

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Stevens, John, House

other names/site number CP-27

Related Multiple Property NA

2. Location

street & number 2150 Wagoner Road

NA

not for publication

city or town California

NA

vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Campbell code 019 zip code 41007

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts/SHPO Date _____

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

John Stevens House
Name of Property

Campbell County, Kentucky
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Greek Revival

foundation: Stone
walls: Lime plaster, Brick
roof: Metal
other: Wood

John Stevens House

Campbell County, Kentucky

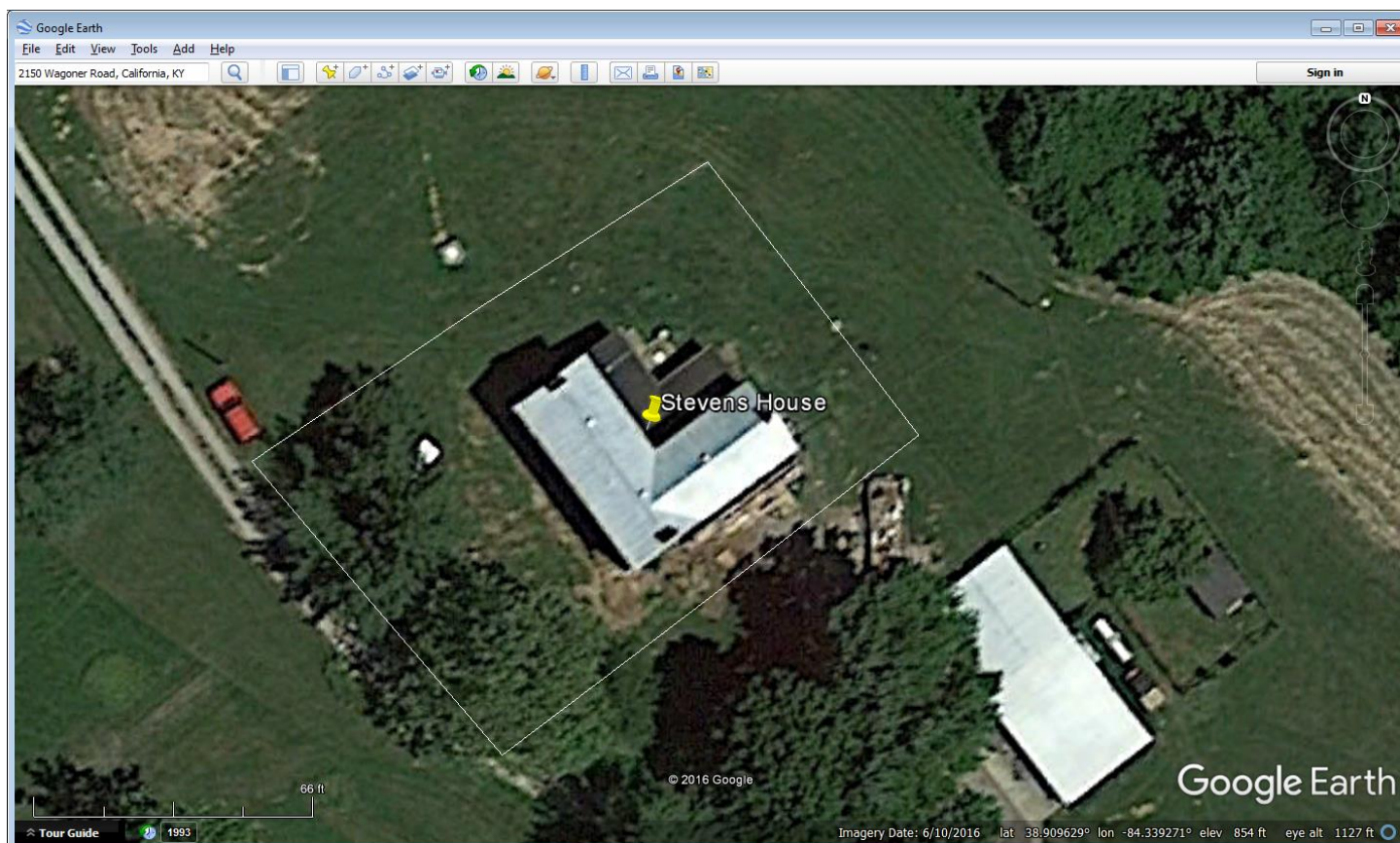
Name of Property

County and State

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The John J. Stevens House (CP-27) is two story brick building with a rear el, built around 1850 in the Greek Revival style. It stands at 2150 Wagoner Road (formerly named Dead Timber Road #2) in the city of California and the southern portion of Campbell County, Kentucky. Situated approximately 5 miles southeast of Alexandria, the seat of Campbell County, the house is located on a 92.785-acre parcel of farmland. The property was once part of a 1000-acre land granted by Isaac Shelby in 1793 to John Stevens. The house rests on a crest at the highest point of the property overlooking the lake. The house has many original features and characteristics typical of Greek revival architecture that remain nearly unchanged today. The Stevens house still stands at the end of the same half-mile gravel lane and can be seen off in the distance from the main road on the original site much the same as it did in the 1850s.



Stevens House, Campbell County, Kentucky

Latitude 38.909458°

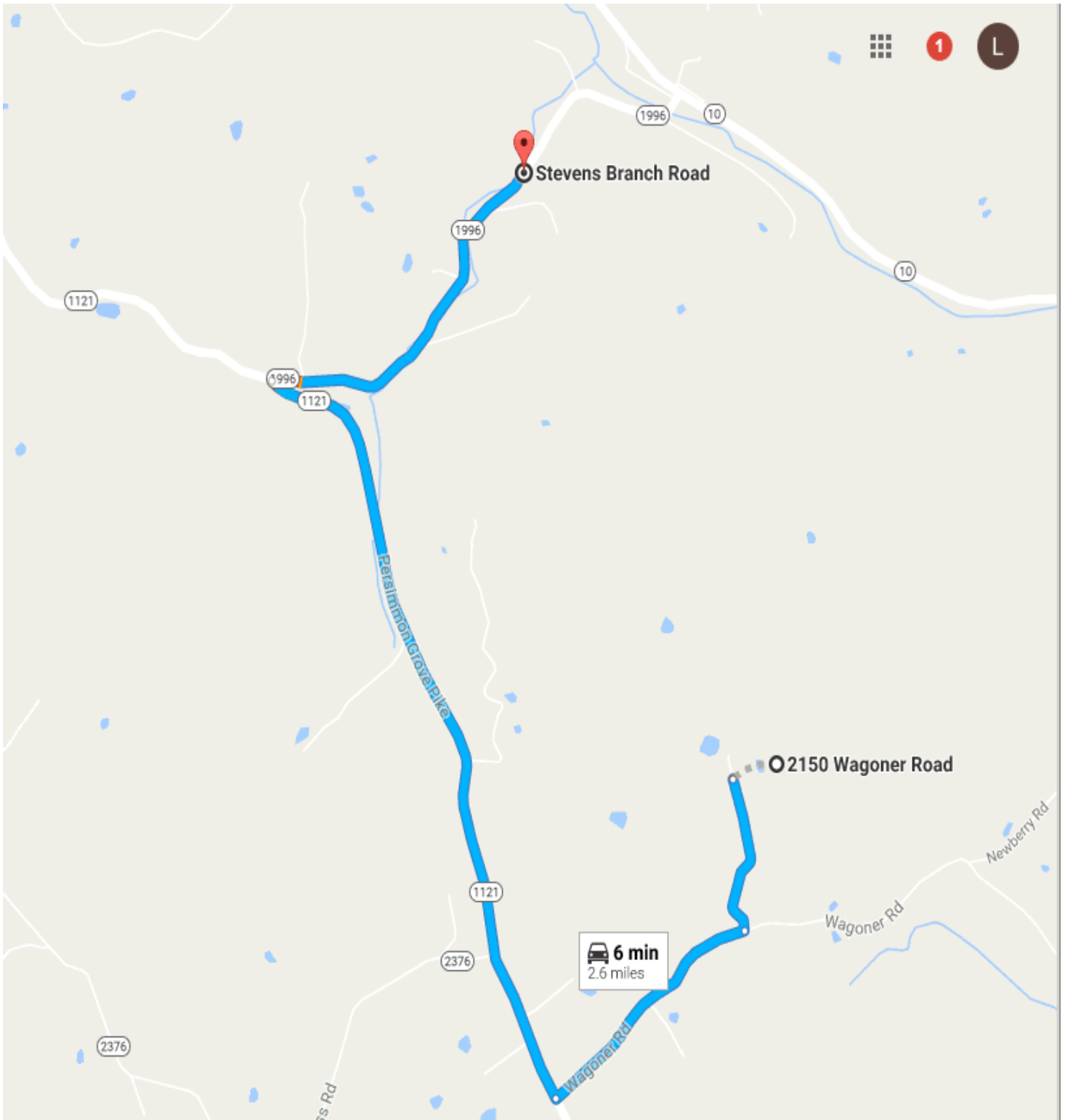
Longitude -84.338941°

John Stevens House

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Stevens Branch Road California, Ky.

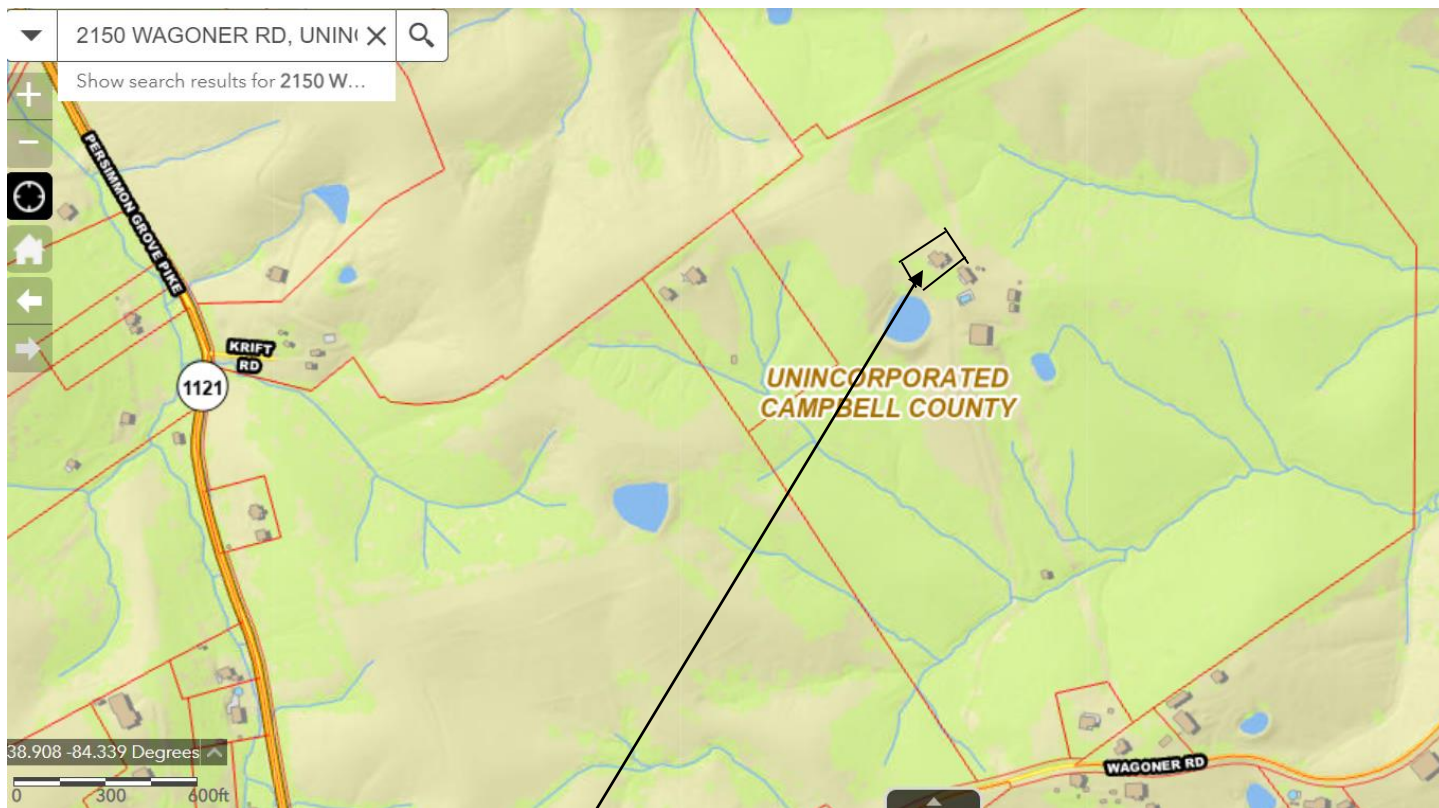
Campbell County

John Stevens House

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Entire property 92.785 acre property Location of Stevens House on the property

Character of the Property and History of Ownership

John J. Stevens built the house at some time between 1849 and 1850. The Boone, Kenton, Campbell County atlas of 1883 documents John J. Stevens as a business owner in 1824. He was known locally as “J.J.” Stevens. Letters from John W. Stevens, (J. J.’s father) published in the Newport Local newspaper refer to J.J. Stevens’s house being built in 1849 on the land given to him by his father. The property deed transfers of record (DB 27, page 165) at the Campbell County Kentucky Clerks office show the land transfer of 185 ½ acres to son J.J. Stevens in 1856. The John W. Stevens family has owned the property for 112 years: spanning from 1794 to 1905 according to the Campbell County Kentucky deed books. Records show the property was owned by the bank during the Great Depression between 1937 and 1938, and since that time, the property changed ownership ten times.

Three other buildings exist on the property outside of the immediate yard area of the house.

- A 20’ x 30’ cinderblock detached **garage**, with a metal roof, is just outside of the yard area along the driveway. Its cinderblocks suggest this building was constructed after 1930.
- A 35’ x 20’ **milk house**, also constructed of cinder blocks, stands across from the garage in the field. The milk house has iron casement two-over-two window panes and has a metal roof. Built 1900-1920.
- A 40’ x 60’ **barn**. The garage and milk-house are beyond the southeast facing area of the house and yard. The barn is situated along the driveway going toward the house and has a metal roof and iron casement windows. Believed to have been built 1900-1920.

John Stevens House

Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

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GRANTOR	GRANTEE	YEAR	ACRES	BK	PG
COMMONWEALTH OF KY	JN. STEVENS	1794	1000	A	223-224
ELIZABETH STEVENS	CHILDREN	1812	506	D1	82-83
JOHN W. STEVENS	JOHN J. STEVENS	1856	185½	27	165
JOHN J. STEVENS	HOGLE	1905	100	59	589
HOGLE	SMELTZ	1909	1	61	629
HOGLE	ROUSE	1920	100 Less 1	68	513
ROUSE	RARDIN	1928	100 Less 1	72	628
MASTER COMMISSIONER	FEDERAL FARM MORTGAGE CO.	1937	100 Less 1	74	530
FEDERAL FARM MORTGAGE CO.	MILLER	1938	99	74	630-631
MILLER	SIMMONS	1939	99	75	509
SIMMONS	ROBBINS	1939	99	75	545
ROBBINS	KENNEDY	1940	99	76	44
KENNEDY	KENNEDY	1943	99	93	45-47
KENNEDY	DUVALL	1950	99	93	152-153
DUVALL	LONGWORTH	1957	99	108	373-374
LONGWORTH	ABEL	1960	99	115	480-481
ABEL	LEMASTER	1965	99	126	57-59
LEMASTER	LEMASTER-WOLF				

Exterior Description of the House

The L-shaped brick house is an example of historic Greek Revival Architecture constructed between 1849 and 1850. It is a five-bay wide, 44 foot 9 inches by 44 foot 9 inches and two stories in height. The main façade faces toward the southwest. Uncovered entries are on the southwest and southeast sides. The southeast and northwest sides of the main body of the house are 18 feet wide and are without windows or doors. The metal roof was installed in 2015 and has the appearance of a historic standing seam metal roof.



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Construction methods and building materials used were: brick, fieldstone, and mortar. The floor and ceiling joists of long, rough sawn oak timbers are connected with mortise and tenon joinery on a 20-24" inch wide, rough cut fieldstone foundation. Each stone was carefully stacked and laid in a lime-and-sand-based mortar. These stones form the four walls of the basement. A 14" inch crawl space runs beneath the house. Beneath the kitchen/dining room is a cellar space with headspace ranging from 6'5" to 6'10". The house has a side gable metal roof with three chimneys. The walls of the house are 14 inches thick and three bricks deep. The bricks were laid in common bond pattern with lime and sand-based mortar and were hand-made: molded and fired on-site from clay and are terra-cotta orange in color.

Two mortared-stone and brick barrel-shaped cisterns remain in the yard and are still in use today as the only water source. The smaller of the two of these is located near the northeast well in the ell area behind the house. The larger cistern is approximately 30' away from the northwest wall of the house.



Front (southwest) façade; southeast side on right



Southeast side

Front (southwest) side

The house's front elevation faces southwest and exhibits simple symmetry of four tall first-floor windows, two on either side of a wide, centered front door. The first floor's openings are balanced by five second-story windows. The windows are wood sash with six-over-six glass panes. Each window and door have a sandstone lintel above and sandstone sill below—a common arrangement in both the Federal and Greek revival building traditions between 1825 and 1860.

The front facade of the home overlooks a lake and is the formal front of the house. The main entry door is slightly over-sized, with 4 panels, and has within it two rectangular glass panels over two rectangular wooden panels. A transom window is framed above the door that is centered on the wall in the entry hall.

Southeast side

This side is organized into two parts. An unbroken brick walls makes up the south half, under the overhang of the gable roof. The north half has three bays: a window-door-window on the first floor and three windows above. The second-story windows are centered above the kitchen door and a first-floor window opens on each side of the door, giving this portion of the side a symmetry house. The same lintel and sill arrangement found on the front is present on this side. On this side is the exterior kitchen entrance, having a smaller oak door with the same style as the front door. An exterior basement poured concrete stairwell opening is located to the right of the kitchen door.

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Northeast side

As with the southeast side, this face has a blank brick wall under the gable roof, and to the right of it is an enclosed porch where the two-story porches had been originally. The enclosed porch has a door and a one-over-one window and a roof that sheds from the south to the north. The Northeast façade houses the chimney wall of the kitchen and smallest upstairs bedroom fireplace but has no windows or doors. The rear windows of the main body of the house face to the northeast, as well. The second story windows are wooden 6-over-6, installed in 2000. The lower section of windows in the enclosed porch are vinyl single-hung windows installed in the 1990s. Both doors in the porch enclosure are solid wood and each has a vinyl storm door. A small concrete landing and set of steps are outside of the enclosed porch's side door. A central air unit sits to the right of the door and the septic tank lid can be seen approximately 30' from the northeast wall.



Northeast side



Northwest (back) side

Northwest side

The northwest side is dominated by the un-fenestrated two-story brick wall under a gable that forms the end of the main block of the house. Projecting rearward from the back of the main house portion is another enclosed porch with a shed roof sloping from west to east. The larger of the two stone and masonry cisterns sits about 30 feet in a north direction from the house.

Interior Description of the House

Entering the house through the main, front door opens into the hall and to the left is the door to the parlor at the base of the staircase. In this room there are two tall windows, measuring 78 inches high and 36 inches wide, a fireplace and an exit door leading to the enclosed porch. To the right of the entry door across from the staircase and parlor is the living room which also has two tall windows and a fireplace. The fireplace and mantel are situated between two closets. The northwest elevation is the chimney wall of the parlor and has no windows or doors.

Original wide wood moldings frame the windows and doors in most of the rooms, and 10-inch trim boards cover the base of the plaster walls. In the construction process, a walnut piece of wood about the same size as a

John Stevens House

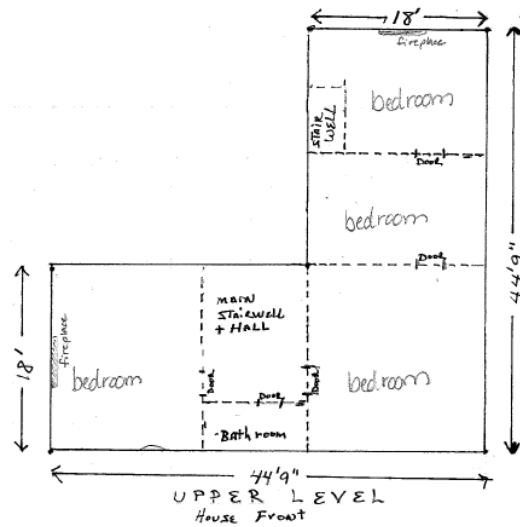
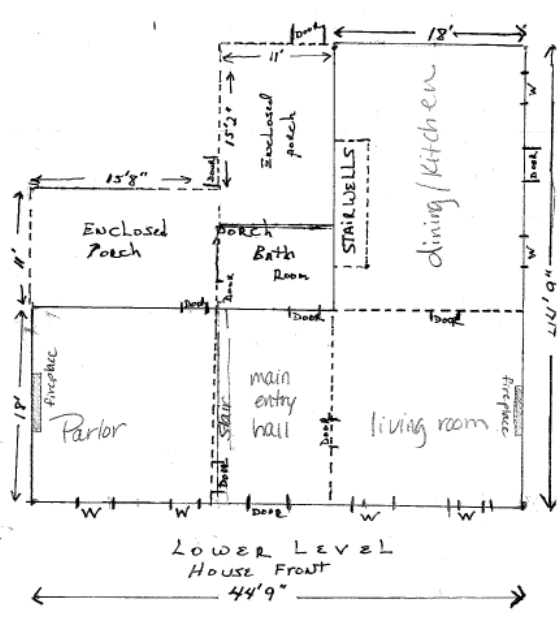
Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

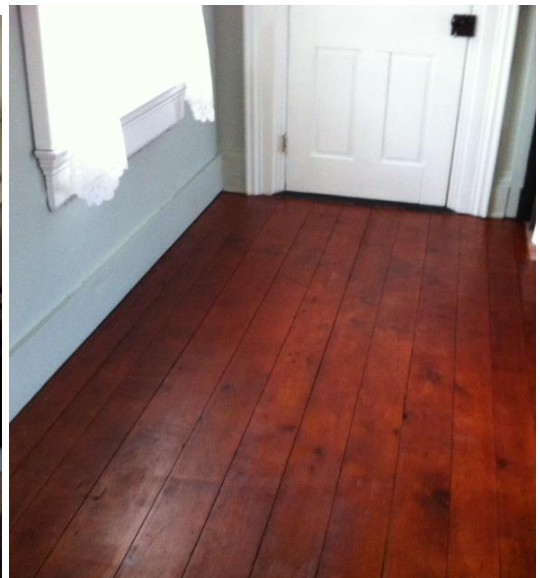
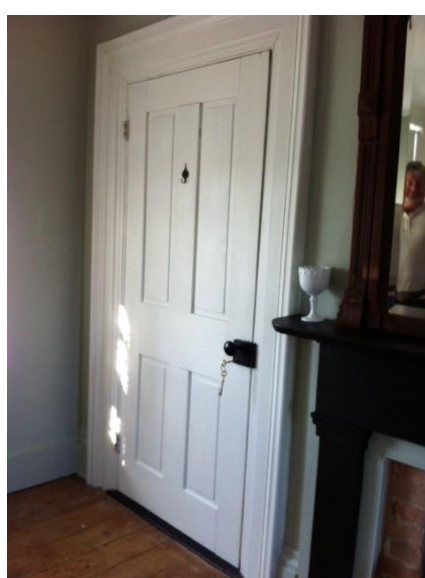
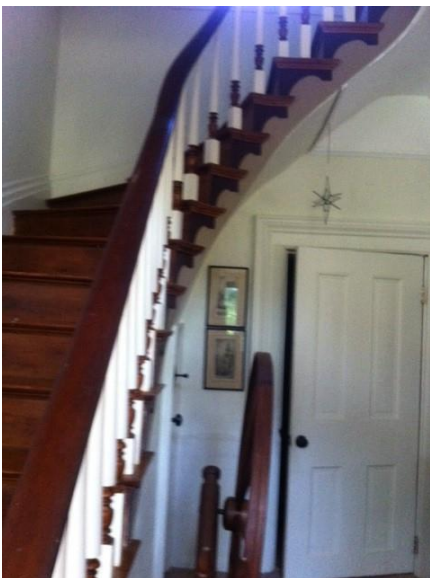
County and State

brick was placed every foot, so that cut nails could be used to nail the wide oak trim to the masonry and plaster walls. A curved open staircase is left of center on the west wall of the parlor in the entry hall and has a built-in closet under the wall of the steps. The banister is made of cherry and has simply turned wood spindles. The steps and footplates are heart pine. The staircase curves to the right and opens to the second original wood floor hallway.

20 8:16 AM



The large rooms on either side of the first-floor center hall, have high ceilings of 10' 4". The original fireplace mantels in both the living room and parlor are 6' wide with shallow insets on either side of the fireplace walls, and this layout is the same throughout the house. Nearly all the original random-width hardwood flooring is made of heart-pine on both floors, with the exception of the enclosed porch. The interior brick walls are covered with smooth plaster, made of lime and sand mortar, mixed with animal hair and small shells.



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To the right of the hallway is the formal living room with two tall windows, 78" x 36", a fireplace and mantel with two closets on either side. The ceiling in this room is over 10' high. Left of the main hallway and curved staircase is the parlor which also has two tall windows, 78" x 36", a fireplace and mantel with open insets instead of closets on either side of the fireplace. To the right of the hall is the living room which leads into the dining room and kitchen area, a floor plan design typical of the Greek revival period.



First Floor Parlor mantel



First Floor Living Room Mantel

Original mantels surround three of the fireplaces: a 6' mantel in the living room and a 6' mantel in the parlor with original finish. The master bedroom at the end of the upstairs hallway has a 5' mantel. The random-width wood flooring is held in place with cut nails over oak rough sawn joists on each floor. Every joist is at least 2.5" thick, some locked into place with mortise and tenon joinery. The floors in the dining area of the kitchen and smallest bedroom above the kitchen have not been sanded and still have the original varnish coating. The walls have over 10' high ceilings. Wide wood trim and moldings surround the doors, the windows, and the base of the floors except for the two windows in the kitchen, the porch enclosure and the trim in the bathroom additions.

The kitchen ceilings are over 10', and the space is open, as the dining room is not a separate room from the kitchen area and chimney wall.

Moving through the kitchen leads to the interior basement entrance that was added during the same time as the porch enclosure construction. The single-story enclosed porch addition space located in the ell now serves as the mudroom and has three regular windows, coat storage and pantry area and continuing through leads to the first-floor laundry room. This area now has 4 regular windows. The laundry room is accessible from both the parlor and the bathroom at the end of the first-floor main hallway. The traffic flow of the first floor is a continuous circle.

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Master bedroom mantle, second floor

The staircase to the second floor, in the main hallway, winds upward and veers to the right onto the hallway leading to four bedrooms and the second full bathroom upstairs. To the right and at the end of the hallway is a master bedroom with four windows, a fireplace, and mantel with built-in closets on either side. To the left of the hallway is a bedroom with two windows and two closets, but the fireplace has been bricked and plastered over prior to 1960. Through the second door of this bedroom is another adjoining bedroom which has two windows, one each, on opposite walls. At some point early in the history of the house, this room appears to have once been the sitting room off of the second-story porch as one of the windows had been a door at one time. This room is a pass-through between two bedrooms and is currently used as a bedroom now.

The smallest bedroom is the fourth, located at the top of the kitchen stairs. A fireplace, without a mantel on the Northeast wall, is flanked by a closet on either side with two windows, and access to the straight staircase on the west wall of the kitchen. The room could have been the workers' quarters because the building materials seem like they could have been the remnants from all the other rooms in the house, but of lesser quality and pieced together in several smaller lengths.

Changes to the Property since the Period of Significance

The two-story porch on the rear of the home was torn down due to structural failure and water damage in the 1940s. Sometime during 1960, the second-floor ceilings were lowered from 10 feet to 8 feet. At an unknown time, the fireplace in the kitchen and the two middle bedrooms were bricked in and plastered over. A concrete stairwell, providing an exterior entry to the basement, was also added in 1960. During this time, the house had sustained weather damage in some areas, having been vacant for some time and found with several windows and doors missing. The porch enclosure was built as a single story on each side of the "L" in 1978. The windows in the house are non-original, having been replaced in the 1990s with wood six-over-six light sashes except in the porch enclosure, where the windows are single paned and vinyl in the rear of the home. One side of the porch enclosure serves as the laundry room and the other side is a mudroom. The

John Stevens House

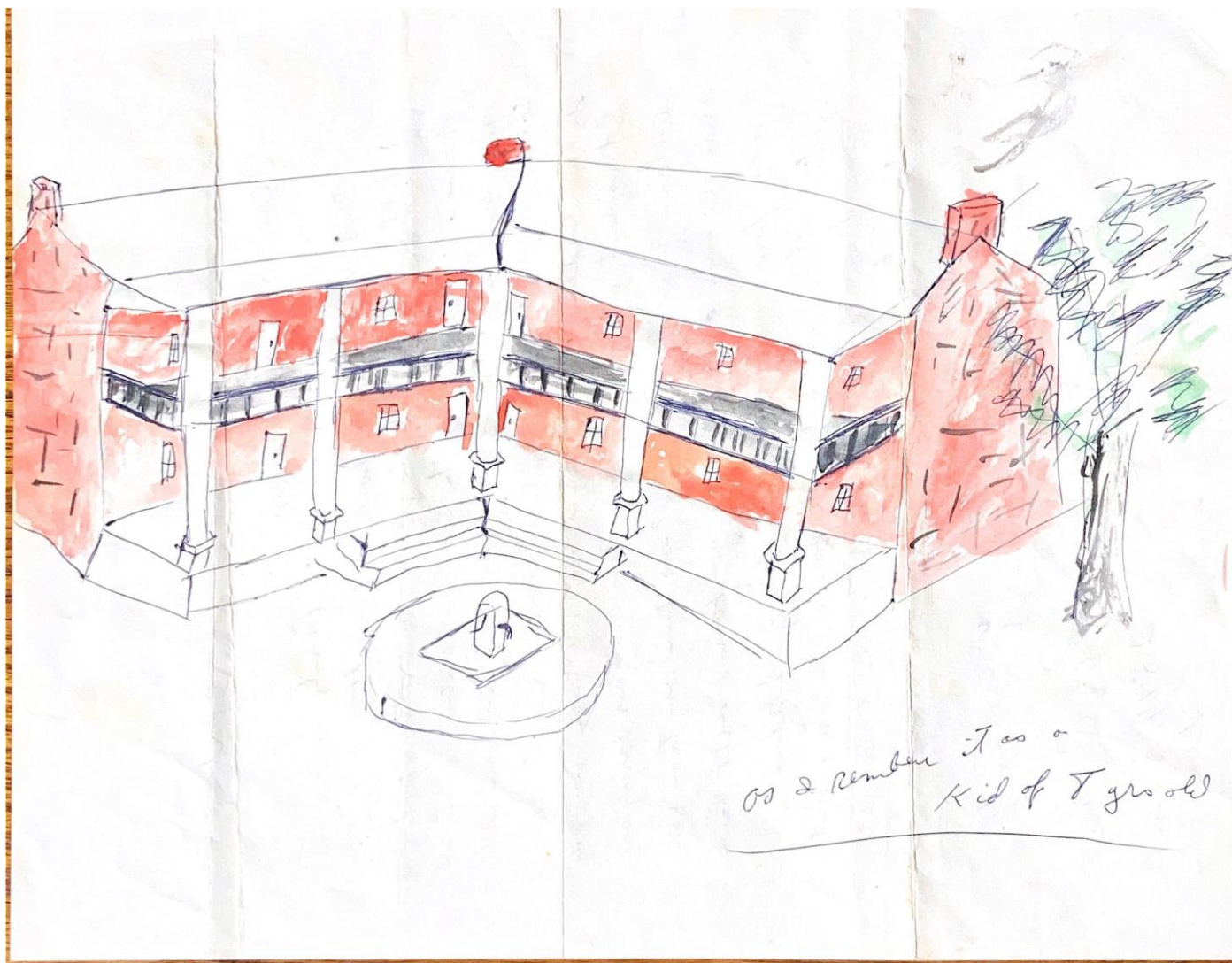
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narrow, enclosed L-shaped utilitarian wood workers staircase and the wall that had originally separated the kitchen and dining rooms sustained water and structural damage from a leaky roof. A simple oak staircase was rebuilt along the west wall where the doors and windows leading to the two-story porch had once been leaving the kitchen open to the dining room.

The house's exterior has been painted several times over the years. Plumbing, HVAC along with two full bathrooms have been added. In 2016 concrete porches were added to each entrance, and a standing seam metal roof replaced the tin roof. During this time frame, the southeast wall of the house underwent an extensive brick restoration project in the kitchen and the smallest second story bedrooms. The restoration involved re-pointing and replacing broken, unstable brick found above and below the window and door lintils. Repairs were made using reclaimed brick from the same time period, with lime-based mortar on the outside and then lime plastered on the inside walls.



1961 sketch of 2 story porches in the ell by Roy Miller, owner of the property from 1937 through 1939.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Greek Revival

Significant Dates

Circa 1850

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Father and son builders:
Stevens, John W. and Stevens, "J.J." John Jackson

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance is 1850, the year the house was built, which is a convention of the National Register. The house's exterior design, plan, space, and finishes are elements of Greek revival style, a popular design in both rural and urban Campbell County, and elsewhere in Kentucky from the 1820s until the Civil War.

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The John Stevens house (CP-27) meets the first term of National Register Criterion C: it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type of construction—Greek Revival style in rural Campbell County, Kentucky. A significant number of houses with the style have been found and recorded in the County, and the Stevens House retains sufficient intactness to provide us with a good example of the style as it was found in rural situations. The house would have been perceived by the Stevens’ neighbors as an instance of good design and solid construction—qualities which the house retains today. Such housing served as the mark of a successful farming operation in the mid-nineteenth century. The house’s design significance is explored within the historic context, “Greek Revival Style in Campbell County, Kentucky, 1830-1875.” The Stevens family name spanned several generations, starting in 1794. John W. Stevens and son John Jackson “J.J.” Stevens had roles in the construction of the family house and were important in developing the Persimmon Grove area of California, Kentucky in the Gubser’s Mill precinct.

Historic Context: Greek Revival Style in Campbell County, Kentucky, 1830-1875

To gain perspective on the significance of the Stevens House design, the survey database of the State Historic Preservation Office (Kentucky Heritage Council) was queried for Greek Revival designed buildings in Campbell County. That search produced 50 properties, a relatively large number, recorded as exhibiting the style. That list includes the Stevens House. Two categories were used to observe patterns in the occurrence of the style: time and locale.

This database search found the presence of Greek Revival style in the county over a large range of time. The database divides the date of construction into time spans of 25 years, revealing that Campbell County has eight buildings with Greek Revival style built 1825-1849, 31 buildings with the style built 1850-1874, and 11 buildings built 1875-1899. The Stevens House, erected in 1849-1850, can be recognized as an early instance of the style locally, and somewhat unusual among all Greek Revival styled houses for its rural situation.

If the results of the survey query are tabularized, a pattern can be observed that gives a bit more significance to the Stevens House due to its rural location. That is, more Greek Revival style houses are found earlier in Campbell County’s urban locales (5 houses in 1825-1849) than the three found in rural locales surviving from the same period. The style sees its greatest occurrence during the years around the Civil War, 1850-1874, when just about equal occurrence is found between rural properties (14) and urban properties (17). The style appears to decline after the 1870s in urban areas, when more fashionable Victorian era styles displaced it, where the Greek Revival maintains a greater presence in the rural spaces (eight rural vs. three in towns) after the 1870s.

Construction Date	Rural Location	Urban Location	Total
1825-1849	3	5	8
1850-1874	14	17	31
1875-1899	8	3	11
All Years			50

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History of the Stevens House

John J. Stevens built the house between 1849 and 1850. John W. Stevens deeded 185 and ½ acres to J.J. Stevens in June of 1856. The Boone, Kenton, Campbell County atlas of 1883 documents John W. Sr. and son, John J. Stevens well established in the area as early as 1824. John J. Stevens, known locally as “J.J.”, built the house in 1849, according to a letter from his father, John W. Stevens published in the Newport local newspaper in 1878. *Stevens Branch Road* was named after the Stevens family and listed on both the old and new maps.

Mary Boone Bryan, sister of Daniel Boone was buried on the nominated property from 1819 to 1930. The Daughters of the American Revolution report that Mary Bryan’s descendants removed her remains from the Stevens property and placed them in the Grants Lick cemetery (Lillie Dale Baker Smith, 1963).

History of the Stevens Family’s early activity in Campbell County, Kentucky

John Stevens came to Campbell County Kentucky in late 1794 to build a life in Kentucky. He left his legacy to his son, John W. Stevens born in 1802 and ultimately to his grandson, John Jackson Stevens (known as “J.J.” Stevens). Each generation of the Stevens family had integral roles through their generosity in building the strong community in California, Kentucky, known as the Gubsers Mill Precinct.

Between 1828 and 1839 John W. Stevens had acquired over 700 acres of land. J.J. Stevens his son, gave the back corner 4.1 acres (DB 43 87) portion of his land to the Baptist congregation to build their church and formed a library in 1853. The church also served as the schoolhouse on 2 ac (DB 43 88) and cemetery 4.1 acres (DB 43 87). John Stevens and his son “J.J.” Stevens gave land to numerous people: his children, relatives, neighbors and the neighboring church, school and library. The Stevens family homes could be seen all along Stevens Branch Road, which also connects to the modern AA highway today.

The Stevens family grew and continued building homes in the community of the Gubsers Mill Precinct as seen on the map of 1883. Today, from the rear property line, Stevens Branch Road can be seen just beyond the neighboring fence line from the remaining 150 acres of the original land grant. John W Stevens built and owned a general store and built a grist mill in 1849 and sold it in 1854. The Stevens family owned a successful farm, lumber mill, grist mill, and general store (1883 *Campbell, Kenton and Boone Atlas*). He also sold timber in Cincinnati. The main income was derived from wheat, corn and lumber and a successful farming operation.

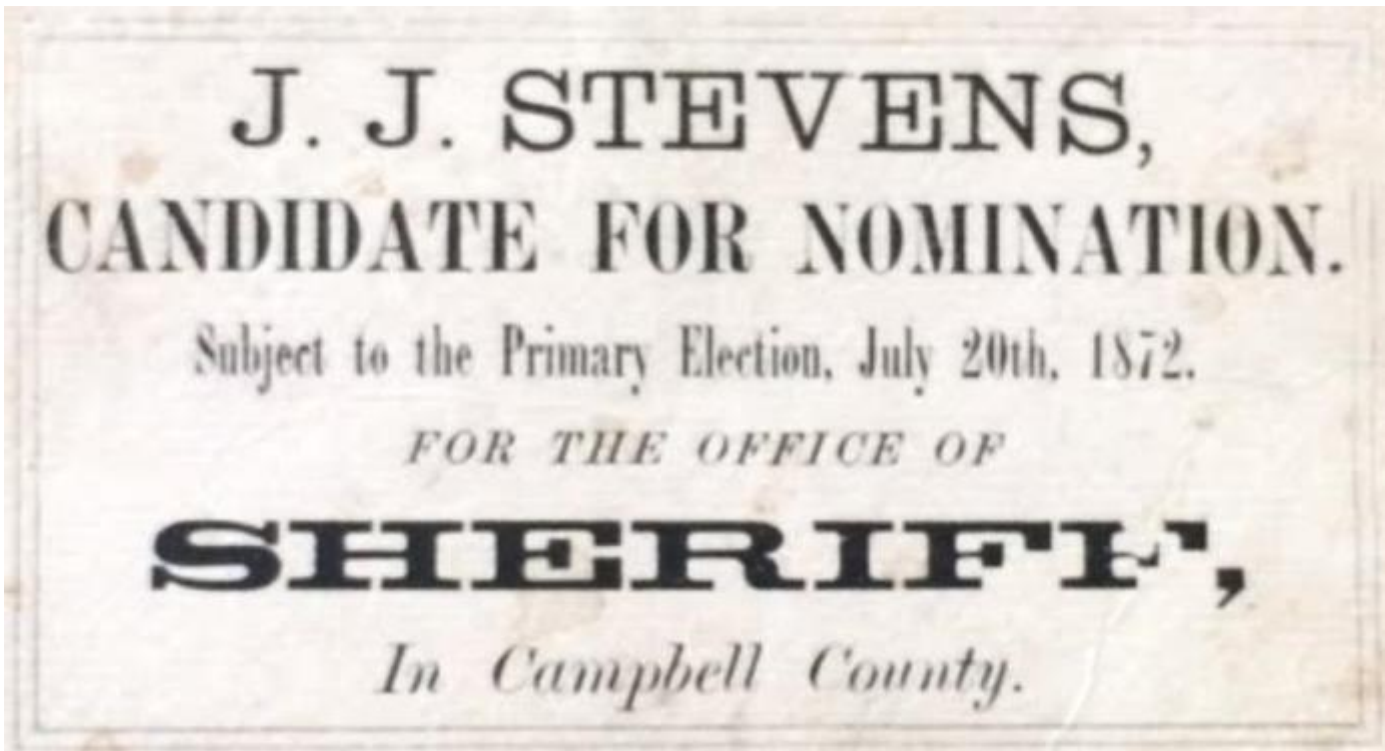
John W. Stevens generosity of land gifts to both church, family and community, lead to the development of the area and local prominence of the Stevens name throughout Persimmon Grove in the city of California Kentucky and the Gubsers Mill Precinct. The 1860 census lists his estate was worth \$6,000.00 and his personal worth at \$4,500.00. The 1870 census lists his estate’s worth as \$9,180.00 and his personal worth as \$3,200.00. The average net worth during that time period was between \$800.00 and \$1,200.00 per year. J.J. Stevens ran for Sheriff in 1872 and the original business card was found in the home behind the mantel in the living room. He was a Master Mason at Alexandria lodge #152 of the Kentucky Free & Accepted Masons in 1890.

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Evaluation of the Architectural Significance of the Stevens House within the Historic Context of Greek Revival Style in Campbell County, Kentucky, 1830-1875

The John Stevens House is a significant remnant of local housing choices and social attainment in Campbell County. The central passage I-house dwelling was built between 1840 and 1850 with a classic plan, and a large, two-story ell. The central passage plan provides us a look at an interior house plan that was popular in Kentucky from the 1830s until the Civil War, after which more asymmetrical plans of the Victorian period began to gain popularity.

Brick construction was a more expensive, labor-intensive option than building with wood, suggesting higher social status for the family who constructed the building. Inside the home, every room had a fireplace and every door had a lock, providing the occupants the opportunity to conduct their affairs in private. The availability of compartmentalized space usage suggests a level of social organization that many would consider more complex than in earlier times, when family life and business occurred in shared spaces.

The Stevens house is very similar to other Greek revival style homes on the National Register in Kentucky such as The Bauman House (NRHP # 83002595) in Camp Springs, Campbell County, Kentucky and "The Elms" (NRHP # 88003370) located in Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky and the Forsythe-Shewmaker House, (NRHP #12000048). The recent development of the Northern Kentucky area has erased evidence of many rural communities; the Stevens House is an indicator of a social system in which a prominent family anchored a sector of Campbell County.

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Evaluation of the Integrity of the Architectural Significance of the Stevens House in Light of its Current Physical Condition

The Stevens House is proposed for National Register listing under the first term of Criterion C—it is significant as a type of construction, a Greek revival style house. To qualify under the first term of Criterion C, such a property must retain sufficient material and design integrity to enable us today to recognize the house as an example of the style and a product of its time. The two most important integrity factors for National Register eligibility will be integrity of materials and design.

The house retains integrity of **location** and **setting**. The house has remained in its rural location, and the properties surrounding the Stevens House, as well as the Stevens House site itself, retain their rural character. The pastures surrounding the house and the old perennials of peony and lilies scattered around the stacked rocks along the outer landscape of the immediate yard are simple. The mature oak, walnut and hickory trees having very wide trunks stand tall along the gravel lane and seen throughout the property and the distance of the house from the main road captures the rural setting of early times. While the location and setting of the house are not the highest aspects of its design significance, its location and setting are both elements that frame and enhance the design. This particular house design could have been placed on an urban lot, but because it occurs on a rural lot, its historic location is a part of its story. In the years leading up 1850, when of this house was constructed, many of Kentucky's prominent citizens chose to locate their residences on country estates, probably more often than in emerging towns. The rural setting was the place where Kentucky's earliest elites established themselves, often with acreage received for service in the American Revolutionary War. Until the early nineteenth century, when roads, towns, currency, and other aspects of a developed civilization emerged, rural land was the currency through which one communicated their wealth, status, and power to Kentucky's citizens. By the time of the construction of the Stevens House, a rural setting had become a traditional place in which to erect a house with a significant, but by the 1850s, urban locations existed in which a house with this type of design could be found in Kentucky.

The house also retains its integrity of **materials** and **design**. The house retains the hallmarks of Greek Revival design and many of the historic materials that go into composing that design. The house retains its historic floor plan, shape, and form. The hand-made bricks of the outside and inside walls, the original mantels and curved staircase of the interior along with elements like the heart-pine floors, plaster walls and wide woodwork moldings around the window and doors are trademarks of the early Kentucky Greek revival period and style. Every door inside the house had locks and every room in the house had a fireplace. The open central hall and parlor area of the house gave a grand and private separation from the everyday working areas of the home. The massive appearance of the two-story L-shaped brick house portrays John Stevens as a prominent, wealthy agricultural land and business owner in the community.

Because the Stevens House retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, and materials, it also has a high level of integrity of **feeling** of the period in which Greek Revival architecture was the choice in Campbell County, Kentucky to express one's social power. The historic Stevens House is an important part of the local history and development of the Persimmon Grove area having many unchanged elements of the mid-1800s and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a genuine, significant example of Greek Revival architecture in Campbell County, Kentucky and will hopefully continue to be preserved for future generations.

John Stevens House

Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

The Campbell County Clerk's office, Deed books and cross reference to Deed Indexes, Alexandria, Kentucky.

United States Federal census: 1850, 1860, 1870

Atlas of Boone, Kenton and Campbell Counties Kentucky 1883

The Newport Local: John W. Stevens Letters Campbell County; published 1878 at the age of 82, in the tri-weekly newspaper:

Larkin, Jack

2006 *The American Home From 1775 to 1840*. Taunton Press

Lancaster, Clay

1991 *Antebellum Architecture of Kentucky*. University Press of Kentucky

McAlester, Virginia and Lee

1998 *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.

National Register of Historic Places, Forysthe Shewmaker and Sroufe House nominations

Newcomb, Rexford

1960 *Old Kentucky Architecture*. Bonanza Books.

Eric Sloane

A Reverence for Wood Dover Publications 2004

Smith, Lillie Dale Baker

1963 About Mary "Polly" Bryan, A Patriot of the American Revolution for VIRGINIA. [DAR Ancestor #A016269, 1736-1819 http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kycampbe/maryboonebryan.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kycampbe/maryboonebryan.htm)

Internet Sources:

Campbell County Historical Society: Campbell County Early Pioneers

Gardens to Gables website www.gardenstogables.com Janie Rice-Brother

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

John Stevens House
Name of Property

Campbell County, Kentucky
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): **CP27**

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .25 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

Latitude: **38.909458°**

Longitude: **-84.338941°**

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description

The property proposed for listing is a one-quarter-acre area defined on the Site Map (see page 3). It is a roughly rectangular area, aligned with the property's driveway, and enclosing the house, which sits roughly at the center of the nominated area, with a buffer of at least 15' around the house. The Site Map scale has a scale of 1" = 50'. The entire 150-acre property, on which the nominated area resides, is shown on a map provided by the Campbell County Kentucky Property Valuation Administrator. See map below: larger property lies along Wagoner Road and is designated by the Campbell County Property Valuation Administrator by account number 999-99-30-579.00.

Boundary Justification

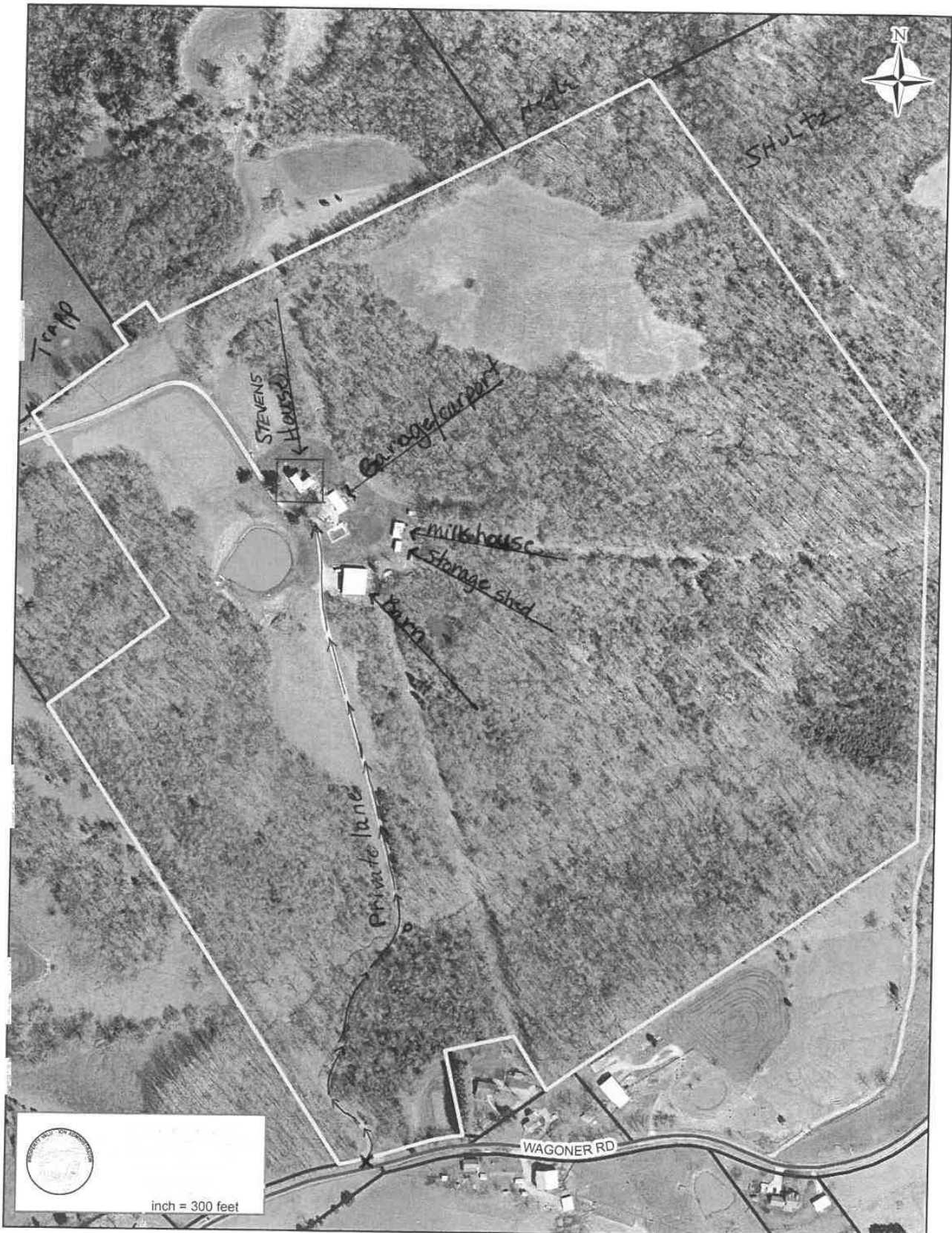
A small acreage is proposed, to delimit the listed acreage to include only the resource with architectural significance as evaluated on this nomination form. The nominated area is protected by the larger farm property, which is sited in a rural locale, and not in particular pressure for development into a subdivision. Because the nominated property sits in the interior of a 150-acre parcel, it is expected to retain its rural setting for the foreseeable future. The property is being nominated for its architectural values and for the builder, J. J. Stevens's, his father, grandfather and the Stevens family's contributions to the development of the California community in Campbell County, Kentucky.

John Stevens House

Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

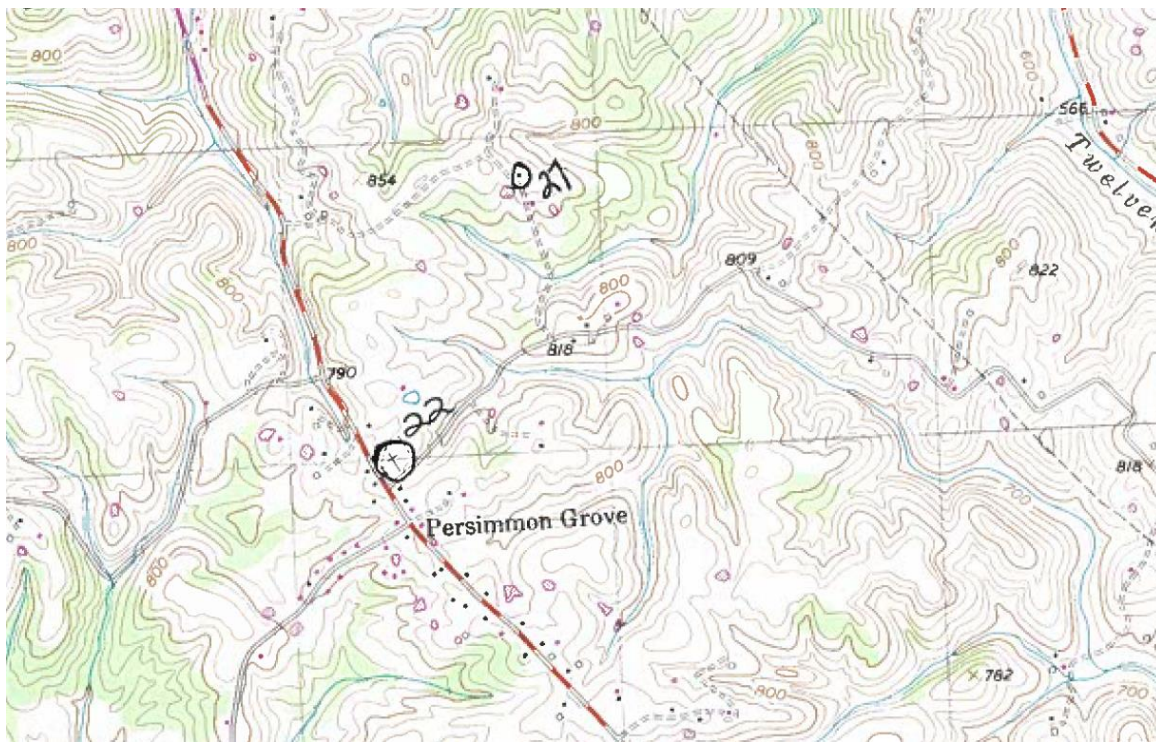


John Stevens House

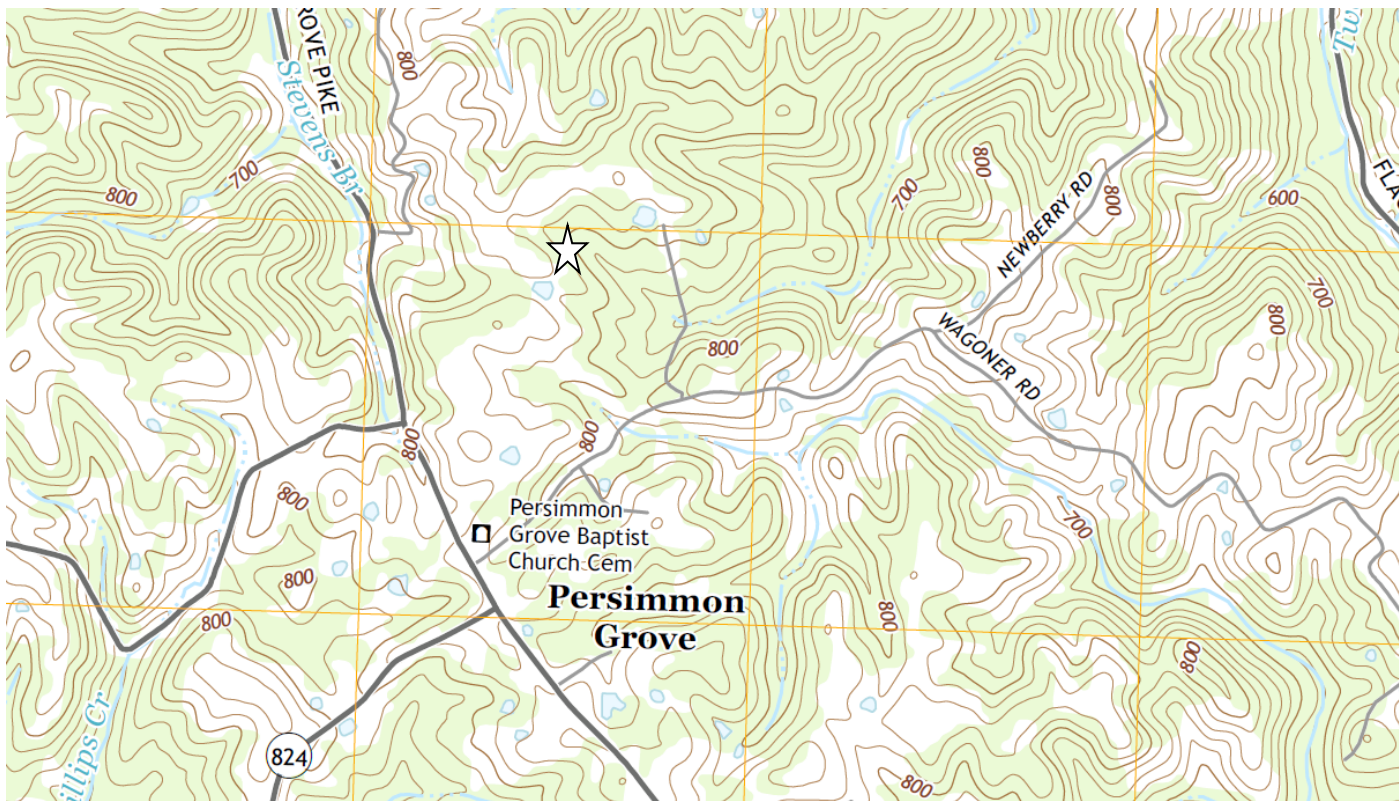
Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State



Scan of USGS New Richmond, Ohio quad map used by historic preservation surveyors. Stevens House marked as 27



Star marking location of Stevens House, detail of New Richmond, Ohio, USGS quad map

John Stevens House
Name of Property

Campbell County, Kentucky
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lisa and Howard Wolf, homeowner
organization _____ date _____
street & number 2150 Wagoner Road telephone 859-992-4408
city or town California State Ky. zip code 41007
e-mail lisawolf85@gmail.com

Photographs:

Name of Property: John Stevens Homestead
City or Vicinity: California vicinity
County: Campbell
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Michael Koseruba
Date Photographed: November 2020 (note: the property currently looks the same as it appears in the photographs submitted with this nomination form)

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo Log John Stevens Homestead CP 27

- Photo# 1 of 25: Southwest façade main entrance.
- Photo# 2 of 25: Northwest façade.
- Photo# 3 of 25: Southeast façade Kitchen/dining entrance.
- Photo# 4 of 25: Southeast, northeast façade and enclosure.
- Photo# 5 of 25: Ell porch enclosure: northwest facade and northeast facade.
- Photo# 6 of 25: Kitchen/Dining area staircase.
- Photo# 7 of 25: Kitchen.
- Photo# 8 of 25: Living-room fireplace east wall.
- Photo# 9 of 25: Parlor fireplace west wall from staircase.
- Photo# 10 of 25: Parlor fireplace.
- Photo# 11 of 25: Entrance hall door and transom window.
- Photo# 12 of 25: Hall wood floors.
- Photo# 13 of 25: Staircase main entrance hallway.
- Photo# 14 of 25: Staircase, hall closet under stairway, wall and door moulding.
- Photo# 15 of 25: Door to porch at end of entry hall.
- Photo# 16 of 25: Four panel doors and door trim throughout the house.
- Photo# 17 of 25: Rim-lock door hardware.
- Photo# 18 of 25: Wide door moulding.
- Photo# 19 of 25: Second floor staircase banister and hall heart-pine wood floor.
- Photo# 20 of 25: Master bedroom at the end of the second-floor hall.
- Photo# 21 of 25: Second floor hall, and door to second bedroom.
- Photo# 22 of 25: Brick hearth and heart-pine floor boards.
- Photo# 23 of 25: Mortise and tenon joinery.
- Photo# 24 of 25: Fieldstone walls in basement.
- Photo# 25 of 25: Basement east wall fieldstone

John Stevens House
 Name of Property

Campbell County, Kentucky
 County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Howard and Lisa Wolf
 street & number 2150 Wagoner Road telephone 859-992-4408
 city or town California state Ky. zip code 41007

Campbell County properties identified in the SHPO's Survey database as Greek Revival style			
SITE_NUMBER	HISTORIC_NAME	LOCATION	STATUS_DESCRIPTION
CP 33 xxx	H CHALK FARM	CALIFORNIA CROSSROADS	UNDETERMINED
CPA 16	DR SHAW HOUSE & OFFICE	27 E MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CPA 20	HOUSE	5 N WASHINGTON	UNDETERMINED
CP 86	J HOLDERFIELD HOUSE	HWY 8 MELBOURNE	UNDETERMINED
CP 70	J NELTNER HOUSE	HWY 8	UNDETERMINED
CP 48	TRUESDALE/RUPP FARM	TRUESDALE RD	UNDETERMINED
CP 34	F ZINK FARM	CALIFORNIA CROSS RDS ON 12 M CREEK	UNDETERMINED
CPA 5	HOUSE	15 W MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CP 13	DISTLER HOUSE	CORNER OF RIFLE RANGE RD & LICKING PIKE AT SCAFFOLD CREEK	UNDETERMINED
CP 6	JOS KEMPT FARM	POOLES CREEK RD 2	UNDETERMINED
CP 11 XXX	CHARLES HOFFMAN FARM COMPLEX	1808 LICKING PIKE	UNDETERMINED
CP 19 YYY	GRANTS LICK BAPTIST CHURCH	CLAY RIDGE & SMITH HITEMAN RD	UNDETERMINED
CP 14	JOHN STEFFAN HOUSE	STEFFAN RD	UNDETERMINED
CPA 4	HOUSE	16 W MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CP 35	WESLEY CHAPPLE M E CHURCH S	HWY 1121 & SHAW-GOETZ RD HWY 10	UNDETERMINED
CP 24	STORE	INTERSECTION OF WESLEY CHAPEL & CALIFORNIA CROSSROADS GUSPERS MIL	UNDETERMINED
CP 27 ***	COL JJ STEVENS HOUSE	OFF DEAD TIMBER RD 2 E PRISIMMON GROVE	UNDETERMINED
CP 30	SPITZELBERGER / CHALK TAVERN	SHAW-GOETZ RD ON 12 M CREEK	UNDETERMINED
CP 9	GEO GARY HOUSE	131 TIPPENHAVER LN	UNDETERMINED
CP 25	FRANK LOWER HOUSE	LN FROM GUSPERS CAFE ON 12 M CREEK	UNDETERMINED
CP 98	LEFLETT/HOFSTEDER HOUSE	HWY 8 JUST SE OF DAYTON	UNDETERMINED
CP 2	COOKS SALOON	LICKING PIKE HWY 9	UNDETERMINED
CP 1	ST JOHNS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	641 LICKING PIKE HWY 9 AT 3 M CREEK	NATIONAL REGISTER
CP 66	BISHOFF HOUSE	UPPER EIGHT MILE RD	NATIONAL REGISTER

John Stevens House

Campbell County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

Campbell County properties identified in the SHPO's Survey database as Greek Revival style

SITE_NUMBER	HISTORIC_NAME	LOCATION	STATUS_DESCRIPTION
CPN 45	E W HAWKINS HOME	821 YORK ST NEWPORT KY 41071	UNDETERMINED
CPD 1113	HOUSE	431 FOURTH AVE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 1270	HOUSE/APARTMENTS	632 FIFTH AVE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 1312	HOUSE	506 DAYTON AVE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 413	BERRY MANSION	409 BENHAM STREET DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 389	HOUSE	613 CLAY STREET DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 316	HOUSE	1222 5TH AVENUE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 304	HOUSE	1028 5TH AVENUE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPD 191	HOUSE	823 FOURTH AVE DAYTON KY	UNDETERMINED
CPN 368	SALEM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH	22 EAST SEVENTH ST NEWPORT	N/R DISTRICT CONTRI. SITE
CPN 360	A J KAMP LINOLEUM STORE	621 MONMOUTH ST NEWPORT	N/R DISTRICT CONTRI. SITE
CP 105	THE PINES	4 BLOSSOM DR COLD SPRING KY US 27	UNDETERMINED
CPN 345	NEWPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH	117 EAST FIFTH ST NEWPORT	DEMOLISHED
CP 302	HOUSE	6435 FOUR MILE RD, MELBOURNE, KY	UNDETERMINED
CPFT 41	EICHENLANTE TAVERN	1523 ALEXANDRIA PIKE FORT THOMAS, KY	UNDETERMINED
CPB 57	HOUSES (TWO)	451 BERRY AVE	N/R DISTRICT CONTRI. SITE
CPA 18	GEO WHITE HOUSE	220 E MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CPA 13	YYY HOUSE	107 W MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CP 36	ZZZ WILLIAM THOMSON FARM	HWY 10 ON FS CRK FLAGG SPRING	UNDETERMINED
CP 37	FLAGG SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH	HWY 10 ON FS CREEK FLAGG SPRING	MEETS N/R CRITERIA
CPFT 18	ABBOTT HOUSE	2103 N FT THOMAS AVE	UNDETERMINED
CP 50	WHITE HOUSE	OLD RIELLY RD	UNDETERMINED
CPFT 17	HOUSE	1938 N FT THOMAS AVE	UNDETERMINED
CPFT 16	WASHINGTON R T TALLIAFERRO HOUSE	1810 N FT THOMAS AVE	UNDETERMINED
CPA 15	CAMPBELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE	E MAIN	UNDETERMINED
CPN 233	ZZZ BELLEVUE (TAYLOR MANSION)/GENERAL JAMES TAYLOR	335 E 3RD NEWPORT KY	NATIONAL REGISTER