United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1.	Name of Property	
Histor	ric name Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar(Name Change and Boundary Increas	se)
Other	name/site number BK-1, listed originally as Wine Cellar	
2.	Location	
Street	t & town 4465 West Augusta-Chatham Road NA	not for publicatio
City o	r town Augusta, KY	X vicinity
State_	Kentucky code KY County Bracken Code 023 Zip Code	41002
3.	State/Federal Agency Certification	Company of the
	considered significant Nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Doma M. Neary SHPO Date Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet additional comments.)	t for
	Signature of certifying official/Title Date	
	State or Federal agency and bureau	
I hereby	National Park Service Certification certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. Determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)	Date of Action

Bracken County, KY	
County and State	

5. Classification		a series de la constante de	N	Jan and a company
Ownership of Property check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Pro (check only one box)	Operty Number of (Do not include previously lis		within Property e count.)
		Contributing	Noncontrib	outing
x private	building(s)		1	buildings
public-local	district	1		sites
public-State	x site	-		structures
public-Federal	structure	-		objects
	☐ object	1	1	Total
Name of related multiple property is not part of a m		Number of contributi in the National Re	egister	previously listed
NA		1: Wine Cel	lar	
6. Function or Use	in the section of	Current Func	tion	the same
Enter only categories from instructions)			ories from instruction	ons)
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/sto	rage	AGRICULTURE/S	SUBSISTENCE/stor	rage
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage		AGRICUTURE/SI	JBSISTENCE/stora	ige
7. Description				
Architectural Classification Enter only categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter only catego	ories from instruction	ons)
N/A		foundation —	N/A	
		walls		
		roof		-
		other		
		Other		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name

Change and Boundary Increase)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Bracken County, KY

Section 7 Page 1

Description

This nomination proposes to add additional acreage to the property currently listed on the National Register under the name the Wine Cellar (BK-1, listed 1974). The Wine Cellar is a 2-acre property that includes a stone-walled building erected ca. 1850 for Abraham Baker, Jr. The current nomination intends to add an additional 69 acres of fields in which Baker grew grape vines and had a winery operation in Bracken County, Kentucky, about one-quarter mile southeast of the Ohio River town of Augusta, making the area on the Register 71 acres.

Historic Site Development, 1855-1865

Many deeds in the Bracken County records indicate that Abraham Baker, Sr. purchased thousands of acres of in the early 1800s around the Augusta area. The land that Abraham Baker, Sr. purchased was most likely woodland and used for timbering. After timbering, the land would have been used for a variety of types of farming, such as growing corn and raising cattle. Abraham Baker, Jr. inherited the land where the Wine Cellar stands today in his mother's will in 1845. A picture post card of the Wine Cellar from 1910 shows the land around the Wine Cellar being used for general farming at that point in time.

A deed dated 1811 shows a land purchase spanning from the waters of Turtle Creek to the Little Bracken Creek, which must have been at least 1500 acres, and includes the area where the Wine Cellar would be built (Bracken County Deed Books, 1800-1850). Abraham Baker, Sr. died in 1840, and his wife died in 1845 (Bracken County Cemetery Census, 2003). The family cemetery is in close proximity to the Wine Cellar and the land destined for vineyards was willed to Abraham Baker, Jr.

Character of the Site today

Today the land around the Wine Cellar has been reduced to about 65 acres. On the east, the land is bordered by Little Bracken Creek and an apartment complex. On the south side, the land is bordered by timber as well as a dry stone wall, erected at the same time as the Wine Cellar, used for terracing the original vineyard. There is a road, Route 19, and a hill with more timber on the west side of the property. The north side of the property is a field and timber. The land slopes from the top of the hill on the west side of the property to Little Bracken Creek and forms a creek bottom. The 65 acres is hills surrounding the creek bottom and has been used for farming recently.

The 65 acres are limestone outcropping with rich soil in the creek bottom. One interesting feature of the land is that the Wine Cellar was built into the hill that is sand. This sand hill was deposited eons ago from the Ohio River and Little Bracken Creek flooding. The sand made digging the Wine Cellar much easier. The sandy soil has been instrumental in the survival of the Wine Cellar because it has provided a soil buffer from the shocks of massive highway construction of Route 19. The land was used for tobacco farming for many decades until 2004. A tobacco barn is on the site at this time.

The Wine Cellar structure had a domestic space on its second floor. The housing area had a double parlor that was built on the east end of the structure. The double parlors were 15 x 40 feet with 12 foot folding doors, double coal burning fire-places with metal mantels/surrounds, and two windows. These features are still intact today. Next to the double parlors was a 10 x 40 foot breeze way that runs south to north with half glass doors on either end of the breezeway. Finally, two rooms mirroring the double parlors are on the west side of the breezeway. These rooms are each 15 x 20 feet. The housing area was of conventional design for its day. Local residents state that the Bakers did not live in the Wine Cellar. Abraham Baker, Jr. used the housing for boarding the German immigrants. Local oral tradition is supported by a newspaper article that suggests that Abraham Baker, Jr. was very generous and provided housing for many of the immigrants that worked at the Wine Cellar (*The Augusta Times, Bi-centennial Edition, June 30, 1976*).

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Bracken County, KY

Section 7 Page 2

A tobacco barn was constructed in the 1970s approximately 200 yards due south of the Wine Cellar. Tobacco barn measures 24 X 72 feet and is typical construction of barns in the area, with hemlock siding. The siding does not touch the ground. The barn has a dirt floor and a tin roof that is painted. The barn was used for drying tobacco until 2005.

Local verbal tradition and documents (*The Battle of Augusta, Interesting Account by Samuel K. Veach,* Caroline Miller, 2003., p. 4.) suggest that there were extensive acres of grapes terraced around the Wine Cellar. Despite timber growth over the last 150 years, it is easy to visualize the grape terraces today. Plus, a stone wall at the south end of the property is still intact.

Bracken County, KY
County and State

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

8. Description	
Applicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	(enter categories from instructions)
A Property is associated with events that have made	Agriculture
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,	Period of Significance
information important in prehistory or history.	1855 to 1865
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	To have 2000
Property is:	Significant Dates 1856
☐ A. owned by a religious institution or used for	
religious purposes.	
	Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)
B removed from its original location.	
C a birthplace or grave.	N/A
□ C a bittiplace of grave.	Cultural Affiliation
D a cemetery.	N/A
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Unknown
within the past 50 years.	
Narrative Statement of Significance	
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8
9. Major Bibliographical References Bibliography (see continuation sheets)	See continuation sheet(s) for Section 140. b
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	X☐ State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State agency
previously listed in the National Register	☐ Federal agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	☐ Local government☐ University
designated a National Historic Landmark	X ☐ Other Name of repository:
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Bracken County records, Kentucky agricultural records, and
# recorded by Historic American Engineering	local newspaper articles
Record #	and the contract of the contra

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase)

Bracken County, KY

Section 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

The Wine Cellar (BK-1), in Bracken County, Kentucky, was listed on the National Register in 1974. This nomination proposes to add to the Register acreage surrounding the Wine Cellar which meets Criterion A. This additional acreage is locally significant through its relationship with the early development of the wine industry in America, an event that has made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The vineyard land has been evaluated within the historic context "Wine Industry in the United States." The larger site gains importance by virtue of its status as the oldest estate winery still in existence in America today, meaning that both the winery structure and original vineyard land are still intact.

The land surrounding the Wine Cellar is important because in the mid-1850s, the grapes grown here produced wines that commanded premium prices. The land has characteristics that create superior grapes. "Terrior" is a French concept that means the soil composition, topography, and micro-climate have a significant impact on the flavor of grapes, which, in turn, imparts the flavor to wine (Terrior, The Role of Geology, Climate, and Culture In Making of French Wines, James E. Wilson, 1998, p. 5). The terrior concept, with its focus upon the relation between land and wine quality, makes the acreage associated with the Wine Cellar an important resource, linking the site proposed for the boundary expansion to early wine production in the U.S.

The Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar illustrates one classic American business story: the venture capitalist creates a successful business enterprise with his money and land working with the specialized skills and knowledge of a group of craftsmen. German immigrants arriving in Bracken County in the 1850s provided an opportunity for Abraham Baker, Jr., a large land owner in Augusta, a town along the Ohio River in Bracken County, Kentucky. Baker took advantage of the viticulture skills of these newcomers to engage in a business that others in the area of southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky, east of Cincinnati, were exploring in the 1850s.

This nomination outlines the growth of the US viticulture industry in three stages:

- 1. Early Vineyards and Wine Making in America
- 2. Commercial Vineyards and Wine Making in the Ohio River Valley, ca.1840-1865
- 3. Modern Vineyards and Wine Making in America

Historic Context: Wine Industry in the United States

Early Vineyards and Wine Making in America

Early colonists in America were struck by the fact America had so many natural grape vines. The colonists' hope was to introduce the European noble grape varieties, scientifically designated as *vinifera*, and that they would grow well in the New World. High-quality wine could not be made from native grapes. Wine made with those grapes resulted in a "foxy" or false taste, which is desirable in grape jelly but not fine wine (*Story of Wine*. Hugh Johnson, 1996, p. 355). In some of the early American colonies, it was mandatory for settlers to plant vineyards (*Indiana Wine*, James L. Butler & John J. Butler, 2001, p.2). The *vinifera* plants, for unknown reasons, would thrive for a few years, then wither and die. Many wine enthusiasts, like Thomas Jefferson, were frustrated with the inability to grow viable *vinifera* grapes.

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

Swiss immigrant Jean Jacques Dufour came to America in order to establish commercial vineyards. His family had vineyards in Switzerland, which acquainted him with vine dressing and wine making. He spent years roaming various areas of the United States from the Atlantic Seaboard to the Missouri River in search of a place to grow grapes for wine. He settled on land along the Kentucky River in Jessamine County, in 1798, with the hope of starting a commercial vineyard (http://history.swissroots.org/111.0.html). The Swiss Roots web site calls this "the first commercial vineyard in the USA" and tells that Dufour established the Kentucky Vineyard society. He called his place "First Vineyard." Stock ownership was sold in the First Vineyard enterprise and looked promising, until after a few years, when the vinifera vines withered and died. First Vineyard never reached the point of the vines bearing viable fruit. Dufour moved north across the Ohio River to Vevay, Indiana (in, not surprisingly, Switzerland County) and successfully cultivated hybrid grapes, as well as made wine, until his death in 1820 (The American Vine Dressers' Guide, J.J. Dufour, 2003, p.23 & 26).

Meanwhile in 1801, Nicholas Longworth traveled from his home in New Jersey and arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio with a dollar to his name. He studied to be an attorney. During his years as an attorney in Cincinnati, he became financially successful in land speculation and became one of the richest men in the United States. Longworth had a grand passion for growing grapes and wine making. He planted hundreds of acres of grape vines in the Cincinnati area. He was successful in growing French-American hybrid vines like Catawba. In 1850, Longworth produced sparkling wine (Champagne) that won a gold medal in Paris, France (A Short History of Wine, Rod Philips, 2000, p. 250-251). A picture of the bottle of Longworth's gold medal sparkling wine is in the Cincinnati Public Library.

Nicolas Longworth was not the only individual cultivating grapes at mid-century. Immigrants from Europe brought viticulture and wine-making skills to America. Immigrants established many vineyards in upstate New York and Northern Ohio along Lake Erie. For example, the Brotherhood Winery and Vineyards were established in 1839. The original Brotherhood Winery still exists today as a winery in Washingtonville, New York, however its vineyards were ripped out and paved over in the 1960s for a parking lot. The Brotherhood Winery is considered the oldest extant winery in the United States. Many commercial vineyards and wineries established in the late 1800s still today populate upstate New York and Ohio (*The Wines of America*, Leon Adams, 1978, p.23).

Commercial Vineyards and Wine Making in the Ohio River Valley, 1840s-1865

German immigrants came to America in the 1840s–1880s due to deteriorating economic/political conditions. Pamphlets which painted an idyllic picture of Cincinnati and the Ohio River were sent to Germany during the mid-1800s. Many German immigrants settled in the Midwest in areas like Cincinnati and the surrounding locales like Bracken County, which is approximately 45 miles from downtown Cincinnati (*Wines of America*, Leon Adams, 1978, p. 95). German immigrants migrating from Bavaria or Baden, one of the great German wine regions, and declared professions like "vine dresser" or "vine grower." Their names appear in the Bracken County's census records from 1840s-1860s. Abraham Baker, Jr. is recorded as a "Horticulturist" in the Census Records (Bracken County Census Records, 1860). Along with Nicholas Longworth, immigrants helped create the first commercially successful vineyards and wineries in the United States Thus, the Ohio River Valley around Cincinnati emerged as an important area of wine production in the United States in the 1850s (*Wines of America*, Leon Adams, 1978, p. 95).

The German immigrants settling on the north side of the Ohio River were planting vineyards and making wine. For example, immigrants in Georgetown, Ohio—about 45 minutes east of Cincinnati and a few miles due north of the ferry to Augusta, Kentucky—were making wine. An 1843 article in *The Democratic Standard* of Georgetown, Ohio, stated,

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Mr. Mottier, who has a flourishing vineyard near this city [Georgetown], informs us that he has sold every gallon of his American Wine. His crop last year, from about four acres, (now in full bearing) was 1100 gallons. He has also two or three acres more coming into bearing. His sales during the last eight months exceed 250Q gallons, including some of his previous crops, at \$0.75 to \$1.00 per gallon, chiefly at the latter price. He has made and sold, since he commenced the business, 8000 gallons. He uses no brandy in the preservation of his wine, which is thus the pure juice of the grape.

The extent of this business is probably known to but few of our citizens. It is carried on chiefly by experienced German Vine Dressers from the Valley of the Rhine who are crowning all the hill tops in the vicinity of Cincinnati, with Vineyards. The business will be largely extended next spring.

We have collected some statistics on this subject, which we shall publish shortly. It will surprise many to know that there are now about three hundred acres in this county, devoted to Vineyards, of which something like eighty or ninety are owned by one person, Cin. Atlas.

The business of raising grapes for wine is not confined in this region to the vicinity of Cincinnati, nor to Hamilton County. The banks for the Ohio are found so well adapted to it that it is fast extending up the river. Mr. Bauer, a German, has planted a vineyard of four acres in this county about seven miles from this place. His vines are in a flourishing condition, and he is preparing to go extensively into the business of making wine.

The Kentucky State Agriculture Society reported in 1856 the expansion of grape growing into Bracken County:

The staple productions of Mason and Bracken Counties are Indian corn, wheat, barley, rye, oats, hemp, tobacco, grapes, horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, and mules...The culture of the grape in Bracken seems destined to rival that of any part of Ohio [the major grape growing region in the United States at that time]. During the last summer a New York wine merchant came to Augusta, after visiting the vineyards in Ohio, and paid for wine raised in the vicinity of Augusta, \$2.50 per gallon, that is being fifty cents over the price of the best Ohio wine. There are now several large vineyards in the County, and this year there will be from one to two hundred acres put in wine. The soil of Bracken seems peculiarly adapted to the grape, and the German wine raisers are peopling different localities rapidly (Report of the Kentucky State Agriculture Society to the Legislature of Kentucky for the 1856-1857, p. 540).

Local newspapers in the vicinity of Augusta corroborated the 1856 State Agricultural Society report. For instance, the Southern Ohio Argus published this report in 1859,

Mr. Thomas, whose grapery lies just opposite the wharf, has pressed out over 500 gallons per acre. From four acres he will receive 2200 gallons of good wine. In making an estimate of the average yield we find it to be in this section, four hundred gallons to the acre. –This at \$1.00 per Gallon will give four hundred dollars as the product of an acre of ground that under any other cultivation would return absolutely nothing.

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

Several of the capitalists of this city have embarked largely in the business of vine growing, **Dr. J.**Taylor Bradford and Capt. A. Baker [bolding by nomination author] have each already set out 40 acres and are preparing to plant more. Capt. Baker is trying an experiment; he is putting up in cans and bottles the pure juice as it runs from the press, and by boiling, and hermetically sealing, he expects to be able to keep pure and sweet for any length of time. Last year he filled several dozen cans and the result, he thinks, fully tested the practicably of the process. This year he has put up twelve thousand quart cans: fifteen hundred half gallon cans and 700 quart bottles. This wine is intended for sacramental purposes and for valetudinarians whose stomachs are too weak to use the fermented wine. He has received, we are informed, several orders from different cities, north and south.

The culture of the grape is not only renewing old, unproductive and, otherwise useless land, and adding new source of wealth and revenues to our community, but is increasing the picturesque landscapes that are unrolled around the city. The vine-clad hills seem like rosy clouds that have settled on the banks of the river and make it more beautiful than where the unimpaired French explorer exclaimed, 'La Bella Rivera' or than now 'The Rhine, the Danube, or Grand quiver' (*The Southern Ohio Argus*, 1859.)

Another newspaper article that collaborates the significant viticulture activity in Bracken County was published in Ripley Ohio, eight miles due east of Augusta. The mention of Mr. Baker in this article refers to the owner of the nominated property:

Vineyards on the Ohio River (Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette) having previously sent my reports of the number of gallons of wine made on the banks of the Ohio, I now furnish some additional information.

The vineyards on the Ohio are mostly young, and several bear this year for the first time. There are upwards of 120 acres now bearing in Bracken County, Ky., and 145 acres now bearing in Brown County, O. Should the next season be as productive as this, the vineyards will probably produce double the number of gallons next year, thus making 300,000 gallons between Rural Cincinnati and Maysville. To this, add the probable crop of the young vineyards not bearing, and we will have 500,000 gallons of wine as the aggregate product of next season – This statement is made in accordance with the views of several prominent men in the business. In some sections the average per acre is 400 gallons, but those are the old vineyards, the probable average is 250 gallons per acres. I noticed Messrs. Bradford and Baker's [bolding by nomination author] method of preserving sweet wine in a previous report, viz: by heating and sealing up, the same as is done in the case of fruit. Mr. Reynolds, of Ripley, has studied a preparation which he puts into the wine as it runs from the press and prevents fermentation entirely. He then proceeds to clarify, and free the wine of all the sediment. Mr. R. says it will keep, retaining all the rich taste of the grape perfectly sweet, even if exposed to the air.

Mr. Winters, of Dover, and Mr. Cramer, of Levanna, are making the celebrated French brandy. These two gentlemen have upwards of one hundred acres in vineyards (Ripley Bee, 1859).

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

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Wine production in Bracken County ceases as early as 1865, or possibly as late as the 1870s. Several sources suggest a robust industry even during the Civil War years. Collins' *History of Kentucky* states that Bracken County vintners produced 36,009 gallons of wine in 1862, and 31,030 gallons in 1863 (Volume I). Clark reported that that "Dr. Joshua T. Bradford, of Augusta, Bracken Co., sells to Wm. P. Anderson's Longworth's Wine House, Cincinnati, 10,000 gallons of mature wine from his own vineyard, at \$2.36 and \$2.50 per gallon" in 1865 (*Annals of Kentucky, History of Kentucky*, Kentucky State Historical Society, Lewis Clark, 1966, p.131). The area's wine production reached popular and mythic levels: A Kentucky Historical Society highway marker says the county provided an improbable half of the entire nation's production—30,000 gallons annually—in the 1870s (marker 1213). No matter what actual level of success the region enjoyed, evidence points to a relatively the quick demise for this industry in Bracken County shortly after the Civil War. These indications include economic depression in Kentucky's agriculture generally, competition from far-away markets, regional vineyard disease, and the rise of burley tobacco as a substitute crop.

The economic depression following the Civil War affected the rural area around Augusta, as it did much of Kentucky. The destruction from the Battle of Augusta and general economic drag of the Civil War impacted the purchases of luxuries like wine. Also, the freeing of slaves drastically changed the cost and availability of labor, which greatly affected vineyard management, a labor-intensive enterprise (A Short History of Wine, Rod Phillips, 2000, p. 251).

Competition of grape and wine markets affected the value of the Augusta product. By 1870, the largest winery in America was located in northern Ohio. Plus, the California Gold rush of 1849 created an influx of people in the Napa Valley region of California who settled the area and started wineries. By the 1870s and 1880s, Kentucky grape growers were facing competition from grape producing regions with more favorable climates (A Short History of Wine, Rod Phillips, 2000, p. 256-257).

Black Rot and Powdery Mildew affected the Ohio River Valley vineyards in the mid- to late-1860s. The Maysville Weekly Bulletin reported in 1865 that "From vintners and grape growers we learn the Grape crop in this locality the present season will prove an utter failure owing to the mildew or rot which has set in, caused by the unusual amount of rain. From what we gather this is the case throughout the County." This crisis was not limited to Bracken County. A mass epidemic of Black Rot and Powdery Mildew destroyed many vineyards in the Cincinnati and Ohio Valley region. At that time, there was no effective treatment of these plant diseases. Thus, many vineyards were annihilated (The Wines of America, Leon Adams, 1978, p. 579).

Some pointed to a more prosaic reason—extreme cold temperatures over several winters—as a possible agent in the loss of many grape vines (*Proceeding of Kentucky Horticulture Society*, 1880, p. 42).

Tobacco had been a profitable crop for some Bracken County farmers before 1865. For example, "The cultivation of tobacco in Bracken is one of the most profitable crops grown in the West...three premiums out four, offered by the State Society for 1856, were awarded to citizens of Bracken [County], on tobacco. (Report of the Kentucky State Agriculture Society to the Legislature of Kentucky for the years 1856-1857, p. 540). In 1863, the first burley tobacco in Kentucky was grown on the George Barkley Farm (BK- 21, National Register, 2003) approximately four miles from the Wine Cellar. Bracken County produced some of the best burley tobacco in the world. Tobacco from Mason and Bracken County had prestigious reputations in the European markets. Tobacco became the primary cash crop in Bracken County for the next 130 years.

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The burley tobacco mutation was a hardy tobacco plant that produced great flavor for smoking. The burley tobacco made raising tobacco lucrative for farmers. It is easy to speculate that many Bracken County farmers growing grapes switched to tobacco. Until the economic decline of tobacco production in 1990, the majority of wealth created by Bracken County farmers was from tobacco. Then in the 1990s, tobacco production became more viable in overseas countries with less-costly labor. Bracken County farmer's tobacco production dropped significantly, from 8,296,444 pounds in 1997 to 3,286,411 pounds—a 63% decline in that five year period (1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile, NASS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., p. 2 and 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile, NASS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., p.2). Today, Bracken County farmers are searching for alternative cash crops. Grape production is one of the most profitable crop replacements for tobacco. With hilly topography and Eden shale soils in Bracken County, few cash crops are profitable. However, grapes thrive in hilly poor soils. The first small vineyard was planted in April of 2006 at the Wine Cellar. So, after 140 years, the vineyards are coming back to the Wine Cellar.

Modern Vineyards and Wine Making in America

The California gold rush was quickly followed by the grape rush. In 1857, Agoston Haragthy established the Buena Vista Vineyard in Sonoma, California. The California vineyards and wine production grew rapidly. Per capita wine consumption, which had peaked at a little over a half a gallon a year in 1880, was down to a third of a gallon in 1900. One sign of the impending change was the invention and growing popularity of grape juice. By 1907, a million gallons of grape juice were being sold each year in the United States (A Short History of Wine, Rod Phillips, 2000, p. 258-259). Kentucky remained the fifth largest producer of grapes until prohibition (The Magazine of the University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture, 2006, p. 14).

The Temperance Movement resulted in Prohibition (1919-1934), which had a devastating effect on the American wine and vineyard industries. Extensive knowledge of vineyard management and wine production was lost during Prohibition. Lack of viticulture knowledge and inappropriate varieties of grapes planted delayed the revival of the wine industry. However, a few wineries and vineyards did survive Prohibition. The viticulture and wine industry gradually picked up momentum, through the 1940s and 1950s. In 1976, results of the Judgment of Paris (a blind tasting of French and American wines in Paris) shocked the world when the French tasting revealed California wines superior to French wines. Since 1976, America has become a dominant player in viticulture and wine production (Story of Wine, Hugh Johnson, 1996, p.457).

Although, California continues to dominate the U.S. viticulture and wine markets, Ohio, New York, and Missouri, as well as almost every State in the Union, continue to produce grapes and wine. A variety of viticulture regions and terrior exploration is flourishing in the United States today. By 2006, Kentucky has over 75 vineyards, and in one year the number of the state's licensed wineries grew from 17 to 31 (Communication between Marty Perry and Chris Lilly of Kentucky Alcohol Beverage Control, May 18, 2007).

The American wine industry has capitalized on the technical aspects of wine making and favored consistently good wines made from a single variety of grapes, e.g., Kendal Jackson Chardonnay. The idea of terroir, which the Europeans have adhered to for centuries and is crucial in producing outstanding vineyards as well as fine wines, is now being more seriously studied in the United States (Wilson, Terrior, The Role of Geology, Climate, and Culture In The Making Of French Wines, 1998, P. 5). The American wine producers are starting to understand the importance that terroir has on wine.

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History of the Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar

The Baker story begins with John Baker, one of the original citizens of Augusta, a town founded founded in 1797 on the Ohio River (Bracken County PVA Records, 1797). John's oldest son, Abraham Baker, Sr., was first noted on the tax rolls in 1799 (Bracken County PVA Records 1799). By 1800, Abraham Baker, Sr. had married a local woman, Polly Bowman (Bracken County Marriage Certificates, 1800). Their first child was Abraham Baker, Jr. The family must have been prosperous, since the Bracken County Deed Book shows numerous land purchases by Abraham Baker, Sr. Further, the Bakers owned a large two-story Federal home (BK-A-17) in Augusta, Kentucky that is on the National Register. Abraham Baker, Jr. married Jane Sharp November 9, 1852 (Bracken County Marriage License Records). Abraham Baker, Jr. and his wife mostly likely lived in the family's two-story Federal home. Today, local residents have furnishings in their home said to be from that Baker house in Augusta. The PVA Records of Bracken County in 1858 and 1864 corroborate the local oral tradition showing that A. Baker owned two lots in Town valued at \$2,500,00.

The Wine Cellar is located within about 50 yards of a local road that was used until the 1960s. A 1910 post card photograph of the Wine Cellar confirms the location of the road, which is still used as an access to the building. The Wine Cellar and road is on a conscription map from 1870. The road was a major thoroughfare heading southeast out of Augusta. The Wine Cellar is above the current flood plain and is one mile from the Augusta ferry landing, which has been in use since the late 1700s. The docking area for commerce was in the ferry landing area and the docking area is still in use today. During the 1800s, the Ohio River was a primary east/west transportation corridor in the United States. For example, the Lewis and Clark expedition docked in Augusta for supplies. Newspaper reports confirm local tradition that wagons were loaded inside the Wine Cellar (*The Bracken County Newspaper*, "The Old Timer Talks," J.W. Crumbaugh, Brooksville, KY, 1935). The wagons would have taken the wine barrels down to the docking area and shipped by the Ohio River to new destinations.

Bracken County Tax Records (1797 -1860) show that Abraham Baker, Jr. accumulated land, a house in the City of Augusta, and wealth. The success of Nicholas Longworth's vineyards and winery in Cincinnati, as well as vineyards immediately across the River that can be reached by a ferry, may have inspired Abraham Baker, Jr. Plus, the German immigrants moving into Bracken County with the knowledge of vine dressing, enology, and stone masonry, supplied the labor and knowledge for Abraham Baker, Jr. to build the impressive 12,000 square foot winery structure and to plant vineyards. The Wine Cellar would have needed extensive vineyards to support wine production in such a large facility.

The exact location of the Baker's vineyard is a matter of some speculation. The will for Mrs. Abraham Baker, Sr., does not indicate the precise land and acreage passed on to Abraham Baker, Jr. Common sense would suggest that the vineyards would be around the Wine Cellar. The 65 acres in this nomination is a conservative estimate of the acreage that Baker would have had for the vineyards and winery operations, given the size of the Wine Cellar and the need to provide space for wine making equipment like wine presses in references above, and wagons to move wine barrels, etc. Just a few short years after building the Wine Cellar, it was reported, "Several of the capitalists of this city [Augusta] have embarked largely in the business of vine growing. Dr. J. Taylor Bradford and Capt. A. Baker have each already set out 40 acres and are preparing to plant more (*The Southern Ohio Argus*, 1859).

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

Area residents suggested that the vineyards were sited on the hills around the Wine Cellar. Local verbal tradition is supported by newspaper articles. For example, "just outside of town [Augusta], Mr. Baker ... sometime after 1852, set out vineyards on the hills about the farm (*The Augusta Times, Bi-Centennial Edition*, June 30, 1976). Another newspaper article states, "That is, when the stones were removed from the ground to build the Cellar, grape vines were planted in that spot. A number of Germans came here and worked for Mr. Baker in his vineyard and quarried the stone from the hills as the grapes were planted....it took sometimes two or three days to get a stone loose from the ground and sled it down the hill to be used in the cellar....The reported price of the cost of the cellar was about \$22,000, which was quite an outlay for this period since labor was free [for those who had slaves]." (*The Bracken County News*, "The Old Timer Talks", J.W. Crumbaugh, Brooksville, KY, 1935).

Also, an eye witness report to the Battle of Augusta (September 27, 1861) suggests that workers in the vineyards were in close proximity to the Baker Wine Cellar and ran to the safety of the structure. Samuel Veach gave this account of the Battle, "At about eleven o'clock a passerby brought a message from Father, to Mother, to bring the children and noon lunch and come at once to him at where he was stationed. I can never forget his words, 'Go quickly to Baker's wine cellar. I want to get you out of town before I am released. I am afraid the Rebels are coming today.' We hurried out to the wine cellar. He came with us and we all ate lunch together. He went up the hill to gather grapes...I saw my Father coming over the hill shouting, 'Leave the mare and colt in the road, throw the bridle over the fence into the weeds and make for the wine cellar.' He beat me across the point of the hill, shouting to the folks about the wine press, warning them to take shelter" (*The Battle of Augusta, Interesting Account by Samuel K. Veach*, Caroline Miller, 2003, p. 3-4).

Since viticulture, growing vineyards, is labor intensive, Mr. Baker would have had an ongoing need for a substantial labor force. Perhaps he drew upon his capital resources to pay German vine dressers, but he also could have attempted to combine paid and slave labor in his operation. Abraham Baker, Jr. owned no slaves, however, until 1858, and then is assessed for two slaves. By contrast, Mr. Bradford had 19 slaves as early as 1852. A documented wine-making partnership between Baker and Bradford has not been found, but it is not hard to infer it from various print sources. It's possible that Baker rented the labor from Bradford—to construct the Wine Cellar, to plant the vines, and to maintain the operation.

Local newspaper articles, such as the 1859 article from the *Ripley Bee* quoted above on page 8-4, refer to Abraham Baker's and Dr. J.T. Bradford's success in wine making. Oral tradition cites extensive slave labor in the hills around the Winery—clearing land for vineyards, hauling stone from the hillsides to build the Wine Cellar, and planting vineyards. An 1857 article from the *Maysville Eagle*, connects Baker and Bradford through a tragedy: "A negro boy's leg was badly hurt yesterday by falling into a thrashing machine with which he was engaged in the vicinity of that place [the Wine Cellar]. One of his legs was so badly crushed that amputation was absolutely necessary, which was performed by Dr. J. Taylor Bradford. At last accounts the boy was during well."

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

The fortunes of Baker and Bradford ran in parallel courses during the 1850s through the 1860s. The PVA Records of Bracken County show that A. Baker had 175 acres in 1858 and 307 acres in 1864. The PVA Records document that J.T. Bradford had 50 acres in 1852, 170 acres in 1854, and 40 acres in 1867. The PVA Records of Bracken County show Baker's wealth after equalization jumping from \$2,000.00 in 1841 to \$11,900.00 in 1854, then declining by 1864 to \$6,500.00. Likewise, those records show Bradford's wealth had reached \$9,000.00 in 1854, then declined to \$4,000.00 in 1867. We have not learned the outcome of Baker's venture into the wine making business, but recall on page 8-5, above, that Bradford liquidated 10,000 gallons of his product to Cincinnati wine buyer William P. Anderson around 1865. Perhaps Bradford accumulated this much wine in exchange for the contribution of his labor to a joint venture with Baker. Whether these men joined forces, sharing capital (Baker's land and vines with Bradford's slave labor pool) to mutual benefit, or whether they pursued their ventures separately, is not known. The similarities between the county tax office's valuation of their assets, as well as their ongoing connection in historic accounts, encourages us to look to Bradford for clues that could fill gaps in Abraham Baker's story.

Evaluation of Significance

The Wine Cellar is this country's oldest winery still possessing some of its original land that was actively used to produce premium wines. The Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar offers an unusual opportunity to recapture the importance of the relationship between the land and the wine-making operation. With the growing awareness of terrior and continued development of the viticulture industry in America, the property's present use as a winery will encourage further understanding of this locally important historic industry. The property offers an important legacy to the U.S. viticulture and wine industry. The land surrounding the Wine Cellar offers a unique opportunity to preserve some of the historic landscape from which some of the finest wines in America were produced 150 years ago.

Evaluation of Integrity

A property meeting Criterion A for its importance within the context of the "Wine Making Industry in America" might have several different combinations of integrity factors to achieve eligibility. The particular combination will depend upon our conception of the property's identity and significance. In this case, the additional acreage of the Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar, calls for us to choose the integrity factors that help us relate the new acreage to the listed property. To support this conceptual connection, the property must have integrity of setting, location, and association.

When the historic Baker property was listed in the National Register in 1974, its identity was viewed primarily in terms of the winery building. The bulk of the description of the property focuses upon the building, starting with the historic specifications for such a structure: "According to the American Vine-Dresser's Guide (1826) the temperature of a wine cellar should remain a constant 55° F the entire year for best results. The wine cellar must be eighteen feet deep, walled and arched with stone or brick, the abutments of the vault must be below the surface of the ground, the entrance to the north with shutters. The Wine Cellar at Augusta, built by Abraham Baker, meets these requirements." The rest of the Description continues to show how the Wine Cellar meets these guidelines. The nomination gave scant discussion of the surrounding acreage, as that was not recognized as a vital part of the valuable resource.

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Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

This current proposal to expand the Wine Cellar's listed area indicates an expansion in our understanding of the identity of agricultural resources. Within this understanding, nominations of farms under Criterion A should begin with a consideration of more than just the farmhouse or the big barn. Those nominations should proceed from the view that the farm's historic acreage is essential to a fuller understanding of that historic place. That view is especially relevant within this proposed nomination, because it parallels the American wine industry's growing awareness of the intimate relation between the grapes and their site, embraced within the French term "terroir."

Evaluating that a site has integrity of **location** will require, at a minimum, that the area proposed for listing is the same area that once grew the grapes. Ideally, the presence of historic grapevine stock will demonstrate this identity. In cases where historic vines are not present, this identity will be best demonstrated through reference to various documents that confirm the historic presence of the grapes. Such documents could be the vineyard owner's journals or record books, county ownership records, clear newspaper accounts of the location of vineyards, or similar kinds of information sources. This proposal, to expand the Wine Cellar's listed acreage, has provided a case for the new acreage's integrity of location by referring to deeds and to wills.

Evaluating a site to have integrity of **setting** will require that the current landscape proposed for listing supports our ability to perceive the historic farming activity. This perception will most easily occur if the historic agricultural material, in this case the grapevines, would be intact and growing. However, as the limited life span of most plants will make that condition unlikely, additional considerations can help us evaluate that an intact historic setting continues to exist. For instance, the absence of newer buildings from the historic site enhances this perception. The setting of the Baker Vineyards and Wine Cellar has a single building, a tobacco barn, that post-dates the Period of Significance—not an overwhelming presence on the 65 acres proposed for listing. Further, the site retains its topography and possesses its rural character, both of which enable us to observe many qualities of the historic setting. The efforts by the current owner, planting new grapevines on the terraces, can be seen as something of a restoration of the historic setting. Together, these aspects of the site give the viewer a greater ability to see the historic landscape patterns that are central to this nomination.

Finally, a site that retains its integrity of location and setting, and for which the author has provided sufficient documentary research to establish the site's identity and relative importance to the context, will be said to have integrity of **association**, and thus qualify for listing. This Statement of Significance for the Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar provides the case that the site retains that level of integrity of association by consulting various public records at the county, state, and national levels.

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Section 9 Page 1

Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

Adams, Leon

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c.2000 Bracken County, Kentucky, cemeteries and burial sites, 1796-1999 Brooksville, KY: Bracken County Historical Society

Butler, James L. and John J. Butler

2001 Indiana Wine. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press

Clark, Lewis

1966 Annals of Kentucky, History of Kentucky, Kentucky State Historical Society

Collins, Lewis

1874 History of Kentucky. Covington, Kentucky: Collins and Company

Crumbaugh, J.W.

1935 The Bracken County Newspaper, "The Old Timer Talks," Brooksville, KY, 1935

Dufour, J.J.

2003 The American Vine Dressers' Guide. Purdue University Press

Johnson, Hugh

1996 Story of Wine, Fireside, Rei edition

Miller, Caroline

2003 The Battle of Augusta, Interesting Account by Samuel K. Veach. Publisher unknown

Philips, Rod

2000 A Short History of Wine Ecco Imprints, Harper Collins.

Wilson, James E.

1998 Terrior, The Role of Geology, Climate, and Culture In Making of French Wines, Berkeley California: University of California Press

Public Records:

Bracken County tax records, 1797-1865
Bracken County Deed Books, 1800-1850
Bracken County marriage certificates, 1800
Bracken County Federal Census information, 1800-1860
Report of the Kentucky State Agriculture Society to the Legislature of Kentucky for the 1856-1857
Proceeding of Kentucky Horticulture Society, 1880
US Census of Agriculture, 1997 and 2002

Newspaper Articles

The Augusta Times, Bi-Centennial Edition, June 30, 1976.
The Democratic Standard of Georgetown, Ohio, 1843
Maysville Eagle, 1857
Southern Ohio Argus, 1859
Ripley Bee, 1859
The Magazine of the University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture, 2006

Internet sites
http://history.swissroots.org/111.0.html

Personal Communication
Marty Perry to Chris Lilly of Kentucky Alcohol Beverage
Control Board, May 18, 2007

Bracken County, KY	
County and State	

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Original listing: 2 acres; proposed expans	ion: 71 acres, which includes the original 2 acres	
UTM References (Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	USGS Topographic Quad nameHigginsport	
A 17 240 080 4295 000 Zone Easting Northing	B 17_ 240 040 4294 500 Zone Easting Northing	
C 17_ 239 600 4294 550 Zone Easting Northing	D 17_ 239 630 4294 900 Zone Easting Northing	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of	the property.)	
See page 10-1		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were select See page 10-1		
11. Form Prepared By	See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10	
name/title Dinah Bird		
organization N/A date August 2006		
street & number2165 Stewart Road telephone (937) 376-3404		
city or town Xenia	state OH zip code 45385	
email address Dinah.bird@barclaysglobal.com		
Additional Documentation The National Register requires each nomination consist of Continuation Sheets for narrative A USGS topographic quad map (7.5 or 15 minute set) A Sketch map for historic districts or properties having A Photo identification map for districts; one map can black and white photographs of the property. See positive to the property of the p	ries) indicating the property's location I large acreage or numerous resources serve both as sketch and photo ID map. Olicy statement for acceptable use of digital photographs III nominations: nat remains at the KHC on their plans	
Property Owner		
name/title Dinah Bird		
street & number 2165 Stewart Road	telephon <u>e (937) 376-3404</u>	
city or town Xenia state OH zip code 45385		
email address (if available) Dinah.bird@barclaysgolb	pal.com	

OMB No. 1024-0018 National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Section 10 Page 1 Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County, Kentucky

Verbal Boundary Description

The area proposed for listing is 71 acres, defined as 3 parcels on Map 50: parcel 35 (45.18 acres), parcel 13E-1 (16.293 acres) and parcel 13E (9.468 acres) by the Bracken County Kentucky Property Valuation Office. The property is recorded in Bracken County Deed Book 172, page 668.

Boundary Justification

The area proposed for listing has been determined by reference to historic deeds and historic records as the area owned by Abraham Baker on which he grew the grapes for his wine operation. The area proposed for listing has sufficient integrity of location and setting to support the association between the land today and the historically important wine-making operation of the past.

Photograph Identification:

Same information for all photographs:

Property: Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar

Location: Bracken County, Kentucky

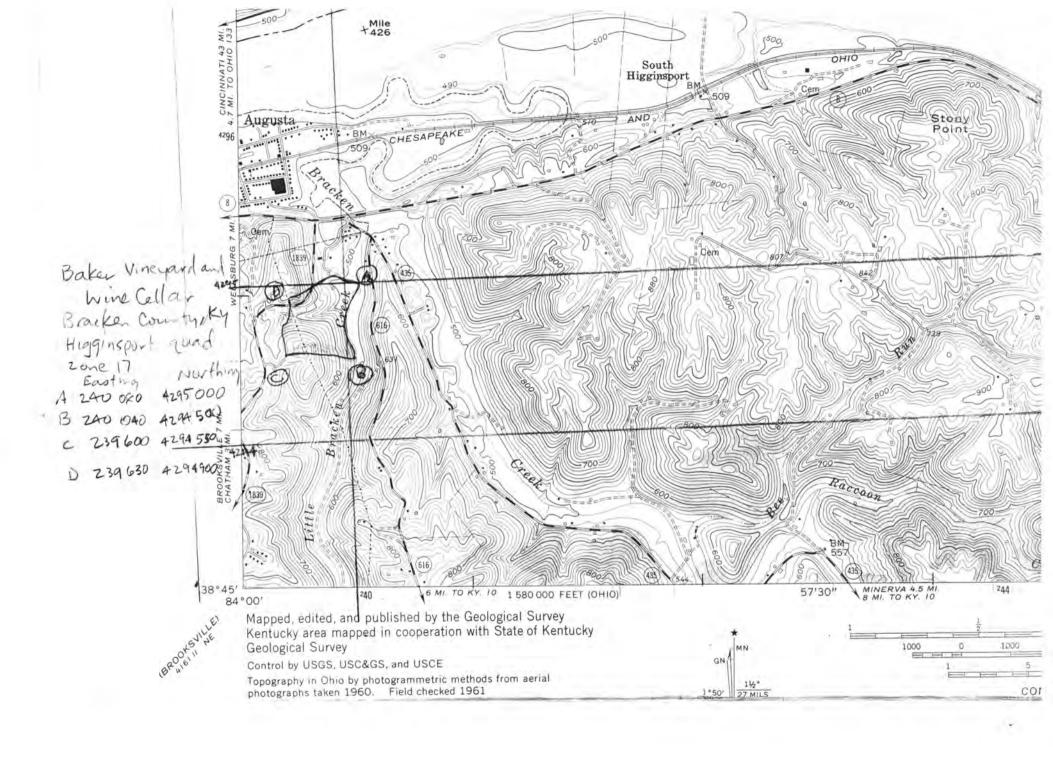
Photographer: Dinah Bird Date of Photograph: 2007

Digital media

Specific photographic information:

Photo #	Title on Disc	Content of photograph
I:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarmi.tif	Overview of Ohio River and Augusta, to NNW
2:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarmz.tif	Ohio River in distance, to Northeast
3:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarm3.tif	Landscape within nominated area, to SSE
4:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarm4.tif	Wine Cellar, to North
5:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarm5.tif	Tobacco Barn, to South Southeast
6:	KY_BrackenCounty_BakerFarm6.tif	Landscape within nominated area, to Southeast

AUGUSTA STATE BOUTE (8) State Route 1839 Wine Cellar Tobacco Photo Identification map Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar Bracker County, Ky



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Boundary Increase) NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Bracken
DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/19/07 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/04/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/07 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000679
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:
COMMENT WAIVER: N ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7-11-07 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
RECOM./CRITERIA REVIEWER DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOG	CUMENTATION
PROPERTY Baker Vineyard and WinNAME:	ne Cellar
MULTIPLE NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Bracks	en
DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/07 DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/07
REFERENCE NUMBER: 74000855	
NOMINATOR: STATE	
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDOTHER: N PDIL: N PERSEQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR	
COMMENT WAIVER: N	
ACCEPTRETURNREJ	ECTDATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:	
RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comme:	nts Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the

nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.













