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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE:	
Kentucky	
COUNTY:	
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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM				FOR NPS U	SEONLY	7		
(Type all entries complete applicable sections)					ENTRY DATE	NOV 1 1974	7	
1. NAME								
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"Colonial Home Fa	ırm"							
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3. CLASSIFICATION						,		
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					774			
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Georgetown Kentucky 21								
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS				_		2	
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CONDITION	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	X Det	eriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
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The Greek Revival temple-style house designed by John McMurtry is two rooms deep with pilastered walls, two-story portico, three-bay facade and "widow's walk" at the top of the hipped roof.

The first-floor plan includes a transverse hall, to the left of which stood double parlors, and to the right of which were two rooms separated by a "back hall" leading to a side porch. Stairs were positioned on the right side of the central hall and near the front of the back hall. A shuttered porch and pantry separated the front of the house from the cooking ell, which was designed with an open kitchen porch.

The exterior of the house, said by Kentucky architectural historian Clay Lancaster to be comparable to that of Buenna Hill, another McMurtry product, has been allowed to deteriorate in recent years. Its facade features triple windows on either side of the central entrance capped with stone lintels. Upstain windows are single in width, with the central one leading to a balcony of wrought iron. There are brick pilasters paired at the corners and on either side of the central bay. Apparently once painted white, the pilasters and entablature are matched by wooden columns and entablature of the portico.

The portico, stated Lancaster, was similar to that of the Brooker House overlooking North Elkhorn in southwest Scott County. It contains paired columns, the inner ones not backed by corresponding pilasters, but echo the paired end pilasters. The overall effect is one of massive heavy proportions.

Two outbuildings are still standing in back of the house, a smokehouse to the right rear and slave quarters to the left rear, both identical in motif to that of the main house.

Also on the property is an earlier structure located approximately one thousand feet northwest of Colonial Home Farm. It is an 18th-century home of brick, two bays wide and two stories high, built by George Robinson, father of prominent Scott County settler Jonathan Robinson. Practically in ruins, the house shows signs of having had earlier blocks attached. It has a high stone basement, end chimney, gable end entrance, windows of nine-over-six-pane sash on the downstairs level and six-over-six upstairs. Chair-railing and mantels are still in place.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	ole and Known) 184	+1	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch.	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
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Agriculture	Invention	Science	
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
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Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Colonial Home Farm, designed and executed by noted Kentucky architect-builder John McMurtry (1812-1890), was constructed on land originally acquired and settled by Jonathan (also spelled Johnathan) Robinson (1727-1814). Robinson was the son of an Irish father and Scottish mother who immigrated to the United States in the late 18th century and settled in Scott County in 1796. The family prospered, particularly Jonathan Robinson's son James (1800-1892), who became a state senator (elected 1851-1861), Speaker of the Senate, and, in 1862, Governor of Kentucky upon the resignation of Governor Beriah Magoffin.

In 1838 the farm was acquired by Levi Prewitt, a deputy county clerk, speculator in real estate and prominent in business, civic and political circles. He was one of eight sons of Robert Prewitt, builder of the first brick house between Lexington and Winchester. Levi Prewitt chose the Robinson property, just above a large cave spring to build his Greek Revival mansion Cave Hill, later known as Colonial Home Farm. The architect engaged for the project was John McMurtry, one-time student of Gideon Shryock, who originally introduced Greek Revival architecture to the region west of the Alleghenies.

The house, most notable as a McMurtry product, was to remain in the Prewitt family until 1918 when the farm was sold to Leroy Buckles.

The pre-1800 house located behind Colonial Home Farm was constructed by George Robinson, father of Jonathan Robinson. Upon the death of Jonathan Robinson, the property washing inherited by his son-in-law, Francis Palmer, an outstanding minister of the Christian Church.

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-147/1442 3-1

9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES										
	Coleman, J. Winston. <u>Historic Kentucky</u> . Lexington: Henry Clay										
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	Davidson, Rev. Robert. History of					of th	e Pre	sbyter	ian Chi	irch	in
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	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law				National Register.						
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Scott

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
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(Continuation Sheet)

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#### 8. Significance (continued)

Page Two

The Christian Church and the Great Revival form an important episode in the history of the community of Bethel in which Colonial Home Farm and the Robinson House are located. The Reverend Robert Marshall (1760-1832) of Virginia, ordained as pastor of the near-by Bethel Presbyterian Church in 1793, was a prominent participant in the Great Revival in Kentucky. In 1803, he along with Barton W. Stone and several other ministers, left the Presbyterian Church to lead a movement which resulted in the organization of a new denomination, known today as the Christian Church, its followers more commonly known as "Marshallites," "Stoneites," or "New Lights." Marshall returned to the Presbyterian Church in 1811, however, after eight years of estrangement and was reinstated in his pastoral charge at Bethel Church.

The community was also served by Pleasant Hill Academy, a pioneer school founded in 1793 by Robert Marshall and located at Marshall's residence.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC	PLACES COUNTY

Bibliographical References (continued) Page Two 9.

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