

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0680338

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RECEIVED JUL 25 1978  
DATE ENTERED NOV 15 1978

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

Miller's Run Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

*roughly bounded by Old Oxford Pike, KY922, US 400 and Miller's Run*

CITY, TOWN

Oxford

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

STATE

VICINITY OF  
CODE  
021

COUNTY  
Scott

CODE  
209

Kentucky

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

See Continuation Sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Scott County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown,

STATE  
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Miller's Run Historic District, encompassing a rural area of approximately 870 acres, is located in close proximity to Miller's Run, one of four major tributaries of North Elkhorn Creek that enter the Creek in the vicinity of Georgetown, in Scott County, Kentucky. Georgetown, the county seat is some 15 miles northwest of Lexington.

The district contains eight historic structures, encompassing a variety of building materials-- brick, stone and log. Tenant houses and barns are the only recent intrusions.

Miller's Run is used as a boundary where feasible because of its relation geographically and historically to the eight buildings included in the nomination. Newtown Pike serves, partially, as the eastern boundary, allowing sufficient land to the east of Buildings 2, 3, and 4 to maintain site integrity; U.S. 460 being selected as the southern extent for the same reason in its relation to Buildings 1, 2, 3. Old Oxford Pike, an historic road running to the south of Buildings 7 and 8, and related visually and historically to the residences, is used partially as the northern boundary.

The properties described below are numbered in accordance with the sketch map.

(1) John Andrew Miller House (see photo 1) is located on a low rise one hundred and fifty yards north of U.S. 460, two miles east of Georgetown. This residence is a combination of a three-bay, one and one-half story log structure covered with beaded weather-boarding which became a wing to a three-bay, two and one-half story stone house. Both date from the late 18th century but have nineteenth century alterations. (For further information see John Andrew Miller House, listed on the National Register November 9, 1977).

Recently restoration on the house was initiated by the present owners. Work was halted, however, when the City of Georgetown announced its intention to erect a dam on Miller's Run for an enlarged city water supply. The owners fear the event of the breaking of the dam, as well as intrusions resulting from the agricultural neighborhood's being transformed into a recreational area.

(2) James D. Offutt House (see photo 2) is an elaborate log house, partially covered with clapboard, facing U.S. 460 from the north near the road's intersection with Ky. 922 (Newton Pike). The older section appears to be the one and one-half story wing, the main facade of which is pierced by a door near the end wall and one opening near the center. There are two dormers in the roof and a large exterior stone chimney on the end opposite the entrance. An ell with a gabled roof is appended to the rear of this section.

Arranged symmetrically the main block of the house is two stories high and three bays wide. Like the other section, notching is half dovetail. The central entrance (boarded over) is flanked by double -hung, six-over-six pane windows, while identical openings pierce the second floor facade. A smaller aperture is directly above the entrance. A gabled roof portico which apparently sheltered the front entrance has been removed. Exterior stone chimneys topped in brick are located on either end, and the house is set on a low foundation of stone. Originally a central passage house, the rear door opposite the front entrance has been blocked off.

(continued)

# 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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Miller's Run Historic District encompasses an area along one of the major tributaries of North Elkhorn Creek in rural Scott County which retains many of the structures associated with local figures important in the settlement of this section of the county. A variety of materials were employed in the construction of these residences which are representative of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century architectural styles found in Kentucky.

Miller's Run flows into North Elkhorn about three miles east of Georgetown. The North Elkhorn watershed has been almost legendary in its unrivaled beauty since it was first discovered by surveyors in the summer of 1774. The Fincastle County, Virginia, surveying party led by John Floyd arrived in the Elkhorn country in June of that year. The scribe for the group, Thomas Hanson, whose accounts of areas already passed through were objective, suddenly became a romanticist, "All the land passed over today," he wrote on June 30, "is like a paradise, it is so good and beautiful. . . . The land is so good I cannot give it due praise" (Draper Manuscript 24 CC 1-40, p. 4).

Miller's Run was first named for John Andrew Miller, a Pennsylvania explorer who came into the area in 1775 and claimed the land at the mouth of Miller's Run and for some 1,000 acres around it (see the John Andrew Miller House, Scott County, Kentucky, listed on the National Register November 9, 1977). Miller came with a group from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, that also included William Laine or Lane, who named Lane's Run, to the west of Miller's Run; and Moses Cherry, who named Cherry Run just east of Miller's Run.

The proposed district includes land grants claimed by John Andrew Miller, Charles Whitacre, Abraham Whitacre, Stephen Archer, Robert Johnson, John Boyd, and James Arnold. As early title records are not available, it is only certain that the home of Miller is standing today. However, the Whitacre brothers may have been the builders of the two "twin" stone houses north of the Miller house.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 870 acres

UTM REFERENCES A. latitude  $38^{\circ} 15' 17.5''$

longitude  $84^{\circ} 28' 50''$

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1, 6	71, 7 9, 8, 0	4, 2 3, 2 8, 5, 0

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	1, 6	71, 7 8, 6, 0	4, 2 3, 6 8, 6, 0

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The southeast corner of the district is marked by the northwest corner of the intersection of Ky. 922 (Newtown Pike) and U.S. 460. The district boundary proceeds northwest along Newtown Pike approximately 1 1/2 miles, then crosses Newtown Pike so as to include the Thomas Barlow House and follows the ridgeline behind the Thomas Barlow House encompassing approximately nine acres of that property again. Then crossing Newton Pike again, the boundary runs in a northwesterly direction for approximately 3000 feet following the natural contours of the land

(continue)

### 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

Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian;

Mrs. Ann Bevins, Scott County Representative; Gloria Mills, Historian;

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

February 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

564-3741

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

*Eduard W. Yelton*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 7/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST:

*Bill Beltrouch*

DATE

11/13/78

DATE

12/14/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Dr. and Mrs. W. N. Offutt IV, 336 East Main Street, Georgetown, KY 40324

Mr. Charles Sturgill, Mr. Thomas C. Sturgill, Route 1, Paris Pike, Georgetown

Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Bradley, West Main Street, Georgetown

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Nash, East Main Street, Georgetown

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McMillin, Mr. and Mrs. Pat McMillin, Route 1, Leesburg  
Pike, Georgetown

Miss Farris Cleveland, Mrs. Emily Puckett, c/o Miss Cleveland, Mintwood,  
Paynes Depot Pike, Route 3, Georgetown

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7

PAGE

2

Woodwork is a mixture of the very early, the geometric and the Greek Revival, representing several "transformations" by various owners. The owners do have plans to restore the structure some time in the future.

(3) The slave cabin (see photo 3) located northeast of the house has been restored and enlarged by the present owners. The original five-bay structure was a two-room cabin with a large chimney, built on the saddlebag plan. The owners developed their present living and dining room from the log section, utilizing the original fireplace and floors. The roof was raised and wings were added. A large stone fireplace with a handsomely executed keystone arch was exposed. Woodwork and flooring accurate to the period were installed in all additions. Covered with weatherboarding painted gray, the main section is entered through a central door sheltered by a one-story portico featuring a pediment supported by four slender columns. The three-bay modern brick wing consists of an exterior stone chimney on the gable end flanked by small windows and two dormers on the main facade.

(4) Richard H. Keene House (see photo 4) is one of a pair of two-story, five-bay stone houses on Miller's Run. The Keene house is the least disturbed with alterations of the two, and is in very fine condition. The house has two chimneys set partially outside the gable end walls and a two-story ell, two rooms deep and two bays wide in the rear. Flat arches with keystones are set over the pegged windows, all of which now have two-over-two pane sash. However, the original panes would appear to have numbered nine-over-six on the first level and six-over-six on the second floor since the downstairs openings are deeper.

A door which once led to a balcony over the main entrance was created from the upstairs central window. Floors are ash, and a large stairway leads from the far end of the entrance hall.

(5) Shannon-Herndon House (see photo 5) consists of a five-bay, two-story facade with exterior chimneys similar to those on the Keene House. An additional feature is the one-story, two-bay wing. The keystone detail, eight-panel twin front doors, and five-pane transom give the house a slightly more sophisticated appearance than its neighbor. Like its "twin," its original sash was nine-over-six downstairs, and six-over-six upstairs. Logs exposed in the roof construction as well as the sleepers in the basement retain their bark. Some of the woodwork bears the marks of a Greek Revival modification.

The house is in serious need of restoration, which is contemplated by the son and grandchildren of the present owner.

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(6) Thomas Barlow House (see photo 6) is a two-story, five-bay brick structure laid in Flemish bond on the west facade, facing Ky. 922 (Newtown Pike) from the east. Built in 1813, its stark facade and plain cornice do not speak of the delicacy of the interior carving on the window jambs, chair railing and mantels which are emblematic of the mid-1810s. Ash floors have been retained as well as the closeted stairways in either end of the house. The attic is finished and there is a full basement. The pegged windows, originally numbering nine-over-six downstairs and six-over-six on the second floor, are all capped with splayed jack arches. Wide chimneys are set inside the gable end walls. The present owners hope to restore the house sometime in the future.

(7) John H. Keene House (see photo 7) facing south toward the Old Oxford Pike, is a trim five-bay, one and one-half story brick dwelling with exterior chimneys on the gable end walls. Its central door is sheltered by a pedimented portico supported by four square piers of wood. Floors are ash and poplar, and the room on the right of the entrance hall is floored with brilliant striped wide-plank poplar boards. Woodwork is of the Greek Revival period. There is a frame ell and a root cellar in the back yard. The house is in excellent condition, and except for the replacement of a fireplace has been little altered.

(8) Beatty-Chinn House (see photo 8) is the only property on the Old Oxford Pike's northwest side included in the Miller's Run district, as the other buildings are on farms watered by Lane's Run and are included in the Lane's Run Historic District. This particular piece of property is watered by a branch of Miller's Run.

This five-bay brick structure laid in Flemish bond is believed to have been constructed ca. 1830. The one and one-half story, L-shaped dwelling features two interior chimneys on the gable ends. Attractive detailing adorns the windows, doors, stairs, and mantels. The front door with three-pane transom has graceful notches in the corner panels, while the casing employs a delicate geometric pattern and concentric circle corner blocks. In recent years windows have been boarded up by the owner for protection.

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The historic residences within the boundaries of this district are the following:

(1) John Andrew Miller House is one of the oldest houses in central Kentucky, both sections dating from the mid-1780s. Miller was a leading figure in the development of Scott County, being one of the militiamen who came into the Elkhorn country in the fall and winter of 1775. It was he who gave Miller's Run its name. In 1807 he and his wife Jane sold the house and 550 acres to Jeremiah Tarleton. Tarleton died in 1833, and the farm was bought by Billy C. Graves, and enterprising farmer who made the "improvements," including the portico to the house. *NR*

(3)

(2) The James D. Offutt House and Slave Cabin, around which James D. Offutt, one of the more enterprising landowners of his day, built his estate may have been constructed by William Henry (a major developer of that part of Scott County), William Berry, John Pickett, or Shadrach Penn, from whom Offutt purchased tracts which were in accumulated form when surveyed in 1817.

(4) Richard H. Keene House is one of a pair of two-story, five-bay stone houses on Miller's Run which are believed to have been originally owned by the Whitacre brothers, Charles and Abraham--the latter having been the one who held the land grant. However, Scott County records indicate the first definite ownership as being that of Richard H. Keene.

During the 1830s John H. Keene purchased the interest of several Keene heirs, with those of Richard and Benedict being on record, in a 200 acre farm on Miller's Run which contained the stone house. This he deeded in 1844 to Charles Herndon, who sold it to Jabez Risk, and he, in turn, to Andrew Wilson. Walter Tisdale acquired the farm in 1864. (See also John H. Keene House, #7).

(5) Shannon-Herndon House is believed by Oxford area historian Charles Egbert to have been built by Charles Whitacre, who with his brothers, Aquila, Abraham, and James, explored and made land claims in the area in 1775 and 1776. The brothers are sparsely represented in available county records.

The farm was sold as part of a 273 acre farm in 1806 to Joseph Herndon by George Shannon. John, Zachariah and Joseph Herndon owned it before 1818 when the property was bought by Harvey Miller. It was sold and resold several times before its purchase in 1862 by John A. Carrick. Since that time the structure has been owned by the Carrick, Ware, and Nash families.

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(6) The Thomas Barlow House was built in 1813 on land purchased by Thomas Barlow from Stephen Archer. Barlow, born in 1760, was a son of Henry Barlow, who had served at Yorktown with General Marquis de Lafayette, and who had come to central Kentucky and Scott County with his family in 1790. The Thomas Barlows returned to Scott County after living for a while in Nicholas County.

According to a biography of Thomas Barlow's son, Dr. William H. Barlow, Thomas H. Barlow, brought the first racehorse into Scott County. According to the account, the horse's name was "Lamplighter."

The most famous member of the family was Thomas H. Barlow, who built a demonstration locomotive and track in 1827, and later developed a self-feeding nail and tack machine, a rifled cannon and a planetarium.

(7) John H. Keene House was built by John H. Keene on a tract which he purchased in 1842 from John Sutphin. The structure faces the Old Oxford Pike, an old buffalo trace, at its intersection with Ky. 922 (Newtown Pike). An early landmark along the Oxford Pike was Archer's Station, which may have occupied the site of this house, according to local historian Charles Egbert, or have been located just east of the Keene House.

(8) The Beatty-Chinn house was probably built around 1830. It was deeded in 1855 by James F. Beatty to William Chinn. Beatty had purchased tracts from the heirs of Andrew Miller in the early 1830s.

Although many of the structures are in disrepair, several owners have expressed an interest in restoration or rehabilitation. However, the district may be somewhat endangered by the fact that Miller's Run has been determined by the Georgetown Water Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the first choice of a water reservoir for the city of Georgetown. The proposed lake would cover about 300 acres of land and would flood one of the eighteenth century stone houses. In addition, an access road for "light recreation" would traverse the area. Furthermore, a gasification plant has recently been proposed for the Georgetown area. This project would rely on the proposed reservoir to supply the additional water needed for its operation. Thus, for the first time in the history of the region, the land would be diverted from residential-agricultural use, and many of the historic or cultural resources of the area would be at least partly destroyed.

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Miller's Run HD, KY

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Verbal Boundary Description: Justification

"The boundary is drawn to identify a historically significant rural area with a concentration of inter-related farm lands and structures, while excluding open areas and recent buildings which do not contribute to the visual cohesiveness or historical significance of the district. The eight buildings specifically discussed in the nomination related chronologically, historically, and visually to Miller's Run in the center of the valley, rather than to outlying lands. Newton Pike on the east provides a convenient boundary between the inter-related operating farm complexes within the district and the unrelated open lands further to the east. Old Oxford Pike on the northwest provides a logical boundary between the Miller's Run area and what will be a forthcoming National Register nomination for "Lane's Run Historic District" further to the west. Miller's Run, the western boundary, divides the operating farms to the east from an area of numerous unsympathetic and recent intrusions further to the west. U.S. 460 provides a logical line of convenience for the southern boundary."

...prepared by Herb Brito, Joe Towner (NR), Gloria Mills, &Charlotte Snyder (SHPO).

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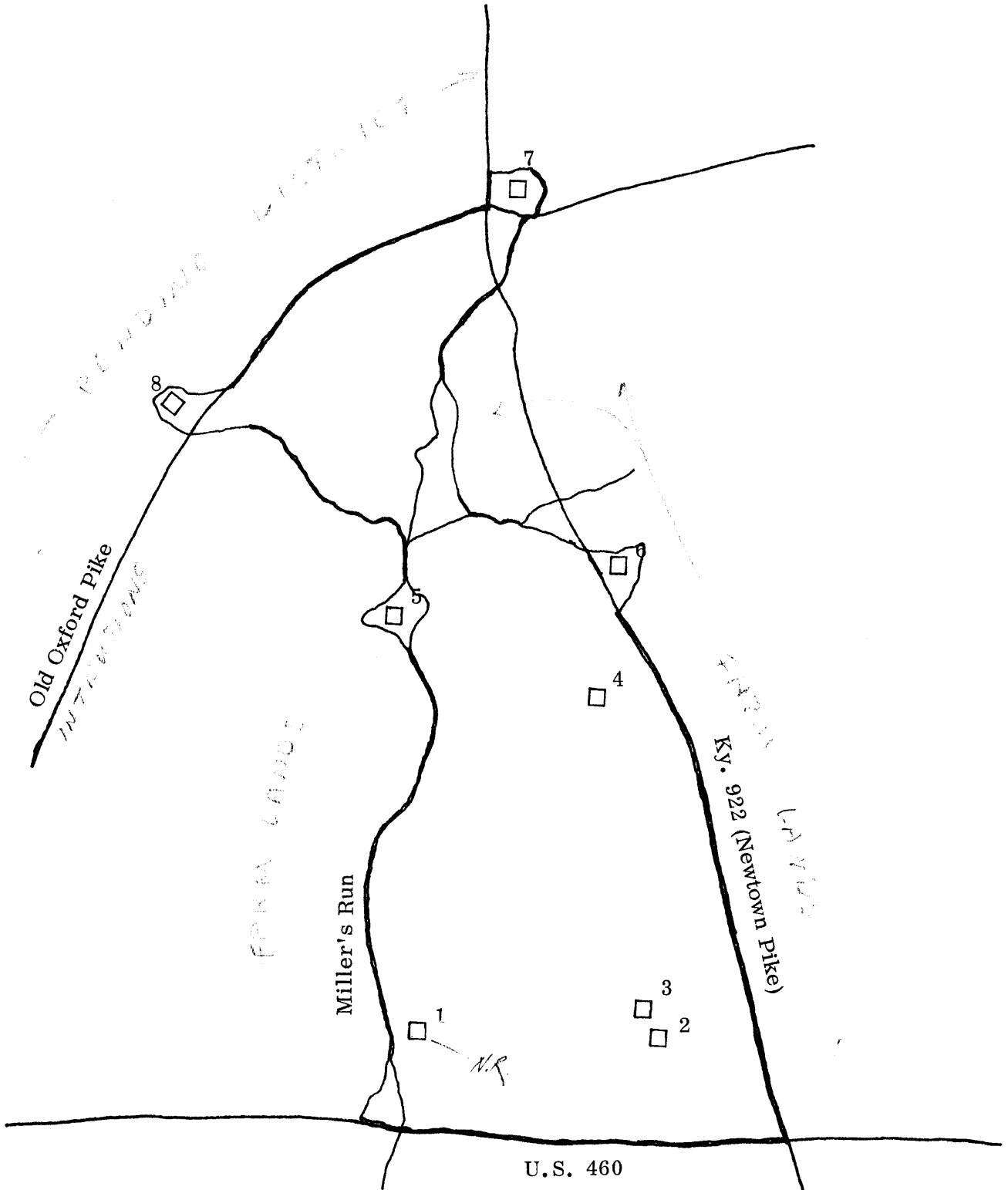
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until it meets Miller's Run. The line follows the east bank of Miller's Run in a northerly direction for approximately 2200 feet, intersecting the Old Oxford Pike and continuing north for another 200 feet, still following Miller's Run. The boundary turns northwest for approximately 300 feet, then west for 600 feet until it meets the Newtown Pike. Turning south, the line follows the east side of Newtown Pike for approximately 500 feet, then crosses the Old Oxford Pike again and proceeds southwest along the south side of the Old Oxford Pike for approximately three-quarters of a mile. Crossing the Old Oxford Pike, the line runs northwest for approximately 400 feet, southwest for approximately 400 feet, then southeast along the fence-line for approximately 400 feet before returning to the Old Oxford Pike. The boundary next proceeds northeast for approximately 900 feet until it joins a tributary of Miller's Run. Running in a southeasterly direction, the line follows the south bank of the tributary for approximately one half mile before joining the main branch of Miller's Run. The boundary then turns south along the west bank of Miller's Run for approximately 800 feet. It then proceeds in a southwesterly direction for approximately 900 feet, then turns east again returning to Miller's Run. The line then continues to follow the west bank of Miller's Run in a southwesterly direction for approximately one-and one-half miles until its intersection with U.S. 460. Turning east along the north side of 460, the line runs for approximately one mile, returning to the original point at the northwest intersection of U.S. 460 and Newtown Pike.



Miller's Run Historic District  
 Scott County  
 Kentucky

Not to scale.

NOTES - J.A.T. 8/21/78

Millers Run Historic District  
Scott County  
Kentucky

Sketch Map NOV 15 1978

Not to scale:

Charlotte Schneider  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
Frankfort, Kentucky

District boundaries outlined in  
red.

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