

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED NOV 7 1978  
DATE ENTERED DEC 22 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

Walnut Meadows

AND/OR COMMON

Owsley-Walker House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

R.R. 1, Highway 150 East

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Stanford *Mo.*  VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Lincoln

CODE

137

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

~~W.O. Walker Estate, c/o Miss Isabel Walker~~

Mr. & Mrs. Bart McGeehan

Mr. & Mrs. John Brown  
Crab Orchard, Kentucky 40419

STREET & NUMBER

R.R. 1, Highway 150 East

CITY, TOWN

Stanford  VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lincoln County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Stanford

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1971

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Walnut Meadows is a Greek Revival residence located approximately 200 feet north of U.S. Highway 150 in rural Lincoln County. Stanford, the county seat, is five miles northwest. The region surrounding the residence is fertile farmland that has produced a variety of crops for many years.

A straight approach lined by mature maple trees leads up to this two-story, L-shaped dwelling of brick construction. The facade (see photo 1) contains five bays in a symmetrical arrangement. The central bay is protected by a tetrastyle portico, and the facade is treated with a simple entablature. The main entrance (see photo 2) is flanked by three-pane sidelights, and there is a two-pane transom overhead. The framing pieces are fluted and there are square corner-blocks at the intersections. Etched glass has been placed in the sidelights, and a chaste Victorian door has replaced the original one.

Both the main block and the ell to the rear have two-story galleries (see photo 3). The three chimneys serving the building are built outside the walls, and there is a small gabled stoop on the west side of the ell (see roof plan).

The arrangement of rooms follows the dwelling typology identified as "the central hall I house," with those rooms flanking the hall being of equal size. The hall (see photo 4) contains a fine return staircase with a heavy newel. The original mantel in the east parlor was replaced with a metal one given a marblized effect. The mantel in the west parlor is a severe example of the Greek Revival. Ceilings throughout the first floor are thirteen and one-half feet in height. Baseboards are high, and the original flooring of ash and poplar is intact.

The ell houses the dining room and kitchen. Originally, the kitchen was entered only from the gallery, but a cupboard flanking the dining room's mantel has been removed to provide passage.

The second floor accomodates three chambers whose wooden interior fittings are of the simple Greek Revival fashion. The chamber above the dining room contains a wider mantel and has an auxillary entrance from the upper gallery.

The acreage included in the nomination is designed to incorporate the substantial lawn to the front and sides of the residence. The mature trees, mostly maples, throughout the lawn provide a picturesque setting, and they play a reciprocal role between building and site. No early outbuildings have survived.

# 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

1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Walnut Meadows, located five miles southeast of Stanford, Kentucky, is architecturally significant as being one of the grander Greek Revival farm residences in Lincoln County that has survived in a relatively unchanged state.

This brick "I house" with an ell to the rear has been interpreted in the Greek Revival by an unknown builder. It is, however, known to have been built for Samuel Owsley, whose family had come to Kentucky in 1778, and whose brother was William Owsley, the sixteenth governor of Kentucky. The residence and surrounding land remained in the Owsley family for many years. Ownership changed several times before the property was acquired by Walter Walker in 1917. Mr. Walker had come to Lincoln County from neighboring Garrard County where he had been engaged in banking.

U.S. Highway 150, which is approximately 200 feet <sup>south of</sup> north of Walnut Meadows, closely follows the Wilderness Trail, a route which was heavily used by early settlers in Kentucky and regions farther west. The house derives its name from a great forest of walnut trees that once existed on the property. The community of Walnut Flat, a short distance northwest, was also named for the great stand of trees.

Few changes have occurred to this house constructed in 1840. With its tetra-style portico whose stone columns are in excellent condition, the building presents an arresting sight among the many trees that provide ample shade. One curious feature of this assuredly Greek Revival residence is its main entrance, which is somewhat Federal in spirit. Several items, most notably the main door and the east parlor's mantel, have been replaced with later Victorian elements. The floor plan, excepting the creation of a passage between the kitchen and dining room, remains the same as when the house was built. The second floor is also much intact.

An undulated landscape surrounds Walnut Meadows, and is a key factor in identifying this building as the main residence for a once-thriving and productive farm. Few such residences have survived in equal condition in Lincoln County, formed in 1780, and one of the three original counties organized in the district of Kentucky by the Virginia legislature.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Collins, Lewis. History of Kentucky, Vol. II. Berea: Kentucke Imprints, 1976.

Dunn, Shirley. Historic Homes and Old Buildings of Lincoln County. Privately printed, date unknown.

Additional information provided by Isabel Walker, Stanford, Ky., July, 1978

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

Longitude: 84°34'05"

Latitude: 37°29'26"

QUADRANGLE NAME Crab Orchard

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is a rectangular lot approximately one acre in size, bounded by U.S. 150 on the south. The far east and west extents are defined by the lawn, and the far north by the rear of the ell.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

August, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

502-564-3741

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

*Charles W. Hunter*

TITLE

DATE 10-30-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*[Signature]*

DATE 12-22-78

ATTEST: *Jane F. Gilmore*

DATE 12/22/78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

WALNUT MEADOWS  
LINCOLN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

ROOF PLAN

NO SCALE

