

PH0501085

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 14 1977

DATE ENTERED JAN 20 1978

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Elkwood (Sabret and Nancy Payne Offutt House)

AND/OR COMMON

Elkwood

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Lloyd Pike, 1 1/2 miles north of U. S. 460 junction with

Ky. 227

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Scott

CODE

209

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Martha Nell (Mrs. Howard) Wiles

STREET & NUMBER

Lloyd Pike, Route 3

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Scott County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

FEDERAL  STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

Elkwood is a residence located on a large farm immediately north of North Elkhorn Creek in Scott County. (The John Payne House, listed on the National Register March 3, 1975, is nearby on the Elkhorn's south side.) The site is less than one mile northeast of the small community of Great Crossing, and is three and one-half miles northwest of Georgetown, the county seat. Rolling hills native to the Bluegrass region characterize the countryside, and the house has a particularly attractive setting on a slight prominence approximately 600 yards from the main road. A long private drive with a complex of barns at its termination runs to the east of the house, and to the rear is another barn and stone cistern (see photo 5).

Elkwood was built ca. 1810 and is constructed of rough field stone. The front block faces south (see photo 1), presenting a symmetrical arrangement that includes a centered entrance with transom and sidelights. This is flanked by two windows on the east and west. This section's floors rest on hewn logs and the foundation is of long thin stones with vertical chisel marks.

In the 1860s or 1870s, several changes were made that included the addition of two dormers and a central gable that has recently been dressed with stone. In addition, the four windows were lengthened and were given denticulated flat arches. Their present sills are ashlar; the original ones were walnut beams. A one-story Victorian porch was attached to the central bay, but this has been removed and recently added is a bracket-supported hood whose profile closely matches those of the flat arches (see photo 2).

The chimney on the east is set flush with the wall and is flanked by a garret window in the upper level on either side. Also on this end is a recently added gabled enclosure that leads to the basement (see photo 4). Remaining in the basement is one ventilator with diagonal bars. The chimney on the west (see right side of photo 3) has a slight projection beyond the wall, and a single garret window in the upper level is this side's only opening. A one-story wing whose gabled outline is still discernable was once attached to the west end of the main block. An extension of the northwest section occurred in 1975. This addition is covered by a pent roof and is of field stone construction (see photo 3). An ell extends from the main block's northeast end, excepting its north end with a massive chimney built outside the wall, this section appears to date from the same time of the front block, or perhaps earlier.

(continued)

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1810

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In rural Scott County, a few miles east of Georgetown, the county seat, is a stone house of at least two architectural eras. It is architecturally interesting as an example of early stone construction and adaptation, and historically important because of its link with John Payne (1764-1837), one of Scott County's earliest settlers and brigadier general in the War of 1812, as well as with other prominent agricultural families of the area. Each owner seems to have left his own mark on the gradually evolving structure.

The land on which the house is situated was apparently first owned by pioneer Lewis Craig, who, some say, began construction of the house. The land was later sold to John Payne, veteran of the War of 1812 during which he commanded the Kentucky Light Dragoons in the Battle of the Thames in October 1813, which proved a decisive victory against the British and Indian forces. Payne was married to Betsy Johnson, daughter of Colonel Robert Johnson, Revolutionary War veteran and distinguished early settler of Scott County, and sister of Richard M. Johnson, former U. S. Senator and Representative and Vice President of the United States under Martin Van Buren. John and Betsy Payne's own large rambling stone house still remains, located across the North Elkhorn approximately 1 1/2 miles southeast of Elkwood (see the nomination form for General John Payne House, Scott County, Kentucky, placed on the National Register March 3, 1975).

In 1810 John Payne's daughter Nancy married Sabret Offutt, and construction of the main front block of the house on the Payne property most likely began shortly after. Unfortunately Offutt met with financial difficulty during the depression following the War of 1812, and was forced to mortgage part of his real estate. In 1823, his father-in-law came to his rescue, signing "as endorsee for Sabret Offutt" in his debts to the Bank of the United States.

After Offutt's death, his wife Nancy sold the farm, part of it going to James and Emiline P. Scott, and another part to Alexander Offutt, great-grandfather of the

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bevins, Ann B. "Sturdy Scott Landmark of Pioneer History." Lexington Leader, June 25, 1970.

Gaines, B. O. History of Scott County. Vol I. Published by the author, 1904, p. 12; Vol. II, p. 545.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre ~~1/2 acre~~

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 | 710390 | 4233460  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B    |    |     
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C    |    |     
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D    |    |     
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ann B. Bevins, Scott County Representative

GM;DK

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

January 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4, Lexington Pike

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Georgetown

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

*Cedric W. Meltzer*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 7-8-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST: *Charles A. Smith*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 1-20-78  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
 DATE 1-17-78

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Its floors rest on logs, and its upstairs exterior and interior window moldings match those of the front block's garret window moldings. The kitchen wing was added at a later date as indicated by a masonry seam.

Added also at an early date was a porch on the stone ell's east side that has been enclosed by the present owners and extended so that it is flush with the structure's east side (see photo 4). This portion contains two doors and six sash windows. Separating the openings are slender pilasters and above these are a plain entablature and a projecting eave.

The front block's interior contains a central hall with one room to each side. In the 19th century, Bohemian glass with clear designs was installed in the transom and sidelights of the entrance (see photo 6). The moldings of this area are Greek Revival, but the staircase's newel post and balustrade are mid-Victorian. Recently installed were two late Greek Revival mantels that came from Warrendale, a razed house near Georgetown. That in the east parlor has double engaged colonnettes and a well-executed Greek key treatment (see photo 7). The west parlor is said to have been a ballroom; evidence of a chandelier medallion remains.

The ell section contains earlier woodwork including chair-railing, pegged window frames, multiple six-paneled doors, and mantels (see photo 8). Elements retained on the second level include a small mantel on the east end and two doors. Floors throughout are of ash.

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present owner. It seems probable that the decorative features of the house were altered in mid-century. In 1866 Alexander Offutt's daughter Virgia [sic] married Elly Blackburn and part of the farm became Virgia's dowry. Blackburn, born in Scott County in 1842, the son of Dr. Churchill Blackburn, was a Civil War veteran, who had fought on the side of the Confederacy (see National Register form for "Warwick," Blackburn's birthplace also located in Scott County forwarded to Washington November 5, 1976). According to B. O. Gaines in his History of Scott County, Blackburn, for many years a breeder of short-horn and export cattle, was "one of the wealthiest, prominent and prosperous farmers in Scott County" (Gaines, Vol II, p. 545). The Blackburns again altered the house, adding the front gable and giving it several late Victorian elements.

The Blackburns did not choose Elkwood as their permanent residence, however, preferring to live in their other house which is located on Main Street in Georgetown. Elkwood was used by tenants and as a storage house for wheat (Mastin, p. D-3).

After a period of neglect, the house has recently been renovated, some features restored, and yet another wing--whose masonry construction closely resembles that of the earlier portions--added at the rear.

Elkwood follows the general construction pattern of Kentucky's stone houses that were, for the most part, erected between the late 1780s-1820. Characteristics identifying it with other stone houses in the state--relatively few of which remain intact--include: a block-like shape, a height of one and one-half stories, a gable roof, end chimneys, garret openings in the upper level, a center door, and evenly spaced windows.<sup>1</sup>

Later alterations following the Greek-Revival and Victorian vogues mirror the residents' changing tastes. Fine craftsmanship is displayed in the interior moldings, and the Bohemian glass in the windows around the entrance is of superb quality.

<sup>1</sup>Carolyn Murray Wooley, "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses," The Magazine Antiques, April 1974, p. 593.

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Although the two mantels in the parlors are very recent installations and were originally in another residence, they are notable pieces and it is fortunate that they are being tastefully utilized. And although the current owners have made expansions, these employ the same exterior materials used in the older portions, minimizing their intrusiveness.

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2

Mastin, Bettye Lee. "Central Kentucky Felt Like Home." The Saturday Herald and Leader, July 10, 1976, p. D-3.

Perrin, William H. History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties.  
Chicago: O. L. Baskin and Co., 1882, pp. 603-604.

Scott County Deed and Will Books.