

DEC 28 1988

3289

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # Be-237  
Boone County

1. Name of Resource: Ransom house

2. Original Owner: Edward Ransom

3. Other Names: Ransom-Hudson-Messmer house

4. Prehistoric Site  Building  Object  
Historic Site  Structure  Other

5. Location: 1842 Messmer Road  
Crittenden, KY

6. Owner's Name: James L. Messmer Est.  
c/o Bonnie Messmer [ ]

7. Owner's Address: 1842 Messmer Road  
Crittenden, KY 41030

8. Evaluation: National Register [ ]

9. Recognition & Date:  
Nat.Landmark \_\_\_\_\_ Local Landmark \_\_\_\_\_  
Nat.Register \_\_\_\_\_ HABS/HAER \_\_\_\_\_  
Highway Marker \_\_\_\_\_ KY Inventory 1977  
KY Landmark Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:  
District Name: [ ]  
Mult.Resource Area: Boone County [ ]  
Thematic Name: [ ]

12. Historical Theme:  
Primary: Architecture [ ]  
Secondary: Agriculture [ ]  
Other: [ ]

13. Statement of Significance:  
This property is significant under criterion C as a good example of the Greek Revival style, significant to Boone County in the period 1840-1880. The house is one of 33 Greek Revival resources identified in the county. It is a notable illustration of house building by (Continued) [ ]

16. Date:  
Original Building 1st 1/4 19th c. [ ]  
Addition mid-19th c. (1860s) [ ]

17. Style:  
vernacular [ ]  
Greek Revival [ ]

18. Architect/Builder: unknown

19. No. of Stories: one/two [ ]

20. Original Floor Plan:  
one-room/side passage [ ]

21. Single Pile  Double Pile  N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original   
gable/asph. shingle Not Original

23. Structural Material:  
log/wood frame [ ]

24. Exterior Material:  
weatherboard/vinyl siding [ ]

25. Foundation Material:  
fieldstone [ ]

26. Major Alterations: None  
Moved/Rebuilt Other  
Additions

27. Special Features:  
none

28. Outbuildings: five - 2 barns,  
smokehouse, chicken house, privy [ ]

29. Original Function:  
farm dwelling [ ]

30. Present Use:  
farm dwelling [ ]

31. Condition:  
good [ ]

32. Endangered: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No

33. Attach Photos:  
Roll: 5 Photo Nos: No. of Slides:  
30-36A  
6 1 - 4

14. History:  
Edward Ransom built the earliest portion of the house, the single-pen log building. His son, J. S. Ransom (the owner listed in the 1883 atlas), added the frame Greek Revival section in the 1850s or 1860s. The farm passed to his granddaughter Nanny and her husband Dale Hudson, and in the mid-20th century to the Messmers.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: owner

34. Prepared by: Kenneth T. Gibbs

35. Organization: Boone Hist. Pres. Rev. Brd.

36. Date: September 1986

37. New Survey \_\_\_\_\_ Resurvey

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # Be-237

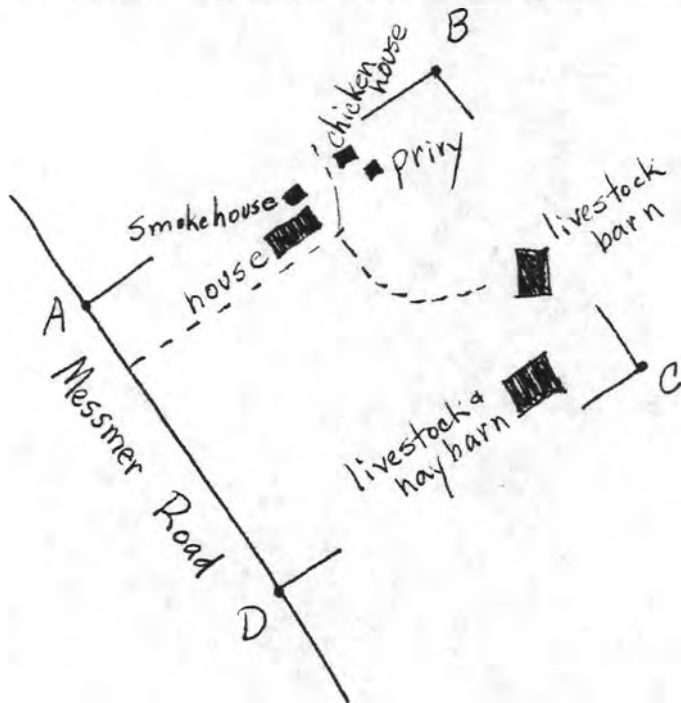
38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Verona</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>704280</u>	Northing <u>4297860</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]	40. Coordi.Accuracy [ ]
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41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A. -----	D. -----
B. -----	E. -----
C. -----	F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 140      43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 3.4

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):



Beginning at a point 75' northwest of the driveway on Messmer Road (A), proceed northeast 425' (B). Then proceed southeast 350' to a point 50' east from the southeast corner of the livestock barn (C), turning southwest 425' to the east side of Messmer Road (D). Then proceed northwest 350' to the point of origin.

The boundary includes the house and outbuildings under the same ownership and sufficient acreage to provide a setting.

Contributing: 6 buildings

45. Description and House Plan:

The house faces south and consists of multiple stages, originating in a square, single-pen log house in the north-central section. Additions include a two-story Greek Revival block, a hyphen between this and the log pen, and gabled and shed-roofed rooms on both sides. Except for the Greek Revival block, erected perhaps in the late 1860s, the additions, all of frame construction, were built between about 1895 and 1920. Most of the windows are six-over-six sash. The building is weatherboarded, with the exception of the recently enclosed porch on the east, which is vinyl-sided. The columned front porch was built in the 1910s.

The interior of the Greek Revival block features a curving staircase with an unusually broad, open well, and a heavy, fluted newel; the original graining remains in the stairhall, but it has been painted over in the other rooms. In the parlor, to the right (northeast) of the stairhall, the windows were given large-scale surrounds consisting of deep hoods, or drip moldings, and a simple trabeated mantel with coalgrate.

With the exception of two nineteenth century outbuildings (both thought to be contemporary with the house), a frame smokehouse incorporated in the later coal shed and a large livestock and hay barn (south of the house), the outbuildings date from the early to middle 20th century. All outbuildings are oriented orthogonally to a grid set by Messmer Road and the approach lane to the house; the small outbuildings near the house and the more distant barns are arranged in a broad oval, open in the center, roughly at the point where two farm lanes intersect.

(Continued)

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45. Description and House Plan: (Continued)

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The frame smokehouse, contemporary with and north of the house, is now imbedded in a long rectangular frame structure serving as a coal shed and a variety of storage functions; dating from the late 19th century, this structure is sheathed with vertical boards and roofed with standing-seam metal on a gable roof.

The livestock and hay barn south of the house is a broad, rectangular, gabled structure of frame construction and vertical-board sheathing. The north gable-end has multiple entry bays placed asymmetrically; one of these is concealed by an early shed-roofed addition of the same construction methods.

The chicken house, a rectangular, wood frame structure sheathed in vertical boards and roofed with standing seam metal, was equipped with a screen-enclosed, full width section on the south, and 6-pane clerestory windows above. This outbuilding is thought to have been built in the early 20th century.

The privy, located northeast of the house, is also thought to have been built in the early 20th century. Of frame construction, it is sheathed in vertical boards and shed-roofed.

The second livestock barn, east of the house, is a largely rebuilt version of an earlier barn, on the same site, which was damaged in a storm in the middle 20th century. Constructed of wood frame with vertical-board siding, it has a standing-seam, gabled roof, a central entry bay in the gable-end, and a shed-roofed section of the same construction methods across the south side (this section appears to have been added soon after the reconstruction).

All five outbuildings, including those built outside the period of significance of the house, contribute to the integrity of the property. They illustrate the specialized uses of agricultural and domestic outbuildings in Boone County in the 19th century and demonstrate the necessity of replacing outbuildings over time.

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13. Statement of Significance: (Continued)

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accretion. Additions made to the house do not significantly affect the overall form and design of the Greek Revival section. The property is also significant under criterion A as a good example of a medium-sized farm in Boone County in the period 1820-1938.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Boone County MRA  
State KENTUCKY

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
51. Norman, L.C., House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
52. Parker, Richard, House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
53. Peters House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
54. Prospect Farm <i>Substantive Review</i>	for Keeper <u>Patrick Andrus</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
55. Rabbit Hash General Store <i>Substantive Review</i>	for Keeper <u>Patrick Andrus</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
56. Ransom House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	for Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
57. Rogers, James, House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	for Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
58. Ryle's Super Market and Oddfellows Building <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	for Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
59. Terrill, George H., House <i>Entered in the National Register</i>	for Keeper <u>Melores Byers</u> 2/6/89 Attest _____
60. Uitz, Ephraim, House <i>Substantive Review</i>	for Keeper <u>Patrick Andrus</u> 6/14/90 Attest _____

SK

DCP

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Ransom House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Boone County MRA  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Boone

DATE RECEIVED: 12/28/88 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/10/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/26/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/11/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 88003284

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 2/6/89 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTMs       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_















Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000206