UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

	DATA	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
RECEIVED MAR	3 1976	
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6	9/6

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME				
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	<u>Willis Green House)</u>			
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LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER	th of Danville on Houst	onville Dike		
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Danville	Nº C	VICINITY OF	06	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Kentucky		021	Boyle	021
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	X.PRIVATE		COMMERCIAL	PARK
X_STRUCTURE	ВОТН	X-WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
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FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Waveland is located on a slight rise on the east side of the Houstonville Pike, a half mile south of Danville. Originally the house faced east toward the present Gose Pike; however, when the Houstonville Pike was constructed on the west, the house was reoriented in this direction by the addition of a front porch. The three acres which encompass the house are now the center of a new middle-income subdivision. Nevertheless, many old trees surround the house, providing a feeling of some of the original seclusion the site must have offered.

Waveland is a five-bay, two-story brick structure with double-end chimneys, in a Kentucky version of the late Georgian style of architecture. The brick is laid in Flemish bond with a belt course at the upper floor level and a brick watertable, both of which encircle the entire house. The original entrance (now the back) is a narrow double door with a three-light transom, reached by a flight of half-moon steps of stone with vertical ribbing (see photo 2). The present entrance has a three-light transom with three side lights (photo 1). There seems to have been a delicately dentillated cornice which returns before the corners.

The floor plan of Waveland is the four-room, central-hall type with a full basement and attic. The basement originally had brick floors which have been removed in one section. Located in the cellar is a large arched fireplace with the iron crane and a baking oven still intact.

The original front entrance opens into a large hall with the stairway, on the south side (the stairway was turned around to face the opposite direction when the entrance was changed). The floors are yellow poplar. The window and door casings in the house are paneled and slant inwards. They are made of black walnut, but have been painted. The original chair-railing remains in the two rooms south of the hall, but has been removed in the other two rooms (evidence of it remains under the windows).

In his <u>Architecture in Old Kentucky</u> (1953), Newcomb describes the unusual woodwork in the library north of the central hall:

The library at Waveland has a central Doric mantel flanked by pilastered bookcases which extend upward to the bracketed cornices. The triglyphs are simulated by grooves cut in the wooden breast of the mantel. The proportions are good, and the room is marred only by the installation of a metal firebox and glossy ceramic tiles over the original brick (p. 86).

Newcomb goes on to describe the music room, opposite the library:

The woodwork in the music room is even more interesting since the mantel and cornice are decorated with ornaments similar to that shown in William Pain's

(continued)



PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS		SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	_X DUCATION	MILITARY	X.SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	es circa 1800	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Willis Green	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Waveland was built circa 1800 by Willis Green, a prominent early Kentucky settler. Waveland was the home of the Green family for over 130 years. During this time the family (staunch supporters of the Whig party) played an important role in the early settlement as well as the political and intellectual development of Kentucky. The house is one of the few surviving Kentucky brick mansions that can appropriately be termed "Georgian" in architectural style, with its broad proportions, exterior belt course, and extraordinary paneled interiors, some of whose vigorous but over-ambitious details are based on William Pain's 1792 Pattern Book. / Willis Green, the builder of the house, was born and raised in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He served as the deputy clerk of Fauquier County, Virginia, before coming to Kentucky about 1782. Green first came to Kentucky as a surveyor to locate land warrants for different individuals. While surveying he selected for himself several hundred acres of land, located a few miles south of Danville. Because of the undulating terrain, Green appropriately called his estate Waveland.

In 1783 Green married Sarah Reed in what Lewis Collins in his History of Kentucky (1847) "one of the first Christian marriages ever solemnized on Kentucky soil." Sarah lists as Reed was the daughter of John Reed, one of the first settlers of Danville, Kentucky. (It is believed that Reed built the second brick house south of the Kentucky River. Reed's house is marked on John Filson's 1784 map of Kentucky (see 1784 map). Waveland was located a few miles south of Reed's. Before building the present structure in 1800, Green and his wife lived in an earlier house, which is believed to have been 500 yards northwest of the present house. According to tradition the interior woodwork was executed by a skilled craftsman from Philadelphia who was brought to Kentucky by his brother-in-law, James Birney. (James Birney an Irish immigrant, settled in Danville, Kentucky, in 1787 where he established a highly successful mercantile business. Birney was at one time reputed to be the wealthiest man in Kentucky. Each year he made a trip to Philadelphia to buy goods for his store. He built his mansion, Woodlawn, at the same time Green built Waveland, circa 1800. Birney's wife was a daughter of John Reed; their only son was James G. Birney (1792-1857), the prominent abolitionist.)

Green played an active role in the community. He represented Kentucky County in the Virginia legislature, and was also involved in two of the nine Constitutional Conventions which took place in Danville between 1785 and 1792. Green was one of the original trustees of Transylvania Academy (1790), which was founded in Danville before moving to Lexington as Transylvania College, and a member of the famous and influential Danville Political Club.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Birney, General William. James Birney and His Times. New York: D. Appleton Co. 1890. Fackler, Calvin, Early Days in Danville. Louisville: The Standard Printing Co., 1941. . Historic Homes of Boyle County, Kentucky. Danville: The Danville & Boyle County Historical Society. 1959. Newcomb, Rexford. Architecture in Old Kentucky. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1953. (continued) **10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA** 370371 2811 3 acres Latitude ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 84046' 06" Longitude UTM REFERENCES ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING D С VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE CODE COUNTY mark to CODE **1** FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Mary Cronan September 26, 1975 ORGANIZATION DATE Kentucky Heritage Commission STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE **401** Wapping Street CITY OR TOWN STATE Kentucky Kentucky **12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION** THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS, PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL NATIONAL STATE_ 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. SIGNATURE DATE TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer FOR NPS USE ONLY LHEREBY CARTINY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE SERVATION ATTEST: DATE **KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

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Willis Green House

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER 7	PAGE 2	

<u>Practical Builder</u> (Boston, 1792 ff. Pl. 32). This ornament, which closely resembles that on the mantel of the Layson House at Millersburg /see the McKee-Vimont Rowhouses, Millersburg, Bourbon County, Kentucky, listed on the National Register September 9, 1975, and photo attached /, is applied not carved. The capitals of the Ionic pilasters are quaint and original. Apparently the craftsman did not feel competent to carve eggs and darts on the echinus between the well wrought angular volutes. At any rate, he contented himself with a fluted ornament not well adapted to the decoration of the echinus. The flutes of the pilasters are reeded at the bottom (p. 86). (Photo 6.)

Another unusual feature about the cornice in the music room is that it is articulated by a hemp rope made on the farm applied to the edge of the cornice.

In the room behind the music room there is evidence of a corner staircase which extended to the existing attic stair. The existing steps leading to the attic are narrow and the banister and spokes appear to be of cherry. It is enclosed by beaded boards.

On the second floor there are four bedrooms with a fireplace in each room. The second-floor hall was made larger at some point by moving the original interior wall back several feet. The attic is unfinished with the beams, which are mortised and tenoned, left exposed, but there is evidence that it was at one time partitioned.

The porch applied to the west front when the house was reoriented in the mid-19th century is a handsome Gothic, or more specifically Tudor Revival veranda, supported by a multitude of octagonal wooden posts connected by openwork arches that are shallowly curved rather than pointed. The central of the three bays projects forward. (See photo 1.)

A summer kitchen is located a few feet south of the house and is now connected to the house by a brick passageway. The fireplace has been bricked, but appears to have been a large arched one, similar to the fireplace in the basement. A spacious loft is overhead. A brick slave quarter backed up to the south kitchen wall. The kitchen chimney served the slave quarter and a narrow door connected the kitchen and slave quarter loft. This building has been torn down along with a brick smokehouse which was located a few feet south of the slave quarter. The present owners are in the process of restoring the house and summer kitchen. They intend to reorient the house to the original front.

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Willis Green House

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITÉM NUMBER	8	page 2

(The club was founded in 1786 by leading men in the area and their purpose was to discuss the political issues of the day. The club was influential in molding the political issues of the area.) In addition to these many activities, Willis Green served as the Lincoln County clerk from 1783 to 1813. His service as clerk was twice interrupted by the deputy clerkship of the Supreme Court of Kentucky District, and by the clerkship of the Danville District Court during its existence from 1796-1802.

When Green died in 1813 he left Waveland to his wife and after her death it was to be sold for division of the estate among his heirs. At her death in 1816 it was purchased by their son, Judge John Green. John Green was born in 1787. He studied law under Henry Clay and during the War of 1812 he served as aide-de-camp to Governor Isaac Shelby. (Shelby's estate Traveler's Rest is located a few miles south of Waveland (see Filson's 1784 map).) Green also served several times in the State Senate as well as in the lower house. Green was the author of the bill in 1833 prohibiting the importation of slaves from other states to Kentucky, which was repealed in 1850, making Kentucky a slave market for the South.

Judge Green married Sarah Fry of Danville, who was the daughter of Joshua Fry, a respected Danville teacher. Green was selected as an elder in the Presbyterian Church and was instrumental in the establishment of Centre College (1819) and the Kentucky School for the Deaf (1822) in Danville. He was also appointed Circuit Judge. He died in 1838. Green's second wife, Mary Marshall, daughter of Captain Thomas Marshall (brother of Chief Justice John Marshall), was the mother of the Honorable Thomas Marshall Green.

Thomas Marshall Green, born at Waveland in 1836, became one of the State's most prominent newspapermen. He was graduated from Centre College in 1855. He served as Presidential Elector for the State at large in 1847 and made an active canvass for Fillmore and Donaldson. He also served as editor of the Frankfort <u>Commonwealth</u>. In 1860 he purchased the <u>Maysville Eagle</u> and acted as publisher and editor. Armstrong describes Green in his <u>Biographical Encyclopedia</u> (1878), "He is a fine speaker, and able and versatile writer; and under him, the old 'eagle' has risen to its greatest height'(p. 525). Green married Nannie Butler, niece of General William O. Butler, in 1860.

Judge John Green's brother, the Reverend Lewis Warner Green, described in 1878 as a "Presbyterian clergyman, and one of the noted scholars of Kentucky " (Armstrong, p. 35), was also born at Waveland in 1806, the youngest son of Willis and Sarah Green.

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Willis Green House

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At an early age he attended the famous Buck PondSchool in Woodford County, Kentucky, and for a short time Transylvania in Lexington under Dr. Horace Holley. He was graduated from Centre College in 1825. The Reverend Mr. Green studied for the ministry at the Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersy, in 1831. In 1833 he was licensed to preach and in 1838, ordained. A year later he was elected vice-president of Centre College. He became the president of Hampden-Sydney in Virginia in 1848 until 1856 when he accepted the presidency \checkmark of Transylvania University in Lexington. Green resigned in 1858 to accept the presidency of Centre College and served in this position until his death in 1863. Green was also one of the founders of the Danville literary and social club, "Anaconda", founded in 1859.

The third owner of Waveland was Dr. William Craig who purchased the house at the death of his brother-in-law, Judge Green. Dr. Craig was born in Augusta County, Virginia, and was educated at Washington College (now Washington and Lee in Virginia). He received his medical training at Transylvania in Lexington and the Philadelphia School of Medicine. In addition to his large practice, he was one of the first members of the Board of Trustees of Centre College and the literary and social club "Anaconda". Craig married Martha Eleanor Green, the youngest daughter of Willis Green.

At Dr. Craig's death in 1854, his eldest son John J. Craig became the owner of Waveland, where he lived until his death in 1914. John J. Craig was a capable gentleman farmer. Waveland was sold outside the Craig-Green family for the first time in 1924, when it was sold to Mr. J.D. Erskine.

Willis Green House

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

"Reverend Lewis Warner Green." <u>The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky</u>. Cincinnati: J. M. Armstrong & Co., 1878, p. 35.

"Thomas Marshall Green." <u>The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky</u>. Cincinnati: J. M. Armstrong & Co., 1878, p.522.

Sunday Herald-Leader (Lexington, Kentucky). January 30, 1966.



Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

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4	REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS Map 1 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES 2. NORTH ARROW	
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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	source Map of Boyle an	d Merce	r Counties, Ke	entucky. Philadelphia:	D. J. Lake & Co., 187			
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