

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Canewood Farm

other names/site number JS-200

2. Location

street & number 8080 Harrodsburg Road not for publication NA
city or town Nicholasville vicinity X
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 of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally.

David L. Morgan 3-9-99
Signature of certifying official Date

David L. Morgan, State Historic Preservation Officer
Kentucky Heritage Council, the 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification:
I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet.

Edson H. Beall 4/29/99
Signature of Keeper Date

Canewood Farm. Jessamine County, Kentucky

___ Determined not eligible for the National Register. _____
___ Removed from the National Register. _____
___ Other (explain): _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u>5</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

6. Function or Use:
Historic Functions:

Current Function:

Domestic/single dwelling
Agriculture/processing
Agriculture/storage
Agriculture/field
Transportation/road-related
Funerary/cemetery

Domestic/single dwelling
Agriculture/storage
Agriculture/field
Funerary/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Greek Revival
Late Victorian/ Italianate

Canewood Farm. Jessamine County, Kentucky.

Materials:

foundation: Stone/limestone
roof: Asphalt
walls: Wood/weatherboard
other: _____

Narrative Description: **See pg. 7-1.**

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:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

Canewood Farm. Jessamine County, Kentucky.

Areas of Significance:
Agriculture

Period of Significance:
1799-1906

Significant Dates: **1799, 1833, 1886**

Significant Person: **NA**
Cultural Affiliation: **NA**
Architect/Builder: **Unknown**

Narrative Statement of Significance: **See pg. 8-1.**

9. Major Bibliographical References: **See pg. 9-1.**

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 # _____.

Primary Location of Additional Data:
 State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

10. Geographical Data:

Acreage of Property **25 Acres**

UTM References:

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>16</u>	<u>707820</u>	<u>4196340</u>
2	<u>16</u>	<u>707480</u>	<u>4196740</u>
3	<u>16</u>	<u>707640</u>	<u>4196880</u>
4	<u>16</u>	<u>707980</u>	<u>4196500</u>

Verbal Boundary Description: **See pg. 10-1.**

Boundary Justification: **See pg. 10-1.**

11. Form Prepared By:
name/title **Karen E. Hudson** organization **KEH Preservation Services**
street & number **876 Lynn Drive** telephone **(606) 278-3919**
city or town **Lexington** state **KY** zip code **40504**

Canewood Farm. Jessamine County, Kentucky

Property Owner:

name **Roger and Cathy Anderson**

street & number: **8080 Harrodsburg Road** telephone: **(606) 885-1307**

city or town: **Nicholasville** state: **KY** zip code: **40356**

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CANEWOOD FARM
Jessamine County, Kentucky

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Canewood Farm (JS-200) is located in Jessamine County in Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass, a region of famed agricultural history. The farm was settled before 1799 by Thomas Woods and remained in the Woods family until 1991 when it was sold to the current owners. Its major historic resources include a dwelling, cistern, family burial plot, smokehouse, icehouse, spring, toll house ruins, historic roadbed and treeline boundary demarcations. The area proposed for listing in the National Register includes 25 acres and consists of 2 contributing buildings, 2 contributing structures, 4 contributing sites, 6 noncontributing buildings and 1 noncontributing site.

Canewood Farm is located on the north side of old Curd's Road (Lexington-Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike), now U.S. 68, between Murphys Lane and Clear Creek Road. This area was commonly known as Russell's Crossroads, after Russell's Tavern which was located across from Canewood. A treeline separates the property from U.S. 68. The home and domestic complex are located approximately 3/10 of a mile from U.S. 68 at the end of a long dirt drive. A non-historic board fence separates each side of the drive from pastures which are in turn demarcated by treelines. The old roadbed of Lamb's Mill Road (Nicholasville-Jessamine County Turnpike) can still be detected crossing Canewood between U.S. 68 and the domestic complex. The ruins of a toll house and two wells are located in the northeast corner of the property near where U.S. 68 and Lamb's Mill Road intersected. The non-historic board fence is the only noncontributing structure located between U.S. 68 and the domestic complex.

The domestic complex is demarcated by a treeline. The home is sited on high ground above a spring marked by the ruins of a stone springhouse. There are two spring-fed ponds nearby. An icehouse, smokehouse and cistern are located between the spring and home. A

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CANEWOOD FARM
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family burial plot is located behind the house. A single-pen kitchen, originally separate, has been incorporated into the house as a rear ell.

One non-contributing storage building is located in the domestic complex behind the smokehouse. With the exception of the board fence previously described, the other non-contributing structures are located behind the home and outside of the domestic complex. All of the non-contributing structures are small frame agricultural buildings constructed after the period of significance. The number, size, scale, design, and location of the non-contributing resources are such that they do not destroy the sense of historic environment. Though individual components have been lost, a barn, servant's quarters, and a carriage house, Canewood retains the essential physical features that made up its character or appearance during the period of significance. In addition, the relationships among the district's essential components are substantially unchanged. As a result, Canewood is able to convey important trends in Jessamine County agricultural history.

DESCRIPTION OF INDIVIDUAL RESOURCES

1. Dwelling (contributing): The Woods home is a frame T-Plan structure with a single-story rear service ell and Italianate decorative features. It consists of the juxtaposition of two perpendicular wings. The gable-oriented wing is two stories. The eave-oriented unit is a story-and-a-half. The result is a home containing one room at one side of a central hallway and two on the other. A hipped roof porch with chamfered supports and scrolled brackets is set between the two wings. The entrance opens into the central passage of the two-story wing. The home was built during three phases, each of which corresponds to an important building period in Kentucky history (see floor plan).

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Phase I. Settlement Period, 1786-1799: The first section, a 16' X 17' single-pen unit with a loft, was constructed by Thomas Woods between 1786 and 1799. The frame unit sits on a full stone cellar. The eave of the roof runs parallel to U.S. 68. Originally, there were two doors, one on each eave side. The rear door is extant. The front door, however, was converted into a window during the next building phase (c. 1833). The home probably had a single exterior end chimney and a set of boxed stairs. The ceiling beams, or joists, were probably exposed and finished with chamfered edges. During the next building phase, c. 1833, however, the chimney became interior, the stairs were moved and the walls were plastered. Despite the 1833 alterations, the settlement period unit can be distinguished from the later unit by the stone cellar, overall dimension, wall thickness, and roof construction.

A one-story gable-oriented single-pen kitchen is located ten feet from the back door. The 13' X 13' frame kitchen was probably constructed soon after the first unit of the home, 1786-1799. While the chimney has been replaced, an original wood pegged walnut cabinet is still intact.

Phase II. Antebellum Period, c. 1833: In about 1833, Woods added a second pen (14' X 17') onto the gable end of his original single-pen home. At the same time, he connected his separate kitchen to the house in the form of a rear ell. Like the original unit, the second unit is one-and-a-half stories, eave-oriented and frame. It is not constructed over a cellar, however as the original unit is.

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Woods left a small passage between the two units, in which he placed a set of stairs. The new facade door opened into the passage and the original facade door became a window. An additional window was built into the new unit, resulting in a three-bay facade, window-door-window. While the symmetrical exterior of Woods' home appears to have conformed to the central-passage type popular at the time, the interior reveals an important difference. In the typical single-pile central-passage house, a wide central passage extends through the entire length of the home and the stairs are located to one side of the passage. Chimneys are typically located on the exterior ends of each pen. In the Woods home, however, the passage is much narrower and as a result, the stairs extend the entire width of the hall. Chimneys are located on the interior, one on each side of the passage. Thus, visitors entered the front door (no longer extant) into a small vestibule instead of a passage. A large, horizontally sheathed, pantry is located under the stairs. To the public view, Woods appears to have been conforming to the idea of a central passage and symmetrical facade. On the interior, however, he only partially employed the new idea. His guest would still enter a hall, instead of directly into a living space, but the small vestibule was not as formal as a full central passage.

Soon after Woods made the addition, he updated the interior decorative detail of the home, unifying the old and new units. Beginning in the 1830s, the Greek Revival style appeared in Kentucky architecture. It was this up-to-date style that Woods turned to when decorating the interior of his remodeled home. The walnut mantels in both rooms have bold columns and full entablatures. The four-panel walnut doors located in both pens as well as the ell are constructed with wood pegs and surrounded by molded pilasters and corner and base blocks. Walnut floors are located in both rooms.

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Phase III. Postbellum Period, c. 1886: There appears to have been few alterations to the home from the time of Thomas Woods' c.1833 updates until his great-grandson, Archibald G. Woods, married in 1886. At about this time a third rebuilding took place. A two-story frame wing was constructed in front of the 1833 pen. At the same time, the roof of the earlier pen was raised and reoriented in order to create an up-to-date T-Plan home. Italianate brackets were applied to the eaves of the new unit and Italianate hood molds were employed at the windows. This third rebuilding, re-oriented the Wood's home. Now visitors entered into a full passage with a formal quarter-turn staircase. The staircase includes open stringer brackets, a wall stringer, a chamfered newel post and turned balusters.

Rehabilitation, 1991-Present: Canewood remained in the Woods family for nearly 200 years. When the current owners obtained the property in 1991 the home had fallen into disrepair. Their rehabilitation work has remained sympathetic to the historic materials. While a number of windows have been replaced, the openings have been retained. Likewise, while they were not able to salvage the plaster walls, all of the original wood work was retained when the new sheet rock was applied. Most of the exterior weatherboards have been replaced with like material. Finally, one door, that which lead into the vestibule between the 1799 and 1833 pens, has been blocked. These are the only substantial alterations after the period of significance.

2. Cistern (contributing): Only the below-ground portion of this c.1833 cistern, a stone beehive shaped cavern, has survived. According to oral history (Cooper) the above-ground section consisted of a stone mound. The cistern provided convenient water to the household by collecting rain water from the roof and holding it under ground. According to an 1878 report by the Kentucky Bureau of Agriculture, a cistern should be 10 to 20 feet below ground. The walls should be brick or stone and plastered. The

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section above ground should be "drawn in or arched, so as to leave an opening of two feet square" (232g). According to the same report, after the great cholera endemic in 1833, at Lexington, many people abandoned the limestone water, and began collecting rain-water for drinking (232h). Since this coincides with the rebuilding of the home, it is likely that the Woods' cistern was constructed around 1833. Like the spring, the cistern testifies to the importance of water to household operations, and offers information about the ways in which successful farmers procured and safely stored the vital resource. It contributes to the site by defining what was considered an appropriate location and form for such a structure and can reveal information about the below-ground construction of a stone cistern. The cistern dates from the historic period, relates to the farm's significance, and although it has lost its above ground section, it retains enough of its material and structural identity to convey its significance.

3. Family Burial Plot (contributing): The Woods cemetery, is located immediately behind the kitchen. It contains 21 stones dating from 1825 to 1906, including the grave of Thomas Woods. It dates from the historic period, relates to the district's significance, and retains integrity.

4. Meathouse (contributing): The Wood's meathouse, c. 1830s, is a rectangular shaped frame structure topped by a gable roof. It is covered with weatherboard siding and constructed with cut nails. It has a single door located in the gable end and a shed appendage. The wood floor, which had been removed, was replaced during rehabilitation. A salting trough dug out of a large log has survived. The structure is located near the back door of the home. It was in poor condition when the current owners purchased the farm. Their rehabilitation efforts have included the addition of several windows which allow the building to be used as a workshop. In spite of these alterations, the structure can still convey its significance. It contributes to the district by defining what was

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considered an appropriate location and form for such a structure.

5. Icehouse (contributing): This large circular brick vault (c. 1830s) lies within the domestic complex between the home and the spring. Its original above ground component, a frame pyramidal roof is gone. Today it is covered by a frame shed roofed structure. Ice was cut from the two spring feed ponds located nearby and stored in the ice house. Once refrigerators became available the icehouse was no longer needed. While these structures were once common features on well-to-do Kentucky farms, today it is very uncommon to find an intact historic icehouse. It contributes to the site by defining what was considered an appropriate location and form for such a structure. It dates from the historic period, relates to the district's significance, and retains enough integrity to convey its significance.

6. Spring (contributing): Springs played an integral role in the early patterns of settlement and the siting of man-made resources. Probably the most important feature for siting a farm building complex was the proximity of an abundantly-flowing spring. While the stone springhouse at Canewood is in ruins, the spring contributes to the farm by illustrating the significant role springs played in the siting of settlement period farmsteads.

7. Lamb's Mill Roadbed (contributing): In 1799 Thomas Woods was ordered by the Nicholasville Court to assist with the preparation of a report concerning the construction of a road from the center of town to Lamb's Mill (Book A, page 32). In 1800 the court ordered him to survey the section of the road that would pass through his property, the section from Curd's Road (U.S. 68) to Lamb's Mill (Book A, page 106). The description of the road confirms that it passed through Canewood. Eventually Lamb's Mill Road became the Nicholasville-Jessamine County Turnpike. William G. Woods served as a director of the turnpike company. Though Lamb's Mill Road is now

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abandoned, during the 19th century it was a major route to Keene and Frankfort. The old roadbed can still be detected running across the front of Canewood near U.S. 68 and turning to run parallel with the western boundary of the National Register Nomination.

8. Toll House Ruins (contributing): According to local informants (Cooper), a toll house was located at the southeast corner of Canewood near U.S. 68. The structure was extant until the 1960s. It was a frame building with a brick chimney. The structure consisted of two or three rooms in "shot-gun style" and had a long porch which extended across the old road. While the structure no longer survives, the foundation, which is located about 50' from U.S. 68 and measures approximately 14' X 34', is still extant. A large well is located at the edge of U.S. 68 directly in front of the toll house foundation. A smaller well is located just east of the foundation.

This is the area where the Lexington-Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike and the Nicholasville-Jessamine County Turnpike (Lamb's Mill Road) intersected. It appears that there were two toll houses. The Lexington-Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike toll house was located on an adjacent lot and outside the national register boundaries. This appears to be the site of the Nicholasville-Jessamine County Turnpike toll house.

There are few extant toll houses in Kentucky. Beginning in 1896 a number of groups were formed to protest the use of toll-gates on the public roads. They issued warnings to the toll-gate keepers. When these warnings were not heeded, the toll-gate houses were often raided and burned (Coleman 243-44). Some of the most serious outbreaks were in Jessamine County, where nearly all the toll-houses were burned and the gates cut into pieces. By 1900 practically all the gates in central Kentucky were abolished, and the roads made free to travelers. The Lexington-Harrodsburg-

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Perryville Turnpike Company dissolved its toll holdings on Harrodsburg Road in 1899. This foundation ruin has historical significance depending upon the way it is conceived and evaluated. Obviously, if classified and evaluated as a *building*, it has lost its integrity of materials, design, and feeling and association, and so would be correctly inventoried as non-contributing.

However, for this nomination, it is classified as an archaeological *site*, and is subjected to the test for eligibility as outlined in the document, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Historical Archeological Sites and Districts* (Townsend, Sprinkle, and Knoerl, 1993: 17-21). That document says that "integrity of location, design, materials, and association are of primary importance...when nominating historical archeological sites under Criteria A and B." These aspects of the toll house ruin at Canewood Farm are evaluated below, as it being evaluated as the other features of the farm. Thus, it is being considered to meet the terms of Criterion A as a contributing site.

Integrity of Location: A high degree of integrity of location remains for the key property features: the tollhouse site, wells, and the roadways. The site of the toll house remains the same, as does the road to which it related.

Integrity of Setting: while not identified as a key aspect of integrity in the *Guidelines*, an integrity of setting has not been disturbed by the passage of time, and so exists to enhance the historic feeling and association of this part of the nominated property. Within the immediate vicinity of the toll house ruin, the property has not been developed with non-historic resources. The historic roads (Lexington-Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike and the Nicholasville-Jessamine County Turnpike, aka Lamb's Mill Road) remain visible. Lamb's Mill Road, the primary road that the toll house served, has fallen into disuse, a condition which has enhanced the integrity of setting by curtailing non-historic development after the time in which the toll house would have ceased to serve the road. This part of the property has a setting much as it appeared when the toll house was used, late in the nineteenth century.

Integrity of Materials and Design: Few of the particular elements of this toll house's above-ground materials and design remain. Fortunately, little of that above-ground fabric is integral to knowing the relationship of the toll house to the property. Its frame construction and wooden siding could have been executed in alternate materials, such as stone, brick, or even log. Of course, were the toll house extant, the associations with the significant events of its working years would be stronger. In that case, this feature would have been evaluated as a contributing *building*.

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The on-ground elements which do survive are crucial to understanding its importance. In fact, the absence of above-ground features can even be interpreted as appropriate, given the violent destruction that most toll houses suffered at the close of the nineteenth century; this toll house ruin documents very powerfully the associations with the burning and destruction of such structures by a sometimes riotous public. So, in defining the toll house as a contributing *site*, the important material and design elements must be identified. Those elements which allow us to recognize the identity and significance of the toll house are its dimension, scale, rock foundation, proximity to the road it served, and nearby related features such as the roads and the wells. The toll house's obvious distance from this property's domestic features also suggests that it be interpreted it as a separate feature on this property with a strong connection to the road and to the events which took place as travelers went by it.

Integrity of Association: The high degree of integrity of the toll house site's location, setting, and even of materials and design, allow for an integrity of association to exist. Because the important character of the toll house *site* and related features (road, wells) have changed little from the days of their use, it is possible for viewers to conceive their important historic function despite the absence of above-ground materials. Viewers of this collection of features can understand the importance that the toll house, roads, and wells together served: They facilitated the significant activity of farming on this property because profitable farming in the region had become dependent upon convenient and reliable transportation systems.

9. Tree Line Demarcations (contributing): There are several tree lines that delineate areas of land use. They run along U.S. 68, the old Curd's Road and the domestic complex.

10-15. **Non-Contributing:** There are six non-contributing structures in the district. One is a non-historic board fence which delineates the drive leading from U.S. 68 to the domestic complex. All of the remaining non-contributing structures are small frame agricultural storage buildings constructed after the period of significance. One structure is located in the domestic complex behind the meathouse. The remaining are located behind the home and outside the domestic complex.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Canewood (JS-200) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and is significant within the historic context "Jessamine County Agriculture, 1799-1906." This historic context builds upon the overview presented in *The Bluegrass Cultural Landscape Study*, part of the Kentucky State Plan for Historic Preservation. The siting of the farmstead in relationship to the spring and road, the relationship of the toll house ruins, the relationship among the individual components, and the significant rebuilding periods of the home, are the most important features of the district. These features enable Canewood to convey important trends in Jessamine County's agricultural history.

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT, 1780-1820

The settlement of Kentucky in the last quarter of the eighteenth century was strongly influenced by the political environment in Virginia. An antagonistic relationship between slave-owning planters and individualistic yeoman farmers and the rapid increase of settlers into Virginia set the stage for a great wave of land speculation in western lands that would eventually become Kentucky. By the middle of the eighteenth century speculators realized large profits could be made by those who controlled land acquisition. The rush for land claims in the Kentucky territory began in 1773 when it was still part of Fincastle County, Virginia (O'Malley 12-13). One of the first Kentucky surveying parties was lead by the McAfee brothers. The McAfee team surveyed over eight thousand acres on the Salt River and in the area of what is today Mercer County (O'Malley 14). Thomas Woods, the founder of Canewood, was one of the members of the McAfee survey party. Perrin reported that Thomas, a native of Botetourt County, Virginia, arrived in Kentucky with the "McAfee Men" in 1776 or 1778 (865).

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When his first son was born in 1784 Thomas Woods was living at Ft. Wilson. By 1786, however, when his son Archibald was born, he had moved his family to Ft. Harrodsburg (Perrin 865). Finally, Woods made his final move prior to 1799 when he and his family settled at Canewood in the vicinity of Black's station.

Black's Station was located on Clear Creek in what is today Jessamine County at an improvement made in 1776 by James Whitson and later traded to Van Swearingen. According to O'Malley, Black's Station was built before 1794 on a knoll on the north side of the road from Harrodsburg to Troy. When he wrote his history of Jessamine County in 1898, Young noted that Black's station was located on the G.B. Bryan farm, halfway between Brooklyn and Nicholasville, on the Harrodsburg Road. He reported that the station consisted of a number of cabins and was an important stopping place by 1783. The land was originally part of the Craig survey and was subsequently owned by Archibald Logan. Logan conveyed this land to his daughter, Mrs. Hord. Hord's heirs continued to convey the land and by 1898, G.B. Bryan's heirs owned the property (Young 46-47; O'Malley 245). Thomas Woods was also granted part of the Lewis Craig survey (Deed Book A, page 419). A landownership map completed in 1861 identifies Thomas's property as "Canewood." By this time Thomas had died but his grandson, William G. Woods, was residing on the farm. The G.B. Bryan farm, recognized by Perrin as being the location of Black's Station, is shown as one of Canewood's nearest neighbors.

Official title of the property where Canewood is located can not be associated with Thomas Woods until 1803 when he was deeded 250 acres on the waters of Clear Creek by Lewis Craig and Stovall Smith (Deed Book A, page 419 and 482). However, as O'Malley has demonstrated, many private purchases or trades of patents were not officially documented for years following their actual transfer

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(O'Malley 17-18). In fact, it appears that Thomas was residing at Canewood by at least 1799. In that year, he was assessed in the Jessamine County tax records for 200 acres on Clear Creek. The tax records note that the property was originally entered in the name of Lewis Craig. No Jessamine County tax records exist prior to 1799. More evidence that Thomas was living at Canewood by 1799 is located in the County order books. In 1799 Thomas Woods was ordered by the Nicholasville Court to assist with the preparation of a report concerning the construction of a road that would run from the center of town to Lamb's Mill and pass through his farm(Book A, page 32). The description provided in the order book indicates that the road passed directly through what is today Canewood.

Kentucky's population increased from a few hundred to over 220,000 in the two decades between Thomas' arrival in Kentucky and his settlement at Canewood. By 1800 there were 42 counties in Kentucky, yet 83,358 settlers or 38% of the aggregate population were living in nine Bluegrass counties--Fayette, Jessamine, Woodford, Scott, Clark, Bourbon, Madison, Franklin, and Mercer. In 1820, when the U.S. Population Census began recording the number of individuals employed in agriculture, manufacturing, and commerce, 90% of Bluegrass settlers, including Thomas Woods, identified themselves as agriculturalists.

According to the 1792 Woodford County Tax Assessment, less than 38% of the tithables owned land and the majority of those who did, owned between 25 and 100 acres (Amos 14). In 1796, 52 year old David Meade uprooted his family from 600 acres "of very poor land" in Virginia to 320 acres in Fayette County. Of his new home he asserted "... no part of Virginia is so thickly settled as Fayette the County our residence is to be in, there are but very few who hold more than three hundred acres-many as low as a hundred, fifty, and even twenty-five" (Amos 16).

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Jessamine County was carved out of Fayette County in 1798. The first Jessamine County tax was assessed in 1799. In that year, Thomas Woods was assessed for 200 acres. This would seem to indicate that his economic standing was above most of his neighbors. By 1815 he had increased his land holdings to 247 acres. His second rate land was valued at \$12.00 an acre. In comparison to other Jessamine County land valuations, a \$12.00 second rate evaluation implies that there were buildings on the land, probably a home and kitchen. This would appear to reflect the norm, for Riesenweber has suggested that while, between 1780 and 1820, the wealthiest Kentuckians had separate kitchen buildings, they rarely constructed other outbuildings before 1830 (1992:254).

Their siting, form, and construction indicate that the first unit of the extant house and the kitchen were built by Thomas Woods in the late 18th century and reflect his position as a successful Bluegrass farmer. In the Bluegrass Cultural Landscape Study, an element of the Kentucky State Plan for Historic Preservation, Amos noted that during the settlement period, the period when Thomas Woods established Canewood, one of the most important features for siting a farmstead was the proximity of an abundantly-flowing spring. She went on to explain that during the settlement period, a locally based economy required infrequently made trips to market and therefore, road proximity did not significantly affect farm siting (26). As a result, many farmsteads established during the settlement period are located at the end of long drives which lead from a road to the area of a spring. During later periods, when Bluegrass farmers began to participate in a regional and national economy, and transportation became more important, homes were constructed closer to roads. Its location at the end of an extended drive and near a spring, reflect the settlement period establishment of Canewood.

Early Bluegrass settlement patterns were dispersed. As a result,

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the distance of family farms from churches necessitated alternative locations for cemeteries, which often took the form of family burial plots on the farmstead. The small family cemetery located at Canewood helps illustrate the degree of self-sufficiency sustained by many Bluegrass farm families during the settlement period.

In his 1898 Jessamine County history, Perrin reported that Thomas Woods built "one of the first shingle-roofed houses in this county" (865). The roofs of settlement period houses were often covered with clapboards held in place with heavy poles. The fact that Thomas was one of the first Jessamine County settlers to build a shingle-roofed home attests to the success of his farm.

Few homes from Kentucky's settlement period survive. Even fewer are frame. In his survey of settlement period architecture in Kentucky, Worsham identified 11 Jessamine County homes constructed during the period. None of the homes surveyed by Worsham were frame. Two additional settlement period homes were identified in the survey conducted by the Kentucky Heritage Commission in 1979 (JS-25, 99). Neither of these structures were frame. Canewood is the only frame settlement period home identified in Jessamine County to date.

While stone and brick homes have a higher survival rate, it appears that log was the most common construction method during the settlement period in Kentucky. While water powered saw mills operated in the Kentucky Bluegrass soon after the Revolution and nails were available in Lexington by 1788(Lancaster 30), frame construction was still more expensive than log homes and as a result, during the settlement period, frame was usually reserved for the region's wealthier citizens (Riesenweber 1992: 253).

Riesenweber found that between 1780 and 1820, the wealthiest Kentuckians also built separate kitchen buildings, as at Canewood(Riesenweber 1992: 254). When present, she suggests

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kitchens were usually located near the back door. They were typically one or two-room structures and were often as large as the home they were serving. The Woods' 13' X 13' single-pen frame kitchen, originally separate and located at the rear door, conveys the success of Canewood during the settlement period.

A REGIONAL BLUEGRASS ECONOMY, 1821-1865

By 1820, Kentucky was the sixth most populous state in the United States. As a result, from 1820 until the close of the Civil War, Kentucky played a major role in national affairs. Much of Kentucky's political strength was supported by a strong economy, primarily based on a diversified, productive agriculture, and a central location in a developing national land and water transportation system. Although crises framed the period: 1820 saw the nation in one of the most critical financial depressions in history, and the Civil War threatened to end the Union, the interim proved to be an economic watershed for Kentucky, in fact, historians have dubbed the period "the farmer's age." It was during this period that Bluegrass stockgrowers established a national reputation for the finest blooded stock in horses, cattle, sheep, swine, jacks, jennets, and mules (Amos 70).

Louisville, Cincinnati, New Orleans, Baltimore, New York and Charleston were the generally recognized markets for stock. Drovers often consisted of over 100 head of cattle plodding along regional roads to market cities. Soon roads established by stock drovers became legitimate highways linking the state and the central Bluegrass to distant markets. Under the administration of the county courts, a new system of roads linked counties and regions. The new, regional network supplanted the earlier road systems that had joined small localities via drainages and natural topography (Amos 70). Bluegrass farmers could not have prospered nor could the antebellum years have been dubbed the "farmer's age" if it were not

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for these transportation improvements. It was during this period that the Lexington-Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike, now U.S. 68, was completed and the toll house constructed at the edge of Canewood. The improvement of the old Curd's Road, was begun by the state in 1814. It was completed through Perryville in 1847 (Bower 14). The section passing in front of Canewood was completed in about 1833 (Court Order G, page 294), the same time that Thomas made the addition to his home.

Droves frequently grazed along Kentucky roads as managers and footmen stopped at taverns and inns for food and rest. Some stock never reached market as many farmers purchased stock on-the-hoof as the drove passed their front gate. Other large stockmen sold their stock directly from the farm after considering the cost of shipping cattle. This required a new and novel acquisition for the wealthy Bluegrass stock farm: scales. In 1852, scales that could weigh livestock on the hoof were a novelty, but were soon widely available (Amos 77). An 1861 landownership map of the area shows a toll house, tavern, and scales located on the Harrodsburg-Perryville Turnpike (U.S. 68) at Canewood. The ruins of a toll house and a large well are located at Canewood today. These resources would undoubtedly have made Canewood an important stopping place for managers driving herds of cattle to market during the antebellum period.

Contemporary with the growth of the cattle industry, and adding to the profitability of farming, was the raising of hogs. Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio shared the national record for importing improved breeds. These states were the seat of the hog industry and enjoyed an extensive hog trade with the cotton south before 1865. Mules were also abundant on the antebellum Bluegrass farm. They

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were often preferred over working oxen and horses by Kentucky farmers. Census statistics suggest that sheep were also raised in significant numbers on the antebellum Bluegrass farm. The thoroughbred horse has long been associated with the Kentucky Bluegrass. It was during the antebellum years that Bluegrass stockmen focused attention on the improvement of various working and sporting horse breeds.

Census statistics support that the Kentucky Bluegrass was an antebellum leader in the livestock industry. For example, although the Bluegrass was comprised of only 13% of the counties in the state in 1850, it contained 43% of Kentucky's mules, 21% of the cattle; 22% of the horses; 21% of the sheep; 15% of the swine; and 27% of the total livestock value.

Thomas died in 1841 and was buried in the family cemetery located at Canewood. Before his death, however, he deeded the farm to his son Archibald (Book M, page 119). Archibald continued the successful operation of Canewood. In 1850, for example, his livestock was valued at \$1,400. The average livestock value for Jessamine County farms was \$765. Of the 651 farms in Jessamine County in 1850, only 54 farms had a higher livestock value than Canewood (U.S. Agricultural Census). Archibald's land holdings show a similar pattern. In 1850 he owned 260 acres of improved land. His farm, land and improvements, was valued at \$10,000. Only 35 of the 651 farms in Jessamine County had over 300 acres and the majority, 541 farms, consisted of less than 200 improved acres. Finally, only 98 farms, or 15%, were valued higher than Canewood.

It was during this period of prosperity, the "Farmer's Age," that Thomas Woods made the first addition to his home and constructed the smokehouse, cistern, and icehouse. By 1830, the single-pile, central-passage home had become one of the most popular house types

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in Kentucky. On the ground floor of this house type, two rooms are arranged on each side of a hallway. The passage helped to solve the space problems of earlier houses. It also gave occupants more privacy because visitors entered the passage instead of directly into a living space. Beginning in the 1830s, another way that home owners created more space and allowed for the separation of work and leisure and public and private activities was to build a rear service wing called an ell. The central passage and ell were so popular that by 1850 it was the most common house type built in Kentucky. Riesenweber has suggested that many earlier dwellings were altered between the 1830s and 1850s to conform to this new ideal (1992:255). This, in fact, is the solution that Thomas Woods chose to update his settlement period home.

Pork, cured in the form of hams and sausage, was a significant part of the Bluegrass diet. The preservation of pork after hog slaughtering in the late fall was important, thus, smokehouses were essential components of farmsteads. Smokehouses were generally well crafted and seemed to have survived on many farms after all other outbuildings have vanished. Invariably located close to the back door of the house, smokehouses served as outdoor pantries. Often other foodstuffs were stored here as well. According to Riesenweber, the smokehouse or meat house was a ubiquitous feature of the state's nineteenth-century complexes and was among the first outbuilding types constructed by antebellum Kentuckians (Riesenweber 1993). It was during this period that Thomas built his meathouse.

THE INDUSTRIAL AGE, 1866-1918

If the antebellum years were aptly called the "Farmer's Age," then the late nineteenth century, could be called the "Industrial Age." After the Civil War and until the beginning of World War I, the

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primary national economic strength was transformed from a rural/agricultural base to an urban/industrial one. The majority of Bluegrass farmers, including William G. Woods, chose to retain the agricultural economy that had proved so highly profitable for nearly eighty years, the national events, however, certainly had an impact on Bluegrass agriculture as well as the landscape as conveyed at Canewood.

Amos found that this period saw the introduction and widespread acceptance of white burley tobacco, the growth of the blooded horse industry and the establishment of "gentlemen farms," a general shift in farm size, and the beginning of the commercial dairy industry (128). The era, she suggests, marks the beginning of absentee landownership in many areas of the Bluegrass. Many families left their farms to tenant care and moved to town. By 1910, for example, 48% of Woodford County farms were worked by tenants.

Archibald deeded Canewood to his son, William G. Woods, in 1853 (Deed Book R, page 380). William continued to operate the farm much as his grandfather and father had, concentrating on the breeding of livestock. It appears that he too, was a successful agriculturalist. In 1877, for example, he advertized in the Beers Atlas, something usually associated with wealthy business owners. His business notice read "Breeder Southdown Sheep and Berkshire Hogs." William's success was further verified when in both 1888 and 1892 the Jessamine Journal included him in a list of the county's "wealthy tax payers", those who paid tax on \$5,000 or more. In 1888 the population of Jessamine County was around 11,000 and yet William was one of only 239 individuals included in the list. He was actually taxed on \$18,150. Only 29 Jessamine County citizens were taxed for more. In 1892 there were only 37 individuals in Jessamine County taxed on a higher rate than William G. Woods.

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William was not only a successful farmer, he also served as the director of the Nicholasville and Jessamine Pike Company and Treasurer of the Lexington-Perryville Turnpike Company. When he died in 1892 he left Canewood to his son Archibald. Archibald G. Woods graduated from Central University in Richmond (now Eastern Kentucky University) in 1878. He was the proprietor and editor of the Jessamine Journal from 1879 until 1882. He engaged in the pharmacy business in 1885. In 1888 he combined efforts with Lexington pharmacist, G.A.C. Hutchinson to form A.G. Woods & Company drug store in Nicholasville (Jessamine Journal 1898). In 1886 he married socialite Katie Hemphill. Katie was the secretary of the Acme Club (a woman's club which she helped found), served on the Ladies Committee of the library, and was vice-president of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church (Jessamine Journal 1900).

While Archibald and Katie lived at Canewood, they devoted much of their attention to non-farming interests. Due to poor health, during the last few years of Archibald's life, they spent the winter months in Florida. It was during Archibald and Katie's tenure at Canewood that the third phase of the home was constructed, creating a modern Italiante T-Plan home that reflects their growing concern with non-agricultural, regional, and national interests.

A T-Plan home is a house whose exterior effect depends on the juxtaposition of two perpendicular wings. A variation on the central-passage idea, the T-Plan is irregular in depth, containing one room at one side of a central hallway and two on the other. It was introduced throughout the country by pattern book writers. The Italiante style, that was employed at Canewood, was the most popular ornamentation employed on T-Plan homes throughout the country during the late 19th century. Upton has suggested that the

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T-Plan or "bent" house is "the single most important nineteenth-century innovation in American domestic architecture" (144). It marked a turn from traditional, local house forms to popular and national forms.

Archibald died in 1898 and Katie in 1900. Thomas Woods, Archibald's uncle, who lived at Canewood with the couple, and likely ran the farm, remained on the estate until his death in 1906. Though Canewood remained in the Woods family until the current owners purchased the farm in 1991, Thomas Woods was the last family member to actually live on the estate. From his death in 1906 until 1991, though the Woods family retained ownership of the farm, it was farmed by tenants. There was little maintenance or new construction during the tenant period. As a result, Canewood appears much as it did during the Woods tenure, c. 1799-1906.

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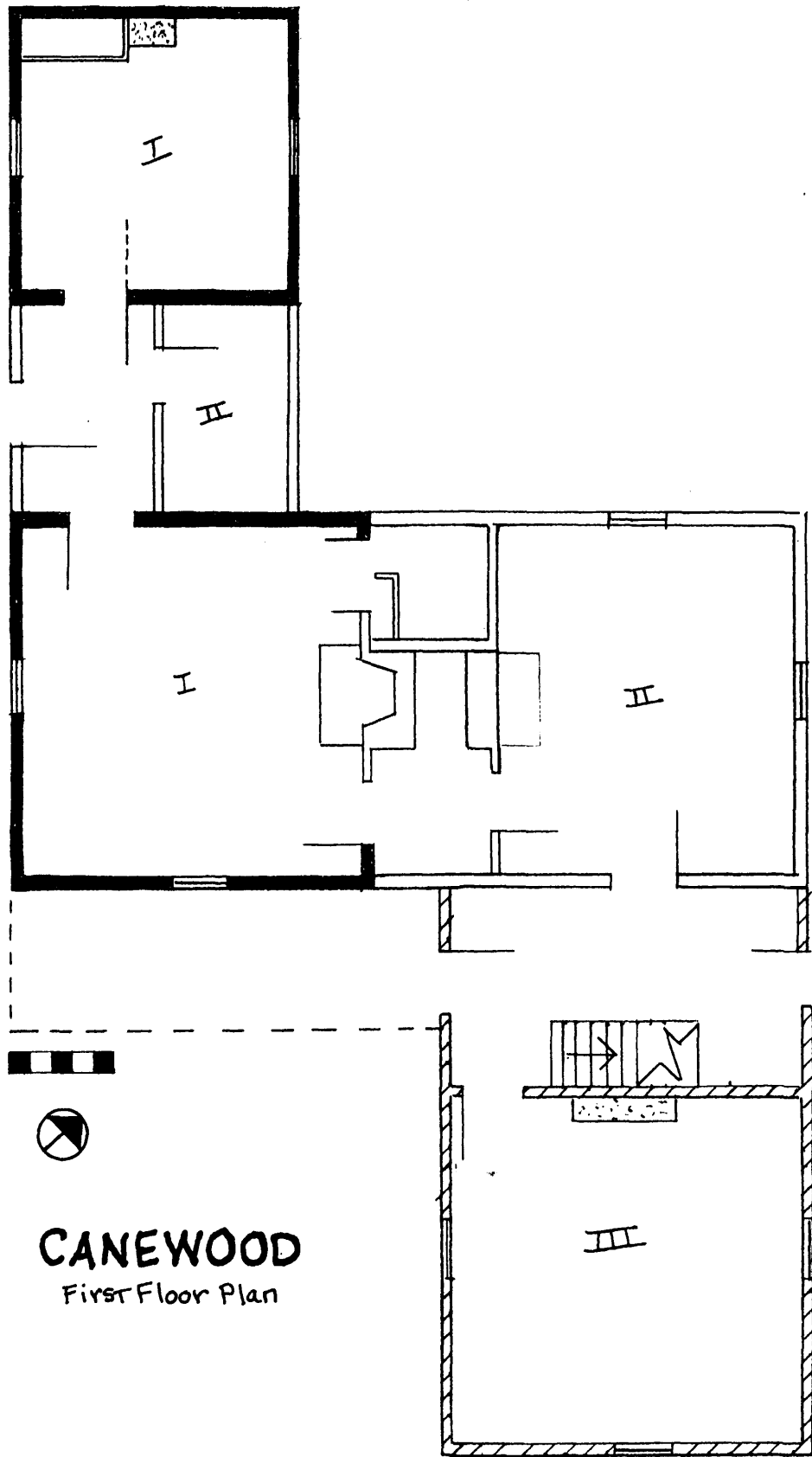
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Jessamine County Property Valuation Map 33, Parcel 48 and 49.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The area proposed for listing in the National Register includes the resources that have historically been part of Canewood and that maintain historic integrity. The boundary utilizes current legal boundaries and visual barriers that mark a change in the historic character of the area due to new construction.



CANEWOOD
First Floor Plan

