

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 22 1980

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Spring Hill

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

KY 53

S of Ballardsville off KY 53

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ballardsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

4

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

COUNTY

Oldham

CODE

185

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 ^{tenant} house

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

A. Scott Hamilton, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

Suite 400, 100 East Liberty Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 40202

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Oldham County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

LaGrange

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on a 900 acre farm approximately 1½ miles south of Ballardsville off Kentucky 53, Spring Hill is situated on a rise near Floyds Fork. The site is one of the highest in Oldham County with the land sloping away from the house towards Floyds Fork on the west and Gathright Creek on the south. The house rests in the extreme southeast section of Oldham County about six miles southeast of the county seat at LaGrange Oldham, primarily an agricultural county, lies along the Ohio River just northeast of metropolitan Jefferson County, and in the last few years has experienced a steady growth in population due to the large numbers of people moving from Louisville and Jefferson County.

Facing southeast, Spring Hill is a 2½ story, three-bay brick dwelling constructed ca. 1800. Resting on a low stone foundation, the asymmetrical facade (see photo 1) accomodates the hall-and-parlor plan. Brickwork is an interesting combination of Flemish bond on the first floor level and common bond on the second. Six-over-six double-hung windows with pegged sash are capped by shallow jack arches, while the cellar windows display segmental arched openings. Brick exterior and interior chimneys are located at the northeast and southwest gable ends, respectively. Gable end windows pierce the attic level where a box cornice is visible, and a standing seam metal roof covers the house.

During the Greek Revival period the house underwent additions and alterations which are evident in the northeast wing, the ell, and various elements such as the front portico, door trim, and the tripartite window in the wing. The one-room, single-story wing is set back from the main facade behind the northeast chimney and contains an end chimney projecting one brick from the northwest wall (see photo 2). The two-story ell is appended to the northwest corner of the central block and is connected to it by a two-story frame gallery on the southwest gable end (see photo 3). A single-story unit is attached to the north end of the ell. Frame porches have been added on the rear of the main block adjoining the northeast wing and along the east side of the ell. A one-story Greek Revival portico consisting of wooden piers supporting a plain entablature shelters the front entrance. The double-panel door and the shouldered architrave surround are Greek as well (see photo 4).

The interior consists of a hall-and-parlor plan with the stairs being enclosed between the interior walls (see floor plan). Of roughly equal size, the rooms contain the original floors as well as woodwork dating from the Federal and Greek periods. The mantle, baseboards, and the double-panel doors in the east room reflect the Greek Revival modifications, while in the same room the door trim, the slightly panelled treatment of the door and window jambs, and the six-panel door leading onto the rear porch are indicative of the Federal period as is the mantle and remaining chair rail in the west room and the window trim throughout the house (see photos 5-9). A door was cut in the rear wall of the west room to give access to the ell.

Northeast of the house is a brick smokehouse (see photo 10) and further northeast along the drive is a graveyard containing markers dating from the eighteenth century. The nominated property, approximately 2½ acres, is designed so as to encompass the main house, smokehouse and the graveyard.

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 ca. 1800 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Spring Hill represents not only one of Oldham County's earliest surviving buildings but one which remains a substantial structure embodying, in proportion and detail, a skillfully executed and well-preserved example of late eighteenth-early nineteenth century architecture. The simple hall-and-parlor plan represents an early Kentucky house form, while the Greek Revival additions and modifications reflect the evolution of style which contributes to the overall historic character of the house. In addition, Spring Hill was the home of Major William Berry Taylor, founder of the Oldham County seat of LaGrange.

Born in 1768, Major Taylor was a surveyor who in 1796 purchased from his uncle, Colonel Francis Taylor, a 1,000 acre Revolutionary War land grant in what was then Shelby County. Bringing his family from Botetoute County, Virginia shortly before 1800, Major Taylor settled on his recently acquired property and immediately began construction of Spring Hill. Besides being one of the area's earliest settlers and a prominent landowner, Major Taylor was the founder of LaGrange which he named for the countryhome of the Marquis de LaFayette whose 1825 visit to Kentucky coincided with the establishment of the county seat. Oldham County was created in 1824 with LaGrange being laid off the following year. Major Taylor donated land to be used for the courthouse, a church, a school, and a graveyard.

After his death at Spring Hill in 1836, Major Taylor's youngest son inherited Spring Hill and the house remained in the Taylor family until 1919. Currently in need of some repair, the present owner plans to restore Spring Hill and maintain it as a rental property.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Oldham Era. LaGrange, Kentucky, 50th Anniversary Edition 4 June 1926.

The Oldham Era. LaGrange, Kentucky, 14 April 1939.

Trabue, Alice Elizabeth. "Spring Hill, Oldham County, Kentucky." The Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society. Vol.18, no.53 (1920), pp.23-29.

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 2½ acres.

QUADRANGLE NAME Ballardsville, Kentucky

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 6	6 4 5 6 5 10	4 2 4 3 7 9 10	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning where the drive meets the cemetery wall, the boundary extends southwestward following the drive on the north, turns southward to the ridgeline, follows the ridgeline in a northeasterly direction, and then turns northward following (Cont.)

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

Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

November 1979

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

Donna C. Hopkins

TITLE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 1-4-80

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

4/2/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Kristin O'Connell*

DATE

3/6/80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED	JAN 27 1980
DATE ENTERED	APR 2 1980

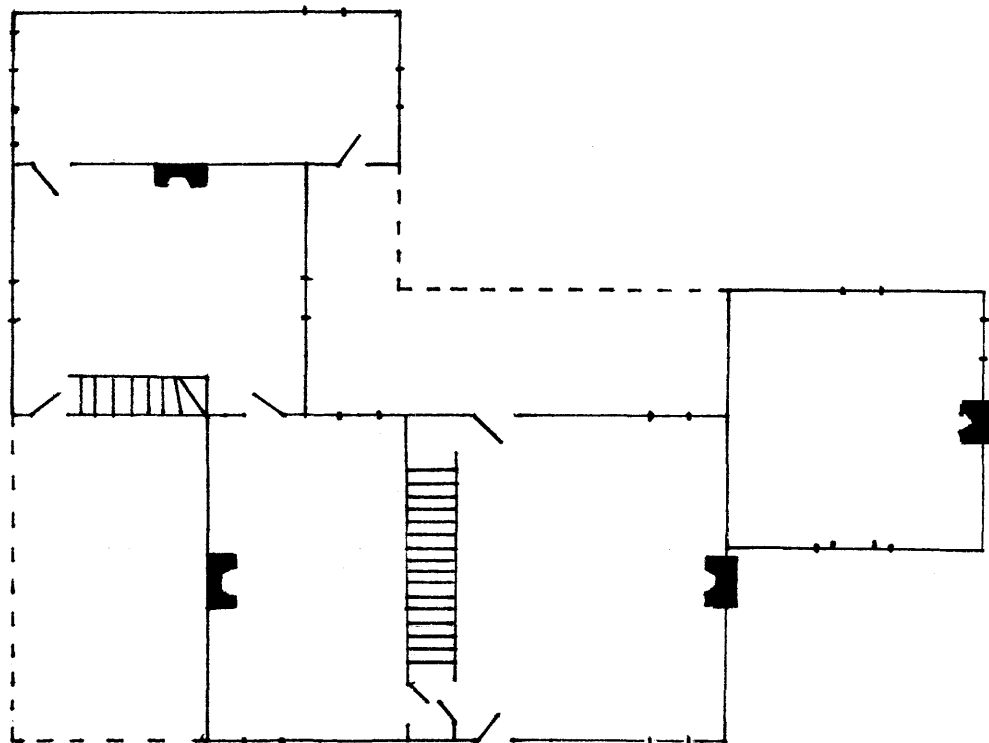
Spring Hill
Oldham County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Verbal Boundary Description

the east wall of the cemetery and returns to the drive.



SPRING HILL
OLDHAM COUNTY
KENTUCKY

SKETCH PLAN
NOT TO SCALE

CLS

