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MAY 15 1978

DATE ENTERED

JUL 7 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

Underwood-Jones House

AND/OR COMMON

Z. K. Jones House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

506 State Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Kentucky

__ VICINITY OF

CODE

021

COUNTY

Warren

CODE

227

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__ DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

__ STRUCTURE

__ SITE

__ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__ PUBLIC

PRIVATE

__ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__ IN PROCESS

__ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

__ OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

__ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

__ YES: UNRESTRICTED

__ NO

PRESENT USE

__ AGRICULTURE

__ COMMERCIAL

__ EDUCATIONAL

__ ENTERTAINMENT

__ GOVERNMENT

__ INDUSTRIAL

__ MILITARY

__ MUSEUM

__ PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__ RELIGIOUS

__ SCIENTIFIC

__ TRANSPORTATION

__ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Z. K. Jones estate c/o Brian Reeves, Attorney

STREET & NUMBER

1039 State Street, Milliken Building

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Warren County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Tenth Street

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1974

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort,

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Cox Underwood House is located on the southeast corner of State and Fifth Streets within five blocks of the court square in Bowling Green in the southwestern section of the state. It is a two and one-half story, three-bay, brick dwelling of roughly square massing. A two-story, rectangular wing projecting from the rear of the structure gives this ca. 1875 town house an L-shaped plan. The mansard roof of hexagonal slate tiles reflects the Second Empire character of this residence, while the facade and fenestration are reminiscent of the Italianate style. Overhanging eaves, enhanced by dentils and modillions on the main facade and brackets at the front corners, strengthen the Italianate feeling (see photo 1).

Paneled pilasters supporting an entablature frame the main entrance, and the glass paneled double door is surmounted by a two-pane arched transom. Floor-to-ceiling windows with arched and denticulated heads piece the first floor facade. Shallower windows with entablatures and a paired window of matching tripartite composition above the door complete the fenestration on the second story. The existence of the interesting bay window with cornice on the east wall could be due to the fact that it would have yielded a view of a small garden that once existed in the side yard. Certainly, a less elaborate treatment of brick hood molds was given the west side and rear windows as well as those of the wing.

The two-story rear wing is three bays wide, and presently a single story porch runs along its east side where once a two-story gallery had existed. Evidence of the two-story construction is visible in the markings on the brick (see photo 2). The current porch is supported by turned posts with somewhat stylized fan-shaped brackets flanked by spindles. Where the porch joins the main block it curves inward to avoid obstructing a window. Thus, it would appear that this porch might not have been part of the original plan. A modern garage has been added to the south end of this wing. Outbuildings contemporary with the construction date of the main house consist of a brick carriage house and small tool shed.

On the interior, a vestibule precedes entry into a wide hall with an oak and teak parquet floor. Towards the rear of the hall, along the west wall, are stairs with winders leading to the second level. A large double parlor is situated to the left of the entrance hall and is entered by means of two pairs of large double doors. Division of the parlor is accomplished by massive pairs of double doors as well. Woodwork in these rooms consists of shouldered architraves surrounding the doors and windows. The original folding, wooden, window shutters and ornate marble mantels have been removed; however, most of these fixtures have recently been recovered and plans are under way to restore them to the house. The ceiling of the bay window in the front parlor embodies a plaster relief of birds, flowers, and ivy.

(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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John Cox Underwood

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Cox Underwood House was constructed ca. 1875 by one of Bowling Green's most prominent local politicians, John Cox Underwood (1840-1913)--the city's second mayor and former Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky. The impressive house built by Underwood is one of the last remaining structures in the town representative of the Second Empire style.

Located in southwestern Kentucky on the Barren River and served by the L & N Railroad, Bowling Green dates to the early history of the county, becoming the county seat in 1797. The community continued to thrive throughout the 19th century, as evidenced by the large fashionable houses constructed in and around the city during that period. The Underwood house, in particular, exemplifies a desire to blend two dominant 19th century styles into one structure. By crowning an Italianate dwelling with a mansard roof, a key element in Second Empire design, the builder succeeded in adapting the Second Empire to the domestic realm while adding a stylish touch to the popular Italianate style. Thus, the effect is that of a substantial town house presenting a fashionable facade to passersby and harmonizing with current urban architectural tastes.

John C. Underwood came from a distinguished family. His father, Joseph R. Underwood (1791-1876), was a former judge of the court of appeals (1828-35); member of Congress (1835-43); U. S. Senator (1847-53); and state representative (1825-27; 1845; 1860-63). His mother, Elizabeth Cox, was the daughter of Col. John Cox, long-time mayor of Georgetown, District of Columbia.

Underwood was trained as a civil engineer and served during the Civil War with the Confederate Army mainly as a military engineer in Virginia until he was taken prisoner in 1863 by Union forces. Toward the close of the war he returned to Bowling Green, where he "engaged in the practice and pursuits of a civil engineer and architect."² Summarizing his professional career in Bowling Green, a contemporary source states:

He has contributed largely to the improvements of his section of the State, in the way of public enterprises, such as the construction of bridges, public roads, buildings, etc. He was City Engineer of Bowling Green, Kentucky, from 1868 to 1875 inclusive, and did much toward beautifying and substantially improving the city. He was elected to the City Council, in December, 1869, and served one term, when he was elected Mayor, which position he held two years. During his connection with the city of Bowling Green, he caused many permanent improvements to be made, which will remain as lasting monuments to his engineering skill and activity.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beard, Mary Hobson. Old Homes In and Near Bowling Green, Kentucky.
Bowling Green: Margaret Hobson, 1964.

Collins, Richard and Collins, Lewis. History of Kentucky. Volume II. Berea: Kentucky Imprints, 1974 (Originally published 1874), pp. 736-739.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.15 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	5,5,0	2,3,0	4,0	9,4	3,4,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING				
C							D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area includes a rectangular lot 125 x 400 feet, bounded by State Street on the northwest, Fifth Street on the east, and Chestnut Street on the South.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Riley Handy; Gloria Mills, Historian; Charlotte Schnider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Bowling Green Landmark Assoc.; Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1332 Park St.; 104 Bridge St.

564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bowling Green; Frankfort,

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

Cedra W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

5/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

2-7-78

ATTEST:

Charles H. ...
Callremer Cole

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-6-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The second floor plan is basically like that of the first: two large bedrooms separated by double doors and a small room above the vestibule. Each room has a fireplace and, here again, the original mantels have been retrieved for future restoration. The rear wing, consisting of two rooms on each floor, can be entered from both levels of the main block. The staircase in this wing abuts the rear of the front section.

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In 1875 Underwood attained further distinction by being elected as a Democrat to the office of Lieutenant-Governor.

The house later became the residence of Dr. Zacharia Keele Jones (1883-1977), a black physician, and served as both a center for his medical practice and a center for the black community.

¹Richard Collins, History of Kentucky, Volume II, p. 739.

²J. M. Armstrong, Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky, p. 506.

³Ibid., p. 506.

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"John Cox Underwood." The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky. Cincinnati:
J. M. Armstrong & Co., 1878, pp. 505-506.

Sumpter, Irene Moss. Our Heritage. An Album of Early Warren County Kentucky
Landmarks. Clarksville, Tennessee: By the Author, 1976, p. 1.

Underwood, John C. Report of Proceedings Incidental to the Erection and Dedication
of the Confederate Monument. Chicago: Wm. Johnston Printing Co., 1896.