

PH 101 7184

STATE:	Kentucky	
COUNTY:	Monroe	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	MAY 7 1973	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Old Mulkey Meeting House State Shrine

AND/OR HISTORIC: Mill Creek Baptist Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 501 S of Tompkinsville Ky. 1446

CITY OR TOWN: (near) Tompkinsville

STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21 COUNTY: Monroe CODE: 171

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
	Public Acquisition:		<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Kentucky Department of Parks

STREET AND NUMBER: Capital Plaza Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Tompkinsville STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

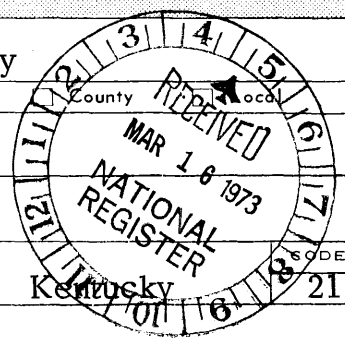
TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey Of Historic Sites In Kentucky

DATE OF SURVEY: March 1971 Federal State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Although it was built in 1804, the log walls of Old Mulkey Meeting House are still in almost perfect condition. The walls are of half-hewn logs chinked with rocks and mud. The interior contains huge cross beams, peg-leg benches and a rough handmade pulpit. The wood-shingled roof and puncheon floor have replaced the original roof and floor that had deteriorated over the years.

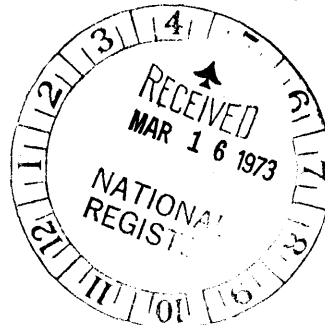
The May 11, 1804 minutes of the Mill Creek Baptist Church reveal details regarding plans to build a larger church. "The committee reported that the Meeting House is to be 50 feet long, 30 feet wide, shingled with jointed wood shingles, five windows and three doors. A man is to be hired to build it and paid in trade by subscription." Accordingly, Jiles Thompson or his agents built Old Mulkey Meeting House, completing it in 1804.

Built in the shape of a cross its twelve corners are said to represent either the twelve apostles or the twelve tribes of Israel, while its three doors are symbolic of the Trinity.

No provision was made for heating the Church, but a fire was built outside for warmth. The men of the congregation took turns keeping the fire burning and guarding against Indian attacks. The women also partially solved the heating problem. They heated large soapstones and placed them in big bags made from heavy woolen cloth or animal skins, which were fastened to the seats. The worshippers stepped into these and pulled the material over their knees.

In the churchyard are the graves of Hannah Boone Stewart Pennington, sister of Daniel Boone, fifteen Revolutionary War soldiers and early members of the congregation.

Old Mulkey Meeting House ceased to function as a church about 1885. Presently it is owned by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and operated as a State Shrine. A caretaker's cottage, benches and a covered building with picnic tables are located on the surrounding five acres.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

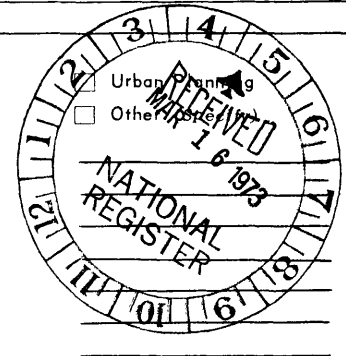
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Structure erected 1804**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Old Mulkey Meeting House, built in 1804, is the oldest church on the southern border of Kentucky, east of Big Barren River. It is also significant both as one of Kentucky's earliest log churches and for its unusual construction features - its twelve-sided construction and its lack of a fireplace.

This area was settled by Baptists from North and South Carolina, who began holding religious services in their homes in 1773. Later they acquired six acres of land on the banks of Mill Creek, about two hundred yards from the present site and built the first log structure. Philip Mulkey was their first minister.

In the early 1800's a religious revival swept through Kentucky, with all-day sings and meetings that lasted for weeks. By 1803 the congregation of the Mill Creek Church had grown to a total of 125 members. Feeling the need for a larger building, they built Old Mulkey Meeting House in 1804. The twelve-sided building did not have a fireplace. For warmth they placed their feet in large bags that contained heated stones and warmed themselves at an outdoor fire that was tended by the men who took turns guarding against Indian attack. Daniel Boone's sister, Hannah Boone Stewart Pennington, was widowed by Indians who killed her first husband, John Stewart. After she died in 1828, she was buried in the cemetery adjacent to Old Mulkey Meeting House.

A split developed in the church in 1809 when John Mulkey, the pastor was accused of heresy. Of the two hundred members of the congregation, one hundred and fifty, including Hannah Boone Pennington, sided with John Mulkey. After this split the meeting house went by the name of "Old Mulkey." For a number of years after this the church grew and prospered. Segregation was not a problem in this church; they had both white and black members. In later years the church was repeatedly split into factions and ceased to function around 1885. Presently, it is a Kentucky State Shrine.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Old Mulkey Meeting House" by Clayton Gooden, pamphlet (no date)
A History Of Kentucky Baptists by J. H. Spencer, pages 377-378

Unpublished Manuscript: W.S. Emmert, July 28, 1928.
 "Old Mulkey" by Mrs. Stanton Taylor, pamphlet (no date)

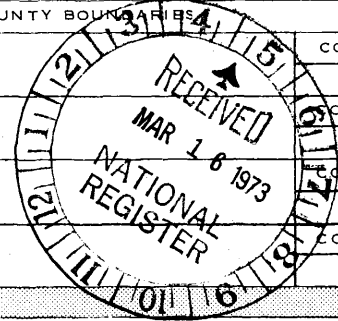
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36°	40'	40"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		85°	42'	25"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



UTM
16/615480/
4059690

SEE INSTRUCTIONS (D)

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mrs. Lou Delle McIntosh, Curator**

ORGANIZATION: **Kentucky Department of Parks** DATE: **Jan 1, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Capital Plaza Office Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort** 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 Mrs. Simeon Willis

Title State Liaison Officer

Date March 14, 1973

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

Roberton Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/7/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 2 73