NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM RECEIVED 2280 3 2003 NAT RECEISTER OF HISTORY OF ACES

 1. Name of Property

 historic name
 Cane Ridge Rural Historic District

 other names/site number
 See table in Description for Site numbers

2. Location street & number ___Cane Ridge Road____ not for publication __N/A city or town _Paris __N/A state __Kentucky___ code _KY_ county Bourbon__ code_ 017_zip 40361

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{x} nomination ______ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \underline{x} meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide \underline{x} locally. (______ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official David L. Morgan, SHPO/Excutive Director Date

State Historic Peservation Office/ Kentucky Heritage Council

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):

Signature

Date of Action

Cane Ridge Rural Historic D Name of Property	District Page 2	2	Bourbon, KY County and State
5. Classification Ownership of Property X private	Category of Property building(s)		esources within Property Noncontributing
public-Local public-State public-Federal	X district site structure object	112 10 66 3 191	47 buildings sites 27structures 1objects 75 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _5____ Walker Buckner House: 4 contributing buildings, 1 contributing structure The features from this property were not included in the count of resources, above.

Name of related multiple property listing NA_

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions	_Domestic/Single Dwelling, Agricultural, Religious/Facility,
Current Functions	_Domestic/Single Dwelling, Agricultural, Religious/Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification __Federal, Creek Revival, Classic Revival, Craftsmen, American Foursquare

Materials Foundation __Stone, Poured Concrete, Concrete block, Wood Post_____ roof ___ Asphalt, Metal, Concrete, _____ walls __Weatherboard, Brick, Stone, Metal, Concrete, Asbestos, Vinyl_____ other _____

Narrrative Description (begins p. 7-1)

Cane Ridge Rural Historic District

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Bourbon, KY County and State

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance: Applicable National Register Criteria

- ХА Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
 - Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. В
- X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. x A
- removed from its original location. _____B
- __x_C a birthplace or a grave.
- _x_D a cemetery.
- a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- _____E _____F a commemorative property.
- less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance	AGRICULTURE, RELIGION, SOCIAL HISTORY								
Period of Significance	ca. 1820-1953								
Significant Dates	ca. 1820, ca. 1841, 1953								
Significant Person	N/A								
Cultural Affiliation	N/A								
Architect/Builder	Unknown								
Narrative Statement of Significance (begins p. 8.1)									

Narrative Statement of Significance (begins p. 8-1)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- ____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- _____ previously listed in the National Register
- ____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ____ designated a National Historic Landmark
- _____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- _x_ State Historic Preservation Office
- ____ Other State agency
- ____ Federal agency
- ____ Local government
- _____ University
- Other

Name of repository: Kentucky Heritage Council

Cane]	Ridge	Rural	Historic	<u>District</u>

Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property	_approx. 5060 ac	res	
UTM References Zone	Easting	Northing	Quad Name
Coordinate 1: 16	749 105	4230 245	Paris East
Coordinate 2: 16	749 115	4235 500	Paris East
Coordinate 3: 16	754 420	4234 240	North Middletown
Coordinate 4: 16	753 400	4231 260	North Middletown

Verbal Boundary Description and Boundary Justification (see p. 10-1)

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title_John S. Lewis	Organization Lewis Raymer
Consulting_date_8-8-02	
street & number Box 6750	telephone_(607) 256-8624
city or townIthaca	state_KY zip code14851
Property Owner	
name	
street & number	telephone
city or town	state zip code

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Narrative Description of the Overall District

The proposed Cane Ridge Rural Historic District lies within the Inner Bluegrass region in Bourbon County east of Paris. Cane Ridge is a relatively flat, slightly rolling ridge of land between Stoner and Hinkston Creeks containing rich limestone-based soil that is quite suitable for both arable crops and pasture. The ridge has several springs, but no significant creeks. Except for the Cane Ridge Meeting House and associated shrine, the district currently consists of seven large historic farms ranging from 329 to 1,119 acres on both sides of Cane Ridge Road from Stringtown Road to near Steele Road, plus a large farm that fronts on Harrods Creek Road. At the end of the nineteenth century, these farms were part of four larger ones. Currently, the land is divided into fifteen parcels, mostly among family members and operated as eight separate farms. The proposed district consists of 15 contiguous properties spanning about 5060 acres. That area contains 116 contributing and 47 non-contributing buildings, 67 contributing and 27 noncontributing structures, 3 contributing and 1 non-contributing objects. These counts include 4 contributing buildings and 1 contributing structure from a previous listing.

Three qualities make this district a distinct entity, able to be perceived as different from the many historic areas and farms in Bourbon County. First, it contains large farms with open fields and pastures without having any modern-looking horse farms. Second, almost all the dwellings date to the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The only significant post-1950 dwelling is the caretaker's house associated with the Cane Ridge Shrine. Third, the spatial relationships between the main and tenant houses, and their connected farmsteads reflect a pattern associated with general farming and tobacco culture rather than the thoroughbred industry.

With one exception, each of the eight farms features a main house with a sizable farmstead. Most also have tenant houses either within the main farmstead and/or with their own small isolated farmsteads along Cane Ridge Road. This proposed district is unusual for the part of Bourbon County with large farms and grand houses, because it contains only one active thoroughbred farm. This particular farm retains much of its historic agricultural character, featuring mostly modified older barns rather than the opulent new horse barns, planked paddocks and manicured pastures typical of modern thoroughbred operations. Several other farms in the proposed district used to have dairy operations, but are not now active. All the farms are currently engaged in grain, beef, tobacco and/or hog operations.

There are a few small woodlots, woodland savannahs and trees along fence rows, but the view from the road is mostly open pastures, with isolated barns and a few corn, wheat

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and tobacco fields. Some of the main houses and isolated tenant farmsteads are also visible. The three largest estates with their associated grand houses and farmsteads are far off the road or surrounded by a grove of trees, and are hidden from view. The visible dwellings are tenant houses and the main houses for new farms established in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

Description of Individual Properties

Feature 1, Cane Ridge Meeting House (Parcel number 54.00-00-005.02). Near the geographic center of the proposed district (and the highest point in the county) stands the circa-1790 log Cane Ridge Meeting House (BB-284) and its associated graveyard. The log church has been enshrined inside of a stone building to commemorate its location as the site of the largest revival during the Second Great Awakening and the birthplace of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). A stone museum and stone caretaker's house stand nearby. Noncontributing building.

Feature 2, The Ridge (Parcel numbers 54.00-00-005.00 and 54.00-00-005.01). Surrounding the shrine is 717-acre farm called "The Ridge." Originally the center of a 2,240-acre farm, the current main house is a circa-1920 two-story brick Georgian/Federal Revival (BB-282) built on the foundation of two previous houses. The main farmstead contains two outbuildings associated with the previous nineteenth century houses, plus two tenant houses and several early-twentieth-century barns and sheds. The rest of the farm has two mid-twentieth-century dairy complexes, two tenant houses and several isolated tobacco barns. Contributing property.

Feature 3, James Clay Farm (Parcel numbers 60.00-00-001.00, 60.00-00-001.02, and 60.00-00-003.00). East of the Ridge is an approximately 630-acre farm that was part of The Ridge during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries when the main and tenant dwellings and most of the agricultural buildings were constructed. Thus, from a historical perspective, it could be considered part of The Ridge, although it is now operated as a separate farm. Located on this property are two vernacular tenant houses with associated farmsteads. One is late-nineteenth century and faces Cane Ridge Road, and the second is early-twentieth century and fronts Stringtown Road. A turn-of-the-century tenant dwelling, believed to be an old toll house, sits near Cane Ridge Road next to the Cane Ridge Meeting House shrine. The farm also contains several isolated barns, all dating from early to late-twentieth century. Contributing property.

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Feature 4, Ockerman Farm (Parcel number 60.00-00-003.00). In the northwest corner of Cane Ridge Road and Stringtown Road is the old Ockerman Farm. Because this was a separate intact farmstead from the late-nineteenth century, this property is identified as a separate feature although it's owned by members of the James Clay family and operated as part of the adjacent farm. A circa-1870, two-story, frame, central hallway I-house with a one-story ell and addition (BB-286) sits in a grove of trees. It has a nice array of outbuildings, including a summer kitchen, meat house, early-twentieth-century garage and a couple of barns. Contributing property.

Feature 5, Walker Farm (Parcel numbers 53.00-00-00-010.00, 54.00-00-00-002.00 and 54.00-00-003.00). West of The Ridge is the 1,119-acre Walker Farm. Most of this farm was also part of The Ridge prior to 1950. Like the rests of The Ridge, most of the Walker farm is on the north side of Cane Ridge Road, but a small portion is on the south side. The main dwelling on this farm is an early-twentieth-century tenant house with a mid-twentieth century dairy and several barns. Also facing Cane Ridge Road on the north side is a late-nineteenth-century house that has been striped of its farmstead. This farm is mainly characterized by expansive fields and seven isolated tobacco barns that are well off the road and out of view. Contributing property.

Feature 6, Wetherall Farm (Parcel number 53.00-00-012.00). West of the Walker Farm on the north side of Cane Ridge Road is the old 368-acre Wetherall Farm. This land was also part of 2,240-acre Clay family farm, "The Ridge," until 1919. Bought by the Wetherall family, they built a middle-class general farm that is still almost entirely intact. It has a circa-1920 arts and crafts brick house (BB-658) with an extensive array of earlytwentieth-century barns and outbuildings associated with general farming. Some of the barn are quite interesting and unusual, combining small stalls with grain storage, sheds and poultry houses. This farm also has two isolated mid-twentieth century barns on the back of the farm, one for dairy and the other for tobacco. Contributing property.

Feature 7, Locust Grove or Buknore Farm (Parcel number 54.00-00-004.00). Across the road from The Ridge is the 1058-acre Buknore Farm. Lying approximately one mile off the road and out of view, the main house (BB-282) is a circa-1841 Federal double-pile, central-hall house with Greek Revival trim. Listed on the National Register as the Walker Buckner House, it was first called *Locust Grove* and later *Buknore*. The house and its antebellum dependencies are still remarkably intact. In particular, the interior contains the original trim and decorative styling, some of the original wallpaper and many of the original furnishings. The associated antebellum dependencies include a kitchen, root cellar, ice house, brick barn, granary and several paddocks fully enclosed with rock fences. The antebellum buildings also include a two-story brick building of

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uncertain purpose that has been converted into a tenant house. A large mid-twentiethcentury dairy operation is near the old farm complex while a late-twentieth-century hog operation sits further back on the farm. On the very back is an early-twentieth century store that fronts Harrods Creek Road and has been converted into a dwelling. Throughout the farm are several isolated tobacco and run-in sheds built throughout the twentieth century. Buknore also has three additional mid-twentieth-century tenant houses, one near Cane Ridge Road and two along the road to the main house. Contributing property.

Feature 8, Alyette Buckner House (Parcel number 54.00-00-006.01). East of the road back to the main house at Buknore and facing Cane Ridge Road is a large circa-1908 American Foursquare house with front and side porches (BB-660) built for Alyette Buckner. After the death of William Aylette Buckner in 1868, Locust Grove was divided between his two sons. Alyette Buckner was one of his grandsons who inherited the portion of the farm that did not contain the main house of Locust Grove. The Alyette Buckner house and its dependencies was built to be the main farmstead of the second farm shortly after his marriage. The separate farms were later rejoined into one large farm, but later the Alyette Buckner house has once again been separated from Buknore. It is a mostly intact example of a farmstead built for Bluegrass gentry coming of age before World War I. It has a servant's house, cistern, multi-purpose barn, workshop, garage and an unusual building of unknown purpose. Contributing property.

Feature 9, Glenwood (Parcel number 60.00-00-001.01). This 329-acre farm is east of Buknore on the south side of Cane Ridge Road. At the end of a long drive is an 1838 two-story frame Greek Revival house (BB-283) with a colossal two-story Ionic portico and an L-shaped back porch. The main farm complex, which stands apart from the house, is a post-World War II beef/tobacco operation. Contributing property.

Feature 10, Kenney Farm (Parcel number 54.00-00-001.00). The old Kenney Farm forms the western boundary of the proposed district. In 1910, W. T. Buckner III carved out this 336-acre farm from his Eden estate for his daughter and son-in-law at the time of their marriage. The Kenney Farm contains an almost complete farmstead dating to the second decade of the twentieth-century. The main house (BB-659) is a large, story-and-a –half, double pile, central passage bungalow with Greek Revival trim and a columned front dormer, front porch and an unusual early antecedent of carports. The circa-1910 buildings include a barn, servant house, garage, playhouse, chicken house and an remarkably large stone water trough or pool. Changes to this farmstead are relatively minor. The barn received additional sheds and a stripping room prior to 1940, the meat house was replaced circa 1950, and a weight house was built sometime during the early-twentieth century. This farm also contains two circa-1930 tenant farmsteads that sit next

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to Cane Ridge Road. Both have a mixture of early- and late-twentieth century outbuildings. Three isolated barns, dating from circa-1935 to circa-1980 sit on the back of the farm. Contributing property.

Feature 11, Eden (Parcel number 54.00-00-008.00). This approximately 500-acre farm was originally part of an approximately 1,600-acre farm owned by W. T. Buckner II and W. T. Buckner III. It adjoins Buknore and the Kenney Farm and currently the main farm road enters Harrods Creek Road, which runs parallel to Cane Ridge Road. The main dwelling (BB-266) is large circa-1820 one-and-a-half story Flemish bond Federal house which received a two-story brick addition circa 1898. The house and farmstead, which includes from the antebellum period two slave quarters, a blacksmith shop, meat house and foundation of an icehouse, lies about three-quarters of a mile back from Harrods Creek Road. The front of the house faces the outline of the Old Warriors Trail, a major north-south thoroughfare during the pre-settlement period. Parts of an earlynineteenth century public road and a lane that connected Eden to Locust Grove are still used as internal farm roads. The farm also has about two-and-a-half miles of nineteenthcentury rock walls, including one fully enclosed field. A circa-1950 tenant house with a couple of sheds and a trailer sits near Harrods Creek Road. The rest of the farm consists of a mixture of early-twentieth-century tobacco and stock barns, some of which have been converted to stables, plus late-twentieth-century run-in sheds, equipment sheds, hay barns and horse barns. Contributing property.

The following continuation sheets contain a table that gives a description of all the buildings, structures, objects and sites found in the proposed district. The table contains the name of the feature, its map number, date of first construction, and where applicable, the material used in the current foundation, siding and roof.

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ΧΧΖ	≺ z z z	Z K Z K F	* * * * * * * * * * * * *	N N N
Silo Tenant House Milking Parlor	Dairy Barn Feeding Shed Grain Bins Tobacco Barn	Scale House Barn Cistern House Pit Silo	Cemetery Caretaker Residence The Ridge Garage Hay Barn Corn Crib Sheep Barn Hog Barn Tenant House Shed Shed Barn Scale House	ContributIng Name N Cane Ridge Shrine N Cane Ridge Museum
c, 1975 late-19th century 1952	c. 1972 c. 1995 c. 1985 c. 1930	c. 1930 c. 1930 mid-20th century 1950 c. 1990	 c. 1800 1965 c. 1916 c. 1995 late-19th century c. 1930 c. 1950 c. 1950 c. 1980 c. 1930 c. 1930 	Date 1957 1975
poured concrete concrete block concrete block	poured concrete poured concrete poured concrete wood & concrete	wood post wood post poured concrete stone poured concrete	not applilcable poured concrete stone concrete block wood post concrete block concrete block stone wood post wood post wood post	Foundation poured concrete poured concrete
concrete staves wood siding concrete block	brick none metal vertical board	vertical board vertical board concrete staves brick poured concrete	not applicable stone brick brick veneer corrigated metal corrigated metal vertical board board and batten vinyl siding vertical board standing seam vertical board	Wall stone stone
gone asphalt shingle asphalt shingle	asphalt shingle standing seam metal metal standing seam metal	standing seam metal poured concrete asphalt shingle not applicable	not applicable asphalt shingle asphalt shingle asphalt shingle corrigated metal standing seam metal asphalt shingle asphalt shingle corrugated metal standing seam metal standing seam metal	Roof slate asphalt shingle

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YY	Y Y Y	: к к	κzκ	YY	YY	< z <	ч ч ч	* * * *	YY	Conti Y
Cistern Barn	House Garage Root Cellar	Garage Cistern	Silo Spring House Tenant House	Barn Barn	barn Spring House Barn	Root Cellar Morton Building	House Cistern Garage	Tobacco Barn Tenant House Garage	Silo Tobacco Barn	Contributing Name Y Dairy Barn
early-20th c. 1940	c. 1930 c. 1940 early-20th	c. 1940 mid-20th century	c. 1930 mid-20th century c. 1900	mid-20th century c. 1900	c. 1920 mid-20th century mid-20th century	late-19th century late-20th	late-19th century early-20th century mid-20th century	mid-20th century early-20th century mid-20th century	mid-20th century c. 1940	Date 1952
unknown poured concrete	concrete block wood post stone	wood post poured concrete	poured concrete concrete block poured concrete	poured concrete stone	concrete block	stone poured concrete	stone/concrete stone/concrete wood post	wood post concrete block wood post	poured concrete wood post	Foundation poured
unknown vertical board	vinyl side vertical board stone	weatherboard poured concrete	poured concrete concrete block weatherboard	vertical board board and batten	vertical board concrete block board and batten	stone/concrete standing seam	vinyl siding stone vertical board	vertical board vinyl siding vertical board	concrete staves vertical board	wall vertical board
poured concrete standing seam metal	asphalt shingle asphalt shingle gone	asphalt shingle poured concrete	metal asphalt shingle asphalt shingle	standing seam metal corrigated metal	corrigated inetal asphalt shingle standing seam metal	stone standing seam metal	asphalt shingle stone corrigated metal	corrugated metal asphalt shingle standing seam metal	gone corrugated metal	Roof standing seam metal

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Silo Tobacco Barn	Dairy Barn	Dairy	Pump House	Root Cellar	House	House	Rock Wall	Tobacco Barn	Cistern	Cistern	Tobacco Barn	Garage	Meat House	Kitchen/Servants	Cistern	Ockerman House	Tobacco Barn	Water Trough	Water Gates	Pump House	Pump House	Shed	Silo	Barn	Contributing Name
mid-20th century c. 1920	mid-20th century	mid-20th century	mid-20th century	early-20th century	early-20th century	late-19th century	19th century	c. 1930	c. 1950	c. 1970	c. 1930	c. 1920	late-19th century	late-19th century	early-20th	c. 1870	mid-20th century	late-20th century	mid-20th century	c. 1980	mid-20th century	c. 1950	c. 1940	c. 1900	Date
poured concrete stone	wood post	concrete block	poured concrete	stone	poured concrete	cut stone	stone	wood post	unknown	unknown	stone/concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	stone	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	poured concrete	Foundation
concrete staves vertical board	vertical board	concrete block	concrete block	vinyl siding	vinyl siding	vinyl siding	stone	vertical board	not applicable	not applicable	vertical board	vertical board	weatherboard	weatherboard	poured concrete	weatherboard	vertical board	poured concrete	poured concrete	concrete block	concrete block	vertical board	poured concrete	vertical board	Wall
none standing seam metal	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	asphalt shingle	asphalt shingle	asphalt shingle	standing seam metal	not applicable	standing seam metal	poured concrete	poured concrete	standing seam metal	tin shingle	asphalt shingle	asphalt shingle	poured concrete	tin shingle	standing seam metal	not applicable	not applicable	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	metal	standing seam metal	Roof

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Barn Buknore Kitchen	Small Barn Barn Barn/Chicken House Barn	Garage Workshop Shed Shed Barn Corn Crib	Barn Barn Barn House Well Well	ContributingNameYCisternYTobacco BarnYStock BarnYSiloYScale HouseNBarn
early-20th century c. 1841 c. 1841	early-20th century early-20th century mid-20th century mid-20th century	c. 1930 mid-20th century early-20th century early-20th century c. 1920 early-20th century	mid-20th century mid-20th century mid-20th century c. 1910 early-20th century early-20th century	Date c. 1930 mid-20th century c. 1930 c. 1930 mid-20th century mid-20th century
wood post cut stone cut stone	unknown unknown none poured concrete	wood post wood post wood post stone/wood post stone	unknown unknown unknown stone unknown unknown	Foundation poured concrete stone wood post poured concrete wood post unknown
board and batten brick brick	vertical board vertical board weatherboard vertical board	board and batten vertical board board and batten vertical board vertical board	vertical board vertical board vertical board brick/vinyle siding unknown unknown	Wail poured concrete vertical board vertical board poured concrete vertical board vertical board
standing seam metal standing seam metal standing seam metal	standing seam metal standing seam metal standing seam metal standing seam metal	asphalt shingle standing searn metal standing searn metal standing searn metal standing searn metal	standing seam metal asphalt shingle standing seam metal asphalt shingle poured concrete poured concrete	Roof poured concrete standing seam metal standing seam metal none standing seam metal standing seam metal

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Z	Z	Z	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Z	Z	Y	Y	Y	Y	Conti
Hog Barn	Shop	Garage	House	Corn Crib	Barn	Carriage House	Rock Fence	Spring Box	Rock Fence	Stone Bridge	Rock Fence	Rock Fence	Gates	Rock Fence	Rock Fence	Stone Bridge	Stone Trough	Pump	Cistern	Trailor	Garage	Site of For	Ice House	Meat House	Root Cellar	Contributing N
						louse	e	X	Ċ	ge	e	e		e	e	ge	ıgh					Site of Formal Gardens		õ	T	Name
c. 1970	late-20th century	mid-20th century	19th century	early-20th century	mid-19th century	mid-19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	19th century	early-20th century	early-20th century	early-20th century	mid-20th century	mid-20th century	mid-19th century	mid-19th century	mid-19th century	c. 1841	Date
poured concrete	concrete block	concrete block	stone/concrete	cut stone	cut stone/concrete	cut stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	stone	not applicable	unknown	concrete block	concrete block	not applicable	cut stone	cut stone	cut stone	Foundation
standing seam	metal	concrete block	brick	vertical board	brick/board and	brick	stone	not applicable	unknown	metal	brick veneer	not applicable	brick	brick	cut stone	Wall										
standing seam metal	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	asphalt shingle	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	asphalt shingle	not applicable	not applicable	poured concrete	metal/asphalt shingles	asphalt shingle	not applicable	standing seam metal	standing seam metal	cut stone	Roof										

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Pump House Water Gaps Store/House Shed	Feeding Floors Feeding Floors Run-in Shed Tobacco Barn Rock Fence Woodland Savannah	Meat House Milking Parlor Barn Pit Silo Rock Fence Tobacco Barn Farrowing House Pig Nursery Feed Mill Pig Grower Finishing Floor Gestation Building	ContributingNameNGrain Bin ComplexYScale HouseYLoading ShootNBull Shed
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Summary of Significance

The Cane Ridge Rural Historic District in eastern Bourbon County meets National Register eligibility criterion A and is significant with the historic context of "Agricultural and Social History in Bourbon County and the Inner Bluegrass, 1820-1950," and the context of "National Religious History, 1801-1957." One site within the district, the Walker Buckner House, referred to locally as "Buknore," was listed on the National Register in 1997 under criterion C. The district may also be significant under Criterion B because of its association with Barton Stone, a religious leader of national importance. This nomination, however, will not make a case for criterion B because the main structural association with Barton Stone is the Cane Ridge Meeting House. The original log church experienced several renovations through the years, and then was restored to its original condition and encased in a stone shrine. For this reason, the National Register has in the past determined that the log church lost its integrity and is not eligible. Nevertheless, the church remained a very significant historic site for the local community and influenced the historic development of the district in some important ways. Its significance will be discussed below in the context of Criterion A. In addition to the Walker Buckner House and associated antebellum outbuilding, other structures in the district probably qualify under Criterion C. The architectural and design merits of these buildings will not be presented in order to allow a more focused presentation on Criterion Α.

The proposed district is similar to several other rural historic districts in Bourbon County and the rest of the Inner Bluegrass region in that it is an excellent example of the landscape of large estates and country houses developed by the Bluegrass gentry during the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. It is significantly different because it has not been extensively impacted by the twentieth-century expansion of the thoroughbred industry. Thus, in addition to the fine dwellings and associated outbuildings found in other districts, the proposed district still retains the spatial relationships between main farmsteads, outlying tenant complexes, and isolated farm buildings and structures associated with traditional agricultural practices the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Transportation networks, spatial relationships between historic buildings, and extant resources can be seen on today's landscape from as early as the 1820s. The Period of Significance for the district begins at 1841, when 3 prominent extant houses—Eden, Buknore, and Glenwood—had been completed and gave focus to the district's development.

Ownership of the land within the district has been primarily held within two families, one for nearly two hundred years and a second for more than a hundred and twenty-five.

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Although these immediate families did not have significant leaders of innovation or within the political sphere, they were prominent and wealthy members of Bourbon County's ruling political and economic elites. And other members of their extended families were important political, military and economic figures within both national and state history. The Buckners and Clays of the proposed district were some of the wealthiest families within the county and their dwellings, farm buildings and tenant complexes represent the aspirations and tastes of the most powerful Bluegrass gentry. Furthermore, their association with and relationship to the ongoing historic changes at the log Cane Ridge Meeting House provide important insights into the development and nature of Republican ideology and iconography. This nomination explains these activities under the terms of Criterion A rather than under Criterion B.

Research Design

A reconnaissance survey of rural Bourbon County identified the section of Cane Ridge Road (KY 537) between Steele Road and College Road to have an extremely high level of historical integrity in comparison to its surrounding Inner Bluegrass region's countryside during the early-twentieth century. In the middle of the district sits the Walker Buckner House (aka "Buknore"), a circa-1841 house on a large farm with several nineteenth-century outbuildings that is already listed on the National Register for its architectural significance. Across the road is the Cane Ridge Meeting House, a religious site of national significance that was denied National Register listing in 1973 because the log building was encased within a 1957 stone shrine. Thus, the obvious themes on which to focus research were:

- Agricultural and rural history of Bourbon County and the Inner Bluegrass; and
- The relationship between the religious history of the Cane Ridge Church and the surrounding community.

The historic significance of the famous 1801 religious revival at Cane Ridge is well known and fully documented. This event is often specifically mentioned in general American History textbooks and a number of books have been written about it. For this reason, I did not research the events surrounding the revival, but instead I looked at the relationship of the surrounding community to the Cane Ridge Church and its transformation into a shrine. This was accomplished by looking at the socio-economic profiles of the neighbors and their involvement in the church. This information came from church and census records, secondary sources and oral histories.

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The general agricultural history of the Inner Bluegrass region is also well documented, both in secondary sources and in other nominations of Rural National Register districts in the Bluegrass. This study uses census records, historic maps, family histories and secondary sources to establish an historic profile of both the landowners along Cane Ridge Road and their farms during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. These profiles were compared to similar information in other nominations, including the "Historic and Architectural Resources of North West Woodford County, Kentucky," the "Big Sink," "Clifton-McCracken" and "Pisgah" Rural Historic Districts in Woodford County; the "Boone Creek" and "Middle Reaches of Boone Creek" Rural Historic Districts in Clark and Fayette Counties and "Cooper's Run Rural Historic District in Bourbon County. The research conducted for the nearby "Stoner Creek Rural Historic District" was particularly helpful because most of the families who owned farms along the Cane Ridge Road also owned land within the Stoner Creek district or were interrelated with families who did. Then the relative historic significance of landowners and farms as revealed by the analysis of their political, social and economic profiles were compared with the existing physical resources on the landscape. Finally, the research sought reasons for the unique historical developments along Cane Ridge as compared to other districts within the Inner Bluegrass Region.

During the course of the research, the central role of the Buckner family in the historical development of the proposed district became clear. For this reason, the research area was expanded to include adjacent land fronting Harrods Creek Road that was formerly Buckner land. No effort, however, was made to expand the district further off Cane Ridge Road, although there may be other adjacent areas that illustrate the themes of the proposed district.

Archival and field research discovered that the proposed "Cane Ridge Rural Historic District" illustrates history of agriculture in Bourbon County well. It is particularly unusual because modern horse farms do not dominate its landscape as they do in other wealthy areas of the County and Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass region, those with rich pastures underlain with limestone. The district does have one thoroughbred farm, but it has preserved much of its historic character by adapting older tobacco and stock barns in to stables instead of building ornate horse barns and manicuring its fields. Thus, this district's integrity gives the viewer a better picture of the rich Inner Bluegrass historic landscape as it looked before the explosion of the thoroughbred industry in the middle-twentieth century.

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The research and characteristics of the proposed district are analyzed within a large context, entitled "Agricultural and Social History in Bourbon County and the Inner Bluegrass, 1820-1950," which is composed of three themes in this nomination. They are:

- The antebellum landscape 1820-1865, the triumph of the Bluegrass aristocracy;
- The landscape and agricultural strategies of wealthy Bourbon County landowners, 1865-1950; and
- The role of the Cane Ridge Church as shrine to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the myth of the pioneer and the Whig/National Republican ideology.

The Antebellum Landscape 1820-1865, the Triumph of the Bluegrass Aristocracy

The late-eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century history of the Cane Ridge District is similar to other fertile areas of the Kentucky Inner Bluegrass region. A wide variety of European settlers rushed to Kentucky to lay claim to the new Eden. By the beginning of the antebellum period, however, the sons of the Virginia and Carolina gentry were in possession of most of the fertile land and fully dominated the politics and economy of Kentucky. Once in firm control, this new Bluegrass gentry began to put their own stamp on the landscape, which was a conscious attempt to emulate the English countryside and gentry.

For the early settlers in Kentucky, cane breaks were a sign of rich, fertile soil. This meant the bamboo cane prairie on a broad flat ridge in Bourbon County, soon to be called Cane Ridge, was quickly identified as a coveted area for land claims and development. The only limiting factor on Cane Ridge was the lack of any significant streams, although springs were plentiful enough. Thus, settlement into the Cane Ridge area started in the early 1780's, around the same time as in other parts of Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass region.

Like other parts of the Bluegrass, numerous conflicting claims where made on the land along Cane Ridge and surrounding areas. Court settlements and accompanying land speculation mostly benefited those with more resources and better political connections. Thus there was a large turnover of population during the late-1780s and early-1790s. For example, one early settler, the Rev. John Finley, split with the Transylvania Presbytery in 1795, and took about half of the families in the Cane Ridge and Concord congregations to

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a newly established colony near Chillicothe, Ohio. Conflicts over church discipline and loyalty to Finley were some of the reasons for the emigration, but problems with land titles, certainly for Finley and undoubtedly for others, also precipitated the move (Conkin, 80). By the beginning of the nineteenth century, the land on Cane Ridge had been acquired by members of some of the most prominent families in the County, or indeed the state.

The stamp the antebellum gentry placed on the landscape can clearly be seen in this District. According to an 1861 map of Bourbon County, three of the five main antebellum houses in the district still exist, and the locations of the missing two are marked by a late-nineteenth and a large early-twentieth century houses. Buknore, Eden, Glenwood, the site of The Ridge, which contained a grand house and the site of the Ockerman House are the only identified large farms on the map. Although the 1860 agricultural census indicates some possible tenant farms in the district, these were the only significant farms in the district.

While the placement of active roads has changed considerably since 1860, the old roads, including a lane between Buknore and Eden, are still visible. The current landscape of the district also reflects the land use patterns that developed during the antebellum period. There are only a few very small and isolated woodlots. Most of the land is devoted to permanent pastures with about 25% used for arable crops. The individual returns of the 1860 agricultural census indicates a similar land use during the antebellum period. The large collection of antebellum outbuildings and rock fences at Buknore and Eden only enhance the excellent illustration of the lifestyle and agricultural practices of the antebellum gentry. Thus, this district contains sufficient historic resources from the antebellum period to give the careful observer a good picture of the spatial and social relationships among the Bourbon County gentry.

The three existing antebellum houses are Glenwood, (BB-285), Eden, (BB-266), and Buknore, originally called Locust Grove and listed as the Walker Buckner House, (BB-282). Living in one of the wealthiest counties in the state, landowners clearly wanted their houses to reflect wealth and status. Eden is a fine circa-1820, story-and-a-half, Federal house with Flemish bond brickwork, fanlit entrance and dormers. Constructed in 1837-38 for \$1,000 with wood cut on the farm, Glenwood is a two-story frame Greek Revival house with a colossal two-story Ionic portico. Circa 1841 Buknore is a transitional Federal-Greek Revival that was intentionally built to be slightly larger replica of Auvergne, the grandest house in Bourbon County at the time (Langsam and Johnson, 116-117,119, 137, 182-183). Eden has received a significant addition circa-1898, but does not alter or significantly detract from the original house. A large percentage of the

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original dependences, including two brick slave still exist. Glenwood and Buknore are also remarkably intact.

Unlike Glenwood, Eden and Buknore still have impressive collections of outbuildings that are excellent illustrations of the typical estates of gentlemen farmers in the antebellum Bluegrass region. They both show the spatial relationship between the big house, servant quarters, associated domestic buildings such as external kitchens, root cellars, ice houses and meat houses, and agricultural buildings such as barns, sheds and granaries. Collectively they give insight to the social dynamics among the Bluegrass gentry.

Eden and Locust Grove (Buknore) were the country estates of two members of the Buckner family, one of the more prominent and wealthy families in the region. Four brothers and a sister of this family of Virginia gentry first migrated to Bourbon County in the second decade of the nineteenth century. They came with considerable resources. For example, Walker brought 12 slaves with him in 1814. As occurred throughout the Bluegrass, they used their wealth to acquire land from the early settlers. William T. was the most successful. He acquired large distilleries and other business interests, built a large estate at what became Xalapa (BB-452 and in the Stoner Creek Rural Historic District), and became a prominent member of Bourbon County society. Although older, Walker, who built Locust Grove, was less successful. For example, in 1840 Walker's total property value was assessed at \$48,913 of which \$44,832 was in land. Quite a sum of money for 1840, but this compares to William T's total of \$80,980, of which \$48,300 was in land. William T. played a more prominent role in county business, politics and society, at least as recorded by historical resources. Around the same time, two other brothers, Benjamin and Samuel, failed in business and were forced to move onto Missouri after their debts were paid by their brothers (Orthel, p. 28-29, 39 and 42).

Around 1840, William T's son, William T. II acquired, assumedly with some of his inheritance from his father, the fine already built estate of Eden. Around the same time, Walker decided to build his grand house of Locust Grove. Walker, who was approaching sixty years of age, made a conscious decision to enhance his social status through the construction of an ostentatious house. It was deliberately built to be a slightly larger replica of Auvergne (BB-307 and in the Stoner Creek Rural Historic District). Auvergne was the estate of Brutus Clay, arguably the most prominent citizen in Bourbon County at that time. Walker Buckner may not have achieved the political status of Clay or his younger brother, but he had acquired enough wealth to help bail out his brothers and try to upstage Clay by building an even bigger house. It must have afforded him a great deal of pleasure and comfort.

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The design of both Locust Grove and Auvergne are attributed to Matthew Kennedy, Lexington's first self-conscious architect. This attribution is uncertain, and the plans for both houses may have been adaptations of his style by the local builders of the house, Butler and DeJarnett. The style of the two houses is both innovative and somewhat conservative in that the façade is an implied Grecian temple applied to a basic Federalstyle central passage, double-pile house. In both houses, the interior trim is mostly in newer Greek Revival style, although they still retain some strong Federal elements. Contrasting these two houses are the classic Federal architecture of nearby Eden, begun about two decades earlier and the newer classic Greek Revival style of Glenwood, a relatively more modest house built just a few years earlier.

The Landscape and Agricultural Strategies of Wealthy Bourbon County Landowners, 1865-1950

The district best illustrates the gentry dominated countryside of Bourbon County during the second and third decades of the twentieth century. At that time, much of the land was being subdivided among the next generation of Buckners and the Clays, who redeveloped their large estate across the road. Together, they built new country houses and farmsteads that remain remarkably intact with relatively few additions and new buildings.

The main infill came in the form of tenant complexes developed during the 1920s and 1930s, plus a hog and three dairy complexes built at various times during the century's second half. This district is particularly unusual because no thoroughbred farms developed here as in other agriculturally rich parts of Bourbon County that were dominated by the gentry. Thus neither the barns nor the landscape has been converted into a modern horse farm. Besides the dairy and hog operations, the non-contributing buildings and structures consist primarily of a mid-to-late-twentieth-century farm complex at Glenwood plus a few isolated tobacco barns, modern sheds, and metal corn bins. In terms of the landscape, the district currently may have less acreage in tobacco and pasture and more in corn than in 1920, but overall, the spatial relationship of fields, fence rows, woodlots, agricultural buildings and dwellings retains much of its historic character.

After the Civil War, wealthy gentry continued to dominate the proposed district. According to the 1880 census W. T. Buckner II of Eden owned over 1,400 acres. Locust Grove had been divided between two grandsons of Walker Buckner I. Walker Buckner II received the big house which was renamed Buknore and had 570 acres. His brother, William S. Buckner had 570 acres along Cane Ridge Road, but bought Ellisle (BB-264,

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demolished) on Harrods Creek Road for his main home. E. P. Colcord owned a 507-acre farm next to the Cane Ridge Meeting House and a house situated on the current foundation of The Ridge. Two more farms along Cane Ridge Road, Glenwood and Hedges/Ockerman place were less than 200 acres. Behind The Ridge were two 100-150 acre farms, which were nearly 70% woods or unimproved wasteland. Before the end the century, Samuel Clay of Marchmount on Winchester Road, one of the wealthiest men in central Kentucky, had acquired the Colcord and adjacent farms on the north side of Cane Ridge Road to assemble an enormous farm, by central Kentucky standards, one of 2,240 acres. This, however, was only a fraction of the nearly 7,000 acres he owned in Bourbon County.

The new century brought lots of change, but two had a significant impact on the development of Cane Ridge. First was the fact that a new generation of Buckners was coming to marriageable age. Around 1910,William T. Buckner III gave his daughter Lucy a new house and farm when she married Clarence Kenney, and around the same time, William S. Buckner gave his eldest son Aylette a new house and farm. Both of these farms sat next to the Cane Ridge Road and had entirely new farmsteads built in conjunction with the house. Across the road, the land was passing to the next generation of Clays. The old house was lost to fire, and The Ridge was built circa 1916. On the western edge of the farm, about 250 acres was sold to the Wilberface family in 1919. They built a new house and farm within a few years.

The second significant change was the boom in the burley tobacco market. First introduced in the Bluegrass region during late-1880s, burley proved to be an immensely profitable crop, and most Bourbon County farmers began growing huge amounts. In 1880, Bourbon County farmers grew only 19 pounds of tobacco per farm. Ten years later, the county grew 4,513 pounds per farm and by 1910, 6,504 pounds per farm. The shift to tobacco came largely at the expense of sheep. In 1880 Bourbon County raised 55.5 sheep per farm. William T. Buckner II of Eden had 2,700 sheep and produced 12,600 pounds of wool; Walker Buckner II of Buknore had 300 sheep and produced 2,400 pounds. In 1890 the number of sheep per farm in Bourbon County was cut to 24; by 1910 it was only 15.5. The number on Eden or Buknore is unknown, but it must have been severely reduced. During the same period, the production of beef cattle and hogs rose and fell in relationship to each other, but did not significantly decline until depression hit farming in the 1920s and 1930s.

The tobacco boom had several impacts on the landscape. The first was the adaptation of older barns for curing tobacco and the new widespread construction of the ubiquitous three-bay tobacco barn with side and/or roof vents. Often, these new tobacco barns were

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built next to the tobacco fields away from the main farmstead. Because tobacco culture was more labor intensive and required less acreage than grazing or even grain production, the shift in crops further facilitated the development of small tenant farmsteads on the large farms.

The historic impact from the division of land among heirs and the introduction of tobacco culture can still be clearly seen on the landscape of the proposed district. This is especially true of the two farmstead built for Lucy Kenney and Aylette Buckner. Both farmsteads are very similar in their layouts and show cultural norms the generation of Bluegrass gentry coming of age at the beginning of the twentieth century. Both have large, but not ostentatious, houses built in a contemporary style. Each had servant houses indicating that resident domestic help was still a social requirement. Garages built at the same time as the circa-1910 houses indicate that automobiles were quickly adopted as they became available. A cistern, chicken house, meat house and multi-purpose barn completed the requirements, but the separate root or dry cellar was no longer needed. Perhaps canning, improvements in iceboxes and cellars in the houses made the separate root cellar superfluous to these progressive farmers. The main barns were used at various times for both stock and tobacco. They have stalls and internal granaries for livestock, but tier rails for curing tobacco have replaced the haylofts, which would have been present in a barn used exclusively for livestock.

Each of the Buckner farms had tenant farmsteads. Most of these farmsteads sat next to a public road, but a couple were along a major interior farm road. The economics of tobacco culture made it attractive for a large landowner to construct a small house, with a tobacco barn, meat house and chicken house on a small acreage of land and rent the farm for a share of the crop. Most of the houses were simple four-room, one-story dwellings built in the 1920s and 30s. The houses on these tenant complexes have received modernization and some expansion, but most retain their full array of outbuildings and thus their historical character.

The Clays developed their large estate across Cane Ridge Road in a similar, but slightly different manner. Circa 1916, the Clays built a large two-story, brick, Georgian/Federal Revival dwelling on the site of the earlier Colcord House that had burned. A servant/tenant house and large unusual hay barn are the only buildings that remain from the nineteenth-century farm. As the Clays developed their farmstead around the main house, they seemed to concentrate on livestock in keeping with traditional Bourbon County agriculture. The farm still has early-twentieth-century stock barns, weight house, and corncrib in addition to various sheds and workshops. Tobacco culture and the development of a dairy industry took place away from the main farmstead. The Clay

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estate was a compilation of the approximately 550-acre Colcord farm, plus a number of smaller surrounding farms. During the nineteenth century a public highway was built across Cane Ridge running from Cane Ridge Road between the main house and the Cane Ridge Meeting House toward Jackstown Road. Several smaller farms sat near this road, which probably became part of the main internal farm road of the Ridge. The remaining physical evidence indicates that the Clays adapted some of the older farm dwellings for tenant houses and centered their tobacco production on these older farmsteads. Like the Buckners, the Clays also built isolated tobacco barns with stripping rooms. Many of these date to the early-twentieth century. Thus the Clay estate shows the same sort of large farms with satellite tenant complexes that characterized Bourbon County farms during the first half of the twentieth century.

Outside of the Buckner and Clay lands, the proposed district contains two smaller 300plus-acre farms. Glenwood, the old Rodgers estate, still has its original fields and antebellum, but has lost most of its early-twentieth century agricultural buildings. At the old Wilberfore farm, however, is found the same pattern of early-twentieth century development found in the rest of the district. It differs slightly in that the main farmstead contains more sheds and barns, and is strung out along the farm road to the back farm. The house is also smaller and the front drive does not resemble the tree-lined, looped entrance to the front door that characterizes the houses of the Buckners. It also does not have any apparent tenant complexes. Thus, this particular farm makes a nice contribution to the proposed district by showing a middle class, owner-operated farm from the earlytwentieth century. This farm does not have the feel of the nearby gentry farms, but the basic elements of farm buildings are the same. While the gentry were perfectly willing to have various aspects of their operation spread throughout the farm, a farm owner who was the primary operator wanted more of the farming to be closer to home.

One intriguing question is why this proposed district did not develop any modern horse farms. A possible answer may lie in the fact that these farms remained in the same old Bourbon County gentry families for many generations. As the farms were divided, rejoined and redivided through the generations, the families chose to maintain traditional gentlemen farms, albeit sometimes on a smaller scale and in response to contemporary market forces. The main exception was William S. Buckner and his main operation, which lay outside the proposed district and closer to Stoner Creek where the thoroughbred industry did develop. The building of horse farms in other parts of Bourbon County often entailed the infusion of large amounts of outside capital, either by newcomers, or by established families who had earned large fortunes elsewhere. Naturally, aspiring racehorse owners chose to acquire farms near established

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thoroughbred farms where the social ambiance and economic opportunities were more in keeping with their dreams.

Whatever the reason, the lack of horse farms allows the proposed district to better illustrate the nature of rural Bourbon County in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, before thoroughbreds became the most significant part of the agrarian economy. As outlined above this district has all the elements needed to illustrate this history with a limited amount of non-contributing resources.

The role of the Cane Ridge Church as a shrine to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the myth of the pioneer and the Whig/National Republican ideology.

Cane Ridge witnessed the climatic event of the Second Great Awakening, one of the most significant religious movements in American history. In August of 1801, an estimated ten to thirty thousand people gathered at the log church at Cane Ridge for a week-long religious revival. Representing around a quarter of the population of the young state of Kentucky, this was the largest of a wave of revivals that had been sweeping the nation for more than a decade. One attendee counted as many as seven ministers preaching at one time with simultaneous singing, praying, crying and shouting creating a noise "like the roar of Niagara."

Through emotional preaching and camp meetings, the Second Great Awakening rejected the fatalistic predestination of Calvinism and emphasized personal salvation and the rejection of drunkenness, gambling, fighting and sexual immorality. Although particularly strong on the western frontier, this nation-wide revival shifted the base of American religion toward Evangelical Protestantism. The direct results were the rise of the temperance movement and interdenominational missionary societies, and a call for ecumenicalism, which ironically lead to the establishment of new denominations. In the long term, the Second Great Awakening help set the foundation of American middleclass values, the association of wealth, privilege and political power with responsibility, hard work, sobriety, sexual morality and a strong nuclear family.

The immediate impact of the Cane Ridge Revival was the establishment of a new denomination, the Christian Church. The young minister of the Cane Ridge Church, Barton W. Stone, was a firm believer in ecumenicalism. Inspired by the scene of preachers from various denominations working together at the Cane Ridge Revival, Rev. Stone and his followers left the Presbyterian Church and started a movement to eliminate denominations and reunite people as "Christians." Calling themselves the Christian Church, they united in 1832 with the followers of Thomas and Alexander Campbell,

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known as the "Disciples of Christ." This new denomination is now called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The log church at Cane Ridge came to be regarded as the birthplace of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a shrine to Christian unity. Built in 1791 as a Presbyterian Church, had fairly elaborate log construction of approximately fifty by thirty feet with two by eight feet offsets on the long sides. The elevated, boxed-up pulpit was located in the north alcove. It also had fifteen-foot ceilings, a slave gallery and puncheon floor. The church received two major renovations. In 1829, the outside façade received weatherboard and the inside was plastered. The gallery was removed, tongued and grooved flooring replaced the puncheons, and seats with back supports were installed. In 1882, additional minor modernization made the interior more comfortable, and a local congregation continued to use the church until the early-twentieth century. In 1932, on the centennial anniversary of the union of the Disciples of Christ and the Church of Christ, the church was restored to its original appearance, including finding and restoring the original boards of the gallery. Finally a non-profit organization built a native stone shrine/superstructure around the church and nearby museum between 1954 and 1957. This structure was part of a movement in Kentucky to enshrine important "pioneer" buildings such as Abraham Lincoln's "birth cabin," which was named one of Kentucky's first National Register listings in 1966.

According to current National Register interpretation, the log church is not historically significant because of the changes it has experienced and its encasement in a stone shrine. Nevertheless, the changes to the church and the stone shrine itself in juxtaposition with the surrounding landscape provides an excellent illustration of the role of frontier iconography and Protestant moralism in the development of our nation's political economy and ideology. During the nineteenth century, Cane Ridge was home to some of the wealthiest gentry in Kentucky. One of the largest and wealthiest farms surrounded the church. The largest house in the county at that time was built across the road in 1842. Yet this wealthy neighborhood maintained and used a primitive church building. Both the Rodgers of Glenwood and the Clays who acquired The Ridge, two of the wealthier families in the county were leaders and supporters of the church throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. At a time when there were several more sophisticated and ornate brick and frame churches throughout the county, local residents only updated the church for comfort rather than a display of wealth and power. Even when the latenineteenth century brought a new round of fine church building, the Cane Ridge Church received only minor modernization. It is also interesting to note, that this primitive church building is listed on the 1877 DeBeers map of the county, when other finer church buildings are not.

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During the Early Republic, the triumph of the republican ideal of equality and public virtue encouraged even the wealthy elites to identify themselves with the rise of the common man. Although those who came to acquire land on Cane Ridge came to Kentucky from wealthy eastern gentry families with large amounts of capital, slaves and political connections, they liked to emphasize their "pioneer" roots and struggles in carving a fortune from the wilderness. With the division of the republican movement into the Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson factions, the frontier and log cabin iconography became particularly important for Clay's National Republican and later Whig party. This iconography is probably best typified by the William Henry Harrison campaign of 1840. Certainly most of the wealthy planters on Cane Ridge, in Bourbon County or indeed in the entire Bluegrass Region were strong Whigs and Clay supporters. Having an old log church, albeit weatherboarded and plastered, sitting among the opulent country houses seemed incongruous, but was in fact a central part of the neighborhood's sense of place and self identity. The fact that the church was also associated with the birth of one of the more important religious denominations in central Kentucky only strengthened its shrine status.

Likewise, the preservation of the Joseph Hibler log cabin on a large nearby farm, which is located outside of the proposed district, may also reflect homage to the pioneer spirit. Sitting near the now gone, grand estate of Ellerslie, this one-and-a-half story, single-pen, log structure could certainly been used as slave quarters or some other type of outbuilding. Yet the location of the log structure in relationship to the big house is odd. The log house stands by itself in front of the old house along the apparent entry way into the old estate. Normally slave quarters would be behind the house in closer view, and were probably more extensive for the number of slaves on this farm. The preservation of this log structure without any apparent renovation or modernization displays an attachment to the buildings of the pioneer period that may have been influenced by the symbolic role the Cane Ridge Meeting House.

After the local congregation ceased to actively use the primitive church, it was a natural and obvious choice to make the log building one of Kentucky's early restoration projects. The 1953 decision to enshrine the restored church within a stone superstructure was simply the next step in an historical process that had been ongoing for more than a hundred years. It was part of the same historical phenomenon that was occurring elsewhere in Kentucky. For example, the log cabin associated with Abraham Lincoln's parents is enshrined in a similar manner at in the Fort Harrod reconstruction in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Construction of the stone shrine at Cane Ridge began in 1954 and was completed in 1957. Although it is less than fifty years old and does not qualify

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as a contributing structure under National Register guidelines, it is part of an important state historical movement that should meet established criteria within just a few years. Regardless, it currently makes an important contribution to the understanding of local history as is, particularly in juxtaposition to the fine nineteenth-and early-twentiethcentury houses and farm buildings in the immediate neighborhood of the proposed district.

Interpreting the property's significance is the foundation in assessing the property's eligibility, and for this property that interpretation is a complex undertaking. It requires the viewer to differentiate the site, the log church, and the stone superstructure, for all three comprise the physical identity of the property. Clearly, the site and log church on which the superstructure is placed are of national significance for events taking place in the early-nineteenth century. In addition, the superstructure also demonstrates an important state historical movement to recognize those landmark kind of places in the mid-twentieth century. The establishment of the National Register itself is a contemporaneous effort to demarcate places that reflect our significant past.

The property currently makes an important contribution to the understanding of local efforts to memorialize its significant past. It has a strong appropriateness, particularly in the way it is juxtaposed against the fine nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century houses and farm buildings within the proposed district. The property, with its superstructure, reinforces the themes of early settlement era activities, social status, agricultural prosperity, the perspectives that contribute to our view of the proposed Cane Ridge Rural Historic District's general importance. Thus, the entire property is judged to contribute to the District's sense of time and place, even though the National Register's views lead to a non-contributing status accorded to the building on the property.

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Boundary Description

The proposed district includes the following property parcels as recorded in the Bourbon County Valuation Assessor Office.

53.00-00-010.00	53.00-00-012.00	54.00-00-001.00
54.00-00-002.00	54.00-00-003.00	54.00-00-004.00
54.00-00-005.00	54.00-00-005.01	54.00-00-005.02
54.00-00-006.00	54.00-00-006.01	59.00-00-005.00
60.00-00-001.00	60.00-00-001.01	60.00-00-001.02
60.00-00-003.00	60.00-00-006.00	

See attached maps for a graphic outline of the district boundary.

Boundary Justification

This part of Bourbon County has extensive areas of farmland with intact historic dwellings and agricultural buildings and a high level of historic integrity. Thus it is currently possible to draw a much larger district that would qualify for the National Register under a variety of different themes. This nomination focuses on an area that includes both sides of Cane Ridge Road (KY 537) between Steeles Road and College Road (Hwy 3364) for several reasons. During the nineteenth century, most of this land was owned by the Buckners and Clays, two of the most prominent and historically significant families in Bourbon County and indeed within the Bluegrass region. The current farm boundaries for the most part represent property divisions that date to the early twentieth century and that remain within these families. Other than the exceptions listed bellow, current farm boundaries and the proposed district follows the historic holdings of these two prominent families during the early twentieth century. Taken as a whole, the area within the proposed district also shows the historic development of agriculture on the large farms of prominent Bluegrass gentry with a very limited impact of the thoroughbred industry that characterize most Bluegrass estates. Specific reasons for the inclusion and exclusion of particular properties are stated below.

The owner of the farm at the corner of Steeles Road and Cane Ridge Road did not grant permission for a survey. Thus this farm was excluded from the district, although observations from the road indicate that it would probably qualify and illustrate themes outlined in the statement of significance. One farm on the north side of Cane Ridge near the junction of Steeles Road has received extensive very recent development, and does

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not qualify. The exclusion of the above two farms meant that a third farm across from the junction of Cane Ridge and Steeles Roads could not be included because it would not have contiguous boundaries with the proposed district.

On the eastern end of the district and farm at the southwestern corner of Cane Ridge and Campus Roads was excluded because it has non-contributing buildings and lacks any significant historic resources. To the north of Cane Ridge Road, a parcel that fronts Stringtown Road is included because it was historically and currently operated as part of a larger farm along Cane Ridge Road. This parcel also contains historically significant resources that relate to the themes outlined in the statement of significance.

There are other farms to the north and east of the proposed district that appear to contain significant and interesting resources. Time and resources allocated for this project did not allow for them to be surveyed. A limited amount of research also indicated that these farms do not have a strong historical link to the themes emphasized in the statement of significance.

Eden, a farm that fronts Harrods Creek Road, is the only farm that has been impacted by the thoroughbred industry. It was included because this impact is limited and its historic links with the Buckner family and other farms in the district was simply too compelling for it to be left out. It has some very significant resources including slave quarters and early public roads (now internal farm roads) that linked Eden with Bucknore, a historically significant farm in the center of the proposed district.

There are other farms along Harrods Creek Road that have historic links to the Buckner family. They were not surveyed or added to the proposed district due to lack of time and resources. Although they may qualify as part of the proposed district, initial surveys indicated that they did not have the same level of historic resources or integrity. There was simply not a compelling need to extend the project to these farms.

Thus, the proposed boundaries of the Cane Ridge Rural Historic District do exclude some nearby farms that are significant illustrations of agricultural history in Bourbon County. On the other hand, all the farms within the district well illustrate the themes outlined in the statement of significance, and give this district a particularly high level of historical integrity.



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List of Photographs

The following is the same for all photographs:

Cane Ridge Rural Historic District Bourbon County, Kentucky John Lewis, photographer Negatives at the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky

1. Cane Ridge Shrine, facing northeast, August 2002

- 2. James Clay Farm, facing west, August 2002
- 3. Weatherall Farm, facing north, August 2002
- 4. Eden, facing east, August 2002
- 5. Slave Dwellings and Blacksmith Shop at Eden, facing northeast, August 2002
- 6. Main House at Kenney Farm, facing south, August 2002
- 7. Alyette Buckner House, facing south, August 2002
- 8. Glenwood, facing south, August 2002
- 9. Locust Grove or Buknore, facing southwest, August 2002
- 10. Rear of Locust Grove, facing northeast, March 2003
- 11. Front Lawn of Buknore, facing east, March 2003
- 12. Barns and Corncrib at Bucknore (19th and mid-20th centuries), facing northwest, March 2003
- 13. Mid-twentieth century dairy complex at Bucknore, facing southeast, March 2003
- 14. Late-twentieth century hog raising complex at Bucknore, facing south, March 2003

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15. Main farm road on Buknore, facing south, March 2003

16. Tenant house on Buknore, facing southeast, March 2003

17. Rock pool on Buknore, facing northwest, March 2003

18. Tobacco Barn on Buknore (mid-twentieth century), facing west, March 2003

19. Back Barns on Eden, facing west, March 2003

20. Farm Complex at Glenwood (late-twentieth century), facing south, March 2003

21. The Ridge, facing north, March 2003

22. Early Barn on The Ridge, facing northeast, March 2003

23. Farm road on back of Walker farm, facing north, March 2003

24. Tenant house on Walker farm, facing north, March 2003

25. Main barn on Kenney farm, facing southwest, March 2003

26. First tenant complex on Kenney farm, facing southwest, March 2003

27. Second tenant complex on Kenney farm, facing southeast, March 2003

28. Stringtown Road and Ockerman Farm on right, facing south, March 2003