

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

DEC 29 1982

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Spring Hill, (Thomas Lillard House)

and/or common Same

2. Location

S of Danville on U.S. 150

street & number Highway U.S. 150, Wilderness Road not for publication

city, town Danville vicinity vicinity of

state Kentucky code 021 county Boyle code

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Palmer VanArsdale

street & number Post Office Box 158

city, town Danville vicinity of state Kentucky 40422

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Boyle County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Danville state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Sites in KY has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date April 9, 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in southeastern Boyle County, on a prominent rise overlooking the Wilderness Road, is the Thomas Lillard House. Built between 1858 and 1860, the Lillard House is a three-bay, two-story, Greek Revival structure with Italianate influence. The brick is laid in common bond and rests on a limestone foundation. The house is capped by a hipped roof covered by standing seam metal. Large wood brackets punctuate the cornice. The windows are paired and have 4/4 pane sash with stone sills and lintels. The front entrance in the center bay is framed by a transom and sidelights.

An 1879 photograph of the house shows it with the original front porch: a one-story porch with balustrade supported by octagonal posts. Massive interior chimneys extended high above the roof ridge. Together the chimneys and porch give the house a Gothic Revival air, a popular style in Boyle County. (See Three Gothic Revival Villa's, Boyle County, listed in the Register July, 1977.)

A 1910 photograph shows the original porch in deteriorated condition. In 1940, the existing two-story tetra-style portico was added. Other changes to the exterior included lowering of the chimneys and the changing of the central second-story windows into a door with transom.

The interior floor plan is composed of a central hall, 16' x 40' deep with two rooms (17' x 19') off each side. The single flight stair is located on the north side of the hall. The first floor woodwork is composed of shouldered architrave trim with cornice, while the second floor shouldered trim has no cornice. The north front parlor is distinguished from the other first floor rooms by the egg and dart molding below the cornice. Each room has a fireplace, with a built-in press to one side.

The original floor plan remains essentially unaltered and the house itself is in excellent condition. The original two-story porch in the rear was enclosed with frame and weatherboard construction (c. 1940) to accommodate plumbing.

A brick smokehouse located approximately 40' to the rear of the house is included in the nomination.

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 1858–1860 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thomas Lillard House is significant as one of two, two-story, double pile, hipped roof Greek Revival structures found in Boyle County, an agriculturally rich county in the Bluegrass region. (A comprehensive survey of historic sites was conducted in 1976. The predominant building plan for Greek Revival structures found in the county were two-story, single pile with rear ells.) The Lillard House's original floor plan remains intact, as well as its shouldered Greek Revival trim.

Thomas Lillard (1815–1891), the builder of the house, was born in Madison County, Ky. In 1849, a year after his marriage to Mary Bright of Lincoln County, he acquired the 490 acres where the house is located. As a young man, Lillard worked as a drover and stock trader, spending his winters in Charleston, South Carolina, and his summers, herding livestock to the markets in New York. After his marriage and purchase of Spring Hill, he turned to farming. He raised livestock, hay, and orchard grass seed, his money crop.

The Lillards had eleven children. The youngest sons, Thomas and William, acquired Spring Hill at their father's death in 1891. The property was sold out of the family in 1901.

In the mid-20th century the house fell into disrepair. Several years ago it was acquired by the present owners and sympathetically restored.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Perrin, W.H., Kentucky. A History of the State. Chicago: F.A. Battery & Company. 1887.

Unpublished Lillard Family Memoirs (in possession of present owners of Spring Hill).

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1

Quadrangle name Stanford

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	7	0	1	1	9	0	4	1	6	5	1	2	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nomination includes fifty feet extending from all sides of the house.

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 Mary Cronan Oppel, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date October 5, 1982

street & number Ninth Floor, Capital Plaza Tower telephone 502/564-7005

city or town Frankfort state Kentucky

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mary Cronan Oppel

title State Historic Preservation Officer date December 17, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date 1/27/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
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