

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received SEP 27 1982  
date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Elijah Herndon House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Washington Trace Road not for publication

city, town California  vicinity of Carthage ~~district~~

state Kentucky code 021 county Campbell code

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth McCormick

street & number Rural Route # 1, Box 19, Washington Trace Road

city, town California vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Campbell County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Alexandria state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date May 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on a rise approximately one mile from the Ohio River, the Elijah Herndon House is a single-story building with a one-story ell of brick construction. The main block is twenty feet wide by forty feet long while the ell is seventeen feet wide by fifteen feet long. Flemish bond brickwork enhances the facade while the sides and rear walls are executed in common bond with a row of headers every five rows. The house is five bays wide with center entrance with four-pane transom. All bays on the main block have jack-arch lintels and limestone sills and windows are 2/2 pane. Two single stack, interior gable-end chimneys straddle the ridge on either side of the main block, while the ell features an exterior gable-end chimney, eight feet long. The building rests on a limestone foundation. The gable roof is tin and in fair condition. Cast-iron tie rods anchored by cast-iron star-shaped holders at each gable end reinforce the house.

The interior of the house remains intact. The entrance hall is flanked by single rooms, which are of equal size, with fireplaces centered in the north and south walls. The Federal style mantels with intricate fanlight carvings are original to the dwelling. The rear single-room ell, constructed at the same time as the main block, has floor to ceiling wall presses enhanced with intricate moldings and a huge fireplace and served as the kitchen.

Structurally, the house has been altered by a single-story one-room frame addition on the south side of the ell.

Outbuildings associated with the house have been torn down.

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Ca. 1820 **Builder/Architect** Elijah Herndon

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Elijah Herndon House, constructed ca. 1820, is significant for its historical associations with the early development of Campbell County, created in 1794 and the nineteenth county organized in the Commonwealth. The house is an outstanding example of Federal-style architecture, and is one of three Federal houses documented in the comprehensive survey of the county. In addition, it is significant for the excellence of its craftsmanship and detailing.

Elijah Herndon was one of the early settlers of Campbell County and came to this region before 1800. Deed records indicate that he purchased one hundred-thirty acres of land in 1806 which were a part of a land grant surveyed for William Kennedy in 1787.

He served in the War of 1812. In 1813, he enlisted in Captain Squire Grant's Company of the Fourth Regiment of Kentucky Mounted Volunteer Militia, and served as Second Sergeant. His regiment under the command of General William Henry Harrison fought in the battle of the Thames.

In 1818 he built the one-story brick Federal style house on a rise overlooking Washington Trace Road which was one of the first roads between Covington in Kenton County and Washington in Mason County. The bricks were burned at a kiln situated in Minter, a small community on the banks of the Ohio River, and approximately one mile from Herndon's homesite.

Elijah Herndon lived here until his death in 1849. The house and farm remained in the Herndon family until 1972 when the property was purchased by the present owners who plan to restore the house.

Architecturally, the house is similar in construction to the many Federal-style houses found in central Kentucky, and the outstanding craftsmanship and detailing of the Herndon house equals those in the Bluegrass Region. Elijah Herndon grew up on his father's farm in Scott County in the heart of central Kentucky, and no doubt he was influenced by the architectural style of this region as is evidenced by his house. The Herndon House is one of three Federal houses documented in the county.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

An Atlas of Boone, Kenton, & Campbell Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D.J. LaKet Co., 1883.

Brennan, Ronald. "The Herndons on Northern Kentucky." Campbell County, Kentucky, History and Genealogy, 1795-1978, December 15, 1978, p.7 (Supplement to the Falmouth Outlook).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.5 acres

Quadrangle name New Richmond

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A 

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7	3	4	5	5	0
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4	3	1	1	9	6	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The Elijah Herndon House is situated on a rise facing northeast, two hundred feet from Washington Trace Road. Located in a rural setting, farmland and pastures surround the house. The boundary is drawn to include the house,

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

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Gus Johnson, Senior Historian

organization Kentucky Heritage Council

date August 1982

street & number Capital Plaza Tower

telephone 502/564-7005

city or town Frankfort

state Kentucky

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Mary Cronan Oysel*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date Sept 21, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 10/29/82

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

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and extends 200' northeast to the frontage of Washington Trace Road, 100' southeast to the farm lane, 100' southwest, and 100' northwest. No outbuildings associated with the house exist today.