

PH0024475

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kentucky	
COUNTY: Madison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 2 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Grant House

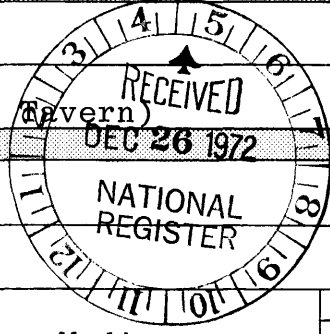
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
*has this name*  
Merritt Jones Tavern (Wayside Tavern)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
One Mile south on U.S. 421

CITY OR TOWN:  
Big Hill

STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21      COUNTY: Madison      CODE: 151



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>vacant at present.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Berea College

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Berea      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Madison County Courthouse ---clerk's office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Survey of Historic Sites In Kentucky

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Grant House or Merritt Jones Tavern, dating ca 1850, is of interesting architectural construction. It contains three doors opening on a porch that spans the front of the house. Two doors lead to generous rooms containing fireplaces while the third and center door leads to a long closet-like hall that was used for the travelers' harness and tack.

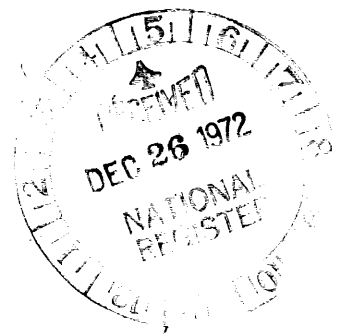
The house is built on a solid stone foundation containing a basement room with outside entrance. The house is constructed of well preserved logs that are now covered with clapboard. The interior walls are plastered. There have been many alterations through the years including the wide front porch, side porch and two rooms to the rear.

The original house is of log with two large rooms on the first floor and attic rooms above with separate stairways. An opening between the rooms on the first floor was added later. A room to the extreme right and rear of the house is connected to the house by a small side porch but may have stood independently at an earlier time. This is reputed to be the room that was prepared for General Grant.

A former resident of the house, Mrs. Jarvis Carrier, states that there were slave quarters and a kitchen to the rear of the house when she resided there, but these have been torn away. The four large chimneys are of stone and mostly original with the exception of one that has been repaired with bricks. Most of the original twelve-paned windows have been destroyed by vandals. One notable feature of this house is seven solid walnut two-paneled doors which are in very good condition.

Even after years of neglect, the Grant House is inviting and comfortable-looking today. It must have been a welcome sight to the weary traveler in the 19th century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

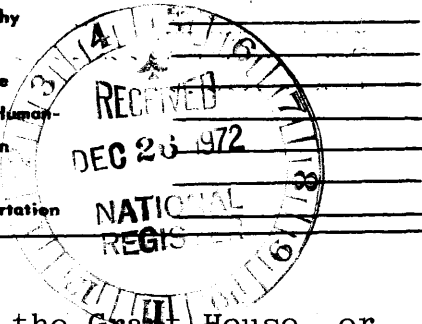
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1850; 1864

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The most notable guest who stayed at the Grant House, or Merritt Jones Tavern, was General Ulysses S. Grant, who according to local citizens, spent the night there early in 1864 while on his way to Washington. This tavern was a welcome sight to travelers using the Wilderness Road which crossed Cumberland Gap.

During the Civil War, Jones Tavern served and housed both Union and Confederate soldiers. It was used as a Confederate field hospital during the Battle of Richmond, August, 1862. Thirteen soldiers, ranging in age from 15 to 32 years are buried approximately 100 yards from the house; these graves have been marked and enclosed by a fence. Later the Union forces used the house as a commissary during the Battle of Perryville, October, 1862.

When General Ulysses S. Grant passed through Madison County in 1864, a cavalry officer preceded him to the Merritt Jones Tavern. He told the occupants, who were Southern sympathizers, that Grant was to stay there that night, and that he expected a hot meal, bath and bed for him. He demanded the best of everything for the General. Grant and his small part of men arrived a few minutes later and were waited on by the daughters of Merritt Jones, the tavern owner. Jones and his sons were fighting for the South and his wife was in bed ill.

General Grant was very courteous to his hosts; later they spoke of him as being taciturn but polite. As he prepared to leave the next morning General Grant asked one of the daughters about her mother. Upon hearing that she was ill, he asked to see her. Learning that her husband and sons were fighting for the Confederacy he said that he hoped they would return home safely. He said that he was sorry to find her sick and hoped that she would soon be well. He thanked her for her hospitality, left orders for the bill to be paid, and departed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. William H. Miller papers; French Tipton papers; Townsend Room, John Grant Crabbe Library, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky.
2. Dorris, Jonathan T. & Maud W. Glimpses of Historic Madison County, Kentucky. Nashville: Williams Printing Company, 1955.
3. "General Grant's Visit Not Confirmed Until 1915," Berea Citizen
4. "Identities of Confederate Battle Dead Are Traced," Richmond Daily Register. August 22, 1972.
5. Personal interviews with Civil War historian and former tenant of Grant House.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

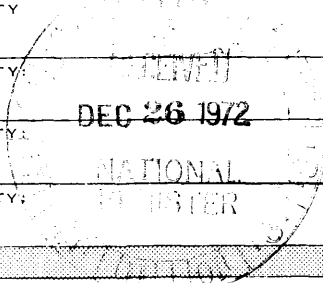
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 32' 05"	84° 12' 35"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

U.M.  
4157640  
(1)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Charles C. Combs, Madison County Representative

ORGANIZATION: Kentucky Heritage Commission DATE: 12/14/72

STREET AND NUMBER: Walnut Meadows Road - Route # 2

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Mrs. Susan Willis

Title State Liaison Officer

Date 12-18-72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/2/73

ATTEST:

James R. Ford  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 3/22/73