

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 11 1978  
DATE ENTERED NOV 17 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Grundy Houses ~~Historic District~~

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

n of Springfield off KY 55

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Springfield

VICINITY OF

2

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Washington

229

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT (non-contiguous)  PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)  PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE  BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE  PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT  IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Owners (see Continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Springfield

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed between 1790 and 1852, the Grundy Houses consist of four residences comprising a noncontiguous, rural district in southwestern Washington County. The houses all lie within three miles of each other on or in the vicinity of Ky. 55, seven miles northwest of Springfield, the county seat. All four structures lie in close proximity to Cartwright Creek which flows through the surrounding gently rolling farmland.

Facing southeast, Glenannie is situated on a rise approximately 600 feet from Valley Hill Road which parallels Cartwright Creek for two and one-half miles before joining Ky. 55 approximately five miles northwest of Springfield. Erected ca. 1790, the two and one-half story, three-bay, brick structure is laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers on the facade and northeast side walls (see photo 1). The rear and southwest side walls are laid in common bond. On the southwest wall, the bricks at the corners are lighter in color and larger than that of the rest of the wall (see photo 2). While no documented explanation is available for this difference, it is possible that a major fire made it necessary to rebuild this wall.

The windows are capped by jack arches; however, the original windows on the facade have been altered. In addition, a frame, pedimented portico sheltering the central entrance is a later addition. Brick chimneys are set flush with the gable end walls, and the east wall is pierced by two, round gable windows. The west end wall contains square gable windows. A simple boxed cornice trims the gabled roof. The entire structure rests on a dressed stone foundation. On the southwest of the house, the cellar entrance is capped by a segmental relieving arch (see photo 2).

At the rear of the house on the northwest side, a two-story, two-bay structure was constructed during the first two decades of the nineteenth century. This building, originally connected to the main house by an open passageway, served as the kitchen and servants quarters. More recently, the passageway has been enclosed in frame (see photo 3). The facade of this addition is laid in Flemish bond, and a row of corbelled bricks suffices as a cornice.

Recent additions have been appended to the rear of the main block. A frame, shed roofed room abuts the rear of the main block and the northwest side of the older brick addition. Attached to this frame unit is a low, one-room brick addition (see photo 4).

The interior of the main block, based on the hall and parlor plan, has been altered somewhat in recent years, but the original poplar mantels and woodwork remain intact. Stairs to the second floor are located along the partition wall as well as in the passageway connecting the main house with the service area.

Within the service area, there is one large room downstairs with enclosed stairs leading to the second floor.

Only one original outbuilding remains, that being a barn with stone foundation situated east of the house.

(continued)

# 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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Grundy Houses Historic District has local historic interest because the residences included were built by members of the Grundy family on the 3,000 acre estate acquired by Samuel Grundy. The houses composing this nomination are: Glenannie, the home of Samuel Grundy, constructed ca. 1790; Valley Hill, built in 1822 by Charles Grundy, a son of Samuel Grundy; Walker Heights, constructed in 1842-45 by Martha Grundy Walker, a daughter of Samuel; and the Palmer Grundy House, built in 1852 by a grandson of the elder Grundy. Architecturally, the Grundy Houses are significant in being a reflection of the stylistic development of private building in rural Washington County from the late eighteenth well into the nineteenth century. These substantial residences indicate the evident wealth and prosperity of the landed owners. Ranging from the diminutive Georgian-like quality of Glenannie, through the Federal and Greek Revival styles of Valley Hill and Walker Heights to the late Greek and Victorian attributes of the Palmer Grundy House, each structure possesses noteworthy architectural features. Together, they form a visually pleasing arrangement of dwellings situated in relatively close proximity to each other on the gently rolling landscape that retains its original agrarian character.

The patriarch of the Grundy family in Washington County was George Grundy who came to Kentucky in 1780 from Berkeley County in western Virginia with his wife, Elizabeth, and his large family which included seven sons. He settled in what was then Jefferson County, a few miles from the present town of Springfield (Wills de Haas, History of the Early Settlement and Indian Wars of Western Virginia, p. 223). After his arrival in Kentucky, the elder Grundy and his son, John, entered several tracts of land on Beech Fork and Cartwright Creek, although later all but one tract of land entered by George Grundy was withdrawn by him (Willard Jillson, Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds, p. 213). The elder Grundy did not live long enough to fulfill his dream of a better life for his family, dying in 1784. The burden of raising the large family was left upon his widow. The elder Grundy had left his wife some land and property, but a year after his death she was left destitute as a result of an Indian attack (Congressional Debate, 21 Congress I Session, 218). After the loss of her property Elizabeth Grundy obtained a license to operate a tavern in her home on the Bardstown Road, and was employed for a time as caretaker of the Washington County Courthouse (Nelson County Order Book, June 1785, n.p.; Washington County Order Book A, pp. 107 & 155). By these means she was able to support her large family.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Baylor, Orval W. Early Times in Washington County, Kentucky. Cynthiana, Kentucky: Hobson Press, 1942.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY See Continuation Sheet

UTM REFERENCES See Continuation Sheet

A	_____	_____	_____
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C	_____	_____	_____

B	_____	_____	_____
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
D	_____	_____	_____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet.

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

William G. Johnson, Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

April 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 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

*Eldred W. Meeter*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

7/2/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles Adams*  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/11/78

ATTEST:

*Jimm H. Colman*

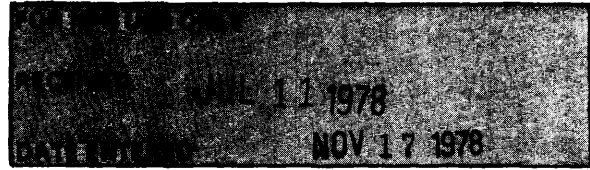
DATE

11/16/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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The Grundy Houses Historic District  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hale, Owner of Glenannie  
Route 1  
Springfield, Kentucky

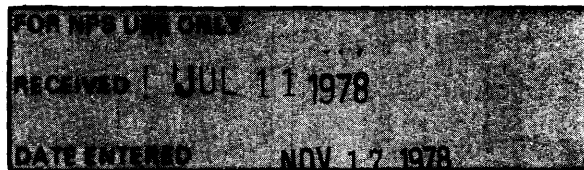
Mr. Oscar Bolderick, Owner of Walker Heights  
108 Dair Drive,  
Springfield, Kentucky

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh L. Grundy, Owners of Valley Hill  
20675 Southwest 162nd Avenue  
Perrine, Fla. 33187

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Simms, Jr., Owners of Palmer Grundy House  
Route 1  
Springfield, Kentucky

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One and three-quarters miles southeast of Glenannie and facing Cartwright Creek is Valley Hill, resting on a low rise approximately two hundred feet from Valley Hill Road. This five-bay, two and one-half story structure laid in Flemish bond was erected in 1822. Two-over-two pane, double-hung sash windows pierce the facade of this late Federal style residence (see photo 5). Wooden lintels with concentric circle corner blocks cap the windows. Six-pane sidelights with paneled aprons flank the front entrance. The doorway consists of a simple post-and-lintel arrangement with the narrow, reeded posts containing concentric circle corner blocks, similar to those above the windows (see photo 6). An Italianate porch, added ca. 1875, shields the central three bays of the facade. Pairs of slender, wooden posts support the porch which is adorned with decorative brackets and a sawtooth trim. The porch rests on an ashlar stone foundation.

Small, six-pane gable end windows pierce the northwest and southeast walls. On the southeast, the chimney is set flush against the wall, whereas the northwest wall contains an exterior chimney. A single window, like those of the facade, pierces the first level of the southeast wall.

A two-story, three-bay, frame ell is appended to the rear of the house and extending from this to the southeast is a later, single-story, L-shaped projection. A double gallery, with the second level being slightly smaller than the first, runs along the northwest of the ell. The back door of the main block opens on to the first level of the rear gallery ( see photo 7).

The main block is one room deep, and the original chair rails, low baseboards, and Federal mantles exist throughout. An exception is the addition of a cast iron, Victorian mantle in the west parlor.

Two original outbuildings remain. A gabled, brick smokehouse is situated approximately twenty feet northwest of the house. Above the door, the wall is pierced in such a manner as to form three diamond-shaped patterns, the center one being the largest. Just beyond the smokehouse is a brick and stone icehouse (see photo 8).

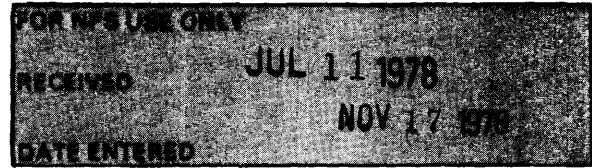
Situated approximately one and three-quarters miles south of Valley Hill and one-half mile west of Ky. 55 is Walker Heights, constructed in 1842-45. Two stories high and five bays wide, the L-shaped Greek Revival structure rests on a low stone foundation (see photo 9). The facade, laid in Flemish bond, is pierced by six-over-six pane windows capped by flat jack arches. The tin roof is hipped over the main block and gabled over the ell.

The most interesting feature of the house is the massive double portico sheltering the central

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bay. Sturdy wooden posts, which widen toward the base, are set on stone plinths and support a Doric entablature topped by a pyramidal roof. The central door is flanked by narrow pilasters and three-pane sidelights with paneled aprons. Above the door is a multi-paned rectangular transom and the entire doorway is surmounted by a Greek fret entablature. On the second level of the portico, the slightly smaller door is given the same treatment as the main entrance. Two plain wooden posts extend between the second level and the entablature (see photo 9).

The east side wall extends five bays and contains a centrally located door, similar to the front door, with flanking pilasters and sidelights and a Greek fret entablature. Appended to the rear of this ell is a single-story, three-bay kitchen wing (see photo 10). Partial exterior chimneys are located on the east and west walls, causing the chimney on the east wall to interrupt the otherwise symmetrical arrangement of that facade (see photo 10).

Much of the original Greek Revival interior woodwork remains. Floors are poplar and a circular stairway is located on the east wall of the central hallway.

A brick smokehouse is located in the east side yard and to the southeast is a barn with stone foundation, contemporary with the construction of the house.

Built in 1852, the Palmer Grundy House (see photo 11) is a two-story, frame, L-shaped structure with a low, hipped roof. Facing westward toward Ky. 55, the dwelling is approximately 100 feet from the road. An ashlar stone foundation supports the residence, the original section of which is three bays wide. The entrance is situated to the left of center and consists of multi-pane sidelights with paneled aprons beneath and a multi-pane rectangular transom. Wooden pilasters visually strengthen the corners of this section. Windows are six-over-six pane on both levels. Brackets are located under the eaves on the west and south sides.

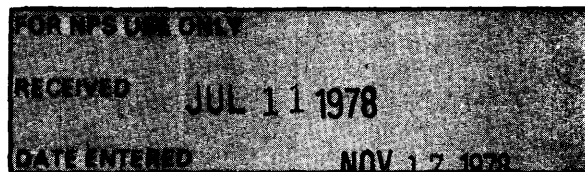
In 1884, a two-story wing was added on the north side of the house. A semi-octagonal bay window with narrow, two-over-two pane windows, projects from the facade of this addition. Wooden cornice heads with brackets adorn the windows. Within both sections, brick interior chimneys rise from the roofline.

A one-story, three-bay kitchen wing extends from the ell of the original section and a porch runs along its south side. A double gallery, now partially enclosed, runs along the north side of the ell and abuts the kitchen wing (see photo 12).

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Inside, a hall runs the length of the 1850s section. Half-turn stairs with a landing are located along the north wall. To the right of the hall are two rooms which retain much of the original Greek Revival trim. To the left of the hall, the woodwork reflects the 1884 date of construction of this section. Windows retain the original wooden shutters.

To the southeast of the house is a one-room frame structure believed to have served as servants quarters.

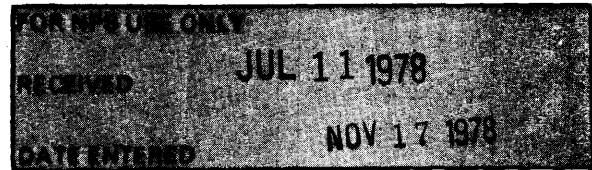
In each instance, the nominated acreage consists of the area surrounding the house including both old and modern outbuildings which serve as indicators of the continued agrarian use of the land. However, only the integrity of the setting has been nominated. Consequently, both grazing land as well as some plowed fields have been included.

Along Ky. 55 between Walker Heights and the Palmer Grundy House are approximately a dozen structures ranging from late nineteenth century frame cottages to some modest modern frame houses and including one modern brick dwelling. At the intersection of Valley Hill Road and Ky. 55 is a small cluster of abandoned fram structures including a turn-of-the-century general store now covered with abestos siding. Four modest frame residences are situated along Valley Hill Road between Valley Hill and Glenannie (see site location map).



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Three of the Grundys were later to achieve prominence. John was appointed the first sheriff of the newly created Washington County in 1792 (Orval Baylor, Early Times in Washington County, Kentucky, p. 41). Samuel became the largest landowner in the family's acquiring nearly 3,000 acres in Washington County. Felix, the most prominent member of the family, served in both Houses of the U. S. Congress, was appointed Attorney General of the United States by President Martin Van Buren in 1837 and was a distinguished lawyer, and a zealous supporter of democracy (Richard Collins, Historical Sketches of Kentucky, pp. 752-53).

"Glenannie"

Glenannie was the home of Samuel Grundy, the founder of the nearly 3,000 acre estate on which were built the three other Grundy Houses. The two-story brick house was constructed ca. 1790, possibly by or for Robert Caldwell who had acquired the land in 1780. Samuel acquired the house and 400 acres of land when he married Caldwell's daughter Elizabeth in 1790.

Samuel was married four times, acquiring additional land with each marriage (Williard Jillson, Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds, pp. 120, 167, 184, 213 & 226). After his death his estate was inherited by his fourth wife Nancy Lacy Grundy, daughters Martha and Sarah Ann, and sons Charles and Richard (Washington County Will Book G, p. 239).

In addition to his land interests, Samuel Grundy at one time operated four distilleries in the county (W. H. Perrin, Kentucky-A History of the State, p. 1033). After the creation of Washington County in 1792 he was appointed the first deputy sheriff, serving under his brother John, who was the first sheriff of the county (Orval W. Baylor, Early Times in Washington County, Kentucky, p. 41).

"Valley Hill"

Valley Hill was built in 1822 by Charles Grundy, son of Samuel Grundy. The two-story, brick, late Federal structure was situated on 530 acres which Samuel Grundy gave to his son in 1829 (Washington County Deed Book C). At his death the land and acreage was inherited by his only daughter Susan Grundy Tucker. After her death in 1893 the estate passed to Thomas C. Grundy, the son of Charles Grundy. Thomas was a successful cattleman, at one time owning one of the best herds of shorthorn cattle in the county. Valley Hill is presently owned by Hugh L. Grundy, a grandson of Thomas Grundy.

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"Walker Heights"

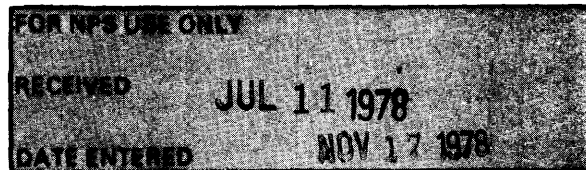
The two-story, brick, Greek Revival house was constructed, 1842-45 by Martha Grundy Walker, a daughter of Samuel Grundy, and her husband David C. Walker on the 435 acres of land she had received from her father in 1830 (Washington County Deed Book K, p. 277). Martha had married David Walker in December 1818 (Washington County Marriage Register I, p. 173). Walker was a successful farmer, and wealthy in his own right, at one time being one of the richest men in the county (William Perrin, Kentucky. A History of the State, pp. 1033-1034). Walker Heights is presently owned by a descendant of David Walker.

"Palmer Grundy House"

This handsome, two-story, frame, Greek Revival house was built in 1852 by Palmer Grundy, son of Charles Grundy and grandson of Samuel Grundy. In 1884 upon the marriage of his daughter Nan, a Victorian parlor with a bedroom above was added to the house (The State Journal, p. 2).

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The Grundy Houses Historic District

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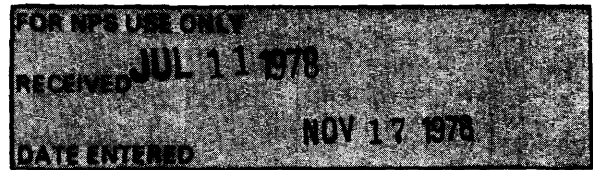
Perrin, William H. Kentucky-A History of the State. Chicago and Louisville: F. A.  
Battey and Company, 1886.

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Washington County Marriage Register I & S

Washington County Order Book A

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Acreage:

- Glenannie - Approx. 95 acres
- Valley Hill - Approx. 100 acres
- Palmer Grundy - Approx. 14 acres
- Walker Heights - Approx. 15 acres

UTM Reference/s:

Glenannie:

- A - 16/650990/4181300
- B - 16/650530/4180900
- C - 16/649860/4181660
- D - 16/650340/4182060

Valley Hill:

- A - 16/652960/4179930
- B - 16/652550/4179430
- C - 16/652040/4179840
- D - 16/542420/4180340  
651

Palmer Grundy -

- A - longitude 85° 15' 35.94"  
latitude 37° 44' 50"
- B - longitude 85° 15' 35.94"  
latitude 37° 44' 35" ✓
- C - longitude 85° 15' 45.31"  
latitude 37° 44' 40"
- D - longitude 85° 15' 45.31"  
latitude 37° 44' 49.4"

Walker Heights:

- A - longitude 85° 15' 50"  
latitude 37° 43' 58.75"
- B - longitude 85° 15' 50"  
latitude 37° 43' 52.5"
- C - longitude 85° 16' 5.6"  
latitude 37° 43' 52.5"
- D - longitude 85° 16' 5.6"  
latitude 37° 43' 58.75"

Verbal Boundary Descriptions:

Glenannie-

Beginning at the northernmost point of the nominated area, the boundary line follows the natural ridge to the northeast of the house in a southeasterly direction for approximately 3400 feet, then turns southwest for approximately 1200 feet following a portion of a branch of Cartwright Creek, the continuing along the property line, and across Valley Hill Road to Cartwright Creek. The line then turns northwest and follows the east bank of Cartwright Creek for approximately 2800 feet before turning northeast and following the south bank of a tributary of Cartwright Creek for approximately 1800 feet, returning to the original point.

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Verbal Boundary Descriptions (cont.):

Valley Hill -

The nominated area consists of a roughly square block of land with the northeastern boundary beginning at a point approximately 500 feet northeast of Valley Hill Road and following the ridge-line behind the house for approximately 2000 feet in a southeasterly direction. The line then turns southwest for approximately 1500 feet following a ridgeline and then crossing Valley Hill Road and proceeding in a straight line to Cartwright Creek. It then follows the east bank of Cartwright Creek in a northwesterly direction for approximately 2400 feet before turning northeast for approximately 2000 feet, crossing Valley Hill Road and following the northwest property line to the original point on the ridge.

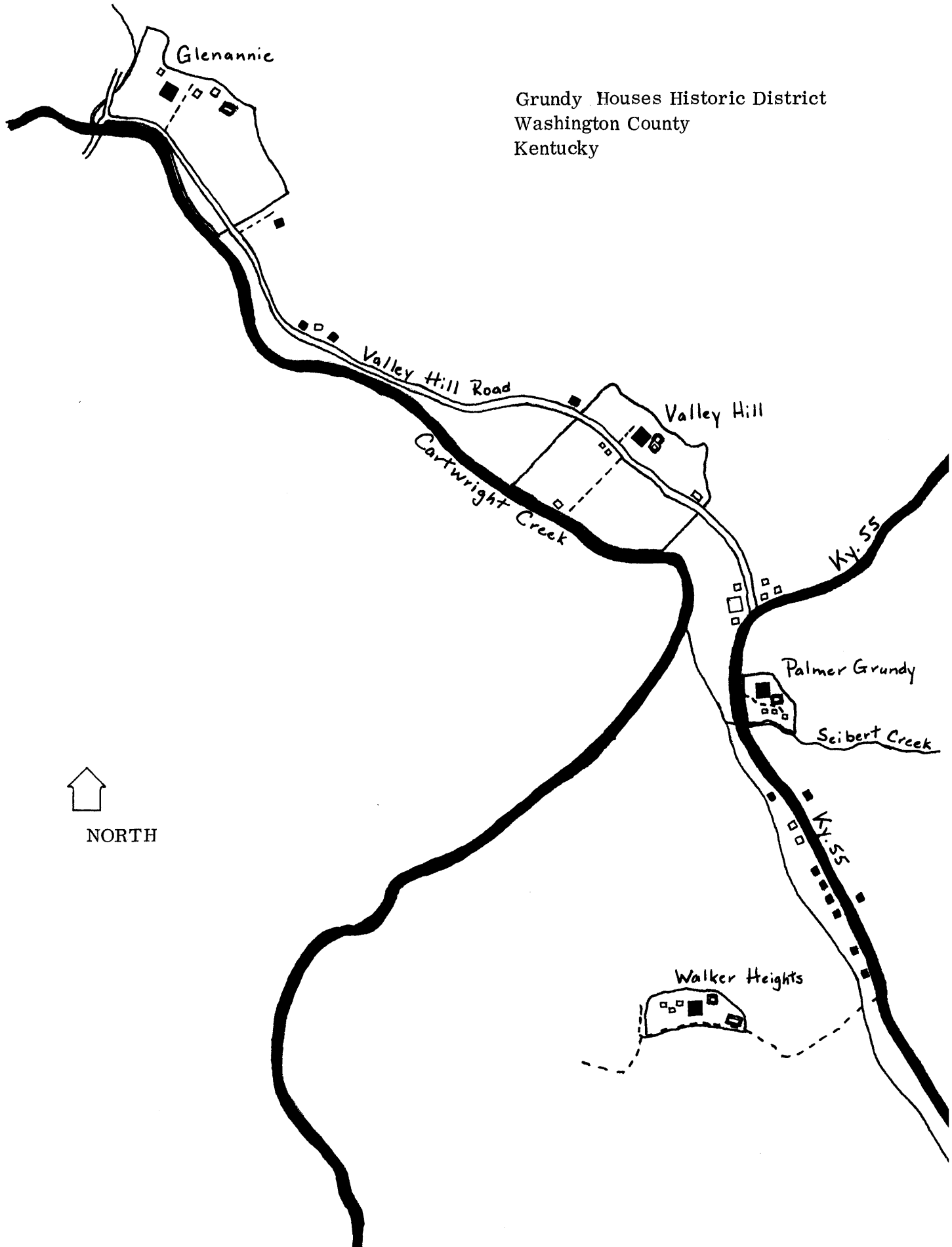
Walker Heights -

The western boundary line begins at a point on the south side of the county road approximately 800 feet west of the house and proceeds northward along the property line for approximately 400 feet to the ridge behind the house. The line then turns eastward, following the ridge north of the house for approximately 1000 feet before angling southeastward for approximately 450 feet to a point on the county road approximately 500 feet east of the house. The line then turns westward following the south side of the county road for approximately 1200 feet, returning to the original point.

Palmer Grundy -

The northern boundary line begins at a point on the eastside of Ky. 55 approximately 1000 feet south of the intersection of Ky. 55 and Valley Hill Road and follows the property line in an eastward direction for approximately 500 feet to the ridge east of the house. The line then turns southeast following the ridgeline for approximately 400 feet before angling southward for approximately 600 feet. Turning westward, the line follows the north bank of Siebert Creek for approximately 700 feet to a point on the east side of Ky. 55 approximately 600 feet south of the house. The line then turns northward following the east side of Ky. 55 for approximately 800 feet to the original point.

Grundy Houses Historic District  
Washington County  
Kentucky



NORTH

Sketch Map  
Grundy Houses Historic District  
Washington County  
Kentucky

NOV 17 1978

Charlotte Schneider  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
April 1978

Original outbuildings outlined in red.  
Nominated acreage shown in red.  
Not to scale.

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