

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
MAY 31 1977
DATE ENTERED NOV 9 1977

**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
 * * John Andrew Miller House
AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Paris Pike (U. S. 460) 3.3 miles east of Georgetown
CITY, TOWN
Georgetown
STATE
Kentucky
VICINITY OF
 06
COUNTY
Scott
CODE
021
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
06
CODE
209

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dr. and Mrs. W. N. Offutt IV
STREET & NUMBER
East Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Georgetown
STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Scott County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
East Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Georgetown
STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
DATE
1977
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN
Frankfort
STATE
Kentucky
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

The John Andrew Miller House (see photo 1) is situated on a low rise in rural Scott County one hundred and fifty yards north of U. S. Highway 460, one mile west of Newtown, two miles east of Georgetown and nine miles north of Lexington. This residence is a combination of a three-bay one and one-half story log structure covered with beaded weatherboarding which became a wing to a three-bay, two and one-half story stone house. Both date from the mid 1780s.

The oldest section of weatherboarded logs (see photo 2), rests on a stone foundation, has a gable roof and presents a centered door with double-hung sash windows having six-over-six panes on either side of the front facade. Flanking the massive stone chimney on the east are two windows that have been enlarged. A pent-roofed porch on the rear has been enclosed and is also covered with weatherboarding.

The interior of this section has ash floors with a curious waved surface. During a 1937 remodeling this was discovered as being caused by small log joists being alternated with larger ones. Still visible are the outlines of chair-railings which have been removed. A closeted staircase leads to the loft and a one-story pedimented portico supported by coupled square columns shelters the entrance. Centered above the door is a pedimented dormer added at the same time as the portico.

The dominant stone section (see photo 3) was originally an unadorned three-bay, two and one-half story structure with a gable roof and garret windows on either side of the chimneys built into the walls on east and west. Below is a full basement whose entrance is gained through a gabled stone enclosure on the west (see photo 4).

Between 1850-60 a portico with a denticulated pediment supported by four colossal columns and two pilasters was added to the south or main facade. The columns rest on stone plinths and are planed rather than fluted. Seemingly, these are of Doric inspiration, but are without echini and their unorthodox astragals are placed some distance below the abaci.

The doors of the first and second levels are centered, but the windows are asymmetrically arranged with those on the right being closer to the doors. These openings were given a Greek treatment with the two porticos' addition. Also, an added balcony of wrought-iron serves the upper floor, and the front facade has been stuccoed and scored to imitate ashlar. By tradition, the columns were made

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
___1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	___EDUCATION	___MILITARY	___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
___1800-1899	___COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION
___1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1785

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Andrew Miller House whose two sections date from the mid 1780s is of significance in being among the oldest residences in central Kentucky. Its builder was a leading figure in the development of early Scott County and the house, combining 18th century Pennsylvania and 19th New Orleans elements, is something of an architectural oddity.

Miller was a militiaman from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and came into the Elkhorn region with a group of adventurers in the fall and winter of 1775 (The Emison Families, Revised, p. 21). The party made a number of improvements and most of them returned to occupy their lands after the Revolution. Miller gave his name to the tributary of North Elkhorn, Millers Run, which is a significant watershed in the Newtown and Oxford areas. His 1,000 acre tract, mapped by Emison along with the land of others of the party, included the mouth of Miller's Run on North Elkhorn and was situated on both sides of North Elkhorn and the road between Georgetown and Paris (Emison, 33).

Historians generally accept 1783 as the date of the first permanent settlement in Scott County, that being Johnson's Station at the Great Crossing. By 1785 several pioneers were building homes on their grants of land. These first pioneers included John Andrew Miller, and the log wing of the home overlooking Miller's Run dates from this era. The stone block came not long afterwards. In 1800 Miller received permission from the Gentleman Justices (county court) to erect a dam and mill on Miller's Run. He frequently served as a justice himself, and was once sheriff of the county. In 1807 he and his wife Jane sold their house and 550 acres to Jeremiah Tarleton for \$5,000.

There were two prominent landowners named Jeremiah Tarleton in early Scott County. To distinguish between the two, pioneers referred to them as "Jeremiah the Protestant" and "Jeremaih the Catholic." The latter owned considerable land in the vicinity of White Sulphur. "Jeremiah the Protestant" was a son of John and Ann Tarleton and was born in 1761 in St. Mary's County, Maryland. He was believed to have served in the

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Emison, James Wade, Jr. The Emison Families Revised. Vincennes, Indiana, 1954.

Fisher, Anna Goldsborough, and Carrie Tarleton Goldsborough. Tarleton Records. Atlanta: Williams Printing Co., 1950.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	71,89,0,0	4,23,32,5,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Mrs. Ann Bevins, Scott County Representative; Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

April 1977

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

Edred W. Yelton

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

5/24/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. M. ...

DATE

11/9/77

~~DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION~~

~~KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER~~

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

11-4-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 31 1977
DATE ENTERED	NOV 9 1977

John Andrew Miller House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

from cherry trees on the property; and a persisting legend attributes the exterior additions and alterations to a slave who had been a carpenter in New Orleans.

The interior of the dominant stone section is impressive in its array of detail. Floors throughout are of ash and on the west is a corner chimney--something of a rarity in this area. While most chair-railing has been removed, a few remnants remain in odd places. The mantels are decoratively treated in the Adam style (see photo 5) with fluted trim, high shelves, beaded bandings and various gougework. In some rooms, tile has been removed and finely dressed brick arches can be discerned (see photo 6). Five doors within have diagonally placed boards on one side (see photo 7) and horizontal battens on the other.

The house is strategically built over a spring. Well preserved joists in the basement are of undressed logs and an original smokehouse still stands in the rear.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 31 1977
DATE ENTERED	NOV 2 1977

John Andrew Miller House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Revolution with Greene and Morgan (Goldsborough and Fisher, Tarleton Records, 51). In 1786 he married Mary Herbert Briscoe in western Maryland. In 1790 he bought land in Washington County, Maryland. A few years later he bought a plantation in Frederick County, Maryland, where the family lived for 20 years until the spring of 1806 when he sold his holdings and moved to Kentucky. Jeremiah Tarleton died in 1833, and the property was bought by William C. Graves, a young farmer who was in the process of accumulating great holdings of land and finances. The Graves family and descendants owned the farm until 1977, when it was bought by Dr. and Mrs. W. N. Offutt IV.

During the middle of the nineteenth century, Graves, called "Billy C." by his associates, acquired a slave from New Orleans who was skilled in carpentry. The slave inspired the owner to develop a "New Orleans" facade for the house with himself in charge of the construction. Large cherry trees from the property were planed and erected to support a denticulated pediment, windows were given a Grecian effect, a wrought-iron balcony was added to the second floor and the front facade was stuccoed and scored to resemble ashlar. Such features had caught the fancy of Benjamin Latrobe during a visit to New Orleans. Latrobe deplored the increasing use of red brick in the city's American sector and commented: "The only French circumstance which they (Americans) retain is the balcony in the upper story. The French stucco the fronts of their buildings and often color them."¹ Indeed, the Miller House is unique with its combination of 18th century Pennsylvania and 19th century New Orleans elements. The interior features, however, seem to have been reverently left untouched during the "updating."

During the Civil War, Garves frequently provided a hiding place in the third story for Elly Blackburn, who rode with John Hunt Morgan in the Civil War.

The lengthy will of Billy C. Graves was probated in 1890. The farm was left to a grandson, Harry B. Blackburn, who was then just a youth. A farm bell, according to the interesting document, was to be removed from Graves home (situated on the northeast corner of the Newtown and Paris Pikes) and installed in the yard of the home to be inherited by young Blackburn.

¹Samuel Wilson, Jr., New Orleans Architecture; the American Sector, (Gretna, Louisiana, Pelican Publication Co., Inc., 1972), p. 38.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 31 1977
DATE ENTERED	NOV 9 1977

John Andrew Miller House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

Blackburn's son, Offutt Blackburn, in turn, inherited the farm. It was sold in 1977, 144 years after the purchase by Billy C. Graves, to Dr. and Mrs. W. N. Offutt who plan to restore the home. The property can be approached by fording Miller's Run. The Offutts also plan to erect a bridge.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 31 1977

DATE ENTERED NOV 9 1977

John Andrew Miller House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Mastin, Bettye Lee. "Indians Still Were Menace as House was Built." The
Sunday Herald-Leader (Lexington), December 3, 1972.

Wilson, Samuel, Jr. New Orleans Architecture; The American Sector.
Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publications Co., Inc., 1972.

Wooley, Carolyn Murray. "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses." The Magazine
Antiques. March, 1975, pp. 593-602.

John Andrew Miller House
near Georgetown
Scott County
Kentucky

MAY 31 1977

"Map of Scott County, Kentucky."
Philadelphia: Beers and Lanagan,
1879.

Map 2. Miller House circled in
red.

D.E. NOV 9 1977