

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 21 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 20 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

McClure-Shelby House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2 (Union Mills Road)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356 VICINITY OF

5

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Jessamine

137 / 113

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Agnes Fletcher and Paula D. Fletcher

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Nicholasville

VICINITY OF

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jessamine County Court Clerk (Jessamine County Court House)

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Nicholasville

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort,

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 McClure-Shelby House is situated on a low hill on the south side of Route 169, approximately one-quarter of a mile east of Hickman Road in northeastern Jessamine County. The dwelling, which faces northward, is a one-story, brick, tripartite composition built during the 1840s. While the treatment of the main entrance-- doorway and portico--gives the house a Greek Revival character, the triple massing and window arrangement are indicative of the Federal Style. It is interesting to note that all Greek Revival houses in Jessamine County contain Federal elements in their makeup.

Laid in Flemish bond, the facade is nine bays wide with a five-bay central block and flanking two-bay, one-room pavilions. The main entrance is sheltered by a tetrastyle pedimented portico, the original wooden posts of which have been replaced with brick piers (see photo 1). The entrance itself is flanked by engaged columns, four-pane sidelights, and pilasters and is surmounted by a single-pane, rectangular transom. An entablature completes this doorway composition. Windows in the central section are double-hung with nine-over-six panes; those of the pavilions are six-over-six. All windows are capped by jack arches.

A gable-on-hip roof (see photo 2) covers the main block, while the side wings have half-hipped roofs. Each wing has a single chimney set flush with the outside wall, while two chimneys serve each of the east and west side walls of the central section. The entire triple mass rests on an ashlar foundation executed with obvious skill (see photo 3).

Projecting from the rear of this structure is a two-room, five-bay, rectangular service wing with a gabled roof. A full-length porch supported by brick piers runs along the east side of this wing (see photo 4). The rear door of the main block, directly opposite the front entrance, opens onto this porch. A similar porch construction with a shed roof was later added to the west side, apparently to compliment the original east porch (see photo 2). Each facade is pierced by three windows as well as two doors which facilitate entry into both rooms of this projection. The windows, like those of the pavilions, are double-hung sash with six-over-six panes. A chimney is located on the south gable end wall and a second chimney rises from the roof near the middle of the wing.

Symmetrically arranged, the interior of the house consists of a wide entrance hall with a double parlor on the east side and what were probably a dining room and sitting room on the west side. These four main rooms, generally square, have sixteen foot ceilings. The pavilions, probably used as bedrooms, as both have a single cupboard in the fireplace wall, are also square with ceilings approximately fourteen feet high. The staircase is located in the southwest corner of the entrance hall (see photo 5) and leads to a small, attic storage area lit by dormer windows added at a slightly later date.

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McClure-Shelby House, situated on picturesque hilltop setting in the Bluegrass region of the state, contains elements that combine to make the residence one of the finest examples of the Greek Revival style in Jessamine County. The house was built circa 1840 for Andrew McClure, a large landowner and prosperous farmer in the area. After his death, McClure's estate was inherited by his only child, Sarah B. McClure, who was later to become the wife of Isaac Shelby, grandson of Isaac Shelby, first governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

It was in 1854 that Sarah McClure married Isaac Shelby at her home in Jessamine County. Isaac Shelby was the son of General James Shelby of Fayette County and Mary Pindell, daughter of the famous Revolutionary War surgeon, Dr. Richard Pindell of Maryland. After the war Dr. Pindell moved to Lexington, Kentucky, where he died in 1833.

Before his marriage to Sarah McClure, Shelby had been a prominent landowner in Fayette County. After the death of his father in 1848, Isaac Shelby inherited the entire estate which included the family residences of "Greenfields" and "Richland." (For further information on these sites, see the nomination form for The Shelby Family Houses, Fayette County, Kentucky, approved by the Review Board February 7, 1978). The estate was part of the two thousand nine hundred acre tract Governor Isaac Shelby had provided for his sons James and Thomas Hart.

After his father's death, Isaac resided at "Richland," and continued living in the house until he mortgaged it and 600 acres in 1854. Isaac was forced to mortgage "Richland" because in 1831, Virginia Shelby Breckinridge, widow of his cousin, Alfred Shelby, Jr., instigated court proceedings against him as executor and legatee of James Shelby, who had apparently embezzled funds left to Alfred Shelby, Sr., father of Alfred, Jr., by Governor Shelby. (Alfred Shelby, Sr., youngest child of Governor Isaac Shelby, was killed in a hunting accident in 1832, and James and Evan, the third child of Governor Shelby, were named executors of the estate of their youngest brother.)

The court suit against Isaac placed a tremendous financial burden upon him--having to repay thirty thousand dollars, plus interest since 1832. In 1852 Isaac gave his brother Evan "Greenfields" and 150 acres in order to preserve at least part of the estate left to him by his father.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"See continuation sheet"

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 33 acres

UTM REFERENCES

DA	1.6	7214210	419641010	A-B	1.6	72181210	4191621310
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
B-C	1.6	72161210	4191581610	C-D	1.6	72141410	4191591210

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area includes approximately 33 acres. The boundary begins at a point on the south side of Ky. Highway 169 approximately 2100 feet from the intersection with Hickman Road. The boundary runs in a straight line southwest for approximately 1400 feet, then turns west for approximately 600 feet. The line turns northwest for 1500 feet returning to Highway 169. It then follows the south side of 169 for approximately 1400 feet to the original point.

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

Gus Johnson, Historian and Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Kentucky Heritage Commission

2-1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

104 Bridge Street

564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Frankfort.

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 W. Meerton

TITLE - State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6/15/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles Atkins

DATE

11.20.78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Jann H. Oilmore*

DATE

11/17/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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McClure-Shelby House

CONTINUATION SHEET

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The interior trim, all of which is original with the exception of a mantel in the front parlor, is in the Greek Revival style. The double parlors are divided by large sliding doors which, like the other openings in these two rooms, are framed by shouldered architraves. A similar treatment is given the west rear room. Most other rooms have simpler, post-and-lintel type door frames with square corner blocks (see photo 6), while the hall doorways are pedimented.

Mantels are generally bold yet simple arrangements of pilasters supporting the projecting shelves (see photo 7). An exception is the front parlor mantel, a two-tiered arrangement with mirror that was a later addition. The dining room mantel differs from the others in that slender engaged columns, rather than the strong pilasters, flank the opening. Several fireplaces have somewhat elaborate iron grates. Paneled aprons are set beneath the windows and high baseboards are found throughout the house.

The service wing is entered from the rear west room by means of a hall running along its west side to the kitchen. The kitchen, with large, brick fireplace, is at the extreme southern end of the wing and has two exterior doors. A pantry originally separated the kitchen from the other room in this wing which, like the kitchen opens onto the original porch. The present owners have transformed the pantry into a laundry room and bath.

Included in the surrounding outbuildings, which are mainly barns and sheds of recent construction, are two structures dating from the second half of the nineteenth century. A frame granary on stone supports is situated to the west of the house, while on the east side is a brick smokehouse.

The owners are currently in the process of restoring the house and plan to use it as a residence.

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McClure -Shelby House
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As was stated previously, Isaac married Sarah B. McClure in 1854. Isaac immediately began building a home for his new bride on his father's estate in Fayette County. The Greek Revival house, named "Highland Hall " by Isaac, was completed in 1855 as indicated by the cornerstone. (Highland Hall was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on December 16, 1977.)

In 1857 the court case was decided against Isaac and he was forced to sell "Richland," to his uncle Thomas Hart Shelby, owner of "Grasslands," in order to raise money for the settlement. The same year Isaac sold his new home "Highland Hall," to Alexander Prewitt again to raise money.

Following the loss of his estate in Fayette County, Isaac and his wife moved to the McClure estate in Jessamine County which Sarah McClure Shelby had inherited from her father, Andrew McClure. In 1852 a Deed of Trust was signed by Sarah and her mother Rachael S. McClure stipulating that in the event of Sarah's marriage, she would retain absolute control and power over the disposition of her father's estate separate and free from any rights or power of her husband.

Isaac and Sarah Shelby spent the remainder of their lives at the McClure estate. They had two children, Sarah Bartan Shelby and James Shelby, who died in childhood. Sarah Shelby died in 1866, and her estate was inherited by her daughter, Sarah B. Shelby. After his wife's death, Isaac in partnership with others operated a distillery in Jessamine County until his death in July, 1873. Sarah B. Shelby retained the estate until she attained majority when she sold the estate out of the McClure family.

This house is outstanding for its eloquent adjustment of massing to site. The effect of seeing it on its superb hilltop location is that of a house firmly rooted to the ground and projecting forward to its main feature, the portico. This pedimented, tetrastyle portico and the frontispiece are typical of the Greek Revival. The triple massing and the jack arches above windows appear to be held-over Federal characteristics. Regardless, the arrangement is very successful, and the house is the finest of its type in the county.¹

Workmanship of **high** quality is obvious on the McClure-Shelby House's exterior. The brickwork and stonework are well executed, and construction materials are also of excellent quality. Fortunately, few exterior changes have occurred.

¹ A comprehensive survey of Jessamine County was conducted by staff of the Kentucky Heritage Commission in 1977. At that time houses of triple massing were carefully noted. All the structures which can be classified as Greek Reveval in style incorporated certain Federal elements such as Flemish bond brick work and the triple massing.

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Jessamine County Will Book G, p. 136; Book L, pp. 390-392, 502

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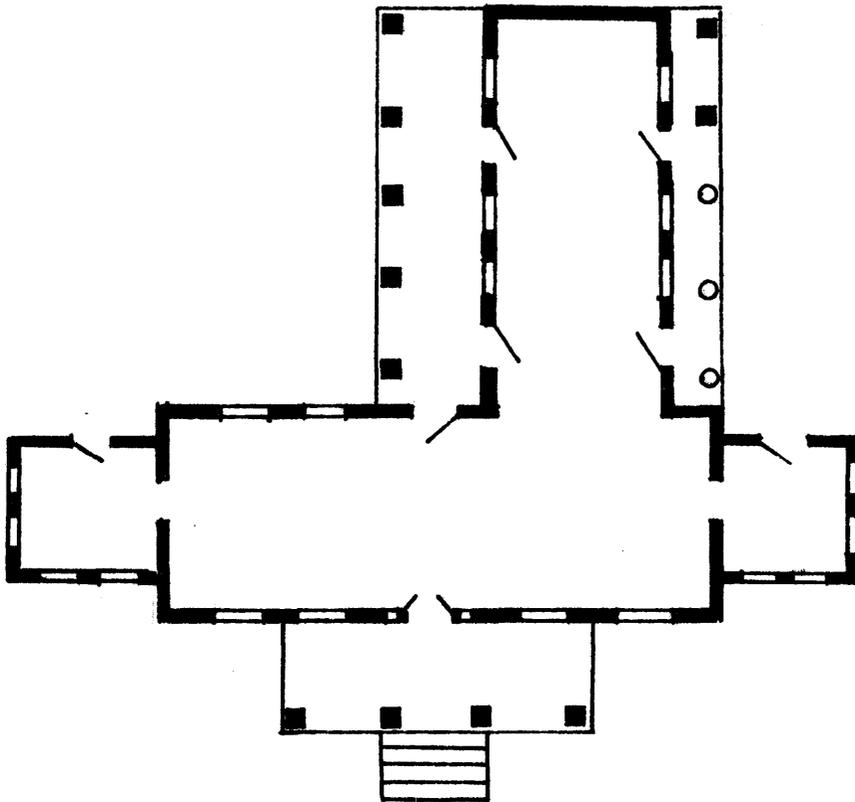
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McClure-Shelby House c. 1840
Jessamine County, Ky.

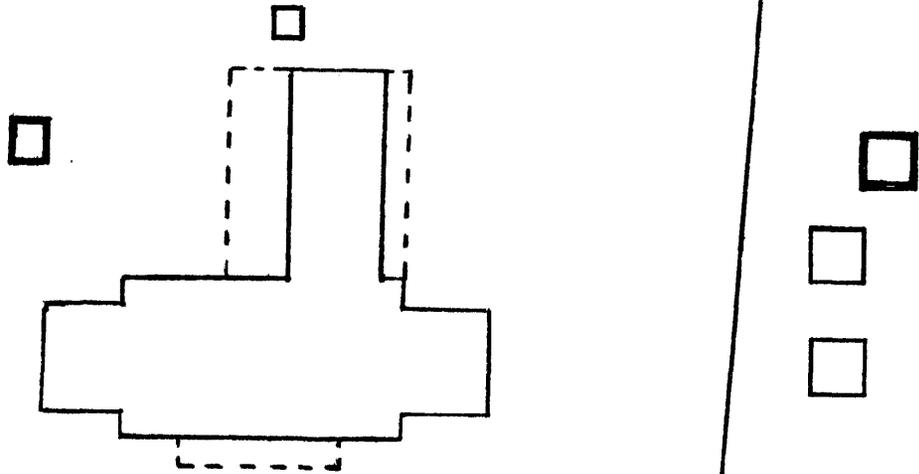
No scale.



McClure-Shelby House :
Jessamine County, Kentucky .
House plan. No scale.
Daniel Kidd
Kentucky Heritage Commission
January 1978
Map 2.

JUN 21 1978

McClure-Shelby House
Ca. 1840
Jessamine County, Ky.
No scale.



Creek

Union Mill Road

McClure-Shelby House
Jessamine County, Kentucky
Site location map. No scale.
19th century outbuildings outlined
in red.
Charlotte Schneider
Kentucky Heritage Commission
January 1978
Map 3.

JUN 21 1978



NOV 1978