

110034096

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kentucky
COUNTY: Scott
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE NOV 19 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
George W. Johnson Slave Quarters and Smokehouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
SW of Georgetown off Ironworks Road
~~Ironworks Pike, one-fourth mile northwest of U. S. 62~~

CITY OR TOWN:
Georgetown vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
6th

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021** COUNTY: **Scott** CODE: **209**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

AUG 21 1974

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young

STREET AND NUMBER:
Ironworks Pike

CITY OR TOWN:
Georgetown

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
021

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Scott County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Georgetown

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
021

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Frankfort

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
021

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

These carefully maintained outbuildings were originally accompanied by a large Greek Revival temple-style mansion, whose location was identical to that of the present main house. The architecture of the outbuildings, typical of their 1840-50 construction period, is diminutive yet powerful. They are impressive examples of Greek Revival adaptation of stylistic features to all types of structures.

The slave quarters feature pilastered walls, deep brick cornices, a central chimney, stone foundation, tiny lookouts in the cornice for the loft and a front porch. The smokehouse also has double brick pilasters and cornice and a hipped roof. The stylish Greek Revival entrance makes for an impressive doorway.

The family residence, built on the foundation of the original house, has been rebuilt as a bungalow-type dwelling using much of the original brick. The earlier structure was described by Johnson's son Henry in his memoirs as having been sixty to seventy feet square with a massive stone porch, wide stone steps, Ionic columns to the roof, with brick and frame quarters for the Negroes, a brick smokehouse, ice house, two large ponds and a variety of landscape innovations. The outbuildings--both functional and monumental--must have contributed to extending the domestic order of the mansion into the rural landscape.

A light frame porch and enclosed room have been added to the front of the slave quarters, and roofs recently replaced on both structures. It would appear that the cornice of the smokehouse has been somewhat altered.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1841

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house, slave quarters, and smokehouse of George W. Johnson, Kentucky's first Confederate (provisional) Governor, were built by Johnson in 1841 on property in southern Scott County, Kentucky, purchased from his father-in-law Captain Willa Viley. Viley, a well-known antebellum horseman, was a properous Scott County landowner with approximately one thousand acres in the vicinity of Ironworks Pike and South Elkhorn. It was on the south side of the Ironworks Pike near Paynes Depot Pike that Johnson located his "stately, white pillared mansion" and outbuildings. Although the temple-style Greek Revival house burned in 1861 and has twice been rebuilt, the slave quarters and smokehouse of fine Greek Revival detail still stand.

Johnson was born May 27, 1811, into a family of illustrious soldier-politicians. His father, William, died as a result of wounds incurred during the War of 1812 and Johnson was raised in the Fayette County home of his step-father, John Allen, father of novelist James Lane Allen. George Johnson's grandparents, Robert and Jemima Suggett Johnson, originally from Orange County, Virginia, migrating to Kentucky soon after their marriage. Robert was appointed by President John Adams one of the five commissioners to secure the valuation of property in Kentucky for the purpose of taxation. He was also a member of the conventions which formed the first two constitutions (1792, 1800) for the State of Kentucky, a trustee of Transylvania University, and the first Senator from Woodford County in the State Legislature (he represented Scott County in the House eight times).

Three of Robert Johnson's sons were to serve in the United States Congress; the most famous of them was Richard M. Johnson (1780-1850). At twenty-one years of age he was elected to the State Legislature and, in 1807, to the U. S. Congress. In the War of 1812 he headed a regiment of mounted riflemen in the battle of the Thames and, though it has never been confirmed, ^{is} said to have killed the great Shawnee Chief Tecumseh. He remained in Congress until 1819, when he retired to his Scott County home. He was ~~then~~ returned to the State Legislature and

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bevins, Ann B. "Historical Markers to be Placed at Homes of Two Civil War Figures in Scott County." The Lexington Leader, May 6, 1964.
 "Johnson Family of Scott County Had Unequaled Record for Service to Their Community and Nation." The Lexington Header, February 7, 1963.
 Gaines, B. O. The B. O. Gaines History of Scott County, Vol. I. Georgetown: Published by the Author, 1905.

(Continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38 ° 10 ' 24 "	84 ° 36 ' 43 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

U12M
16/7091
422151
CL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than 10 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ann B. Bevins, Scott County Representative

ORGANIZATION: **Kentucky Heritage Commission** DATE: **Feb. 5, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Eldred W. Melton

Title State Liaison Officer

Date 8-2-74

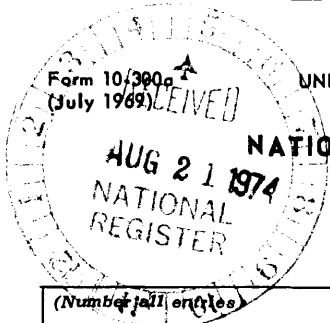
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Montross
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/19/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/19/74



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8. Significance (continued)

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that body elected him to the U. S. Senate. In 1836 Richard Johnson was elected Vice-President of the United States under Martin Van Buren and he presided over the Senate for four years.

George Johnson, coming from such an impressive background, was less ambitious politically than were other members of his family. He contented himself with three terms in the State Legislature as a representative from Scott County. A cultured, well-educated farmer and planter, Johnson took pride in his family and home--"the center of hospitality for the numerous kinspeople and friends."

As war between the northern and southern states loomed closer, however, Johnson found himself involved in critical political decisions which were to affect Kentucky's position in the national conflict. He had hoped his state would remain neutral and worked toward that end. The Kentucky Legislature's enactment September 18, 1861, of a law to "Prohibit and punish rebellion in the citizens of Kentucky and others in the State" he considered a declaration of war against the Confederacy and thereupon endorsed Kentucky joining the Southern cause. He was instrumental in organizing a provisional government for Kentucky effected by a convention held at Russellville, Logan County, November 18-19, 1861. A constitution was adopted and Johnson was elected Provisional Governor.

Johnson did not want war between the states. His only desire, as stated in a letter to his wife October 25, 1861, was for the "independence of the South and free trade with the North." Unfortunately the September action of the Kentucky Legislature thwarted the chance for Kentucky to mediate upon such terms, wrote Johnson. But "these were the terms," insisted Johnson, "upon which the North must ultimately make peace, or be utterly ruined or conquered as a dependency of the South." He was certain that Southern "military genius" and "unanimity of purpose" would insure these results.

Contrary to Johnson's hopes, the Confederate State of Kentucky was never realized. The action taken at Russellville was considered illegal by the Frankfort government and Kentucky, occupied by large numbers of Federal troops throughout the duration of the war, remained in the Union.

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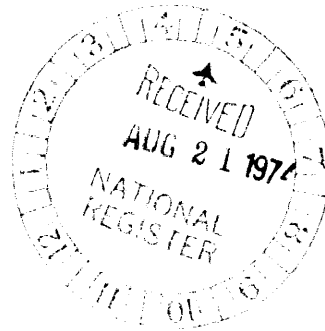
(Number all entries)

8. Significance (continued)

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During the winter of 1861 Johnson accompanied the rebel Kentucky troops in their withdrawal to Tennessee and became companion and guest in the field of the commander. He participated in the councils leading up to the Battle of Shiloh and went forward with the army "feeling that upon the result hung the hopes of the Confederacy" and "desiring to share with the troops of his state the result of the contest." On April 6 after heavy fighting he became separated from his unit. He strongly expressed his wish to participate in the next day's battle, however, perhaps affected by news of the death of Albert Sidney Johnston--Johnson's daughter was married to Johnston's nephew. "And, causing the oath of a private soldier to be administered to him, he enrolled as a member of Company E, Fourth Kentucky Infantry." He was shot sometime during the battle and died the following day.

Although his dwelling is long since gone, the surviving outbuildings express in architectural terms Johnson's rectitude and idealism which a contemporary described as embodying "the very spirit of the typical citizen-soldier of the South."



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9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

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Johnson, Henry Viley. "Memoirs of Henry Viley Johnson, 1852-1931."
(Unpublished Manuscript, Scott County Public Library).

Register of Kentucky State Historical Society, Vol. 40, (October, 1942),
pp. 338-352.

