

1600

AUG 28 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name The Mathers, William, House  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number State Highway 36 N/A not for publication  
city, town Carlisle N/A vicinity  
state Kentucky code KY county Nicholas code 181 zip code 40013

### 3. Classification

|   |   |                                     |                            |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ownership of Property                       | Category of Property                            | Number of Resources within Property |                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Contributing                        | Noncontributing            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local       | <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <u>1</u>                            | <u>-0-</u> buildings       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State       | <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <u>        </u>                     | <u>        </u> sites      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal     | <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <u>        </u>                     | <u>        </u> structures |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <u>1</u>                            | <u>-0-</u> objects         |
|   |   |                                     | <u>-0-</u> Total           |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

David L. Morgan 8-25-89  
Signature of certifying official David L. Morgan, State Historic Preservation Officer Date  
Kentucky Heritage Council  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Patricia Andrews 10/12/89  
 See continuation sheet. \_\_\_\_\_  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet. \_\_\_\_\_  
 determined not eligible for the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_  
 removed from the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_  
 other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

(Early Republic):

Federal

(Mid-19th Century):

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Mathers, William, House is located on the northwestern boundary of Carlisle, on State Route 36. The house began circa 1812 as two rooms of brick construction, executed in the Flemish bond pattern. The bricks were fired in the yard from local clay brought from Pleasant Valley, a small town approximately 10 miles north of Carlisle. The house is part of a large farm that once served as a picnic ground for the locals at the turn-of-the-century. A decorative stone wall encloses a large yard for the house, and separates it from the fields. A fork of the Brushy Fork Creek meanders through the middle of the farm, visible from the front porch. Several barns and outbuildings are associated with the site, but are not included as part of the nomination. Several head of cattle are still raised on the farm. The house is the sole building included in the nomination.

The house is composed of two distinct sections, built approximately 40 years apart. The house faces east toward Brushy Fork Creek. The first section of the house is a one and one-half story brick construction of flemish bond. The side-gabled roof is decorated with beaded, tapering vergboards. The four-bay, two room section has two exterior end chimneys. The main facade is composed of two central wood doors with glass transoms. The doors are flanked by double-hung sash windows. A one-story brick shed-roofed addition has been added to the rear of this section, circa 1960.

The second section of the house was built circa 1858. The two-story Greek Revival section repeats the flemish bond masonry pattern of the original house. The "L-shaped" center-passage plan section is composed of three bays. The central door is sidelighted. Double-hung sash windows with wood lintels and sills flank the entrance on the first-story. The second story is composed of three evenly spaced double-hung windows. A Colonial Revival porch was added over the entrance, circa 1920.

See continuation sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Religion  
Architecture

Period of Significance

1812-1848  
1812, 1848

Significant Dates

1812, 1848

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The William Mathers House is eligible for National Register under Criterion A, for its association with local religious history, and C, because it is the best local example of a nationally important architectural style. The Mathers house was built in two main sections, approximately 40 years apart. The Federal style main block was built circa 1812 by William Mathers. A major two-story Greek Revival addition was made to the house by his son, Barton W. Mathers, circa 1848. William Mathers figured prominently in the Christian Revival Movement of the early nineteenth century, as did several of his children, including Barton. Local sources say that Barton Stone, an influential agent in the movement, conducted gospel meetings on the Mather's farm circa 1821. These meetings mark the beginning of the Christian Revival Movement in Nicholas County.

William Mathers was a recognized leader in the Revivalist Movement, the religious movement begun in northeastern American in 1791. The movement had reached Nicholas County by 1803. The Revivalists were part of the Second Great Awakening period in American Protestant religions. Revival meetings led by itinerant preachers were widespread during the period. Emotional preaching and mass conversions were commonplace at church services. The Mathers farm served as the site of camp meetings for Nicholas County Revivalists.

On his death, William Mathers was eulogized as being ... "among the number of those who went into the organization of the original Christian congregation established at old Concord (the first organized church in Nicholas County) upon the Bible alone, after Barton W. Stones's withdrawal from the Synod of Kentucky in September 1803, and now that he is gone the last link that connected this church with the original organization in 1803 is gone."2     See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Conley, Joan Weissinger, ed. History of Nicholas County. Carlisle, KY: Nicholas County Historical Society, Inc., 1976.

Gruver, Rebecca Brooks. An American History. Readings, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1976.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1976

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 6 |
|---|---|

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 7 | 5 | 8 |
|---|---|---|

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2 | 0 |
|---|---|---|

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | 8 | 0 |
|---|---|---|

Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

B 

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

Zone      Easting      Northing

D 

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

Carlisle, KY. Quad

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Refer to Map for the boundary description.

The nominated area includes the property on which the house sits and an additional ten foot perimeter surrounding.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nomination area includes the property the house sits on plus a ten-foot perimeter. None of the outbuildings associated with the site fit into the house's period of significance, and this boundary eliminates them.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Donna M. Neary, Historical Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_

date May 1, 1989

street & number 1500 S. Fifth St. Apt 124

telephone (502) 635-1659

city or town Carlisle

state Kentucky zip code 40208

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

The Mathers, William, House, Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 2

---

The south facade of the house is three bays deep. An entrance with a circa 1890-1900 porch occupies the furthest bay west. Double-hung sash windows occupy the other first and second story bays.

The 1960 addition follows the ell of the plan, and simply made the house one room deeper. A one story aluminum porch overhang rests in the ell. These additions to the rear of the house have not altered its appearance from the front.

Project budget and deadlines precluded interior investigation of the house.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

The Mathers, William, House, Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 2

---

The two-section Mather's House is the only brick example of Federal and Greek Revival styles in Carlisle. The original section of the house is today thought to be the earliest remaining example of Federal style architecture in town. Several Federal-style frame houses are present in Carlisle, but none exhibit the detail of the Mather's House. The Mather's House also retains its original integrity, where the other buildings have been altered.

Greek Revival was the dominant American architectural style during the period from 1830 to 1860, but the Mathers House is one of only two residences in Carlisle designed in the Greek Revival style.<sup>3</sup> The Mathers House was built mid-way through the peak period for Greek Revival, in 1848, and the two-story, frame, Anderson Cornwall House was built circa 1855 at 361 West Main Street. Both houses exhibit an abundance of detail and ornament, and both are located on the outskirts of the original town. The houses are also associated with prominent figures in the community. It is unclear why so few Greek Revival buildings exist in Carlisle.

The William Mathers's House has remained in the Mathers's family for six generations. William Mathers (1785-1858) and his wife Margaret Ardery Mathers raised a family in the house and lived there for the remainder of their lives.

Barton W. Mathers (1809-1889) is presumably named after Barton Stone, the catalyst of the Revivalist Movement in Nicholas County, and a friend of his fathers. Barton Mathers took possession of the house in 1858, on the death of his father. He and second wife, Emily Todd Mathers, added the two-story brick Greek Revival section to the house circa 1858.

Silas W Mathers (1845-1925) was the son of Barton and Emily Mathers. Silas and his wife Virginia Boone Rice Mathers took over the house on the death of his parents. Taylor B. Mathers (1876-1943) was the fourth owner of the house. Taylor was married to Bertie Dallas Mathers. Taylor Mathers and William Dinsmore founded Dinsmore and Mathers Furniture and Undertaking circa 1900. Current owner of the house is Taylor T. Mathers, son of Marion Taylor Mathers (1903-1965).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

The Mathers, William, House, Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky.

Section number 8 Page 3

---

ENDNOTES

1

Rebecca Brooks Gruver, An American History  
(Readings, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1976) pp.  
271-272.

2

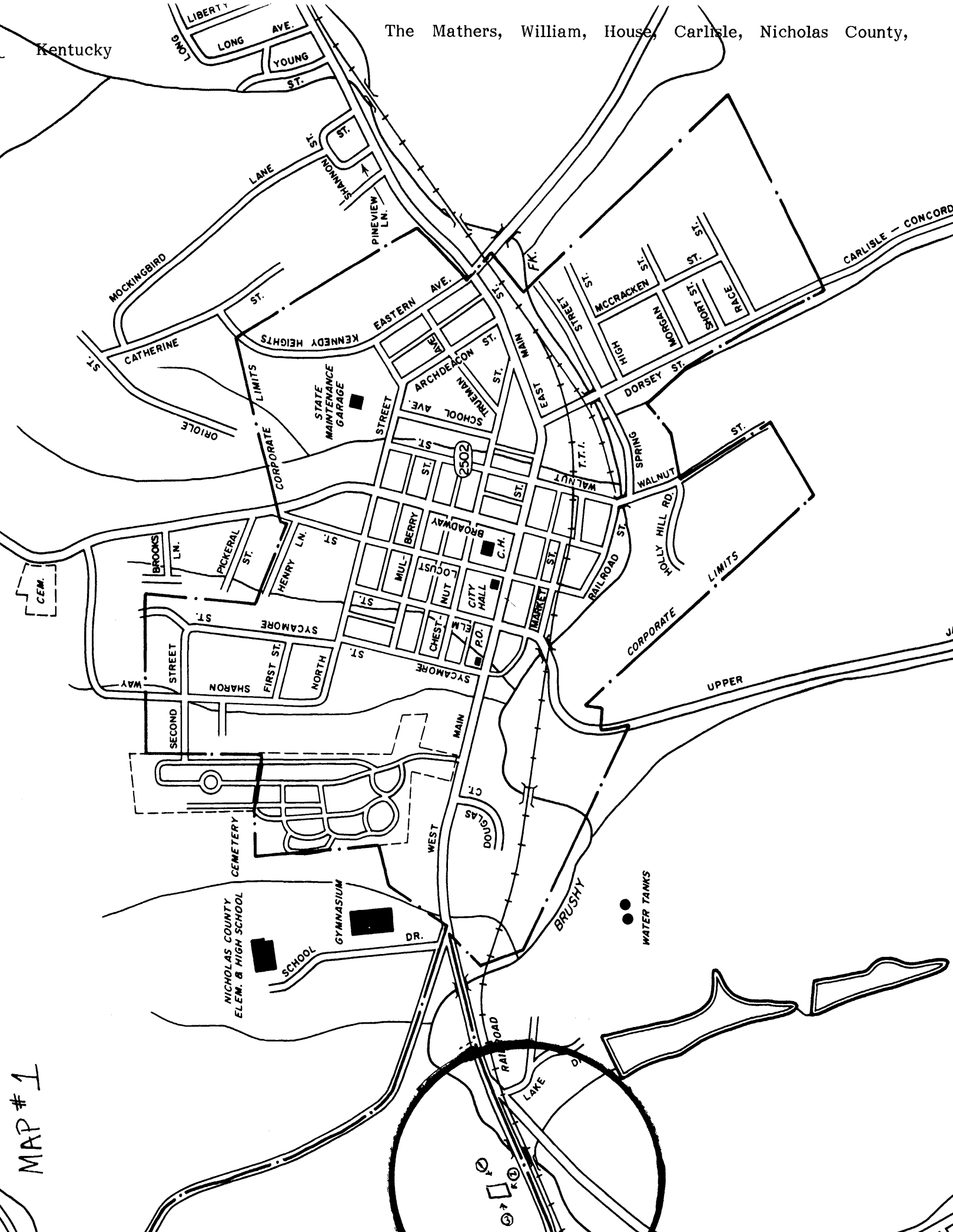
Joan Weissinger Conley, ed., History of Nicholas  
County (Nicholas County Historical Society, Inc., 1976) p.  
401.

3

Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to  
American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1976) p. 182.

The Mathers, William, House, Carlisle, Nicholas County,

Kentucky



MAP # 1



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number:** 89001600

**Date Listed:** 10/12/89

William Mathers House  
**Property Name**

Nicholas  
**County**

KY  
**State**

**Multiple Name**

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus  
601 **Signature of the Keeper**

10/12/89  
**Date of Action**

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

This property is significant for its association with religious history, but the nomination form does not have checked Criteria Consideration A (Religious Property). Marty Perry with the KY SHPO has been informed of this technical oversight. The form is now amended to add Criteria Consideration A.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

The Mathers, William, House, Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky

Section number      Photos      Page   1  

---

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Mathers, William, House
2. Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky
3. Photographer, Donna M. Neary
4. Date: March 1989
5. Negatives on file with the Kentucky Heritage Council,  
Frankfort, Kentucky

(The above information is the same for all three photographs submitted with the nomination. Below is a numbered list of the photographs.)

1. Mathers, William, House; photographer facing west.
2. Mathers, William, House; photographer facing northwest.
3. Mathers, William, House; photographer facing southeast.