

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 25 1977
DATE ENTERED AUG 12 1977

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
 AND/OR COMMON
Grasslands (Hornsby House)
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *West Washingtonville*
Clarks Station-Veechdale Road NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN **Finchville** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT **6**
 VICINITY OF **6**
STATE **Kentucky** CODE **021** COUNTY **Shelby** CODE **211**

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input 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
Mr. and Mrs. Murry A. Trumbo
STREET & NUMBER
Route 1

CITY, TOWN **Finchville** VICINITY OF **Kentucky** STATE **Kentucky**

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Shelby County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN **Shelbyville** 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 **104 Bridge Street, Frankfort** STATE **Kentucky** **40601**

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE		CHECK ONE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grasslands (Hornsby House), a modest brick Greek Revival farmhouse, is located off the Clarks Station-Veechdale Road, four miles northeast of the small village of Finchville. The house faces north, and is set back about a half mile from the road. Grasslands is constructed on a slight prominence, with a view of the undulating farmland that surrounds it.

The house is a three-bay two-story brick structure with a one-bay two-story ell off the west side of the rear (south) wall. Attached to the south wall of the ell is a one room frame addition. Interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops are located at the ends of the main block and the south wall of the ell. The brick is laid in common bond on all four sides on an ashlar stone foundation that rises about a foot above ground level. Two small rectangular vents with iron grills are placed in the foundation on the east gable end.

The front entrance, located in the center bay, has narrow four-pane side lights and a transom under a stone lintel. An identical door, except for the absence of the transom, is centered above the front entrance. The windows in the facade have six-over-six pane sash and are flanked by sidelights. Extending across the top of the openings are wide stone lintels with narrow stone sills below. Spanning the facade is a wide wooden cornice which has been pieced together and is decorated with dentils. A one-story porch, supported by paired turned posts with brackets and dentils, frames the three bays. The present porch, added in the late 1800s, replaces the original two-story portico (see photos 1 and 2).

Off the west gable end of the main block is a one-story screened-in porch. In this end there are two doors with transoms placed side by side, one door opening into the northwest parlor, and the other into the ell.

The layout of the interior of the house is based on the two-room central hall plan. The rooms are 18' x 18' with 11' high ceilings. The mantels in the ell and northwest parlor are plain with the bottom of the central panel curved in a slight Tudor arch. The mantel in the northeast parlor was replaced by a turn-of-the-century one that has a reeded shelf supported by paired grooved pilasters.

The stairway, located in the central hall, is a half-turn stair with a full landing. The gooseneck handrail is made of cherry. The stringers are decorated with a hand carved scroll design, while the stringer under the landing is decorated with a carved Gothic arcade (see photos 7 and 8).

The doors throughout the house are composed of six raised panels. The door and window frames have Greek ear moldings, and the first floor doors have a cornice above the entablature, while there are only shallow pediments above the openings on the second floor.

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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/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 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 c. 1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grasslands, located on a rise amidst acres of rolling farmland, is a fine example of mid-19th century vernacular Greek Revival architecture. Although the builder of the house is unknown, it is known that it was built by a member of the Hornsby family. The house was constructed on or near the site of an older house that had been built by Joseph Hornsby (1740-1807), a man of great wealth who was one of the earliest settlers in Shelby County. An unusual stone outbuilding, with a dry cellar and loft, is believed to be a surviving remnant of the original Hornsby complex built in the late 18th century.

Joseph Hornsby, a native of England, came to this country about 1757 and settled in Williamsburg, Virginia, with his uncle, Thomas Hornsby. In 1770 Hornsby married Mildred Walker, daughter of Dr. Thomas Walker, the first white man to survey Kentucky in 1750. After the death of his wife, Hornsby and his children moved to the southwestern portion of Shelby County, around 1792. Evidently Hornsby was a friend of another wealthy citizen from Williamsburg who moved to Kentucky, Captain David Meade, owner and builder of the magnificent estate, Chaumiere des Prairies (listed on the National Register September 25, 1975). Both men had a strong interest and great love for all variety of trees and plantings. In a letter from David Meade at Chaumiere in Jessamine County to Judge Prentice in Williamsburg, Virginia, dated November 25, 1797, Meade writes: "Mr. Hornsby, we hear is returned to his new settlement in Shelby County bringing with him it is said, a hundred negroes."

Hornsby kept a diary from 1798 to 1804 and in it he almost exclusively recorded the planting of rare seeds, and the transplanting of valuable shrubs and vines. In addition to his gardening, Hornsby also participated in the organization of Shelby Academy, one of the first schools in Shelby County in 1798. At the time of Joseph Hornsby's death in 1807, he owned as much as 8,000 acres.

The original house was passed down through Hornsby's children. In the mid-19th century the house burned and the present modest Greek Revival farmhouse was built by a son or grandson of Joseph Hornsby. W. C. Hornsby is listed as the owner on the 1882 Atlas of Shelby County and he was believed to be a farmer. The house remained in the Hornsby family until the early 1900s when it was sold.

An unusual stone outbuilding with a dry cellar or dairy below and a loft for storage above, probably dates from the period of the original house built by Joseph Hornsby. The present house, built in the mid-1800s, has a front entrance with sidelights and a transom with an identical door above it, which is characteristic of the Greek Revival style. In the interior, the

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boteler, Mimi. "The Genealogy of Nan Hornsby Clore." 1938, (Unpublished manuscript).

Letter written November 25, 1797 from David Meade to Judge Prentis. Manuscript Department, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Virginia.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	64,20,2,0	4,22,710,30 ⁰¹⁰	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is composed of the land surrounding the house and includes the two surviving outbuildings south of the main structure.

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

Mary Cronan Oppel, Historian

November 30, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

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

Edna W. Yellon

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3/18/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Wm. H. G. ...

DATE

8/12/77

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

8.11.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

An enclosed staircase is located in the northwest corner of the ell, which leads to the bedroom above, which was originally disconnected from the second floor of the main block. It is believed that this room was originally used as a traveler's room. In recent years a door was placed between the ell and the main block on the second floor.

Located southwest of the house is a small brick building with a small chimney. Two corbelled rows of headers extend along both sides of the structure, forming the cornice. The original use of the outbuilding is unknown. Also located behind the house is a larger stone structure with an entrance on the north that leads down into a dry cellar. A trap, beaded door opens onto the room above, which was probably used for storage. A door which leads directly into this room is located in the south gable end. It is believed that this structure dates prior to 1800 when the original house on the site was built (see photos 4, 5, and 6).

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

moldings around the doors are Greek design. Although the mantels are Greek Revival, they have a variation in the slight Tudor arch below the center panel. Originally a travellers room, which was disconnected from the main block of the house, was located on the second floor of the ell.

As stated before, the Hornsby House is a fine example of a mid-19th century farmhouse of which there are several examples surviving in Shelby County. The Hornsby House is particularly noted, however, because of its location on the site of the original Hornsby house, built c. 1792, by Joseph Hornsby, a prominent early settler.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

Willis, George L., editor. History of Shelby County, Kentucky. Louisville:
C. T. Dearing Printing Co., Inc., 1929.

Additional information from Mrs. Lewis Cottongim, Shelbyville, Kentucky.

