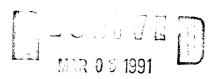
#### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



#### NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

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1. Name of Property			
	istoric District		······································
other names/site number NE~238		<del> </del>	
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2. Location			
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city, town Bardstown,		N/A L	vicinity
state Kentucky code	KY county Nelson	code 179	zip code 40004
3. Classification		<del></del>	
Ownership of Property	Category of Property		rces within Property
x private	building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	X district	4	2_ buildings
public-State	site	1	sites
public-Federal	structure	13	structures
	Object	2	objects
	- · · · · -	20	2Total
Name of related multiple property listin	o:	Number of contrib	outing resources previously
N/A	9.		nal Register <u>N/A</u>
			That Hogister
4. State/Federal Agency Certifica	tion		
National Register of Historic Places In my opinion, the property X meet Signature of certifying official Davi State Historic Preservation State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property meet Signature of commenting or other official	d L. Morgen Officer, Kentucky Heritage (	council	
State or Federal agency and bureau			
5. National Park Service Certifica	tion		
I, hereby, certify that this property is:			
entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  determined not eligible for the National Register.	Laturk And	My	<u>4/18</u> /91
removed from the National Register other, (explain:)			
	ker Signature of	tne Keeper	Date of Action

6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions) Domestic/ Single dwelling	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) Domestic/Single dwelling		
	Vacant/ Not In Use		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)		
	foundation Limestone		
Federal	walls Brick		
Second Empire/Mansard	Walls		
Classical Revival	roof Tin		
	other N/A		

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See: Continuation Sheet, Item 7, page 1.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this propert nationally	y in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B C C	□ D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	_DEFG	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Architecture, Politics/Government	Period of Significance 1811 - 1843	Significant Dates
Architecture	са. 1895	1895
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person Speed, (no middle name) Thomas, (Major) (1768-1842)	Architect/Builder Unknown	
State significance of property, and justify criteria criteria considerations of property and justify criteria criteria considerations.	erations and areas and periods of si	onificance noted above

See: Continuation Sheet, Item 8, page 1.

see: Continuation Sheet, Item 9, Page	1.
	[8]
Dravieus desumentation on file (NDC):	X See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	X Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings	University
Survey #	X Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Specify repository:
Record #	Farmington, 3033 Bardstown Road,
	Louisville, Kentukcy 40205
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property 8 acres	
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Bardstown Quad	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
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See: Continuation Sheet, Item 10, Pa	ige 1.
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Boundary Justification	
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	X See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title David H. Hall, CIG-Preservation Direct	ctor
organization City of Bardstown, CLG Program	date September, 1990.
street & number P.O. Box 368, 220 N. 5th Street	telephone (502) 348-2144
city or town Bardstown,	state Kentucky zin code 40004

9. Major Bibliographical References

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 2

Cottage Grove (NE-238) is a farmstead complex located approximately one mile from the Nelson County Courthouse in Bardstown, Kentucky. The main house is a five bay, double pile, central passage brick house built in 1811 and situated in the gently rolling, spring laced terrain of the outer Bluegrass Region. The main house at Cottage Grove faces south toward the historic Bloomfield-Bardstown turnpike (US 62). The house sits on high ground centered in a large yard, near the crest of a hill. boundaries are clearly delineated by five sets of cut stone posts. During the antebellum period the property consisted in 250 acres; currently it contains 78 acres, and of that, the nominated area is 8 acres. Within the nominated area are four contributing buildings (the main house, meat-house, 2-room outbuilding, and springhouse), plus one contributing site with two contributing objects (the Speed family cemetery with two obelisks), thirteen contributing structures (the cut-stone posts), and two non-contributing buildings. On the property sit two mobile homes, not counted as permanent resources.

#### INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

## Main House contributing

The main house, frequently referred to as "Cottage Grove," Its original facade was built in 1811 for Thomas Speed. displayed a symmetrical three-bay configuration under oneand-one-half story height. The entry bay contains the door which is capped by a fully arched transom with tracery and flanked by Doric pilasters and double hung sash window On either side of the entry bay were identical bays topped by a gable under which were two semi-lunette windows. The surface of all three bays and gables are in the same plane. In 1895 the roof of the house was replaced with a Mansard-style roof which brought the building to two The fenestration of that new roof took the same rhythm as the first floor, that is, two windows on either side of a central bay, which held an arched window beneath a broken gable roof. Additional description begins on 7-4.

Outbuildings and appurtenances at Cottage Grove in the nominated area include:

- C Log meat-house, weather-boarded and with gable room
  c. 1820, may have been a meat-house or living quarters
  at various times. Although deteriorated, a high degree
  of integrity of design, workmanship and materials survives
  (photo 6).
- C Two-Room outbuilding clapboard covered for storage,c.1895, erected adjacent to the garden for tools and supplies (Photo 7)

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_3\_\_

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 3

- C <u>Springhouse</u>, laid up in regular courses of local limestone, with gable roof, c. 1890, located near the main entrance gate (photo 8).
- The Speed family cemetery, located about 350 feet northwest of the house in the nominated area is the final resting place for Major Thomas Speed, his first wife, Susan Clayton Slaughter Speed, and his second wife Mary McElroy Allen Speed. Also interred at Cottage Grove is is the Major's oldest son, Thomas Spencer Speed (1814-1892) and his first wife, Sarah Whitney Sparhawk Speed. There are others also interred from the hundred years of Speed occupation and living descendants still visiting the
- C (2 objects) cemetary regularly. Two matching cutstone obelisks

  dating to 1892 are marked on all four sides to commemorate the various graves within the plot. Others have small, individual markers.
- C (13 structures)

Finally, there are thirteen cut stone gate posts standing in their original positions to clearly outline the initial avenues, barnyard and main yard boundaries. (See Site Plan and Photo 10) (One post broken off at ground level was incorporated into the entrance flanking walls) They display various cuts and holes drilled through to accept the ironwork for gates and latches which have been removed. These structures are contributing as indications of permanence in boundary establishment, stock control and craft skills, and also are visual enhancements to the overall historic plantation landscape.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_4

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 4

NC ( 2 buildings)

Two buildings in this landscape are non-contributing. These are a c. 1935 garage near the main yard entrance, and equipment shed in the back yard line. Two mobile homes not counted as permanent resources, are indicated on the Site Plan. The 1895 three-bent stock barn just west of the avenue leading to the cemetary is not included within the nominated area because of additions and changes to the structure plus its poor condition. (Attachment 12-A)

There are approximately 236 National Register properties listed in Nelson County. Outside of Bardstown there are 15 properties individually listed while the Bardstown Historic District includes 211 contributing structures. There are 10 others within the Bardstown City limits, including Federal Hill and Wickland, which is the nearest listing to Cottage Grove.

The central passage, double-pile plan at Cottage Grove (NE-238) is now surmounted on the front portion of the house by a five bay mansard section at the second level that is one room deep. This creates a full second floor (two rooms and central hall) across the front which did not exist before the 1895 remodeling. A neo-classical porch supported by four Tuscan columns covers three bays of the front, while leaving the pedimented classical entrance in-tact. Thus, the imaginative blend of elements from two styles, Neo-classical and Second Empire, has preserved the classical flavor of the original design. (Attachments 1 & 2 and Photos 2 and HP-5)

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_5

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 5

The mansard has a projecting, pedimented center section with round-headed, one-over-one central window. The other four front windows project from the slanted face of the mansard as shallow dormers with bell cast shed roofs; they have one-over-one sashes. Each end of the mansard section (east & west) has one window matching the ground floor bay below. From behind the mansard, the original roof lines remain intact, except that the center slope was changed, perhaps to allow for the present small window in the upper hall at the top of the stairs. (Attachment 3 and Photo 11)

The molded (1811) cornice was retained along east and west eaves in the 1895 remodeling. (Photo 3) Anew cornice was installed across the front under the mansard's bottom curb. It has a deeper plain frieze with small brackets positioned with the bays. (Photo 12) One-over-one sash replaced the six original nine-over-nine windows in the front rooms under the mansard and for the first time these same windows were fitted for exterior blinds. (Historic Photo 5)

Other changes rendered in the 1895 remodeling included replacement of double front doors by a single glazed Victorian design. (Historic Photo 5) However, the classical door surround with fluted pilasters and pediment framing the top of a semicircular fanlight with intersecting tracery was left untouched except for one-piece glazing replacing the divisions in the double hung side lights which are placed outside of the pilasters. (Photos 13 & 14) With the addition of the porch, the original cut-stone steps were moved out and re-utilized to provide access

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 6

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 6

to the new portico.

In 1905, a wrap-around shed 'ell' was added to the north-west corner increasing in size an existing side shed to serve as a modern kitchen and pantry. It is covered in 4" show clapboard, utilizes old window sash (nine-over-six) and also standard, two-over-two units of the day, and is covered in standing seam metal roof, as is the remainder of the house. (Attachment 1 and Photo 14) The results of these alterations and additions remain in place today, including a back porch spanning three bays added in 1895 and extended about 1935 with larger shed roof.

The brick house rests on a foundation formed of shaped limestone blocks, dry laid, with two extensive cellar storage rooms under the front side of the structure. Very little stonework is exposed on the exterior. Along the front facade, a water table is formed by molded 'ogee' bricks. (Photo 16) Flemish bond with tooled, lined mortar joints and English closures is used on both front and east walls; the back of the house and west walls are laid in the less decorative common bond. The brickwork continues down near ground level on all four sides. A heavy, pegged frame cellar vent, with vertical diamond-in-section bars, is aligned under each front bay. (Photo 16) All openings in the brickwork have flat, jack arches. The front and side windows have molded window sills (Photo 17) while the back windows utilize a simple, squared window sill. 2

Besides the replacement 1895, one-over-one sash in the front rooms, the remaining ground floor sashes are original nine-over-nine. <sup>3</sup> The back gables retain original four-over-two sash

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238
Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_7\_\_ Page \_\_7\_\_

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 7

openings. (Photo 11) One original dormer glazed with nine-over-six sash survives on the rear of the east gable section near the northeast corner. (Photo 3) Historic photos indicate two dormers existed on the west side and logic dictates that there was a balancing fourth dormer for light and venting which paired with the survivor on the east, each positioned vertically above the downstairs bay.<sup>4</sup>

The changes of 1895-1905 had a minor impact on the firstfloor interior, which originally consisted of parlor and dining room on the west side of the passage and three bedchambers on the east. The rear quadrant on this side had a bisecting front to rear partition creating two small rooms, one of which may have served as a study. In 1905, the kitchen, formerly housed in a 1795 log building (no longer standing) to the west, was installed in the wraparound shed. Twenty-five years later, it was moved again when the original dining room was converted to the kitchen and a bath was installed utilizing part of the small bedchamber east of the central passage. The staircase was re-oriented in 1895 utilizing the original location and landing for the lower stairs, re-positioning the original landing door and casing, and then continuing with a new upper portion to create one straight run rather than the original multiple turned runs over the partition between the parlor and dining room. At the second level, the staircase now emerges in the center hall in the mansard between two spacious upstairs bedrooms. From the back of these, the halfstory garret rooms remaining under the original roof structure now serve as storage.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number		Page	8
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Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 8

Except for the few places where the alterations required replacement of early fabric, the original, 1811 elements remain intact on the first-floor interior. Although most of the door and window surrounds are three-part and typical molded chair rails appear throughout, more robust treatments characterize the main entrance, parlor, and two of the mantel pieces on the east side of the house. The entrance surround features heavily fluted tapered pilasters and three-element, stepped-down molding with deeply fluted keystone around the fanlight. (Photos 18 & 19) In the front bedchamber, the large fireplace is flush with the partitioning wall and adorned with an Adam style mantelpiece. It features flat pilasters with reeded and beaded edge reliefs, a large reeded oval in the architrave, and a frieze with vertical reeding in two bands plus pipe and bead stringing. (Photos 20 & 21) The cornice section shelf follows the projections of pilasters and center panel below. Behind the front bedchamber, canted fireplaces sharing the east chimney serve the two smaller bedchambers. The masonry mass built for all three flues projects considerably into the smaller rooms and seems larger than necessary. While the northwest chamber has a fairly simple molded mantelpiece, the adjacent chamber is more elaborate, with flat reeded pilasters, applied reeded molding between the architrave and frieze, and a gouge-carved swag and tassel motif on the upper portion of the frieze. The shallow shelf is composed of ogee moldings decorated with a gouged triglyph pattern along the lower edge. (Photo 22) This mantel shares certain design elements, moldings and techniques with the more robust treatment of the parlor and front bedchamber.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_9

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 9

Highlighted by a richly ornamented partitioning wall, the parlor is the most distinctive room at Cottage Grove. An overmantel, which is of a single piece with the mantelpiece and displays gouge-carved loops and tassel-chord pendants in the stiles framing the panels, rises above tall wainscotting flanking the fireplace to a molded cornice extending the full width of the wall. To the west, between the fireplace and a five-paneled door leading to the former dining room, there is a deep press of shelves equipped with double doors top and bottom. (Photos 23 & 24) On the east side of the fireplace, the unusual feature of double folding doors permits half of the partitioning wall to be opened to create the impression of a single large room on the west side of the passage. Both the folding doors and the doors to the press are panelled in the same manner as the mantelpiece to lend a uniform appearance to the entire wall that disguises the passages and storage unit when all doors are closed. Fluted pilasters and a restrained, simple architrave surround the door leading to the center hallway passage. (Photo 25)

Additional original first-floor elements deserve mention. The bottom flight of stairs utilizes a simple handrail and squared balusters, which continue on the landing. All original interior doors have six panels, primarily recessed and without fields; some have flush panels on one side only. When panels are recessed, they are edged with engaged ogee molding. The doors' thick stiles and rails are designed to accept mortised locks, which remain in place. The wide exterior door at the rear of the passage is a blind six-panel design with three-light transom. The west

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_10\_\_

Cottage Grove

Item 7

Page 10

side rear chamber, formerly dining room, is now connected to the central hall at the foot of the steps and closely adjacent to the back hall exit door. As in the rear bedchambers, the chimney projects deeply (52") into the old dining room, which also has an original, small press backed up to its companion in the parlor. Here, however, the original mantelpiece has been removed and the fireplace opening sealed (Prior to the 1935 changes).

Over the rear portion of the back hall passage, the original slope of the roof created a corresponding slope in the ceiling from twelve feet to less than nine at the back wall. In 1895, the back hall ceiling was raised to the present height of twelve feet when the rear slope of the roof was rebuilt between the mansard and the back gables. The only awkward aspect of the second-story addition, this arrangement resulted in the enframing above the door at the back of the passage to fill out the required wall height so that no brickwork exists in this area. (Attachment 3 and Photo 11)

Interior finish woodwork at the second level consists primarily of the standard ogee edge moldings and trim methods of the late 19th century. Mantels are late Victorian designs, probably manufactured. The west bedroom has a working fireplace while the east fireplace is false with a mantel mounted for effect. Fragments of the 1811 trim in the garret rooms indicate the standard treatment featuring beaded baseboard and window surrounds with applied molding edges. Both garret rooms have been replastered.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number \_\_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_11

Item 7, Description - Cottage Grove (NE-238), FOOTNOTES

- 1. MASONRY DETAIL: Cottage Grove has outer walls of three courses which finish to approximately 15 inches thick, with interior plaster. Interior masonry (Load bearing) walls are two courses, 10 inches thick. The brick size averages 2-1/2" thick, 8" long and 4" wide, allowing for the difference found in hand-made brick, \* The special OGEE brick molded for the water-table edge is 2-3/4' thick, 8" long and 4-3/8" wide, with a projection created (to the base below water-table) of 2-5/8". (These measures and sizes exactly match those found at Federal Hill [NEB-1] in both standard bricks and water-table, OGEE elements). Cottage Grove is laid in Flemish Bond on BOTH the front (south) facade and the east end, while the west end and back wall are laid in common bond. However, the 'common bond' pattern has a repeat every 4th course (only 3 'stretcher' courses between 'headers'), rather than the normal six-course repeat. The original 'strike & lining' are still in evidence on the original mortar joints, the majority of which (joints) are intact and in good condition. However, the house was rendered or 'colored' and re-lined (joints enhanced with white, painted lines) sometime after 1910, as shown by the historic photos. In spite of this, certain places in the masonry allow comparisons with Federal Hill and other Bardstown area brick buildings predating 1820, in construction. The same softer, lighter hue in brick color is found in all -- a readily apparent visual difference from the darker, basic local brick color found after approximately 1825-1830, when the average brick size became 2-1/4" thick.
- 2. WINDOW SILLS: The Cottage Grove molded window sills measure 4-1/4" deep, in cross-section, while the Federal Hill (NEB-1) molded sills are 4-1/2" deep. The upper element or half-round edge is 2" deep in both. But Cottage Grove has a finishing bead at the bottom of the 'congé' lower element (See: Newcomb's Old Kentucky Architecture, plate 14, and sketch attached, cross-section, sill detail). This same general form of congé molding with beaded bottom (unusual to the local, Bardstown area) is found inside Cottage Grove, used in the Parlor trim and also front entrance surround, interior architrave, (See: Photos 17 & 25, plus attachment #3, cross-section, window sill).
- 3. WINDOWS & CATCHES: The Cottage Grove ground floor window openings measure 40" wide by 90" deep on the exterior, exactly matching the Ancient Greeks 'Golden Ratio of Proportion' (four to nine, or 1 X 2-1/4). The original window sash measure 40" wide by 46" tall, individually, with the openings filled with double-hung, nine-over-nine 'lights' per sash (see: east side and rear windows, unchanged). Each glass pane is 12" wide by 14" deep in the original sash. Windows converted with the 1895 re-modeling received only new sash replacements with solid glazing (one-over-one) substituting for the original sash. There were no other changes made to the window frame or trim on the interior or exterior. On the home's interior, the window opening is deepened in a unique manner, bottom sash being raised 3-1/2" above the sill, with trim allowing the window sill edge to be continuous with the chair-rail section (or 'stool@apron'). This 3-1/2" deepened framing is filled with a vertical trim filler, beaded on the top edge, which provides a bottom closure, 'stop' for the bottom rail of the lower sash. The resultant window size at Cottage Grove fits the over-all structural proportion so well that one does not comprehend visually the true size of the windows (AND House) until measured. \* Small 'thumb latches' worked into the original sash (lower unit, left side only) are made of brass and are exactly the same as found on original sash at Old Star Inn (NE-8) built about 1810-1815, near Cox's Creek, Kentucky. They appear to be 'imported' hardware brought over the mountains, like Cottage Grove's mortise door locks, another outof-the-ordinary detail of this Bardstown area house, built 1811-1815.

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 12

- 4. DORMERS & ORIGINAL 2ND FICOR: In 1936, Miss Louise Speed recalled the original house before the 1895 changes, as follows: --"a stairway led to three, half-story bedrooms and a long, un-plastered 'lumber-room'--". Historic photos confirm there were two dormers on the west side and one still remains on the east side. Considering where the original hanging stairs came up, there must have been two finished rooms with heat source on the west gable side (front and back of that chimney). The third finished room must have been in the front section of the east gable which would have required the fourth, matching dormer (for light and ventilation) which can not be confirmed by photography. The un-finished 'lumber-room' must have been in the east gable's rear section which has the only surviving original dormer. The existing, rather crude lath & plaster work in that room dates from the 1895 changes and re-modeling. (No heat was ever available to this room).
- 5. CIASSICAL ENTRY: Some other similar door surrounds exist in Kentucky, notably the Crittenden House, Frankfort, and the Marshall House in Old Washington, both fully pedimented, with semi-circular head and full entablature. But notable differences will be noted in design, proportion and details when comparing these with Cottage Grove. Particularly, the use of engaged side-lights, coupled with this kind of surround at Cottage Grove, makes it 'one-of-a-kind' for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Cottage Grove (NE-238)
Section number	8	Page	Nelson County, Kentucky

Cottage Grove (Site #NE-238), near Bardstown, Kentucky, is significant under National Register Criteria B and C. It is significant in the theme of Architecture as a remarkable example of the domestic portion of a 19th-century Kentucky plantation complex. It was built in 1811 for Thomas Speed (1768-1842), who was locally important from the construction date of the house until his death in 1842, as a scholar, businessman, public servant, Congressman and poet (Historic Photo 4). The manor house was modified to its present form by the addition of a mansard roof and classical revival portico by subsequent owner John Nicholls about 1895. The mansard roof is compelling because few rural Kentucky houses have the roof structure (Historic Photo 5). The 1895 revival remodeling has changed the design of the building, but its reduced integrity of design and feeling is mitigated by the virtually intact original interior fabric of the house, particularly the notable decorative elements of woodwork.

Nelson County is noted among outstanding Federal Period houses. Cottage Grove's design significance is apparent when compared to other examples of the same era. Federal Hill (NEB-1, listed March 1971), Wickland (NEB-2, listed February 1973), the Ben Doom House (NEB-95, Bardstown National Register District, listed 1982) the John Stone House near Bloomfield (NE-38, listed 1984) and the Old Star Inn near Cox's Creek (NE-8) all utilize a full, two-story mass in their varied structural arrangements. No other home was built in Nelson County during the early settlement period (1775-1820) similar to Cottage Grove, with a one-and-one-half story block utilizing a double-pile, central-passage plan. The original form of Cottage Grove can be documented from historic photographs, eyewitness accounts and much of the house that remains intact. No other examples of the type are known to have been built in this part of Kentucky. The massing and the plan are preserved even with the mansard roof addition. Cottage Grove retains sufficient architectural features to distinguish it as an unusual and, thus, valuable document of a type of construction from a particular period of local history.

Cottage Grove was also one of the earliest examples of a particular type of country home in the Bardstown vicinity: the manor house. These homes are associated with a large land-holding and contain a varied group of outbuildings. Most land owners outside of Bardstown awaited an end to Indian attacks, i.e., until after 1795, before replacing their simple log houses with more formal structures. Only two other manor houses near Bardstown are known; they predate but were unlike Cottage Grove, and both have been razed. These fringe area manor houses first exhibited elaborate floor plans and decorative architectural details before their contemporaries in Bardstown.

When considering the significance of the plan and configuration of Cottage Grove, it is pertinent to discuss Farmington, erected near Louisville by Thomas Speed's brother, John Speed, in 1808-1810. The two brothers were closely involved in business for several years and the family remained close. Thus, it is possible that Farmington, attributed to plans by Thomas Jefferson, may have influenced the thinking of Thomas Speed as his own house was planned. There are certain parallels between the houses such as the main emphasis on one floor and the interior placement of fireplaces which contrast to the majority of Kentucky house plans of this era. Both houses also feature larger window openings than average for the time. Unusual stairway treatment at both houses, and the folding partition design at Cottage Grove, may be remnants of Jeffersonian design. This possibility merits further analysis by scholars of Kentucky's classical architecture.

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Cottage Grove (NE-238)
Section number _	8	Page3	Nelson County, Kentucky

The blocky, symmetrical double-pile configuration, originally topped by a compound roof form of a lateral hip bisected by two front-to-back gables is believed unique in Kentucky. This configuration was repeated on the back side of the house, and is visible today (see Photos 11 & 15). Also unusual is the cornice work on the front gables. That cornice was extended with heavy moldings and returns, and gable lunettes were in line above the first-floor windows.

Cottage Grove's decorative elements, which survive virtually intact, are noteworthy as the work of an as-yet-unidentified local artisan. Chief among them is the front facade's elaborate centerpiece, a classical door surround with dentiled pediment and full entablature. Double hung side-lights are adjacent to the surround and the semi-circular head has intersecting gothic tracery. No other door-piece mixing this classical surround with side-lights has been identified in Kentucky (Part 7's Footnote 5 and Photos 13 & 14).

On the interior, of great local significance is the woodwork detail and decorative themes which must be closely compared to two other Nelson County landmarks of the same period, Federal Hill (Site NEB-1), and the Old Star Inn/Joseph Foreman House (Site NE-8). The major decorative woodwork elements in the three houses (mantels, door-surround, etc.) appear to originate with the same craftsman or shop. In particular, the mantelpieces all display distinctive features such as gouge carving patterns and techniques, identical molding patterns, use of fluting and reeding, plus identical edging patterns. Also, there is the finely wrought fluted keystone block at the interior entrance surround of Cottage Grove (Photo 19 and Attachment 7), the same form but a bit more elaborate than its match at Federal Hill. Thus, the woodwork at Cottage Grove bears closer study which may illuminate building techniques, supply and design methods of early 19th century Bardstown and Nelson County area.

In the same vein, Cottage Grove's brickwork is integral to the ongoing investigation of local masonry sources and techniques. It appears that the same molds or brickyard produced the bricks for both Cottage Grove and Federal Hill (Item #7, Footnote 1, Masonry Detail) as the specially formed ogee water-table edge are the same in both houses. Similar to the materials of most early masonry structures in the Bardstown area, Federal Hill and Cottage Grove's bricks are fairly large and a subtle, light buff-salmon color. The effect is a softer hue in the masonry wall mass on these early structures than the darker, more brownish hue exhibited in area brickwork dating only a decade after 1820. Research may prove the commercial source of this basic building item around Bardstown instead of traditional explanations such as production on-site or importation from far away.

Another important aspect of Cottage Grove's architectural significance is that its roof system and porch are locally outstanding examples of late Victorian and early classic revival remodeling. From 1875 through 1935 numerous early landmarks were renovated with applied ornament and additions inspired by the neoclassical revival. Only Cottage Grove, however, was expanded to a full second story by incorporation of a mansard roof section, the hallmark of the Second Empire style. Comparatively rare in Kentucky, the mansard was a seldom-used feature in rural areas. Cottage Grove displays the only fully executed example to be identified in Nelson County.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

				Cottage Grove (NE-238)
Section number	8	Page	4	Nelson County, Kentucky

Practically out of style by the time (1895) it was built, the mansard was not an uncommon solution to expand urban dwellings. This unusual choice for Cottage Grove suggests that the as-yet-unidentified designer may have been from outside the area--perhaps from Louisville. It was a clever, practical design solution because it did not necessitate matching bricks between original first floor and added newer story. The design is distinctive in itself without impinging too much upon the integrity of the lower level, distinctive and desirable in its own right. Thus, the second period of architectural significance dates to the completion of this unusual feature.

With much of the original fabric of the house remaining, particularly in the notable decorative elements, Cottage Grove retains significance as the only surviving building associated with Thomas Speed, an early settler regionally prominent in politics, business, government administration and cultural pursuits.

The son of Captain James Speed, a Revolutionary War veteran who settled near present day Danville, Kentucky, in 1782, Thomas Speed was fourteen when he emigrated with family and friends from Charlotte County, Virginia, over the Wilderness Road. Learning was stressed in the family and, by whatever the means, Thomas received and embraced a good education that included the classics. Remarkably, in 1786, at the age of eighteen, he was chosen first secretary of the newly formed "Danville Political Club." Asked to join the select group even before his father was asked, he kept the minutes of this society during its tenure of four years and safe-guarded that record for posterity. During the same period he also was made secretary of the Kentucky Society for the Promotion of Useful Knowledge, composed of many of Kentucky's leading citizens.

In 1789, when twenty-one, he was serving as assistant to Christopher Greenup, Clerk of the Supreme Court. As that time George Muter recommended him to Governor Beverly Randolph for an executive position being considered by Virginia government to help better administer "the Western Waters." This recommendation reflected the high regard given Thomas Speed's ability and worth.

Soon after 1790, Thomas and his younger brother, John (later, Judge John Speed at Farmington) went into partnership to merchandise dry goods and groceries at both Danville and Bardstown. It could have been the booming salt-trade industry which brought Thomas to locate in Bardstown. The Speed family operated a salt works adjacent to James Speed's 600 acre claim in the vicinity of Mann's Lick (present day Bardstown Junction), 20 miles distant. Because the area near the salt works was considered unhealthy during the early period (1780-1810), many leading entrepreneurs in that field actually lived at Bardstown. Probably both Thomas and John were managing the salt business on-site for various family members, while pursuing the role of merchants with imported goods from Philadelphia and Baltimore. They were in the forefront among these most important early Kentucky business ventures.

Thomas Speed married Susan Clayton Slaughter on December 11, 1796, at Bardstown. They may have located at the Cottage Grove plantation soon after, as family tradition dates the first log house (later used as "kitchen" and now destroyed) before 1800. Their only child, Anna Maria, died in 1803. Susan Speed lived at least through February, 1806; the cause of her death is unrecorded. Thomas Speed was again married on January 9, 1810, to Mrs. Mary McElroy Allen, widow of Robert Allen.

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Cottage Grove (NE-238)
Section number	8	Page5	Nelson County, Kentucky

Through appointment, Thomas Speed served as Clerk of the Bullitt County Circuit Court and the Nelson Circuit Court for a number of years. During the War of 1812, he attained the rank of Major in the Kentucky Volunteers and participated in the ill-fated campaign under General Hopkins against the upper Wabash Indians in the Fall of 1812. He may have been present with other Bardstown Officers at the 2nd Battle of Fallen Timbers (or Battle of the Thames, October 1813) when Tecumseh fell.

Following the War, Speed was elected to Congress in 1817, making trips to "Washington City" by horseback over the old Wilderness Road via the Cumberland Gap, a distance of approximately 800 miles. He also was elected to the Kentucky Legislature in 1821, 1822, and again in 1840.

Fond of writing, Thomas Speed contributed to the <u>National Intelligencer</u>, published in Washington. He was a Whig in politics, a friend and correspondent of Henry Clay, an Emancipationist and advocate of total abstinence from liquor. On all subjects, he wrote liberally.

Thomas Speed died at Cottage Grove, February 20, 1842, and is interred in the family plot on the grounds. He had lived through, experienced and contributed much to sixty years of Kentucky's fundamental development.

John Nicholls purchased the plantation from the Speed heirs about 1895. He and his son-in-law, Josh Bowles, were involved with horse breeding and training (trotters, pacers, etc.) at several sites, including Cottage Grove. Under Nicholls the remodeling took place and outbuildings were modernized or added for stock breeding operations and general agricultural crops which support horses and cattle. Bowles died from injuries sustained in the Bardstown Junction Train Wreck of 1917 and in 1919 Nicholls sold Cottage Grove, marking an end to equine operations on the property. Subsequent owners continued diversified farming focused on cattle and grain crops. Three generations of the Scobee family, which acquired the plantation in 1933, lived in the historic house while continuing Cottage Grove's agricultural tradition.

Although the house has been vacant since 1985, the owner continues in residence only a few feet away and the surrounding acreage is still farmed.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 6

Cottage Grove

Item 8

Page 9

Although the house has been vacant since 1985, the owner continues in residence only a few feet away and the surrounding acreage is still farmed.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- The Walter Beall House (c.1798), a brick three part plan, had a two-story central mass and flanking, octagon shaped dependancies connected by hyphens.
   Later called 'Villa Lawn', the 'flankers' were removed by 1860 and the much modified central mass was razed in 1965. The Colonel Andrew Hynes House (c. 1795) was a hewn-frame, brick-nogged, two story gabled, single pile house with clapboard sheathing. Later, incorporated into brick additions leaving it the center of an expanded residence (additions, c.1840), the house was dismantled in 1973 for an industrial site.
- 2. The connection between John Speed through his second wife, Lucy Gilmer Fry, with Thomas Jefferson, is well documented. She was the granddaughter of Jefferson's guardian, Dr. Thomas Walker. Her uncle, George Divers, and her father, Joshua Fry, were intimate friends with Jefferson who designed a major addition including octagonal rooms for George Divers house, Farmington, near Charlottesville, Virginia. Lucy Fry spent much of her childhood at Farmington, Virginia. When she and John Speed were married in 1808 they chose a house plan by Jefferson which may have been a study for Shadwell, Jefferson's father's house. (See: Frederick D. Nichols: "Thomas Jefferson's Architectural Drawings", page 6) Farmington, Near Louisville, Kentucky has been well studied and documented. The original Jefferson drawing on which it is based is in the Coolidge Collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society (See: Fiske Kimball; "Jefferson's Designs for Two Kentucky Houses", Journal, Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. 9, No. 3, October 1950 also, Farmington, Jefferson County, Kentucky NR Inventory-Nomination Form March 1972.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section n	umber	8	Page	7
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Cottage Grove

Item 8

Footnotes, continued

- 3. Edgewood NEB-121, John Rogers House NEB-114, Roseland NEB-14, Shadow Lawn NEB-67, Mary May House NEB-60, Hite-Grigsby House NEB-54, McLean House NEB-87, Anatok NEB-107 and the Manson-Seeger House NEB-105, extant and the Beall-Muir House, the Hynes-Haydon House, The Caldwell-Muir House, the Crozier-Samuels House and the Browne-Jimeno House all razed are various examples of this local Architectural evolution/phenomenon.
- 4. The Danville Political Club was the first such social organization formed in the District of Kentucky to discuss the political issues being debated in both district and nation. It reflected both political and social status and members could be expelled for ungentlemanly behavior. The membership list includes the great majority of prominent citizens in central Kentucky at that time period. George Morgan Chinn states in Kentucky Settlement and Statehood, 1750-1800: "The Political Club, setting policy and guidelines, presided perhaps as an unofficial governing body over Kentucky for the few months prior to final statehood....." (page 446).
- 5. One brother-in-law from the last marriage to Widow Allen was Felix Grundy, noted lawyer and politician who, ultimately served as Attorney-General of the United States. See: Mattingly Spalding, <u>Biography of a Kentucky Town</u>, (2nd Edition, Baltimore, 1942) pages 42-43.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cottage Grove, NE-238 Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number <u>9 & 10</u> Page <u>1</u>

Item #9, MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Nelson and Spencer Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake and Company, 1884.

Chinn, George Morgan. Kentucky Settlement and Statehood, 1975, Kentucky Historical Society.

McDowell, Robert E. <u>Bullitt's Lick</u>, the Related Salt Works and Settlement, 1956, Filson Club Quarterly, used in "History of Bullitt County", 1974, Bullitt County Historical Commission.

Newcomb, Rexford. Old Kentucky Architecture, 1940, Third Edition, New York, Bonanza Books.

Smith, Sarah B. Historic Nelson County, Louisville: Gateway Press, Inc., 1971.

Spalding, Mattingly. Biography of a Kentucky Town, (2nd Edition), Baltimore, 1942

Speed, Thomas. Records and Memorials of the Speed Family, Louisville: Courier Journal Printing, 1892.

Speed, Miss Louise. Paper on Cottage Grove, July 2, 1936 Edition, Kentucky Standard, Bardstown.

Nelson County Records, Wills and Deeds, Nelson County Clerk's Office, Court Annex, Bardstown.

Item 10, Geographical Data, Cottage Grove (NE-238)

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

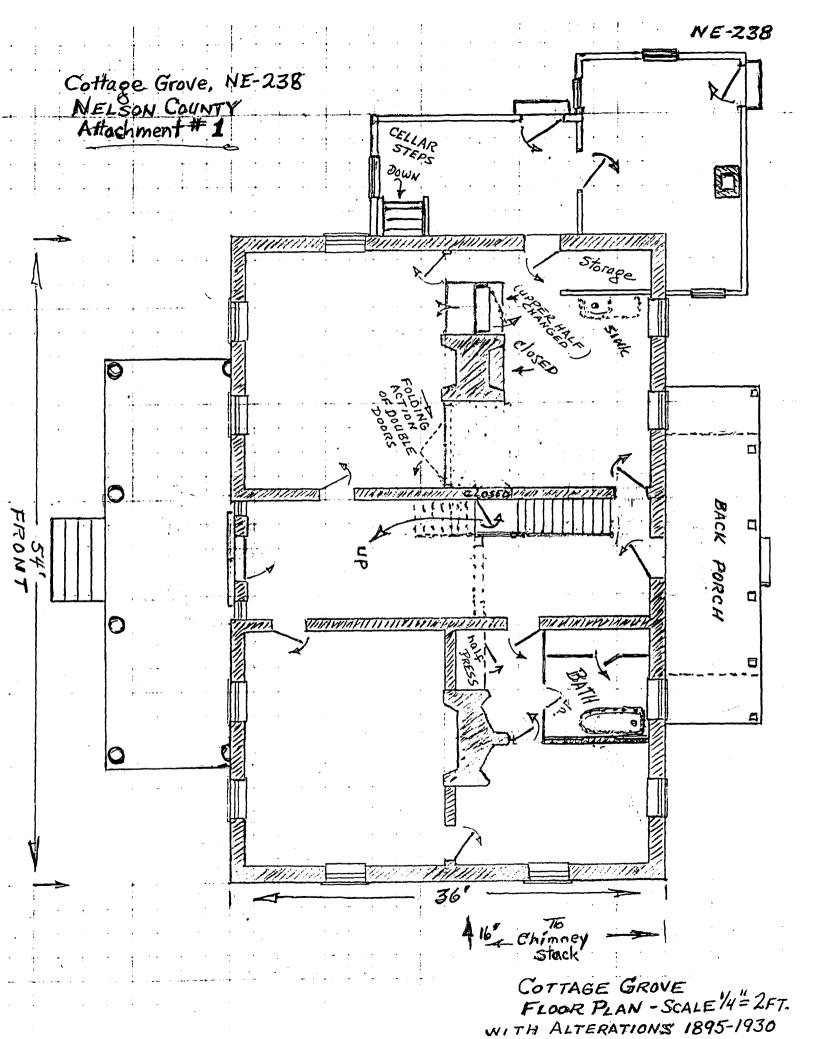
See: Points 'A-B-C-D-E & F' on Attachment (MAP) #4 corresponding to the existing outsides corners of the nominated resource.

#### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The Boundaries chosen incorporate the essential historic frontage of the plantation site, which is part of its setting and necessary for integrity of the landscape, and includes a pair of stone pillars or gate posts. The frontage corridor then runs back to incorporate the dwelling, contributing dependencies, objects and site, including the essential historic boundaries, lots, garden and landscape area associated with the main plantation complex.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS, Cottage Grove, NE-238

- #1. Existing Floor Plan.
- #2. Original Floor Plan.
- #3. Detail, Original Roof Configuration and Molded Sills, cross-section.
- #4. Site Plan, Nominated Area, Cottage Grove.
- #5. Photo Guide and Location Key, (2 pages).
- #6. Atlas Map Section, 1882, Bardstown and north-east quadrant.
- #7. Likeness, Major Thomas Speed (1768-1842).



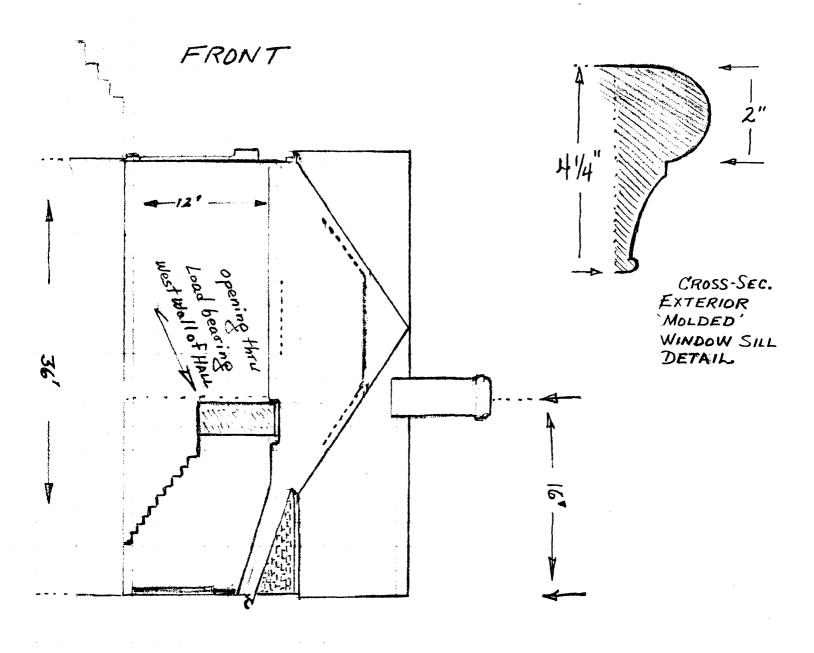
THE PURIS N. DERING State Contract Addition

Cottage Grove, NE-238
NELSON County, Kentucky
Attachment #2

TO OUTSIDE KITCHEN and SERVANTS QUARTERS FRONT 1-16' to Chimney Stack - - A

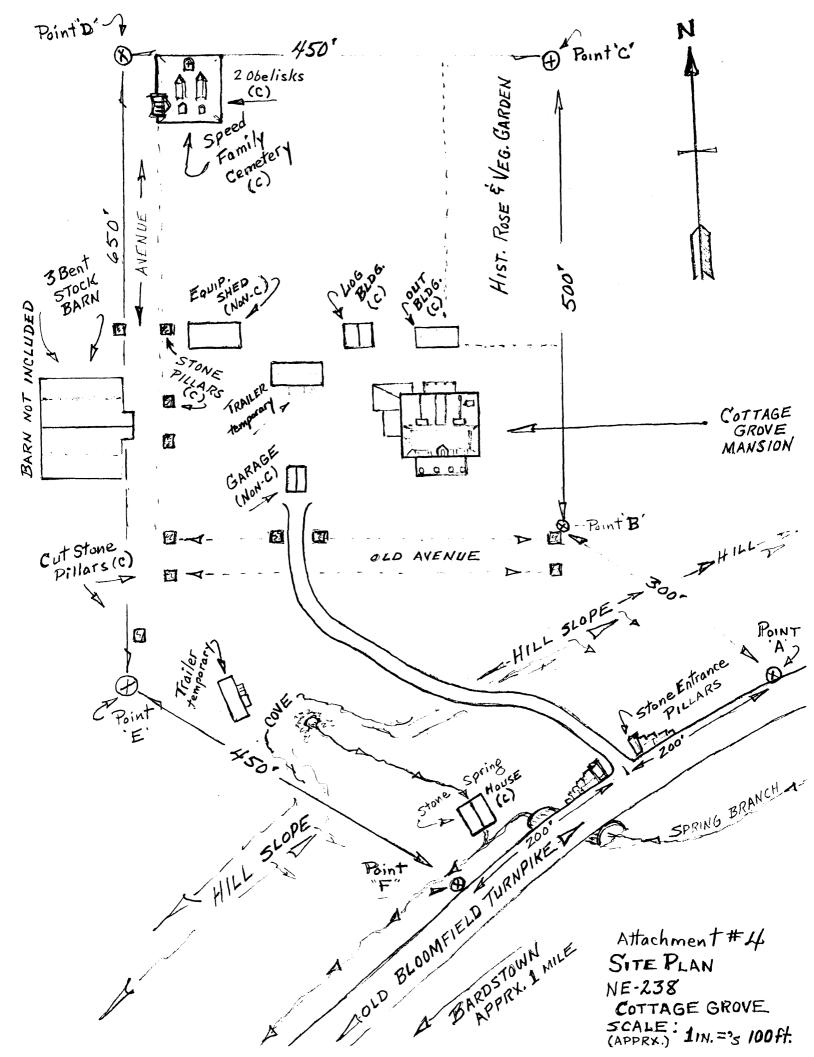
COTTAGE GROVE
BUILT-1811
ORIGINAL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE-14"=2-11:

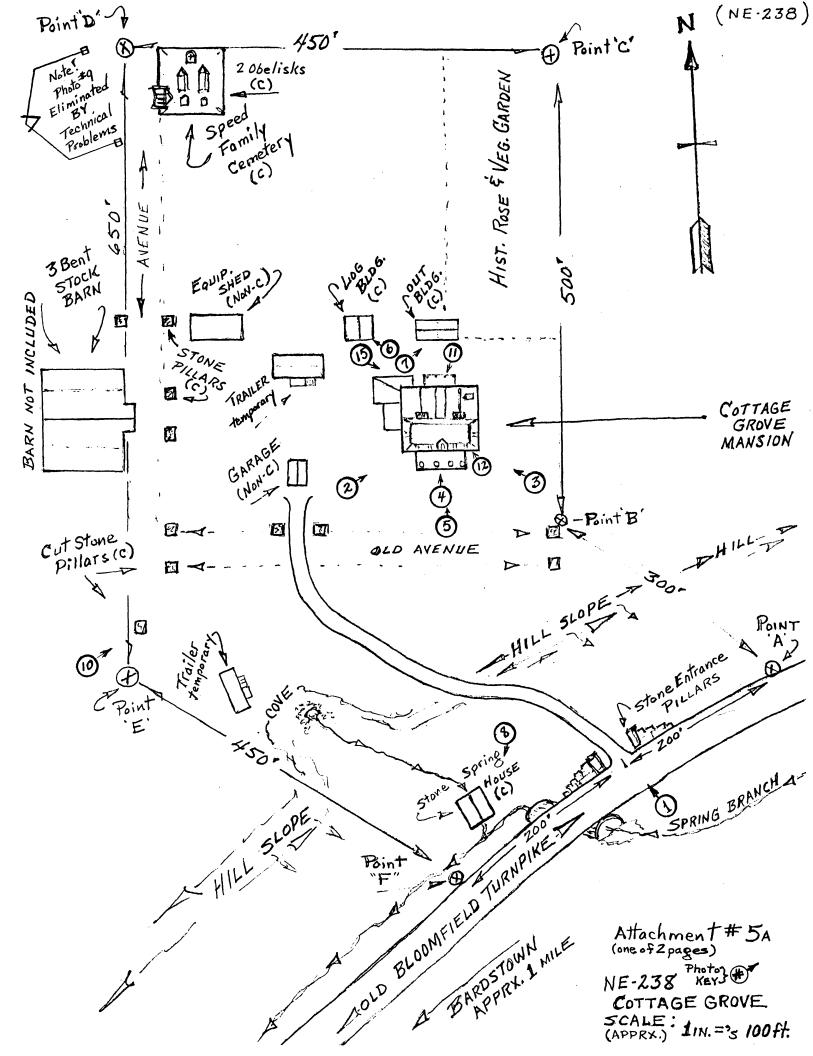
NE-238 Cottage Grove, NELSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY DETAIL, CROSS SECTION, Stairs & Roof, c. 1811 - Attachment # 3



BEAR

CROSS-SECTION
ORIGINAL ROOF, C. 181
NE-238
COTTAGE GROVE
NELSON COUNTY,
KENTUCKY





Cottage Grove NE-238

NELSON COUNTY

Attachment #5B - INTERIOR PHOTO KEY

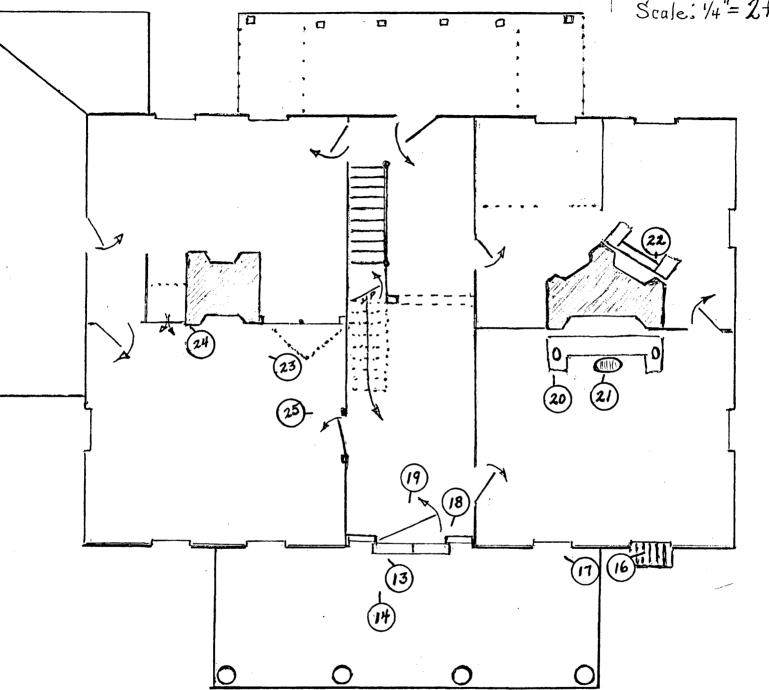
NE-238

Attachment #5B

Page 2 of two

Photo Key 3 #

Scale: 1/4"= 2#.



FRONT

Res Oco.B Jos T. Hart Inn.S. Humphrey. Gov. Tohnson Jos. B. Beam T.S. Grund BARDSTOWN M. Unseld F. Shader School B.P. Grigsby Mrs. Fennett SUNSHINE Est. of DIAK Cox M.M. Gill Res Culil, M. Brown Mic Cen Mistown Cem M. Viseld FS Burber Judge Sygray H. Duncan S.S. Mill COTTAGE GROVE Res B. Cognes T.S.Speed Ton Hoples Robe J. Grouch 11. Store H.Bromv Hughes F.A.Comes WICKLAND Coomes ( Care · G.W. Rob Jr. W! Mattingly Date Rowan. H. Wells FEDERAL HILL J.H. Matting ty Toll House Jas Jones Jos S. Johnson Res EN. Crozier Sally Ealls T.O. Croziar Res Jos P. Wood O. Robinson Mrs. Wilson A. Robinsone Win Price

that they were named for their father's sisters. them survived childhood:

Martha, born 1784, died the year following.

Sarah, born 1786, died the same year.

He also had a son born in Virginia, before the removal to Kentucky, named after his brother, Joseph. This child also died in infancy.

An account will be given of each one of the six surviving children and their descendants. Thomas was the ancestor of the Bardstown family; John was the ancestor of the Louisville family; Mary married Wm. Smith, of Madison county, Kv., and was the mother of Colonel John Speed Smith and grandmother of General Green Clay Smith. Her daughter married Tom Fry, and was the mother of General Speed S. Fry and others, all of which will be particularly named.

Elizabeth married Dr. Adam Rankin, whose descendants are in Henderson, Ky. James and Henry have no descendants now living.

#### MAJOR THOMAS SPEED.

A sketch of the life and times of Major Thomas Speed, first son of Captain James Speed and Mary Spencer, would present a history of Kentucky through its most interesting period. He was in Kentucky from 1782 until his death in 1842. He was connected with the earliest political movements, was a Representative in the State Legislature and in Congress, and participated in the war of 1812. He was born in Virginia, October 25, 1768, and moved to Kentucky with his father, Captain James Speed, in the fall of 1782. He was then fourteen years of age, and was the eldest of the children The removal of this family to Kentucky was from Charlotte county, Va., which county adjoined Mecklenburg county, where Captain James Speed was born. The trip was over the Wilderness Road, through Cumberland Gap, and, as no vehicle could, at that date, pass over that wilderness way, the travel was on foot



MAJOR THOMAS SPEED Or Bristown Ky Fur most min rule.

from an old miniature) (of Bardstown, Ky.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000390

Cottage Grove Historic District
Property Name:

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic
Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Adult Adult
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The 13 contributing gateposts are listed as structures in Section 3 of the form; they should be defined as objects. This has been clarified with the staff of the SHPO. The form is now officially amended to show 15 contributing objects (and no structures).

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

#### National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photo

Cottage Grove, NE-238

Nelson County, Kentucky

Section number Key

Page .

Section Number 'Photographs', Page 1.

PHOTO INFORMATION, EXCEPT AS LISTED INDIVIDUALLY, IS THE SAME FOR ALL

- 1) Cottage Grove Historic District, 1015 Old Bloomfield Pike
- 2) Bardstown, Kentucky
- 3) David H. Hall
- 4) January, 1987
- 5) CLG Photo Archives, City Hall, P.O. Box 368, Bardstown, Ky., 40004
- 6) Cottage Grove (NE-238), entrance gate, frontage and driveway.
- 7) Photo #1
- 6) NE-238 House, looking north-east.
- 7) Photo #2
- 6) NE-238 House, looking north-west.
- 7) Photo #3
- 3) James Buckner Speed
- 4) Summer, 1889
- 6) Cottage Grove's original front configuration & Speed Family group.
- 7) Historic Photo #4
- 3) W. F. Montfort, Bardstown Studio Photographer
- 1899 or 1900, before December
- 6) Cottage Grove, after Mansard and classical porch addition.
- 7) Historic Photo #5
- 6) Log-cabin out-building, looking north-west.7) Photo #6
- 6) Utility, 2-room out-building, looking north-east.
- Photo #7
- 6) Stone spring-house, near old Bloomfield Turnpike.
- 7) Photo #8
- 6) \*Photo eliminated (poor technical quality & un-necessary) of Speed Family Cemetery
- 7) Photo #9 is NOT included (finished prints) with the NE-238 Nomination.
- 6) Cut stone gate-post (plus pair in background), looking north-east.
- 7) Photo #10
- 6) NE-238, House, back view of gables, Mansard and back porch.
- 7) Photo #11
- 6) Detail, Mansard and front cornice, south-east corner, front.
- 7) Photo #12
- 6) Detail, entrance surround, pilaster design and pediment extension.
- 7) Photo #13
- 6) Cottage Grove front entrance surround and side-lites.
- 7) Photo #14

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photo

Section number Key

Page 2

Cottage Grove, NE-238
Nelson County, Kentucky

Section Number 'Photographs', Page 2.

PHOTO INFORMATION, EXCEPT AS LISTED INDIVIDUALLY, IS THE SAME FOR ALL.

- 6) Cottage Grove NE-238, 3/4 rear-view with kitchen-shed addition, looking south-east.
- 7) Photo #15
- 6) Detail, cellar vent and water-table, right of front porch, facing.
- 7) Photo #16
- 6) Detail, molded window sill, right of entry, facing.
- 7) Photo #17
- 6) NE-238, Interior detail, main entrance, left pilaster and architrave.
- 7) Photo #18
- 6) Interior detail, main entrance semi-circular head and keystone.
- 7) Photo #19
- 6) NE-238 Mantel detail, east-front bedroom, left pilaster and shelf moldings.
- 7) Photo #20
- 6) Mantel detail, east-front bedroom, center reeded oval and rope moldings.
- 7) Photo #21
- 6) Small mantel detail, rear, north-east corner bedroom, frieze with carved swags.
- 7) Photo #22
- 6) NE-238, Interior detail, west-front parlor, paneled wall, over-mantel and doors.
- 7) Photo #23
- 6) Detail, west-front parlor, gouge carving, left-side, over-mantel frame.
- 7) Photo #24
- 6) Detail, west-front parlor, hall-way door surround, left fluted pilaster & architrave.
- 7) Photo #25