NPS Form 10-900		OMB No. 10024-0018		
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National Register of Historic Registration Form	Places	APR 2:4 1995		
rchitectural classification, materials, and areas of s	n (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complees not apply to the property being docum ignificance, enter only categories and sub	districts. See instructionarie for the Complete the etc. each item by marking ("" in the appropriate box or narried, Find Struct is security of the complete box of the bategorie NIATIONAID STANKI'S ETRACE diditional of processor, or computer, to complete all items.		
. Name of Property		······································		
istoric name Powell, W	illiam S. House			
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2. Location				
treet & number 501 Washingt	on Street	NA not for publication		
ity or town Princeton		NA 🗆 vicinity		
tate Kentucky code	KY county <u>Caldwell</u>	code 033 zip code 42445		
. State/Federal Agency Certification	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
David L. Mo and SHPO Signature of certifying official/Title Kentucky Heritage Council, State of Federal agency and bureau	rgan, Executive Director <u>3-29-95</u> Date /State Historic Preservat	ion Office		
In my opinion, the property	es not meet the National Register criteria.	. (		
Signature of commenting official/Title	Date			
State or Federal agency and bureau				
1. National Park Service Certification	A ala			
hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keepe	Entered in the Date of Action National Register 5.26.95		
See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
removed from the National Register.				
other, (explain:)				

Powell, William S. House Name of Property	Caldwell Co., KY County and State				
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property. (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)				
A private     A private     A public-local     D public-local     D district	Contributing Noncontributing				
public-State					
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and the second	objects				
	<u>1</u> Total				
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register				
N/A	0				
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)				
Domestic/single dwelling	Domestic/single dwelling				
-					
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)				
Late Victorian/Italianate	foundation Stone: cut limestone				
	walls Brick: common bond				
	roof Metal: standing seam				
	other				
	Guior				
Narrative Description					

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 8. Statement of Significance

#### **Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- □ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

□ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

#### Property is:

- □ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- □ **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- □ **F** a commemorative property.
- □ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- □ designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
  #\_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

## Caldwell Co., KY

# Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Architecture Period of Significance circa 1875 **Significant Dates** 1875 **Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A **Cultural Affiliation** N/A Architect/Builder <u>Unknown</u>

#### Primary location of additional data:

- **X** State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

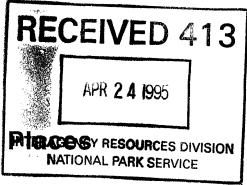
Name of repository:

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Verbal Boundary (Describe the boundarie	Description es of the property on a continuation sheet.)		
Boundary Justific (Explain why the bound	ation daries were selected on a continuation sheet.)		
11. Form Prepare	d By		
name/titleA	rdell Jarratt, Consultant		
organization <u>N</u>	I/A	date1	1/20/94
street & number	412 South Jefferson	telephone	502-365-5163
city or town	Princeton	stateKY	zip code42445
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properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

# National Register of Historic Continuation Sheet



Section number \_\_7\_ Page \_\_1\_\_\_

Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

### Narrative Description

Constructed circa 1875, the William S. Powell House (Ca-P-5) is an Italianate-style, two-story brick with attic and partial basement, gablefront and wing building. The foundation is ashlar cut limestone. The three-brick thick walls are laid in common bond. Exterior walls are painted a soft sandstone; trim is painted white. The gable roof is covered with standing seam metal. The house faces north onto Washington Street. The nominated area includes lots 65 and 71 of Prince's addition, comprising approximately one acre. The only outbuilding is an octagonal brick garden house which is a non-contributing structure.

The first story of the gable portion of the front facade features a bay window with three hooded arched openings with limestone sills. A paneled frieze and cornice embellished with decorative iron work completes the bay window. The decorative iron work was added by the Harralsons circa 1953. It was produced for them by a local blacksmith from a sample taken from an earlier building located in the community. The early fire insurance marks found on each side of the bay window are from a building in Dallas, Texas, and were added by the Harralsons. The two windows on the second story are bracketed, rectangular two-overtwo double hung windows with limestone sills. A pedimented opening in the gable's peak houses an attic fan. Single, large eave brackets placed on a deep trim band complete the cornice line.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section number \_\_7\_ Page \_\_2
 Powell, William S. House

 Caldwell Co., KY

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Narrative Description continued

The first story of the wing portion of the front facade has three bays comprised of paired doors with single panes of arched glass and two bracketed, rectangular two-over-two double hung windows. A porch extends the full width of this wing, supported by three wooden lonic columns thought to be later additions dating from circa 1900. The porch's roofline is embellished with the same type of decorative iron work placed on the bay window's cornice. The second story's three rectangular windows are identical to those found on the gable portion. Three frieze windows punctuate the frieze band.

The east elevation has a gable and wing portion similar to the front facade's. Bracketed, rectangular two-over-two double hung windows of the same design as those on the front facade are found on both stories of this side. Single brackets and frieze band windows also appear at the roofline as well as the decorative vent housing under the gable peak. The porch has been glass enclosed by the Harralsons, but still retains its original bracketed Victorian-style turned posts and trim. A brick floor replaced the wooden one at the time of enclosure. The decorative iron work found on the front facade's bay window and porch has also been added to the side porch.

The south or back elevation consists of the one-story kitchen and two-story facade which only has two openings--plain two-over-two rectangular windows with limestone lintels and sills. Because the kitchen was in disrepair and lacked modern conveniences, it was updated by the Harralsons in 1953 using the same foundation site.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_7\_ Page \_\_3\_Powell, William S. HouseCaldwell Co., KY

Narrative Description continued

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Although the west side's gable and wing configuration is similar to the east elevation, the windows on the west side are plain, twoover-two rectangular openings with limestone lintels and sills rather than the more ornate bracketed windows. Frieze-band windows again appear on the wing portion as do the single eave brackets along the entire expanse.

Additions made in 1953 to the rear or south side include a garage, back porch and laundry facilities connected to the back wall of the kitchen. Placement and landscaping of these facilities is such that they do not detract from the historic character of the house.

The interior of the Powell house retains much of its architectural integrity. The first floor consists of an entry hall with formal parlor, a bedroom with bath, staircase to the second floor, a hall to the side porch, powder room, dining room, living room and kitchen. Ceilings are 14 feet high and have crown moldings. The ceilings were replastered in 1953 after electricity was installed. Baseboards are 12 inches deep; door and window surrounds 7 inches wide. The rectangular windows measure 9 feet 10 inches high. The wooden shutters throughout the house, with the exception of those in the dining room, are original. The double door at the front entrance is 9 feet 8 inches high and 51-1/2 inches wide. Coal-burning fireplaces with white iron mantels remain in the parlor and guest bedroom. The large, square, gold-leaf mirror over the mantel in the parlor was placed there by Powell. Also original to the parlor is a large glass-front bookcase.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section number \_\_7\_ Page \_\_4\_
 Powell, William S. House

 Caldwell Co., KY

Narrative Description continued

The Harralsons updated the utilities and made some interior changes after purchasing the property in 1953. A powder room, fashioned from space partitioned from the original bathroom, was added in the hall leading to the side porch. Powell's three-cornered washstand which stood in the hall was placed in the powder room. The bedroom in the southeast corner was made into a living room. Here a wood-burning (now gas) fireplace was installed on the interior west wall, the baseboards were removed, wall paneling was installed and a door into the hall was made stationary. The sitting room in the northwest corner across from the parlor experienced a change in room usage and is now a guest bedroom.

Updated by the Harralsons to accommodate modern conveniences, the kitchen was altered from a one and one-half story room with shed roof to a one-story room with a nine-foot ceiling. Stairs in the northeast corner leading to the second floor and a trap door to the basement also were removed. During the renovation, the Harralsons installed a quarry tile floor and redwood paneling with matching cabinets which give the room a mellow, older appearance. The worn limestone step from the dining room into the kitchen was preserved.

The second floor is comprised of a spacious hall, four bedrooms, and two baths. Ceilings are 12 feet high with crown moldings. The stained glass window on the staircase landing came from the Griffen-Watkin house which stood on the corner of Washington and South Jefferson. Griffen, a relative of Grayson Harralson, and his wife Watkin were noted early Princeton photographers.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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

Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

Narrative Description continued

The bedroom in the northeast corner has a large dressing room which was constructed from the original closet. Powell's corner washstand remains in the bedroom. The stairs next to the bedroom's door lead to the full attic where the original water tank is located and Powell's zinc-lined bath tub is stored. In a letter to the Harralsons dated May 4, 1956, Mary Powell Williams, William Powell's daughter, writes:

I have head my mother say that it was the first house in Caldwell County to have plumbing. At the time it was built my father had a plumber from Louisville come down and install a tub, toilet and washstand in the original second floor bathroom. There were also two marble top three-cornered washstands, one in the rear first floor hall and one in the large bedroom over the parlor. As a child I remember the zinc tub with a walnut frame. The water tank was in the attic.

A linen closet on the west side was converted to a bathroom in 1953 and now contains one of the original washstands. No structural changes were made to the three remaining bedrooms. Coal-burning fireplaces may be found in all the bedrooms with the exception of the bedroom in the southwest corner over the dining room. The dining room and bedroom over it appear to have had stoves, rather than fireplaces, as their original sources of heat. However, neither room had a stove in 1953 when the Harralsons bought the house.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_7\_ Page \_6\_Powell, William S. HouseCaldwell Co., KY

Narrative Description continued

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A partial basement consisting of two rooms is located under the southeast corner of the house. Access is now gained from an exterior entry on the south side. The first room entered has a fireplace with a small closet to the side. The second room contains the new mechanical systems. It is thought these rooms were used originally for food storage and as a place for the servants to work. During the Powells' residency (c. 1875-1952) there was access to these rooms through a trap door in the kitchen.

Although the Powell house has lost some integrity of materials and feeling through renovation of the kitchen and the addition of the back porch and garage, its historic appearance is substantially intact and it retains integrity of design. The essential elements of the Italianate architectural style are present, and its significance as an important example of the style in the community is apparent. Renovations in the form of modern plumbing, electricity, furnace and modern kitchen conveniences only have added to the house's standard of comfort. Contributing to the historical association and feeling is the presence of several of the Powell family pieces of furniture such as the washstands, parlor mirror and bookcase, and dining room buffet and corner cupboard.

No original outbuildings remain on the property. The 1886 Sanborn map shows a stable south of the house on Dunnivan Street and a one-story building, perhaps a smokehouse or summer kitchen, connected to the kitchen with a covered porch. By 1901 the stable had been moved west of the rear of the house. A small frame building also had been added west

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

Narrative Description continued

of the one-story building connected to the kitchen via a porch. By 1925 no outbuildings are shown.

Although no original outbuildings remain, the house's setting retains much of its historical feeling. The grounds are enclosed along portions of Washington and Donnivan Streets by a circa 1881 iron fence from the Rogers Iron Fence Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. The city's herringbone brick walk still runs along the iron fence on Washington Street, and an original hitching post and mounting block can be found near the front gate.

A brick patio has been laid to the east of the kitchen and rear back porch. The brick came from the railroad passenger depot's platform when the depot was demolished. A fence built of old bricks defines the driveway and remainder of the property from the southeast corner on Donnivan Street to the northwest corner of Washington Street. This fence replaced an earlier wire fence.

An octagonal brick garden house, topped with a hand-chipped slate turret roof from the Griffen-Watkin house, is located in the southwest corner of the property. A non-contributing structure, this outbuilding was constructed for the Harralsons in the early 1970s. Herbs and other historic plants surround the garden house.

Several old maple, dogwood, pin oak, Kentucky coffee bean, ginkgo and magnolia trees enhance the grounds and help maintain the integrity of the surroundings. Also contributing to the setting is the fact that the grounds have remained intact and have not been subdivided and built upon.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Powell, William S. House

 Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>8</u> Caldwell Co., KY

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William S. Powell House (Ca-P-5) meets National Register Criterion C by exhibiting distinctive design qualities within Princeton and Caldwell County. As Princeton's only example of a two-story brick Italianate dwelling, it embodies the design characteristics of Italianate houses nationally and provides insight into the community's social and economic development following the Civil War and the arrival of the railroads. Since its construction circa 1875 the house has been representative of the architectural values and aesthetics of Princeton's civic and business leaders. Well-preserved and maintained, the Powell House continues to represent those aesthetics and define social and economic status today. A brief overview of residential architectural development in Princeton places the Powell House in its historic context and analyzes its role in reflecting socio-economic and aesthetic trends.

#### Historic Context: Architectural Development in Princeton

#### Previous Investigations and Research Design

An initial county-wide survey of historic resources was completed for Caldwell County in 1992. The 1993 survey report, Martin's <u>The</u> <u>Pennyrile Cultural Landscape</u> report, Steger's <u>Caldwell County, Kentucky</u> <u>History</u>, and the Kentucky Heritage Council files and National Register nomination forms for the county provided basic data for comparative purposes in determining the Powell House's significance within the local historic architectural and socieo-economic context.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>9</u>

Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

Statement of Significance continued

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#### Overview of Caldwell County and its Development

Caldwell County, created in 1809 from Livingston County, forms part of the western edge of the Pennyrile Cultural Landscape. This landscape consists of 38 counties bordered by the Ohio River to the north, the Tennessee state line to the south, the Bluegrass and Eastern Kentucky Regions to the east and the Jackson Purchase to the west. Agriculture and coal mining dominate the Pennyrile economy. Historically, Caldwell County's economy was based on agriculture with tobacco and livestock being the main cash crops (Martin:6).

Unlike counties such as Clinton and Edmondson which historically have been isolated from the Pennyrile's economic mainstream, Caldwell County has been an important economic center since its establishment (Martin :355, 333). In 1850, with 35 counties reporting, Caldwell County ranked thirteenth in value of improvements and implements per farm, second in annual value of production per farm out, and twelfth in annual production of tobacco (Martin :335-336). In 1870 Caldwell County ranked nineteenth out of 38 in assessed evaluation of real estate. Of 38 counties reporting in 1880, Caldwell County was thirteenth in annual value of production per farm and ninth in pounds of tobacco gathered per farm (Martin: 417). The above Pennyrile Agricultural Census data indicate Caldwell County fell within the median area of economic development.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section number \_\_8\_\_ Page \_\_10\_\_
 Powell, William S. House

Statement of Significance continued

Falling within the median range suggests that architectural development would vary from modest traditional homes of small farmers to the large, high-style dwellings of the county's prosperous farmers and merchants. Martin observed that "the more income per county, the higher the incidence of large and architecturally fashionable homes..." He also notes that "all counties experienced their greatest architectural flowerings in towns, county seats, and in the midst of the best farmland..." (Martin 227). This economic climate characterizes the context in which the Powell House was built.

#### Findings from Field Examination: Overview of County Architecture

Princeton, the county seat, is Caldwell County's economic and cultural center. Its architecture has represented the builder's economic and social status from settlement through the 1890s. Prominent citizens built large two-story homes of brick or stone exhibiting characteristics of popular architectural styles of the period. William Prince, the town's founder, had his large hand-cut limestone house built circa 1797 on the bluff overlooking the community's water supply. According to local history, Prince sent his slaves to build the house so that it would be ready for his family's arrival (Steger:31). By 1817 Thomas Champion, thought to be Princeton's first dry goods merchant, was living on the second floor and conducting business on the first floor of his Federal-style building constructed of handmade brick laid in Flemish bond (Steger:44-45). Dr. McGoodwin expanded his home (Ca-P-3) circa 1832 by adding a two-story brick Federal-style building to the existing frame and log structure. In comparison, those of more modest means built smaller one-story log or

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

				Powell,	william S	. House
Section	number	8	Page	 Caldwell	Co., KY	

Statement of Significance continued

frame houses with traditional floor plans such as the circa 1820 single pen log cabin located behind the John Black/Cunningham House (Ca-P-33).

By 1850 Greek Revival was the preferred style of the community's prominent citizens for residential architecture. This followed the national design trend from the 1830s through the 1880s (McAlester:177). Adsmore, built for dry goods merchant John Higgins circa 1857; Waveland (Ca-P-4), built for Dr. Thomas McNary circa 1853; and the L. B. Overby House built circa 1857, are outstanding examples of the two-story brick Greek Revival style homes with full Georgian plans constructed during this period. Even the more modest homes built during this period, such as the circa 1853 George McLean House (Ca-P-59), a frame two-story, single pile house; the circa 1840 two-story brick, single pile addition to the Brooks-Hunter-Pettit House (Ca-2), and the 1851 Cornelius T. Dabney House (Ca-P-7), a one and one-half story brick home were built in the Greek Revival style.

Few buildings were constructed in Caldwell County from 1860 to 1870. However, after the Civil War, Princeton again experienced a time of growth and relative prosperity. The arrival of the railroads in 1872 expanded markets for the region's farmers and merchants and gave the town's residents easier access to the fashionable goods, styles and services found in large commercial centers such as Louisville (Jarratt:69). From the 1870s through the early 1900s, many of county's business and civic leaders stated and maintained their status by either buying the stately Greek Revival homes of their predecessors or by building large,

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 Powell, William S. House

 Caldwell Co., KY

fashionable houses and furnishing them with the latest conveniences such as indoor plumbing and gas lighting. Dwellings constructed during this period projecting their owners' social status, economic success, access to the latest in modern amenities and role as trendsetters include the Powell House, the Second Empire-style homes of Laura Ratliff Landrum (Ca-P-66) built in 1886 and J. Crider (Ca-30) built circa 1890, and several Queen Anne-style homes (Ca-P-02) built during the 1890s by the Eldred family.

By analyzing the homes built in Princeton from settlement to the turn of the twentieth century, it was found that the following criteria were used to define and classify significant residential buildings: house size and massing, substantive building materials such brick or stone, ornamentation, and stylistic characteristics placing it within a nationally recognized category. Buildings exhibiting these characteristics defined the owner's social and economic status within the community.

Within this local framework, the Powell House is architecturally important as Princeton's only example of a two-story brick Italianate dwelling with modern conveniences such as indoor plumbing. With its asymmetrical floor plan; low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves and decorative paired brackets; tall, narrow, hooded arched windows; and paired arched doorways with elaborate enframement, the house embodies nationally surviving examples of the style (McAlester: 211-212).

The Powell House also is architecturally significant in that it represents one of the first homes constructed in the community after the Civil War. In breaking with the antebellum tradition of the community's prominent businessmen of building Greek Revival-style homes, Powell, a wealthy merchant and tobacconist, was a leader in introducing one of

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Statement of Significance continued

the other popular Romantic styles of architecture to Princeton. The house is representative of changes wrought by the Civil War. It abandons the ordered facades, symmetry, massing, and grand, yet restrained, ornamentation of antebellum architecture for a freer plan, more exuberant form and greater ornamentation which expresses the vitality and energy placed in rebuilding and expanding the town's economic prosperity. Yet, the house still embraces the characteristics of scale, permanence, and stylishness found in the dwellings of Princeton's leaders from settlement through the 1870s, thus defining Powell's stature in the community. Even today the Powell House continues to serve as an important example of local Italianate architecture and represents its owner's prominence in the area.

#### 9. Bibliography

Caldwell County Clerk's Office:

Deed Book Y Deed Book 1 Deed Book 90 Inventory Book Q, 1894-1905

\_\_\_\_\_. "Powell Heritage Home." Photocopy of newspaper article. Paper and date unknown.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8,9,10</u> Page <u>14</u> Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Powell, William S. House Caldwell Co., KY

Bibliography continued

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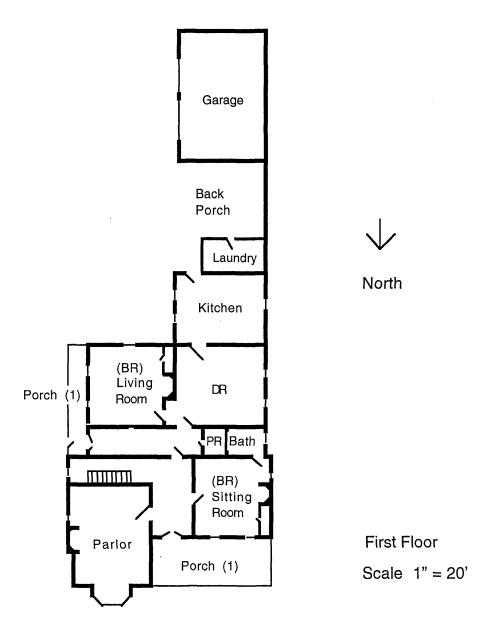
Williams, Mary Powell. Letter to Grayson Harralson, May 4, 1956. Mrs. Grayson Harralson, Princeton, Kentucky.

#### 10. Geographical Data

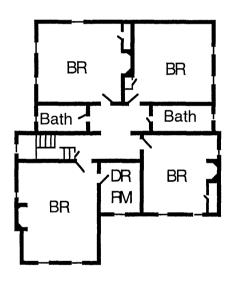
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**Verbal Boundary Description**: The nominated area includes Lots 65 and 71 of Prince's Addition to the original donation (plat) of Princeton.

**Boundary Justification**: The boundary selected consists of the lots which historically have been associated with the house.



William S. Powell House





North

Scale 1" = 20' Second Floor

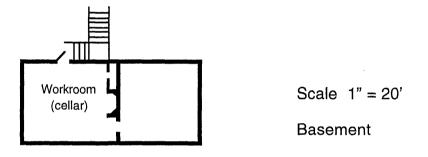
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