

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only
received 286 21
date entered

1. Name

historic McKenzie, David Log Cabin

and/or common

2. Location

street & number McKenzie Branch not for publication

city, town Volga X vicinity of congressional district

state Kentucky code 21 county Johnson code 115

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Huntington District Corps of Engineers

street & number P.O. Box 2127

city, town Huntington vicinity of state West Virginia 25721

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Johnson County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Paintsville state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Paintsville Lake Environmental Assessment has this property been determined eligible? X yes no

date 1975 X federal state county local

depository for survey records Planning Branch Huntington District Corps of Engineers

city, town Huntington state West Virginia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good 5 1885	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The McKenzie Log Cabin, built by David McKenzie, is a rectangular $1\frac{1}{2}$ story structure measuring 34' 6" by 30' 4", consisting of two pens. It is not known if the dwelling was originally a double pen structure as it is today or whether the eastern pen, constructed of poplar, was built first followed by the addition of the western pen which is of yellow pine.

The eastern and presumably older pen, probably built shortly after purchase of the property in 1860, measures 16' 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " X 16' 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and is constructed of half timbers ranging from 1' 1" to 1' 6" in thickness. Depth of notch ranges from 6" to 8". There are eight logs in the eastern elevation of this pen with none in the south elevation. Ground to roof apex height is ca. 14' 6". The northeast and southeast corners rest on sandstone slab piers that rise ca. 1' 9" above ground. The east side has one window and the south side has a centrally located fireplace with a crudely finished sandstone chimney.

The western pen, built of hand hewn yellow pine, measures 14' 4" X 16' 4". There are ten logs in the northern and southern elevations with nine logs in the eastern and western elevation. Half dovetail notching is the predominant corner notching, but both inverted V and square notching are also used. The logs range from 10" to 1' in height and are ca. 6" in thickness. The east side has a fireplace and chimney sitting directly against the opposing fireplace and chimney. The south side has a centrally located door with a window to the east of the door. The west side has one window. A set of steps leads from the front porch along the east side of the first unit. The second unit was built during the Civil War. (McKenzie: 1976, 1980).

At the end of this building period the cabin had the classic configuration of a $1\frac{1}{2}$ story saddlebag house which is still found in West Virginia and Kentucky. Both units are chinked with fine yellow clay with small pebble inclusions. The structure was covered with shake roof in this period.

Sometime after the Civil War, a final addition was put on the north side of the cabin. This addition was built with sawmill lumber and measures 29' 5" long and 8' deep with a 5' 8" by 8' porch on the northwest corner of the structure. The tops of the chimneys have been removed and the entire structure, including the front porch, was covered with a tin roof. Shake shingles still are visible underneath the tin roof on the north half of the structure.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates first pen-1860, second pen-1860-65, last addition post Civil War

Builder/Architect David McKenzie

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

David McKenzie came to Johnson County, Kentucky in the early 1840's; his name appears in a list of Johnson County residents from 1844-1848 (Hall: 1923, 88). The lower Peter Cave Branch land upon which the McKenzie Cabin stands was not acquired by David McKenzie until 1860.

The house has been the residence of six generations of McKenzies: David; David's son, Lafayette; Lafayette's son, William H.; William H.'s son, Forest; Forest's son, Everett; and Everett's daughter, Ann.

The Paintsville Lake Environmental Assessment rated the McKenzie cabin at a Regional Level of Significance. Log Cabins are common in eastern Kentucky; however, few are as well preserved as the McKenzie cabin and few exhibit the quality of workmanship found in this cabin. The fitting of the half timbers and half dovetail notching is of superior quality. The cabin, typical of log architecture on the region is significant because of its excellent craftsmanship and fine state of preservation. The log cabin is reportedly the best example of log architecture in Johnson County.

No log cabins have been nominated to the National Register in the Johnson and Morgan County Region and the number of well preserved cabins is rapidly diminishing.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carlisle, Ronald C. An Architectural Study of Some Folk Structures in the Area of the Paintsville Lake Dam, Johnson and Morgan Counties, Kentucky. Draft report submitted to the Huntington Army Corps of Engineers, 1982.

Hall, Mitchell. Johnson County, Kentucky, Vol. 1. Louisville. The Standard Press, 1928

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .02 (1046.5 sq. ft.)

Quadrangle name Redbush, KY

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	3	3	1	8	4	1	3	4	1	9	1	4	2	1	7	1	7
Zone			Easting						Northing									

B

Zone			Easting						Northing									

C

Zone			Easting						Northing									

D

Zone			Easting						Northing									

E

Zone			Easting						Northing									

F

Zone			Easting						Northing									

G

Zone			Easting						Northing									

H

Zone			Easting						Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the McKenzie Log Cabin is shown as the red dot on the accompanying U.S. G. S. topographic map and is approximately 34' 6" X 30' 4".

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynn Lady, Historian

organization Huntington Corps of Engineers date 12 February 1982

street & number P.O. Box 2127 telephone 304-529-5712

Huntington

city or town Huntington state West Virginia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Richard S. Levert date 5/13/82

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/13/82

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in this
National Register

William H. Braxton

date 8/26/82 DB

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Carl D. Burke

date 8/23/82

Chief of Registration

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

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McKenzie Log Cabin

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6. Draft Report of

An Architectural Study of Some Folk Structures in the Area of the Paintsville
Lake Dam, Johnson and Morgan Counties, Kentucky

Date: 1982

Federal

Depository for

Survey Records: Department of Anthropology
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Determination of National Register Eligibility

Agency: Huntington Corps of Engineers

Date of request: 8 March 1977

Name of property: McKenzie Cabin

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

McKenzie Log Cabin

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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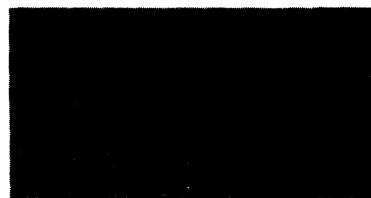
McKenzie, Everett. "Corps wants to buy historic old cabin in the Paint Creek Valley." Licking Valley Courier, 9 September 1976, letter column.

McKenzie, Everett. Oral Interview conducted by Lynn Lady, 5 August 1980. Prepared for the Huntington District Corps of Engineers.

Paintsville Lake Environmental Assessment. Prepared for the Huntington District, Corps of Engineers, 1975.

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This boundary encompasses the physical limits of the cabin. No other structures are present on the site.