

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 30 1978  
DATE ENTERED NOV 14 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 The John Graham House  
AND/OR COMMON  
The Pines

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER SE of Midway on  
Route 1, Weisenberger Mill Road — NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CITY, TOWN Midway VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 06  
STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Woodford CODE 239

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Donald T. Bozarth  
STREET & NUMBER Route 1, Weisenberger Mill Road  
CITY, TOWN Midway VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ STATE Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Woodford County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER Main Street  
CITY, TOWN Versailles STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)  
DATE 1976 — FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL   
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission  
CITY, TOWN Frankfort STATE Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Graham House occupies an elevated site overlooking the Weisenberger Mill Road (see photo 1). This farm residence is one-half mile southeast of the limits of Midway, a picturesque town of 1,300. The dwelling faces northeast and has a commanding view of a gently rolling landscape.

Erected in the 1850s, the John Graham House is a combination of several stylistic features and its design is attributed to David Lehman, a local builder. The construction is of brick resting on a stone foundation--Flemish double stretcher bond on the main facade and common bond on all others. Lacy bargeboards adorn the gables and a delicate, one-story Italianate porch envelops the three bays of the front facade. The centered entrance is framed by a Greek Revival frontispiece with an abbreviated version serving directly above. (Evidence indicates that an iron balcony was once atop the porch.) These doors are flanked by coupled sash windows having four-over-four panes. On either side of the central gable are paired cylindrical chimney stacks of brick which rise from square bases at the roof ridge.

The stem of this L-shaped house once had a one-story gallery on the west and a two-story gallery on the east (see photo 2). The former has been screened in, while the latter has been enclosed with clapboarding interrupted by original colossal brick pilasters. In addition to the enclosures, two windows that had pierced the stem's east wall were filled with bricks, and a door on the west was transformed into a window. On both levels of the lateral section's ends are coupled sash windows like those of the main facade. Spanning the rear of the house is a shed-roofed frame appendage added ca. 1900.

The centered entrance of the main facade opens into a rectangular hall containing a "dog leg" staircase which has a simple balustrade and a newel post and hand-railing of cherry (see photo 3). On either side of the hall is a square formal room. Door frames, baseboards, and mantels in these chambers are Greek Revival (see photo 4). The baseboards are a source of interest: those of the hall and staircase have an elaborate profile; those of the parlor and sitting room are simpler; and those of the dining room and sitting room to the south are simpler still, as are their mantels. A pantry and a large kitchen with retained chair-railing are at the southern end. A narrow, enclosed staircase once led from the pantry to the second floor, but was removed at an undetermined time.

(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 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 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

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Graham House, located one-half mile outside the limits of Midway, Kentucky, is assumed to have been built in the mid-1850s. During its first half-century of existence, the house was inhabited by John and Adah Fleming Graham, for whom it built. Both the Grahams and Flemings were early and important families of Woodford County, and the house was the scene of considerable entertaining during its early years. This admirably maintained residence merits architectural importance and distinction through its eclectic spirit.

The first of Adah's family in America was Colonel William Fleming, a Scotsman who attached himself to Washington's regiment in 1755. Following the Revolutionary War, he was appointed Land Commissioner for the District of Kentucky by the Governor of Virginia. William and his descendants, including Leonard, Adah's father, acquired large tracts of land in Woodford and Scott Counties and became prosperous farmers. (Railey, History of Woodford County, p. 62). The Grahams had originated in Virginia, moving to Kentucky after the Revolution. Like the Flemings, they were also engaged in large-scale farming and were owners of large estates in the same counties.

All clues indicate that the designer and builder of the Graham House was David Lehman, a man of various professions: "He was Midway's carpenter, builder, and undertaker, and is also listed as a cabinetmaker and furniture dealer in the Kentucky State Gazetteer and Business Directory" (Louisville, 1859)<sup>1</sup>. Born in Germany in 1826, he initially immigrated to New York, but settled in Midway in 1854. He undoubtedly possessed several architectural pattern books of the era from which he derived designs and details, but his deviations from the pattern book examples are both appealing and enchanting.

The Graham House seems to be an adaptation of Design XXXI, "A Villa in the Pointed Style" from A. J. Downing's 1850 The Architecture of Country Houses (see photo 6). Lehman, however, relegated all gables to the same dimensions and applied simple yet effective bargeboards. In addition, he did not project the central bay and disregarded purism

<sup>1</sup>Patrick Snadon. Bargeboards and Bluegrass (MA thesis, University of Kentucky, 1976), p. 84.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A History of Midway. Privately printed by the Midway Woman's Club, 1972.

Lancaster, Clay. Back Streets and Pine Trees. Lexington: Bur Press, 1956.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

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

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A square lot 200 feet in width and 200 feet in depth; bounded by the Weisenberger Mill Road on northeast. No outbuildings included.

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

Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

November 1977

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 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

*Edward W. Yelton*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

5/23/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Charles H. ...*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

11-14-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

*Manville ...*

DATE

11-8-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The John Graham House

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On the second floor are five bedrooms, three of which have chaste Greek Revival mantels (see photo 5). Also present on this level are original low baseboards, four-panelled doors, and plain door frames. Poplar flooring has survived on both floors, as has much of the original hardware, including silver keyholes.

The John Graham House is surrounded by numerous mature trees that enhance its appearance. Prevalent among these are pines estimated to be over 100 years old.<sup>1</sup> Excepting the enclosures of the galleries and the installation of a modern kitchen and bathroom facilities, this residence is much in its original state and is structurally in good condition.

<sup>1</sup>Information provided by U. S. Forester O. S. Robinson, Stamping Ground, Kentucky.

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The John Graham House

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by employing an Italianate porch and Greek Revival features that include coupled sash windows, impressive frontispieces, and chaste interior woodwork of the Greek mode. The site location does follow the one advised by Downing, who stated that "a villa like this . . . should stand on a commanding locality, backed by fine wood, and overlooking a fine reach of picturesque but cultivated landscape" (Country Houses, p. 340).

Consequently, this dwelling is important as a vernacular building designed and built by a person lacking architectural inhibitions--a person not reluctant to combine differing stylistic features. The lack of inhibitions in such designers enabled Kentucky to develop its own distinctive flavor. Clay Lancaster, a noted architectural historian, wrote that "few designs of early professional architects came to Kentucky, and none of these seem to have been built without modifications by the local men..... For the most part, therefore, Kentucky buildings may be said to be the products of Kentuckians themselves."<sup>2</sup>

Following the Graham's deaths the house was sold to a Mr. Roberts, who lived here only a short time before selling it to Herschel Humble.<sup>3</sup> At his death, his daughter, Jane White Myers, sold it to the present owners, who are maintaining the house in good condition and are utilizing it as the residence for a productive farm.

<sup>2</sup>Clay Lancaster, Back Streets and Pine Trees (Lexington, Bur Press, 1956), p. vi.

<sup>3</sup>A History of Midway (Midway Woman's Club, 1972), no page given.

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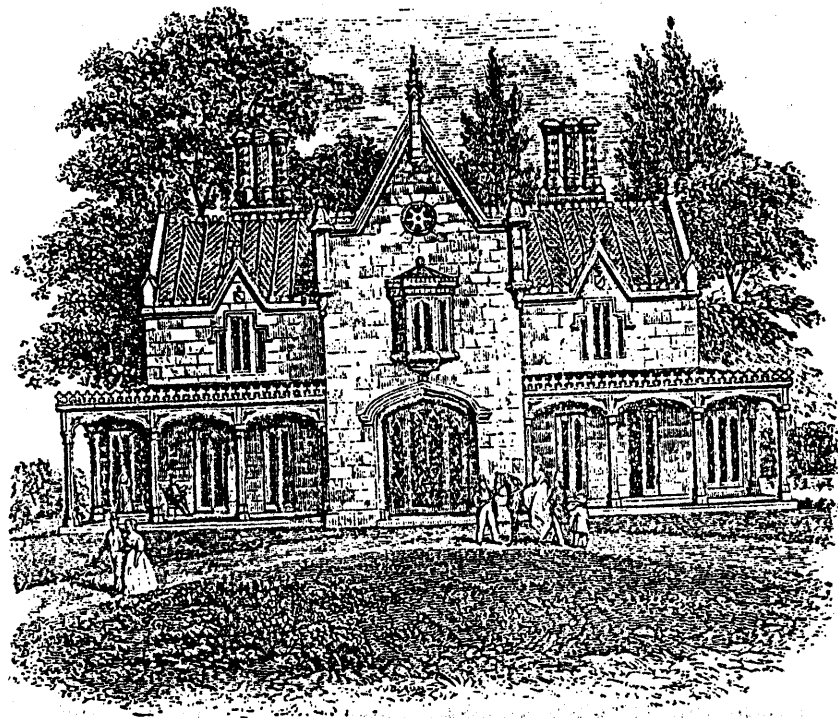
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Railey, W. E. History of Woodford County. Lexington: The Thoroughbred Press, 1968.

Snadon, Patrick. Bargeboards and Bluegrass. MA Thesis, University of Kentucky, 1976.

DESIGN XXXI  
VILLA IN THE POINTED STYLE





The John Graham House  
Midway  
Woodford County  
Kentucky

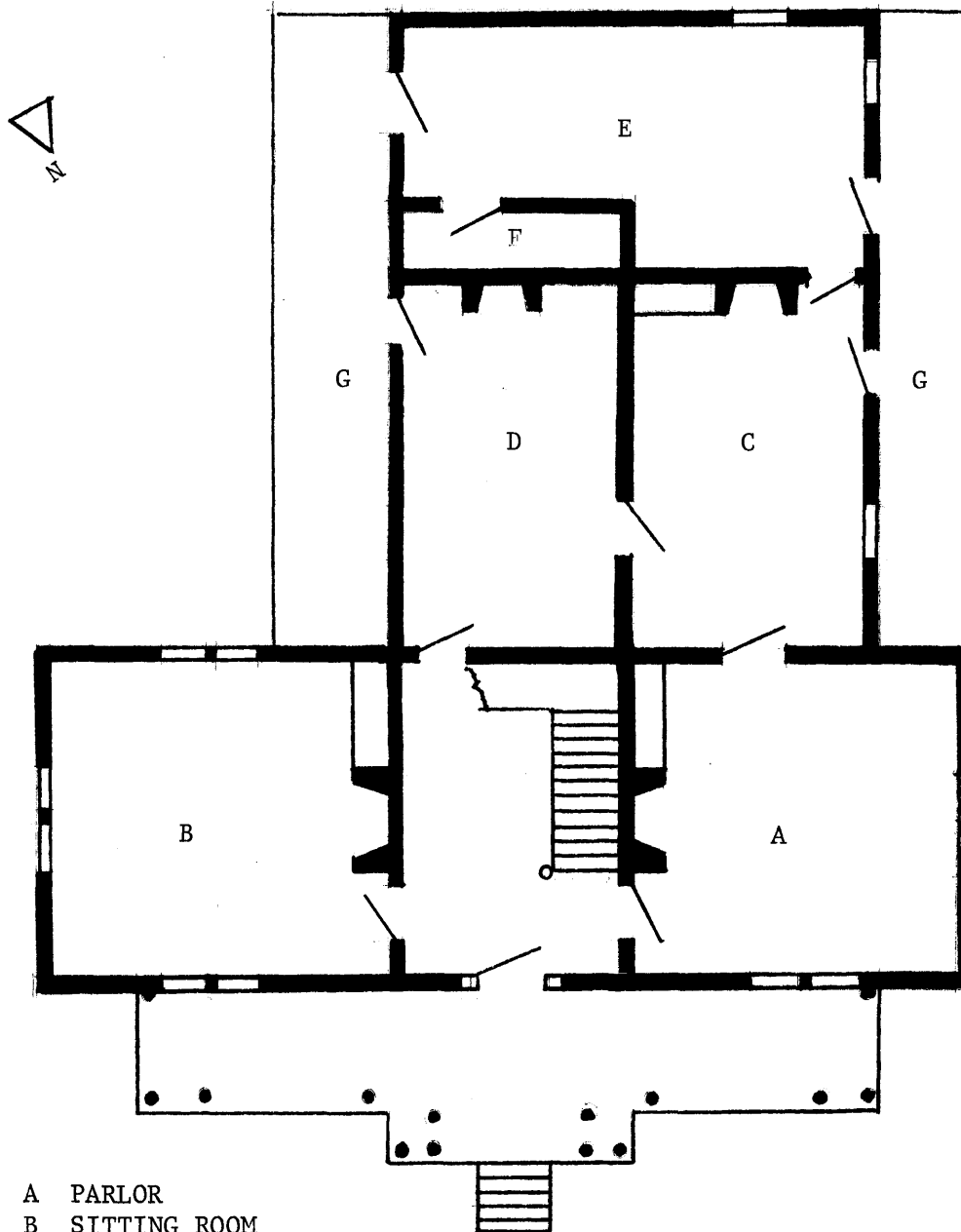
NOV 14 1978

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Photo 6, Design XXXI. "A Villa  
in the Pointed Style," A. J.  
Downing, The Architecture of  
Country Houses (1850).

GRAHAM HOUSE, NEAR MIDWAY, WOODFORD COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

NO SCALE



- A PARLOR
- B SITTING ROOM
- C DINING
- D FAMILY ROOM
- E KITCHEN
- F PANTRY
- G ENCLOSED GALLERIES

The John Graham House  
Midway  
Woodford County  
Kentucky

Daniel Kidd  
Sketch Plan  
No Scale  
1977

Map 2. First floor plan.

**MAY 30 1978**

**NOV 14 1978**