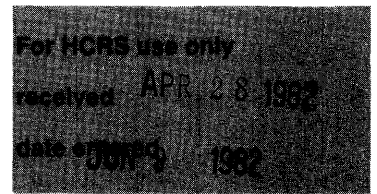


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Willow Hill (Jesse Jones House)

and/or common Willow Hill

2. Location

street & number Jones Road NA not for publication

city, town Owensboro NA vicinity of NA congressional district 2

state Kentucky code 021 county Daviess code 059

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kendall Blue

street & number Route 1, Jones Road

city, town Owensboro vicinity of NA state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Daviess County Courthouse

street & number NA

city, town Owensboro state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Sites in Ky. has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records Heritage Division--Dept. of the Arts

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Jesse Jones House consists of a three-bay two-story rectangular dwelling with a single log pen extending from the west gable side. This modest farmhouse, located in the rural outskirts of Owensboro, is situated at the top of a gently rolling hill overlooking the Ohio River Valley. The c. 1820s house and 19th Century barns are in an unspoiled area.

The exterior walls are covered with nineteenth century wood siding. There are outside brick chimneys at both ends of the two-story section, as well as one on the west side of the original log pen. The gabled roof of the log pen extends to the front to form a porch supported by slender rectangular wood columns. There is an original six-over-six light window and board-and-batten door on the front of the one-story section. (A board-and-batten door also survives in the two-story section.) A c. 1900 enclosed lean-to addition extends across the rear (north side) which now houses the kitchen.

The interior logs are exposed in the single pen as well as in certain sections in the two-story block. Major alterations to the original appearance of the house carried out by the present owners include the installation of modern ceiling material and raised brick hearths in both log and frame sections.

An early barn is located to the west of the house which contains a rectangular log enclosure. The farm building was utilized to house livestock. Approximately 100 feet from this building is a c. 1890 tobacco barn constructed of large sawn timbers that are joined together by tenon and mortise (labeled E on Map 2). A shed, probably constructed in the last quarter of the 19th century is located about 100' west of the house and to the immediate north of the c. 1830 livestock barn. All four outbuildings are included in the nomination. No other structures other than the main house stand within the nominated area.

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 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 1821; 1829 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Willow Hill, an early nineteenth century log and frame dwelling located on the outskirts of Owensboro in western Kentucky, is an important element to the understanding of the architectural development of Daviess County. It represents one of less than five known log houses remaining in the county and one of few existing early examples of frame construction.

The house could be said to date to the second settlement phase of the Owensboro area. "Handsomely situated on the bank of the Ohio River, 150 miles below Louisville," Owensboro was incorporated in 1817.¹ The population remained small, however, until the mid-nineteenth century when it began to show a significant increase.²

Jesse Jones (b. 1796), who built the house, is said to have emigrated to Daviess County from Jonesboro, North Carolina in 1821 and settled on a 166-acre parcel of land on what is now known as Jones Road.³ It is thought that the original one-story pen was erected at that time, with the two-story section built in 1829.⁴

The farm remained in the Jones family for over one hundred and fifty years until it was bought by the present owners in 1971. Several members of the Jones family, including Jesse Jones and his wife, are buried on a hill in a small graveyard about 300 yards northeast of the house.

The log pen is basically unaltered and is one of three documented log houses in Daviess County. The frame section, which has experienced greater changes and therefore less significant as an architectural example, is one of five pre-1850s frame dwellings known to exist.⁵

¹Richard Collins, p. 152.

²1833 population, 200; 1850 population, 1,215.

³According to local sources, Jones cleared a 166-acre tract in 1821 (other sources state 1823), which was purchased in 1836 from William R. Griffith, Philip Triplett and Eliza H. Triplett.

⁴Dates of construction were obtained by the present owners from Mrs. Shelton Reynolds, daughter of Ernest Baskett, the last member of the Jones family to own Willow Hill.

⁵The information is based on the results of a comprehensive survey of the county conducted by the Kentucky Heritage Commission staff in 1979. The only log houses surveyed include the Barton House (Da 127); Willow Hill (Da 133); and the Husk House (Da 138). All are believed to date to the first quarter 19th century. Three pre-1850s frame residences were determined eligible for the National Register, including the Fields House (Da 76); the McCreary House (Da 141); and the Moorman House (Da-Ob 42). Two additional frame houses of that period were surveyed. Not included in the count is Haphazard, listed in the National Register August 22, 1975. With its exceptional interior trim, it is perhaps the most important frame structure dating to the early 19th century period. Part of the house is of log construction.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3 1/2 acres

Quadrangle name Owensboro East, Ky.-Ind.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>3</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Willow Hill sits on a rise, facing east about 250' from Jones Road, with a semi-circular drive located directly in front of the house. Trees surround the residence with an orchard to the rear. To the immediate south, within one-quarter mile is a new subdivision.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

(continued)

state	NA	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gloria Mills, National Register Coordinator: Bill Hearn, Administrative Services Coordinator

organization Heritage Division, Arts Department

date February 1982

street & number 2200 Capital Plaza Tower

telephone (502) 564-7508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mary Roman Sped

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/16/82

For HCRC use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

J. Selma Byne Entered in the National Register date 6/1/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 28 1982
DATE ENTERED

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

Willow Hill
Daviess County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Bibliography (continued)

History of Daviess County, Kentucky. Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1883.

Illustrated Historical Atlas Map, Daviess County, Kentucky. Leo McDonough & Co., 1876.

Information provided by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Blue, Jr., Owensboro, Kentucky; and Mrs. Shelton Reynolds, daughter of Mr. Ernest Baskett, last member of the Jones family to own Willow Hill.

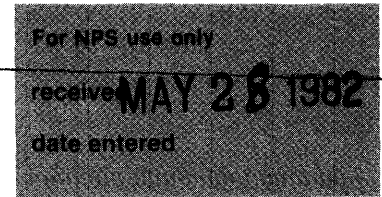
Potter, Hugh O. Daviess County Sesquicentennial Historical Factbook. Owensboro: Daviess County Historical Society, 1965.

Potter, Hugh O. History of Owensboro and Daviess County, Kentucky. Owensboro: Daviess County Historical Society, 1965

Winternitz, Helen. "Lifestyles...." Messenger Inquirer. May 7, 1975.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Willow Hill
Davies County, Kentucky

Item number 10

Page 2

Boundary Description and Justification

An early c. 1830 barn sits about 250' to the east of the house and 150' further east is a c. 1890 tobacco barn, which sits on a ridge in an open field.

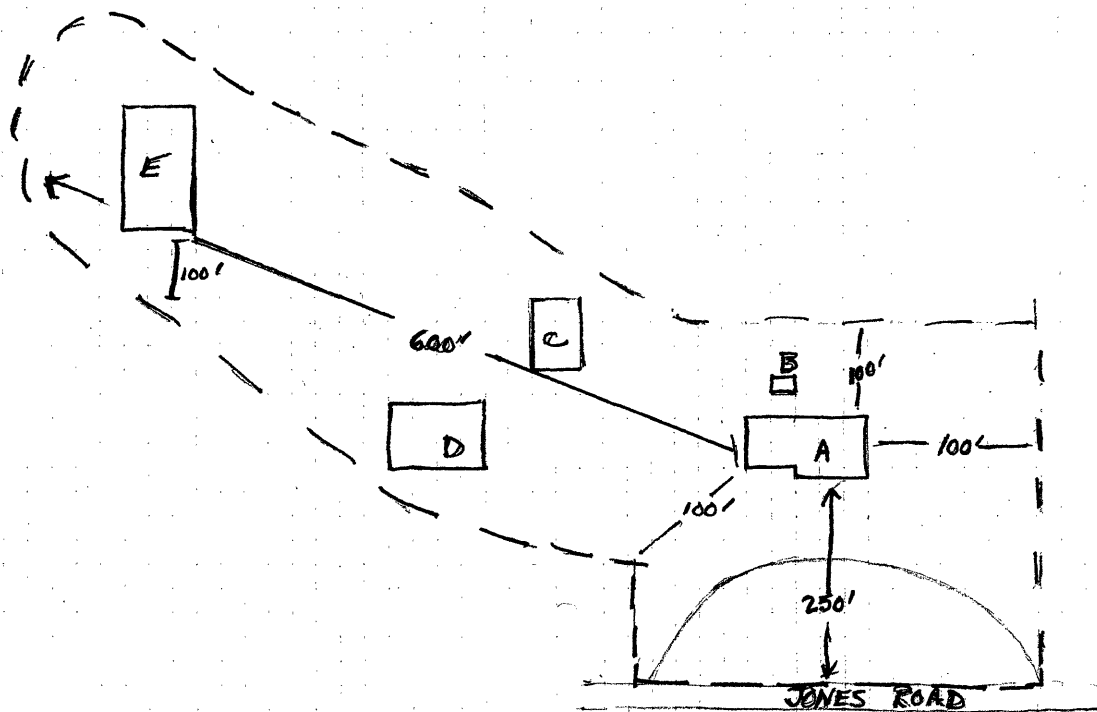
The boundary is drawn to include the house, treed lawn to Jones Road (250'); 100' north to encompass the circular drive, 600' west from the house to include the two barns, following the natural ridge line and extending southward within 100' from the barns to Jones Road to a point 100' from the house to include the circular drive. (See Map 2 for site plan.)

Willow Hill
Daviness County, Kentucky

Map 2

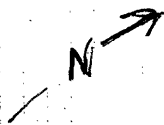
Sketch Map No Scale
Nominated area shown in red.

Bill Hearn April 1982



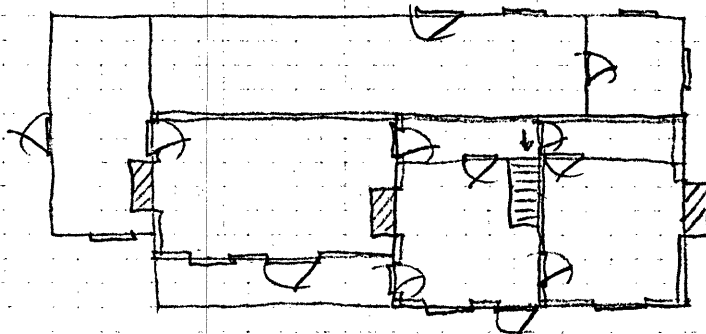
A JESSE JONES HOUSE
B ROOT CELLAR
C OLD SHED
D LIVESTOCK BARN
E TOBACCO BARN

JESSE JONES HOUSE "WILLOW HILL"
DAVISS COUNTY, KY.



RECEIVED
MAY 28 1982

Da -133 Bene House



Willow Hill
Daviness County, Kentucky

MAP 3

Sketch Map of House
No Scale
Camille Wells 1977