CITY OR TOWN:

Frankfort

Form 10-300

(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

KENTUCKY

COUNTY:

WOODFORD

FOR NPS USE ONLY

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM ENTRY NUMBER DATE (Type all entries - complete applicable sections) JUN 13 1972 I. NAME COMMON: Captain Jack Jouett House AND/OR HISTORIC Same 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: Craig's Mill Pike CITY OR TOWN: 5 miles Southwest of Versailles STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE Kentucky 21 Woodford 239 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY **ACCESSIBLE** OWNERSHIP **STATUS** (Check One) TO THE PUBLIC Yes: Public District X Building Public Acquisition: X Occupied X Restricted X Private ☐ In Process ☐ Site ☐ Structure Unoccupied Unrestricted 🗶 Being Considered Both Preservation work in progress PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Park ☐ Transportation ▼ Comments ☐ Commercial Industrial K Private Residence Other (Specify) occupied by tenants ☐ Educational ☐ Military Religious Museum Entertainment ☐ Scientific OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. E. A. Davis STREET AND NUMBER: Morgan Street CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE Versailles Kentucky 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION courthouse, registry of beeds, etc:
Woodford County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Versailles 21 Kentucky 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY NUMBER Survey Of Historic Sites In Kentucky Federal X State ☐ County DATE OF SURVEY: Local DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kentucky Heritage Commission 7/61 STREET AND NUMBER: 401 Wapping Street

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ESCRIPTION	Τ			(Check One)		10.00	
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	Good	X Fair	Deteriorated	Rvins	Unaproposed NA TO	
	(Check One)				(Check One)		
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This structure is in two parts-a brick main mass of one and sne-to-half stories with a one room wing on the left, and a one room stone ell in the rear. The original stone portion was erected as early as the late 1780's, according to some local historians.

It is believed that Captain Jack (John) Jouett built the brick house in the late 1790's after moving to Woodford County from Mercer County in 1793. The brick of this small Federal Cottage is laid in Flemish bond. There is a small gabled porch on the facade. The gable is supported by four small wooden posts in front and two small wood pilasters against the brick wall. The pediment is simple with no ornamentation. Three sides of the gable are graced by a serrated cornice around the bottom edge.

The main mass, entered by a simple door, is perhaps 33 feet across; the wing on the left (one room and one story) is slightly lower than the main mass, and is approximately 18 feet across, with a brick chimney at the left end. The earlier stone room, 32 feet long by 17 feet wide, contains a large stone chimney, six feet wide; it has small batten doors of yellow poplar in front and on the left, with two small windows on each side. After the Jouett House was built, a dogtrot, later enclosed to make a room; ran between it and the stone house.

The facings, or casings, of the outside doors of the Jouett House are of red cedar, and a wood lintel, the ends of which slant inward for fastening, caps the main doorway. The house has a gently sloping roof. A small dirt-floored basement, entered by a yellow poplar door, runs under the back left side of the house. The floor sills throughout are logs, slightly dressed. The entire foundation of the house is stone. The front entrance door is yellow poplar painted white, as are the other doors in the house.

On the interior, the main mass was designed to have one large room across, with a doorway to the wing on the left and no hall. An enclosed steep stairway with a door leading from the inside wall at the back turns abruptly at right angles and comes out at the center of the large, low room on the upper floor. The low yellow poplar baseboard, the chairrails and the mantels, although not carved, have rounded molding, which is painted white. The windows, apparently containing many original panes, have three rows, three panes to the row at the top, and two rows, three panes to the row at the bottom.

SIGNIFICANCE			
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original one-room stone portion of the Jouett House was built perhaps as early as the late 1780's. Captain Jouett probably built the brick main mass in the late 1790's, after moving to Woodford County from Mercer County in 1793.

Jack Jouett is recorded in the annals of history because of a daring all-night ride of 40 miles on June 3, 1781, to save Governor Thomas Jefferson and members of the Virginia Legislature at Charlott ville from capture by the British, led by Colonel Banastre Tarleton. Because of Jouett's daring ride over rough roads and backwoods wilderness, from the Cuckoo Tavern 12 miles east of Louisa Court House, to Jefferson's Monticello, the Virginia Governor and members of the Legislature were saved at a time when their capture would have meant serious consequences for the already-beleagured colonies. His warning came in time to allow Jefferson and the Assembly members time to escape their would-be captors.

In appreciation for his daring exploits, the Virginia Assembly presented Captain Jouett a fine sword and brace of pistols. Sometime thereafter, Jouett settled in Mercer County, Kentucky, became interested in politics and represented that County in the Virginia Legislature. Around 1793 he moved to Woodford County and became engaged in farming and stock raising. Jack Jouett married Sally Robards and they were the parents of 12 children, including Matthew Harris Jouett, Kentucky's most distinguished portrait painter.

Some historians feel that Captain Jack Jouett has never been afforded his proper place in American history. However, his daring ride has received some elegant accolades:

Virginius Dabney, Virginia publisher and editor, characterized Jouett's deed "as one of the most

(see continuation sheet)

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RE	FERENCES									
Railey, William E.; <u>History of Woodford County</u> Coleman, J. Winston, Jr.; <u>Historic Kentucky</u> , 1968, p.107. "Jouett's Desperate Ride," <u>The Kentucky Alumus</u> , by Dr. Hambleton Tapp, Winter 1968, pp.5-11												
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As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-							ĺ					
tional Historic Preservation Act of 1960 (Public Law							l					
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion							l					
	in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set							ĺ				
forth by the National Park Service. The recommended							l					
level of significance of this nomination is:							ĺ					
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
KENTUCKY	
COUNTY	
WOODFORD	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 1 3 1972	

(Number all entries)

#8 Statement of Significance:

important and colorful exploits of the Revolution."
He declared it more significant than the ride of
Paul Revere; more hazardous, longer, and involving
a larger number of more important men.

Armistead C. Gordon, Jr., writing in the Commonwealth Magazine, June, 1925, stated: "Had Jack Jouett not frustrated Tarleton's foray, a disheartening and even fatal blow might have been occasioned by the simultaneous capture of Jefferson, Henry and the three signers of the Declaration of Independence at a juncture when continental fortunes were at a critically low ebb."

