

PH0004660

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kentucky	
COUNTY: Mercer	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 16 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Old Mud Meeting House

AND/OR HISTORIC: The Dutch Reform Church

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: Dry Branch Road 3 miles from Harrodsburg, Kentucky

CITY OR TOWN: Harrodsburg vic.

STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21      COUNTY: Mercer      CODE: 167

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Harrodsburg Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: Morgan Row

CITY OR TOWN: Harrodsburg      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Mercer County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Harrodsburg      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey Of Historic Sites In Kentucky

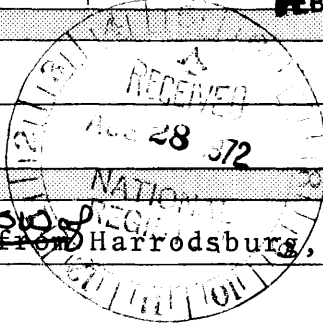
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort      STATE: Kentucky      CODE: 21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Kentucky

COUNTY: Mercer

ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 16 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE: FEB 16 1973

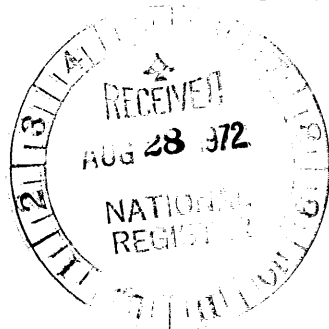
7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This vertical log building with mud and straw panels between the logs is one of the most historic and architecturally important buildings in Kentucky. Built in 1800, this was the first low Dutch Reformed Church west of the Allegheny Mountains. It has been used continually as a church for various denominations until quite recently. Now the Harrodsburg Historical Society, owner of the building, is contemplating the restoration of this interesting structure. The building was weatherboarded over in 1850 and plastered on the inside. A number of other changes were made (such as lowering the windows) at that time and documented in the church records. If it is feasible, the restoration committee proposes to remove the weatherboard and plaster thus exposing the framing and mud fill as it was originally.

Dimensions: 46' 4" long by 34' 4" wide.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

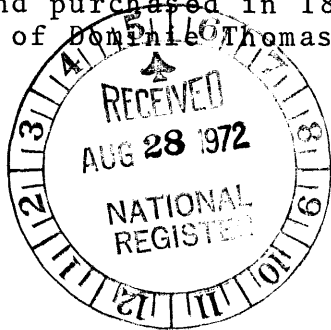
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Built in 1800**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | osophy                                  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Old Mud Meeting House," a Dutch Reformed Church, was erected by a colony of Dutch settlers. The structure is heavily oak framed with a clay and straw filling between the large upright beams of the wall. It is now weatherboarded, but a section has been left open to show the mud packed construction. Adjacent to the church is the graveyard "where rest the ashes of those who starved with Washington at Valley Forge; who faced the Britons at Monmouth and Brandywine and crossed the Delaware and stormed the Hessians at Tranton; and staked their all upon the field at Princeton and in the trenches at Yorktown." The premises are owned and maintained by the Harrodsburg Historical Society. A nearby marker reads, "First Dutch Reformed Church west of the Allegheny Mountains. Established by fifty families who came to Mercer County from Pennsylvania in 1781. Organized in 1796, the church was built on land purchased in 1800. In the Church cemetery is the grave of Benjamin Thomas Kyle, the first pastor."



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Old Mud Meeting House by Mr. D.M. Hutton, second edition 8-25-1900.

Survey Of Historic Sites In Kentucky, Kentucky Heritage Commission March 2, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 43' 26"	84° 51' 49"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
16/688300  
4117150  
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3.5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: James C. Thomas, Vice-President

ORGANIZATION: Harrodsburg Historical Society DATE: May 15, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Morgan Row - 222 South Chiles Street

CITY OR TOWN: Harrodsburg STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name [Signature]  
Administrator, Kentucky Program  
Development Office

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date 8/10/72

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

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/16/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 2.14.73