

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places Registration Form****1. Name of Property**Historic name: Samuels, Wilson, HouseOther names/site number: NE 223Name of related multiple property listing: N/A**2. Location**Street & number: 160 South St. Gregory Church RoadCity or town: Samuels State: KY County: NelsonNot For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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

I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 A X 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

Wilson Samuels House
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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

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

Private:

☒

Public – Local

☐

Public – State

☐

Public – Federal

☐

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Category of Property

Building(s)

☒

District

☐

Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

1

1

Noncontributing

2

2

buildings

sites

structures

objects

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Federal

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Limestone, and Metal

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

This Federal style house (NE 223), built by Wilson Samuels (1814-1874) circa 1835-1845, appears to have been designed to include an office for Samuels and family living quarters. (Photos 1 and 2). Located facing west, the two-story single pile brick house is distinguished by its symmetrical five-bay front elevation, centrally placed single door with a semicircular fanlight entrance and end chimneys (Photo 1). The house was built on his wife's dowry of Martha Stoner Samuels of 104 acres. Later purchases would expand the plantation in all directions. The dwelling faces toward the town of Samuels Depot less than ¼ mile, with the Samuels House being built facing toward the road system. The nominated resource is being interpreted by its significance to Wilson Samuels and local commerce and general stores within Nelson County, Kentucky. The area proposed for listing is 1.73 acres in which there are one contributing and two non-contributing resources.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Wilson Samuels House Location

Latitude: 37.88518 Longitude: -85.53175

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History of Property/ Ownership and Character of the Property

Samuel's descendants continued to operate the family farm until it was sold out of the family in 1932. The house was occupied continually until the present with minimal changes. The outbuildings were built after 1900. The barn/garage sits on the edge of the property is wooden batten board siding (Photo 3). The outhouse is located north of the enclosed porch addition off the kitchen (Photo 4). The Victorian edging on the cornice of both buildings was added in the 20th century.



Photo 3



Photo 4



Topographic Quad Map of Site

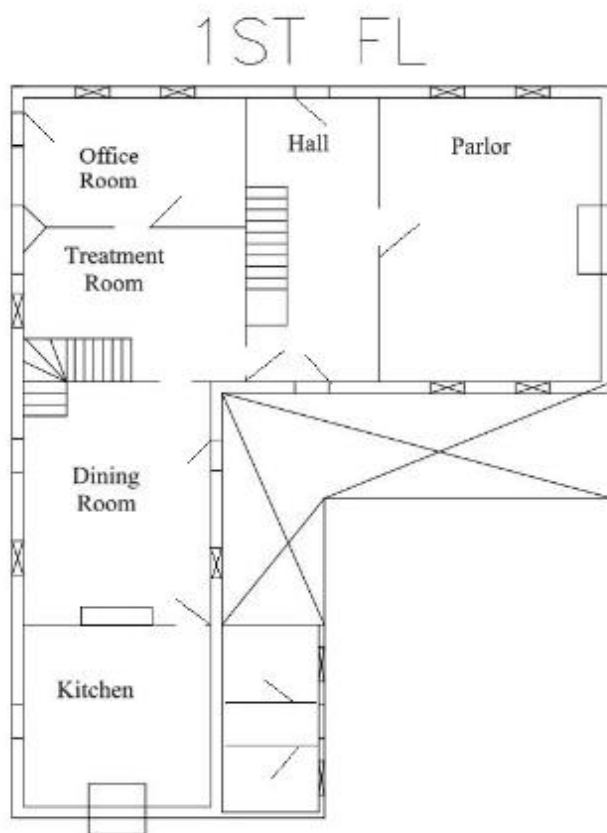
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Map enclosing site with Latitude/Longitude values for vertices. See pg. 31 for coordinate values.



North →

Wilson Samuels House

Name of Property
First Floor Plan

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Description of Built Resources

Wilson Samuels House, contributing building

Exterior

Located facing west, the two-story single pile brick house is distinguished by its symmetrical five-bay front elevation, centrally placed single door with a semicircular fanlight entrance and end chimneys (Photo 1). The last renovation replaced deteriorating and missing bricks from the top of both large chimneys.

A one-story wing built at the same time is attached at the southeast corner running eastward (Photo 2) windows in the front (Photo 1). The front (west) and rear (east) elevations have 4-course molded brick cornices (Photo 5). The front elevation is laid in Flemish bond brickwork (Photo 6) while the side and rear elevations are laid in common bond (Photo 7). The unusual feature of this house is the original side door located on the southwest corner of the first floor of this Federal house (Photo 2). The main entrance on the west elevation exhibits a vertical two – panel door with a fanlight (Photo 1). The door opening is in line with adjacent window bays. Cut stone steps are in front of the front entrance, the south corner door and the two doors on the south side of the one-story wing (Photo 8).

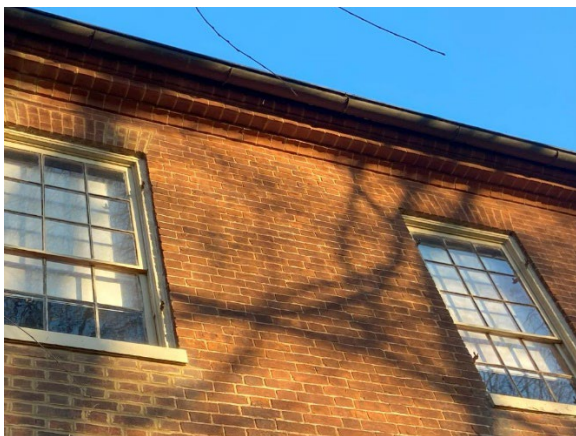


Photo 5



Photo 6

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Photo 7



Photo 8

Symmetrical fenestration marks the west elevation, with four evenly spaced windows on the first floor and five evenly spaced windows on the second floor (Photo 1). The west, south, and east elevations have 9/9 windows on the first floor (Photo 9) and 9/6 windows (Photo 10) on the second. The north side has no windows except the small attic ones (Photo 11). The east elevation has four windows on the second floor and three windows and a door on the first floor. The east elevation also has a back porch reaching from the north wall to the south brick wing (Photo 12). A two-panel door from the central middle hallway provides access to the porch (Photo 13). The brick wall beneath this porch roof has been painted. The floor of the porch has been rebuilt with modern decking materials.



Photo 9



Photo 10

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Photo 11



Photo 12

Interior

The floor plan is essentially a two-over-two single pile arrangement with a full center hall. A door at the back of the hallway opens onto an attached porch (Photo 14). The front entrance with the insert panel door facing as well as the baseboard are the same designs of John Rogers and Alexander Moore who designed and built Wickland and other Georgian and Federal buildings in Bardstovwn during the years 1814-1836 (Photo 15). Moore had a large company of apprentices who continued his designs (Photo 16). The stairway has simple square spindles and a newly refinished banister. Looking at previous photos, it appears the steps and spindles have just been sanded and re-stained (Photo 17).

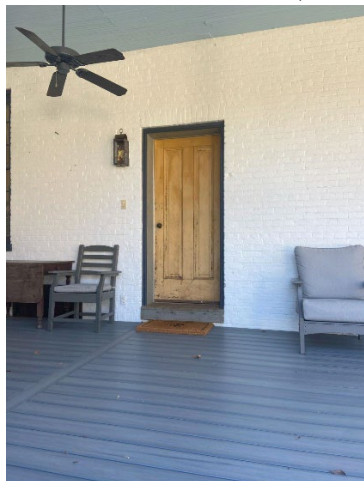


Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15

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Photo 16

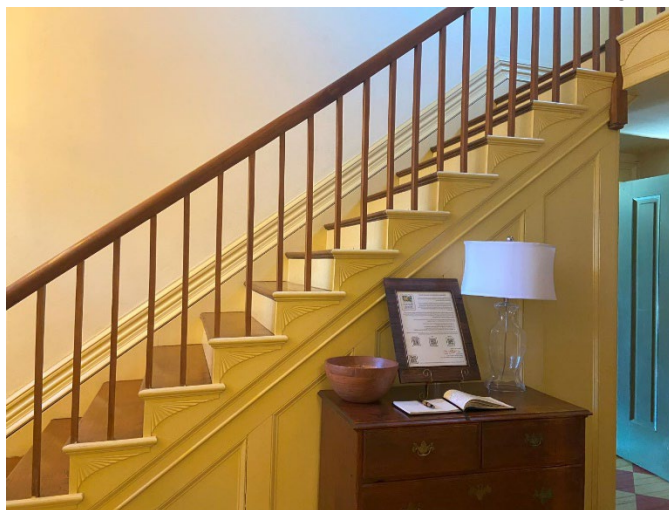


Photo 17

The room to the north is known as the 'Parlor Room' and has a more formal mantel and woodwork. (Photo 18 and 19). The floor has been replaced, but all other woodwork appears to be original with several layers of old stain/paint. This room did not have a chair rail, but the other rooms on this floor do. The room on the south can only be reached from the front by a door under the stair landing (Photo 20). This room has been divided into two rooms. The front room has the outside corner door and two windows facing west (Photo 21). The room adjoining it has a window facing south and one facing east and a door into the east wing. The front room functioned as an office for Wilson Samuels as a farmer, merchant, politician, and loan distributor. Later his son, Dr. Augustus Samuels, used it for his medical practice. The adjoining room was likely put into service during Augustus' time as a treatment room for wounds and illnesses (Photo 22). The closet under the stairway to the south bedroom is in this room (Photo 23).



Photo 18



Photo 19

Wilson Samuels House

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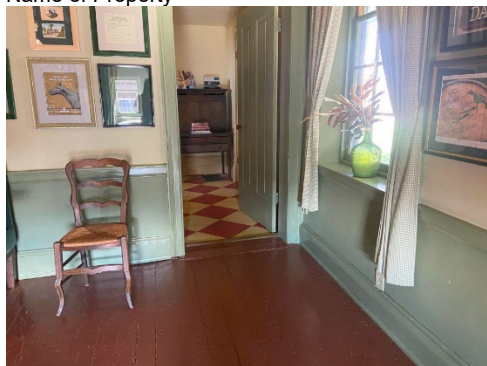


Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 23

Dining room

Located in the East Wing, the dining room and kitchen have been heavily used over the years. Both have exterior doors, and separate fireplaces. The door to the outside of the dining room that goes to the back porch is a two-panel door indicative of the style of the house (photo 24). The dining room floor is the most heavily used over the years in this house and is original. The mantel in the dining room is original to the house and compared to Alexander Moore's design in houses in Bardstown. It had bullseye pattern on the upper corners with curved inlaid supports to the wood mantel (Photo 25). The windows are historic and are wood pegged (Photo 26).

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Photo 24



Photo 25



Photo 26

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The Kitchen

The kitchen area has been in place for more than 100 years. Recent remodeling in this room exposed the brick walls and the ceiling beams (Photo 27), and the floor has been replaced. Modern appliances were carefully added (Photo 28). The original cabinet located in the room adjoins the dining room and allows for the pass-through of food and dishes.



Photo 27

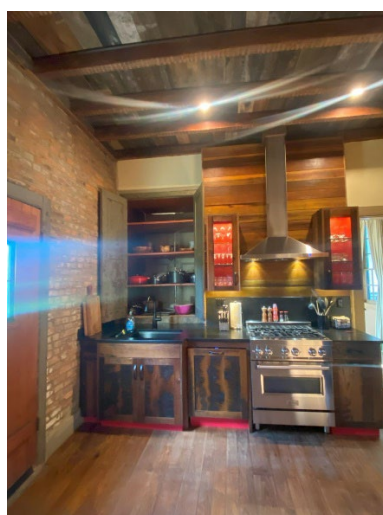


Photo 28

Enclosed Back Porch

A porch was built on the North side of the wing that connects to the main back porch. At some point the end of this back section was enclosed for utility use (Photo 29). The recent remodeling has added a washroom and two bathrooms to this section staying within the original design of the building.

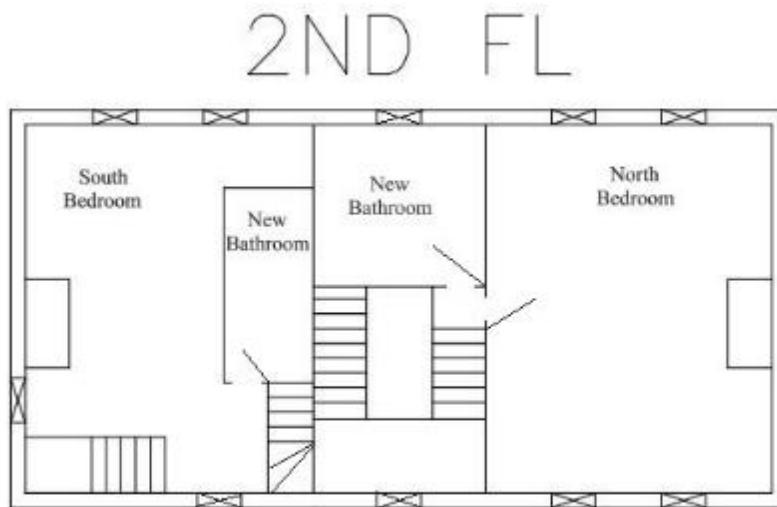
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Photo 29



Second Floor Plan

South Bedroom

The south bedroom on second floor can only be reached by an enclosed stairway (Photo 30). The room has four windows total that are 9\6. Two are in the front (west), one is in the south, and one in the east view. This room houses a simple mantel that is original (Photo 31). This room is the only access to the attic by the way of another enclosed stairway (Photo 32).

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Photo 30

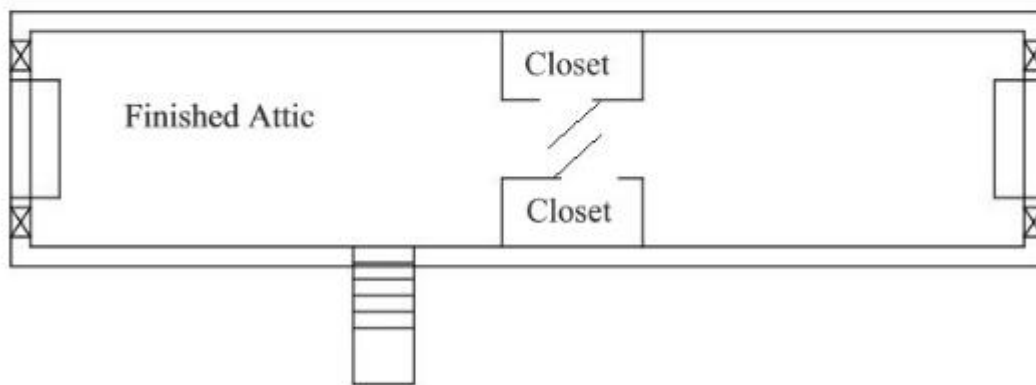


Photo 31



Photo 32

ATTIC



Attic Floor Plan

The Attic

The entire attic has been finished. The floors are irregular with poplar boards that are not consistent in width and size (Photo 33). Two storage closets have been built in the center with wide passages (Photo 34). It appears the attic has been in consistent use since construction.

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Photo 33



Photo 34

North Bedroom

The north bedroom can only be accessed from the stairway in the central hallway. The room has a mantel with a bullseye design that is similar to the mantel in the dining room. The difference being that the mantel located in this bedroom is painted to have a marbled design (Photo 35).

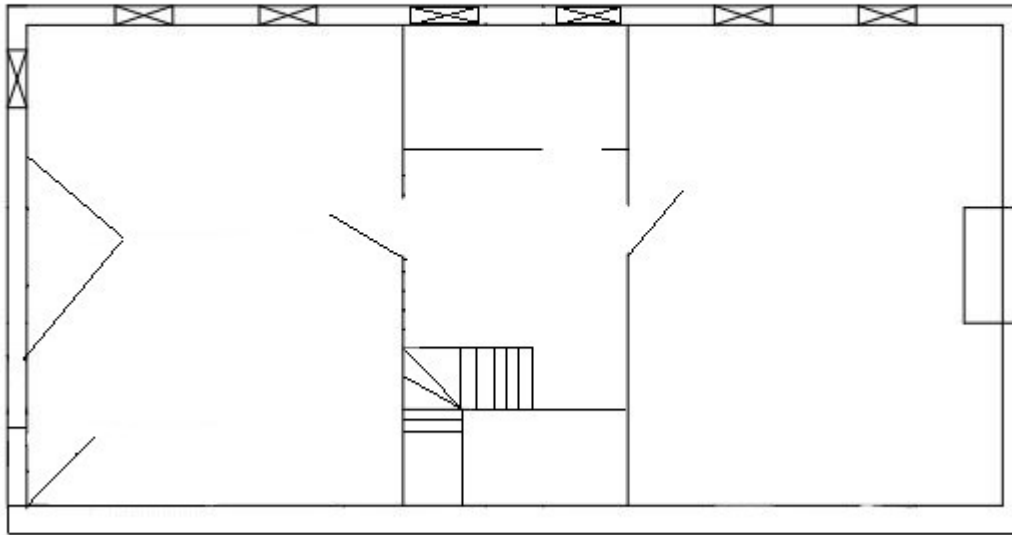


Photo 35

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Basement



Basement Floor Plan

Basement

The basement was only accessible from the outside cellar doors from the south wall elevation. The present access from the outside entrance is a wooden door with a 9-panel light which isolates the basement off from the exterior (Photo 36). In 2014, a stairway was created in a closet under the central hallway stairs. This closet provides access to the basement from inside of the main house (Photo 37). The basement is comprised of large beams that extend from one wall to another. These beams were approximately 3x11" (photo 38), flanked by the stone walls. The beams are connected by mortise and tenon joints with a wood peg throughout the room (Photo 39).

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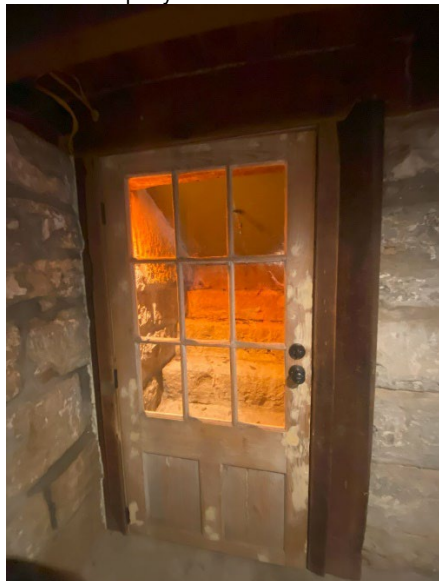


Photo 36

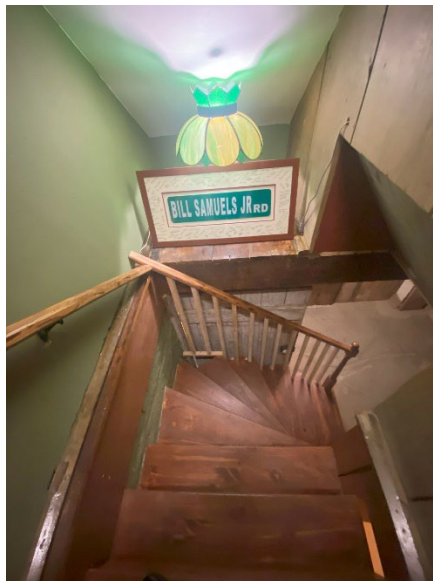


Photo 37



Photo 38



Photo 39

Alterations

In the 1940s electricity and water were added to the building. The east end of the side porch was enclosed at the north kitchen door. Coal grates were added in the 19th century and the closing of the fireplaces and installation of stoves took place in the first half of the 20th century. The last modernization added 3 bathrooms, central heat and air conditioning and upgraded all of the electricity, repaired the tops of the chimneys, repaired the two doors on the south portion of the wing. The dropped ceiling in the kitchen was removed to expose the ceiling joist, and the kitchen floor was replaced at some point. The basement and the first floor remained unconnected until 2014 when the steep twisting stairway was built under the central hallway steps; not altering the original floor plan.

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Barn c 1920, non-contributing structure

The barn is timber framed with board and batten siding. The walls are sheathed in stained vertical board siding with 9/9 wood windows on the north and south sides. Two small windows facing the west and east appear on the gable of the roof. The mis-matched Victorian trim on the barn does not appear to be original. The structure is primarily used for storage and not for livestock.

Outhouse c 1920, non-contributing structure

This small structure is a “three-seater” outhouse that has been part of the property since early 1900. The siding is horizontal and has been painted white. The door is a batten door with a louvered panel at the top for ventilation. There are remnants of a brick walk. Victorian gingerbread was added later (Photo 4).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- ☐ 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.

Criteria Considerations

- ☐ 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

Areas of Significance

Commerce

Period of Significance

1835-1874

Significant Dates

1835

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1874

Significant Person

Samules, Wilson

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Wilson Samuels House (NE 223) meets National Register Criteria B. It is significant in association with Wilson Samuels, an important individual in local commerce and as an operator of the Samules General Store in Samuels, Kentucky. Its design signaled that Wilson was a citizen of means and owner of an expansive property in the mid-century period of Nelson County's history. The house is an intriguing blend of I-style federal brick masonry with a practical use of space. The house opens on the south side, into Samuel's former office, separate from the living quarters. Combining the living quarters and the office under one roof alludes to a plan of convenience, practically, and space saving measures. The house combines the use of business and entertainment. It served as the center of Samuels' commerce and social life as a prominent member of the community. His office was accessible immediately from the outdoors to keep separate his business and family life while convening under one roof.

Historic Context: Local Commerce and General Stores in Nelson County, Kentucky, 1830-1899.

Nelson County's Settlement

Nelson County, Kentucky was the fourth county formed from the original Virginia in 1785. Bardstown was only five years old when it was chosen to be the county seat. The new county stretched north to the Salt River, east to the Kentucky River, west to the Ohio River and southward, containing what would later become sixteen counties. Land grants from the French and Indian War were used by early land locators to claim the rich land and waterways and entice

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farmers and craftsmen to a new beginning. Revolutionary war grants continued the settlement with former soldiers and their families bringing their dreams of new land and opportunities (Hibbs, *Nelson County Kentucky: A Pictorial History*, 1989).

One of these soldiers was Robert Samuels. After mustering out of the Pennsylvania Militia as a Captain he arrived in Kentucky in the Spring of 1784. He chose this part of Nelson County to claim land and used his experience as a leader to serve as Sheriff of Nelson County Kentucky. His grandson, Wilson Samuels, built the house proposed in this nomination and established the village which still carries his name. His descendants continued to live and work in this northwestern section of the county.

Bardstown became a center of education, politics, and justice. The General Assembly in 1792 provided for the establishment of county courts, and courts of quarter sessions. The arguments over title to the early land claims were often heard in Bardstown drawing many "men of the bar" to settle there (Hibbs, Dixie, *Nelson County Kentucky: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: The Donning Company/ Publishers, 1989.)

The rich land produced more than could be consumed locally, and from the earliest years, excess crops would be marketed to the southern plantations. The "river roads" carried flatboats filled with barrels of salted meat, hemp rope, apples, flour, whiskey, corn and tobacco to the New Orleans markets. Agriculture would be the main economic driver in Kentucky for the next 200 years. Private boarding schools, religious organizations, public schools, and mentoring by professionals (doctors and lawyers) educated leaders who continued the growth and early successes of Nelson County (Hibbs, Dixie, *Nelson County Kentucky: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: The Donning Company/ Publishers, 1989).

Community Growth in Nelson County

The earliest settlers in Kentucky sought to establish small communities to support their new lives. Small villages and hamlets began to grow with residences and businesses. The community of Samuels Depot was a good example of this growth.

Wilson Samuels enjoyed a well-provided early life that launched his success as a store owner and developer of a community bearing his family's name. He was a grandson of Revolution War soldier, Robert Samuels, who arrived with his wife, Mary Wakefield, and her parents in the Nelson County area in 1784 after mustering out of the war as a Captain in the Pennsylvania Militia. Robert Samuels settled in the northwestern section of present Nelson County where his descendants continued living for the next 200 years. He was a prosperous farmer as shown by his inventory at his death in 1822. He left his wife the majority of his Kentucky land for her lifetime, then to go to his son John, who administered his will. His land in Ohio County was divided between his other two sons (Will Book D. p.392-93).

John Samuels (1786-1853) married Rachel Kurtz (1794-1868). Their son, Wilson, was born in 1814, and grew up on the Samuels' farm which was close by the farm of John Stoner, where he met his wife, Martha Margaret Stoner (1822-1903) when she was fifteen years old and he was 23 (1837). Stoner was a very prosperous farmer, distiller, and money lender. He owned 1500 acres

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in Indiana, 55 acres in Logan County, Kentucky and the 805 acres in Nelson County. The only tract with improvements was the land in Nelson County. John Stoner died in 1827, leaving a large estate. At the time of her marriage, Mary's dowery of 259 acres included the Stoner dwelling house.

Before the community was given the name Samuels Depot, it was likely simply known as Samuels. Much of the land that became the town was owned by Wilson Samuels. It stood as a crossroads from its earliest days, and offered a farming residents a country store and a blacksmith shop. The Samuels family had begun the store, and it became one of Wilson Samuels' many business enterprises. His and his wife's inheritances allowed them to continue to enrich themselves.

After the marriage, Wilson Samuels patiently purchased most of the rest of the Stoner property from his wife's two brothers, including 195 acres where the nominated house was built (Deed Book 22 p.11. p.578). By the 1840 Census, they had one son under five and owned five workers who helped with the farm and other business matters. Ten years later, the census shows \$4,800.00 in land value, three sons and one daughter. He was commissioned by the governor to serve as a Justice of the Peace for Nelson County in 1845 (Order Book C p.327). He served as a clerk at many of the local polling sites. He was a Democrat by politics and served as one of 32 Delegates to the State Convention in 1855 at Frankfort, KY (Bardstown Herald, Feb. 15, 1855). Wilson Samuels served several years as the Vice-President of the Nelson County Agricultural and Mechanical Association, organized in 1856. This group held yearly fairs and expositions for the farmers and merchants of Nelson County.

The Bardstown and Louisville Railroad Company was organized in 1856-57. Former Governor Charles Wickliffe was president, and Wilson Samuels served as a director (Bardstown Family Gazette, January 1857). The group of local leaders knew that shipping in goods while shipping out whiskey and produce would benefit the local economy. They sold stock bought by many locals and businesses. They started building on the western end of the line in 1858. Costly ventures such as bridging over streams and clearing of many forests used up the corporation's funds and slowed construction. An arrangement was made with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad to complete the line. The first trains arrived in 1861, just in time to transport Union military goods to and from Bardstown.

With the arrival of the railroad, a shipping depot was constructed and the town was rechristened Samuels Depot. Wilson Samuels owned all the land around the new depot and built a larger store as his trade increased (Photo 40). He leased or sold parcels to enlarge the village bearing his family name (Smith: 419).

Wilson Samuels had anticipated the arrival of the railroad as a boon to his business. He stocked the store with goods ordered from Louisville wholesalers. Other items were taken in trade from the local farmers for resale. The store was contracted to be a Post Office for this area. His sons were listed as clerks and his personal ownership of more than \$18,630 for a family his size, indicates his ownership of many store goods. The area had grown with more farming families, and it was successful even during the Civil War years.

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The 1870 census shows his real estate continued to increase in value, to \$30,000, and his personal property value stood at \$13,000. In the same list is his son William, whose worth is listed as \$6000.00 in real estate. His son Alexander, 19, is listed as store clerk and the family has had another daughter. The family had house servants, two females, 60 and 13.

Wilson Samuels died in 1874 without a will, leaving a large estate to be settled. His wife Martha Stoner Samuels gave over the administration of the property to her son Alexander P. Samuels. The distribution of estate had to wait until a questionable deed was cleared and the widow's household goods were withdrawn before the sale of land, tools, livestock, store goods, and all other assets.

On the 1874 plat of the holdings of Wilson Samuels, a hotel, depot store, mansion house and a layout of lots for sale were noted (Deed Book 16 p.526). The hotel was constructed for overnight accommodations. The inventory of the store in 1874 included lamps, old funnels, country scales, dress goods, collars, round combs, wood stove large, trunks, door locks, muffin irons, medicine scales, iron mortar and pestle, clothes, ribbons, veils, pulleys, hats, apple parers, etc.

The breadth of Samuels' business reach can be seen in numerous ways. The store was carrying 147 open accounts that needed to be collected. The paper he was holding, loans or unpaid notes, numbered 136. Most of these were determined to be "doubtful" in payment. The oldest note was dated 1856. The settlement, sales, etc filled 14 pages in the will book. After division and sale of some of the property, his son, A.P. Samuels, continued the grocery business and his youngest son, Augustus W., began studies as a medical doctor. Mrs. Martha Samuels, listed as "Farmer" on the 1880 census, continued to live in the home with three of her children, Alex, (merchant). Augustus (medical student) and Anna (at home.)

The Samuels Family after the Death of Wilson Samuels

Wilson's oldest son, Wm B. Samuels, used the land south of the railroad for a very successful distillery in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The railroad opened up an easy shipping location and like many of the other distilleries of Nelson County which later located along the rails, shipped their barrels of Kentucky Bourbon to the western markets. In the 1870 census he is noted as being a "corn broker." His expertise in buying the best grain and corn may have encouraged him to start W. B. Samuels & Co. Distillery RD #241 in 1869. His father's cousin, T.W. Samuels, had successfully operated a distillery right down the road since 1844. Wilson may have supplied the land before his death and encouraged him to open the distillery. Prohibition closed the distillery in 1920. Afterward the bottling house became the first St. Gregory Catholic School. St. Gregory Catholic Church and School are still located on Wilson Samuels' original land.

The 1882 Atlas of Nelson & Spencer Counties shows Samuels Depot as having a public school, W.B Samuels Distillery, Hughes Hotel, twelve residences, a Depot Store and Post Office. Thirty-three lots were laid off on both sides of the railroad from the Depot Store toward the west for future development.

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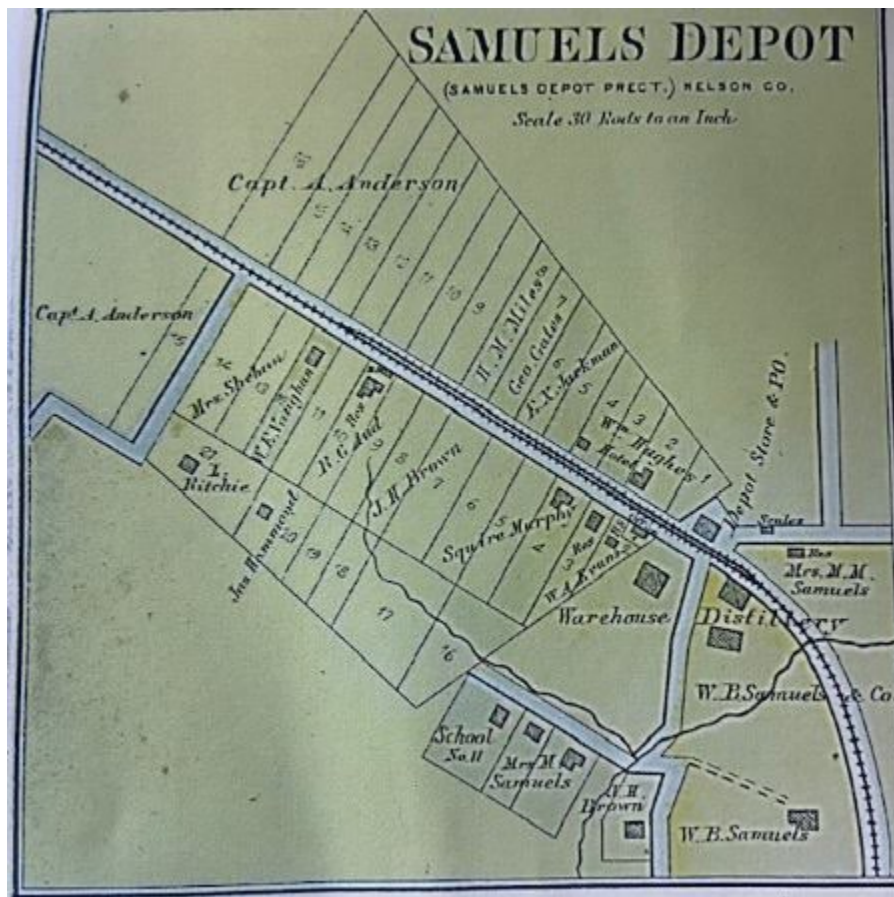


Photo 45, 1882 Atlas Samuels in Nelson County, Kentucky

Local people recall an episode that occurred at Wilson Samuels' home during the waning days of the Civil War. His home and the Depot Store were often visited by members of Quantrill's Guerillas in 1865. Samuels was a Southern sympathizer and offered food and shelter to the renegades. After Quantrill's death in early June, 1865, the remainder of the band hid out in this neighborhood. In July, 1865, after several meetings at Samuels' residence, Wilson's cousin, Nelson County Sheriff T.W. Samuels, and William T. Samuels, Auditor of Public Accounts, was instrumental in arranging a contact with the local Union officer with an offer of surrender of the remainder of the group. Capt. Robert Young, of the 54th Kentucky Mounted Infantry, met with the 16 bushwhackers at the Samuels Store in Samuels Depot on the morning of July 26, 1865. They were paroled as promised and sent on to Missouri. Afterwards the two Pence brothers, Donnie and Bud, who had been members of this gang, returned to court and married Wilson Samuels' two daughters, Mary Belle and Sarah. They were given land from the north of the boundary of Wilson's plantation. Donnie Pence went on to work in the Sheriff's office of Nelson County for more than 20 years and finished a well-respected elected official.

The Samuels family lost the nominated property during the Great Depression. The store and hotel continued under ownership by the Anderson family, who operated it for more than 20

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years. By the 1920s, a competing general merchandise store had been built in Samuels Depot. The community continued to have its shipping depot, post office, sawmill and blacksmith shop and a distillery (Nelson County Families and Their History p. 22).



Photo 40, The Samuels' "People's Store" with general merchandise located in Samuels, KY.

Some other general stores in Nelson County:



Photo 42, Cambron's Store in Fairfield

Frank Cambron operated a grocery store in Fairfield. He was a teetotaler and refused to allow anyone suspected of imbibing spirits in his establishment. This photo is dated 1930.

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Photo 43, Botland Store

Located on US 150 five miles east of Bardstown, the Botland Store is first mentioned in a deed of 1869 when it was sold to Simeon Allen. During the next seventy years, it was operated in the Botland community. The Botland Post Office was also located here. It continued operation until 1956.

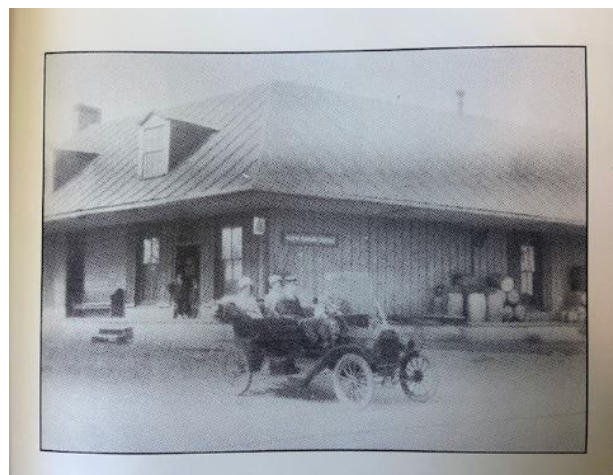


Photo 44, Deatsville Store

Evaluation of the Wilson Samuels House within the context of Commerce and General Stores in Nelson County, Kentucky

The Wilson Samuels House was built to be a comfortable home for a successful businessman and his new wife. He continued expanding the family business and the community of Samuels from the time he occupied this house until his death in 1874. He is clearly an important local figure in Nelson County commerce, and the house that he lived in during his married life is a strong indicator of the role of family in the life of a general store owner.

His story is one of great achievement in local commerce, giving rise to a multi-generation institution in the Samuels general store. While more successful than most general store owners, his story offers some of the normal hallmarks that define a general store as a catalyst for community development. Samuels was an astute business man and operated the store as a family

Wilson Samuels House

Nelson County, Kentucky

Name of Property

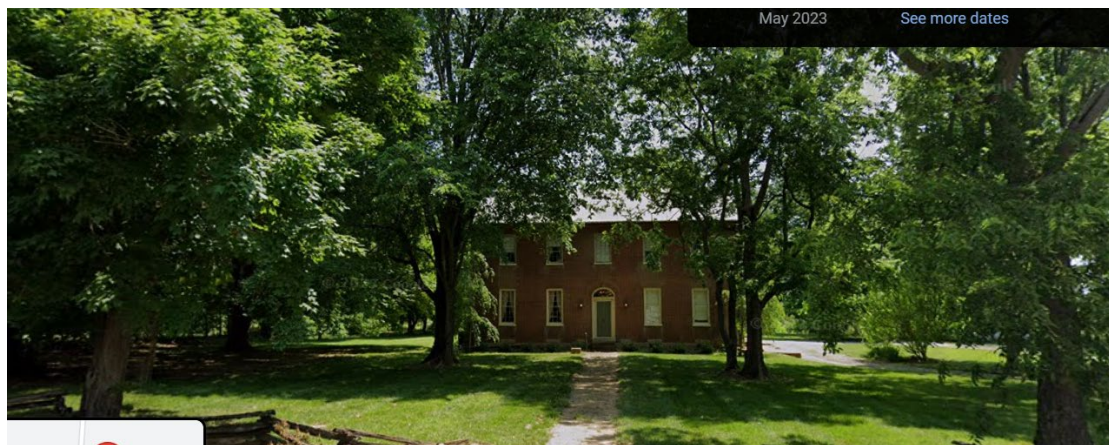
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business. He was once a worker in the store, and when he became the owner, his offspring also found employment as clerks. His store provided a setting for social interaction and hosted a US Post Office, furthering official communication in this part of the county. He provided a source of local credit, which allowed farming families in the area to acquire goods that they could pay for when harvest season arrived. He introduced his market area to goods from the larger cities and provided a place for farmers with excess produce to sell their goods. Once his affluence reached a certain point, he brought his business experience to leadership roles in community endeavors.

Evaluation of the Integrity Between the Significance of Wilson Samuels and the Current Physical Condition of His House

The Wilson Samuels House is said to meet National Register eligibility Criterion B. A property qualifies for Criterion B when the “Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.” This property’s important associations are between the house and our view of Wilson Samuels as an important figure in early Nelson County commerce. To maintain the integrity between our view of Samuels’ significance and the house, the property must retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, materials and design. If the property retains those integrity factors, it will have integrity of association, which is the foundation upon which the claim of Criterion B rests.

The Wilson Samuels House maintains integrity of **location** and a slight integrity of **setting**. The location of the house is important in conveying the connection of the house to the town of Samuels Depot. This is where Samuels conducted the meetings and bookkeeping of his business affairs when he was not attending to those affairs in Samuels Depot. During his life, his property was extensive, and the small lot the house occupies today means it has lost most of its immediate historic setting. However, the amount of development surrounding the house remains very low, preserving the historic character that formed the historic setting that the house once had.



View of the house and property from South Saint Gregory Church Road

Wilson Samuels House

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The house has integrity of **materials** and **design**. It has an unusual side entrance that allowed Samuels to separate his business life from his family and social life a little more than if he entered his office from the house's central hall. While the house's exterior remains in classic federal era design and balance (Photo 41), it seems curiously back dated for construction in the mid-1830s by a family of means. The family also could have updated the house at any time with Greek Revival or early Victorian-era features, as those style came into vogue, because the Samuels were not constrained by lack of funds for redecorating. If this choice to leave the house in its original design during his lifetime as owner and occupant, it leads us to ask whether Samuels business deadlines exhibited a similar conservatism.

The house's fenestration has not been altered. There are 7 exterior doors that are still in the same location as the original footprint. The house remains largely unaltered after nearly 180 years. There are carefully added updates of heating, electricity, plumbing, and bathrooms alterations. When you walk into the house, it is evident that the craftsmen that designed and built the house intended their work to be admired and envied.



Photo 41

Because the Wilson Samuels House retains integrity of location, some setting, materials and design, the house can be said to retain integrity of **association** with Wilson, allowing us to experience his abode as a sign of his success as a businessman in 1830s-1870s Nelson County, Kentucky. The house, thus, is eligible for listing on the National Register.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Wilson Samuels House

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Smith, Sarah, *Historic Nelson County, its Towns and People*, New Hope, KY: St. Martin de Poores Dominican Community, 2008.

United States of America Census records of Nelson County for 1849, 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880.

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

Wilson Samuels House
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☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NE 223

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.73 Acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.884855 | Longitude: -85.532236 |
| 2. Latitude: 37.884802 | Longitude: -85.531714 |
| 3. Latitude: 37.885118 | Longitude: -85.531093 |
| 4. Latitude: 37.885523 | Longitude: -85.531042 |
| 5. Latitude: 37.885562 | Longitude: -85.522153 |
| 6. Latitude: 37.885331 | Longitude: -85.532109 |

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: |

Wilson Samuels House
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Verbal Boundary Description

A certain tract of land located on the east side of St Gregory Church Road, about 670 ft north of Ky Hwy 509, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an existing iron pin on the east r/w of St Gregory Church Road; thence with said r/w N 03-54-00 E 270.00 ft to a post on said r/w; thence leaving the road S 83-28-00 E 237.30 ft to a snag; thence N 88-49-00 E 91.60 ft to an iron post; thence S 08-07-00 W 155.70 ft to a post; thence S 59-17-00 W 199.10 ft to a post; thence N 85-41-00 W 152.90 ft to the point of beginning, containing 1.73 acres.

Boundary Justification

The Boundary includes the current lot that the Wilson Samuels House Resides on. Various gifts and sales in the late 1900s had reduced the original 1,195 acres to the 1.73 acres that remain today. This area has sufficient integrity of setting to provide a strong sense of Samuels as an accomplished businessman in Nelson County. The screening of surrounding properties by the perimeter vegetation obscures new development on land that was formerly Samuels' land, providing the illusion that the property is a much larger parcel than it actually is.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dixie Hibbs and L.RaShae Jennings
organization: _____
street & number: 1001 Caney Fork Road
city or town: Bardstown state: KY zip code: 40004
e-mail: rashae086@gmail.com
telephone: 270-427-7417
date: August 4, 2023

Property Owner

Name: Robert Temple Samuels (Conjure LLC)
Address: 90 Warrior Road, Indian Hills, KY 40207
Telephone: 502-777-4594

Wilson Samuels House
Name of Property

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Wilson Samuels House
City or Vicinity: Samules
County: Nelson
State: Kentucky
Photographer: L. RaShae Jennings
Date Photographed: December 16, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera, follows after photo plans:

Wilson Samuels House
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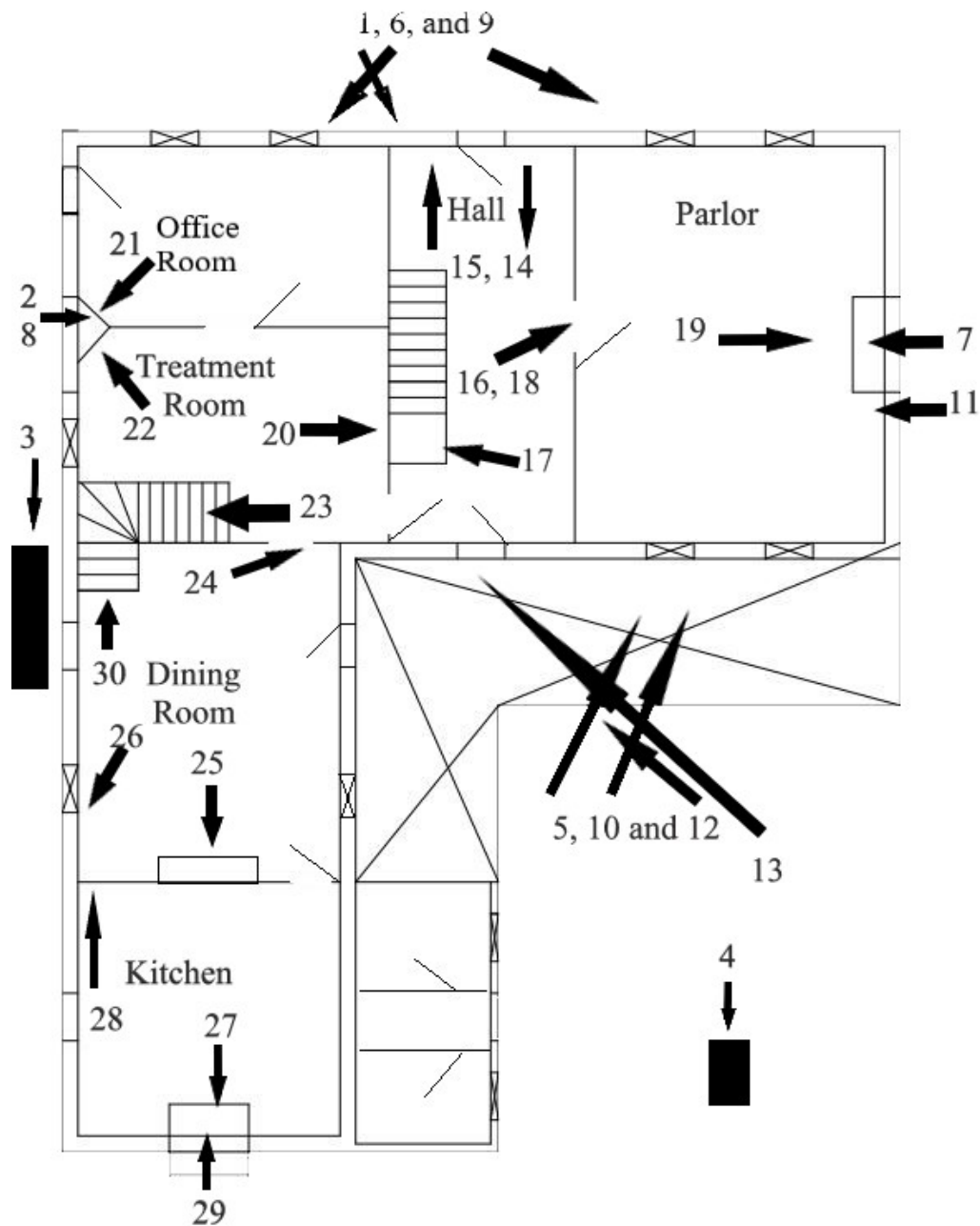


Photo Key Plan 1

Wilson Samuels House
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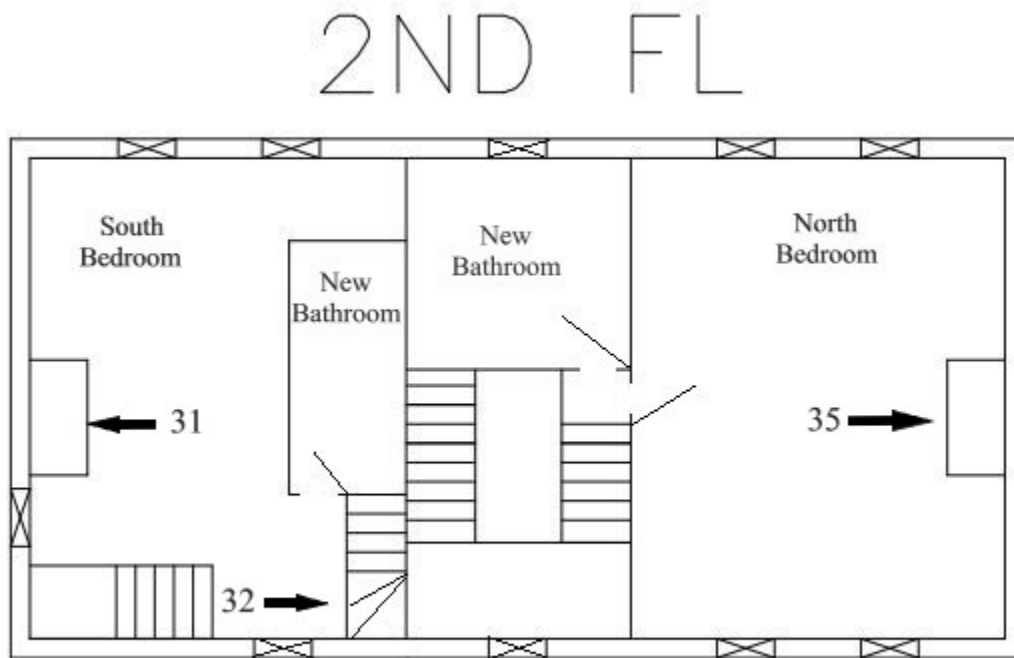


Photo Key Plan 2

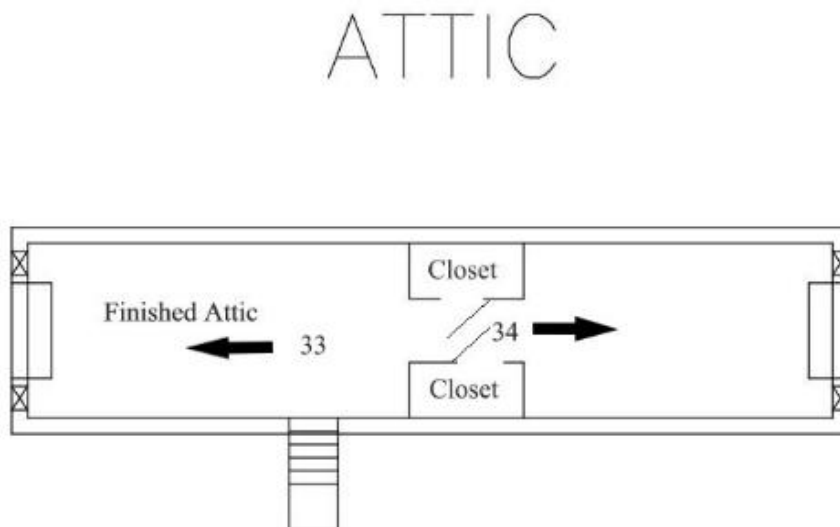


Photo Key Plan 3

Wilson Samuels House

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Basement

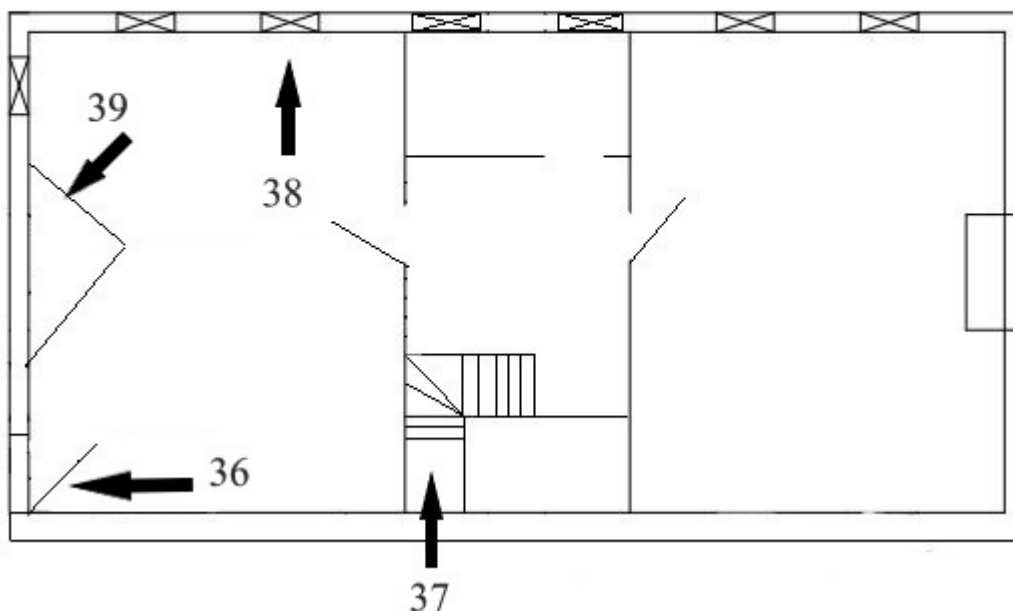


Photo Key Plan 4

- Photo 1. Primary Façade, facing West. 1 of 45
- Photo 2. South elevation with east wing. 2 of 45
- Photo 3. East view of Barn/garage, 3 of 45
- Photo 4. Wooden Outhouse facing east 4 of 45
- Photo 5. Four- Course Corbelled Cornice, front elevation facing west. 5 of 45
- Photo 6. Close -up of Flemish bond on West Façade, facing East 6 of 45
- Photo 7. Close up of common bond on North Façade facing south 7 of 45
- Photo 8. South elevation and east wing, facing N. 8 of 45
- Photo 9. 9/9 window in west façade. 9 of 45
- Photo 10. 9/6 windows in east façade above porch roof. 10 of 45
- Photo 11. North Façade showing small windows in the attic. Looking south. 11 of 45
- Photo 12. South and East view looking south and west. Wing and Porch. 12 of 45
- Photo 13. Back door from Central Hall onto porch. 13 of 45
- Photo 14. Central Hall looking east at back door to porch. 14 of 45
- Photo 15. Front door and surround looking west. 15 of 45
- Photo 16. Woodwork details of door into Parlor looking west. 16 of 45
- Photo 17. Central Hall stairway to second floor. 17 of 45
- Photo 18. View from Central Hall into Parlor. Looking north. 18 of 45
- Photo 19. Carved Wooden mantel in Parlor. 19 of 45
- Photo 20. View of doorway opening from the hallway into the south room. 20 of 45

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Photo 21. View looking from the office room east into the treatment room. Corner fireplace. 21 of 41

Photo 22. View of treatment room mantel looking south. 22 of 45

Photo 23. Under stairs closet door in treatment room. 23 of 45

Photo 24. North doorway in east wing dining room. 24 of 45

Photo 25. Mantel in Dining room. 25 of 45

Photo 26. Window details showing pegs in dining room. 26 of 45

Photo 27. Looking east from the doorway into the kitchen - fireplace. 27 of 45

Photo 28. Looking west at double door pantry pass through in kitchen. 28 of 45

Photo 29. Looking at back of house and wing toward the west. 29 of 45

Photo 30. Enclosed stairway to second floor south bedroom. 30 of 45

Photo 31. Mantel in second floor south bedroom. 31 of 45

Photo 32. Steps to attic stairway coming from south bedroom. 32 of 45

Photo 33. Viewing attic looking south. 33 of 45

Photo 34. Viewing attic looking north. 34 of 45

Photo 35. "Marbleized" mantel in North Bedroom. 35 of 45

Photo 36. Basement exit door looking south. 36 of 45

Photo 37. View from first floor down twisty stairway. 37 of 45

Photo 38. South basement room showing front wall and floor joists. 38 of 45

Photo 39. Closeup of mortise and pinon joint with wooden peg. Cross piece below the hearth of office. 39 of 45

Photo 40. Samuels store in 1931. 40 of 45

Photo 41. Wilson Samuels House circa. 1870. 41 of 45

Photo 42. Cambron's Store in Fairfield. 42 of 45

Photo 43. Botland Store. 43 of 45

Photo 44. Deatsville Store. 44 of 45

Photo 45. 1882 Atlas Map of Samuels, Kentucky. 45 of 45