil sketches of the ceiling design were found on the wall of the west parlor when wallpaper was removed. Parlors have original "eared" woodwork, twelve inch baseboard, panels under windows and one inch poplar flooring. (Photo 12 & 18). Ceilings on the first floor of the Georgian Section are 10'9" and 11'6" on the second floor. Comfort was obviously considered in the plan: Shut-Tea exterior doors and transoms over all doors on both floors catch the natural light and breezes. Fireplaces in all rooms of the Greek Revival section heat the house in winter. A press in the dining room has original 20" wide poplar boards for shelves. The enclosed quarter turn service stairs provided access to the back second floor chambers. The north bay of the house is a simple four room brick: Two rooms on each floor. Ceilings are 7'6", woodwork in plain and adze marks are visible on the original exterior door. This section of the house was heated by a fireplace in the north wall.

A quarried stone foundation 7' deep forms a cellar under the Greek Revival section. (Photo 6). The floor is stone and rooms are divided in the cellar to support the first floor rooms. A hallway under the west gallery has connecting doors into cellar rooms. An outside entrance was closed and entrance to the cellar is from a door in the floor of the west gallery. (Photo 28). The north bay has a brick foundation.

The slave quarters was built by Simpson Sturgeon (Photo 24). Originally the four rooms had no connecting doors inside. Four doors in the facade, two up and two down and an outside staircase served as entrances. The addition of two interior doors

# 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** 1822 & 1840 **Builder/Architect** Simpson Sturgeon - William Gregg

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Sturgeon-Gregg house is significant in being a relatively unchanged example of the surviving Greek Revival Country house built as an addition to a early vernacular farm-house. The residence is a handsome two story three bay brick. The condition of the house and three surviving dependencies bespeaks the quality of construction. The house is very much intact and has retained both its fine interior and exterior details. Handsome woodwork, frescoed ceilings and centerpieces remain intact throughout the house. A fine two story gallery runs along the east side of the ell and has a full entablature supported by large square columns. Stonework includes lintels over windows in the Greek Revival section, one piece hallowed copings to fit the chimney stacks and a brush hammered foundation. The house has served continuously as the residence for a farm, 1500 acres in 1870, now 55 acres.

James Kemp received a land grant of 9750 acres in Jefferson County, Virginia on December 2, 1785. James Kemp's agents, Charles Lynch and John Blanton, sold 230 acres to Simpson Sturgeon for \$3.00 per acre in 1804. Simpson Sturgeon built first a log cabin (Photo 25) and before his death in 1822 he built the brick house that is the north bay of the Sturgeon-Gregg house. (Photo 21).

Lynch and Blanton sold 208 acres for five shillings from the Kemp tract to David Gregg, April 18, 1803. David Gregg was the great grandfather of President Harry S. Truman.

Simpson Sturgeon died March 30, 1822 and was buried in the Long Run Baptist Church Cemetary. When his lands were divided his widow, Polina (Polly) Sturgeon received 65 acres including the mantion (sic) house and other buildings as her dower, June 14, 1822.

William Gregg, son of David, purchased the 208 acres and slaves from his father's heirs in 1837. The same year he purchased the dower land of Polina Sturgeon (Logan). William Gregg built the Greek Revival section of the house about 1840. The Gregg slaves built the present Long Run Baptist Church in 1845 (Photo 29). William Gregg was a very successful farmer. He acquired land to a total of 1500 acres by 1870. The agricultural census of 1850 shows he owned: 16 horses; 60 mules and asses; 8 milch cows; 41 other cattle; 140 sheep; 90 swine; 800 bushels of wheat; 3000 bushels of corn; 1080 bushels of oats; 1200 pounds of wool; 50 bushels of peas and beans; 40 bushels of irish potatoes; 40 bushels of sweet potatoes; 300 pounds of butter; 50 pounds of cheese; 50 tons of hay and that he owned 750 acres of land valued at \$20,000. The slave census for the same year shows he had 17 slaves: seven females and ten males. William Gregg was guardian of his younger sister, Harriet Lousia. A marriage bond, January 9, 1838 signed by William gives consent for her to marry Solomon Young. Solomon and Harriet Lousia Young moved to Missouri. Their daughter, Martha Ellen, was the mother of President Harry S. Truman.

Vinette Gregg Hardin inherited the house from her father, William, in 1870. The house has decended in the family; the present owners and their sons are the sixth and seventh generations of the Sturgeon-Gregg-Hardin families to occupy the Sturgeon-Gregg house. The house has had only seven owners.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Deeds and Grant - Shelby County Courthouse - Shelbyville, Ky.  
 Marriage record - Shelby County Kentucky Records  
 Minutes of Long Run Baptist Church - Southern Baptist Seminary - Louisville, Ky.  
 Conversations with Ann Hardin, daughter of Vinette Gregg Hardin and granddaughter of William Gregg - born in the house died at 95 years of age in 1968. Family photographs.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 9.5 acres  
 Quadrangle name Fisherville Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated area for the **Sturgeon-Gregg House** includes 9.5 acres surrounding the house and including six outbuildings. On three sides, a wire fence separates this domestic space from the surrounding farm. On the south, the property borders U.S. 60 for 540 feet. See attached site plan.

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Violet Morris Stalker  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date August 24, 1984  
 street & number Route 1 Box 175 telephone 502 - 722-5674  
 city or town Finchville, state Kentucky 40022

# 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 David L. Moya  
 Executive Director, Kentucky Heritage Council  
 title and State Historic Preservation Officer    date October 12, 1984

For NPS use only  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
 Entered in the National Register    date 11-29-84  
 Keeper of the National Register  
 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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NOV 29 1984

Continuation sheet Shelby County, Kentucky  
Sturgeon-Gregg House

Item number 7

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and staircase connect the rooms. A bedroom, bath and kitchen are an addition. Care was taken to match brick color and size, roofline and trim to correlate with the existing building. (Photo 8).

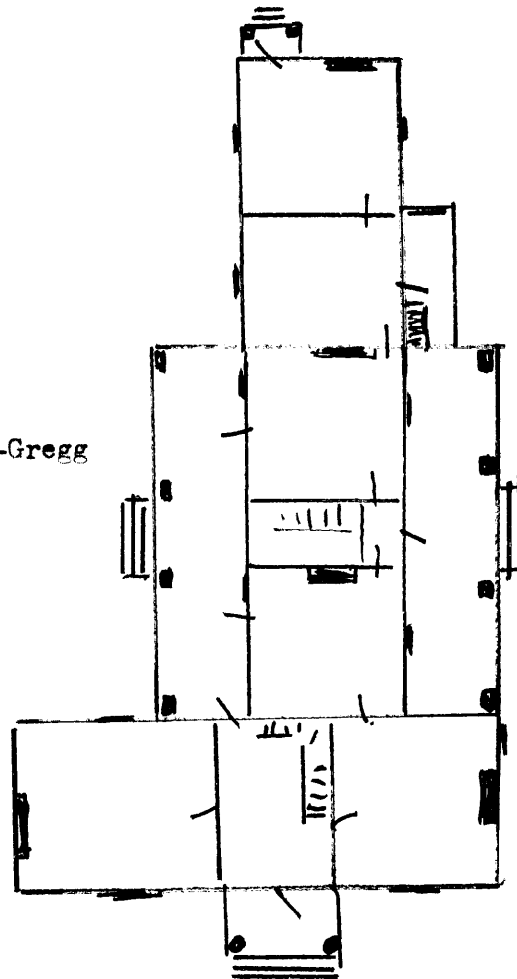
The brick smokehouse is original, built by William Gregg. Brick was laid with diamond patterned vents in the front, north and south sides (Photo 7).

The root cellar is an arch cellar. The cold room has a stone floor and straight 5' walls. The room is covered by a brick arch and brick vent. The steps are stone, one stone for each tread. The steps are protected by a clapboard building. (Photo 9).

Carriage house steps and part of a wall are south of the house. A brick path from the back door of the north bay leads to a stone step that was the location of a separate kitchen. A brick grainery over an icehouse was torn down. The pit of the ice house is now a cistern under a garage.

A school attended by members of the family was built on the south side of Midland Trail (now U.S. 60). Photo 27. The building was used as a garage in recent years. No longer part of the farm where the house stands, the building was demolished in June 1984.

Sketch of first floor - Sturgeon-Gregg House.



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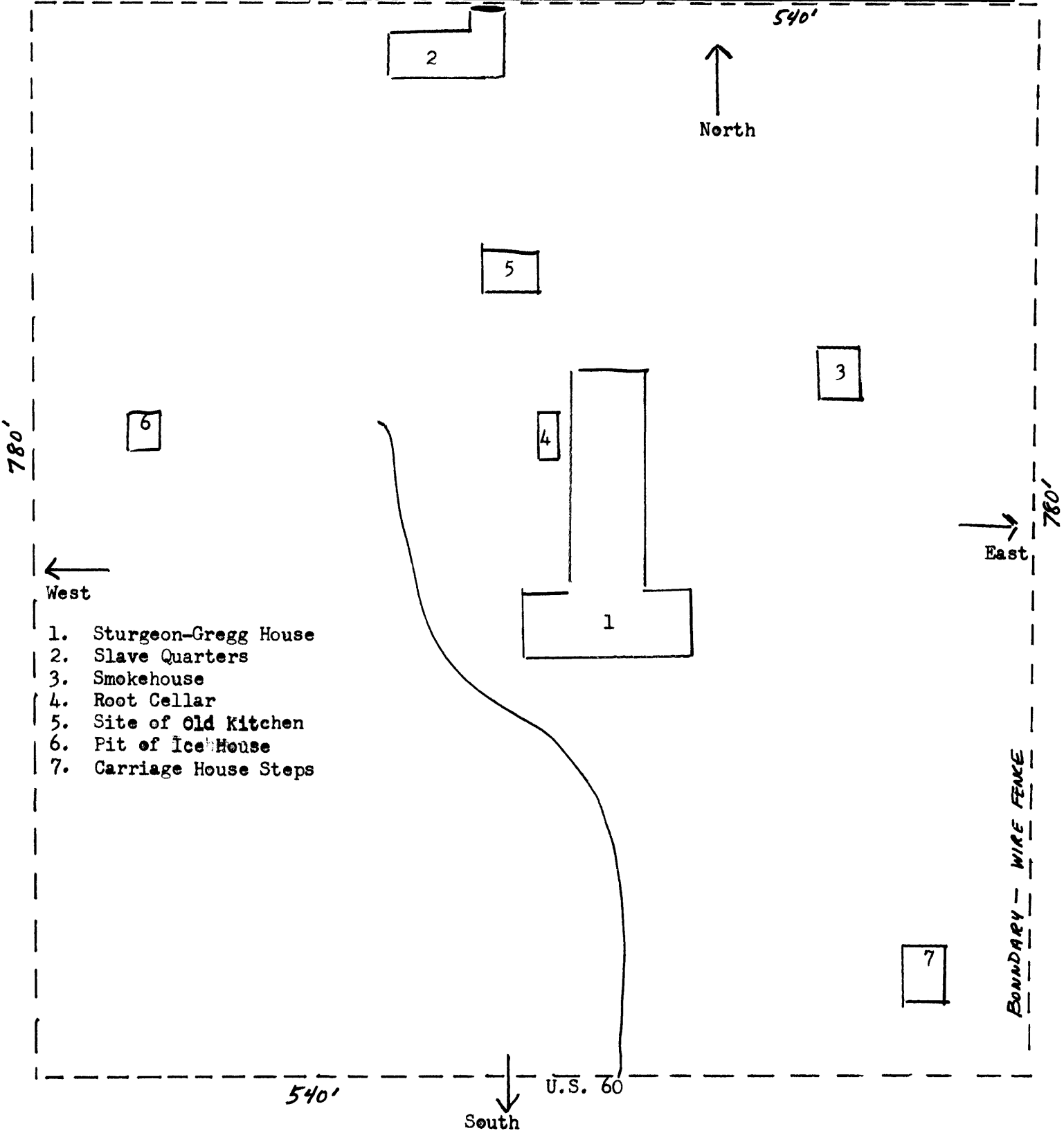
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Shelby County, Kentucky  
Sturgeon-Gregg House

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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- 1. Sturgeon-Gregg House
- 2. Slave Quarters
- 3. Smokehouse
- 4. Root Cellar
- 5. Site of Old Kitchen
- 6. Pit of Ice House
- 7. Carriage House Steps

BOUNDARY - WIRE FENCE