

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 30 1979  
DATE ENTERED JUL 17 1979

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

William Lytle Todd House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3725 Bowman Mill's Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Kentucky

VICINITY OF

CODE

021

COUNTY

Fayette

CODE

067

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- \_\_\_DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- \_\_\_STRUCTURE
- \_\_\_SITE
- \_\_\_OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- \_\_\_PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- \_\_\_BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- \_\_\_IN PROCESS
- \_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- \_\_\_UNOCCUPIED
- \_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- \_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED
- \_\_\_NO

PRESENT USE

- \_\_\_AGRICULTURE
- \_\_\_COMMERCIAL
- \_\_\_EDUCATIONAL
- \_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT
- \_\_\_GOVERNMENT
- \_\_\_INDUSTRIAL
- \_\_\_MILITARY
- \_\_\_MUSEUM
- \_\_\_PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- \_\_\_RELIGIOUS
- \_\_\_SCIENTIFIC
- \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION
- \_\_\_OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Truitt

STREET & NUMBER

3725 Bowman Mill's Road

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fayette County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

Approximately two miles southwest of Lexington, Kentucky, on the west side of Bowman's Mill Road, sits the William Lytle Todd House. The structure, which faces south, is situated on a slight rise above Cave Creek.

This five-bay, two-story brick structure was built in 1814, and then remodeled in 1879. Basically Federal in style, Flemish bond was used on the facade and common bond elsewhere. Constructed on a stone foundation with a later one-story portico, a family scrapbook indicates that the portico replaced a simple porch. Six-panel double doors with fluted frames form the entrance way, with segmented sidelights and a seven-pane transom. There are jack arches over the windows which have 9/6 panes on the ground floor and 6/6 on the second story. The end chimneys are flush with the wall.

The original ell was a graduated two to one-story brick section with the kitchen at the end. There is an exterior end chimney located in the rear kitchen wall. The second-story room in the ell was used as a travelers room with the entrance to the outside and not to the main house. One of the changes made in 1879 was the opening of an interior door to the travelers' room and the lengthening of the facade windows. The only other alterations took place in 1974 when the present owners restored the house. At that time, a frame addition was adjoined to the ell and a bay window was built on the east kitchen wall. The windows were also shortened to their original length.

Incorporating a central hall plan, the interior displays finely crafted woodwork, all virtually intact. The floors are of ash and the mantelpieces are a combination of poplar and cherry. The detail work on the parlor (left front) mantle is especially intricate. A string of "pearl beading" is located beneath a broken shelf and the decorative pattern on the center and end tablets evoke triglyphs. The end tablets are above, but slightly detached from slender colonettes.

The doors are six-panel, indicating the early age of the house. Bull's-eye corner blocks, fluted frames, and paneled jambs are part of the door surrounds.

The nomination includes the main house and *4 acres 7/16/79* and one-half acres of surrounding land sufficient to maintain the visual qualities of the farm setting. The nominated area is bounded by the main drive to Bowman's Mill Road and the rear fencing line, parallel to the drive.

# 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 checked="" 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

1814

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William Lytle Todd House is significant in that it is an intact, Federal style structure located in a setting that to a remarkable degree retains the early rural character typical of the Bluegrass. The house was constructed by a member of one of Fayette County, Kentucky's pioneering families. The Todds came early to the county and their name is synonymous with its history.

Fayette County, Kentucky was formed in 1780 when Virginia separated the county of Kentucky into three counties; the other two being Lincoln and Jefferson. Named in honor of the Marquis de LaFayette, the area was settled by many who came from Virginia. The Todd family was one such group. Levi Todd, one of the founders of the city of Lexington, came into Kentucky with his brothers, John and Robert, in 1775. They founded Todd's Station near South Elkhorn Creek in 1779. Not long after the county was established, John Todd was appointed Colonel of the new county by the then Governor of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson. Levi Todd became Fayette County's first county court clerk, a position which he held for 25 years. The third brother, Robert, was killed in an Indian battle in Frankfort in 1792. His son, William Lytle (1790-1865), and his brother, Robert, went to live with their aunt and uncle, Isabella Todd Parker and John Parker. William married their daughter Elenor (1789-1866), (his first cousin), in 1812. He had this house built two years later. William and Elenor Todd lived in this house until their deaths. William died in 1865, Elenor in 1866. By 1877 the property had passed out of the family's hands.

Architecturally, the Todd house is basically Federal in style. Although in 1879 several changes were made, the house has been sensitively restored back to its original condition. The delicate masonry work on the structure's facade, and the especially unique interior woodwork are evidence of a talented architect and builder. It is a fine example of an architectural trend which was popular in Kentucky during the first part of the 19th century. The location is in a farming district known as Bowman's Mill, on the fringe of Lexington. Other structures which date to the late 18th and early 19th century are found in the vicinity (See Bowman's Houses, Fayette County, National Register form).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Murphy, Mary Townsend. "Historic South Elkhorn." Unpublished report, 1979.

"Lucky Find at Auction, Helps House History." (Lexington) Herald-Leader,  
27 March 1976, section D-3.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 1/2 acres *4 acres*

QUADRANGLE NAME Lexington West

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	7	1	1	3	0	0	4	2	1	0	8	0	0
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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A rectangular lot located at 3725 Bowman's Mill Road approximately one acre deep and three and one-half acres wide.

## 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

Jayne Henderson

April, 1979

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

(502) 564-3741

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

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

*Cedric W. Hutton*

TITLE

DATE 5-21-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Charles A. Starnes*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7-17-79

ATTEST: *John A. Gilmore*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 7/16/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Workers of Federal Writers Project of the W.P.A. for the State  
of Kentucky. Lexington and the Bluegrass County. Lexington:  
The Commercial Printing Co. Press, 1938.