

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0686841

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 23 1978
DATE ENTERED	FEB 9 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

The Moses Jones House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W of Harrodsburg, Ky
on Oregon Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Harrodsburg, Ky

VICINITY OF

06

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Kentucky

CODE
021

COUNTY

Mercer

CODE

167

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Clay Lancaster

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, Oregon Road

CITY, TOWN

Salvisa

VICINITY OF

STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Mercer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Harrodsburg

STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE
Kentucky

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"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Moses Jones House is a one-and-one-half-story brick dwelling situated on a small slope approximately 1,100 feet southeast of the Kentucky River in the remote section of Mercer County known as Oregon. The house is thought to have been built between 1809-11, and its four walls are laid in Flemish bond.

The main facade (see photo 1) has five bays, and the building is 36 feet and 9 inches wide, and 20 feet and 3 inches deep. The entrance is protected by a small, gable-roofed porch that has a floor and foundation of local limestone, and there are wooden posts, balustrades, and side-benches--all contemporary to the house. Windows on either side of the entrance are double-hung sash with 9-over-6 panes, and, like most other openings, have splayed jack arches above. Wooden moldings are below the eaves of the front and rear, and on all sides of the porch.

At either gabled end is an exterior brick chimney flanked by garret windows in the upper level (see photos 1 and 2). The full basement (see photo 2) is exposed at the rear due to the sloping site, and there is a centered door on both levels. The original approach leading to the rear entrance of the main floor and the basement-entrance shelter have both been replaced.

The first floor (see floor plan) contains a hall and parlor, and all woodwork is intact. These interior fittings include chair-railing with a complex profile, reeded jambs, fluted frames whose corner blocks contain rosettes, two mantels, and ash flooring (see photos 3,4,5,6, and 7).

Based on comparisons, a noted local craftsman, Matthew Lowery, may have produced the two mantels. The mantel in the larger room (see photo 7) is an adaption of plate 32 of William Pain's 1792 Practical Builder which was published in Boston. The opening is flanked by fluted colonnettes, the frieze is treated with sunburst motifs and interlocking geometric carvings, and the border of the shelf has diminutive gougework.

The hall, often called the ballroom by former residents, retains a small section of stenciling that was on all sides originally (see photo 3). Done mostly in red and blue, the stenciling depicts swags with a small Indian tepee between each fold. Supposedly, the painted decorations were executed by the original owner.

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 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 1809-11

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moses Jones House, built ca. 1810, is historically significant for its associations with an early settler in Mercer County, Kentucky. Architecturally, the building is an outstanding example of an early-19th-century brick hall-and-parlor house, and its craftsmanship and detailing are uncommon to its remote location.

The original owner, Moses Jones, was born in Virginia in 1773. In 1780, his family joined a party led by Col. John Donaldson that went to Fort Nashborough in present-day Tennessee by way of a flatboat flotilla. Not long after their arrival, a band of 50 Chickasaws carried out an ambush outside the fort, killing several adult males and taking the young Moses captive (Roselyne Watts Jones, The House of Moses Jones, pp. 24-25). Legend maintains that the Indians took him northward to Kentucky where he was held captive for nine years, and his escape was made to avoid marriage to a young Chickasaw woman. A 19th-century account states: "Moses Jones was kept by the Chickasaws 9 years but a few years ago escaped via the Kentucky River at Warwick" (Draper Manuscripts, Microfilm 12C54).

A year after his escape, Moses served as a survey assistant, and in 1796, he obtained a small inheritance from his father, Jacob, who was then residing in Lincoln County, Kentucky. Three years later, he acquired 105 acres of land in the region of Mercer County called Warwick (now known as Oregon) where his escape had been made, and in 1801 he married Mary Henderson. All the land bought earlier excepting three-fourths of an acre was sold in 1809, but was rebought in 1811. The small amount retained is assumed to be the site of the brick house, and the remainder appears to have been sold to provide funds for the building materials. Thus, the period 1809-11 seems to be the logical date of construction.

Moses' surveying experience and his possession of various building tools left by his father give some credibility to the tradition that he constructed the brick dwelling. However, the degree of the detailed work of the interior fittings is such that a professional craftsman must be acknowledged. The possible

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Draper Manuscripts, Microfilm 12C54.

Jones, Roselyne Watts. The House of Moses Jones, Privately printed, 1977.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 7

QUADRANGLE NAME Salvisa, KY

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 69 289 10 4 1198 1 80

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Seven acres of wooded and semi-wooded land surrounding the building. Legal description on file in Mercer Co. Courthouse.

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

August, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

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

Eldred H. Deltor Lyddell

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10-18-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

2-9-79

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

2/9/79

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The Moses Jones House

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There are two rooms in the attic level and each is approached by an enclosed staircase (see photo 4). The arrangement of these staircases is notable, for they form an arched passage between the hall and the parlor (see photo 5), with the wall spaces accomodating a closet and a third staircase that leads to the basement.

In early 1973, a sensitive restoration was conducted that returned the Moses Jones House to its small-scaled splendor after a period of neglect. Modern conveniences were installed in the basement, but these facilities were added in an inconspicuous manner. A log kitchen on the east had deteriorated beyond repair and was dismantled. Apparently, the log section had served as temporary living quarters while the brick house was being constructed. Wooden elements in the rear and the roofing material were changed also, but the alterations have not affected the integrity of the building.

The seven acres of land included in the nomination comprise the total current property surrounding the residence, and are a contributing factor in the building's visual qualities. Numerous trees are scattered throughout the acreage, and the sloping site evidently played an important role in the planning of the house. No early outbuildings are extant.

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The Moses Jones House

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artisan was Matthew Lowery, who worked in Mercer County between 1800-40. "His work was a hearty variant of the Federal style, following the precedent set by the Adams brothers of England" (National Register nomination form, "Millwood," Mercer Co., Ky., entered on the National Register July 6, 1976). The overall effect of the numerous original interior fittings is somewhat provincial, but their character--an astute blend of robustness and delicacy--provides a visual delight. The massing of the residence is reminiscent of those eastern Virginia houses built during the third quarter of the 18th century, and the Flemish bond on all four sides, the width of the chimneys, and the small dimensions of the windows are uncharacteristic of other Kentucky houses of the same period. Although the hall-and-parlor plan was a fairly standard one among houses of the same vintage, the Jones House has an unexpected sophistication provided by the two enclosed staircases that form an arched passage between two rooms.

Moses Jones died in 1842 at the age of 69. He was survived by seven children, and at the time of his death he owned 400 acres that included apricot and peach orchards that he utilized in the distilling of brandy on the property. The brick house remained in the possession of his descendants until 1973.

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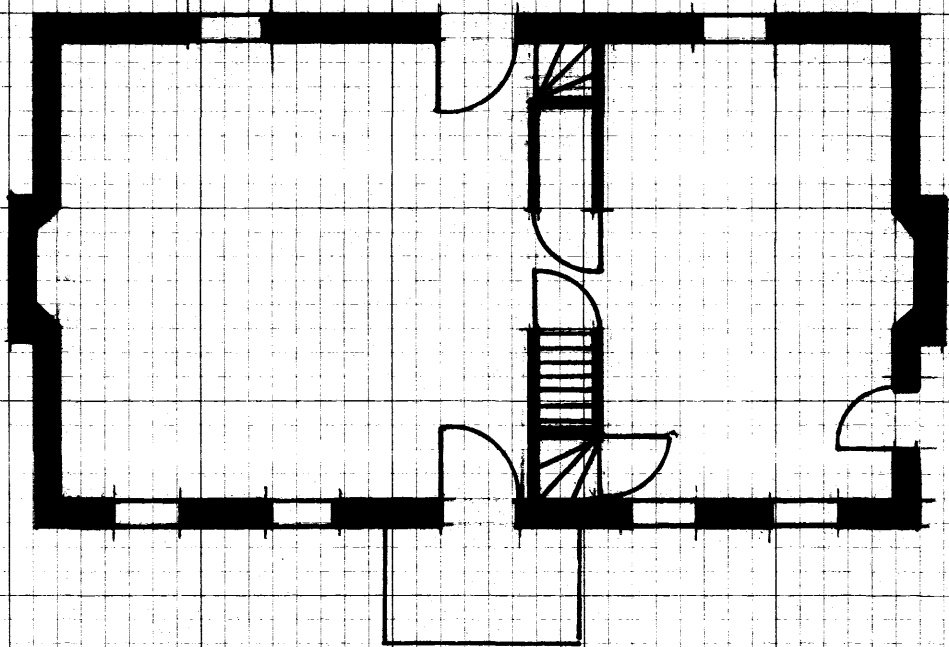
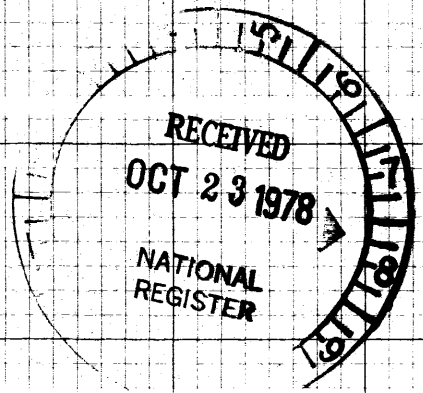
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CONTINUATION SHEET Moses Jones House ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE

Verbal Boundary Description - Addendum

Seven acres of wooded and semi-wooded land. Legal description on record at the Mercer County Clerk's Office: "beginning at a stone corner to Lot #2 to Preston's line, thence south $65\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$, west 3.87 chains to the stone corner, and thence to Preston's line. Thence south $10\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$, west 4.85 chains to a stone near the spring. Thence south $55\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$, west 2.25 chains to a stone, thence south 38° , east 7.98 chains to a stone. Thence north $71\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, east 5.00 chains to a stone corner to Lot #7, thence north $11\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, west 15.20 chains to the beginning." Mercer County Deedbook 196, p. 247.



THE MOSES JONES HOUSE, MERCER COUNTY, KENTUCKY
FIRST FLOOR
1/8 INCH APPROXIMATELY EQUALS ONE FOOT