

PH0688070

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED NOV 20 1978  
DATE ENTERED JAN 8 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

Moss Side

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

McCowans Ferry Pike

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Versailles *ms.*

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Woodford

CODE

239

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. Hargus Sexton ✓

STREET & NUMBER

1801 Williamsburg Road

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Woodford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Versailles

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

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 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		

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

Moss Side, erected ca. 1820, is located on McCowan's Ferry Pike three miles south of Versailles in Woodford County, Kentucky. Versailles, with a population of 5,679, is the seat of government for this agricultural county situated in the heart of the Bluegrass region. Facing east, the house rests on a low rise approximately 1400 feet west of the road. In addition to the house, the farm complex consists of two barns of recent construction, two board and batten sheds, an icehouse, and a one-room, weatherboarded, log structure (see site plan).

The main house is a two-story, four-bay, brick structure laid in Flemish bond with a one-and-one-half story, single-bay brick wing attached to the north (see photo 1). The one-room, stone kitchen was originally connected to the wing by means of a dogtrot which is now enclosed in frame (see photo 2). Nine-over-six pane windows with splayed jack arches pierce the facade of the main block. Two doors with four-pane transoms give access to the interior. The double entrance, slightly off center, is sheltered by a one-story, pedimented porch supported by four, slender columns resting on square pedestals. A simple, box cornice with plain molding surrounds the house, and brick, exterior chimneys are located on the gable ends. The one-story, glass-enclosed porch on the rear is a twentieth century addition (see photo 3). The brick wing, also laid in Flemish bond, appears to have been added shortly after the main block was completed to serve as a dining room. Both sections now have tin roofs.

On the interior, the structure consists of two rooms with stairs along the inside wall in the north room (see floor plan). The door and beveled window jambs are reeded. In addition, the original ash floors, baseboards, chair rails, mantles and cornice molding remain throughout the house. In the south room, the door and window trim is reeded and embodies concentric circle corner blocks (see photos 4 and 5). The mantle in the wing is almost identical to those found in the main block. In the kitchen, the stone fireplace with segmental arch opening remains intact (see photo 6).

To the north and west of the house are two, frame, board and batten sheds dating from the last third of the nineteenth century. A one-room weatherboarded log structure with a massive stone chimney is located south of the house (see photo 7). Constructed in the last decade of the eighteenth century, the interior reflects the evolution of style. Doors and windows have shouldered architraves, and a simple, classical mantle remains. Directly in front of the house at the base of the rise is the stone springhouse. The house and out-buildings all remain in good condition with the only major alteration being the addition of the glass-enclosed porch on the rear of the main block.

The nominated acreage includes the main house, two board and batten sheds, one barn of recent construction, a weatherboarded log structure, and extends eastward to encompass the stone spring house and southward to include the family cemetery.

# 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. 1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky, Moss Side attains significance by being a finely executed and well-proportioned brick structure in the Federal style that retains its original architectural detail as well as its agricultural setting. With the exception of the porch added to the rear of the house, the building has been virtually unaltered and the interior trim including floors, baseboards, chair rails, and cornice molding remains intact. In addition, several of the original outbuildings and some of more recent construction are still extant, reflecting the continuing agrarian character of the complex. The farm is also noted for its associations with the Watkins family, prominent in the settlement of Woodford County.

From its construction date, circa 1820, the brick residence was apparently built for Henry Watkins, an early Woodford County settler (Collins, p. 765). He purchased the property in 1793 from his brother John, one of the founders of Versailles, county seat of Woodford, and who was also a delegate at the Constitutional Convention at Danville in 1792 as well as a representative in the first Legislature (Railey, p. 184). Henry Watkins had emigrated from Virginia in 1792 with his wife Elizabeth Hudson Clay. Henry Clay, her son by a previous marriage, remained behind in Richmond, working as a clerk of the high court of chancery (Collins, p. 206). "During every summer, however, he made visits to his mother in Versailles, and entered freely into the quiet social life of the village" (Railey, p. 184). It was not until 1797 that Clay moved to Lexington.

Mrs. Watkins and her husband kept a tavern in Versailles, the first, it is said in town. The inn was "quite a celebrated hostelry a century ago, and the rendezvous of great lawyers, pedagogues and statesmen of the day" (Railey, p. 99).

Between 1815 and 1820, according to local sources, the Watkins gave up their tavern and settled on the farm they owned three miles south of Versailles. Mrs. Watkins died in 1829 at the age of eighty and was buried on the farm. She was later moved by Henry Clay to a cemetery in Lexington.

Henry Moss acquired the property in 1837 and was owned by the Moss family until 1862 when it was purchased by James McConnell (Deed book Y, p. 25).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coleman, J. Winston, Jr. Historic Kentucky. Lexington: Henry Clay Press, 1968, p. 197.  
 Simpson, Elizabeth. "Traditions and Architecture of Moss House...." (Lexington) Herald-Leader, August 21, 1938, p. 9.  
 Woodford County Deed Book B, pp 187-188; K, pp. 45-46; P, pp. 143-144; Y, p. 25.  
 Rayley, William E. History of Woodford County. Frankfort: Roberts Printing Co., 1938.  
 Additional information provided by Mrs. C.A. Wade, former owner of Moss Side;  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Southerland; Mr. James Daniels.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15 acres  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	6,9,5,8,4,0	4,2,1,0,2,4,0	B	1,6	6,9,5,8,5,0	4,2,1,0,0,2,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,6	6,9,5,5,4,0	4,2,1,0,0,2,0	D	1,6	6,9,5,5,4,0	4,2,1,0,2,0,0

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated acreage is encompassed in a roughly rectangular block. Beginning at point A (see U.S.G.S. map) approximately 1000 feet west of McCowan's Ferry Pike, the line runs south for 600 feet. The boundary then runs west from point B (U.S.G.S. map) for approximately 1000 feet to point C, north approximately 600 feet to point D (U.S.G.S. map), and then east for approximately 900 feet to the point of origin.

## 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

Gloria Mills, Historian; Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge St.

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

*C. W. Melton*

TITLE

DATE 11-6-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 1-8-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

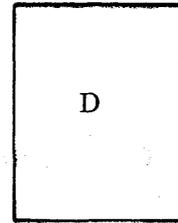
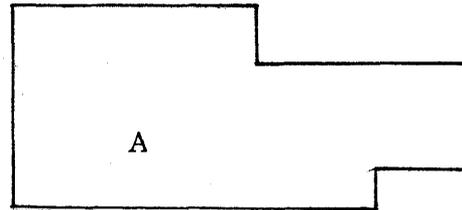
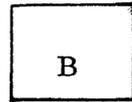
ATTEST:

*Janis H. Gilmore*

DATE 1/5/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

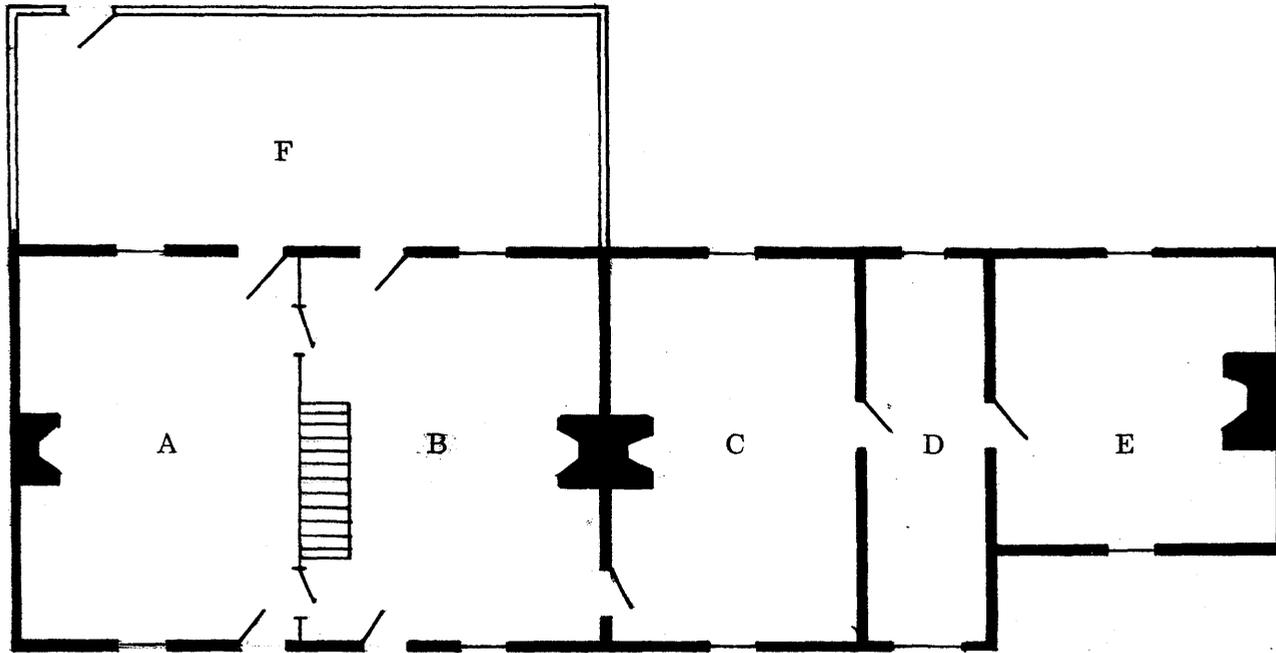
Moss Side  
Woodford County  
Kentucky  
Site location map  
Not to scale



- A - Main House
- B - Weatherboarded Log House
- C - Board and Batten Sheds
- D - Barn
- E - Springhouse



Moss Side  
Woodford County  
Kentucky  
Not to scale



- A - Parlor
- B - Parlor
- C - Dining Room
- D - Dogtrot
- E - Kitchen
- F - Porch

