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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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 McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
other names/site number LS-2; W. P. Morton Farm

2. Location

street & number south of Dry Hill-McIntosh Road on the confluence of McIntosh  not for publication  
city, town Dryhill and Cutshin Creeks  vicinity  
state Kentucky code KY county Leslie code 131 zip code 41749

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>   </u> sites
<u>   </u>	<u>4</u> structures
<u>   </u>	<u>1</u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
NA

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.

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

10-4-91  
Date

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.  
 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:)

Entered in the  
National Register

Sharon Byers

11/7/91

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)

Split-log Cabin

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Log

roof Wood Shingles

other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Attached

**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)

Exploration & Settlement of Eastern KY  
Settlement Log Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1816 - 1830  
ca. 1816

Significant Dates

1816 - 1830  
ca. 1816

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Roderick McIntosh  
McIntosh, Roderick

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

See Attached

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

- Amos, Christine, Bluegrass Cultural Landscape, (Heritage Council Context Draft, 1988).
- Glassie, Henry, The Types of Southern Mountain Cabin, in Jan Harold Breenwand, The Study of American Folklore, (New York, 1968).
- Kentucky Department of Commerce, Kentucky: Deskbook of Economic Statistics, Frankfort, 1975.
- Montell, William Lynwood, and Morse, Michael Lynn, Kentucky Folk Architecture, (Lexington, Ky., 1976).
- Moore, Tyrel G., "Economic Development in Appalachian, 1800-1860," in Appalachian Frontiers: Settlement, Society and Development in the Preindustrial Era, ed. Robert D. Mitchell (Lexington, Ky., 1991).

See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Specify repository:**

Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, KY

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of property** approximately 40 acres

**UTM References**

A 

1	7	2	9	2	6	3	0	4	1	2	0	4	1	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

1	7	2	9	2	8	2	0	4	1	1	9	7	6	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

1	7	2	9	2	3	9	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Hyden East, Ky, Quad

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See Map

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated area includes the contributing log house and approximately 40 acres. As far as can be ascertained, this acreage is the original land settled by Roderick McIntosh in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Because of the relatively unaltered appearance of the forty acres, the cabin together with its setting keep the feeling of a settlement era farmstead.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joseph E. Brent, Historic Preservation Specialist

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date April 29, 1991

street & number 677 Comanche Trail telephone 502/564-7005

city or town Frankfort state KY zip code 40601

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky

Section 7 Page 1

The McIntosh House is located south of Dry Hill-McIntosh Road in eastern Kentucky's Leslie County. The house is situated in the flood plain at the confluence of McIntosh and Cutshin Creeks, approximately 840 feet above sea level, and some 120 meters north of Cutshin Creek. The nominated area includes the contributing log house and approximately 40 acres (see attached quad map). The McIntosh House site also contains several non-contributing features which do not have a major impact on the historic character: a log corn crib, a partial log barn, a modern house near Dry Hill-McIntosh Road, some worm fencing, a lean-to equipment shed, a pond, and a covered picnic table. As far as can be ascertained this acreage is the original land settled by Roderick McIntosh in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. An old road runs across the property down to Cutshin Creek where an old ford was located. The 1961 USGS Hyden East quad map shows the ford and indicates the old road, calling it a "jeep trail." Tradition says there was a store operated at or near the present house site, either by Roderick McIntosh or one of his relatives, that took advantage of the traffic on the streams.

The McIntosh House is a saddlebag house that tradition holds was constructed between 1810 and 1830. Perry County tax records list Roderick McIntosh as early as 1816. The house is two pens of square hand hewn log, that have a common wooden shingle roof. The older pen is larger and closest to the creek. It is approximately 20 x 20 feet with "V" notched ends. The pen is a story and a half high, with a cut stone chimney. The second pen was constructed later, local lore says around 1830, and is smaller, approximately 16 x 16 feet. The second pen is also a story and a half with square notched logs and a cut stone end chimney. Both pens rest upon a native stone foundation. The cabin has three front doors, one for each pen and one opening into a space between where the two pens are joined. The center door storage area is a space bisected by the chimney but which was never a dogtrot. The other two doors lead into their respective pens. The larger pen has stairs that go to the loft, the smaller has a ladder. Both pens were probably built by Roderick McIntosh who lived until 1878. The house sits on a slight rise in the flood plain and faces the creek.

The McIntosh House was restored in 1976 by the present owner. The owner rehabilitated the front porch that was only half standing when he acquired the property. The porch roof has been added on to the roof of the house, but it was done in such a way that it appears to be a continuous roof. The porch has a ceiling that has been made level from the end of the over hang back to the front wall of the house that contacts the wall just above the windows of each pen. Wooden shingles cover the outside of the extension that add to the illusion of the continuous roof. The rear of the house had shed additions that the owner razed; in their place he constructed attached log structures, using logs from a structure

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McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky

Section 7 Page 2

similar in age to the original pens, to replace them. The logs came from the barn at Pleasie Woods Farm, which was said to have been built prior to 1878. These additions house the kitchen and bathroom. There are also screened in porches that run the width of each pen on the rear of the house. Photographs show that when the present owner acquired the house in 1976, the gables were not covered and the loft was exposed. The owner has since covered the gables with wood framing and split wood shingles. In addition windows were added on each end. The window on the end of the larger pen (south end) has been enlarged. The chinking on the outside of the structure and the exposed portion of the chimney is now concrete. The interior flooring and wall coverings in both pens including the lofts are original.

Though the owners have made a number of changes, the integrity of the house site remains intact. It still sits on its original location and one can see why Roderick McIntosh would have chosen this particular location to settle. The flood plain is wide and fertile, the water channel was a transportation corridor and the setting is idyllic. Across the creek the land rises up forming the hills that typify eastern Kentucky. The location was perfect for both farming and commerce, in the form of selling goods to people going up or down the creek. The feeling of the setting has not been diminished by the changes made to the house.

On the McIntosh House site are several non-contributing structures: a log corn crib, a partial log barn, a modern house near Dry Hill-McIntosh Road, some worm fencing, a lean-to equipment shed, a pond, and a covered picnic table. The barn and the corn crib were on the property when the present owners obtained it but the date of their construction is unknown. The present owner reconstructed them both from materials he found "on the ground." The other non-contributing elements, except the modern house, were built by the present owners. The construction or reconstruction of the outbuildings and fences did not require any earth moving. Therefore except for the modern house, the covered picnic table, and the pond, the natural landscape remains much as it would have appeared in the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century. This is important as archaeological investigation would probably yield considerable information about the farmstead and its early occupants.

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McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky

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The McIntosh house is significant under criteria A and C. Under criterion A it is significant within the context, Exploration and Settlement of Kentucky 1780-1820 and under criterion C it is a good example of settlement period log architecture in Leslie County.

**Criterion A) Exploration and Settlement of Eastern Kentucky, 1780-1830**

The settlement of Eastern Kentucky cannot be considered with the earliest movements in the state, yet many of those first explorers went through the Appalachian region en route to the Bluegrass, the part of Kentucky with the earliest settlement. The settlement of the area in what is now Leslie County began in the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century during the National Period of American history and early statehood period for Kentucky.

For the Bluegrass Cultural Landscape, 1780-1820 defines the Exploration and Settlement era of that region of Kentucky. For this context in Eastern Kentucky the settlement era has been extended ten years to 1780-1830. This is based on the formation of counties in the region, where 14 were formed between 1799 and 1825, when these political units reached a certain stability. It would be 14 years before another one would be created. During this period the population of eastern Kentucky was less than 10 percent of the overall state population. But at the same time it grew steadily, an indication of a continuous influx of people into the region.<sup>1</sup>

Appalachian economic development prior to the beginning of this century and the influx of outside capital is often characterized as subsistence agriculture. However, recent studies indicate otherwise. Tyrel G. Moore in his work on economic development in Appalachian Kentucky concludes: "Economic development in eastern Kentucky during the 1800s was more diverse and complex than has been generally recognized. Well defined sub-regional economic patterns were clearly established by 1850 within an economy based on agriculture and local salt, iron and coal resources."<sup>2</sup>

The records available for Roderick McIntosh and his Cutshin Creek property, lend credence to Moore's findings. According to local and family legend Roderick McIntosh came to the confluence of Cutshin and McIntosh Creeks sometime between 1795 and 1800. On the initial visit he staked his claim to the land. Sometime later, traditions says between 1800 and 1810, he moved his family there and built the cabin. While all of this may be true, the earliest records that have turned up to date are the Clay County Tax Rolls (Part of Clay County became Perry County in 1820 and became Leslie County in 1878). Roderick McIntosh shows up on the tax rolls in 1816. He is listed as living on or near Cutshin Creek and taxed

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McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky

Section 8 Page 2

for 50 acres of land and two horses. By 1825 his holdings increased and the county taxed him for 150 acres of land, one slave, and two horses. The 1825 holdings are listed in the Perry County Tax Rolls. Roderick McIntosh is also listed in the Perry County records as one of the first magistrates of that County. The 1836 tax assessment shows that the McIntosh estate had grown to 200 acres, six horses, ten cows and a slave. Census records only show a Roderick McIntosh in 1860, somehow he avoided the earlier counts. In 1860 he lists his holdings as 700 acres, one slave, two horses, 15 cows and 25 hogs. For the census taker McIntosh valued his real estate at \$1700 and his personal estate at \$1000. This is the record of a pioneer who began as a very modest land owner and turned his initial 50 acres into a sizable estate.

Moore's conclusion is that " Economic diversity, rather than homogeneity imposed by isolation, was characteristic of eastern Kentucky between 1800 and 1860. Opportunities provided by proximity to markets and a varied resource base created a diverse economic landscape."<sup>3</sup> An examination of the tax records indicates that Roderick McIntosh steadily increased his holdings and worth over several decades. It is doubtful that he would have been able to do this by practicing subsistence agriculture. His proximity to a transportation network, e.g. Cutshin Creek, that flows into the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River, could have allowed him to ship agricultural or other products out of the area or even engage in commerce with other people who moved up and down the water system. Unfortunately, the record does not indicate how he earned his income, only that his livestock holdings increased over time as did his land and tax rates.

**Criterion C) A good example of settlement log architecture**

Whether Roderick McIntosh built his house in 1809 or as late as 1816, when he first appears on the tax rolls, is not a significant difference. If he built the cabin in 1816, it would still be the oldest known standing structure in Leslie County by some 20 years. Of the nine log structures found in Leslie County during a 1990 survey only four were built in the Nineteenth Century; the McIntosh House (LS-35/2), the Morgan Homestead (LS-11/22), the John Shell House (LS-4) and the Maggard Cabin (LS-52).

Of the four oldest log structures three are saddlebag houses, one is a log two story I house. One of three saddlebag houses, the John Shell House (LS-4) is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Shell House has a steep central stairway in the opening between the pens that goes to the loft. This is not a central passageway, the chimney blocks it in as is typical in saddlebag houses.



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The McIntosh House is set up differently. It has a stairway in the older pen and a ladder in the smaller pen that goes to separate entrances in the loft. The pens of the McIntosh House are nearly the same size and height giving the house a symmetrical look. One pen of the Shell House is much taller than the other; in fact the inside gable of the taller pen is as high as the chimney and can be seen clearly from the ground. The McIntosh House has a common roof, an arrangement only possible on the Shell House by raising or lowering of the walls of one pen. The Maggard Cabin also a saddlebag, is smaller than the McIntosh House, with two pens approximately the same size (14 x 14 feet). The Maggard Cabin only has the one central chimney, and is a fairly typical example of what Henry Glassie calls the "formative saddlebag house." The other two houses described here also conform to Glassie's definition, they are just not so close to his model. Henry Glassie and William Montell both recognize the saddlebag house as an early settlement house type.'

The Morgan Homestead is a two story I house. Unlike the McIntosh, Maggard, and Shell Houses this structure has two full floors and was originally built that way. The double pen I house is made of hand hewn logs and has stone chimneys on either end. While it is similar to the McIntosh House in construction material it is a totally different type of house. Both pens were built at the same time, from the beginning the house was conceived to be a double pen two story structure.

The Leslie County survey, while selective, only revealed four nineteenth century log houses. While they demonstrate certain similarities they also are all distinct in many ways. The John Shell House has already been placed on the National Register and the other three appear eligible. These log buildings are not only important as representatives of pioneer dwellings, but they are also valuable for their research potential. What could these buildings tell us about the people who built them and why they were built is as important as the buildings themselves. Leslie County only has four structures from its earliest period of European habitation. The McIntosh House could potentially tell us a great deal about those early settlers. A brief examination of the records has shown how Roderick McIntosh's estate grew from a 50 acre homestead to a 700 acre estate worth \$2700 in less than fifty years. Questions remain: how did McIntosh's estate grow; how did he acquire the additional land; was he strictly a farmer or did he engage in commerce; what other structures were on the estate? A more in-depth study of the primary resources would answer some of these questions. An archaeological investigation of the McIntosh property might also turn up evidence of out buildings as well as other remains of human habitation that would help that would in the understanding of how the early settlers lived.

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A recent study by Tyrel G. Moore offers a different view of Appalachian trade activity from the traditional view dominated by subsistence farming, trapping and gathering. Moore believes that the Appalachian economy was much more diversified, and in fact there was a good deal of mineral development prior to 1850, albeit on a modest scale. He also holds that livestock production was one of the mainstays of the Appalachian land owner. Moore's thesis is that by the late 1820s a landholder might have over 100 acres but only 20% would be improved farmland, a larger percentage of the unimproved land would be used in livestock production. Roderick McIntosh would seem to fit this model. By 1825 he lists his landholdings at 150 acres, however, there is only the listing of two horses and a slave, no other livestock. In fact there is no livestock listed in the tax records until 1838, when he claims 10 cows, and no swine listed until 1860. Livestock is likely not mentioned in the listing because other than horses, nothing else was taxed.<sup>5</sup>

If McIntosh was indeed raising either cattle or swine, he could have gotten them to market in one of two ways: cure them using salt produced locally or driven them upstream to a road or a major landing for shipment to the Bluegrass or Ohio River. A more in depth study of the McIntosh farm might help us determine how Roderick McIntosh made a living on his eastern Kentucky farm. An archaeological investigation would not only reveal the remains of outbuildings but also could determine salt content of the soil that could indicate if McIntosh was curing meat on a large scale or merely for family consumption. Data from a subsurface investigation would go a long way toward proving or refuting Moore's thesis, plus would give us valuable insight regarding settlement era farmsteads in eastern Kentucky.

The present owner of the McIntosh House says that there was a store below the house near the ford. Evidence of this has not appeared in the written records to date. Did Roderick McIntosh engage in commerce, did he slaughter and cure animals for shipment up the creek, or to be driven to other parts of the state or region? The records indicate that he had a large number of cows and pigs, by 1860. The barn on the property was there when the present owner acquired it, but it had been razed, and since reconstructed. The McIntosh House could help substantiate new theory concerning Appalachian economic development. By probing the subsurface remains it could be determined if McIntosh was merely engaged in subsistence agriculture or if the nature of the activities along Cutshin Creek were much more diversified and complex.

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1. Christine Amos, Bluegrass Cultural Landscape, (Heritage Council Context Draft, 1988), p. 11. and Kentucky Department of Commerce, Kentucky: Deskbook of Economic Statistics, (Frankfort, 1975), pp. 2-7.

2. Tyrel G. Moore, "Economic development in Appalachian, 1800-1860" in Appalachian Frontiers: Settlement, Society and Development in the Preindustrial Era ed. Robert D. Mitchell (Lexington, Ky., 1991). p. 222.

3. Ibid. p. 234.

4. Henry Glassie, The Types of Southern Mountain Cabin, in Jan Harold Breenwand, The Study of American Folklore (New York, 1968) and William Lynwood Montell and Michael Lynn Morse, Kentucky Folk Architecture (Lexington, Ky, 1976).

5. Moore, Economic Development, pp. 223-234.

1NPS Form 10-900-a  
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OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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National Park Service

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McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky

Section number: Photography

For All Photographs

Nomination: McIntosh, Roderick, Farm  
Leslie County, Kentucky  
Negative Location: Kentucky Heritage Council  
677 Comanche Trail, Frankfort  
Date Taken: 1990  
Photographer: Joseph E. Brent

Photo Number

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | McIntosh Cabin, side view, looking west  |
| 2 | McIntosh Cabin, front view, looking north  |
| 3 | McIntosh Cabin, rear view, looking south   |
| 4 | McIntosh Cabin, side view, looking west  |
| 5 | McIntosh Cabin, central door, note square notching on left and V notching on the right |
| 6 | McIntosh Cabin, front and side view, looking northeast                                 |