

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 11 1975
DATE ENTERED	OCT 10 1975

**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

Welcome Hall (The Long-Graddy House)

AND/OR COMMON

Welcome Hall (The Long-Graddy House)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Clifton Pike

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

(near) Versailles

VICINITY OF

6

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

21

Woodford

239

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Helen Graddy, Sr.

STREET & NUMBER

Welcome Hall, Clifton Road

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Versailles

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Woodford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Versailles

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

401 Wapping Street Frankfort

Kentucky

## 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	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

Welcome Hall, a two-story brick and stone house, is found in rural Woodford County four miles west of Versailles, off Clifton Road, which formerly led to an indispensable ferry across the Kentucky River. The house sits well back from the road with a white fence immediately surrounding it (photo 1). The straight drive leads past a watering pond for cattle defined by typical Kentucky stone "slave fences."

The original block of the house, constructed circa 1792, is of hand-cut native limestone. Brick wings were added later to either side. The main mass is three bays wide with a chimney on either end of the steeply pitched roof. The openings are still small in proportion to the amount of wall-surface. The trim around the nine-over-six-pane sash is very simple, although the lower windows have shaped stone jack arches and keystones. The foundations are continuous with the walls, but the corners are slightly defined by alternating quoins.

A pedimented portico with a second floor balcony was added circa 1828 and is somewhat incongruous with the plain stalwart appearance of the rough stone main mass (photo 2). The portico, however, tells effectively against the shadowed walls from a distance, and with its widely spaced square pieces and minimal detail conveys in terms of a different period and style some of the same sturdy character as the original house (a date prior to 1830 would make it very early for Grecian features in Kentucky). Matching the portico and also of the same period is the Greek Revival door frame of the central entranceway and door frame of the upper story opening onto the balcony.

To the left (west), flush with the facade of the stone block is a one and one-half story wing probably built at the same time as the portico (photo 3). It is two-bayed with one dormer.

To the right (east), also constructed flush with the front of the main house is the older wing which includes the original kitchen (photos 4 and 5). There is a very large fireplace, with a brick warming oven being an extension of the huge east chimney--an unusual feature in surviving early Kentucky architecture. It is three bays in width with two dormers.

From the central entrance of Welcome Hall one is led directly into a living room very much like an English "hall." Much of the late 18th-century wood trim remains; this includes a paneled fireplace wall, a mantel with reeded pilasters, and a crown molding which runs at the top of the wall all around

# 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/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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1792: c. 1800: c. 1828

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Welcome Hall of late 18th and early 19th-century construction, is an impressive two-story stone and brick house located in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky. The fine craftsmanship displayed in the interior wood trim illustrates the comfortable and gracious style of living enjoyed by the many wealthy settlers of Woodford County.

Woodford was founded early in the State's history, one of the nine counties established before statehood was conferred in 1792. The flow of immigration began pouring into the area after 1784, attracted by the rich, fertile soil characteristic of the Bluegrass (Railey, 1). Large farms were established, displaying attractive, well-built residences such as Welcome Hall, although few are as old as this one.

Typical of the settlers coming into the region was John Long (1749-1832) who, with his wife, made the long, arduous trek to Kentucky in the late 1780s. He bought the land on which Welcome Hall now sits in 1789 from Bartlett Searcy, and it is thought that he began construction of the house soon after. The land was fertile and the farm proved extremely successful. According to the 1810 census, Long possessed a fine farm, was the owner of fifteen slaves, and had a family consisting of five members (Railey, p. 148).

Long decided to sell the farm in 1806 and advertised in the Frankfort Western World his "elegant stone dwelling house" for sale together with its "horse mill, distillery, orchards, and other appurtenances of a well-established pioneer plantation" (Coleman, p. 80). He decided against selling at this time, however, and retained his property until 1816, when it was sold to William Lee Graddy.

Graddy had emigrated with his father from North Carolina in 1787 and was still a bachelor when he bought Welcome Hall. The right brick wing was in existence by this time because it is known that Graddy lived in the ell three years before his marriage in 1819. He and his bride added the left brick wing and the two-story entrance porch c. 1828 (there is a dated corner stone, but

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coleman, J. Winston. Historic Kentucky. Lexington: Henry Clay Press, 1968, p. 80.

Collins, Lewis. History of Kentucky, Vol. II. Louisville: John P. Morton & Co., 1924 (originally published in 1874), p. 763.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(continued)

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 40 acres.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	6,9,3	4,9,0	4,2	1,6	4,0,0	B	1,6	6,9,3	4,4,0	4,2	1,5	7,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	1,6	6,9,3	1,1,0	4,2	1,5	8,6,0	D	1,6	6,9,3	1,5,0	4,2	1,6	3,4,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Gloria Mills, Staff Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

May 30, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

401 Wapping Street

TELEPHONE

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Eldred W. Melton*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*A. H. Mortensen*

DATE 10/10/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Ronald W. Greenberg*

DATE 10/9/75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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the room. The fireplace facing is of stone, no doubt originally plastered. To the right of the mantel is a closeted stairway (photo 12). Although there is a certain flatness and attenuation of proportion characteristic of the Federal style, the ensemble remains one of the few in Kentucky essentially Georgian.

A small parlor is to the right of the living room, with a less formal but more exquisitely detailed mantel on the east wall than in the "hall" (photo 13). There is also a narrow gun closet to the left of the mantel at the far end of the wall. Original chair railing remains. The cornice in this room, as in all other rooms with the exception of the living room, were added by Mrs. Henry Graddy.

The two rooms in the right wing contain a dining room (photo 14), with a door which opens onto the porch, and the old kitchen now used for storage. The kitchen has a large fireplace and a brick oven--one of only a few known in the state.

The 1828 left wing, now containing one large parlor with a closed staircase in the far right corner, is 12 feet shorter than it once was (photos 15 and 16). The stairs originally opened onto a hall, but the dividing wall was torn out by the present owners and the wing made shorter when an end wall believed to be unsound was rebuilt.

All sections have second floors, none of which connect. Floors throughout are ash with the exception of the left wing, which is of modern southern pine.

Extending across almost the full length of the back is a porch with a limestone foundation believed to be of very early construction. Mrs. Graddy has enclosed a section of the porch with latticework.

An upstairs bathroom is a twentieth-century addition and extends out the middle of the stone block on the second story (photo 6).

Many of the early outbuildings survive. To the right of the old kitchen is a stone woodhouse (photo 8), (wood shingles have recently been added to

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the roof ). Behind the woodhouse is a dairy built into an embankment (photo 5). A smokehouse is located a few yards to the rear of the right wing. It is of brick with stone foundation and has two rows of ventilator holes (photo 9). Farther back, down a small hill, is the springhouse (photos 10 and 11). A portal is located on the east wall with the north end adjoining a stone wall--the upper half of the north side is frame. A frame servants' cabin to the rear of the house has a porch and front entrance of the two rooms facing the east. Directly west of the main house is a garden and a summerhouse, constructed by the present owners.

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the last numeral can be read as either three or eight). The house has since remained in the Graddy family.

As with the exterior, few changes have been made to the interior. "The fine hand-carved mantels and beautiful woodwork attest to the skill of the early Kentucky craftsmen," states J. Winston Coleman (Coleman, p. 80). Despite the rather overpowering two-story portico, the house, set back from the road with a long entrance drive, is a most attractive illustration of early Kentucky architecture. The central block of hand-hewn stone with the brick ells that mark the orderly growth of the house, together with the many surviving outbuildings (springhouse, smokehouse, woodhouse, and servants' cabin), presents one of the finest examples in central Kentucky, particularly in Woodford County, of an early Kentucky estate.

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- Mastin, Bettye Lee. "Welcome Hall is One of State's Oldest." Sunday Herald Leader, August 28, 1960, p. 56.
- Newcomb, Rexford. Architecture in Old Kentucky. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1953, p. 38.
- Railey, William E. History of Woodford County. Frankfort: Roberts Printing Co., 1938, pp. 1-5, 99, 148.
- Theirman, Sue McClelland. "True to Its Past: Welcome Hall." The Courier-Journal Magazine, December 12, 1954, pp. 48-50.
- Williams, Mary Ida. Living in Kentucky. Published by Mary Ida Williams, 1962, p. 15.
- Wooley, Carolyn Murray. "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses!" The Magazine Antiques, March, 1974, pp. 592-602.

