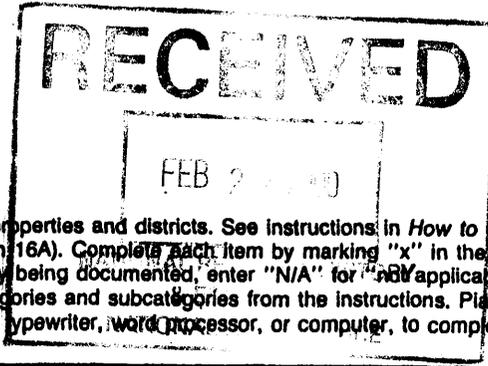


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



209

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name MC CLASKEY, NEWELL B., HOUSE

other names/site number MC CLASKEY HOUSE (NE-90)

2. Location

street & number 1795 Highway 1066 NA  not for publication

city or town Bloomfield  vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Nelson code 90 zip code 40008-0101

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan, SHPO  
and Executive Director  
2-11-2000  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office/Kentucky Heritage Council  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

3/24/00  
Date of Action

MC CLASKEY, NEWELL B., HOUSE

Nelson, KY

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	6	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	6	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

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)

Federal/Greek Revival

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Composition Shingle

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1835

Significant Dates

1835

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Batchelder, George: builder (attributed)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

See 9-1

MC CLASKEY, NEWELL B., HOUSE  
Name of Property

Nelson, KY  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 5 ACRES

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 51960 4198500  
Zone Easting Northing

BLOOMFIELD  
QUAD

3           
Zone Easting Northing

4         

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rondell Jacobs

organization Self date November, 1999

street & number 1795 Highway 1066 telephone (502) 252-7209

city or town Bloomfield state KY zip code 40008-0101

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Rondell Jacobs

street & number 1795 Highway 1066 telephone (502) 252-7209

city or town Bloomfield state KY zip code 40008-0101

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
Nelson County, KY

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### NEWELL B. MC CLASKEY HOUSE NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Newell B. Mc Claskey House (NE-90) is located in northeastern Nelson County, Kentucky, in the Jack Creek area, outside of Bloomfield. This area is rolling farmland in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. The house is located thirteen miles from the county seat, Bardstown, a small town of 29,000 people. The dwelling sits in a yard of about five acres, facing south, in clear view of the road. An old brick smokehouse and brick slave quarters remain in the yard. Other nearby buildings have disappeared, including icehouse, hen house, coalhouse and outhouse. Some nineteenth century trees also remain in the yard. There was a large Civil War encampment ground across the road from the house.

This imposing Federal-era house with Greek Revival stylistic influences, consists of a circa 1835 main block with a frame ell added prior to the Civil War, circa 1850. The 1835 section is a well preserved two-and-one-half story house that may be attributed to local architect-builder George Batchelder. Batchelder was working in the area at this time, having built the nearby Walnut Grove House (NE-60) on Highway 55 near Turkey Creek. Batchelder started working in this area around 1815 and continued nearly forty years.

This house displays excellent workmanship in its common bond brickwork on façade with a row of headers every five rows on the other walls. The roof is gabled with composition shingles and the foundation is brick. A cellar with a fireplace exists under the room on the left with a crawl space under the room to the right.

The symmetrical façade of the house contains five bays with a fenestration pattern of two windows on each side of the entrance. The house is two piles deep in profile. A two story front portico with a pediment roof graces this house. The portico consists of two one-story stacked units. Each level of the portico has six large square columns made of poplar. Connecting the columns to the house and each other are wooden railings with square wooden spindles. This house has six over six pane windows. Transoms and sidelights surround each of the two front doors. The front doors are fifty-four inches wide:

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
Nelson County, KY

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The first floor portico has a single piece of limestone for the floor, as do the three steps. This limestone was quarried and brought to the property from nearby Nazareth, Kentucky. Oxen and a cart hauled the pieces here. The wheels that were on this cart were laying in a field on this property until about ten years ago. This information was passed via oral history in the Mc Claskey family. C.T. Mc Claskey relayed it to me.

Jack arches over the windows and two entrances with six paneled doors complete the façade. The house features interior gable-end chimneys with two diminutive gable windows at each end. The thickness of the brick wall is 18-20 inches, or four brick.

The Federal section contains the original four rooms, two below and two above. Entrance is into an unusually wide spacious living hall, from which a staircase ascends from the east wall, across a landing at the rear, and continues its ascension up the west wall to a bedroom above. There is a door off the landing leading to a library. The newel post and straight balusters are painted with the hand rail retaining its natural wood finish.

One room is on each side of the entry hall. The room on the west side served as a parlor. The interior window and door frames have "ears," a common feature of the Greek Revival style. There is a simple Federal mantel in this room.

To the east of the entry hall a second room may have served as a bedroom or even as a dining room. This room had a federal mantel and a wallpress, which were removed during a rehabilitation in the late thirties or early forties. While restoring the house recently this author saw evidence of these items, in the form of ghostmarks, but the whereabouts of the mantel and press currently is unknown.

The interior doors are faux grained, which is original to the house. The doors have four panels. They are in exceptionally good condition. The flooring in the house is all original random width boards. The four rooms have poplar floors and the halls have ash floors.

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Nelson County, KY

The frame ell was added in about 1850. The rear first and second floor porches were enclosed and a room up and one down were added. At the same time a porch was added to each side and one across the back. The west porch was later enclosed, forming a room. The east porch has remained open. Shortly prior to World War II the back porch was turned into a kitchen.

The east porch has some fret work which was made with hand tools. The rear ell has brackets supporting the roof cornice on the east side.

The ell contains an 8 x 22 feet hall with chair rail and wainscoting. There is a keeping room, kitchen, library and bedroom.

The brick smokehouse is located fifty feet north of the home. The roof was pyramidal prior to its collapse. There is a wooden door facing south. The floor is dirt and a smoking pit has been filled in.

The slave quarters is brick, with a gabled tin roof. There are two entrances, one to each room. Above these rooms is a sleeping loft, which is accessed by a ladder in the north room. The east wall has a six over six window in each room. This building features interior gable end chimneys, with two diminutive gable windows at each end.

Two late nineteenth century barns are located east of the domestic complex. One barn was built over a large log barn. The log barn is fully visible from the interior. The other barn is of a smaller size and has a partial stone foundation.

There are two corn cribs, circa 1860-80. One has storage above, perhaps, for lumber and hay. This building also could have served as a carriage house, by its covered central drive.

The second corn crib is rectangle in shape and was used for storing grain. Each corn crib is elevated on limestone piles.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
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The brick smokehouse and brick slave quarters, because of their obscure origin, cannot be said to contribute to our understanding and appreciation of the architectural significance of the Newell B. Mc Claskey House. It has been included within the area proposed for nomination, but as non-contributing buildings. If it is further revealed that the buildings were conceived and constructed simultaneously with the Newell B. Mc Claskey House, then these buildings should then change from non-contributing to contributing after additional documentation of the facts have been submitted to the National Register and added to this nomination. The same applies to the two barns and the two corncribs.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
Nelson County, KY

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### MC CLASKEY, NEWELL B., HOUSE

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFIGANCE

The Newell B. Mc Claskey House (NE-90) meets National Register Criterion C. The residence is eligible because it embodies the distinct characteristics of a type and period of construction. The circa 1835 house is a well preserved member of the group of Nelson County two-and-one-half story Federal-era houses that may be attributed to architect-builder George Batchelder.

#### HISTORIC CONTEXT: FEDERAL-ERA ARCHITECTURE IN RURAL NELSON COUNTY

Nelson County, located in the Bluegrass region, was one of the earliest settled areas in the state. Most settlers came from Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. The Virginia Legislature formed Nelson County from part of Jefferson County in 1784. Farming has traditionally provided the economic foundation of the county, as the land is exceptionally rich. Hemp, corn and wheat were the early cash crops. The production of whisky was also important. This is significant within the historic context, "Nelson County Agriculture 1820-1881," and builds upon the overview presented in "Historic Nelson County, Its Town and People."

#### SURVEY AND REGISTRATION OF NELSON COUNTY ARCHITECTURE

In 1978 the Kentucky Heritage Council and the State Historic Preservation Office undertook a survey of Nelson County. That project resulted in the recording of four hundred sites. One of these sites was the Newell B. Mc Claskey House (NE-90). The surveyors were able to document a group of stylistically important houses in the Bloomfield area. These listings taken from that survey provide adequate perspective to make comparisons for the purpose of evaluating the Newell B. Mc Claskey House.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
Nelson County, KY

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SITE NUMBER	NAME	DATE OF LISTING
NE-89	Allen House	1978
NE-88	Gray House	1978
NE-103	Bishop House	1978
NE-39	Dawson House	1978
NE-64	Walnut Grove	1978
NE-59	Dr. Micajah Glasscock House	1978
NE-105	Duncan Hall	1978

### DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL ARCHITECTURE

The refinement of the Federal-era styling in Nelson County is characterized by a façade executed in finely laid common bond brick work with jackarches or flat arches over the openings. The side and rear elevations of Nelson County Federal houses were often executed in American bond with a header course every five rows, however a few dwellings exhibit common bond brick work on all walls. The majority of Federal-era houses in the county exhibit a central passage plan, rise two-and-one-half stories, and are double pile in profile. Interior appointments include the use of chair railings, wall presses and paneled doors.

During this time the Greek temple form was revered as the symbol of the ancient roots of democracy. The lofty ideals it embodied were a paradigm for the newborn American democracy, and its architectural motifs were appropriated. The resulting Greek Revival style was adapted to most of the buildings. The four soaring columns and classical pediment of this house are purely Southern expression of America's early nineteenth-century passion for classical forms. Denticulation on the pediment and cornices attractively delineates the lines of the house.

One of the more important builder-architect in this area was George Batchelder. Born in New York, he moved to Kentucky in the early 1800s. Originally he had come to this area to work on the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. The following have been attributed to him, including the Walnut Grove House (NE-64), the Duncan Hall (NE-165), the Dr. Micajah Glasscock House (NE-89) and the Gray House (NE-88). Most

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
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are two story, five bays with some Greek Revival influences. Some features in houses attributed to him, discussed below, appear in the Newell B. Mc Claskey House. These leads to the belief he was the designer and/or builder, as well as the view that the Newell B. Mc Claskey House is significant because it represents the work of master craftsmen.

Batcheldor's work was characterized by exceptionally fine common bond brickwork and framed with transom and sidelights. Most houses built by George Batcheldor have a central passage plan and are double pile. Most have a symmetrical five bay façade. The Newell B. Mc Claskey House (NE-90) has a five bay façade, transom and sidelights, double pile and central passage.

### THE NEWELL B. MC CLASKEY HOUSE – CIRCA 1835

The Newell B. Mc Claskey House (NE-90) compares favorably to other Batcheldor houses in the survey, and may reflect earlier work of this builder than previously identified. Batcheldor was working in the area at this time, having built the nearby Walnut Grove House (NE-64) on Highway 55. The house displays excellent workmanship in its common bond brickwork and the entrances with transoms and sidelights. Probably the elements that most lead one to suspect the house is Batcheldor-built are the entrances with sidelights and transoms, as well as the Greek influences and the symmetrical style of the house. These contribute to the feeling of simple elegance characteristic of fine Federal-era work and complete the effect of the house like other houses built by Batcheldor.

Information about the Newell B. Mc Claskey family disclosed in a search of published documents and literature revealed a considerable amount of information about the family (Deed Books, Will Books, Birth and Death information, Census and newspapers articles). Newell B. Mc Claskey and his family were early settlers of the county. They cleared land, built homes, farmed, began small industry (a distillery), supported the growth of early churches in the area and raised their families. In 1829 Newell B. Mc Claskey acquired almost seven hundred acres of land. It was this parcel of land that the house, which has become known as the Newell B. Mc Claskey house (NE-90), was erected. It is presumed to have been built for Newell B. Mc Claskey. Following

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
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the death of Newell B. Mc Claskey in 1865, the house and land were willed to his widow, Nancy Bodine Mc Claskey. After her death in 1880, she willed it to her children, with a stipulation that her sons care for her faithful slave, Harsick.

Succeeding owners of the Newell B. Mc Claskey House include the children and their heirs until 1938. D. L. Huston and William Wickham sold it to J. Graham Brown, owner of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1944. Mr. Brown in turn sold it to Ralph and Margaret Burgin on February 02, 1947. Margaret Burgin sold it to a Laurin Wathen in 1990. Mrs. Wathen sold the house to Rondell and Joyce Jacobs, who are present owners. The Jacobs acquired the house on July 11, 1991.

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Nelson County, KY

MC CLASKEY, NEWELL B., HOUSE

NELSON, KENTUCKY

## SOURCES

Nelson County Deed Book: 288, p. 303  
281, p. 208  
118, p. 13  
113, p. 527  
112, p. 544  
96, p. 114  
18, p. 121  
19, p. 93

Nelson County Births: Newell B. 04-11-1806  
Nancy B. 08-03-1807

Nelson County Deaths: Newell B. 07-19-1865  
Nancy B. 04-12-80

Nelson County Wills: Newell B. 08-08-1865  
Nancy B. 05-10-1880

Nelson County Marriages: Newell B. and Nancy B. Mc Claskey 10-28-1829.

Census, 1829 Nelson County, Kentucky.

Mr. Charles T Mc Claskey, Great-grandson of Newell B. Mc Claskey.

Sarah B. Smith, Historic Nelson County, Its Towns and People, 1982.

Nelson County Record, 1890.

State Gazetteers, 1890.

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Atlas, 1882

Surveys, Kentucky Heritage Council.

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Mc Claskey, Newell B., House  
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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property proposed for listing is a rectangle on the Nelson County Property Valuation Map 78, Parcel 22. There are five acres. (See attached map) Scale: 1 inch equals 660 feet

### VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated area has been selected to provide an appropriate setting to recognize the architectural value of the Newell B. Mc Claskey House. The boundary, also, is restricted to the acreage known to be historic. The acreage proposed for listing has surrounded the house from the time of construction. Research has revealed the course of the original driveway that runs through the property's front yard. This driveway was between two lime stone columns which leads to the front porch of the house. The entrance is through the stone wall, whose walls curve to make the entrance.

The current driveway was also cut in with the stone wall forming an entrance. This driveway is believed to have been used by farm equipment. This driveway is also believed to be original due to indentation in the stone wall.