

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic "Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky"

and/or common

2. Location

Counties of Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Nicholas, Scott, Woodford

street & number n/a

not for publication

city, town n/a

n/a vicinity of

~~Congressional district~~

state Kentucky

code 021

county

n/a

code n/a

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership, see inventory forms

street & number multiple ownership, see inventory forms

city, town n/a

n/a vicinity of

state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. **Recorders offices of County Courthouses, see inventory forms.**

street & number See inventory forms

city, town n/a

state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982-1983

federal state county local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council, Capital Plaza Tower

city, town Frankfort

state Kentucky 40601

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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	See inventory forms		
See inventory forms		See inventory forms		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance During the years between 1785 and 1835 a large number of stone buildings were constructed in Central Kentucky by the first settlers. At first, the land was part of Virginia, and was the hunting grounds of northern and southern Indian tribes who were fiercely determined to retain it. But when the richness of this Bluegrass region was recognized by explorers from the eastern colonies, the land was claimed and settled by the frontiersmen as quickly as it was possible and prudent to do so. The simple Federal period stone houses built by those who were strong and fortunate enough to accomplish the task stand as obvious and enduring testimony to their efforts, and provide a highly visible reminder of the history of the region. In the sixteen counties included in this nomination 293 stone buildings have been located. Of these, 56 are listed on the National Register, 93 do not meet the National Register criteria of significance or integrity, 20 have been demolished within the last ten years, and 124 are included in this nomination.

Survey Methodology

The idea for this thematic nomination "Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky" was conceived by Robert Polsgrove, Historic Sites Program Manager of the Kentucky Heritage Council, who supervised the analysis of the sites. The thematic re-survey and nomination preparation were sponsored and directed by the Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission, Richard DeCamp, executive director.

Thirteen of the sixteen counties in this nomination had been comprehensively surveyed by the staff of the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission. All of these plus the remaining three counties were thematically re-surveyed during the summer and fall of 1982 in preparation for this nomination by Carolyn Murray Wooley, architect for The Wooley Co., Inc., building contractors, former executive director of the Bluegrass Trust for Historic Preservation, and author of The Founding of Lexington and "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses".

Pertinent published work in the region was checked, and respected local historians were interviewed, for historical data. Native residents provided much insight by their impressions and remembrances. Census records, early maps, and land court testimony were used. The State Historic Preservation Offices of Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee were generous in their assistance by providing copies of pertinent studies and copies of survey forms, for comparisons. Valuable published works on architecture in Pennsylvania and Virginia were used.

Some of the buildings in this nomination have deteriorated to the point where restoration seems unlikely. They have been included for several reasons. John Piper in his book Buildings and Prospects says: "A building in a pleasing state of decay should be looked at three times...to be sure, first that it has no virtues in itself that will be sadly missed; second, that it will not be missed as an enrichment of its present surroundings; third, that it might not form a useful point of focus, whether by agreement or by way of contrast, in future surroundings.

In addition to this thematic nomination, two related projects now in the planning stages are an informational program for the owners of stone buildings, on preservation technology, and the expansion of the survey into the remaining counties of the Commonwealth.

Description of Inner Bluegrass Region

The sixteen counties in which the highest concentration of stone houses are found are located in the area of Central Kentucky known as the Inner Bluegrass. (See map 1.) Geologically, this region, unlike the rest of the Commonwealth is underlaid by

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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Builder/Architect Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Visual representation of the settlement period of Central Kentucky and the distinctive character of the architecture constructed during that time are the unifying themes of this thematic nomination. On the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania in the eighteenth century settlers of Scotch-Irish and English background blended their building traditions and developed the kind of structures that came to be built when they moved to Kentucky. These are the buildings described in this nomination, built at a time of great hardship and danger, yet reflecting thoughtfulness, care, and skill in construction. Although each structure in this nomination individually possesses qualities which meet National Register criteria, as a whole they present a powerful and visible statement of an architectural tradition active during the settlement of the Commonwealth. They typify the cultural heritage and values of the first settlers and are characteristic of a particular building pattern not found in other places.

History of Settlement

The Bluegrass region was greatly admired by the early explorers, and it became the area most prized and first settled in Kentucky. As part of Virginia, some lands were awarded Virginians for their service in the French and Indian Wars; other land was granted to settlers from other states, principally Pennsylvania, on the basis of settlement and preemption claims. It was men primarily from these two groups--those surveying land for military grants, and those marking locations for land claims--who built most of the stone houses in Central Kentucky.

The determination that brought them to Kentucky was powerful. For some, it was the only way to obtain the land so necessary to their way of life; for others it was the promise of a great wealth from a land richer than any they had known.

The settlers lived at first in rude forts or "stations" for protection from the Indians. When safety, time, material, and ability allowed, plain sturdy houses, resembling log houses in shape, were skillfully constructed of limestone by many of the frontiersmen. They were not inclined to build elaborate and ornamented houses, even if they could afford it. Nonetheless, early wills show that these were considered the mansion houses of the frontier.

Origins of Building Patterns

Determining the national and cultural origin of these stone house builders is as complicated as the settlement patterns of Kentucky's first inhabitants. Most of the first settlers came from the valleys of western Virginia and southwest Pennsylvania. (See Maps 2,4.) This region was settled by a cross mixture of people who immigrated through the port of Philadelphia and from the mid-Atlantic coast. Those who first came to Kentucky were a rather equal mixture of English and Scottish-Irish-Welsh.¹ Counties settled later have a higher proportion of settlers from the coastal regions, but the first years they came mostly from the colonial "back parts." They brought with them the kind of frontier house that they continued to build, whether of log, brick, or stone, long after new styles were popular in the East. In Kentucky, these simple houses exhibiting

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ordovician limestone--the most ancient exposed limestone in Kentucky--which accounts for the richness of the soil. This region is in the center of the Jessamine Dome which is on top of the Cincinnati arch, a major geological formation running from southwestern Tennessee north northeast to Michigan. All these layers are sedimentary limestone and were mined from quarries of different depths (depending on the depths of the surface erosion) and were used for the construction of the stone buildings. Today, some of it is quarried and crushed into fertilizer, as was the fate of one stone house ruin in Harrison County.

The Bluegrass topography is classified as "karst," which is characterized by sinkholes, caverns, and underground streams where the carbonate (limestone) formation has dissolved. The surface water pattern is "dendritic," having branching veins caused by erosion. The major watercourses in the inner Bluegrass are the Kentucky River and its tributaries; North and South Elkhorn Creeks; Hinkston and Stoner Creeks, which form the Licking River; Dix River; and Salt River. The creeks and branches which feed the rivers originate from countless fresh water springs, which were often the reason for the selection of particular building sites. The rapidly flowing creeks provided water for the grain and saw mills.

The natural flora includes hardwood forests, meadow grasses, and cane. The open meadows found by the early explorers were the result of regular burning by the Indians, to create grazing lands which attracted vast herds of buffalo, deer, and elk. Many of the names of towns and creeks in the Bluegrass reflect what the settlers found: Elk Lick, Buck Run, Beaver Creek, Buffalo Trace, Great Crossing, Shallow Ford, Salt Lick, Sulphur Well, Cave Spring, Buckeye Branch, Cane Ridge, Persimmon Knob, Crab Orchard, Maple Grove, Grassy Spring, and Clover Bottom. A little later, names of roads identified their destinations: Ironworks Pike, Armstrong Mill Road, Tanyard Branch Road, Delaneys Ferry Pike, Rock Quarry Road, Mt. Gilead Church Road.

Central Kentucky is noted for its beautiful, lush, gently rolling country side. Agriculture--corn, tobacco, livestock--has always been primary to the economy, and the landscape is covered with well tended bluegrass pastures bordered by wooded creek banks and rock fences. The thoroughbred industry is of major importance and has almost become a symbol of the Bluegrass, characterized by huge horse farms, Greek Revival mansion houses, tree lined lanes, and plank horse fencing. The bourbon industry begun at an early date (for which Bourbon County was named) is represented by several early stone distilleries.

The major city, Lexington, at the center of the inner Bluegrass, where the University of Kentucky is located, has always been the cultural and economic center of the area. Other colleges and universities are located in some of the 16 county seats--Richmond, Georgetown, Danville, and Frankfort, the state capital. Harrodsburg, founded in 1774, is the oldest town.

Description of Stonework

Masonry in early Kentucky buildings is what is locally called "dry stone" work. The stonework varies from rough-dressed to fine ashlar. The construction method is of a double wall, smooth inside and outside and hollow in the middle, joined by tie-stones (headers) every four or five feet. The interior of the wall was filled with a mixture of clay, spalls, sand, and straw. The clay dirt was to fill the voids; it was not a bonding agent. The stones were laid in courses, directly on each other. When complete,

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the joints were sealed (pointed) with mortar--a mixture of sand and limestone dust, or of clay.¹ The clay mortar used on some of the houses has washed out, leaving walls two stories tall standing, with open joints (see Wd-152, Sc 60).

On the inside of the house, the rough-coats of plaster were sand, mud, and animal hair; the set-coat, hair, lime, and water, which made a smooth and durable finish.

Stones were quarried from a nearby creek bank or outcropping. Fieldstone was never used because, having been exposed to the weather, is "rotten," and cannot be tooled. Stone is "green" when quarried; its moisture content allows it to be worked with hammer and chisel into the desired shapes. In the earliest houses, walls were laid in a coursed pattern, each course having stones of the same height, taken from the same seam at the quarry. Later, to save time and material, "broken ashlar" was used, courses having varied sizes of stones. Flag-pattern work is very rare.

The majority of houses were built with the top layer (Lexington layer) of limestone; some with the second layer (Kentucky marble) limestone which weathers to a white color; the third layer (Oregon) sometimes being used for the voussoirs, as it can be finely cut and sanded when green, and is a golden color. Only three buildings are of sandstone. Blue stone, sometimes used in the northern counties, is a top layer (Cynthiana) limestone.

Lime dust for mortar was made at the quarry by burning the spalls (chips). [No hickory trees remain near quarry sites. They were used for the rock fires.] The lime dust was mixed with sand from the creek to make the mortar used for the pointing. Most pointing was done with a trowel in a raised V-shape (steeple pointing). On fine ashlar work a fork joint (raised square pointing) was sometimes used. Pencilled joints are found only at Shakertown. Double and single incised (raked) joints are considerably later--on re-pointed concrete mortar.

A stone foundation was laid below the ground line wider than the cellar walls; each floor--cellar, first, and second--were successively less wide, ranging from 30 to 18 inches in thickness. Floor joists rest on the inside stone wall usually on a thin horizontal wooden plate. In small houses only the joists, running front to back, support the flooring. In larger houses transverse beams--summer, ledger, or girder--support the joists. First floor joists are often whole logs, with or without the bark removed. Second floor joists are square hewn, pit sawn, or vertically sawn. Flooring is tongue and groove ash or later, poplar. The roof rafters are overlapped, or mortised and tenoned, and pegged at the ridge without a ridge beam; and rest directly on the top of the walls at the eave, with or without a wooden top plate and/or tie beam. Some have collar beams and/or knee walls, some do not. Some houses have the top plate returned on the end and visible in the gable end wall. [James Patrick, author of Architecture in Tennessee, says this is the nailer for the Georgian cornice which is returned on the end, but Kentucky houses with this feature have original cornices in place, returned on the front. It appears that, when fastened at the corner to the top plate, these returns secured the plate to the end wall, counteracting the outward push of the un-collared rafters and reinforced the corners.]

Chimneys are located in each gable end, and are both interior, one interior and one exterior (the most common arrangement, reason unknown), both exterior (with corbelled shoulders), or in a few cases projecting by only three or four inches. The chimneys

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have one slightly projecting course the second course below the cap, and another as a drip course at the roof line.

Water tables are common. No belt courses were found with the exception of the Mm 44 which has a belt on one gable end only, and is probably the drip course for a former shed roof porch. At two houses, projecting rounded stones with vertically tooled edges are located in the walls beside the doors or gateways, perhaps for holding lanterns. At three houses loopholes for light and ventilations, such as those found in Pennsylvania stone barns, were built in the attic or cellar walls. Loopholes were also found in three barns. One house has corbelled eaves. A few houses (not the earliest) have vertically tooled square corner door or window sills, a shape often used to line the edge of the front stone walk. In finely detailed houses, stone steps and door sills are nosed, the bottom step having a voluted end.

The typical hearth is such: Three large stones for the hearth are smoothed and squared. The center stone is wide enough to span the fireplace opening. Two smaller hearth stones are at each end, upon which the the mantel rests. The hearth is bordered with a board with mitered ends, running crosswise to the ends of the floor boards that abut it. The fireplace opening is spanned by a segmental arch of carefully shaped, tightly fitting voussoirs.

In most cases an effort was made to create balanced facades--in Kentucky seemingly a blend of the old world hall parlor plan with the more fashionable Georgian symmetry.

Some of the stone houses were built by the owners, who were themselves stone masons, and who built other houses in the area. Others were built by masonry contractors who were available at an early date.

The names of 38 stone masons who worked in this region are known. The most renowned were half-brothers, John III and Thomas Metcalf (Thomas becoming the tenth governor of Kentucky). Many buildings locally attributed to Thomas, were the work of his much older brother, John, whose work is distinguished by fine ashlar masonry, smooth voussoirs, and square mortar joints. The work of Thomas usually has steeple pointing and dentillated cornice work. (See chart 1.) Contractor masons often had large crews. John Metcalf owned over 100 slaves by 1810, many of whom were trained masons. Peter Paul, who came to Kentucky from Monongahela County, Pennsylvania, had a crew of 30 Irish stone masons. Orphans, John Cave and Armisted Crump, were apprenticed in 1804 and 1814 at age 16, to William and James Adair of Bourbon County, to learn the trade and assist the crews.

Wood carvers were employed to do the finely detailed woodwork sometimes found in stone houses. Those known are Joel T. Hart, Henry Leer, Al Trigg, Matthew Lowry, Bill Yeagle, _____ Cohen, and _____ Hieronymous.

The majority of the dry stone houses in Kentucky were built between 1790 and 1830. Stone was not used for house walls after the Greek and Gothic Revival styles became popular. When brick became plentiful it may have been a more fashionable material; a clue for this idea comes from the traces of paint found on a few early stone houses that once were painted brick red (Me 180, Hr 152, Bb48). Another reason may have been that after the first years of settlement, a larger proportion of the population came from regions where stone was not the building tradition.

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Description of Houses

The 130 stone houses were built in twenty-five variations primarily of the hall-parlor (77 examples) and central passage (27 examples) plans. The double cell houses (9 examples) are hall-parlor in function. (See chart 2.) They are classified as Georgian or Federal in style; Federal in time-period is the most accurate designation, as the "stylish" features they exhibit are few.

The two story five bay central passage houses (11 examples) usually have the most elaborate detailing: an open stairway, half-turned with landings, turned banisters and newells, open stringer, scroll-carved step ends, and often a pendanted newell at the corners; double faced or shouldered architrave trim; panelled wainscot; some panelled fireplace walls with cornices; built-in presses with compass arched tops and wooden "keystones"; breakfront mantles decorated with combinations of reeding, fluting, gougework, meander, dentils, pilasters and sunbursts.

Several of the exteriors have fine ashlar masonry, particularly on the front facade, and squared pointing. Tooling on the stones is usually a hammered random pattern. A few of these houses have masonry in Flemish bond, and on one (Bb508) the headers are of a darker colored stone. Gauged voussoirs are tightly fitted with a keystone in the center; sometimes these are a smoother finished stone than the rest of the walls.

These houses are likely to have dentils and/or modillions in the cornice. The door and window frames are beaded and pegged, have ovolo trim, and molded, nosed sills. Only one of these 11 houses is double pile.

This fine stonework is also found on smaller houses, but the elaborate Georgian details are only found on two large houses having common masonry (Wd57, Hrl18).

Central passage plans were also used for 12 one story houses. Two of these (Hrl49, Js115) have elaborate Federal elliptical fan doorways and finely detailed woodwork.

The most popular type house was the hall parlor (43 two story examples, 34 one story) sized about 22 x 30 to 26 x 42 feet. These sometimes have the center door located slightly off center to accommodate the floor plan; in some the partition wall is placed to allow a symmetrical facade; in others there are four bays. Features commonly found in hall-parlor houses are 9/6 sash on the first floor; 6/6 on the second; four pane transoms; beaded, pegged frames with ovolo trim, nosed or square sills; voussoirs with keystones; cellar windows protected by square bars set on 45 degree angles (diamond bars) either vertically or horizontally in the frame; cornices returned on the front; roughly quoined corners; roof pitch of about 30 degrees; small 4-pane casement windows flanking the chimneys in the attic.

In window frames now without paint, it is possible to see the way the frames are constructed. In some the beaded timber of the frame and the trim next to the masonry are cut from one piece of wood (see Sc334, Bb219). The exterior nosed sill, the inside sill, and apron extended to form the interior chair rail, likewise are sometimes cut from a single timber. Existing sash are very rarely original.

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Interiors usually have enclosed corner winding stairs. In the few with partially or totally open stairs, the stringers are closed, banisters square, newells square and capped. Ceilings may be plastered or open; if open, the ceiling joists and the underside of the upstairs flooring have beaded edges. Partition walls and sometimes ceilings and attics are finished with single wide beaded boards. All have chair rail and baseboards, but no cornice. Mantles may be the simple shelf and trim type or a more elaborate reeded breakfront type. Panelled door presses were built beside interior chimneys. Doors are usually 6-panels, raised on one side, beaded and flush on the other; some batten doors; lift latches. Jambs may have reeded panels, but more often have plain raised panels, or are covered by a single board. Wainscots, when present, are panelled or made of horizontal beaded boards.

Kitchens are located in the cellar, in a separate wing or ell, or in a separate building. These have huge timber lintels spanning fireplaces as large as six feet in width.

Shed porches having chamfered posts were often built across the rear or end; a few houses have gabled porches at the front entrance.

Very similar to the hall-parlor houses are the nine double-cell houses built with a front door entering each room. These plans often have a corner stair in each room with no access between the two rooms upstairs.

Seven houses utilize the three-room (Penn's) plan having diagonal corner fireplaces back to back on the two-room side.

There is only one dog trot house. The term is used locally, however, to indicate a covered passage between the house and addition or kitchen.

There are 17 examples of significant stone additions to log or brick houses. These are in some cases a kitchen, separate from the house and connected by a covered passage; in other cases a more formal parlor and/or sleeping chambers were added. In Bourbon County, Ephraim Harrod (Bb508) added to his large log house a fine two story Flemish-bonded stone section with workmanship so excellent it appears to be Metcalf work also. At some prosperous farms, a later period and larger brick house was built in front of the original stone house, subordinating its importance (Fr78, Sc76, Sc351, Wd57).

With few exceptions, the stone houses were not built on hilltops. Hillside or valley sites were chosen, always near a good creek or spring. Locations were selected for topographical consideration, not for compass direction. Where walkout cellars were built, the house may face uphill, downhill, or sideways. Some early roads followed stream valleys, and houses built with that orientation are now often far from the present roads, a situation that adds to the ambience of the settings, and contrasts with the hilltop Greek Revivals which face the newer roads.

In addition to the houses, stone slave quarters were sometimes built on the larger plantations. There are 19 of these. Most have a double cell plan with chimneys in each

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gable end, but a few have a central chimney with fireplaces on each side.

There are seven stone churches--3 Presbyterian, 3 Baptist, and 1 Christian. There remain only 6 barns, 4 distilleries, 6 mills, 1 tannery, and 5 taverns.

Hundreds of stone spring houses, ice houses, smoke houses, dairies, and hundreds of miles of stone fences located in this region were not included in this nomination to limit its scope to the manageable. There are also a significant number of stone bridges, stone furnaces and stone mill dams which are not included. Beautifully carved grave stones, also, are found in the family cemeteries at most sites.

The survey forms which form the documentation for this nomination contain seemingly trivial details regarding the buildings. These features were noted so that further patterns might emerge regarding dates and craftsmen (Chart 3).

Data in the tabulations includes structures already listed on the National Register as well as those in this nomination.

FOOTNOTES - Item Number 7

¹ Interview, Stanley Kelly, restoration mason for Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, with Carolyn M. Wooley; December , 1982.

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Georgian influence were built for several decades after the Revolutionary War.

They had lived in areas where stone construction was common, and in frontier Pennsylvania and Virginia as well as in Kentucky the houses were a mixture of English and Scots-Irish traditions. (See illustration 1, 2.) Early stone buildings in Kentucky have surprisingly few manifestations of the German influence prevalent in south-central Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia,³ and no stone bank barns.

Antecedants for the most common hall-parlor houses are plentiful in Westmoreland and Augusta Counties, Pennsylvania, where remaining examples bear names found in Kentucky stone houses--- McConnell, Patterson, Miller, Thompson, Fraizer. One story hall-parlors are more likely to be English; two stories, Scots-Irish.

The hall parlor house was ubiquitous during the eighteenth century, but those built in Kentucky exhibit a commonality of traits that slightly separate their identity from common hall-parlors in most other areas (central Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, Tennessee). They do not have central chimneys, extended gable eaves, segmental arches (one exception), vaulted cellars, hipped roofs, dormers (very rarely), or multiple-shouldered chimneys. They do exhibit many characteristics, already described (item 7), that are common to each other.

**Origins of Kentucky Settlers
Who Built Stone Houses**

Of the first owners of the stone buildings in these sixteen counties whose names are known (123), 60 have names of Scotch, Irish, or Welsh origin, 4 53 have names of English origin, 5 of German, 3 of French, 1 central European, and 1 Scandinavian. Clark is the only county of the sixteen whose known builders all have English surnames. (See Chart 4.) Records state the places where 66 of these owners lived before they came to Kentucky: 34 from Virginia, 26 from Pennsylvania, 5 from Maryland, and 1 from South Carolina. A few of these were more specific. (See Chart 5)

In assessing the origins of the stone house patterns, the culture of the building contractors was noted as well as that of the first owners. Of 29 known masons in the region, 14 have English surnames, 11 Scotch or Irish, and 4 Welsh. (See Chart 4.)

The settlers of mid-Virginia origin were those who had the military grants. Those from western Virginia and Pennsylvania as a rule were those who came with the land claimants. A large proportion of the existing stone houses were built by those who came to make the first land claims in the state, in 1774-1776, in the companies of Harrod, Logan, Hinkson (Hinkston), McConnell, Boone, and McAfee, the most famous of the early explorers. The members of these companies were Revolutionary soldiers, whose battlegrounds were in Kentucky and Ohio, against the Indians and British. Many lost their lives in the risk to obtain the land.

The stone house tradition was strong among them. Daniel Boone, even after he moved from Kentucky, built in 1810 a two story, five bay, blue limestone house in Defiance, Missouri, whose woodwork he carved himself.

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Unpretentious as these houses seem by present standards they were at the time significant achievements by their owners. Joseph Shawhan, for example, built in 1816 in Harrison County a 2 story, 3 bay hall-parlor house; he was according to Collins, preeminent Kentucky historian, "the largest land owner of fine and costly lands in cultivation, reckoning by the number of acres in Kentucky, and probably in America."⁵

These houses as a group constitute an awesome and picturesque image of the settlement of Kentucky, and add much to the sense of history of the land.

Some ruins have also been included in this nomination--for the aesthetic value they add to the landscape, for the awareness of history they impart, for the information they reveal about construction techniques, and for the archeological information they provide.

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¹Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968). p. 38.

²Thomas L. Purvis, "The Ethnic Descent of Kentucky's Early Population: A Statistical Investigation of European and American Sources of Emigration, 1790-1820," The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, (Summer 1982), p. 263.

³Edward A. Chappell, "Acculturation in the Shenandoah Valley: Rhenish Houses of the Massanutten Settlement," Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, (Vol. 124, No. 1, 1980), p. 56-60.

⁴As identified by Eldon Smith, New Dictionary of American Family Names (New York: Harper and Row, 1973).

⁵Richard H. Collins, History of Kentucky, Vol. II (2 vols.; Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky Historical Society, 1966 [first printed 1874]), p. 325.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Early Stone Buildings of
Continuation sheet Central Kentucky

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- Kelly, Stanley, restoration mason of Shakertown at Pleasant Hill. personal interview, December 1982.
- McFarlan, A.C. Geology of Kentucky. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1943.
- Purvis, Thomas L. "The Ethnic Descent of Kentucky's Early Population: A Statistical Investigation of European and American Sources of Emigration, 1790-1820." The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, Vol. 80, No. 3, Summer 1982, 253-267.
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- Wooley, Carolyn Murray. The Founding of Lexington. Lexington: Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission, 1975.

**EARLY STONE BUILDINGS OF CENTRAL KENTUCKY
PART I**

<u>County</u>	<u>Site & Site Number</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Bourbon	Spears, Jacob, House (BB-48)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Elias Rymill House (BB-54)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Mauck, Rudolph, House (BB-92)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Butterton, Samuel, Farm (BB-119) Determined Eligible	6/23/83
Bourbon	Miller's House at Ruddles Mills (BB-124)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Stephens, Joseph L., House (BB-125)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Eales, James, House (BB-131)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Kennedy, Joseph, House (BB-142)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Shipp, Laban, House (BB-143)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Garrard, James, House/Mt. Lebanon (BB-152)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Williams, Hubbard, House (BB-181)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Sandusky House (BB-187)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Bayless Quarters (BB-207)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Hopkins House (BB-219)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Widow McDowell House (BB-278)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Rodgers, Thomas, House (BB-305)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Spears, Jacob, Distillery (BB-308)	6/23/83
Bourbon	McLeod Springhouse (BB-427)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Cooper's Run Baptist Church (BB-428)	6/23/83
Bourbon	Dr. Henry Clay House (BB-507)	8/22/83
Bourbon	Harrod, Ephram, House (BB-508)	8/22/83
Boyle	Thompson, William, House (BO-5)	6/23/83
Boyle	Knox, Abner, Farm (BO-147)	6/23/83
Boyle	Caldwell House (BO-194)	6/23/83
Boyle	Crow, William, House (BO-367)	6/23/83
Boyle	Harlan, Elijah, House (BO-292)	6/23/83
Boyle	Wilson, James, House (BO-310) Determined Eligible	6/23/83
Boyle	Mock, Randolph, Farm (BO-353)	6/23/83
Boyle	Barbee, John, House (BO-357)	6/23/83
Boyle	Stone House on Old Stage Road (BO-360)	6/23/83
Boyle	Marshall House (BO-415)	6/23/83
Boyle	Crow-Barbee House (Old Crow Inn) (BO-D-142)	6/23/83
Fayette	John Burrier House (FA-269)	6/23/83
Fayette	O'Neal, Lewis, Tavern (FA-290)	6/23/83
Fayette	Bell, John, House (FA-398)	6/23/83
Fayette	McConnell, John, House (FA-LW-3)	6/23/83
Fayette	McConnell, William, House (FA-LW-2)	6/23/83
Fayette	Payne, Henry, House (FA-370)	6/23/83
Fayette	Pettit's, James, Mill (FA-158)	6/23/83
Fayette	Russell, Robert, House, Poplar Hill (FA-498)	6/23/83
Fayette	Shryock, Frederick, House (FA-42)	6/23/83
Franklin	Patteson, Charles, House (FR-66)	6/23/83
Franklin	Haggin Farm (FR-78)	6/23/83
Franklin	Old Stone Tavern (FR-103)	6/23/83
Franklin	Todd, Robert, Summer Home/Buena Vista	6/23/83
Garrard	Arnold, John, House (GD-33)	6/23/83
Garrard	Hutcherson, John, House (GD-31)	6/23/83
Garrard	Leavell, John, Quarters (Spring Gardens) (GD-37)	6/23/83
Garrard	Proctor House (GD-34)	6/23/83
Garrard	Smith, James, Tanyard (GD-36)	6/23/83
Garrard	King Thomas the Third House, Graves Birthplace (GD-35)	6/23/83
Garrard	Wallace, Michael, House (GD-32)	6/23/83

Harrison	Hinkson, John, House (HR-64)	6/23/83
Harrison	Shawhan, Joseph, House (HR-71)	6/23/83
Harrison	Lair, John, House (HR-80)	6/23/83
Harrison	Smith House (HR-82)	6/23/83
Harrison	McMillan, Samuel, House (HR-118)	6/23/83
Harrison	McKee, John, House (HR-144)	6/23/83
Harrison	Williams, John, House (HR-149)	6/23/83
Harrison	Haviland House (HR-150)	6/23/83
Harrison	Fraizer, Joel, House (HR-151)	6/23/83
Harrison	Stone House on Indian Creek (HR-152)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Stone House on West Hickman (JS-5)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Scott House (JS-59)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Steele, Robert, House (JS-115)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Ebenezer Presbyterian Church (JS-123)	6/23/83
Jessamine	January, Ephraim, House (JS-124)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Lancaster, John, House (JS-130)	6/23/83
Jessamine	Crockett, Joseph, House (JS-182) Determined Eligible	6/23/83
Jessamine	Stone House on Brooklyn Hill (JS-186)	6/23/83
Lincoln	Huston, Nathan, House (LI-19)	6/23/83
Lincoln	Huffman House (LI-20)	6/23/83
Madison	Hawkins, Nathan, House (MA-168)	6/23/83
Madison	Newland, Isaac, House (MA-204)	6/23/83
Madison	Moberly, John, House (MA-227)	6/23/83
Madison	Murphy, Stephen/Murphy, Pence, House (MA-228)	6/23/83
Mercer	Shaker, West Lot (ME-49)	6/23/83
Mercer	McAfee, George, House (ME-128)	6/23/83
Mercer	McGee, John, House (ME-178)	6/23/83
Mercer	McAfee, James, House (ME-180)	6/23/83
Mercer	Stone Quarters on Burgin Road (ME-181)	6/23/83
Montgomery	Bondurant House (MM-44)	6/23/83
Nicholas	Riggs, Erasmus, House (NI-62)	6/23/83
Nicholas	Thompson, John Henry, House (NI-85)	6/23/83
Nicholas	Stone Barn on Brushy Creek (NI-93)	6/23/83
Scott	Patterson, Joseph, Quarters (SC-40)	6/23/83
Scott	Coppage, Rhodin, Springhouse, Long Place (SC-55)	6/23/83
Scott	Briscoe, James, Quarters (SC-56)	6/23/83
Scott	Emison, Ash, Quarters (SC-60)	6/23/83
Scott	Suggett, John, House/Elkton (SC-76)	6/23/83
Scott	Branham, Richard, House (SC-141)	6/23/83
Scott	Johnson, James, Quarters (SC-162)	10/11/83
Scott	Whitaker, Charles, House (SC-270)	6/23/83
Scott	Thomson's Mill Warehouse (SC-113)	6/23/83
Scott	Henry, Matthew, House (SC-334)	6/23/83
Scott	Flournoy, Matthew, House (SC-351)	6/23/83
Woodford	Allen, John, House (WD-24)	6/23/83
Woodford	Humphries Estate Quarters/Land: Gen. Jethrow Sumner (WD-27)	6/23/82
Woodford	Hammon, Ezra, House (WD-42)	8/22/83
Woodford	Garrett, William, House (WD-57)	6/23/83
Woodford	Miller's House at Mortonsville Mill (WD-61)	6/23/83
Woodford	Stone House on Steele's Grant (WD-74)	6/23/83
Woodford	Robertson Place (WD-75)	6/23/83

Woodford	Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church (WD-93)	8/22/83
Woodford	Solomon Thomas House (WD-118)	6/23/83
Woodford	DuPuy, Joel, House (WD-119)	6/23/83
Woodford	Edward, Thomas, House & Quarters (WD-120)	6/23/83
Woodford	McCracken, Cyrus, House & Quarters (WD-127)	8/22/83
Woodford	Stone House on Clifton Pike (WD-128)	6/23/83
Woodford	Wilson, Benjamin, House (WD-136)	6/23/83
Woodford	Alexander Plantation House (WD-144)	6/23/83
Woodford	Stone House on Tanner's Creek (WD-146)	6/23/83
Woodford	Stone House on Beale's Run (WD-147)	6/23/83
Woodford	Muldrow, Andrew, Quarters (WD-149)	6/23/83
Woodford	W. B. Springhouse (WD-150)	6/23/83
Woodford	Moore, George F., Place (WD-151)	6/23/83
Woodford	Summers Forest Whiskey Warehouse (WD-152)	Determined Eligible 6/23/83
Woodford	Stone House at Fisher's Mill (WD-153)	6/23/83
Woodford	Hogan Quarters (WD-155)	8/22/83
Woodford	McCrackin Distillery and Mill (WD-156)	6/23/83
Woodford	Guyn, Robert, Jr., House (WD-21)	8/25/83