

PH0692557

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 29 1978
DATE ENTERED 1 1979

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

Nathaniel Dunn House

AND/OR COMMON

Wilkinson Log House

2 LOCATION

N of Nicholasville off U.S. 68

STREET & NUMBER

1/2 mile East of Rt. 68, 1/2 mile North Catnip Hill Rd.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Nicholasville

VICINITY OF

5

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Jessamine

CODE

113

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: (vacant)

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Martha Davis Wilkinson (Mrs. Jack R., Jr.)

STREET & NUMBER

1186 Indian Mound Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

VICINITY OF

Kentucky 50502

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jessamine County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Nicholasville

STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1977

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 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 Dunn House is located one-half mile east of U.S. 68 and one-half mile north of Catnip Hill Road in northern Jessamine County, Kentucky, approximately five miles from downtown Lexington. The structure is situated on a rise facing northward toward Sinking Creek.

Constructed during the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the Dunn House consisted of a two-bay, story and a half, weatherboarded log structure with a rather unique double porch sheltering the facade. The second level of the porch, enclosed in frame and pierced by two windows on the front, is a continuation of the upper level of the main structure itself. A frame breezeway connects this section with the story and a half log kitchen on the east. The kitchen unit has been covered with board and batten siding. Matching exterior brick chimneys with stepped shoulders are located on the east and west gable ends of the entire structure. Logs are V-notched in both sections. A single-story, brick ell of a slightly later construction date is appended to the south of the main block. A shed-roofed porch extends across the east side of the ell.

On the interior, the main block embodies a hall and parlor plan with the west room originally being the larger. In the east room, a window now replaces the original front door. The east wall of the main block has been removed, thereby combining the east room and the breezeway. Both of the original mantles remain on the log sections as do portions of the low, plain baseboard. Several rows of corbelled brick provide the effect of a cornice on both the interior and exterior of the brick ell.

Currently, the owners are in the process of restoring the structure with the intention of using it as a residence.

Southeast of the house is a three-pen log barn constructed by means of saddle-notching. The roof of this structure was destroyed during a severe storm; however, the owners plan to restore it also in the near future.

The nominated acreage includes the log house and barn and sufficient land including the spring to maintain the character of the setting.

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 ca. 1808-1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nathaniel Dunn House is significant in being one of the most unique examples of log construction in Jessamine County, Kentucky. The most outstanding feature is the double porch on the main facade with its enclosed upper story. This porch is supported by chamfered posts visible on both stories. The porch, part of the original structure, is supported on the second level by the floor joists of the building. The addition of weatherboarding and board and batten siding has served to protect the well-executed log construction, and in effect, to preserve the entire structure.

The house is located in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky in Jessamine County, which was established in 1798, some six years after the founding of the state. The northern part of the county where the residence is situated is gently undulating with extremely rich soil and, understandably, was one of the county's earliest settled areas (Collins, p. 396). Within one mile of the Dunn House is the site of the famed Chaumiere des Prairie, built in 1796 for Colonel David Mead (listed on the National Register September 25, 1975).

The land on which the Dunn House was constructed was originally surveyed by Thomas Carland, who obtained the tract as "part of a settlement and preemption granted by the Commonwealth of Virginia to the said Carland" (Jessamine County Deed Book A, pp. 333-34). The property was sold in 1802 to James Bruster and, in 1808, came into the possession of Nathaniel Dunn, one of two executors of Bruster's estate and believed to be his son-in-law (Jessamine County Will Book A, pp. 206-08). It is most likely that the log structure was built by Dunn, who held title to the property until his death in 1847. He was apparently a local farmer who owned a considerable amount of land in the vicinity.

Although subject to disinterested neglect for many years, the Dunn House is now being restored for use as a residence by the present owners.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brookes-Smith, Joan., ed. Index for Old Kentucky Surveys & Grants. Frankfort, Kentucky: Historical Society, 1975.

Collins, Lewis and Collins, Richard. History of Kentucky. Vol. II. Berea, Kentucky: Kentucke Imprints, 1976 (originally published 1874), p. 396-398.

Jessamine County Deed Book A, pp. 333-334; B, pp. 359-60; P, p. 370.

Jessamine County Will Book A, pp. 206-208, 300-301; G, pp. 358-361, 382; H, pp. 191-192.
(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 11 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	16	711630	4203120	B	16	711640	4202870
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	16	711470	4202870	D	16	711470	4203110

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary begins at point A (see U.S.G.S. map) on the ridgeline approximately 2000 feet east of U.S. 68 and proceeds south for approximately 800 feet to point B. Turning westward, the boundary proceeds for approximately 600 feet to point C and then turns northward for approximately 800 feet to point D. From point D, the boundary follows the ridgeline eastward for approximately 600 feet returning to point A.

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; Gloria Mills, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1978

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. Yount

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10-26-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3-1-79

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3/1/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Nathaniel Dunn House
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Lipscomb, Alexander B. The Commercial History of the Southern States. Louisville:
John P. Morton & Co., 1903, p. 75.

Young, Bennett H. A History of Jessamine County, Kentucky. Louisville: Courier-
Journal Job Printing Co., 1898.

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FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED <i>MM</i>	<i>1179</i>
DATE ENTERED	MAR 1 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET Nathaniel Dunn House ITEM NUMBER PAGE

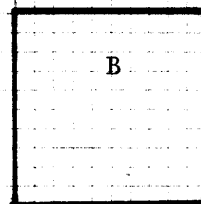
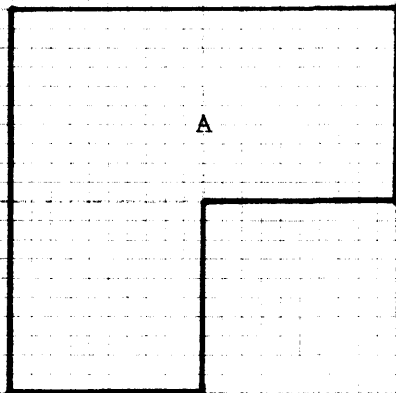
Boundary Justification:

The boundaries for the Nathaniel Dunn House have been established to incorporate the log house, log barn, and the spring, located southwest of the house (see sketch map). Furthermore, the boundaries encompass a significant portion of the site to the north of the house, extending approximately 500 feet to the ridgeline, which visually complements the rural setting.

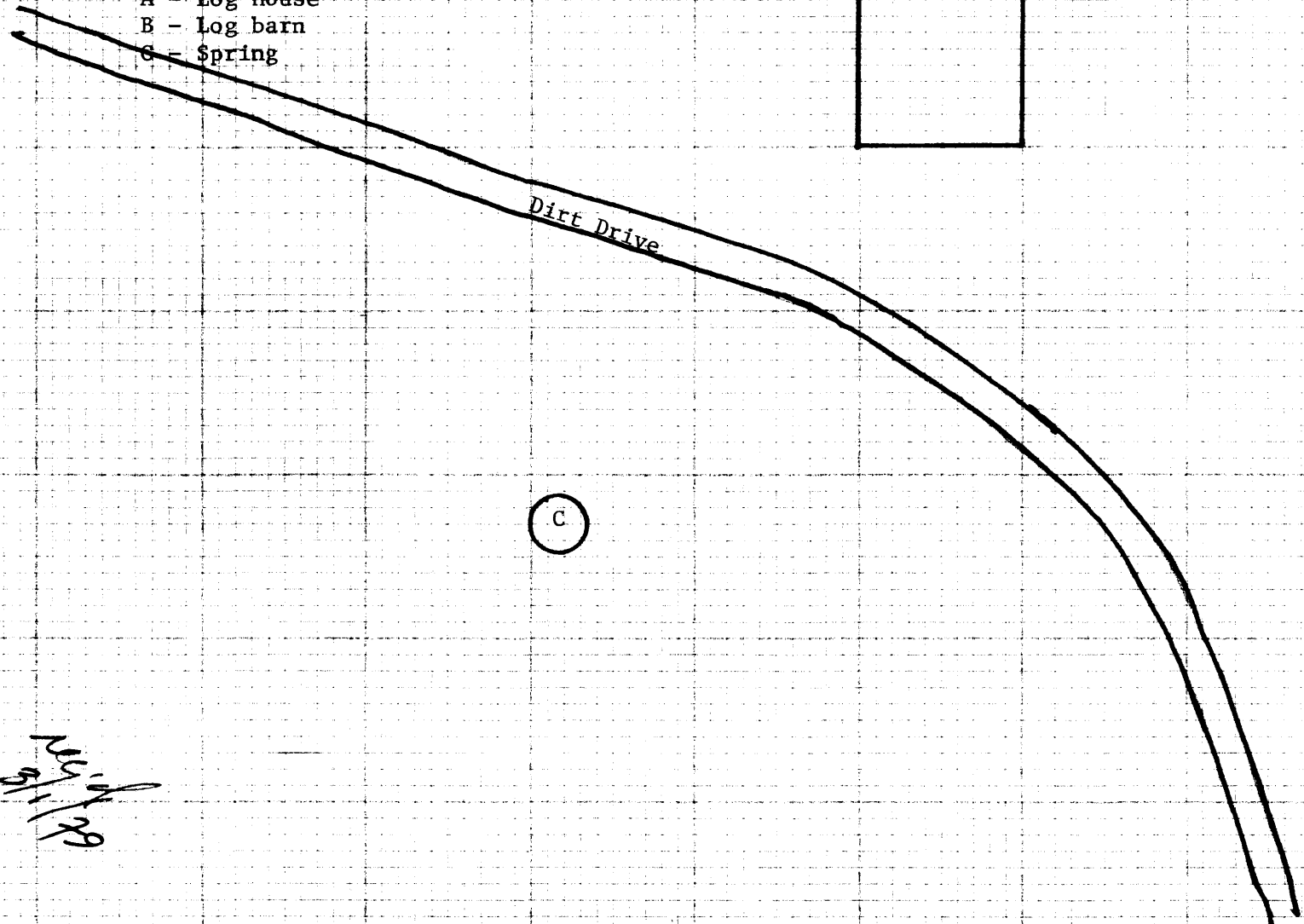
Due to the fact it had been neglected for several years, the owners are currently in the process of making basic improvements to the house, i.e. re-wiring and plumbing, to again make the structure habitable.

Nathaniel Dunn House
Jessamine County
Kentucky
Sketch map
Not to scale.

- A - Log house
- B - Log barn
- C - Spring



Dirt Drive



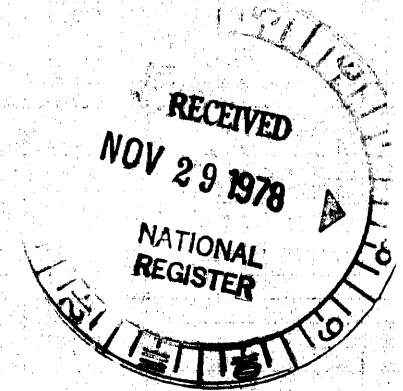
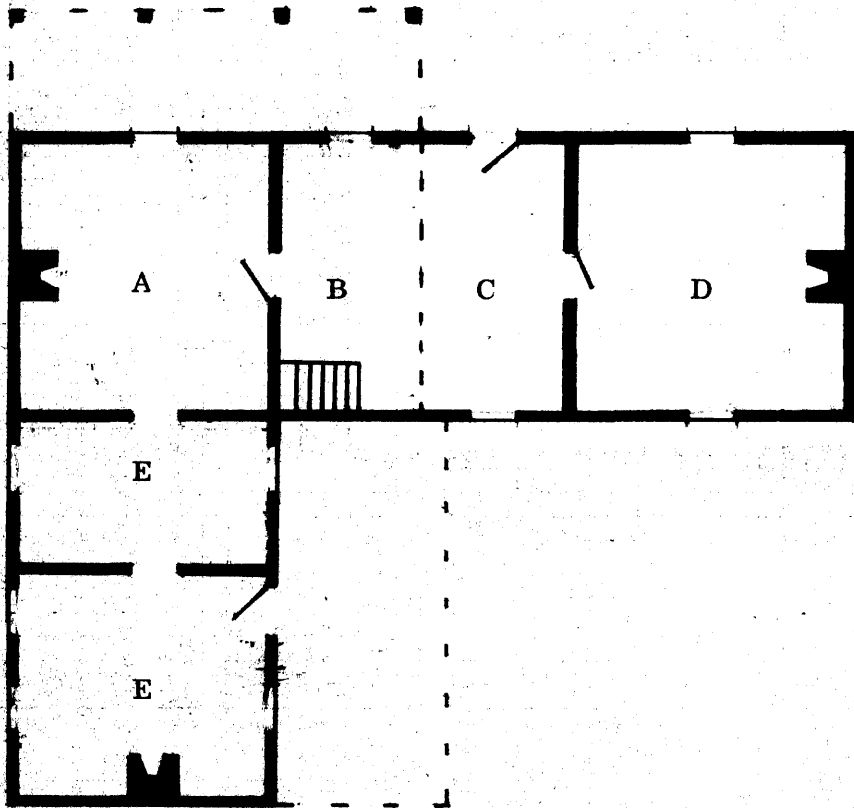
Handwritten note:
1/25/79

Nathaniel Dunn House
Jessamine County
Kentucky
Sketch map

MAR 1 1979

Not to scale.
Charlotte Schneider
Kentucky Heritage Commission
Frankfort, Kentucky
January 25, 1979

Nathaniel Dunn House
Jessamine County
Kentucky
Floor plan
Not to scale:



- A - Parlor
- B - Hall
- C - Breezeway
- D - Kitchen
- E - Brick ell



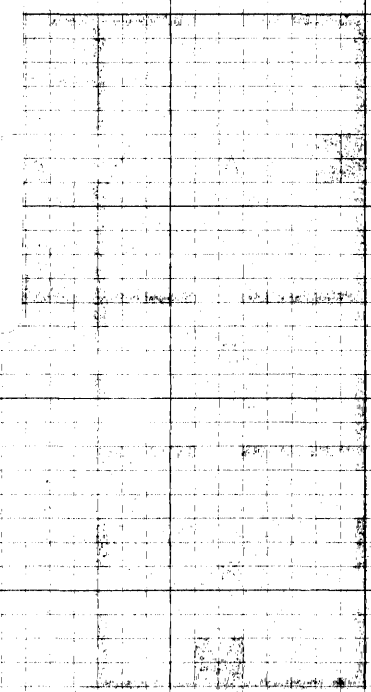
Handwritten text, possibly a title or date, located in the upper left quadrant of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.

**Nathaniel Dunn House
Jessamine County
Kentucky**

MAR 1979

**Map 2.
Floor plan
not to scale.**

**Charlotte Schneider
Kentucky Heritage Comm.
Frankfort, Kentucky
September 1978**



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