

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



9

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic name Martin, Lewis Y., House

other name/site number Ivywood; JS-11

2. Location

Street & town 6975 Tates Creek Pike NA not for publication

City or town Nicholasville X vicinity

State Kentucky code KY county Jessamine code 113 zip code 40356

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Donna M. Neary 12/20/2007
Signature of certifying official/Title Donna M. Neary, SHPO Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Elson H. Beall 2-7-08

Martin, Lewis Y., House
Name of Property

Jessamine County, KY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site			structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter only categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Function
(Enter only categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter only categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter only categories from instructions)

foundation
walls brick
roof
other

Narrative Description

X
See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 7 Page 1

Description

The Lewis Y. Martin House (JS-11) is a two-story brick Greek Revival house, built approximately 1837 in an ell plan; it was enlarged in the 1990s with an addition that nearly doubled its floor space, extending the plan in the house's back side. The property fronts along Bates Creek Pike in Jessamine County, Kentucky. In this rural part of Kentucky's Bluegrass Region, Bates Creek Road forms the boundary between Jessamine County, on the west, and Fayette County, on the east. The property lies on the west side of the road, about 2 miles from East Hickman toward Spears, and about 6 miles east of Nicholasville, the Jessamine County seat.

Local Environs

The thirty-sixth county in order of formation, Jessamine County is located in the central part of the state near the Kentucky River, and is part of the 7-county Inner Bluegrass region of Kentucky that centers on Lexington and Fayette County. Jessamine County was formed on December 19, 1798, from a portion of Fayette County. The county was named for Jessamine Creek. The county seat, Nicholasville, was named for George Nicholas, who drew up the first Kentucky constitution. The County is bordered by Fayette County (northeast), Madison County (southeast), Garrard County (south), Mercer County (southwest), Woodford County (northwest). Other communities within the County are High Bridge, Little Hickman, Keene, and Wilmore

The topography here and in much of the Inner Bluegrass is gently rolling; the Kentucky River, the county's southern boundary, creates a deeply entrenched valley.

History of the site's ownership and acreage change

The property on which the Lewis Y. Martin house is located has been used for agricultural purposes from its earliest recorded owner. Its earliest owners aspired to establishing the operation as a gentleman farm. Today, its relatively small acreage retains its agricultural character, and is surrounded by neighboring farms, some of which contain acreage that once belonged to the Martin House's owners.

The current acreage is believed to have been originally part of a Revolutionary War Land Grant to James G. Martin. James G. Martin, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, settled near East Hickman circa 1791. In 1827, James G. Martin deeded title to 367 acres from the original tract of land to his son, Lewis Young Martin. After Lewis Martin's death in 1858, his wife Anne moved to Richmond, Kentucky and upon her death, their eldest son William Martin inherited the house. William Martin sold the house and 206 acres in 1889 to William Tandy Chenault. V.K. Tudor purchased the farm in 1893, and Lee Congelton bought it in 1915. The farm was sold two years later to Addie and Charles McCray, who sold it to Hugh R. Taylor in 1937. Four years later, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Robinson purchased the farm. They made many changes to the house and sold it to the Lee family in 1945. In 1961, Mr. And Mrs. William G. Robbins bought the house and 100 acres and raised thoroughbred and standard bred horses. In the late 1980s, the Robbins family sold approximately 96 acres and the property was incorporated into the Taylor Made Thoroughbred Operations. The house and 5.97 acres were then sold to Dr. James and Lucy Owens in 1996. During the several years that the Owens owned the house, structural repairs were made and a 2,500 square foot addition was added. In 2000, Chris Bowling and Gwynn Fister purchased the house and the 5.97 acres.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 7 Page 2

Character of the Site today

This section of Jessamine County's land is relatively flat to gently rolling. The property is located approximately six miles northeast of the Kentucky River, and is in the rural part of the County. By the mid-19th century, the property could be considered a prosperous farm. The house is currently situated on approximately six acres, surrounded on all sides by two thoroughbred farms. Talyor Made Thoroughbred Operations, consisting of three broodmare barns and three paddocks, with traditional four plank fencing, adjoins the property on its south, west and north sides. In addition, to the northwest and within eyesight, is the James G. Martin House (JS-10, NR 1984). Directly across Tates Creek Road on the east side of the property (Fayette County) is Juddemont Thoroughbred Farm covering over 2,000 acres. While the Lewis Martin House's farm has lost much of its original acreage, that acreage has been incorporated to the surrounding thoroughbred farming operations, preserving the Martin Farm's apparent agricultural setting.

The house sits on top of a rolling hill facing west towards Tates Creek Road. The circa six-acre tract of land is in the shape of a rectangle with the longer side facing Tates Creek Road. The house is located toward the southwest side of the property and is surrounded by trees. The portion of the property to the north of the house (approximately 3 acres) is pastureland for horses and still maintains a horse shelter and watering trough. Although no horses are boarded on the property, this pasture portion consists of a half-acre English flower and vegetable garden and an apiary.

There exists a cistern for water collection to the south/rear of the home today. It collects water from the main house roof run off. It is constructed of cement with a 2' x 2' access vent at the top surface. The historic well is now gone with no clues of its past location.

On the west portion of the property there remains a run-in shed and watering trough. It appears that this facility was put in place during the mid 1900s when the farm served as a horse farm. The shed is of typical contemporary run-in shed design, made entirely of wood with tin roof and remains in good condition. The watering trough is cement, circular and 3 feet deep. All utilities were placed underground during the 1990s renovation done by Dr. Owen. There was a large satellite dish on the location when the current owners took possession of the property; it was moved away.

Evolution of the site: During the early 1900s, owners built a two-room house on the property, set on blocks, made entirely of wood but with no running water. Presumably the building served as a tenant house, supporting the workings of the farm. It sat adjacent to the cistern to the (south) rear of the main residence and to the rear of the historic kitchen. This 2-room residence sat vacant for a number of years, and eventually provided room to store hay bales. Its renovation began in the 1990s by Dr. Owen. After the property was sold to the Bowling family, the small tenant house was razed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 7 Page 3

Exterior of the Martin House

The Lewis Martin House is believed to have been built circa 1837. The front façade of the house displays a two-story 3-bay plan, in an external I-house configuration with rear facing ell-wing and internal central passage plan. The ell wing today rivals the size of the front facade. That is, the two-story main façade of the historic house (north side) is 54 feet long and 17 feet wide on its west side. The east side ell-wing today measures 51 feet in length, which combines the shorter historic ell-wing with the originally-detached brick kitchen. This ell is 19 feet wide. The original kitchen structure has brick walls, and its chimney is stone at lower heights and fired brick from mid-height to the top. On the inside, the hearth retains much of its original hardware and cooking supports.

In 1999, the house's previous owner added nearly 2500 square feet of additional living space in a two-story addition that extends southward from the back of the historic house, in a somewhat deferential position (see plan). That addition has a porch on both first and second floors of its west side, and a one-story porch at ground level on the east side. A garage addition extends further to the south, from the back side of the kitchen, and is visible from only one side of the house.

The raking cornice shows a slight eave overhang, but absent is a wide frieze band below that occurs on many Greek Revival houses. The roof is side-gabled with a pitch of less than 30 degrees. There are neither dormers nor other roof elaborations. Three chimneystacks pierce the roofline. The two primary chimneys sit at opposite sides of the east-west running ridge line, in the gables. The east chimney is an interior end type; the west side is an exterior end chimney. The third chimney pierces the eastern slope of the ell's roof. All chimneys are of brick construction.

The original dwelling is brick construction. The wall anatomy is a masonry structural system of handmade brick produced on site. The front façade is made of solid wall masonry, 12" thick, with Flemish bond patterning. Both sides and the rear of the structure also consist in solid wall masonry, with 12" thick walls in a Common bonding pattern, with 5 stretcher rows per header row. There appears to have been no wall cladding materials used. The original foundation is made of rough-cut limestone from local quarry, appearing to have no ashlar or other patterned finish. The stones are set in regular courses using mortar with apparent raked joints.

The house's 14 historic window openings and window trim appear to be original to the house, with the exception of the middle window on the front façade's second floor. All window sash are double hung, with 8-over-8 sashes on the front side, and 6-over-6 light sashes on the sides and historic back. All window components are wood: casings, jambs, frame and muntins. Window headers are all jack arches. The sills are wood above brick, which is seen elsewhere in Jessamine County.

The front façade has five historic windows, four of them are 8-over-8 sashes; the central window on the second floor has a similar 8-over-8-light double-hung sash, but has additional 2-over-2 double hung sash sidelights, as well. This window appears to be an early replacement for a door which once exited to a second-story porch. This window's light pattern matches that of the door and sidelights found on the front door, over which it sits.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 7 Page 4

Six windows puncture the historic house's east side ell. Two match the front windows—one upstairs and one down stairs—both 8-over-8. The remaining four windows on that side are smaller in size, 6-over-6 double-hung sashes. These windows have jack arches and wood above brick.

The front doorway surround is historic and apparently original. The door and glazed surround is encased in a larger decorative enfacement of wood (no masonry). The door and glass are recessed behind the front wall, thus creating a complex three-dimensional effect common for Greek Revival, with pilasters in high relief added to the inset. The pilasters depict square Doric columns based loosely on Greek and Roman precedents, typical for Greek Revival. The entablature is simple, with no pediment, which also is most common for Greek Revival architecture. The lights are a narrow band of rectangular panes of glass held in delicate, decorative frame. The transom light is partial. The door itself is divided into four panels. It was installed in 1999.

Today there is no porch; a front stoop now marks the transition between interior and exterior spaces. Ghostmarks, as well as the second-floor window, indicate the presence of an earlier porch which appears to have been one bay and full height. That upper door appears to have had a pediment.

Interior of the Martin House

The interior of the Lewis Martin home is being returned to its simple dignity. The rooms of the historic structure have been taken back to their original dimension during a 2007 rehabilitation project. As common in historic home renovation, closets were added, projecting into the historic rooms and altering these spaces' original form. Removing the closets revealed that the baseboards had been cut to accommodate the closet walls. The original baseboards are made of solid walnut wood, likely taken from the site. The 2-inch baseboard cuts will be replaced with contemporary wood to match the original design. The book cases added to the library have notching on their bottom side to avoid damaging the baseboards' materials and design.

As one walks through the front entry doorway, the library (west parlor) is located on the right, and living room (east parlor) to the left. The door size is 6'6"x 3'2". The passage straight ahead holds a smaller door, 6'3"x 3'2", that most likely led to the back yard. Currently that door leads to the greatroom/kitchen. The original doors remain and have been stripped of all paint and finishes, revealing their hardwood and original hardware. The front door, library door, and living room door surrounds are classic Greek Revival, with deep pediments and framed by shouldered ("dog-eared") architraves. The room to the right, the library, shows a more fine threshold of dark walnut which matches its door. The other two thresholds in the front foyer do not have such. The living room and dining room show more simple post-and-lintel door frames on windows and door passages.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 7 Page 5

Each of these three original rooms (library, living room and dining room) have fireplaces with chimney stacks that can be seen from the outside. The mantels are generally bold but simple. They are designed with single square shaft pilasters on each side, and Doric simplification in their capital and base which is based loosely on Greek and Roman precedents. The mantel enframingent is a simple entablature with no ears. The mantel pilasters support the plain lintel and a projecting shelf two inches thick. The mantel dimensions are 5 foot tall and 7.5 foot wide, all matching in design and dimension. These original mantels remain on the three downstairs fireplaces. Brick surrounds on the fireplaces conform to local practices from the early 1800s, where brick was not meant to be exposed but covered with a coat of mortar and whitewashed, to reflect light into the room. The library and living room surrounds today have this mortar coat still, now painted black. Each fireplace hearth is made of brick and flush with the floor. On the dining room surround, the level has been dropped, and the surround is hence a lower portion of the chase, so the brick surround is the original exposed brick with no mortar coat. It has been painted.

Each of the front parlor rooms have two windows. For the library, paneled aprons are set beneath the two windows. The windows have framed shouldered architraves with pediments. Simpler window trim exist in the living room, with 9-inch-deep window and doorway surrounds. The double-hung sash have 8-over-8 lights, with glass that appears original. The weighted ballast system for opening and closing remains intact today.

As you travel through the house, all rooms present deep baseboards of 12 inches. No crown molding exists. Throughout the home interior trim is original and Greek Revival in style. Ceiling height is 9 feet in the historic portion of home, which includes entry hall, library, living room and dining room. The 1999 addition has 11-foot ceilings.

The original staircase in front entry foyer has 12 risers of 7.5" and 11 treads of 9". The stairs make a quarter turn onto an 8-foot transverse landing, then 5 more risers with 4 more treads in the reverse. All treads appear to be original and of ash wood. Newell post, banisters and balusters appear to be original and are simple in design. This stairwell may have been set into the foyer after the room was built, as its woodwork is simpler than the woodwork found through the rest of the house. Also, its path is not exact; treads and risers show variations in their dimensions and spacing rhythm.

Our house retains its original doors. They are constructed of a combination of walnut and oak. The library door has the more formal situation with walnut threshold, full solid walnut door assembled with walnut dowels. The living room door is a combination of two walnut panels and oak surround. The living room threshold is of ash, matching the home's floors. The door leading from the front foyer to what would have been the exterior/back yard, now opens to the kitchen/great room addition, and is made of walnut and oak. It is fully trimmed on one side and plain on the other. The three original upstairs doors are also a combination of the two woods. The dining room to kitchen, what would have been exterior door, is of walnut and 6-panel design. All doors have wood dowels and all doors appear to have original hardware. These original doors have been refinished during the current renovation.

Martin, Lewis Y., House
Name of Property

Jessamine County, KY
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (see continuation sheet)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

Ca. 1837

Significant Dates

Ca. 1837

Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)

Martin, Lewis Y. (builder/owner)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: _____

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

The Lewis Martin House meets National Register Criterion C. It has been evaluated as significant within the historic context of Greek Revival Architecture in Jessamine County, Kentucky. Believed to have been built circa 1837, the Lewis Martin House's style is among the first instance of the design in the County's rural spaces.

Greek Revival Architecture Nationally

Greek Revival marks the first romantic style that came after the American colonial era. This style dominated the newly independent United States through much of the first half of the 19th century. Architectural expressions evocative of Greek democracy were thought to be especially appropriate in the new republic, particularly after the War of 1812, when the traditional ties to English architecture from the colonial period had begun to wane in popularity.

Thomas Jefferson was among the early proponents of this style, introducing it in America in the 1820s via his multi-building design for University of Virginia campus. His status as both elder statesman and polymath, as well as the location of the design on a college campus, elevated this design beyond aesthetics to social statement. His design of the buildings drew from ancient Greek temples, but, in true American style, took liberties to combine these elements in fresh ways, rather than slavishly copying particular buildings. Soon enough, a vocabulary of Greek Revival elements had emerged that could be applied to the grandest mansions, the most important public buildings, and to the most modest cottages of the yeoman farmer. Areas being settled from 1830 until the onset of the Civil War adopted this style for building so thoroughly that some have referred to Greek Revival as the "National Style."

The style's main characteristics include a rectangular—almost monolithic—building mass set beneath a low-pitched roof. A front-gable variant often comes with a large pediment supported by columns; also this pediment can surmount a projecting portico that rises to two full stories. These prominent front features recalled the temples of ancient Greece. The most highly-designed front-gable and side-gable variants also had broad entablatures with an assortment of molding profiles (trim) drawn from historical buildings. The front facades generally had symmetrical and balanced composition, emphasizing the building's mass; thus, windows, while growing larger than in earlier styles, avoided warring against the solidity of the wall surface by maintaining regular placement and by having clean and simple articulation. Interior plans often followed the geometric regularity exhibited by these buildings' exteriors.

Greek Revival Architecture in Jessamine County, Kentucky

Much of Jessamine County's architectural past was explored and documented in 1977 by the Kentucky Heritage Commission (the previous name of the Kentucky Heritage Council, the State Historic Preservation Office), under the direction of staff Architectural Historian Ken Gibbs. This project resulted publication of a survey catalogue entitled *Historic Survey of Kentucky: Jessamine County*, and a multiple property listing by Gibbs and Carolyn M. Wooley, "Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area" (MRA). The MRA proposed listing for 54

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 2

properties in rural Jessamine County, along with 7 individual properties and a historic district in county seat Nicholasville, in 1984. Previous to the MRA project, Wooley nominated scores of buildings within a thematic nomination, "Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky," which included 6 Jessamine County properties. No more recent investigation of the county's architectural history has surpassed these efforts. The data retrieved from these efforts, while somewhat dated, as well as more recent investigations residing in the Kentucky Heritage Council's survey database, form this overview of Jessamine County's Greek Revival architecture.

The MRA's overview of Greek Revival architecture in Jessamine County began by citing regional differences between central Kentucky's examples compared with what was found in the eastern part of the U.S., in older parts of the country. The Bluegrass region had a higher proportion of brick and two-story instances than is found in states with Greek Revival houses, but fewer full-width porticos. Porticos, in general, were present, but they spanned only the central three bays, or often, just the entry bay. Floor plans showed less diversity in the Bluegrass, with central passage the clear favorite, and fewer instances of side-passage plans than were found in the east and north. Authors noted the growing popularity of the ell wing, which began to present a side nearly as substantial as the primary façade. The style can be found throughout the region from about 1835-1875 (MRA, p. 8-5)

Authors noted some distinctions between Jessamine County's Greek Revival houses and those in the rest of the Bluegrass. For instance, Jessamine builders retained the use of Flemish bond brickwork and jack arches—hallmarks of colonial American styling—longer than elsewhere in the region. Porticos in Jessamine were simpler to construct, often with brick columns of rectangular shape, rather than circular wooden columns. Jessamine County builders also chose to incorporate two other surface features—entablatures and pilasters—less often than elsewhere in the Bluegrass. Jessamine County interior woodwork in Greek Revival houses is less grand than the heavier treatments found in the housing of the elite in central Kentucky. The recessed entryway, popular throughout much of the Bluegrass, was found only in two houses by surveyors in Jessamine County in the 1970s. Their view, summarizing the style in the county, is this: "Taken as a whole, the Greek Revival in Jessamine County is a varied mix composed predominately of undistinguished I-houses, plain log structures with Greek interior trim, two-story houses with single bay porticoes, and one-story Greek Revival cottages" (MRA, p. 8-6). Without offering the judgment explicitly, the authors' characterized Jessamine County's Greek Revival as a very conservative response to the style's possibilities, even in comparison with what appeared in nearby Kentucky counties.

If local builders showed a modesty in how they expressed Greek Revival on the landscape, they certainly showed no reluctance to use the style. The Kentucky Heritage Council database shows no fewer than 65 County buildings classified as Greek Revival, and among them, 20 residential properties listed on the National Register. A brief overview of these will illustrate the range of expressions.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 3



Sunnyside (JS-1) Built 1835-1840



Marshall Bryan House (JS-3) Built 1853



Todhunter-Venable House (JS-8) Built 1845



McClure-Shelby House (JS-19) Built 1840s



Taylor House (JS-34) Built 1850-1875

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 4



John Scott House (JS-42) Built 2nd quarter of the 19th century



Matthews House (JS-96) Built 1825-1850, log structure, dogtrot plan



Butler's Tavern (JS-102) Built 2nd quarter of the 19th century



George and Betty Bryan House (JS-111) Built 1838. Pronounced by Clay Lancaster as one of the County's most outstanding Greek Revival style houses.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 5



Hughes House (JS-126) Earliest part of house dates to 1800-1824



Keene Springs Hotel (JS-136) Built mid-1840s



Barkley House (JS-126) Built 2nd quarter of the 19th century



Nave-Brown House (JS-144) Built 2nd quarter of the 19th century



James O-Neal House (JS-154) mid-19th century. Prounounced one of best examples of style in the county.

James O-Neal House (JS-154) mid-19th century. Prounounced one of best

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 6



Locust Grove Stock Farm (JS-162) Built 1833. Very successful hemp farm.



Burrier House (JS-165) Built 1861. Blend of Greek and Gothic revivals.



Chaumiers des Prairies (JS-169) Greek Revival portion 1820-1840



Thornwood (JS-171) Built 1847 by Otha Robards, after Waveland



Bryant House (JS-174) Built mid-19th century

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 7

Analysis of the Martin House's architectural character

The Lewis Martin House has many features that establish it as typical among Greek Revival houses in Jessamine County from 1835 through 1875:

- its brick wall material
- two-story height
- its original one-bay, two-story porch at the front façade
- Flemish bond brickwork
- Prominent ell wing
- No entablature nor prominent cornice detailing

The form of the Martin House is quite typical for Jessamine County. Local houses with 2-story height and one-bay-wide porticos listed on the National Register include Butler's Tavern (JS-102), Hughes House (JS-126), Nave Brown House (JS-144), Locust Grove Stock Farm (JS-162), Burrier House (JS-165), and the Bryant House (JS-174). The fact that the Martin House lacks its original portico is offset somewhat by the deeply-recessed doorway, which provides some sense of shelter to the façade's entry point.

Evaluation of the Lewis Martin Houses' Architectural Significance

The Lewis Martin House's original design, which included a two-story portico, placed it among the significant instances of Jessamine County's Greek Revival houses. The county had few of the florid grand examples of the style, such as the image of Tara popularized by the movie "Gone with the Wind." Instead, in Jessamine, a quieter version of the revival came to dominate construction during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, when farming prosperity began to enable the first generation of prosperous farmers to erect a residence befitting a prosperous farmer. The Martin House's design fit with that image.

Evaluation of the Lewis Martin House's Architectural Integrity

A significant instance of Greek Revival architecture in Jessamine County, Kentucky must have an integrity of design, materials, and feeling to be eligible for National Register listing. The Lewis Martin House has these integrity factors, as well as others.

The home has not been relocated, and the six acres proposed for listing retain an integrity of **location and setting**. The house possesses its historic domestic setting. The current-day approach down Bates Creek Road recalls the visual experience of moving down the route toward the home in the era it was built. The home retains the same orientation to the main road as it did in 1830s. Bates Creek Road remains a two-lane country road. Of equal impact is the father's home, just over the hill to the northwest, with no significant structure between. The families could walk or take a short horse ride to visit each other. The Martin House was built as a residence and has remained residential throughout the years. Stone fences and dependencies are missing, but the self-evident rural nature of its environs enhances apparent historic identity. The surrounding property remains rural to the horizon.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 8

The majority of historic **materials** have been retained at the Lewis Martin House. The historic fabric intact both on exterior and interior includes:

- windows on north and east elevations
- Handmade bricks that comprise the structure
- Original chimney stacks
- Interior floor materials including original wide plank as floor in "I design" (ell portion was replaced with wide plank ash in 1999)
- Doorway surrounds, doors, staircase, baseboards, and original Greek Revival mantels for three fireplaces

Many non-historic materials have been added to the house, particularly the 1990s additions on the property's back (south) side to provide additional living space and garage. These, of course, reduce the integrity of materials and design. On balance, it is clear which materials are historic and which are not, and the primary façades (north, west, and east) provide the main historic façades of this building.

Many of the Greek Revival **design** elements of the Lewis Martin House, as built in the 1830s, have been retained, a sufficient number that it makes sense to say the property retains its design integrity. It retains its form, massing, fenestration pattern, façade composition and symmetry, simple detailing, brick patterning, and ell plan on the exterior. All of the original floor plan and much of the simple woodwork indicative of the style is clearly evident with a simple walk around and through the home.

The contemporary changes have been made in a separate addition rather than in the historic space. A wing with a contemporary kitchen and bath was completed in 1999. Also in 1999, the floor and the wide plank ash was replaced in the ell wing (dining room) due to damage of the original; the replacement floor used like material. Structures that had been added to the home after the Greek Revival period were taken off in erecting the addition. Its designer attempted to make it very compatible with the original portion, using similar bricks, fenestration pattern and sash types, and proportions. When evaluating the impact of 1990s work upon the historic design, the changes interfere minimally with our ability to perceive the historic architectural design.

The major loss that impacts the integrity of Greek Revival design is, of course, the removal of the entry porch and the change of the second-floor center door into a window. On balance, the house's retention of design cues, along with the absence of added non-historic features from the primary façades, allows us to make the judgment that the house retains its important design. The current owners have begun rehabilitation of the house, following the Secretary of the Interior's rehabilitation standard so as to obtain a Kentucky tax credit. Replacement of an appropriate porch is part of the planned changes.

Finally, the house has an integrity of **feeling**, due to the retention of its integrity of location, setting, material, and design. The house obviously is a product of middle-19th-century construction and aesthetic trends. The reserve exhibited by its detailing and façade rhythms come not from the late-20th or early-21st centuries, but from the building traditions that began fading in Jessamine County more than a century ago.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 8 Page 9

History of the Martin House and its Occupants

The Martin and Shreve Families

James G. Martin, a Revolutionary War soldier, traveled to Kentucky and settled near East Hickman circa 1791. It is believed that he obtained title to the property on which his son's house was built, via a land grant signed by Patrick Henry in recognition of his service to the nascent United States during the Revolutionary War. His son Lewis was born in 1807.

Lewis Young Martin married Ann Shreve in 1826, when he was 20 and she was 16 years old. Her father, William Shreve, served for over 30 years as the Jessamine County judge. Lewis and Ann are listed in the 1850 US census, along with seven of their children. They had 12 children, losing one in childhood, before Lewis's death in 1858. The census lists Martin's occupation as "farming," and appraised his land at \$15,000. On the property hemp was grown, along with livestock—mules early on, and later, thoroughbred horses. He also traded in mules. It was on a business trip that he perished when the steamboat on which he was a passenger on the Tombigbee River in Alabama exploded and burned.

After his death, Ann moved to Richmond. Upon her death, their eldest son William inherited the house. William sold the house and 206 acres in 1889 to William Tandy Chenault. V.K. Tudor purchased the farm in 1893, and Lee Congelton bought it in 1915. The farm was sold two years later to Addie and Charles McCray who sold it to Hugh R. Taylor in 1937. Four years later, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Robinson bought the farm. They made many changes to the house and sold it to the Lee family in 1945. In 1961, Mr. and Mrs. William G. Robbins bought the house and 100 acres and raised thoroughbred and standard bred horses.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Bower, Billy Jackson

1998 *Mills, Murders, and More, in Early Days of Jessamine County, Kentucky*. Nicholasville (self published).

1999 *Crossing the River, and Other Lore of Jessamine County*. Nicholasville (self published).

Fain, Robert, editor

1993 *A History of Jessamine County, Kentucky*. Nicholasville: Historical and Genealogical Society of Jessamine County.

Gibbs, Kenneth T. and Carolyn Wooley

1984 Jessamine County Multiple Resource Area. Frankfort: Kentucky Heritage Council, National Register nomination form.

Kentucky Heritage Commission

1979 *A Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky: Jessamine County*. Frankfort: Kentucky Heritage Commission

Mastin, Betty Lee

1965 "Ivywood's Builder Died As Steamship Exploded, Burned" *Lexington Herald-Leader*, 9/26/65

Peter, Robert

1882 *History of Fayette County, Kentucky*. Chicago: O.L. Baskin & Co.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee

1984 *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, Alfred A Knopf

U.S. Census records: 1800-1910

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

Jessamine County, Kentucky PVAMap I.D.: 096-00-00-006.01

Boundary Justification

The property proposed for listing is the rural residence with architectural significance, with the remaining acreage surrounding the property under current ownership. That acreage provides sufficient land to support the architectural identity of this house as an important member of Jessamine County's rural Greek Revival styling.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lewis Y Martin House
Jessamine County, KY

Section Photo Identification Page 1

Photo Identification:

Photos 1-4

Name: Lewis Y. Martin House

Location: Jessamine County, Kentucky

Photographer: Chris Bowling

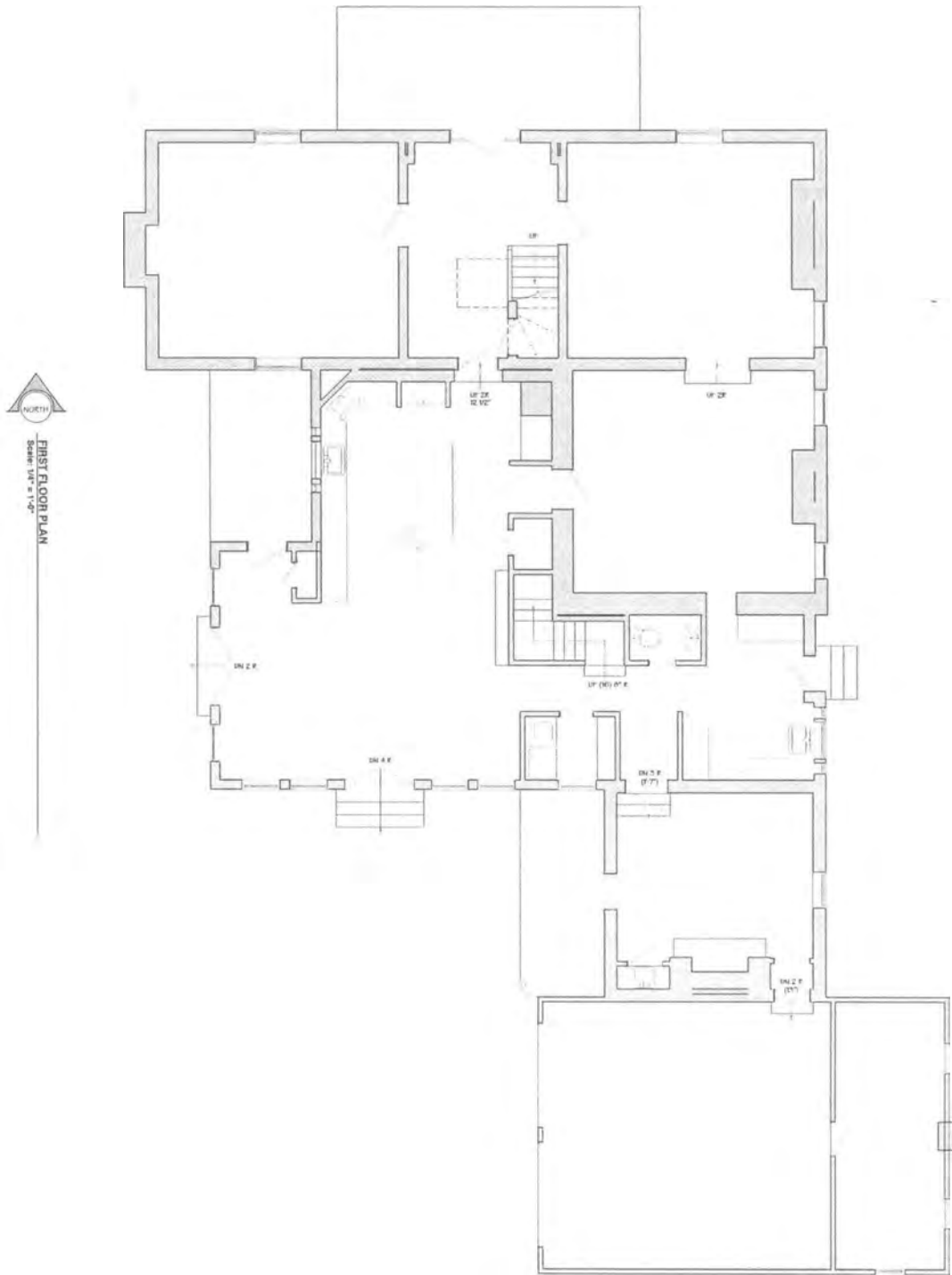
Date: Fall, 2007

Digital Media

Photo specific information:

1. Porch on east side. Camera facing NW.
2. East side. Camera facing West.
3. Front (North) façade. Camera facing SE.
4. West façade. Camera facing East

1st Floor Plan
 LEWIS MARTIN HOUSE
 DESSAINE COUNTY, KY



NORTH
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

A0.0

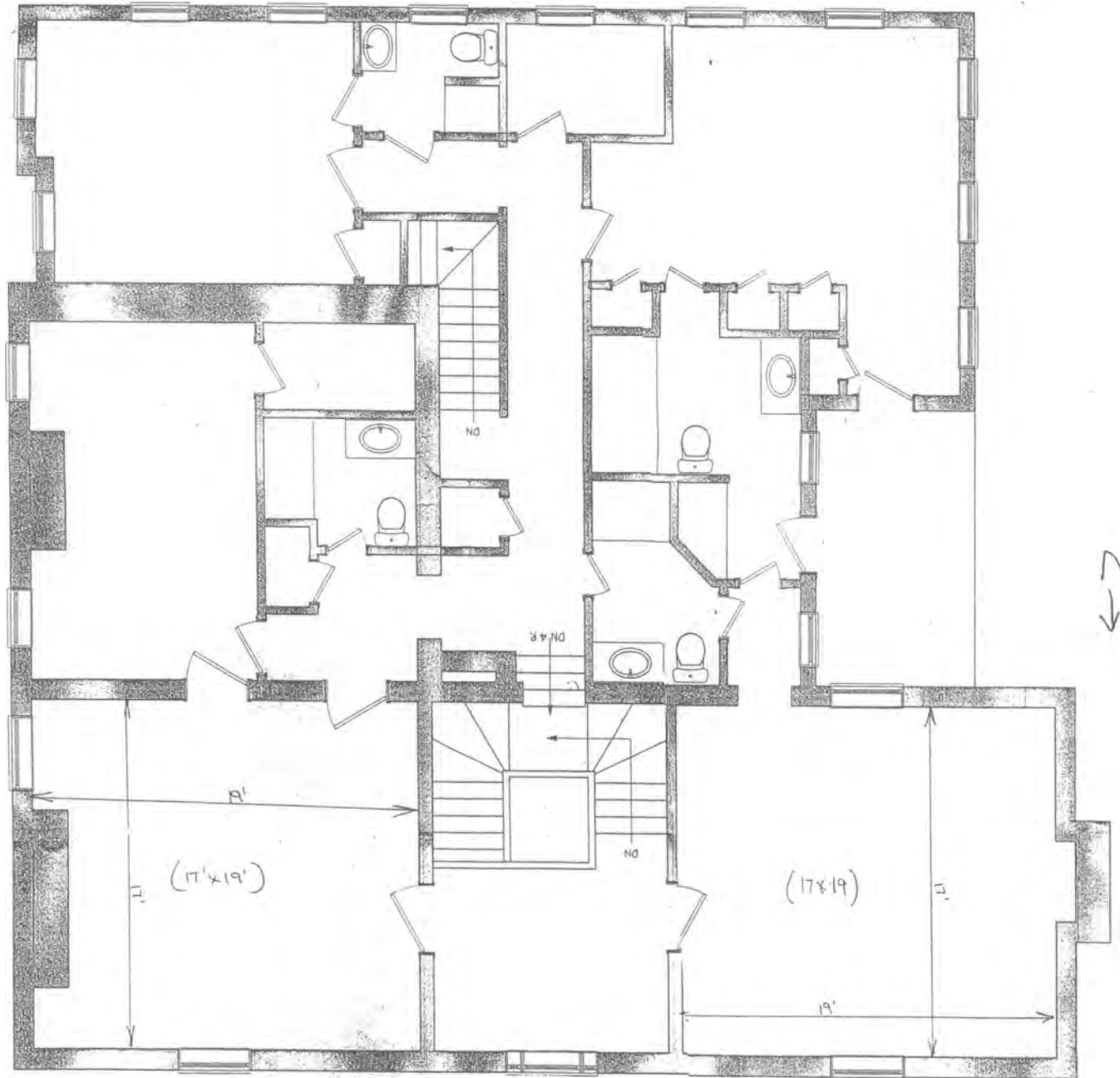
AS-BUILT PLANS

IVYWOOD BED & BREAKFAST
 6975 TATES CREEK ROAD
 LEXINGTON KY 40515

DATE	NO. OF SETS
ISSUED	

POHL ROSA POHL
 ARCHITECTURE • DESIGN

(853) 268-1720
 FAX 268-1999
 420 EUCLID AVE #200
 LEXINGTON, KY 40502



2ND FLOOR PLAN
LEWIS MARTIN HOUSE

JESSAMINE CO., KY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Martin, Lewis Y., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Jessamine

DATE RECEIVED: 12/27/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/15/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/30/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/09/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000009

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2.7.08 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

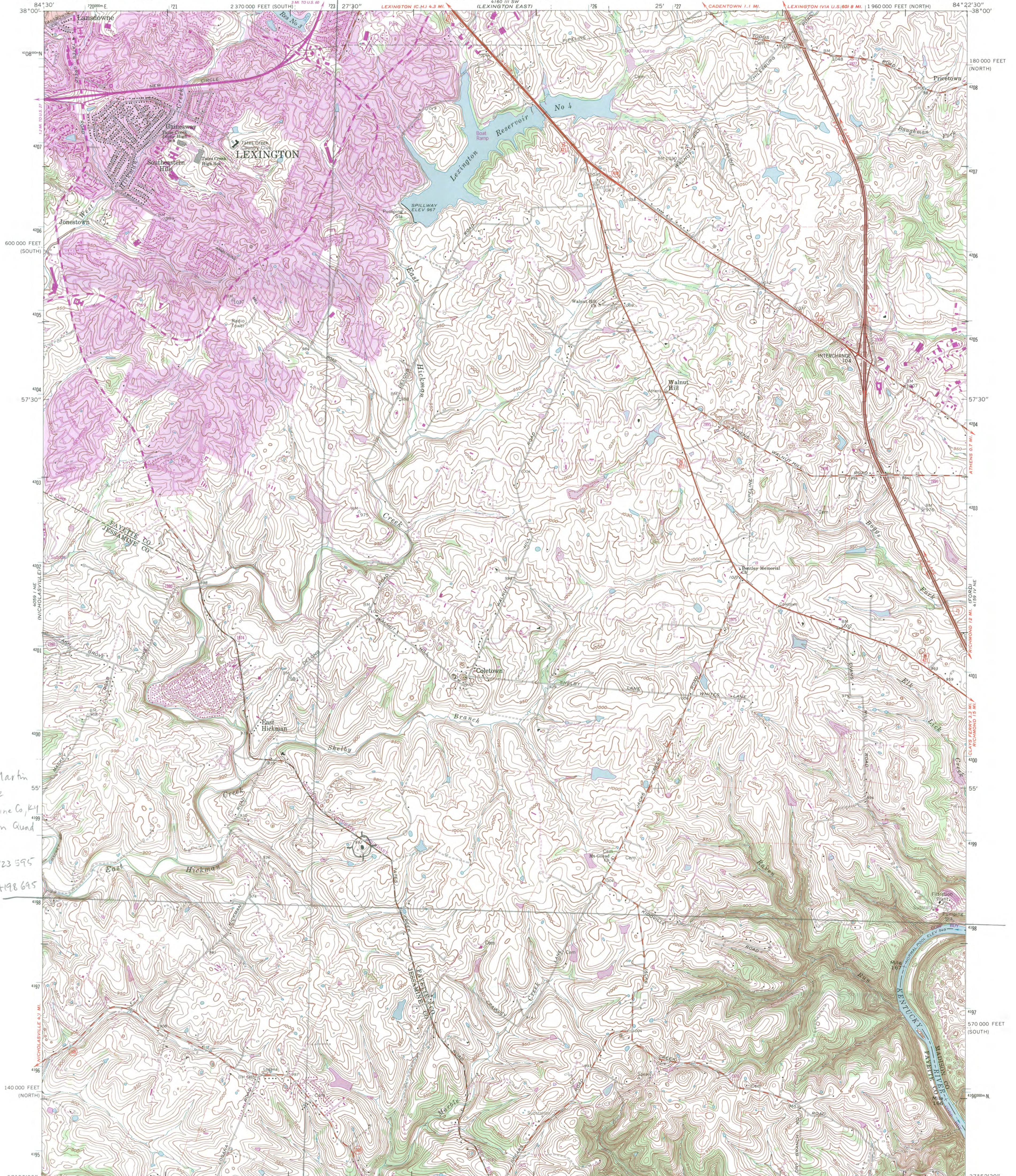
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.











Lewis Martin
House
Jessamine Co, KY
Coletown Quad
Zone 16
Easting 723 595
Northing 4198 695

Produced by the United States Geological Survey

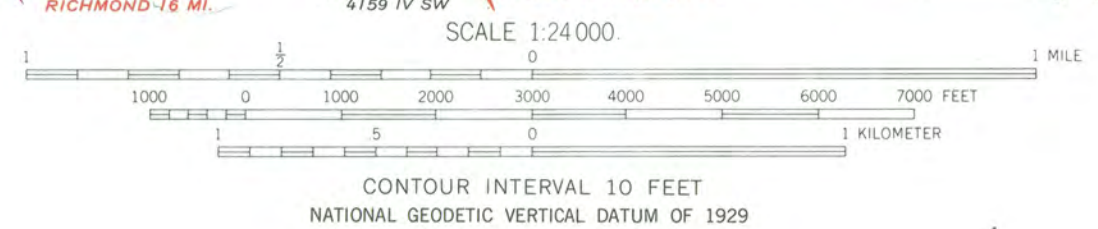
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA and Kentucky Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised 1965

Projection: Kentucky coordinate system, north zone
(Lambert conformal conic)
10,000-foot grid ticks: Kentucky coordinate
system, north and south zones
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute
intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

UTM GRID AND 1993 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092,
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

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with
State of Kentucky agencies from aerial photographs taken 1988 and 1990
and other sources. Contours not revised. This information
not field checked. Map edited 1993
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

COLETOWN, KY.
NW/4 VALLEY VIEW 15' QUADRANGLE
37084-H4-TF-024

1965
REVISED 1993
DMA 4159 IV NW—SERIES V853



COMMERCE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL



~~Steve Beshear~~
~~GOVERNOR~~
Governor

The State Historic Preservation Office
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone (502) 564-7005
Fax (502) 564-5820
www.kentucky.gov

~~Marcheta Sparrow~~
~~George W. ...~~
Secretary

Donna M. Neary
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

December 20, 2007

Jan Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Keeper
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Dr. Matthews:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the December 13, 2007 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

- Ashland Tuberculosis Hospital, Boyd County
- Ft. Thomas Historic District (Boundary Increase), Campbell County
- Liberty Downtown Historic District, Casey County
- Fannie Harrison Farm, Hardin County
- Woodbourne House, Jefferson County
- Hamilton Brothers Warehouse, Jefferson County
- Business Women's Club Building, Jefferson County
- Lewis Martin House, Jessamine County
- Beattyville Grade School, Lee County
- Campbellsville Historic District, Taylor County
- Adams-Kentucky District, Warren County
- Hatchett Tobacco Barn, Washington County

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,
Donna M. Neary
Donna M. Neary, Executive Director
Kentucky Heritage Council and
State Historic Preservation Officer

DMN:MP