

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1514
NOV 27 1995

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for not applicable. For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name The Cedars

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 812 East Cedar Street not for publication N/A

city or town Franklin vicinity N/A

state Kentucky code KY county Simpson code 213 zip code 42134

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.)

David L. Morgan, SHPO and
Executive Director 11-1-95
Date

Signature of certifying official>Title

State Historic Preservation Office: Kentucky Heritage Council

State of 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
Entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

11-1-95

The Cedars

Name of Property

Simpson, Kentucky

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal
- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
11	1	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
12	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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Agriculture/outbuilding
Agriculture/processing
Agriculture/agricultural field

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Agriculture/outbuilding
Agriculture/processing
Agriculture/agricultural field

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American

Movements: Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick
Wood
roof Asphalt
other Metal

Narrative Description

See continuation sheets.
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

The Cedars
Name of Property

Simpson, Kentucky
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 sheets.
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheets.

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 (Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1836-1945

Significant Dates

1836

1845

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Salmons, Nathan (Builder)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky

The Cedars
Name of Property

Simpson, Kentucky
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 47 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1]6 [5]3[9]3[0]0 [4]0[6]3[7]2[0]
Zone Easting Northing
2 [1]6 [5]3[9]8[1]0 [4]0[6]3[5]2[0]

3 [1]6 [5]3[9]7[3]0 [4]0[6]3[2]7[5]
Zone Easting Northing
4 [1]6 [5]3[9]2[0]0 [4]0[6]3[3]9[0]
|| See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet.
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet.

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donna G. Logsdon, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization Logsdon & Logsdon Architects date 7/10/95

street & number 1135 Glen Logsdon Road telephone (502) 528-4698

city or town Horse Cave state Kentucky zip code 42749

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Mary Noble Lanier Wilson

street & number 812 E. Cedar Street telephone (502) 586-3332

city or town Franklin state Kentucky zip code 42134

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

RECEIVED

NOV 27 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

7. Narrative Description

Site Characteristics

"The Cedars" (SI-#256) is located in Simpson County, Kentucky, on the outskirts of Franklin, situated on the southeast corner of Route 73, or East Cedar Street, and Franklin's Bypass, State Route 1008. The area proposed for nomination consists of over 47 acres of farmland and includes one Greek Revival residence, eight agricultural outbuildings, and two domestic outbuildings, two tenant houses, and a pond. Cattle, chickens, tobacco, and grain were raised here between the early 1800s through the 1960s. Since then, the farm continued to produce tobacco and cattle as well as wheat, soybeans, and corn through the early 1990s.

All of the buildings on the site but one contribute to the farm's sense of place and time. The two-story Greek Revival residence, built in 1836, is the most prominent building on the site and features minimal wood detailing, typical of this early style and period of construction. A log crib, possibly built the same year, remains sheltered within the most recent tobacco barn. The majority of the agricultural outbuildings were built in the 1800s except two dating from the early 1900s, and one tobacco barn rebuilt in 1969, which is non-historic and is non-contributing. Together these buildings form a cohesive unit expressing historic integrity in terms of location, setting, design, and feeling, while representing a period of significance spanning from 1836 to 1945.

"The Cedars" is nestled among cedar and maple trees set back from the intersection of Route 73 and the Franklin Bypass making the residence and associated outbuildings not visible from the road. Access to the property is from Route 73 which leads to the stately mansion through a long passage of large cedar trees for which property is named. These large cedar trees provide shade and serve as a buffer, shielding the residence from the main access, Cedar Street, and are an important factor in retaining the owner's privacy. The asphalt circular driveway that loops around the Greek Revival residence connects to a gravel road that heads south at the rear of the house, providing access to the twelve outbuildings. The identifying features of this two-story Greek Revival mansion include a brick structure with a side gabled roof, a recessed front porch with tapered columns, a central entry door surrounded by narrow sidelights with a divided transom light above.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 2

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

List of Features

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
1	Greek Revival Residence	1836	contributing
2	Garage	1945	contributing
3	Smokehouse	1830s	contributing
4	Saddlebag Cottage	mid-1800s	contributing
5	Chicken House	1800s	contributing
6	Tool Shed	1800s	contributing
7	Weigh Station	early 1900s	contributing
8	Livestock barn	early 1900s	contributing
9	Implement Shed	early 1900s	contributing
10	Tobacco Barn	rebuilt 1969	non-contributing
10a	Log Crib	early 1800s	non-contributing
11	Tenant house	1920s	contributing
12	Storage shed	1920s	contributing
13	Farm land	1800s	contributing

Building Characteristics

1 The two-story Greek Revival mansion is prominently raised above grade in the center of a well manicured circular lawn. The central entry is recessed and accented with a pair of one-story tapered, square columns. The vertical paneled front door is surrounded by divided sidelights and transom above. The second floor window directly above the entry mimics the columns with two vertical members dividing the window into three parts. Two symmetrically placed 6-over-6 light windows with louvered shutters are located on either side of the entry.

Reminiscent of the central passage single pile building type, a two-story ell projects to the rear behind the entry foyer and parlor with a side porch to the west. Exterior end chimneys flank each end of the building, touching the side gabled roof. Several layers of asphalt shingles have covered the original wood shingles over the years. The living room and parlor are situated on either side the front entry foyer that has a fireplace opposite the main entry door. Plain, thick wood, a wide frieze, and flat pilasters enhance the broad fireplaces, and eleven foot tall ceilings are found throughout the house except in the kitchen and bathrooms.

From the main entry foyer, two paneled doors access the living room and parlor. The third door near the fireplace is the only door, besides the main entry door, in the original two-story residence with a transom above, evidence that it was originally an exterior door to perhaps a porch, now the enclosed hallway. Stairs, providing access to the two original second floor

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

rooms, are situated above stairs to the cellar in the foyer.

A one-story kitchen with walls three-bricks thick is chinked with horsehair and red clay with sand mortar. The kitchen is connected to rear of the two-story ell with an entrance to the dining room with side porch directly behind the parlor. Two small windows and three doors pierce the kitchen facade. An exterior end brick chimney on the south wall is centered on the front-facing gabled end roof. The wide fireplace that was once used for cooking has been removed and remains evident inside the kitchen by the wide gap in the kitchen cabinets above the new stove.

Almost one hundred years after the original construction, a two-story rear addition was built to connect the living room to the dining room ell. Plumbing fixtures dating from 1932 preclude this structure from appearing before that date. A toilet, hallway, and den were added on the first floor with two toilets, one bedroom, and a hallway added on the second floor above. A modest brick terrace supported by decorative wrought iron columns, built in 1945, adjoins the two-story brick addition and the kitchen.

2 The circular driveway that winds its way around the house ends in a brick two-car garage that was originally constructed in 1945 and then rebuilt in 1970 after the tornado in 1969. A straight gravel road turning south from the driveway provides access to the outbuildings situated on the west side of the road opposite the scenic recreational fishing pond once used for watering cattle.

3 The first outbuilding south of the residence is the smokehouse. Built in the 1830s it continued to be used until the mid-1970s. Constructed of horizontal wood siding, only one side has been replaced with vertical wood planks. Supported by stone piers, it has one door which pierces the front facade allowing direct access to the kitchen.

4 Beyond the smokehouse is a saddlebag, two-room cottage built during the mid-1800s for people who worked on the farm. Ada and Walter Stewart resided in this cottage through the 1950s. Ada was nanny to the Lanier children and prepared meals. Walter helped with farming and yard work. The corner bathroom was added in 1947. A brick chimney projects from the side gabled roof indicating a fireplace for heat and cooking. The south end of the structure has suffered damage and minimal wood patching holds it together. This building represents a vital link in the connection between landowner and tenant farmer reinforcing the fact that help was needed by families on farms. Today the cottage lies vacant.

5,6 Next, two small, wood-frame structures, the chicken house and tool shed, are juxtaposed at right angles to each other. Built in the 1800s, their

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

functionality is expressed through simple design and craftsman style construction. The tool shed has vertical plank siding, a front gabled metal roof, and exposed rafter ends. The chicken house has a series of large and small openings in the horizontal wood siding and a metal shed roof. A coal shed and a double seated outhouse, used for a playhouse in the 1950s, were on either side of these two structures, however, they no longer exist.

7 The weigh station, built in the early 1900s, is located adjacent to the livestock barn. The large gambrel shaped opening on the south facade allows cattle to walk through and step on a walk-on scale inside. This device helped the farmer check the weight of his cattle before going to market and was used until the early 1990s when cattle farming ceased on this property.

8 The livestock barn, built in the early 1900s, faces west and is three bays wide and two stories tall. A concrete slab in the center of the barn floor has a corn crib on either side of the entry with hay racks behind them extending the length of the concrete slab. A U-shaped aisle wraps around the concrete slab with hayracks on the outside walls. Three large pairs of doors, one for each bay, open along the east wall. From the central entry, wooden stairs rise to the hayloft which has one door on the west end for hay loading and an open window for air circulation on the east end. Now used for storage, this building was actively used as a cattle barn until the early 1990s.

9 Beyond the livestock barn is the implement shed. Built about the same time as the weigh station, it has vertical plank siding, a shed metal roof, and five, large gambrel shaped openings for housing tractors and farm machinery. It is still being used today.

10,10a The tobacco barn is the most recent structure on the farm and it serves several purposes. Rebuilt in 1969, it is reminiscent of the tobacco barn that it replaced and provides protection for the early 1800s log crib that remains inside. This barn and crib are located near Franklin Bypass 1008. A farm road travels along the south side of the livestock barn extending past the tobacco barn on the north side to a gate near the Bypass. Today, the log crib represents the earliest form of agricultural storage on this farm, although the barn and crib are no longer used.

11,12 Supported by brick piers, a one-story, wood-frame, tenant house, accessible from Franklin's Bypass State Route 1008, was built in the 1920s. This horizontal wood siding structure has a corrugated metal roof and is currently vacant. This two-room shelter has a central brick chimney that was later stuccoed. A small, shed rear addition runs the length of the house providing two additional rooms and another stuccoed chimney. A small wood-frame storage shed is situated behind the house. The tenant house and storage shed are vacant.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

13 The farm land surrounding the agricultural buildings were historically used for tobacco and grain with the balance as pasture for cattle through the early 1990s. After 1963, tobacco, cattle, wheat, soybeans, and corn were grown.

Collectively, the buildings and land reinforce the activities that were involved in a working farm from the early 1800s. Each structure was built for a specific purpose which has been clearly defined. The association of these buildings on the site convey a feeling of stability and purpose and retain architectural integrity. Two buildings have been partially changed after the period of significance and are compatible in materials, design, and construction with the remaining historic structures.

Integrity

"The Cedars" is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion A in the area of Agriculture. This property has been identified as an area that conveys a strong sense of historic environment through the development of historic buildings, their building type, construction materials and methods, and continued use. This cohesive group of buildings represents a period of time spanning between 1836 and 1945 when the last addition was added to the property. It has been determined the historic associations of the property are expressed through an integrity of location, setting, design, and feeling.

"The Cedars" is an excellent example of a working farm in Franklin and has been in continuous operation for over 160 years. The integrity of location, setting, and design of the buildings in relationship to the property convey the feeling of what it was like to live on a farm in the early 1800s. The majority of buildings on the site have retained their original configuration although modifications have occurred over time due to tornado, wind or storm damage requiring reconstruction. While each building on the site portrays its own individual characteristics, together they collectively express a historic period of time evoking a feeling of integrity.

The property has the integrity of location and setting since there is a diminished number of farms close to Franklin that have as many historic buildings that were constructed on farmland dating between 1836 and 1945. The structures remain intact and represent the farming industry in Franklin and Simpson County. In recent years, large tracts of farmland situated on the outskirts of town have been developed into residential neighborhoods or commercial shopping centers, altering the historic landscape.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

8. Statement of Significance

"The Cedars" (SI-#256) is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion A and is significant within the area of Agriculture. The property was evaluated within the context: "Agriculture in Simpson County, 1819-1945" which focuses on the development of agriculture in Simpson County. This context was developed as part of the survey of Franklin in 1995 and is included in the Industry chapter of "City of Franklin Survey Summary Report" on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort, Kentucky. Excerpts from the context agriculture is included in this Statement of Significance.

The significance of the property is enhanced by its integrity of location, setting, design, and feeling. The buildings typify a Simpson County working farm from a period of significance dating between 1836 and 1945. Many farms, dating from the 1800s, are no longer in existence this close to downtown Franklin. In recent years commercial development has infringed on older, large properties just outside Franklin's city limits enticing construction of convenience stores, gas stations, grocery stores, and shopping centers to serve new residential communities.

"The Cedars", named for the cedar trees that line the entrance driveway to a two-story brick Greek Revival residence, is currently a 112-acre farm in Simpson County that has been in continuous operation for over 160 years. The house was constructed on this site circa 1836 when Thomas Hampton owned the property. Thomas Hampton is the son of Benjamin Hampton who built Hampton Hall on 31-W North in Simpson County near the Warren County line. Thomas Hampton's father-in-law Nathan Salmons, built the residence for Thomas Hampton and his wife America Ann Salmons. According to Deed Book 6, page 352, Simpson County Court Records, Thomas Hampton sold 62.6 acres, more or less, to Martha Harris on January 25, 1888. It remained in the Harris family through Martha's daughter, Maud Harris Gillespie and her husband B.T. Gillespie, after her death in 1931. Over the next several years it appears adjacent land was purchased increasing the size of the farm. Mrs. Gillespie sold a portion of the land to T.C. Lane April 8, 1937, however, it was not recorded until February 16, 1938. In 1936 Miss Irene Phillips purchased 298.862 acres from W.C. Grainger and his wife Mrs. Nannie M. Grainger, Deed Book 56, page 232. Then on February 17, 1939 Miss Phillips purchased 62.6 acres more from T.C. Lane according to Deed Book 58 page 138. On March 9, 1945 Miss Phillips sold Tract 1 containing 207 acres south of Route 100, now Route 73, to Mr. Noble S. Lanier, Deed Book 63, page 424. The property was willed to Mrs. Dorothy Fenton Lanier, Noble's wife, at his death in 1963. She continued to reside here with her three children - William Fenton Lanier, Collins Fenton Lanier, and Mary Noble Lanier. Upon Mrs. Lanier's death in 1977, the property was willed to her son Collins Fenton Lanier and daughter Mary Noble Lanier on October 26, 1977 according to Deed Book 7, page 459. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

property was willed to Mary Noble Lanier on February 4, 1986 by her brother Collins Fenton Lanier, according to Deed Book 10, page 336. A portion of this acreage has been sub-divided to allow Route 100 to access Interstate 65.

Historically this farmland was used to graze cattle, raise tobacco, chickens, and grain. Landowner Noble Lanier was a cattle, grain, and tobacco farmer between 1945 and 1963. He was also a Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife serving under four Governors for twenty years until his death in 1963. Speed boat racing on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and the Great Lakes in the 1940s was his passion. After the Prohibition he owned several retail package stores in various locations in Warren County and Bowling Green. General Electric appliances were also sold in his Chevrolet dealership in Franklin during the 1940s through 1963. Over fifty years later the farm, house, and outbuildings remain in the Lanier family. Noble's daughter, Mary Noble Lanier Wilson, her husband James Byron Wilson, and their daughter Mary Fenton Lanier, reside in the house where she was born and raised. Today the Wilsons sharecrop the land, producing wheat, soybeans, and corn.

The striking character of this farm lies in the juxtaposition of the buildings on the site in relation to the activities with which each was involved, the longevity of their existence, and the fact that the farm has remained operational for over 160 years and has survived in an area where the growth and development of downtown Franklin along Route 73 on the north has been developed to include a chain grocery store and convenience store/gas station catering to the recent adjacent residential neighborhood.

AGRICULTURE IN SIMPSON COUNTY, 1819-1945

This context, "Agriculture in Simpson County" was based on several areas of research and investigation. Franklin and Simpson County Historic Resources Inventory Forms on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort, Kentucky provided limited information about agriculture concentrating on the history of the building in terms of plan and style rather than usage and activities. The book Franklin and Simpson County A Picture of Progress, by Mrs. James Beach, Sr. and James Henry Snider offered the most comprehensive information which was confirmed through oral interviews with farm owners in Simpson County.

Simpson County is comprised of alluvial soil based on blue limestone with a red clay foundation forming a productive soil making this county one of the top agriculturally in Kentucky. The county is drained by Big Barren River and its tributaries and by Red River with Drakes Creek running the entire length of Simpson County. The growing season for crops is approximately 200 days a year with a annual precipitation over 45 inches. The driest part of the year is late summer. The county depended primarily on agriculture until

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

the 1950s and as of the early 1970s the production of farm crops and livestock continue to be very important to the economy of the county.

Agriculture, including the production of farm crops, livestock, and tobacco, has always been an important source of income in Simpson County. "The Cedars" is a representative farm since the early 1800s cattle, tobacco, chickens and grain were raised. Although three types of tobacco were grown by the farmers of Simpson County, burley, dark air cured, and dark fire-cured, only burley and dark air-cured was grown on this farm. Simpson county was, however, well known for the quality of its tobacco. In later years, modern methods and machinery made tobacco growing less complicated. Cultivation and harvesting, however, still required more manpower than any other crop grown in the county.

Mature tobacco plants were cut and cured in barns before the leaves were stripped from the stalk and sorted into three grades, trash, lugs, and red leaf. Although the tobacco barn located on this farm was reconstructed in 1969, there were two other tobacco barns situated on the property at different times. Stripped tobacco was carried to warehouses where it was sold. Buyers, representing tobacco companies, took baskets of tobacco to a prizing barn where it was pressed into a hogshead and stored for three years prior to being sent to a blending factory where cigars, cigarettes, and other products were made.

Primarily wheat, hybrid corn, alfalfa hay were grown since the late 1920s in Simpson County. Wheat has always been an important crop in the county. Historically grain was produced on "The Cedars" and wheat continues to be grown showing this farm to be similar to those throughout Simpson County.

Corn was also grown extensively in Simpson County since the early days. In 1909, 550,663 bushels were produced, although there was a drop in production for a period of three years in the early 1950s. Blight damaged the crop in 1970 but by 1973 hybrid corn increased the yield over open pollinated varieties. Soybeans and barley were grown since the 1960s. Barley reached its highest level when harvested in 1972. Alfalfa hay was also grown in 1929. Both corn and soybeans have been grown on "The Cedars" since the 1960s, confirming the commonality of crops produced on alluvial soil in the county.

Another major source of income was livestock production, ie., cattle and hogs, since 1910. Cattle were also raised on "The Cedars" until the early 1990s. The number of horses and mules decreased in the county during the 1940s due to the increase of tractors and combines in the 1930s.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

METHODS OF FARMING

The following description of work typifies what life was like prior to modern machinery, offering a glimpse of what it was like to work on a farm, perhaps similar to what may have taken place at "The Cedars".

Much of the early work was done by manpower relying on strength and skill to grow and harvest crops. Grain was sown by hand and cut with a hand tool known as a cradle. Oxen, the first power other than manpower, was soon replaced by horses and mules. In the early 1800s the average farmer owned 5-6 horses or mules in Simpson County. In the 1850s steam engines were used in wheat threshing. The binder, drawn by mules or horses, cut off the stems of wheat and tied them into bundles with twine. Men stacked the bundles for the thresher. Threshing time was a community affair. Men, women, and children would gather on each farm to participate in the work and activities. Men would work in the field, the women prepared the noon meal, and the children played games. The farmer would divide his wheat keeping what he needed to be ground into flour and selling the rest to the miller. The owner of the thresher would travel over the county threshing wheat. By the 1950s machines improved working conditions and were commonly used for farming in Simpson County. The five bay wide implement shed at "The Cedars" is evidence that several machines were used on the farm during the 1900s.

HOME LIFE

Pioneer settlers in Simpson County erected one-and two room log cabins with an open fireplace. Men cut the trees, hand hewn and notched the logs fitting them together to form the walls of their houses. Large fireplaces, located at one end of the room, provided heat, light, and a place for cooking. The stone hearth furnished heat for baking and roasting while pots for boiling food were hung on hooks fastened to the top of the fireplace. Owner Mary Lanier Wilson believes the 1800s log crib sheltered inside the tobacco barn at "The Cedars" is large enough to have been a cabin, considering this structure is probably the oldest on the property.

Candles were molded until the middle of the 19th century and were used for additional light until kerosene lamps were introduced. Rural homes, such as "The Cedars", used kerosene lamps for light exclusively until 1938 when wide scaled rural electrification began. By contrast, the first electric light plant in Franklin was established in 1899 and lights were installed in the city.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 10 The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

9. Bibliography

• **Previous Research at the Kentucky Heritage Council:**

National Register Nominations:

The Franklin Downtown Commercial District, listed 1984.
Individual Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory Forms for Franklin and
Simpson County

• **Historical Maps:**

Fire Insurance Sanborn Maps. Franklin, Kentucky. Pelham: 1886, 1892,
1897, 1901, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1940, 1947.

USGS Maps: 1968 PR 1982

Simpson County General Highway Map: 1968 rev. 1971

Property Identification Maps: 1990, 1991

• **Archival Resources:**

Articles:

Crossly, Cynthia. "Franklin." Our Town. (1992): 54-57.

"Spotlight on Simpson County." Back Home in Kentucky (1994):
26-29.

Simpson County Archives:

Deeds, vertical files, photographic files, historical researchers

• **Secondary Resources:**

Atlas of Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of
Kentucky, 1977.

Beach, Sr. Mrs. James and Henry Snider. Franklin and Simpson County: A
Picture of Progress 1819-1975. Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe
Press, 1976.

Beach, Sr. Mrs. James and Henry Snider. Franklin and Simpson County:
Reflections of 1976 and a supplement to "A Picture of Progress
1819-1975. Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe Press, 1976.

Burrus, Virgie Lee James. Facts To Remember. Franklin, Kentucky:
Printer's, Incorporated, 1984.

Clark, Thomas D. A History of Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky: the John
Bradford Press, 1954.

Kleber, John E. The Kentucky Encyclopedia. Lexington, Kentucky: The
University Press of Kentucky, 1992.

Klotter, James C. Our Kentucky: A Study of the Bluegrass State.
Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1992.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 11 The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

- Lee, Lloyd G. A Brief History of Kentucky and Its Counties. Berea, Kentucky: Kentucky Imprints, 1981.
- Martin, Charles E. The Penneyrile Cultural Landscape. Frankfort, Kentucky, 1988.
- Montell, William Lynwood and Michael Lynn Morse, Kentucky Folk Architecture. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1976.
- Rennick, Robert M. Kentucky Place Names. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1984.
- Rone, Wendell H., Sr. An Historical Atlas of Kentucky. Evansville, Kentucky: Burkert-Walton, 1965.
- Simpson County, Kentucky Families Past and Present 1819-1989. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing, 1989.
- Simpson County Centennial Celebration 1882-1982. Franklin, Kentucky: 1982.
- Simpson County History - Kentucky Bicentennial Edition 1792-1992. Franklin, Kentucky: 1992.

INTERVIEWS

The following interviews were conducted by Donna G. Logsdon in Franklin, Kentucky, between October 1994 and July 1995.

Keith Pawley
Tom Moody
Nancy Stone
Lucille Brooks
Katie Nolan
Kathryn McCutchin
Alice Bailey
Sarah Smith
Sue Groves
Mary Lanier Wilson
Gilbertine Douglass Moore
Sherry Ford
Cindy Ford
Virginia Walters
Jack Forshee
Margaret Snider
Pearl Snider

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

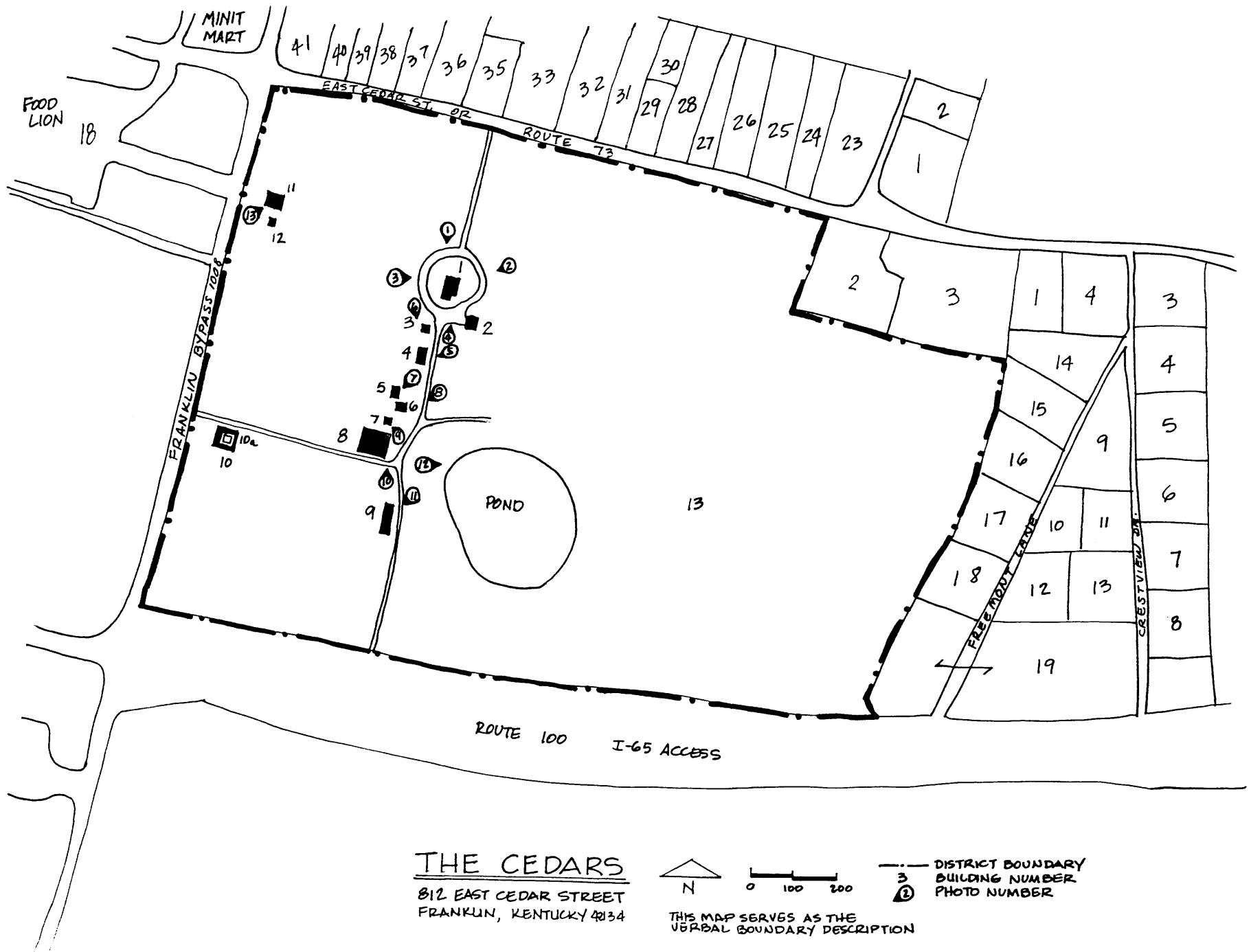
Section number 10 Page 12 The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

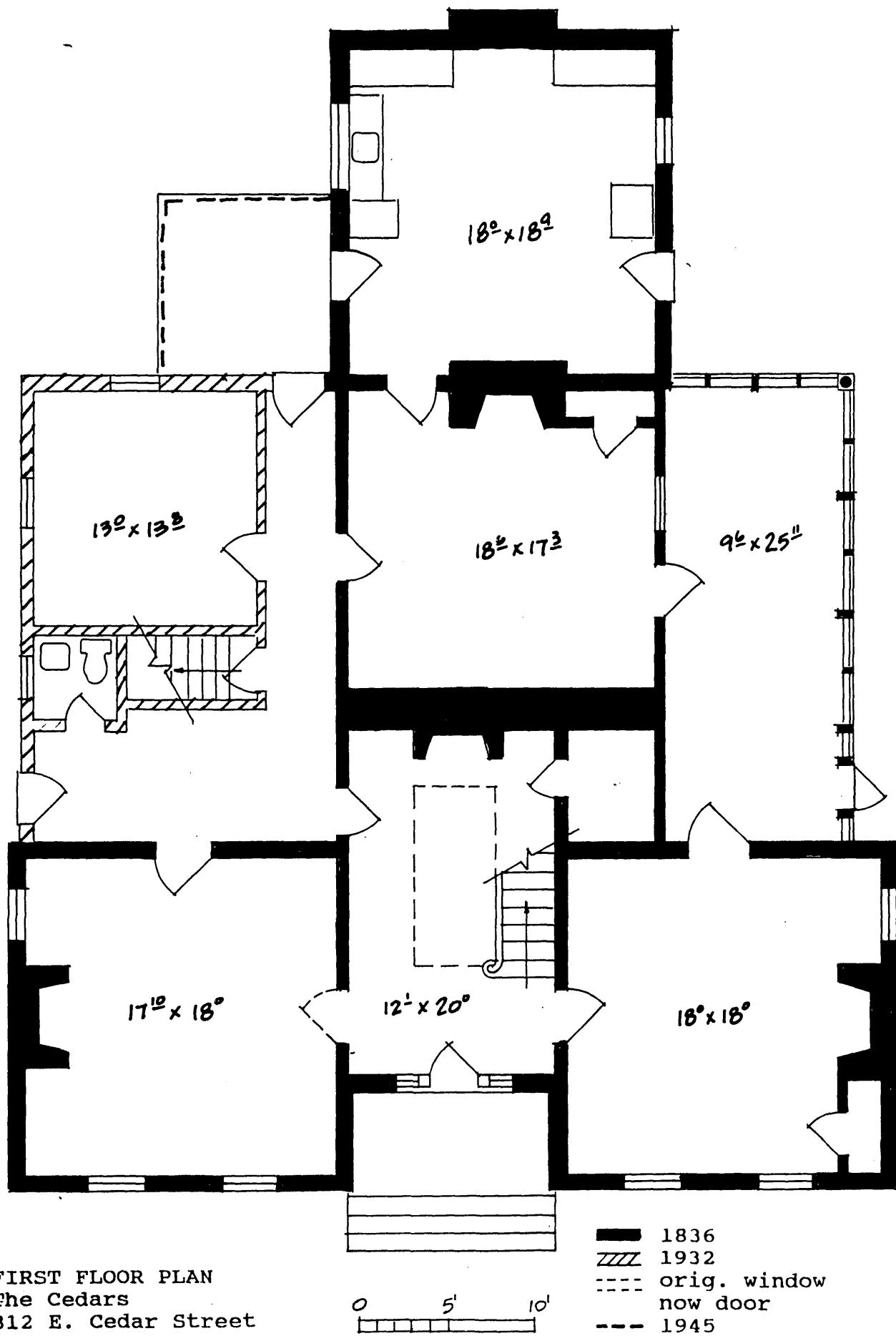
10. Verbal Boundary Description

The Cedars is bounded on the north by Route 73, on the northeast by residential lots 1, 2, 3, & 4, facing Route 73, on the east by residential lots 14 through 18 and part of lot 19 of Eastland Park facing Freemont Lane, on the south by Interstate 65 access road State Route 100, and on the west by Franklin Bypass State Route 1008. The site is also delineated on Property Identification Map 42, block 15, lot 1, and consists of 47 acres according to Deed Book WB7 page 459 in the legal department of Franklin's Property Valuation Office. See district map.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for this property were chosen to designate a cohesive group of buildings representing a historic farm with a period of significance from 1836 through 1945. The decision was made not to include the land south of State Route 100 and west of the Franklin Bypass because no historically significant buildings, sites, or objects remain in these locations.

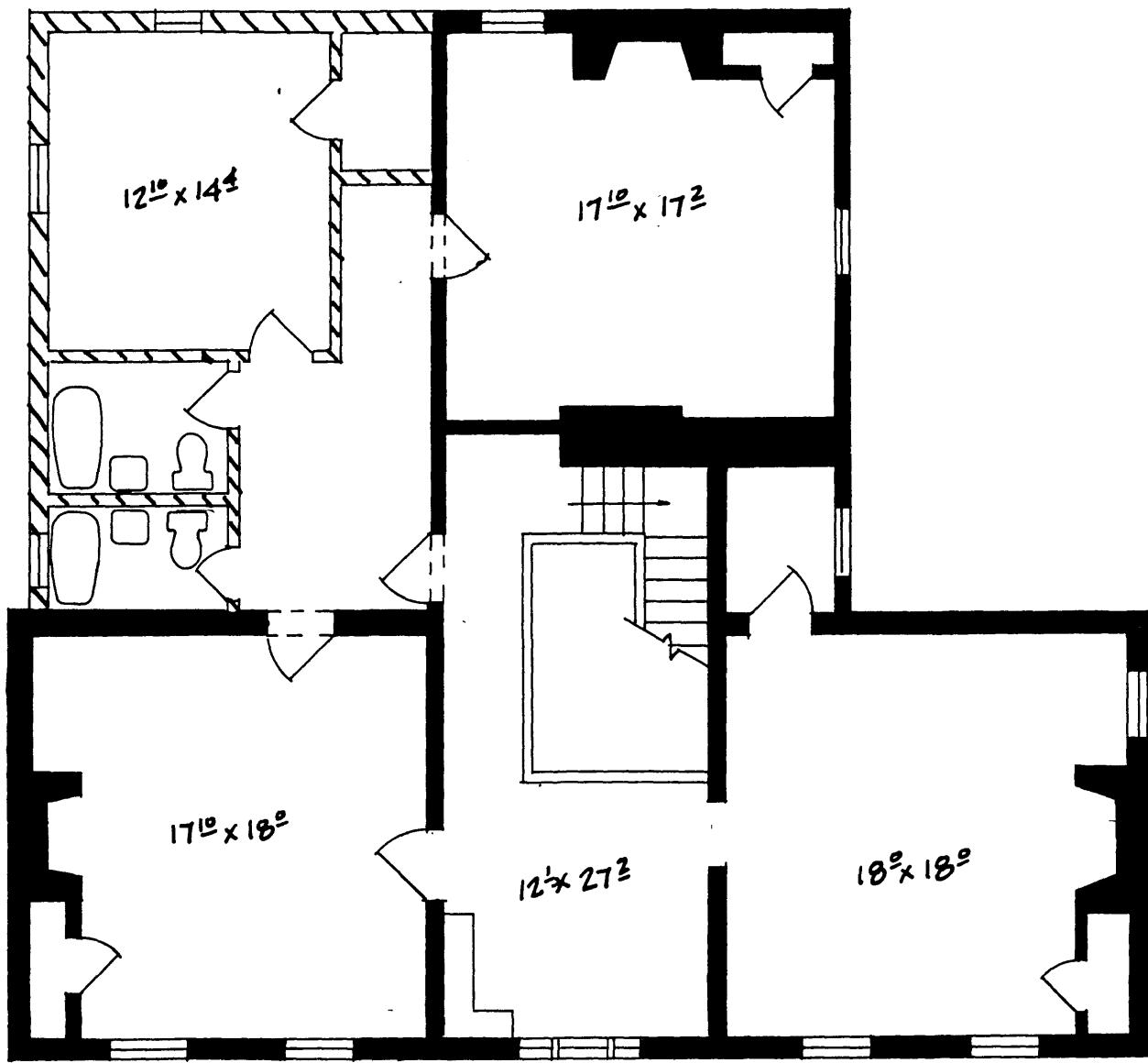




FIRST FLOOR PLAN
The Cedars
812 E. Cedar Street

0 5' 10'

■ 1836
▨ 1932
---- orig. window
now door
--- 1945



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
The Cedars
812 E. Cedar Street

0 5' 10'

- 1836
- |||| 1932
- - - orig. window
- - - now door
- - - 1945

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Additional Docs. Page 13 The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky

Photographs The Cedars, Simpson County, Kentucky
The following information is the same for all photographs:

3. Donna G. Logsdon
4. 5/95
5. Kentucky Heritage Council
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Photograph #1
6. North Facade of Greek Revival Residence

Photograph #2
6. Northeast facade of the Greek Revival Residence

Photograph #3
6. West facade of the Greek Revival Residence

Photograph #4
6. South Facade of the Greek Revival Residence

Photograph #5
6. Northeast corner of the Double-Pen Cottage

Photograph #6
6. Northwest corner of the Smokehouse

Photograph #7
6. Northeast corner of the Chicken House

Photograph #8
6. Northeast corner of the Tool Shed

Photograph #9
6. Southeast corner of the Weigh Station

Photograph #10
6. Southeast corner of the Livestock Barn

Photograph #11
6. Northeast corner of the Implement Shed

Photograph #12
6. View of the Agricultural Fields facing east

Photograph #13
6. Southwest corner of the Tenant House