

PH 1422

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 11 1975
DATE ENTERED	AUG 28 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

Samuel and Mary Logan Briggs House; Stanford Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Harvey Helm Historic Library and Museum

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

315 West Main Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Stanford

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

05

STATE

Kentucky

__ VICINITY OF

CODE
021

COUNTY
Lincoln

CODE
137

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harvey Helm Memorial Library Board

STREET & NUMBER

Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Stanford

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lincoln County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Stanford

STATE

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

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Briggs' house is located in the town of Stanford, on the south side of U. S. Highway 150. The house faces north and sits very close to the road, which is known as the Old Wilderness Road. The Old Wilderness Road was the major land route used by the first settlers coming into Kentucky. It extended from the Cumberland Gap to the Falls of the Ohio. The lot on which the house stands contains one-half acre and slopes toward the back of the lot through which St. Asaph's Creek flows.

The structure is a two-story weatherboard-covered house. The front entrance, not quite located in the center of the facade, has sidelights and a transom above. The front windows have eight-over-eight panes. An interior chimney with a corbelled top is centered in the west side wall, while on the east side is an exterior chimney with a corbelled top.

The original portion of the house, built before 1790, consists of the entrance hall and the down and upstairs rooms on the west side, both of which are constructed of logs and retain the original ash flooring.

Over the years additions have been made. The additive nature of construction is revealed on the exterior by the irregular placement of the openings on the left side. There is a large room on the east side of the original hall opposite the original west rooms. A kitchen and dining room have been added to the back. The stairway in the hall leads to three bedrooms above. A large screened-in porch is situated on the east side and a porch extends across the back of the house, immediately behind the log rooms. At some time in this century blinds pierced with stars and a delicate latticework porch with concave-sloped roof were added, perhaps to relieve the sheer bulk of this broad, low house, which has grown and changed its functions along with the community for almost two centuries.

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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 Before 1790, and later BUILDER/ARCHITECT Samuel and Mary Briggs

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure is significant as the residence of two of the earliest settlers of Lincoln County and as the first building which housed the Stanford Presbyterian Church founded in 1788. Mary Logan Briggs was a sister of General Benjamin Logan, a prominent military and political figure in Kentucky and founder of Stanford. The building was later the residence of Mrs. Harvey Helm, wife of the late U.S. Representative from the 6th district from 1905-1919. She left it to the people of Lincoln County for a library.

Mary Logan Briggs was the eldest child of David and Jane Logan. She was only a few years old when her parents left Ireland and came to this country and settled in Virginia about 1738. It was here she married Samuel Briggs. C. M. Green gives a sketch of the Briggs family in The Historic Families of Kentucky (1889). "Before their /Mary's and Samuel's/ own migration to Lincoln County, Kentucky, they had for years resided on the Holston, and there their children were born. The name of Samuel Briggs is found, with those of General Ben. Logan, General Wm. Campbell, Colonel Wm. Christian, the McClures, Montgomerys, Davidsons, Trimbles, Gambles, Craigs, and Alexander Breckinridge, on the list of those who called Rev. Charles Cummings to the pastorate 'of the united congregations of the Ebbing and Sinking Spring Churches, on Holston's river, Fincastle county'--the first churches ever organized in all that region.--

/Foote./ He probably came with his family to Kentucky, together with the family of General Logan, early in 1776, and for a time lived at St. Asaphs, near Stanford. It is certain that when General Logan removed his family to the protection of the fort at Harrodsburg, his brother-in-law, Samuel Briggs, and his sister, Sarah* went with them; and that when Logan returned to brave all danger at St. Asaphs, Briggs remained at Harrodsburg; but, after Logan had built his fort, and gathered his soldiers around him, Mr. Briggs went thither with his family, and took his part in the defense of the station and in the early settlement of the country. His name, and that of his son, Benjamin Briggs, are found in the list of the ninety-nine soldiers of Logan's company. He was a good soldier and a true man--a fighting Presbyterian,--and beyond this, not much remains to be told of him or his wife." (p. 206) Samuel Briggs died in 1792.

The Stanford Presbyterian Church was first organized about 1788. According to Mrs. M. H. Dunn's book Early Lincoln County History, "The first recorded evidence of the church is an order of the Transylvania Presbytery (formed in 1786) made at a meeting held in Paint Lick in 1790. By this order Reverend Mr. McConnell was directed to preach two Sabbaths each month at the Stanford courthouse for the congregation there." (p. 95) In the early 1790s Mary Logan Briggs donated her house and land for the use of the church.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Burch, Esther Whitley. History of the Stanford Presbyterian Church. 1940 (unpublished).
 Dunn, Mrs. M. H. Early Lincoln County History. 1966.
 Green, T. M. Historic Families of Kentucky. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co., 1889.
 Lincoln County Court Records.
 Minutes of the Stanford Presbyterian Church.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6	7	0	6	3	3	0	4	1	5	5	8	5	0
ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING							

B

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING							

C

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING							

D

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. M. H. Dunn

MC

ORGANIZATION

Lincoln County Historical Society

DATE

May, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

103 Pettus Court

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Stanford

STATE

Kentucky 40484

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

Claude W. Melton

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

AUG 28 1975

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

AUG 22 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Samuel and Mary Logan Briggs House

The Briggs house was a two-story log house. When used as the church, the upper floor was used as a balcony for the slaves. The Reverend David Rice the first Presbyterian minister to come to Kentucky in 1783, and the Reverend Mr. McConnell preached at this church for about ten years after it was organized.

By 1802 the congregation had outgrown the original church structure. As a result Benjamin Logan conveyed three and a-half acres at Buffalo Springs (near Logan's Fort) to the Presbyterian Society of Buffalo Springs. At this site a large log church was built which served the congregation until 1887 when the building was damaged by a cyclone. In 1887 the present church was constructed, not far from the first one.

After 1802 the Briggs house was enlarged and used once again as a residence. About 1930 the house was used as a private kindergarden. The next owner and resident was Mrs. Harvey Helm, wife of the U.S. Representative 1905-1919. At her death in 1966, Mrs. Helm willed the house to the people of Lincoln County for a library. It was used as such until the library grew too large and a modern structure was built on a new lot. The Briggs house is now the Historic and Genealogical Library and Museum of Lincoln County, which was one of the three original counties of Kentucky, and has preserved the longest intact series of court records in the State (see the National Register nomination form for the Lincoln County Courthouse, Stanford).

*Green refers to Samuel Briggs' wife, Mary, as Sarah.

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Samuel and Mary Logan Briggs House

Scott, Hattie M. "Logan Family of Lincoln County, Kentucky," The Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society, (April 1932), pp. 173-176.

Talbert, Charles. Benjamin Logan, Kentucky Frontiersman. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1962.