

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 24 1987  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Horace Withers House

and or common Forest Hill

2. Location

street & number State Highway 590 (Hubble Road) not for publication

city, town Stanford X vicinity of

state Kentucky code 021 county Lincoln code 137

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. John F. Cash

street & number Route #2

city, town Stanford vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lincoln County Clerk's Office

street & number Lincoln County Courthouse, Main Street

city, town Stanford state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

(Site #LI-34)  
title Historic Resources of Kentucky Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date 1983 federal X state county local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Constructed ca. 1850, the Horace Withers House is an excellent illustration of Greek Revival domestic architecture in Lincoln County. It is a two-story, five-bay, single-pile, central-passage frame dwelling with a two-story frame ell.

Situated on a rise overlooking U.S. 27, the Stanford-Lexington Road, the Withers House is located approximately one mile north of Stanford, the seat of government of Lincoln County. Lincoln County is situated in the southernmost section of the Bluegrass Region of the Commonwealth. An early settlement area in the state, it is one of the three original counties of Kentucky created by the Virginia Legislature in 1780. The county is predominantly rural with the vast majority of the land in croplands, forests and pastures. Stanford, the county seat, is located in the northern section of the county, and is the largest town in Lincoln County with a population of 3,000. Forty-five miles to the north is Lexington, the major metropolitan center in the Bluegrass Region.

A handsome two-story, one-bay pedimented Doric portico shelters the rectangular Greek Revival entrance which has a three-pane transom and three-pane sidelights. The Doric columns are of stuccoed brick construction. Above the main entrance is an identical passageway which opens onto a small veranda. Rectangular windows of six-over-six panes, flanked by shutters, pierce the various elevations of the house. Exterior gable-end brick chimneys anchor the main block, while an interior gable-end chimney terminates the ell.

The house rests on a hewn limestone foundation and is covered by a gable roof of standing seam galvanized tin. Enhancing the facade and rear elevations of the main block are returned cornices. The north side of the ell features a single-story, one-bay porch with simple but aesthetically pleasing millwork.

Interior features reveal a central hallway flanked by square rooms which measure 20' x 20'. An open two-run stairway with delicately turned balustrades leads to the upper level. Greek Revival woodwork accentuates the main block and consists of bold pedimented doorframes and plain but dignified Grecian wooden mantels. Interior appointments of the ell consist of plain woodwork and boards and batten doors.

A short distance southwest of the ell's rear facade are a round earth-mounded, limestone-walled root cellar and a small shed-roofed chicken coop with two doors and board and batten sheathing.

The Withers House is situated on the peak of a rise and is surrounded by gently rolling farmland. A tree-lined circular entrance lane traverses the well-kept front lawn. As such, the Withers property exemplifies a typical farmstead in the Bluegrass Region of the Commonwealth.

The Horace Withers House nomination contains two contributing buildings and one contributing structure. There are no non-contributing features within the nominated area.

[Note: Although the accompanying photographs of the Horace Withers House were taken in 1983, they accurately portray the property as it exists today.]

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** ca. 1850      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Horace Withers House is locally significant under Criterion C as an excellent representation of Greek Revival domestic architecture in Lincoln County. It is one of sixty Greek Revival dwellings documented in the comprehensive survey of the architectural and historical resources of the county and provides a good illustration of frame construction as applied to the style in Lincoln County.

The Withers House is very representative of Grecian dwellings constructed in the county. Greek Revival domestic architecture in Lincoln County is characterized by two-story, central-passage, single-pile dwellings of frame or brick construction with two-story ells. Facade fenestration consists of three or five bays, and the overwhelming majority of Greek Revival houses in the county are enhanced by monumental two-story, one-bay, pedimented Doric or Ionic porticoes. The Withers House exhibits the high qualities of construction, craftsmanship and workmanship demonstrated by four Greek Revival houses in the county listed in the National Register of Historic Places. These are the John Baughman House, Dr. Thomas Montgomery House, Adam Pence House and Walnut Meadows. All are two-story, single-pile dwellings with facade fenestration of three or five bays and all exhibit two-story, one-bay pedimented Doric or Ionic porticoes.

This impressive dwelling was constructed ca. 1850 for Horace Withers on land purchased from John Embry. The house is situated on land which was originally part of the preemption grant of Benjamin Logan, who established the first settlement in Lincoln County, St. Asaph's Station or Logan's Fort, approximately one-mile west of Stanford. Logan sold this tract to John Embry in 1785 who in turn sold it to Horace Withers.

A successful farmer, Withers was associated with many of the prominent politicians of the county and his farmstead often served as the site of various political rallies. Withers named his farm "Forest Hill" in honor of the many large oak trees which once dotted the gently rolling terrain. In 1899 the farm was acquired by Ed Ballard, a prominent agriculturalist in the county. The Ballard family sold the property to John Cash in the late 1930s.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Four  
Quadrangle name Stanford

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	7	0	7	4	1	0	4	1	5	7	5	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Gus Johnson, Historian

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date June 1987

street & number Capital Plaza Tower telephone 502/564-7005

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 *David L. Meyer*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date November 18, 1987

### For NPS use only

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

*John A. Brown* date 12-30-87  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Horace Withers House, Lincoln County, Kentucky

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Beers, D. G., Atlas of Garrard and Lincoln Counties, Kentucky, Philadelphia: D. G. Beers & Co., 1877.

Clark, Thomas E., A History of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky: The John Bradford Press, 1954.

Collins, Richard, History of Kentucky, Maysville, Kentucky: by the author, 1874.

Dunn, Shirley, Historic Homes of Old Buildings of Lincoln County, Kentucky, Stanford, Kentucky: Interior Journal Publishing Company, 1975.

Perris, William H., Kentucky, A History of the State, Louisville, Kentucky: F. A. Battey & Co., 1887.

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**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification**

Beginning at a point at the intersection of KY. 590 and the north side of the entrance lane, 200 feet from the center of the house, proceed 200 feet in a northward direction along the west side of KY.590; thence 400 feet in a westward direction along the north side of a secondary farm lane; thence 400 feet in a southward direction, thence 400 feet in an eastward direction; and thence 200 feet in a northward direction along the west side of KY.590 to the point of origin. The boundaries have been drawn to encompass the dwelling and the contributing outbuilding and root cellar, which are located in the center of the nominated four acres. Adjacent property beyond the boundaries do not contribute to the historic setting.