

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Ja 115

1. Historic Name(s) <i>Robert Steele house</i>		22. ADD/County <i>Bluegrass/Jessamine</i>	
Original Owner <i>Robert Steele</i>		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') <i>Kene v c</i>	
2. Present Name <i>West Berkeley, Whitehall</i>		24. UTM Reference <i>16 703100 4197040</i>	
3. Location <i>At the Troy Road, facing East Fork of Clear Creek, 1 mi SE of Troy</i>		Zone Easting Northing	
4. Owner's Name <i>Robert W. Harrison</i>		25. Coordinate Accuracy	
5. Owner's Address <i>6502 Boulevard View, Alexandria, Va 22307</i>		26. Prehistoric Site Object Structure Other	
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization <i>Garrett Powers, tenant</i>		27. National Register District Name:	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow <i>See attached boundary form</i>		28. Significance Evaluation	
11. Architect		29. Status National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> Date _____ National Register <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Survey <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>11-18-71</i> Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Builder		30. Historic Theme Primary <i>architecture</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secondary <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
13. Date <i>built pre-1800 remodeled 1812</i> A. <input type="checkbox"/> B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14. Style A. <i>simple Federal</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <i>classical Federal</i> <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Preservation Project Status	
15. Original Use <i>residence</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Actual Cost in \$1,000s	
16. Present use <i>residence</i>		33. ATTACH PHOTO <i>in attached envelope</i>	
17. Condition <i>very good</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Roll No. <i>26 and 54</i>	
18. Description <i>1 1/2 story, 5 bay, double pile dry stone house; regular coursed ashlar foundation with walls above now stuccoed. House was remodelled ca 1812 by Samuel Campbell Steele; very elaborate classical woodwork added; elliptical fan doorway front & rear; (cont'd on back) (over)</i>		Picture No. _____	
No. Stories <i>1 1/2</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Direction _____	
Single Pile <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>		34. Prepared by: <i>L.M. Woolley</i>	
Double Pile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		35. Organization	
Floor Plan <i>central passage</i> <input type="checkbox"/>		36. Date <i>1982</i>	
Structural Fabric <i>stone</i> A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		37. Revision Dates	
Decorative Fabric <i>stucco (later) for doorways</i> A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Classical window</i> B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		38. Staff Review	
Roof Form <i>original gable? now hip</i>			
19. History <i>Main plantation house for Robert Steele and family, who had large land grant extending in all directions from house; hosted travellers from Harrodsburg to Lexington.</i>			
20. Significance <i>One of the most architecturally significant houses in county; illustrates unusual combination of elaborate woodwork and stone (over)</i>			
21. Source of Information <i>1971, 1977 inventory forms inspection</i>			

19 cont.:

upper floor opened into central hall with lantern-cupola surrounded by walk and balustrade, and reached by a staircase - all now removed; now has hipped roof w. 20th C hipped dormers on ends, but gabled dormer w. Palladian window over entrance porch. Stone single pen wing on E end connected by frame hypethen; pen said to be prior 1790; probably ^{is} ~~was~~ kitchen; same age as house.

(photo 1)

(photo 4)

Grounds include early rock fences, later stone gate piers and mid 20th C stone (rock) walls surrounding the formal gardens to rear of house.

20. cont.:

Construction - 1 of 2 known dry stone houses in Ky. with elaborate classical Federal detailing.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION & JUSTIFICATION

Beginning at A on the bank of E fork of Clear Creek at the Troy Pike, thence N following road to B at the lane behind the formal gardens which leads to the tobacco barn, thence E along lane 160 ft to C, thence S perpendicular to lane 660 ft to D at the creek, thence W with creek to the beginning, containing the stone house, formal gardens and rock fencing, about 2 1/2 acres.

SKETCH MAP OF SITE SHOWING BOUNDARIES AND KEY BUILDINGS AND FEATURES WITH NORTH ARROW.

