

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 30 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 14 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

~~Harlan-Bruce House~~

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

(8 Km)
5 mi. E of Danville off KY 52

State Highway 1603 or Chrisman Lane

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Danville

VICINITY OF

6

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Boyle

021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

X STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

X NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. and Mrs. William Mack Jackson

STREET & NUMBER

Chrisman Lane, Route 2, Box 334

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Danville

VICINITY OF

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Boyle County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Danville

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Harlan-Bruce house is five miles southeast of Danville, off the Danville-Lancaster Pike on KY 1603. Set amid rolling farmland, the house is centrally located between branches of Clarks Run and Hanging Fork Creeks, and Dix River.

The Federal style house is a five-bay, one-and a-half story brick structure with a one-story ell off the rear (see photo 1). Although essentially composed of a main block, one-room deep, with a one-story ell, two original rooms were placed off the rear of the main block adjacent to the ell to form a shed-like addition (see the floor plan). The slope of the pitched roof on the north gable end continues down to shelter the two rear rooms, while the south gable end covers the main block and the roof of the ell adjoins at a distinct point. Enclosed porches have been added off both sides of the rear room of the ell (see photos 1,2,3, and 4).

Interior brick chimneys are located at the ends of the main block, as well as towards the rear of the north side and the center of the ell. A tremendous exterior stone chimney, now covered with stucco, is centered in the end wall of the ell. Built on a stone foundation, the original brick has been covered with stucco. When the house was stuccoed, a water table was formed across the facade. A plain boxed cornice, with ovolo molding below, extends across the front of the house and across the back of the main block up to the ell (see photos 1 & 4).

The front entrance, located in the center bay of the facade, consists of double doors with a semi-circular fanlight, composed of seven radial muntins. Outlining the entrance are grooved moldings and a centered keystone (see photo 2). The windows, which are flanked by shutters, have six-over-six pane sash and wooden sills. Narrow basement openings covered with vertical slats are situated below the facade openings. Smaller windows are located on each side of the end chimneys.

The front entrance opens onto a central hall with a room about 24' x 20' off each side. A partition with a large door separates the main stair hall from a smaller back one. The door which separates the two halls has two rows of three raised vertical panels spaced between two rows of three small square panels. The back, however, is made of diagonally laid beaded boards, like those of the front doors. The reeded panels of the door jamb reflect the size of the panels of the door. All the wood-work around the doors in the hall is composed of grooved moldings with raised concentric circles in the corner blocks (see photo 5). The molding around the front entrance is also grooved, while the corner blocks have seven horizontal grooves, each accented with gouge work at the edge. A keystone is centered above the door. Fluted pilasters which extend up to the crown molding are placed on each side of the front entrance. Chair railing extends around the hall (see photo 6). A half-turn staircase with a full landing rises along the south wall. The square newel post is reeded, as are the other posts in the stairs, while the thin, square balusters are unadorned. There is paneling beneath the stairs and wainscoting all along the left side of the staircase (see photo 5).

(continued)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) <u>Journalism</u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1794

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Harlan-Bruce House is located approximately five miles east of Danville off the Lancaster-Danville Pike. Built circa 1794 by George S. Harlan, a member of the prominent Harlan family and a wealthy landowner, the house is constructed in the Federal style. It retains the original walnut woodwork, including two ornately carved mantels. This fine residence also has an interesting floor plan and roofline to accommodate it. A later owner of the property was J.L. Bruce, a founder of the Danville Advocate newspaper.

George Harlan (1761-1837), a native of Pennsylvania, came to Kentucky in 1782 with his sister and other members of his family and settled at Daugherty Station, which was located a half mile west of the Harlan-Bruce House. George was a first cousin of James and Silas Harlan, the builders of Harlan's Station on the Salt River in what is now central Boyle County. (Harlan Station was listed on the National Register October 21, 1976.)

Shortly after settling at Daugherty's Station, George Harlan married Catherine Pope (1763-1841), a native of North Carolina. In 1794 Harlan bought 214 acres of land on the Hanging Fork Creek from his father-in-law, George Pope. It is probable that Harlan began work on the house immediately. A cousin of Harlan's made the following entry in her journal after a visit to the Harlan family: "December 19, 1826: I am at Cousin George Harlan's and am much pleased with him and his blessed wife and family. They are very rich, and although they are, they showed me great love and kindness" (Harlan, p. 109).

In 1844 the Harlan heirs sold the estate to Henry Bruce, a Boyle County farmer. At the death of Bruce in 1881, his son J.L. Bruce purchased the house and land from the other heirs. Bruce was a co-founder and business manager of the Danville-Advocate newspaper. The Advocate, established in 1865, expressed the Democratic Party point of view, and was launched in competition of the Danville Tribune, which was the voice of the Republicans or radicals. The Advocate evidently had the support of the majority of Danville citizens for it has survived to the present day (Newspaper Story of a Town).

Architecturally, the Harlan-Bruce House exhibits certain unusual features, particularly with regard to the roofline and massing. Also of interest is the fact the house retains all the original fine Federal trim and moldings.

(continued)

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The Harlan-Bruce House
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Extending around the north parlor is the original wainscoting composed of paired raised horizontal panels (see photo 7). The crown molding is also retained. The richly carved Federal mantel is decorated with a row of beading beneath the shelf. Raised semi-circular bands pierced with fan-like gouge work are on each side of the raised center block which is filled with a beveled fan-shaped design. Rosettes having a similar ornamentation are located in the end blocks. A row of reeding extends across the bottom of the frieze, supported by grooved pilasters (see photo 8). Round arched cupboards with pane glass doors are on each side of the fireplace, and have two drawers below. The trim around the cupboards is grooved and like that around the main entrance (see photo 9).

The south parlor is more informal, having only chair railing rather than wainscoting, although it too has crown molding. The mantel has a row of reeding beneath the shelf with oval sunbursts in the raised center and end blocks. A row of grouped reeding extends below the frieze, while the inner molding around the opening of the fireplace is also reeded. The pilasters supporting the frieze have two vertical rows of reeding (see photo 10). Flanking the fireplace are built-in cupboards with raised panel doors. Reeded moldings with three curved grooves in the corner blocks surround the cupboards and are like those around the doors and windows (see photo 11).

The dining room is located off the south parlor in the ell. The original chair railing remains in place as do the reeded window casings. The door moldings are in a simple Federal style. The original mantel has been removed and old paneling has been added above the fireplace. Colored tiles which face the fireplace opening have also been added. A simple cupboard is to the right of the opening (see photo 12).

A few steps down from the dining room is the original kitchen which now serves as a bedroom. The stone fireplace with an arched opening is exposed and retains the stone hearth (see photo 13). The chair rail that extends around the room has been added. The door leading to the dining room is board and batten.

The north rear room, accessible from the front parlor and back hall, has a simple shelf and frame mantel with plain end blocks. Narrow cupboards with single doors flank the fireplace (see photo 14). The room is presently used as a kitchen.

There are two small rooms upstairs above the front rooms and only the north room has a fireplace with a shelf and frame mantel. A basement is located underneath the main block and has a fireplace in the south room.

(continued)

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The original ash floors remain throughout the house except for in the kitchen, where it has been replaced. All the woodwork is walnut.

Unfortunately, there are no surviving outbuildings around the house.

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The woodwork in every room varies, the most outstanding being found in the north parlor. In addition to the finely carved mantel and the round arched-cupboards with the pane glass doors and drawers beneath, the room retains the original wainscoting, which has been found in only a few of Kentucky's early houses. Wainscoting is also placed along the staircase in the central hall.

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Harlan-Bruce House

CONTINUATION SHEET

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PAGE 2

Newspaper Story of a Town. Danville, Ky: Danville Advocate, 1965.

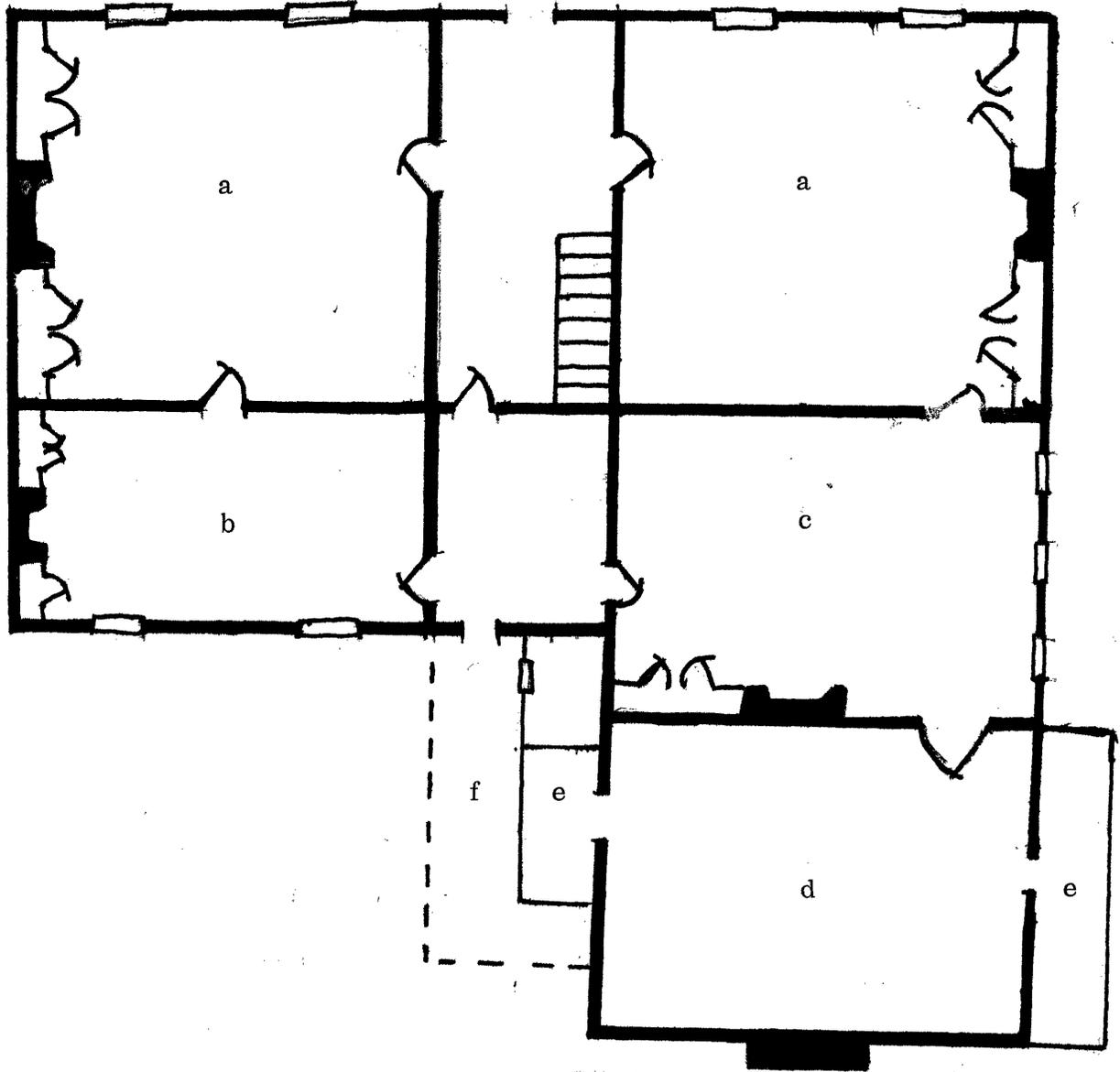
Perrin, W. H., J. H. Battle, and G. C. Kniffen. Kentucky, A History of The State.

Louisville and Chicago: F. A. Battey and Co., 1888.

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Boyle County, Kentucky

MAY 30 1978

An Atlas of Boyle and Mercer
Counties, Kentucky Philadelphia:
D.G. Beers & Co., 1876.
Location of house is indicated
by red circle. Map-2



Harlan- Bruce House
Boyle County
Sketch of floor plan
No scale

- a) parlor
- b) bedroom
- c) dining room
- e) additions
- f) enclosed porch



Harlan-Bruce House
Danville
Boyle County, Kentucky

Mary Cronan Opper
Kentucky Heritage Commission
December 1977

NOV 14 1978

Sketch of floor plan -no scale
a) parlor - b) bedroom
c) dining room e) additions
f) enclosed porch