# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

other (explain): \_\_\_

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form 908

**UL | 3** 2000

RECEIVED 2280

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking war treatment box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter N/A for not applicable. For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items. 1. Name of Property historic name Jenkins-Berkshire House other names/site number BE-28 2. Location street & number\_\_\_6529 Mill Street \_\_\_\_\_\_ not for publication N/A city or town Petersburg vicinity N/A state Kentucky code KY county Boone code 015 zip code 41080 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination 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 \_\_X meets \_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_ locally \_\_ ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Executive Director, KHC State Historic Preservation 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 official/Title 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

<u>Jenkins-Berkshire House</u> Name of Property		Boone County, KY County and State					
		osany and state					
5. Classification							
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Prope (Do not include previously-listed resources in the					
X private public-local public-State public-Federal	X building(s) district site structure object	Contributing Noncontributing  1  1	buildings sites structures objects Total				
Name of related multiple propert (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple <u>Historic Resources of Boone County</u>	property listing)	Number of contributing resources plisted in the National Register					
6. Function or Use							
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling					
DOMESTIC/secondary structure	re	DOMESTIC/secondary structure					
7. Description							
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) MID-19TH CENTURY/Gothic Revival		Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation STONE					
	and the second s	walls WOOD/weatherboard	·				
	.1	roof ASPHALT					

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Refer to continuation sheets

Jenkisn-Berkshire House	Boone County, KY				
Name of Property	County and State				
8. Statement of Significance					
Applicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance				
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)	(Enter categories from instructions)				
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE				
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.					
✓ 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.	Period of Significance c. 1880				
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.					
Criteria Considerations  Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates <u>c. 18</u> 80				
Property is:					
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person				
B removed from its original location.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  N/A				
C a birthplace or a grave.	Cultural Affiliation				
D a cemetery.	N/A				
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.					
F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder unidentified				
<b>G</b> less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years					
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation	n sheets.)				
9. Major Bibliographical References  Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more of 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 #	ontinuation sheets.)  Primary location of additional data:  State Historic Preservation Office Other state agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:				
recorded by Historic American Engineering					

Jenkins-Berkshire House Name of Property									Boone County, KY County and State		
10. Geograp	hical Data	a									
Acreage of F	Property	0.17 acres									
UTM Referer Place additional		ences on a continua	ation sheet)								
1 2	16	Easting 684 140	Northing 4326 100 <u>N/A</u> See o	3 4 continuati	Zone on sheet.	Easti	ing	Northing	Lawrenceburg Quad		
<b>Verbal Boun</b> (Describe the bo			continuation sheet.)								
Boundary Ju Explain why			ected on a contin	uation st	neet.)						
11. Form Pre	pared By	1									
name/title <u> </u>	David L. T	Taylor, Princir	oal								
organization_	Taylor	& Taylor Ass	ociates, Inc.		<del></del>	date	Nove	mber, 1999			
street & numb	oer <u>9 Wa</u>	alnut Street				telep	hone	814-849	4900	_	
city or town	Brookvi	lle			sta	te	PA	zip code	15825	_	
Additional D	ocument	ation									
Submit the follow	ving items w	ith the completed f	form:								
Continuation	Sheets										
			ries) indicating th and properties ha				umero	us resources.			
Photographs Represent		: <b>k and white</b> pl	notographs of the	e propert	y.						
Additional ite Check with the		or FPO for any	additional items	)							
Property Ow											
		quest of the SHPO Robert Hensl									
- street & numb	per <u>652</u>	9 Mill Street							telephone		
city or town _	Petersb	urg			state	e <u>K</u>	ζY		zip code <u>41080</u>		

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief,

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 7 Page 1

### Description

The Jenkins-Berkshire House (BE-28) is a 1½-story clapboarded-sided wood frame Gothic Revival residence, T-shaped in form, set on a continuous stone foundation and capped with an asphalt-clad lateral gable roof with a prominent center gable on the facade (Photo 1). It is located north of Kentucky Route 20, and occupies a 0.17-acre tract in the unincorporated Ohio River community of Petersburg. With reference to the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky," the Jenkins-Berkshire House is an extremely well-preserved example of Property Type 1F, domestic architecture/central passage house.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House incorporates a symmetrical three-bay facade with a centered entry. The entry is trabeated in the manner of the Greek Revival and is articulated with a five-light transom sash and four-unit sidelights whose lowest panels are of solid paneled wood and the upper three lights are glazed (Photo 2). The doorway is further defined by modest attenuated pilasters. Further defining its style, the main four-panel entry door features two lower rectangular panels two lancet-arched upper panels. Centered on the roof on the facade is a steeply-pitched gable, crowned with a finial and highlighted by lacy carved bargeboard, also typical of the style (Photo 3). The gable ends of the main portion of the house are also trimmed with bargeboard and each crowned with a finial (Photo 4, 5). Two interior brick chimneys punctuate the roof at the ridge line. At the rear of the house, a one-story gabled ell, original to the house, projects westward from the main wing; a tall brick chimney rises from the ridge of the roof midway in the ell (Photo 6). An enclosed porch on the south elevation is joined to a gallery which is supported by square posts, suggesting Greek Revival derivation but of indeterminate age. Most fenestration on the Berkshire House is flat-topped, with four-over-four sash, and retains its original operable exterior louvered wood shutters. Longitudinal modern windows are in the ell, and the center gable on the facade includes a lancet-arched window with six-over-six sash.

The house employs a central hallway, single-pile plan. One of the most significant features of the interior is the open, double-run stair which rises from the hall and incorporates turned balusters (painted) and a handrail and octagonal newel of naturally-finished black walnut (Photo 7). Most of the woodwork of the house is original and is painted.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House sits on a flat 0.17-acre parcel south of the Ohio River which forms the north boundary of the village of Petersburg. The property is at the head of Petersburg's unopened Second Street, which appears on historic maps as Washington Street. Directly in front of the house is a massive, historic elm tree, one of the few remaining examples of its species in Boone County. No historic outbuildings are associated with the nominated property.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service** 

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House
(Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### Statement of Significance

The Jenkins-Berkshire House (BE-28) meets National Register eligibility under Criterion C, and is significant for its architectural design, as a distinctive example of Gothic Revival domestic architecture which is stylistically uncommon within the geographical context of Boone County. The Kentucky Heritage Council Historic Resources Survey (No. BE-28) identifies it as "one of the county's most characteristic and best-preserved examples of the Gothic Revival style." The property, which retains integrity, is significant within Historic Context V, "Domestic Architecture in Boone County, 1792-1950," as set forth in the Boone County MPDF, and satisfies fully the Registration Requirements established for Property Type I resources (Domestic Architecture) in the MPDF.

The Gothic Revival style was one of the picturesque design modes which developed in the midnineteenth century as a stylistic alternative to the more formal Greek Revival. While Boone County has retained a variety of Greek Revival and Italianate homes, such has not been the case for homes executed in the Gothic Revival style. Most of the residences erected by Boone County's small proportion of wealthy and sophisticated nineteenth-century citizenry were built at the county seat of Burlington, along major thoroughfares, or—as in the case of the Jenkins-Berkshire House—in close proximity to the Ohio River.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House ranks as one of the county's most characteristic and best-preserved examples of the Gothic Revival style. Unlike their Greek Revival and Italianate contemporaries, Gothic Revival-style houses are not numerous in Boone County; most examples--including the Jenkins-Berkshire House, are located near the river or along U.S. 42., the former Louisville Turnpike.

Gothic Revival-style dwellings in Boone County exhibit a wide range of stylistic expression. The Peter Gregory House (BE-670), located in the area of the East Bend Bottoms, exemplifies the high-style, academically-correct Downing cottage. The Glore House (BE-294) and the T. A. Huey House (BE-1033), are built on a large scale and interpret the style more loosely; in both examples the influence of the style is most evident in form and massing rather than applied ornament, with the dominant central gable as the stylistic hallmark. A group of rural houses of simple design and modest scale incorporate elements or the style: these include the Sydney Gaines House (BE-63), the Randall Rouse (BE-65), and BE-2. While built on a similarly modest scale, the Jenkins-Berkshire House is a considerably more stylish dwelling, incorporating the characteristic bargeboard, a lancet-arched focal window, and central ridgeline chimneys. The proportions of the house, however, are modest: its relatively small gable and short chimneys lack the vertical emphasis or the more high-style Gregory House.

With the exception of the Lewis Aylor House (BE-589; destroyed), an idiosyncratic dwelling of side-passage plan, Gothic Revival-style houses in the county-including the Jenkins-Berkshire House-- exhibit center-passage plans. Such is the norm throughout Kentucky; asymmetrical villa-style dwellings, usually architect-designed, are rare in the state and are generally found only in the Inner Bluegrass region.

Boone County's Gothic Revival-style dwellings are rarely stylistically pure and often include elements of other mid-nineteenth-century styles: Italianate porches and staircases, and Greek Revival doorways and

## **United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service** 

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 2

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### Statement of Significance, continued

interior moldings are common features. While the Gregory House features high-style Greek Revival interior elements, the Jenkins-Berkshire House, like the Glore House, employs simple Greek Revival interior finishes except for the lancet-ached panels of the main door.

As stated earlier, the Jenkins-Berkshire House ranks among the county's best-preserved Gothic Revival dwellings. While the Randall House and BE-2 have endured unsympathetic alterations of one sort or another, the Jenkins-Berkshire House remains largely intact.

Local tradition maintains that the house was built by J. C. Jenkins, an Ohio River steamboat captain, stock breeder, and one-time owner of the Boone County Distilling Company which was located adjacent to the house on the River (See Fig. 1). Jenkins himself lived atop Prospect Hill about one mile distant, and it was said that he built the Gothic Revival-style cottage for his son so that the younger Jenkins could be seen but not heard. In 1880, Jenkins sold the house to George R. Berkshire, whose family retained ownership until the 1950s.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Boone County Public Records, Boone County Court House, Burlington, Kentucky.

Lake, D. J. Atlas of Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties, Kentucky (Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883), p. 12.

Warminski, Margo. Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Form BE-28 ("Berkshire House"), filed at Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being a portion of that property described in Boone County, Kentucky Deed Book 205, Page 5 and Property Tax Parcel Map No. 1-11, measuring north 82, east 93, south 77 and west 93, comprising a total of 0.17 acres. The boundaries are more particularly shown on the accompanying Boone County Planning Commission GIS map.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries of this nomination encompass the Jenkins-Berkshire House and its immediately associated dependency, both of which have been historically part of this property and retain both their architectural integrity and significance.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number Page

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

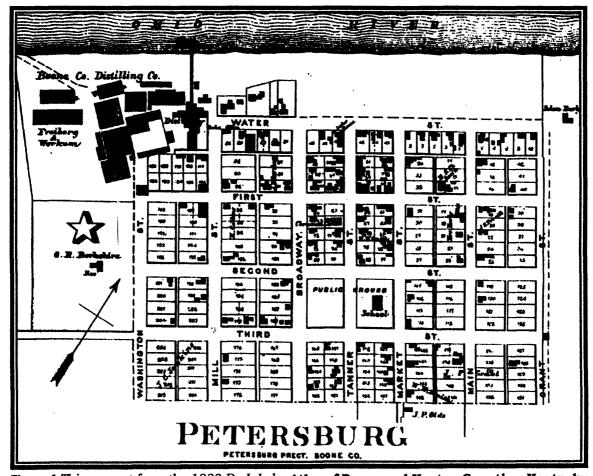
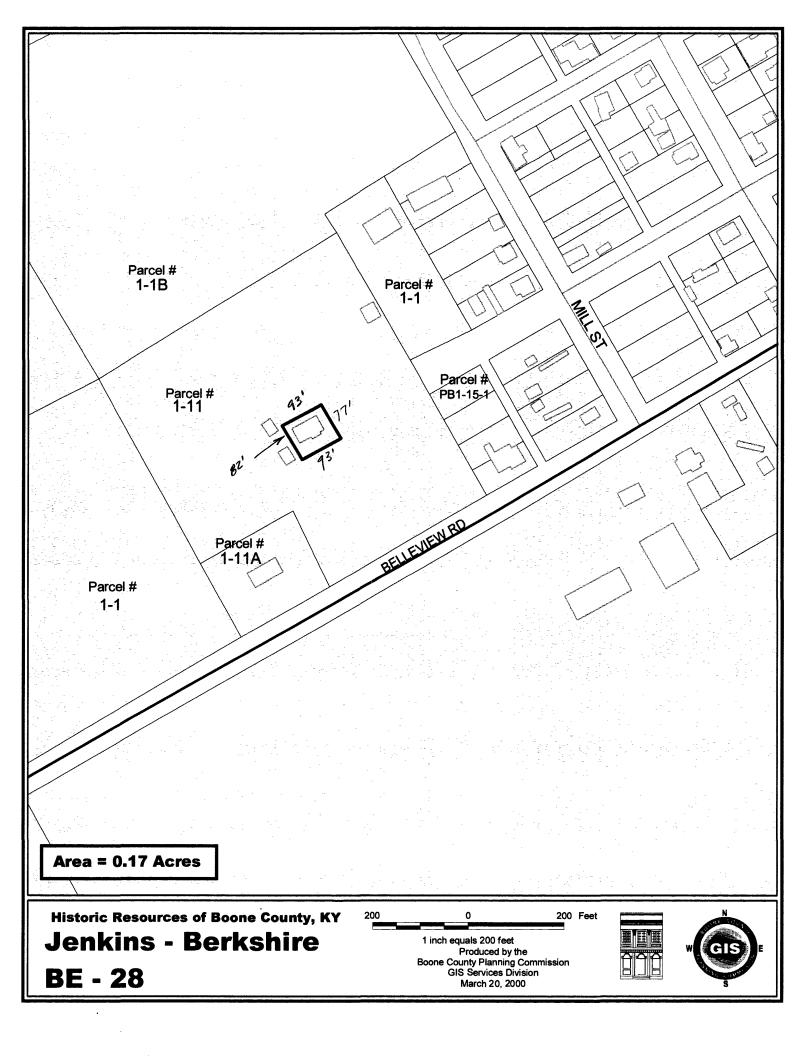


Figure 1 This excerpt from the 1883 D. J. Lake Atlas of Boone and Kenton Counties, Kentucky shows the Jenkins-Berkshire House (identified by a & with G. R. Berkshire as the owner), its proximity to the distillery and the Ohio River, and its relative prominence within the Petersburg settlement.



# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

other (explain): \_\_\_

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form 908

**UL | 3** 2000

RECEIVED 2280

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking war treatment box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter N/A for not applicable. For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items. 1. Name of Property historic name Jenkins-Berkshire House other names/site number BE-28 2. Location street & number\_\_\_6529 Mill Street \_\_\_\_\_\_ not for publication N/A city or town Petersburg vicinity N/A state Kentucky code KY county Boone code 015 zip code 41080 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination 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 \_\_X meets \_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_ locally \_\_ ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Executive Director, KHC State Historic Preservation 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 official/Title 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

<u>Jenkins-Berkshire House</u> Name of Property		Boone County, KY County and State					
		osany and state					
5. Classification							
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Prope (Do not include previously-listed resources in the					
X private public-local public-State public-Federal	X building(s) district site structure object	Contributing Noncontributing  1  1	buildings sites structures objects Total				
Name of related multiple propert (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple <u>Historic Resources of Boone County</u>	property listing)	Number of contributing resources plisted in the National Register					
6. Function or Use							
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling					
DOMESTIC/secondary structure	re	DOMESTIC/secondary structure					
7. Description							
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) MID-19TH CENTURY/Gothic Revival		Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation STONE					
	and the second s	walls WOOD/weatherboard	·				
	.1	roof ASPHALT					

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Refer to continuation sheets

Jenkisn-Berkshire House	Boone County, KY				
Name of Property	County and State				
8. Statement of Significance					
Applicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance				
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)	(Enter categories from instructions)				
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE				
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.					
✓ 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.	Period of Significance c. 1880				
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.					
Criteria Considerations  Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates <u>c. 18</u> 80				
Property is:					
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person				
B removed from its original location.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  N/A				
C a birthplace or a grave.	Cultural Affiliation				
D a cemetery.	N/A				
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.					
F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder unidentified				
<b>G</b> less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years					
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation	n sheets.)				
9. Major Bibliographical References  Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more of 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 #	ontinuation sheets.)  Primary location of additional data:  State Historic Preservation Office Other state agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:				
recorded by Historic American Engineering					

Jenkins-Berkshire House Name of Property									Boone County, KY County and State		
10. Geograp	hical Data	a									
Acreage of F	Property	0.17 acres									
UTM Referer Place additional		ences on a continua	ation sheet)								
1 2	16	Easting 684 140	Northing 4326 100 <u>N/A</u> See o	3 4 continuati	Zone on sheet.	Easti	ing	Northing	Lawrenceburg Quad		
<b>Verbal Boun</b> (Describe the bo			continuation sheet.)								
Boundary Ju Explain why			ected on a contin	uation st	neet.)						
11. Form Pre	pared By	1									
name/title <u> </u>	David L. T	Taylor, Princir	oal								
organization_	Taylor	& Taylor Ass	ociates, Inc.		<del></del>	date	Nove	mber, 1999			
street & numb	oer <u>9 Wa</u>	alnut Street				telep	hone	814-849	4900	_	
city or town	Brookvi	lle			sta	te	PA	zip code	15825	_	
Additional D	ocument	ation									
Submit the follow	ving items w	ith the completed f	form:								
Continuation	Sheets										
			ries) indicating th and properties ha				umero	us resources.			
Photographs Represent		: <b>k and white</b> pl	notographs of the	e propert	y.						
Additional ite Check with the		or FPO for any	additional items	)							
Property Ow											
		quest of the SHPO Robert Hensl									
- street & numb	per <u>652</u>	9 Mill Street							telephone		
city or town _	Petersb	urg			state	e <u>K</u>	ζY		zip code <u>41080</u>		

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief,

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 7 Page 1

### Description

The Jenkins-Berkshire House (BE-28) is a 1½-story clapboarded-sided wood frame Gothic Revival residence, T-shaped in form, set on a continuous stone foundation and capped with an asphalt-clad lateral gable roof with a prominent center gable on the facade (Photo 1). It is located north of Kentucky Route 20, and occupies a 0.17-acre tract in the unincorporated Ohio River community of Petersburg. With reference to the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky," the Jenkins-Berkshire House is an extremely well-preserved example of Property Type 1F, domestic architecture/central passage house.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House incorporates a symmetrical three-bay facade with a centered entry. The entry is trabeated in the manner of the Greek Revival and is articulated with a five-light transom sash and four-unit sidelights whose lowest panels are of solid paneled wood and the upper three lights are glazed (Photo 2). The doorway is further defined by modest attenuated pilasters. Further defining its style, the main four-panel entry door features two lower rectangular panels two lancet-arched upper panels. Centered on the roof on the facade is a steeply-pitched gable, crowned with a finial and highlighted by lacy carved bargeboard, also typical of the style (Photo 3). The gable ends of the main portion of the house are also trimmed with bargeboard and each crowned with a finial (Photo 4, 5). Two interior brick chimneys punctuate the roof at the ridge line. At the rear of the house, a one-story gabled ell, original to the house, projects westward from the main wing; a tall brick chimney rises from the ridge of the roof midway in the ell (Photo 6). An enclosed porch on the south elevation is joined to a gallery which is supported by square posts, suggesting Greek Revival derivation but of indeterminate age. Most fenestration on the Berkshire House is flat-topped, with four-over-four sash, and retains its original operable exterior louvered wood shutters. Longitudinal modern windows are in the ell, and the center gable on the facade includes a lancet-arched window with six-over-six sash.

The house employs a central hallway, single-pile plan. One of the most significant features of the interior is the open, double-run stair which rises from the hall and incorporates turned balusters (painted) and a handrail and octagonal newel of naturally-finished black walnut (Photo 7). Most of the woodwork of the house is original and is painted.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House sits on a flat 0.17-acre parcel south of the Ohio River which forms the north boundary of the village of Petersburg. The property is at the head of Petersburg's unopened Second Street, which appears on historic maps as Washington Street. Directly in front of the house is a massive, historic elm tree, one of the few remaining examples of its species in Boone County. No historic outbuildings are associated with the nominated property.

## United States Department of the Interior

**National Park Service** 

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House
(Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### Statement of Significance

The Jenkins-Berkshire House (BE-28) meets National Register eligibility under Criterion C, and is significant for its architectural design, as a distinctive example of Gothic Revival domestic architecture which is stylistically uncommon within the geographical context of Boone County. The Kentucky Heritage Council Historic Resources Survey (No. BE-28) identifies it as "one of the county's most characteristic and best-preserved examples of the Gothic Revival style." The property, which retains integrity, is significant within Historic Context V, "Domestic Architecture in Boone County, 1792-1950," as set forth in the Boone County MPDF, and satisfies fully the Registration Requirements established for Property Type I resources (Domestic Architecture) in the MPDF.

The Gothic Revival style was one of the picturesque design modes which developed in the midnineteenth century as a stylistic alternative to the more formal Greek Revival. While Boone County has retained a variety of Greek Revival and Italianate homes, such has not been the case for homes executed in the Gothic Revival style. Most of the residences erected by Boone County's small proportion of wealthy and sophisticated nineteenth-century citizenry were built at the county seat of Burlington, along major thoroughfares, or—as in the case of the Jenkins-Berkshire House—in close proximity to the Ohio River.

The Jenkins-Berkshire House ranks as one of the county's most characteristic and best-preserved examples of the Gothic Revival style. Unlike their Greek Revival and Italianate contemporaries, Gothic Revival-style houses are not numerous in Boone County; most examples--including the Jenkins-Berkshire House, are located near the river or along U.S. 42., the former Louisville Turnpike.

Gothic Revival-style dwellings in Boone County exhibit a wide range of stylistic expression. The Peter Gregory House (BE-670), located in the area of the East Bend Bottoms, exemplifies the high-style, academically-correct Downing cottage. The Glore House (BE-294) and the T. A. Huey House (BE-1033), are built on a large scale and interpret the style more loosely; in both examples the influence of the style is most evident in form and massing rather than applied ornament, with the dominant central gable as the stylistic hallmark. A group of rural houses of simple design and modest scale incorporate elements or the style: these include the Sydney Gaines House (BE-63), the Randall Rouse (BE-65), and BE-2. While built on a similarly modest scale, the Jenkins-Berkshire House is a considerably more stylish dwelling, incorporating the characteristic bargeboard, a lancet-arched focal window, and central ridgeline chimneys. The proportions of the house, however, are modest: its relatively small gable and short chimneys lack the vertical emphasis or the more high-style Gregory House.

With the exception of the Lewis Aylor House (BE-589; destroyed), an idiosyncratic dwelling of side-passage plan, Gothic Revival-style houses in the county-including the Jenkins-Berkshire House-- exhibit center-passage plans. Such is the norm throughout Kentucky; asymmetrical villa-style dwellings, usually architect-designed, are rare in the state and are generally found only in the Inner Bluegrass region.

Boone County's Gothic Revival-style dwellings are rarely stylistically pure and often include elements of other mid-nineteenth-century styles: Italianate porches and staircases, and Greek Revival doorways and

## **United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service** 

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 2

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### Statement of Significance, continued

interior moldings are common features. While the Gregory House features high-style Greek Revival interior elements, the Jenkins-Berkshire House, like the Glore House, employs simple Greek Revival interior finishes except for the lancet-ached panels of the main door.

As stated earlier, the Jenkins-Berkshire House ranks among the county's best-preserved Gothic Revival dwellings. While the Randall House and BE-2 have endured unsympathetic alterations of one sort or another, the Jenkins-Berkshire House remains largely intact.

Local tradition maintains that the house was built by J. C. Jenkins, an Ohio River steamboat captain, stock breeder, and one-time owner of the Boone County Distilling Company which was located adjacent to the house on the River (See Fig. 1). Jenkins himself lived atop Prospect Hill about one mile distant, and it was said that he built the Gothic Revival-style cottage for his son so that the younger Jenkins could be seen but not heard. In 1880, Jenkins sold the house to George R. Berkshire, whose family retained ownership until the 1950s.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Boone County Public Records, Boone County Court House, Burlington, Kentucky.

Lake, D. J. Atlas of Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties, Kentucky (Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883), p. 12.

Warminski, Margo. Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Form BE-28 ("Berkshire House"), filed at Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 1

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being a portion of that property described in Boone County, Kentucky Deed Book 205, Page 5 and Property Tax Parcel Map No. 1-11, measuring north 82, east 93, south 77 and west 93, comprising a total of 0.17 acres. The boundaries are more particularly shown on the accompanying Boone County Planning Commission GIS map.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries of this nomination encompass the Jenkins-Berkshire House and its immediately associated dependency, both of which have been historically part of this property and retain both their architectural integrity and significance.

## **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number Page

Jenkins-Berkshire House (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

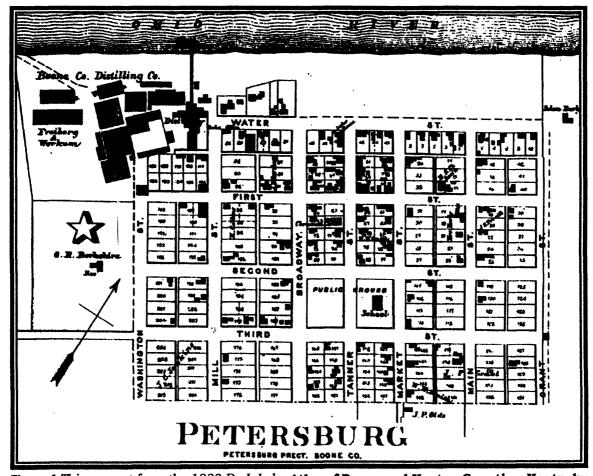


Figure 1 This excerpt from the 1883 D. J. Lake Atlas of Boone and Kenton Counties, Kentucky shows the Jenkins-Berkshire House (identified by a & with G. R. Berkshire as the owner), its proximity to the distillery and the Ohio River, and its relative prominence within the Petersburg settlement.

