

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: KENTUCKY	
COUNTY: TODD	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 9 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
JEFFERSON DAVIS MONUMENT

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *on Ky 115 near junction with*
U.S. 68

CITY OR TOWN:
FAIRVIEW

STATE KENTUCKY	CODE 21	COUNTY: TODD	CODE 219
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

STREET AND NUMBER:
CAPITOL PLAZA

CITY OR TOWN:
FRANKFORT

STATE:
KENTUCKY

CODE:
21

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
TODD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
ELKTON

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

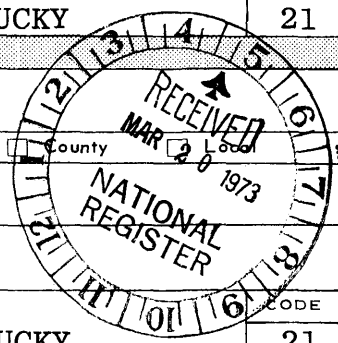
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
THE KENTUCKY HERITAGE COMMISSION

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 WAPPING STREET

CITY OR TOWN:
FRANKFORT

STATE:
KENTUCKY

CODE:
21



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STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7-13-73

7 DESCRIPTION

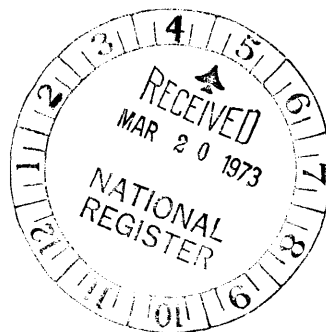
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jefferson Davis Mounument, 351 feet in height, is the fourth tallest monument in the United States and the tallest made from cast concrete. Resembling the Washington Monument in appearance, its dimensions are given by J. Winston Coleman in Historic Kentucky. Its base, 35 feet, one inch square, is exactly one-tenth of its height. "It was tapered up to 22 feet at the 314-foot mark where the square portion of the shaft was completed and where the last 36 feet came to a point. The walls range from 8½ feet thick at the base to two feet thick at the top. A 12-inch copper cap holding a lightning arrester raised the height to 351 feet. An elevator runs from the ground to the observation room near the top of the Monument from which Elkton and Hopkinsville can be seen on a clear day." On display in the observation room are exhibits illustrating the life and career of Jefferson Davis. The approximate weight of the Monument is 1,500,000 tons. The foundation of the obelisk consists of 19 feet of underground concrete resting on solid rock.

Work began on the Jefferson Davis Monument in 1917. After a delay caused by a shortage of materials, it was completed and dedicated June 7, 1924. Construction of the Monument was financed by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Major S. F. Crecelius, the architect, was assisted by Ernest McCullogh; G. R. Gregg was the general contractor and builder.

Also located on the grounds of the park are a replica of the log cabin in which Jefferson Davis was born, a gift shop, and a picnic and playground area.



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5. SIGNIFICANCE

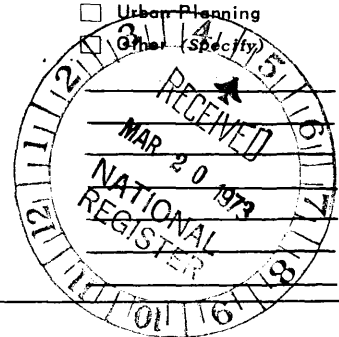
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1917

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 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 Jefferson Davis Monument honors Jefferson Davis, the first, last and only president of the Confederate States of America. An appropriate tribute to Davis, this obelisk is the fourth tallest monument in the United States and the tallest made from cast concrete. The building costs, approximately \$200,000, were raised by the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

A replica of the two room log cabin where Jefferson Davis was born is near the base of the monument. The land upon which the Bethel Baptist Church of Fairview stands was donated by Jefferson Davis and dedicated by him in 1886. This was the original location of the two room log structure in which Davis was born.

Jefferson Davis was born on June 3, 1808 in what was then called Davisboro. In his youth, his family moved to Mississippi, but later returned to Kentucky where Davis attended first St. Thomas College near Springfield, Kentucky, and then Transylvania College in Lexington, Kentucky before his appointment to West Point Military Academy in 1824.

After he graduated from West Point in 1828, Davis had an illustrious career in the military, serving in both the the Indian and Mexican Wars. In the Mexican War he attained the rank of Brigadier General. Between periods of service in the military, Davis served as a presidential elector in 1844 and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1845, resigning to serve in the Mexican War. After the Mexican War he was appointed to the Senate to fill a vacancy in 1847, and later elected to the Senate. During President Franklin Pierce's administration Davis was the Secretary of War. In 1857 he was re-elected to a six year term in the Senate where he became the Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs. However, in 1861, when the controversy between the North and South

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Correspondence of Mr. G.R. Gregg, Louisville, Ky. - Architect for the Jefferson Davis Monument, June, 1960.

Jefferson Davis Brochure; Ky. Department of Public Information (no date)

Coleman, J. Winston. Historic Kentucky. Lexington: Henry Clay Press, 1967.

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				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	36	50	32
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	87	18	01
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. LouDelle McIntosh, Curator

ORGANIZATION: Kentucky Department of Parks DATE: Jan. 1, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Capital Plaza Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Mrs. Simeon Willis</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>March 15, 1973</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert W. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>5/9/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>W. S. Smith</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>5 7 73</u></p>
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

reached the level of hostilities he resigned this office and was elected President of the Confederacy by acclamation. He served as Confederate President in Richmond, Virginia from 1861-1865. Captured in Georgia at the close of the war, he was imprisoned for two years. He died in New Orleans in 1889 after a short illness.

The Jefferson Davis Monument and birthplace are located roughly a hundred miles west of Hodgenville where Abraham Lincoln was born and where the log cabin that was his first home still stands. The Jefferson Davis Monument plays an integral part in celebrating the traditions of the Confederacy. Thousands of people visit the monument annually and every June hundreds of Civil War buffs gather at the foot of this structure for an old-fashioned "dinner on the grounds and speakin'."

Experts on the War Between the States, the Confederacy, and Jefferson Davis come to compare notes and pay oral tribute to the century-old traditions of the South. Many descendants of the Confederates still meet as the units that fought the Union Army. They wear Confederate uniforms, carry antique muskets, and fire the cannon.

