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THE THOMAS KENNEDY HOUSE NEAR PARIS, KENTUCKY: ANALYSIS, CONTEXT, AND RESTORATION.

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (WINTERTHUR PROGRAM), M.A., 1980

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THE THOMAS KENNEDY HOUSE NEAR PARIS, KENTUCKY:

ANALYSIS, CONTEXT, AND RESTORATION

BY

Lavinia DeNood

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of the University of Delaware in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Early American Culture.

May, 1980

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THE THOMAS KENNEDY HOUSE NEAR PARIS, KENTUCKY:
ANALYSIS, CONTEXT, AND RESTORATION

BY

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PREFACE

Thomas Kennedy first came to the Blue Grass in 1776 and in 1785 began building one of the first substantial stone houses in the wilderness west of the Alleghenies. By 1980, this house had changed family ownership only once and had undergone minimal alteration in its two hundred year history. Its need for structural preservation had become imperative, however; this fact, together with the building's historical significance was recognized by the present owners, who supported in full its two-year restoration. It was the desire of Mr. Landon T. Clay, one of the owners, to preserve this rugged symbol of frontier America and to him the author gives deep thanks for his strong support and guidance.

Appreciation is expressed for the complete cooperation extended by the staff of the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture and particularly by Dr. Dame Stillman who has given very generously valuable advice and pertinent recommendations.

The author also thanks many individuals in Kentucky, especially members of the Clay, Wornall, and Simpson families, the Kentucky Heritage Commission, and the staff of the Bourbon County Courthouse.
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PART ONE: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
Introduction

A basic similarity in character and plan can be seen in the farmhouses of many early settlers of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Differing architectural details within this tradition reflect the varying ancestral background of the builders, i.e., German, Irish, Scotch, English, or French. Overriding these differences, however, is a consistent architectural formula which evolved throughout the newly settled areas from the 1740's to 1820's because it best answered the needs of pioneer settlement. This settlers' architecture is characterized by a simple block-like structure with gable roof, central door, two to three rooms per floor, enclosed stair, and modest trim. Due to the settlers' parallel (if not common) background and purpose, functional farmhouses across the South and Middle-Atlantic States often have much more in common with each other than they do with dwellings built in closer proximity and time but by other segments of the population.

Although the homes of prominent individuals and architecturally significant buildings of the South are amply documented and published, vernacular architecture of this region has received little attention. The Thomas Kennedy House is an especially appropriate case study of pioneer domestic architecture because it is characteristic of most aspects of Kentucky's early stone dwellings, has undergone no
significant alterations, and has a known history of ownership, allowing more accurate dating and cultural interpretation. In analysing the Kennedy House within the context of contemporary southern farmhouses, references are limited to other masonry dwellings, even though these do not differ significantly in floor plan from frame structures.\(^1\)

The Kennedy House was a farmhouse, built along a water course

\(^1\)Masonry dwellings visited by the author include, in Bourbon County, Kentucky: Mount Lebanon (1786), Mount Airy (1820), John Kiser House (1786), David House (1802), Ritchie House (ca. 1780), Eagle Bend (ca. 1780), Coopers Run Meeting House (1803), Jones Farmhouse (1780-90), Douglas Parish House (1790-1810), Hutson House (1790-1820), John Redmon House (ca. 1800), Redmon Family House (ca. 1790), Ewalt House (1790-1810), Duncan Tavern (1788), Runnymede (ca. 1830), and Auvergne (1837); in Fayette County: Philip Grimes House (1813), Robert Boggs House (ca. 1785), Frederick Shryock House (1804), and Hunt Morgan House (1812-14); in Harrison County: Williams House (1790-1800), Leo Midden House (1790-1800), Sam Dennis House (1790-1820), Mathias Lair Barn (ca. 1810), Amende House (ca. 1785), and Anderson House (ca. 1800); in Franklin County, Liberty Hall (1796); in Nicholas County, Henry Thompson House (1785-1795); in Tennessee, Sumner County: Cragfont (1802); in Virginia: Shirley Plantation (before 1740) and Thomas Nelson House (ca. 1743), Yorktown. (Dates for the above houses are based on local, traditional attribution.)


Further comparative analysis is drawn from familiarity with regional structures, based on this writer's having lived in Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania while working on historic houses in each state.
in fertile Bourbon County, in north-central Kentucky. Before the agricultural boom of the early nineteenth century, domestic Kentucky architecture could not compare in scale or style with Virginia's plantation houses. For the most part, Kentucky's early stone houses were substantial but not extravagant dwellings, built by industrious settlers who farmed their own fields and carried their own water. While the Thomas Kennedy family did acquire slaves, the Kennedys remained craftsmen and farmers, who never had much more than 250 acres accompanying the Kennedy House. Although wealthier settlers brought Federal style architecture to Kentucky around 1810, stone houses built by the farming settlers continued unchanged into the 1820's.

Like the Kennedy House, these simple Georgian stone dwellings were uniformly rectangular, with plain wall surfaces uninterrupted by trim or projections and without any focus on individual wall elements. Only the eave extends to form a simple box cornice. This modest projection contrasts the exaggerated flying eaves of the Hudson River Valley stone houses and the pent eaves common among Pennsylvania stone houses. The few exceptions to this unarticulated wall surface found among early Kentucky stone houses include the Philip Grimes House (1813) and Frederick Shryock House (1804), which have water tables; the Grimes House and Amende House (ca. 1785), which have

---

2 Examples include the Blauvelt-Secor House and the Dutch-Flemish Smith House, both of Rockland County, N. Y. (eighteenth century).

3 Pusey House, London Grove Township (1728), Strodes Mill, East Bradford Township (ca. 1740), and Taylor Parke House, West Bradford Township (1768) exhibit typical Pennsylvania pent eaves.
dentil and modillion cornice moldings; and the James McKee House (1791) which has an arched wooden door frame in addition to an elaborate cornice.

The projection of window sills is also suppressed, extending only an inch beyond the wall surface at the Kennedy House. Although window and door openings are surmounted by flat jack arches, these arches are the same color as the body of the house, and so do not call attention to the openings as do the contrasting colors of the stone lintels commonly used in Pennsylvania and New York field stone houses.

Such uniformly colored stone throughout the walls of Kentucky houses emphasizes the mass of the house. Unlike the diversely colored field stones characteristic of Pennsylvania houses, Kentucky's limestone is consistent in any given house, although it does vary in color from county to county. Most common is the Kennedy House blue-gray color; rare is the white limestone used in the Philip Grimes House (1813) of Fayette County and the Robert Guyn House (1801) of Woodford County.

Thus the heavy, solid wall mass of Kentucky stone houses is unrelieved by projection, coloration, or ornamentation.\(^4\) Arches,\(^4\)

---

\(^4\)The jack arch in Kentucky is usually composed of nine stones; the two stone house exceptions known to this writer are the James Lindsay House (before 1796) in Scott County, Kentucky, and Abram's Delight (1754) in Winchester, Virginia, which have segmental arches similar to many houses in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

\(^5\)Although date stones are frequent ornamental details in Pennsylvania, such stones are rare in Kentucky. The only examples known to this writer are found in the Philip Grimes House (1813) and Frederick Shryock House (1804) in Fayette County, and the James Bogie House (1811) in Madison County, and the Samuel Taylor House (1790) in Mercer County.
quoins and openings are downplayed and modest. There is, of course, more play of light and shadow on roughly-dressed, random coursed rubble masonry (as on the Kennedy House) than on smooth-surfaced ashlar houses, but this irregular shadow only gives texture that enhances the ruggedness of the bold, stark structure.

Just as the Kennedy House is typical of early Kentucky architecture, so Thomas Kennedy's arrival in Kentucky is characteristic of the early settlers' movement from Pennsylvania and Maryland to Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas, in a pattern that was to distribute the simplified Georgian farmhouse throughout that newly populated territory.

---

6While not as common as random rubble, ashlar masonry is not unusual among the more substantial early Kentucky stone houses. Examples include the Williams House (1790–1800), the Philip Grimes House (1813) and Mount Lebanon (1786); on some houses, the smoothly-dressed ashlar surface is reserved for the front facade only, as on the Henry Thompson House (1785–95) and Jones Farmhouse (1790–1800). As discussed below under masonry techniques, dressing stones was costly and time-consuming; an ashlar house is therefore usually the mark of a substantial landholder and not a frugal farmer. Such is the case of both Rock Castle (ca. 1793–97) and Cragfont (1802) in Sumner County, Tennessee, whose walls are laid in ashlar Flemish bond, capped with elaborate cornices.
Establishing a Date for the Kennedy House

The earliest and latest construction dates for the Kennedy House and its addition can be fairly accurately established by historical data.

Thomas Kennedy first came to Kentucky in 1776, built a cabin and raised a crop of corn, thereby earning the right to a settlement of four hundred acres and a preemption of one thousand adjoining acres. Thomas Kennedy's settlement and preemption certificate was not issued for Kennedy Creek, but rather for property on Strodes Creek, a larger tributary of Stoner Creek, about eight miles southeast of the Kennedy House site. At the same time, Kennedy claimed preemption rights along Kennedy Creek for his two brothers, John and Joseph, then living in Virginia and Maryland.

According to a Kennedy family manuscript, Thomas claimed the Strodes Creek property for his own children, and the more productive

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7The "Certificate Book," Fayette County Courthouse, Lexington, Ky.; also published in the Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society, XXI, No. 62 (May 1923), 91.

Until it became a state in 1792, Kentucky was part of Virginia. Virginia encouraged settlement of this wilderness area by issuing land patents in three forms: military grants, given to reward officers for services in the Revolutionary and French and Indian Wars; settlement and preemption certificates, issued until 1779 to those settlers who could prove they had lived in Kentucky one year or had raised a crop of corn there (after which they were entitled to a settlement of four hundred acres and a preemption of one thousand adjacent acres); and treasury warrants, issued after 1779, for tracts of varying size which settlers could prove to be free from prior claim.
Kennedy Creek property for his brothers, "to avoid Sensuir." Thomas Kennedy's understanding was that his two brothers would repay him two hundred acres each for his services, and that Thomas would thereby retain four hundred acres along Kennedy Creek for himself.

Nine years elapsed between the time Kennedy raised crops in the Blue Grass to claim land for himself and his two brothers and his return to Kennedy Creek to settle and begin construction of the Kennedy House. In the fall of 1776, Kennedy went to Virginia for his family, intending to return to Kentucky in the spring, but was forced to remain in Virginia for three years because of difficulties arising from the Revolutionary War. Finally, in the fall of 1779, he set out once again for Kentucky. Jesse's manuscript describes the journey (pp. 12-13).

During Thomas Kennedy's nine-year absence from Kennedy Creek, several events had transpired which were to affect his property claims.

Although Thomas Kennedy's Strodes Creek settlement and pre-emption certificate acknowledges his "Settling & raising a crop of Corn in the year 1776," Kennedy did not receive patents for that land from the Register's Office until July 1, 1784 and November 18, 1785. Two other Virginians, George Smith and Isaac Davis, independently, 

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8Jesse Kennedy Manuscript, 1850, recopied 1852, Macon A. Smith Collection, Arlington, Texas, p. 14. This manuscript is a forty-page family history written by Jesse Kennedy (1787-1863), a fifth son of Thomas Kennedy (1744-1827), for the benefit of his children so that they might better appreciate their ancestors' faith and industry in maintaining a settlement on Kennedy Creek.

had established claims conflicting with Kennedy's which were patented just three and four months earlier, Smith's patent bearing the date March 18, 1784,\(^{10}\) and Davis' patent April 7, 1784.\(^{11}\) Unfortunately, Kennedy did not learn of these conflicting claims until 1803, by which time he had already sold significant portions of the Strodes Creek property in order to raise capital to pay court costs for a twelve-year lawsuit over the same land with James Duncan, and, from 1799 to 1811, to defend in court and eventually to purchase from his brother John Kennedy's heirs, the Kennedy Creek land on which he was living.\(^{12}\)

Jesse's manuscript explains the verbal contract by which Thomas Kennedy believed he had a right to two hundred acres of each of his brothers' Kennedy Creek preemptions. This understanding is confirmed by a bond written by Joseph Kennedy on July 17, 1792, and executed upon his death in 1799, wherein Joseph granted to Thomas Kennedy 251 and 3/4 acres.\(^{13}\) The verbal agreement among the three brothers is further corroborated through deposition in Bourbon County Court,
Nonetheless, after John Kennedy's death, his heirs sued Thomas Kennedy to regain the two hundred acres upon which Thomas had built the Kennedy House. Because of prior claims and bad debts, over two thousand acres passed through Thomas Kennedy's hands, of which he retained only about 250 acres by 1811; more debts were to come when yet another valid claim to portions of the Strodes Creek preemption was presented in 1812.

The costs and concern Thomas Kennedy bore over these lawsuits make it unlikely that he would have undertaken any major enlargement or embellishment of the house during the early nineteenth century. Thus, while the above documentation suggests 1785 as the earliest date for construction of the original house, the date of the addition remains conjectural. The first decade of the nineteenth century were Kennedy's worst years financially, suggesting either an earlier or later date for the addition, that is 1790-1800 or 1810-20. Because the original house and the addition are very close stylistically and because of the great number of early Kennedy House occupants, this writer believes the addition can be dated safely to the 1790's.

14 John Kennedy son of Daniel (Thomas Kennedy's half brother).
15 Jesse Kennedy Manuscript, pp. 18-19. Bourbon County Deeds record that between the years 1800 and 1811, Thomas Kennedy was able to purchase or trade for other land, 251 and 1/2 acres immediately around the Kennedy House.

Settlement of the Blue Grass Region

Thomas Kennedy's troubles stemmed from conflicting preemption claims "fourteen deep" as Jesse was to write. This confusion over land titles was repeated throughout the state, but naturally the greatest number of suits arose over the most productive lands along water courses.

Bourbon County is a gently rolling upland and one of the most fertile agricultural areas in the country. Paris, the county seat, was formed at the confluence of Houston and Stoner Creeks, that being the furthest point to which boats could come carrying supplies from the East down the Ohio River via Limestone (now Maysville, Kentucky). There were numerous tributaries to Houston and Stoner Creeks, as well as abundant springs and salt licks, attracting ample game. A major buffalo trace connected present-day Escondida Pike and Spears

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16Kennedy Manuscript, p. 24.

17Originally called Hopewell, Paris was renamed in 1790 by the Virginia legislature in gratitude for French aid in the Revolutionary War.

18Springs were important to many farm houses (including the Kennedy House, whose spring is located near the Creek) and were essential to the Bourbon County distilleries which were to develop in the nineteenth century. Unfortunately, few springs yield significant water supplies today due to excessive demand and improper maintenance.
Mill Pike, approximately two miles south of the Kennedy House.\textsuperscript{19}

Writing in 1784, John Filson described such a trace:

The amazing herds of Buffaloes which resort [to the salt licks], by their size and number fill the traveller with amazement and terror, especially when he beholds the prodigious roads they have made from all quarters, as if leading to some populous city.\textsuperscript{20}

Paris, by the time of the 1800 census, had a population of 377.\textsuperscript{21} The same source lists 6,929 whites and 908 slaves living in all of Bourbon County the same year, compared to 1,194 whites and 325 slaves in 1790. This increase becomes more significant when one remembers that Bourbon County encompassed a much larger territory in 1790 than it did in 1800, namely parts of present day Clark, Harrison, and Nicholas Counties.\textsuperscript{22} The population of Kentucky as a whole increased almost 200 percent during the decade 1790-1800, growing from 73,677 to 220,955.

Thus, coming as he did first in 1776 and beginning the Kennedy House around 1785, Thomas Kennedy was among the first settlers to

\textsuperscript{19}"Historical Map of Bourbon County" published by the Kentucky Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Duncan Tavern, Paris, Kentucky.

\textsuperscript{20}John Filson, The Discovery, Settlement, and Present State of Kentucky (Louisville, 1784), p. 32.

\textsuperscript{21}G. Glenn Clift, Second Census of Kentucky—1800 (Frankfort, 1954).

\textsuperscript{22}The historical division of counties is important in interpreting early land deeds and other documents. In 1776 Kentucky County was formed from Fincastle County, Virginia, and in 1780 Kentucky County was divided into three counties, viz, Fayette, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Bourbon County was formed from Fayette County in 1786, and between 1789 and 1800 Bourbon County was itself divided to form all or part of the present day Bourbon, Clark, Harrison, Mason, and Nicholas Counties.
recognize the unique natural advantages of the Blue Grass region of Kentucky. Additionally, he was one of the first and relatively few to construct a solid and significant stone house.
Incidence of Stone Houses in Kentucky

The Kentucky Heritage Commission has not yet completed its survey of historic houses in Bourbon County, but it estimates that there remain approximately twenty-five early stone houses in the county. This figure is to be compared with the three hundred stone houses dating from the late 1780's to about 1820 which one writer states have been located across Kentucky's 119 counties.

Bourbon County has more stone houses than the average county in Kentucky both because of its abundant limestone supply and because very early it became one of the state's most prosperous regions. A local tradition contends that stone houses were constructed for protection against Indians. But, although a British-Indian expedition did strike and destroy Ruddell's and Martin's Stations in June, 1780, within twelve miles of the Kennedy House site, Indian disturbances were relatively infrequent in this area by the late 1780's.

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23 Interview with Mary H. Oppel, February, 1980.


25 Jesse Kennedy tells two stories involving Indians, but reiterates their threat was minimal by the time he was a boy. "Draper Manuscripts: Bourbon County," Kentucky Papers Series, No. 5, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the Jesse Kennedy Manuscript pp. 39-40.
The writer believes that most of Kentucky's stone houses were the result of adequate raw material, adequate funds, a desire for permanency, and a desire for prestige.

Whereas limestone quarries abounded in Kentucky, masons were scarce. This would give Thomas Kennedy, carpenter and mason, added incentive to advertise his skill in building as substantial a house as circumstances would permit.

Thomas Jefferson despaired over the lack of masons in Virginia: "We are erecting a College in my neighborhood in which with other visitors I have a direction. We are in want of a stone-cutter, not of the very first order, but capable of cutting an Ionic capital when drawn for him, and we suppose we can be better accommodated with one from your place than here, for indeed such workmen are scarcely to be had here at all." (Letter from Thomas Jefferson to a Mr. Vaughn in Italy, undated, published in "Charles Belline, First Professor of Modern Languages," William and Mary Quarterly, 2nd Ser., V., 27).

Thomas Jefferson also wrote in a letter to Archibald Stuart, April 5, 1796: "I am now in want of a stonemason . . . I should prefer hiring by the day, because it is the foundation of an addition to my dwelling-house which I have to do, and which I have taken great pains about . . . ." (ibid., p. 297.)

Perhaps this paucity of skilled masons explains why, as Jefferson wrote in his Notes on the State of Virginia, "private buildings are very rarely constructed of stone or brick; much of the greatest portion being of scantling and boards, plastered with lime. It is impossible to devise things more ugly, uncomfortable, and happily more perishable" (Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia [Boston: Wells and Lilly, 1829], p. 159).

When describing Cragfont in 1802, F. A. Michaux remarked on the rarity of stone houses in Tennessee. Michaux further notes that the workmen "employed to finish the inside . . . came from Baltimore, a distance of nearly 700 miles. . . ." (Travels to the Westward of the Allegheny Mountains in the State of Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee in the Year 1802, p. 254). Michaux's observation is interesting in view of Thomas Kennedy's Maryland origins.
Thomas Kennedy, Mason

Thomas Kennedy was born in Maryland in 1744 and must have learned his trade there, for he married in Maryland at the age of twenty-eight and does not appear to have left the state until 1775, when he went to North Carolina looking for a home for his new family. Kennedy devoted much of 1776 to travels in Kentucky "on the same business," as Jesse tells us, and lived in Virginia only from 1776 to 1779, at which point he returned to Kentucky. Jesse describes his father as "a brickmason and carpenter by trade, [who] could do rough stone work and was also a plasterer." In his vocational dexterity, Thomas Kennedy typified the early American craftsman, or "mechanic," as Jesse identifies his uncle and three cousins who were also carpenters and brickmasons. Unlike Europe, where the medieval guild system continued to impose extreme specialization, in America colonial experience encouraged craftsmen to be proficient in multiple services. The inventory and appraisal of Jesse Kennedy's

27 Jesse Kennedy Manuscript, p. 11.
28 Ibid., p. 12.
personal property include both carpenters' and masons' tools and
supplies, inherited from his father Thomas Kennedy: "a log chain . . .
a lot of old irons . . . quarrying tools . . . 1 lot seasoned Cherry
. . . 1 lot sheeting plank . . . 1 lot Ash and Oak Plant . . . 1 keg
blasting powder 1 . . . 1 lot blowing tools . . . 1 crowbar . . .
2 drills . . . 1 pick and Stone hammer . . . 1 crowbar and scraper
. . . 1 do. and Sledge . . . 1 auger Hatchet . . . 2 augers."30

Similarly, the inventory of Thomas Kennedy's brother Joseph lists "seven axes" and "one bunch Carpenters Tools," together with
"Three Iron Wedges" and "one bunch Iron Utensils," while the inventory
of Washington Kennedy, Thomas' nephew, described as a brickmason, con­tains mainly carpenter's tools: "one choping adze and sundry other
tools . . . one log chain . . . 4 axes . . . one broad axe and lot of
tools . . . saw and drawer knife."31 Interestingly, not one builder's
guide is included among the books listed in these inventories. Thomas
Kennedy and those of his family who followed his trade counted on
experience as the basis of their building design.

This writer has not been able to discover the degree to which
any of the Kennedys received formal training as masons or carpenters.
According to Jesse's manuscript, Thomas Kennedy's father, John Kennedy,
"was kidnapped on the shores of Ireland in company with several other
boys, when about six or seven years old, brought to the colony of
Maryland, and sold for a term of years."32 Jesse does not indicate

30Bourbon County Will Book Q, 507-510.
31Bourbon County Will Book B, 37, and Will Book J, 87-88.
32Kennedy Manuscript, p. 1.
into what services his grandfather was indentured as a boy; his only further reference is to John Kennedy's "being a physician by nature . . . skillful among the sick, an excellent nurse, useful in his neighborhood."33 After John Kennedy's death, Thomas' mother married an Englishman, Robert Darr, who was, Jesse tells us, "a scholar and a gentleman; a teacher by profession from whom her children received Moderate educations."34

Thus, Thomas Kennedy would not appear to have learned his craft from either his father or step-father. According to the custom of the times, Thomas Kennedy was most probably apprenticed to a builder in Maryland. The practice of indenture continued to be common in Bourbon County at least until 1804, at which time Thomas' nephew, Eli Kennedy, accepted into his charge "Robert Logan, Infant orphan of David Logan deceased . . . to be taught the art, trade, or mystery of Bricklaying . . . until he shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years . . . ."35

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33 Ibid., p. 2.
34 Ibid., p. 3.
35 Bourbon County Deed Book 10, 152.
The Kennedy House and Early Kentucky Stone Architecture

As is frequent with early Kentucky stone homes, the Kennedy House is located near a spring and a quarry and oriented to best answer the climate's demands. Situated slightly below the brow of a hill, the house profits by summer breezes, yet is somewhat protected from winter winds. The house faces southeast, leaving its narrowest north side to get the brunt of winter winds, most wind shearing off at angles from the house's northwest corner.

Rock for the Kennedy House is likely to have come from a small quarry located by the Creek within six hundred feet of the house. Typically, the ledges of rock here are exposed by the stream and erosion on the outer curve of a bend in the creek.

The Kennedy House floor plan and proportions are similar to those of other early Kentucky stone houses. Exterior dimensions of the original house are 20'-7" in width by 36'-7" in length, representing approximately 748 square feet. Early houses of the region are rarely

36 Dimensions of the original McAfee House (1790) in Mercer County, for example, are 21'-10" x 37'-5"; dimensions of the Samuel Taylor House (1790), also of Mercer County, are 20'-4" x 32'-2".

37 Exterior dimensions including the addition 20'-7" in width by 60'-9" in length; (See Drawing I). The square footage can be compared with that listed for stone houses in the 1796 tax assessment for East Fallowfield, Pennsylvania, and the 1798 Direct Tax list for Chester County Pennsylvania, the former listing the mean size of 21 stone houses as 656 square feet, and the latter giving the mean size of 936 stone houses as 781 square feet.
much wider than twenty feet, which is the maximum span a simple timber joist can support. Any greater depth would require a summer beam, or transverse bearing wall at the center of the building, to support longer joists.  

Thomas Kennedy built the Kennedy House on the traditional hall and parlor plan, the hall being the larger of the two rooms into which one enters from the exterior. This simple floor plan was 

38 It is due to this structural framework (and not stylistic preference as some writers suggest) which calls for floor boards to be laid parallel to the longer house facade; the floor boards are simply laid perpendicular to the floor joists which run the shortest dimension of the house. 

From informal observation only, this writer believes most Pennsylvania stone houses to be wider in proportion to their length than Kentucky's stone houses. The framing elements of early Pennsylvania stone houses are not recorded by Schiffer in her Survey, but photographs of house interiors in the same Survey and in Eleanor Raymond's Early Domestic Architecture of Pennsylvania, (Exton, Pa.: Schiffer Ltd., 1977) suggest a high incidence of summer beams. 

39 This plan is characteristic of almost all the stone houses cited on page 2 of this study, and appears to be characteristic of many early houses throughout the Middle Atlantic States. See Henry Glassie, Folk Housing in Middle Virginia (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1975), p. 89 and Henry J. Kauffman, The American Farmhouse (New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1975), p. 147.

Frequently in Pennsylvania houses and in southern farmhouses built by settlers from the Pennsylvania area, the smaller of the two first floor rooms is divided by a board partition, creating three rooms; one such house is the Hertz House (ca. 1730), near Leesburg, Virginia. See Thomas J. Waterman, The Early Architecture of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, 1947), p. 173.

familiar, practical to construct, and suited to the modest life style of the early settlers. In most instances, it was the mason (or carpenter) who designed as well as built the house, as the following contract demonstrates:

The house is to be Twenty Nine feet Long and Twenty one feet in Width one Storrey of which is to be Chiefly under the Ground . . . the first Storrey above the Ground to be Twenty nine feet Long . . . and the Wall to be Twenty four Inches in thickness and of Convenient Height . . . With Chimneys at each end of the House with Two fire Places in each Chimney . . . and all of the fire places to be of Convenient Size or Bigness and that the said Thomas Hogan Shall Do of the said Work in a Compleat and Workmanlike Manner . . .

Drawing I shows the corner stair, enclosed from drafts, built into the wall separating the two rooms. As is usual, the stairway is entered from the larger room but is physically located in the smaller room, presumably an area of lesser importance.

The floor plan of the second story is less common. Normally, the second-story floor plan repeats that of the first, but in the Kennedy House a small antechamber is introduced at the top of the stairs (Drawing II). Providing enough room for a bed and privacy from adjacent rooms, this plan represents innovative utilization of available space with an economy of structural framework.41

40 Contract between Robert Guyn, Jr., and Thomas Hogan, stone-mason, 1802; the manuscript is preserved in the Guyn home, Woodford County, Kentucky.

41 This writer does not know of other Kentucky stone houses with a similar feature. An advertisement for a "stone dwelling house, two stories high, two rooms on the lower floor and three on the second, with convenient fire-places" appearing in the Pennsylvania Gazette (Philadelphia) October 5, 1791, may, however, refer to a similar plan.
Ceiling height of the Kennedy House is ten feet on the first floor, eight feet on the second. This generous height adds some degree of elegance to the rooms, for it is not uncommon in other early Kentucky stone houses for the first floor ceiling to be somewhat lower.

In contrast to the central chimney found occasionally on Pennsylvania stone houses, Kentucky's stone houses, without exception, have chimneys at the gable ends.

The only entrance to the Kennedy House cellar is on the exterior, presumably for ease in carrying hogsheads, salting tubs, and other bulky stores. The first cellar room once had a fireplace, while the inner room was probably used as a larder, there being masonry ledges built on both sides of the chimney foundation but no fireplace. The masonry wall and door between the two rooms appear to be typical of both Kentucky and Pennsylvania stone house construction.

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42 Examples include the Christian Herr House (1719), Marshallton Friends Meeting House (1765), and Robert Baldwin Tavern (ca. 1763), all of Chester County.

43 An extra cellar entrance (with no interior entrance) is typical of all Kentucky stone houses visited by this writer, although some cellar entrances are on the front, not the side, of the house (the Ritchie House [ca. 1790] and the Amende House [ca. 1785]).

44 One will refers to "the inner apartment of my seller which hath a lock to it" (Chester County [Pa.] Will Book 3, p. 344), while a newspaper advertises a stone house with "a good cellar divided into two parts by a stone wall" (Village Record [West Chester, Pa.] September 30, 1815; quoted by Schiffer, p. 284).
A comparison of the placement of window and door openings in the original house and in the addition demonstrates a minor stylistic transition. While the non-alignment of doors and windows on the east and west facades of the original house reflects an absence of classical canons, the perfect alignment of all openings in the addition suggests a greater observance of Georgian standards of regularity.

Early Kentucky houses were typically one room deep. The Georgian ideal was a house plan two rooms deep, with two windows per room on each facade in order to compensate for an unfenestrated interior wall. The first and second floors of the Kennedy House addition represent a transition: while adopting the Georgian regularly spaced double windows, each story of the addition is still only one room deep.

Unlike the gable ends of Pennsylvania stone houses, the end walls of early Kentucky and Tidewater Virginia houses are usually blank, except for small attic windows, one on each side of the end chimneys.⁴⁵

The end chimneys of the Kennedy House are flush in the original house and exterior on the addition. Insufficient data has been gathered on other stone houses to determine whether this change represents a stylistic evolution related to the Georgian ideal of a regular

⁴⁵Carolyn Wooley, "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses," p. 597, suggests this was an adaptation of the windowless end walls of the Philadelphia town house, while Henry Glassie, p. 91, traces the blank end walls to similar folk houses of the British Isles.

Exceptions to this normal gable end construction are the James Bogie House (1811), Madison County, which has six openings on its ends, and the James Lindsay House (before 1796) in Scott County, which has no gable end openings.
interior wall surface, or whether it simply reflects a practical preference related to room use. Frequently, additions were used as kitchens; it is conceivable that exterior chimneys were thought to be cooler in the summer and to represent a lesser fire hazard. The Amende House in Harrison County, Thompson House in Nicholas County, Welcome Hall in Woodford County, and Vaucluse in Spencer County, exhibit this same change from flush chimneys on the late 1780's original house to exterior chimneys on their additions.

End chimneys present a special problem in placement of the addition. The easiest and most frequent solution is for an ell to be added to the rear of the original building, using an existing door or transforming a window into a doorway for passage. However, additions to many Kentucky stone houses are built against an end wall, requiring an opening to be made on one side of the chimney. The Kennedy House exhibits this end-addition solution; but, unlike most other examples, it provided no interior passage from the original house to the addition.⁴⁶

⁴⁶A doorway was installed on the first floor in 1955, and a connecting passage was cut in 1979 on the second floor in order to make one closet serve two rooms and to provide a fire exit.

The end-addition of the Kennedy House, like those of the Amende House (ca. 1785), Grimes House (1813), and Thompson House (ca. 1785–95) in Kentucky and the Minor Bartlow House (ca. 1741 and 1770) near Hamilton, Virginia, were built flush with the walls of the original house to form a larger, uniform block.

It is characteristic of slightly later end-additions to be recessed from the original house ell, creating wings and thereby departing from the earlier desire for a smooth surface to an articulated one. Examples of recessed end-additions are to be found on the David House (1802) and Jacob Spears House (before 1825) in Bourbon County and the Robert Boggs House (before 1792) in Fayette County.
This obvious inconvenience leads one to speculate on the use of the addition. The location of its only entrance on the east is also a clue in determining what was considered to be the front of the house. If the addition were to be used as a second family residence, it would be natural for the entrance to be on the front facade. Even in the Henry Thompson House, where the addition is known to have been used as a kitchen, the entrance is placed on the front of the house.

Further favoring the east facade as the front of the Kennedy House by the time the addition was built is the superior quality of workmanship in the quoins and window arches of the addition's east side when compared with the west.

However, features of the original house are equivocal. The original house has two doors on the east facade. Demolition of plaster in Room II showed that that room's east window was originally a door, while existence of a cellar window beneath the present east door of Room II indicates that that door was once a window (light to the cellar window being thereafter obscured by steps to the door). That this transformation of door to window and window to door took place very early is proven by the early character of the interior trim around these altered openings. The reason for the change could have been purely practical, relating, for example, to the effect of a door on the draw of the nearby fireplace. However, it is this writer's contention that moving the east door of Room II closer to the door of Room I was an attempt to bring some symmetry to the eastern facade of the original Kennedy House at the same time that the addition,
with its greater concern for regularity, was erected (Figures 1-2).

Thus, while the original house may have faced west, the altered articulation of the east facade of the original house and the superior masonry work on the addition's east facade strongly suggest that the house faced east by the time the addition was built.

Features of the interior floor plan further support the theory of an orientation change from west to east. In most early Kentucky stone houses, the stairway is located at the rear of the first floor rooms, it being more comely upon guests' entering and at the same time permitting a central window on the front facade of the second story. The stairs of the original Kennedy House, are, in fact, placed at the east, suggesting that this was originally conceived as the rear, whereas the stairs of the addition are placed against the west facade, indicating an alteration of orientation.

In terms of the house site, by far the best view is looking east over Kennedy Creek. Likely to have been of greater significance in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, however, was

47 Other houses with similar double front doors are Keene Place (ca. 1805) in Fayette County, Johnson's Inn (ca. 1795-1800), Fairfield (ca. 1790) and McDowell House (ca. 1790) in Bourbon County, Kendig House (ca. 1810) near Millersville, Pa., and the Blauvelt-Secor House (ca. 1745) in Rockland County, New York.

Kauffman, American Farmhouse, pp. 52-54 and 97-100, has two theories about double front doors. First is the hypothesis that two front doors evolved from stone houses with end-additions and no interior passage; that the double doors were successful and then adopted on houses built from "scratch," i.e., even where no addition was involved. His second theory is that two front doors became necessary when the central hall was eliminated in the early Federal house plan. "Two front doors were common occurrences, one used primarily by the family, the other used primarily on Sundays, holidays, and by guests" (p. 100).
proximity to a road. Although the present Winchester Pike passes about 150 feet west of the Kennedy House, there is clear evidence of a well-travelled road-bed east of the Kennedy House, crossing the creek and coming within fifty feet of the house before passing in a northwestern direction to meet the Winchester Pike. How early and to what extent this road was used is not known. It could have been an early nineteenth century road built to meet the farm needs of the house and surrounding fields.
The Kennedy House as a Reflection of Its Occupants

Describing the "present state of Kentucke" in 1784, John Filson wrote that "the inhabitants, at present, have not extraordinary good houses, as usual in a newly settle country." The Kennedy House was as ambitious for its time and location as was Thomas Kennedy. Not all Kennedy's aspirations materialized, however; and, similarly, after its initial addition, the house did not grow in any appreciable way.

It is fortunate that the house had undergone such limited modernization. Had the Kennedy family been more prosperous or pre­tentious, there would have been a greater likelihood of remodeling. Jesse Kennedy, who lived at the house until his death in 1863, had by that time not only paid his father's debts, but had amassed significant capital himself. Although by the mid-nineteenth century

48 Discovery, p. 29.

49 Jesse Kennedy's estimate of his property in 1850, as recorded in his manuscript (p. 30):

- Upwards of three hundred acres of land
- Worth in the aggregate 25,000
- Twenty odd slaves worth upwards of 8,000
- Stock and other property including road stock 2,000
  35,000

Much of this property, itemized in Jesse's will and inventory, had increased in value by the time of his death in 1863 (Bourbon County Will Book Q, 458-462 and 507-511.)
Jesse could afford to update the house stylistically, it is significant that the only "improvements," apart from changes resulting from normal depreciation of highly vulnerable areas such as roofing, shutters, stairs, and doors, was the introduction of large pane window sashes and one Victorian fireplace surround and coal grate.

When first built, the Kennedy House was the homestead of Thomas Kennedy, his wife, and six children, as well as temporary residence for at least five relatives.\(^{50}\)

\(^{50}\)First and second generation family members living at the Kennedy House in the 1780's and 90's were:
- Thomas Kennedy (1744-1827);
- Rachel Graham Cook Kennedy (1750-1826);
- Thomas (b. 1773; m. 1793 Elizabeth Eaton; left Paris c. 1810);
- James (b. 1773 [?]; left Paris c. 1810);
- Nancy (b. 1779; m. 1796 Ephraim Holland);
- John (1785-1836);
- Jesse(1787-1863); m. (1st) 1814 Polly Waugh (1788-1837); m. (2nd) 1838 Polly McClainian Kennedy;
- Rachel (1791-1793);
- Abigail Cook (m. John Lyon [dates unknown]).

In his manuscript, Jesse refers to several cousins who lived at the house when he was a boy, i.e., in the late 1780's and early 1790's. One was Samuel Kennedy, son of Thomas' half-brother Francis (killed by Indians very early in Kentucky) who stayed a few years before moving to Natchez. Eli Kennedy (1771-1835), son of Thomas' brother John, "came with his sister Julia and Sam Hatcher when about 17 or 18 years old, the year before his mother came, to aid in making provisions for her and the ballence of the family." Perhaps due to Thomas Kennedy's early influence, Eli and later Eli's brother Washington, both became masons.

Thomas Kennedy's relationship with his niece's husband Sam Hatcher was not as auspicious, however, as Jesse relates: "Father also became involved in some little law suits with Sam Hatcher, who had migrated to the country and resided with his family (i.e., wife, Julia Kennedy Hatcher [m. 1789] and one son) in father's house receiving gratuitous support during the greater part of one winter, and was furnished with bread and meat for this family through the succeeding spring and summer for which he promised to pay; but ultimately paid not a dime for any, but what was proved and forced out of him by law" (p. 6). Elsewhere in the manuscript, Jesse recalls that his father "used to say if his brother had lived 'no such damned rascal would ever have got into
Three of the Kennedy children married in the 1790's, and Jesse married in 1814. These younger families continued to live in Paris for some years, although Jesse Kennedy's is the only family known to have stayed on at the Kennedy House. Jesse was to raise nine children and at the same time care for his aging parents and retarded brother John. Thus, what had been a substantial structure for Thomas Kennedy came to meet the needs of two families and three generations.

Jesse Kennedy's manuscript indicates that the family revenue was largely derived from farming. By 1813 when Thomas Kennedy was confronted with warrantee claims on the Strodes Creek property he had sold several decades before, he was sixty-nine years old and, as Jesse writes, "unable to labor." According to Jesse, his father's plan to meet the new debt was "to sell all the land but about forty or fifty acres, retaining that much with the dwelling house . . ."52

Indeed, after John Kennedy's seven heirs drew lots dividing the Kennedy Creek property on which the Kennedy House stood, six were willing to trade or sell the land back to Thomas Kennedy; only Sam Hatcher and his wife Julia sold their lot to Thomas' rival on Kennedy's Creek, James Duncan, from whom Kennedy had to repurchase that "one certain tract or parcel of Land lying and being in Bourbon County on Kennedy's Creek, it being a part of a preemption patented in the name of John Kennedy being the Lot No. [3] drawn by Samuel Hatcher at a Lottery held for dividing that part of land whereon the said [Thomas] Kennedy now lives . . ." (January 20, 1800, Bourbon County Deed Book E, 252-253; see also Deed Book E, 254, 269-271, 497-498; Deed Book 8, p. 62; and Order Book C, 40-45).


52 Ibid., p. 25.
Jesse argued that by selling the property they would put the means out of their hands by which to pay the debts, so that clearly, the Kennedy family was dependent on farming for income.

At what point and to what degree Thomas Kennedy had given up his building trade for farming is not known. Jesse's inventory, however, which included most of his father's possessions, is largely agricultural.\(^{53}\)

To supplement his income, Jesse also served as town constable from 1813 to around 1819, a position he received through the influence of his cousins Eli Kennedy and Nicholas Talbot.\(^{54}\)

Apart from Thomas Kennedy's property difficulties with his brother's heirs, there is enormous family allegiance displayed in Kennedy documents. Not only did they provide for one another during

\[^{53}\text{Bourbon County Will Book Q, 510-511.}\]

\[^{54}\text{In his manuscript, Jesse describes the appointment:}\]

"The position of Constable of Bourbon County taught me more of human nature, legal matters and business transactions, than any school to which I had ever been.

"Previous to my entering upon the duties of this office for which I was but illy qualified, I went to Lexington and bought a book called the "Constable's Guide," for which I paid $1.50—the contents of which I nearly memorized, before proceeding to business—officially. I pursued this business with great asperity and success between five and six years, and relinquished it because times were getting hard in a pecuniary point of view, and consequently required a degree of vigor in the collection of debts that was in diverse cases revolting to my feelings—and I could then live more happy without the office than with it.

"It is probable that no man in Bourbon—not a practising lawyer, understood the duties of Constable and Magistrate too, better than I did when I resigned the former office" (pp. 31-32)."
difficult times, but their wills record an exclusive dependence upon one another to serve as guardians and trustees for one another's children. Jesse's manuscript is replete with respectful reminiscences of his relatives, venerating most those of strong moral character and work ethic. Jesse describes his father (p. 11) as

a man of great hospitality, strict moral integrity; it being often said of him that an honester man God never made. He would voluntarily submit to the loss of dollars himself rather than wrong, or be thought to wrong others out of cents.55

Jesse was not above criticizing his own children for irresponsible behavior, adding a codicil to his will in 1860:

55 Later in the manuscript (pp. 35-36) Jesse explains:

It may seem strange to my children, as it did to myself and others at the time, that father should have continued buying claim after claim on his land to keep the purchaser in possession, when all that the law required of him was, to refund the original purchase money with interest, which would not have amounted to half what it cost him.

This was as I conceive, the result of an over zeal for honesty not according to knowledge; for he had sold the land in that early day, at a very small price per acre; but it was the understanding of father and those illiterate people, by whom the country was first settled, that the meaning of a general warrantee deed, was, that the seller should keep the buyer in possession of the land forever ... and although the courts had decided previous to the loss of his land, that all that the law required, was a refundment of the purchase money with interest, father said, that was not the understanding of the parties when contracting; and that he would comply with the original understanding if it took everything he possessed in the world—and it was not in the power of his best friends to divert him from that (his own course). This was certainly a rare instance of moral honesty, but it is nevertheless true, and he carried it out to the letter—as the only means and presence of preserving a conscience void of offence.
Whereas my son Jesse Greene has expended all his wife's estate, and all that I have given him amounting in the aggregate to several thousand dollars, without benefiting his children thereby; it is therefore my will: that portion of my estate, set apart, in the tenth article of this my will for distribution amongst Greene and his children, that his three children . . . shall receive one thousand dollars each and the negroes I have bequeathed to them respectively before he shall Come in for any part of it . . . .

Jesse's overriding sense of responsibility is further reflected in his helping to establish the first Universalist Church in Bourbon County. In 1846 Jesse sold one and one-half acres of land near the Kennedy House as a building site for the church, and in 1855 willed to the Universalist Church the dividends resulting from the stock owned by [him] in the Maysville, Washington, Paris & Lexington Turnpike Road Company; also in the Paris Winchester & Kentucky River Turnpike Road Company . . . .

56 Bourbon County Will Book Q, 461. This codicil is reminiscent of Hugh (brother of Thomas) Kennedy's 1825 will naming Jesse Kennedy, Nicholas Talbot, and Washington Kennedy as trustees for Hugh's daughter Susan Steele, "it being easily seen there is no other cause for this but to prevent my daughter's husband John Steele from waisting what I wish her to enjoy" (Bourbon County Deed Book G, 174). Hugh Kennedy's apprehension of Steele family morals appears to have been justified: Jesse's manuscript records that Hugh "was murdered and robbed in Virginia. His watch and some of his moneys were recovered and identified and James Steele [Hugh's son-in-law's brother] convicted of the crime" (p. 10).

57 Bourbon County Deed Book XLI, 392, and Bourbon County Will Book Q, 459. The Universalist Church at Concord (the name given by Jesse to the Kennedy House and surrounding property) was located close to the spot where Kennedy Creek crosses the Winchester Pike. According to William Perrin in his History of Bourbon County (Cincinnati, Ohio, 1882), p. 88, "the church prospered until commencement of the war, when it was almost wholly broken up. About 1867 the building was sold," the purchaser intending "to turn it into a store or blacksmith's shop, but the building burned shortly after the sale."
In 1863 several Universalists books were itemized in the sale of Jesse's property.\(^5^8\)

Thomas Kennedy, builder of the Kennedy House, had been brought up "according to the rules of the old church of England," Jesse writes, and attended Baptist and Methodist meetings in Maryland before adopting the Universalist Church.\(^5^9\) Jesse describes his mother as "somewhat Calvinistic . . . in her religious tenets . . . ."\(^6^0\)

Jesse's manuscript also indicates that the Kennedy family was musically talented. Of Thomas' seven brothers, five are described as follows:

[Of Francis] I can say but little except that he was a very famous fiddler . . .

Daniel Kennedy was also a very renowned musician. Made his living in early life by teaching musick . . .

[John Kennedy] commenced and carried on successfully the business of common school keeping, and subsequently connected that of teaching vocal music with it—and ultimately devoted all his time to the latter . . .

James Kennedy was a mechanic that worked in wood, and was thought to be one of the best fiddlers in the world . . .

[Hugh Kennedy] a tailor by trade and a Methodist by profession—greatly gifted in exhortation and prayer—and one of the best singers in the country in which he lived . . . .\(^6^1\)

Indeed, Jesse's 1863 inventory lists a piano and a melodian, both of

\(^5^8\) Bourbon County Will Book Q, 510.

\(^5^9\) Kennedy Manuscript, p. 34.

\(^6^0\) Ibid., p. 38.

\(^6^1\) Ibid., pp. 2–10
which his wife repurchased when certain household goods were put up for public sale.\textsuperscript{62}

Other Kennedy House furnishings of note, listed and appraised in the same inventory include "3 parlor stoves . . . 1 cooking stove . . . 6 cane bottom chairs . . . 1 pr. side tables . . . 1 long side table . . . 1 looking glass . . . 1 Bureau & glass . . . 1 washtand . . . 1 clock . . . 1 Bookcase and Bureau . . . 1 Secretory . . . 1 Desk with two drawers . . . " and five bedsteads, three with bedding.\textsuperscript{63}

Archeological findings during the course of the restoration were limited; typical fragments of glass, ceramics, and iron hardware are pictured in Figures 3-6.

An historical furnishing plan for the Kennedy House falls outside the objectives of the restoration and has not been attempted. The goals of the project focused on the architectural restoration of the Kennedy House. To this end, Part One of this report has presented the historical background of the house: who built it, when and where it was built, and why it has the particular shape and character that it does. Part Two of the report will analyze the technical aspects of the house and restoration: how it was built and how in 1978-1980 it has been restored.

\textsuperscript{62}Bourbon County Will Book Q, 511.

\textsuperscript{63}Ibid.
PART TWO: ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS AND
RESTORATION PROCEDURES
Scope of the Restoration

From the beginning of the project, it was determined that the Kennedy House was to be restored for private use, taking necessary steps to make the building structurally sound and equipped for modern living, while at the same time preserving as much of its original character as possible. Four architectural firms were consulted for advice at the outset of the project, but, as so few structural changes were required in the restoration, the decision was made to rely on the skill of expert restoration craftsmen in executing the project. In this, the Kennedy House was fortunate to secure two of the most capable in the field, Stanley Kelly, mason, and Cornell Powell, carpenter, both having worked on the restoration of Pleasant Hill, an historic Shaker settlement near Harrodsburg, and on similar projects in the state.

The report which follows correlates the restoration procedures of these men with a researched examination of the individual architectural components of the Kennedy House. Work executed in the course of the project but not discussed below includes the kitchen, bathroom, and mechanical installations, which obviously bear little relationship to the original structure, and the introduction of panelling in two of the Kennedy House's seven rooms, again because this is not original material of the house. ¹

¹The walnut and cherry paneling, obtained from the Amende
Apart from these exceptions, major architectural aspects of the Kennedy House are described below in terms of their structure and original appearance; their condition or alteration by 1978; and subsequent restoration procedures.

House (ca. 1785) in Harrison County, is a superior example of mid-to-late eighteenth century interior woodwork, exhibiting the lag of style one expects to find in isolated regions. The Amende House had lost its roof and was already deteriorating from weather and vandalism; for financial reasons there was no chance of the house being restored. While the appropriateness of both removing the paneling and installing it at the Kennedy House was seriously debated, it became evident that the only way to save the paneling was to remove it and that, given the proximity in date and location of the two stone houses, its installation in two rooms at the Kennedy House would be mutually advantageous.

In contrast to the more frequent use of wainscotting or full paneling in Tidewater Virginia and Maryland, such extravagant interior woodwork was uncommon in frontier Kentucky. Two examples, in addition to the Amende House, are the Robert Guyn House (1801) and Welcome Hall (1790-1792) in Woodford County.
Masonry

Immigrant settlers were quite familiar with stone as a building material, stone being appreciated in England and Europe both for its lasting quality and its availability compared with the scarcity of wood. In the colonies and new territories like Kentucky, however, wood was abundant and generally preferred by settlers because it required less skill and time in building. The more ambitious settlers, however, built with masonry in those areas of the country where easily worked stone was plentiful, as in Pennsylvania and New York with its sandstone and field stone and in the limestone regions of Kentucky and Virginia.

The various physical properties and the quarrying, dressing, and laying techniques of Kentucky masonry can be "read" in the stones of the Kennedy House.

Mud ripples and fossiliferous inclusions seen in many stones help identify the Kennedy House limestone as an Ordovician Grier Limestone Member (Figure 7).\(^2\) A comparison of the large stones used

\(^2\) The blue-gray color (in contrast to some limestone's oxidized red-brown coloration) further indicates that this limestone sediment was continually under water when formed. "The abundance, kind, and state of preservation of the fossils of the limestone indicate that most of the Grier Limestone Member was deposited in shallow, aerated, only moderately agitated water of approximately normal marine
in the original house with the smaller stones of the addition reflects the variety of rock types contained in the limestone beds near the house.

The rod marks still visible in the several stones indicate that blocks for the Kennedy House were quarried by conventional eighteenth century means (Figure 8). Writing in 1757, John Bartram of Pennsylvania describes the procedure:

My method is to bore the rock about 6 inches deep, having drawn a line from one end to the other, in which I bore holes about a foot asunder, more or less, according to the freeness of the rock; if it be 3 or 4 or 5 feet thick, 10, 12, 16 inches deep. The hole should be an inch and a quarter in diameter if the rock be 2 feet thick, but if it be 5 or 6 feet thick holes should be an inch and three quarters diameter. There must be provided twice as many iron wedges as holes, and one-half of them must be fully as long as the hole is deep and made round at one end, just fit to drop into the hole, and the other half may be made a little longer and thicker one way, and blunt pointed. All the holes must have their wedges drove together, one after another, gently, that they may strain all alike. You may hear by their ringing when they strain well. Then with the sharp edge of the sledge strike hard on the rock in the line between every wedge, which will crack the rock; then drive the wedges again. It generally opens in a few minutes after the wedges are drove tight. Then, with an iron bar or long levers, raise them up and lay the two pieces flat and bore and split them in what shape and dimensions you please.3

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3Because of known feeding habits of fossilized sea life, it has been determined that much of the Grier accumulated in depths of less than 15 m. of water." (Earle R. Cressman, Lithostratigraphy and Depositional Environments of the Lexington Limestone [Ordovician] of Central Kentucky [Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1973], pp. 19-21.)

Due to natural vertical and horizontal divisions, limestones do not require as deep plug holes as granites, marbles, and sandstones. Stones of the Kennedy House are dressed relatively simply, creating an informal quality characteristic of most early Kentucky stone houses. Although the front facades of some Kentucky stone houses exhibit formal, smooth-surfaced ashlar masonry, most, like the Kennedy House, are laid in coursed random rubble (Figures 9-10). In coursed random rubble, the stones are only roughly squared, then bedded in horizontal lines. A stone ax is used first to split the stone along the rift (horizontal bed), then a hammer is struck along the vertical grain, creating a reasonably even rectangle. Irregularities are pitched or smallled off with a pick; Figure 11 shows weathered tool marks of this shaping process.

Only the quoins and arch stones received greater care in fashioning. These stones, articulating the openings and corners of the building, were given an even surface by chiseling shallow parallel grooves, perpendicular to the edges (Figure 12). The best freestone (that proper for cutting and shaping) was saved for quoins and arches. The fact that the arches and quoins on the Kennedy House addition's Memorandum of Bartram and Marshall; quoted in Harley J. McKee, Introduction to Early American Masonry (Washington, D. C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1978), p. 17.


5The visual characteristics of ashlar masonry and examples of its use in Kentucky are discussed above, p. 5, n. 6.
west wall are inferior to others in the house may reflect dwindling funds, time, talent, or quarry supply.

Since shaping and setting arches required extra skill and time, on some early Kentucky stone houses they were placed on the front facades only (as in the Leo Midden House [ca. 1790-1800] Bourbon county) or were omitted altogether, the latter frequently resulting in structural failure (Figures 13-14).6

In several instances, carefully chiseled stones intended to be used in arches or quoins were broken, rejected for that purpose, and mixed in among the coursed rubble.

In addition to their surfaces being dressed more carefully, quoins are longer and larger than other blocks in the wall, especially on the building's first floor. This is not only an aesthetic but a practical consideration; the large, heavy stones have greatest inertia and stability, while the long stones intertongue and lock adjacent courses for greater strength (Figure 15). To remain upright, the house depends on straight and strong corners.

Because stone can support tremendous vertical weight but very little lateral stress, stones are bedded horizontally (Figure 16).

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6 Structural failures resulting from a lack of strong arched lintels are to be seen in the Hutson House in Bourbon County, James Bogie House in Madison County, and Cyrus McCrackin stone cabin in Woodford County.

In Pennsylvania and New York, where the field stone is more difficult to shape than limestone, flat, continuous sandstone lintels were commonly used over openings; examples include the Jacob Blauvelt House (ca. 1780-1790) in Rockland County, New York and the Christian Herr House (ca. 1719) near Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
Only over the window, door, and fireplace openings, where a lateral resistance is called for, are the stones bedded vertically (Figure 17).

The masonry wall thickness at first floor window openings is 20", tapering to 15" at the roof plate.

Where a stone block was too irregular to give even support for the course above it, the Kennedy House mason shaped a small wedge to fill the void (Figures 18-19). To fill irregular voids in other spots, the mason occasionally substituted brick. If the gap presented no structural threat, a thin patch or filler sufficed (Figures 20-21).
Condition and Restorative Treatment

The masonry was in remarkably sound condition after two centuries. The only stones in immediate danger of moving were the tops of the three chimneys; these were stabilized (Figure 22). The central chimney leans north to a significant degree. It was considered unnecessary to rebuild the chimney since the chimney functions as is and because rebuilding would alter the aged character of the house.

The leaning central chimney is an indication that the original house has settled unevenly. This structural failure is also reflected in the bulging chimney breast of Room III (Figure 23); in northward leaning knee-wall posts of the attic; and, most noticeably, in the corner stones of the south wall of the original house which have pulled away from the addition in a northwesterly direction (Figure 24). Since the settling had occurred sometime ago, probably due to inadequate foundations, and appears to have stabilized since then, it was decided not to disurb the present balance. The only related restoration procedures were to align the disconnected cornice and molding; to fill the exterior masonry crack with gray mortar and extend adjacent repointing over it to recover the effect of the original juncture (Figure 25); and to replaster the gap on the interior. In
the course of occupancy over the past years, the gap has been stuffed
with papers and cloths.

A second structural problem, and possibly the cause of the
uneven settling, was bulging cellar walls. The west wall bulge is
greatest, suggesting that the destructive force might have been
below-grade water, which is abundant on the west or uphill side of the
house during spring and fall flood seasons. During especially heavy
rain, this writer has seen water falling in sheets through the west
cellar walls.

The bulge might also have been caused by water between the
stones (water run-off, condensation, or capillary moisture from the
ground) alternately freezing and thawing. Or, it could have been
caused by poor workmanship. A masonry partition running east-west
between the two cellar rooms of the original house has a slight bulge
that cannot be explained by ground water pressure. Although the
cause here may have been settling due to miscalculated thrust, a
significant detail on the part of the mason should be noted: this
central dividing wall only butts against, does not tie into, the
east and west foundation walls (Figures 26-27). (Similarly, frame
partition walls on the first and second floors do not tie into the
exterior walls; they simply abut them.) Being independent, the
partition and abutting walls are protected to some degree from one
another's movement.

The addition of the Kennedy House has no cellar, only a
foundation approximately two feet deep that has remained perfectly
true (Figure 28).
The first step taken to ameliorate the cellar condition was to direct water away from the house. A trench was dug along the west wall; inefficient gutters were removed when it was discovered that the drain into which they fed did not lead to a cistern as designed but rather directly into the foundation walls; and, finally, the site was graded to slope away from the house (Figures 29-30).

Within the cellar the following measures were taken: two feet of dirt was removed from the cellar floors and an additional thirty-four inch hole dug for a sump pump; a concrete floor was laid over three inches of dense grade crushed stone, its surface pitched to drain to the sump pump; and a concrete buttress two and one-half feet high and eight inches wide was poured along the west and center walls of both cellar rooms (Figures 31-32).

Waterproof or water repellent coatings were rejected for use in the cellar because of the danger of their trapping water within the foundation walls.

The "S" shaped iron tie rods visible in Figure 32 are related to minor bulges in the second story east and west walls. It is possible they were installed following an 1811 earthquake that damaged several buildings in the area. Those bulges and the reinforcing anchors appear stable and so were not disturbed.

There is no major deterioration in the stones themselves; for the most part they are sound and their surface clean. A

Cellar floors in Kentucky stone houses were usually tamped dirt, sometimes mixed with dampened lime and sand. Although the walls were plastered, there was no evidence of any floor covering in the Kennedy House basement. Representative samples of glass, ceramic, and metal objects found during the cellar excavation are pictured in Figures 3-6.
significant threat for the future, however, was the detrimental effect of heavily applied portland cement repointing; the masonry problems and restoration procedures in this area are discussed below under Mortar.

Other masonry restoration work included: realigning fallen arches of doors, windows, and fireplaces; replacing missing stones; removing and filling nineteenth century stove thimbles in Room I, II, and VI; removing stones and bricks blocking all four fireplaces and cellar windows; installing a damper in each fireplace; strengthening the foundation stones of the addition on the interior; and rebuilding door and cellar steps (Figures 33-38).

Masonry work executed to facilitate the installation of modern mechanical apparatus involved making openings for furnace flue and ducts; stove and dryer exhaust; airconditioning and condensation pipes; fuel, underground electricity, water supply and sewage lines; vents; and a second floor passage, to provide closet space and a fire exit.
Mortar: Its Use, Appearance, and Properties

Unlike modern masonry, which depends on the strong bonding properties of cement, early Kentucky masonry was based on the proper weighting and interlocking of stones and on their basic inertia. The stones were bedded on a clay-dirt mortar which acted as a lubricant in sliding stones into position and which couched their uneven surfaces. The time and labor required to make lime mortar was so great that it was used sparingly within the wall fabric and was most often reserved for the exterior masonry surface. Once the stones were laid, a lime mortar was applied to the joints on the exterior in order to keep the wall water tight and, secondarily, to enhance the appearance of the wall. Courses of the original house were laid in a clay-dirt mortar (Figure 39), whereas stones of the addition appear to have been bedded in a mortar of lime with heavy creek sand content (Figure 40).

Mortar joints of early Kentucky stone houses were raised in either a "V" profile (common for random-rubble coursed stonework) or a rectangular profile (more typical of ashlar masonry) (Figures 9-10). The joints varied in dimension to accommodate differences in size and shape.

The tragedy today for many early Kentucky stone structures is that, having lost their exterior mortar, buildings perfectly sound otherwise are being destroyed by penetrating moisture or vegetation.
regularity of the stones, a joint of at least $3/16''$ being required for adhesion. Stones of the Kennedy House are relatively uneven and therefore have a fairly large mortar joint, varying from $1/2''$ to $1''$ in height by $1''$ to $1 1/2''$ in depth.

The overall effect of a recently mortared stone house in the eighteenth century can only be imagined; certainly the clean, white sparkle of new lime mortar coupled with the brilliance of freshly chiselled rock surfaces must have been dazzling. The change visible in Figures 41-42 gives an idea of how lively and well articulated the original house was compared to the blank gray mass it had become after many years and inappropriate cement repointing.

Lime for the mortar of most early Kentucky stone houses was obtained by calcining crushed limestone in impromptu kilns located near the quarry site. Considerable fuel was needed, one writer...

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Before permanent kilns were built, lime was burned by carefully stacked wood, in a method similar to the traditional means described below:

In the smaller towns and villages of northern Yucatan, lime kilns are still made as they were in ancient times, and the local limestone is still burned to make lime just as it probably has been done for the last two thousand years. A place in the forest is selected and completely cleared. Fagots of wood about two feet long are next cut and laid in a circle varying from ten to twenty feet in diameter depending on the size of the kiln to be built. These fagots are laid with their lengths parallel to the radii of the circle, a hole about a foot in diameter being left in the center. This neatly laid pile of wood is built to a height of about four feet. On top of it, beginning about a foot back from its outer edge, are piled broken pieces of limestone about the size of one's fist. These are heaped to a height of another two feet.

When this is finished the kiln is fired by dropping leaves and rotten wood into the bottom of the hole at the center and igniting...
estimating that 60 cubic feet of oak or 117 cubic feet of fir were required to produce one ton of lime.\textsuperscript{10} Original mortar containing pieces of charred wood was found at the Kennedy House, confirming this traditional method of lime burning (Figure 43).

Burning took one to two days and cooling another one to two days; the reduced quicklime then had to be used quickly because, on exposure to air or moisture, it would reabsorb carbon dioxide and lose its plasticity.\textsuperscript{11}

First, dry quicklime and dry creek sand were mixed together, then water added to the whole, care being taken to break up lumps and to introduce air pockets to increase plasticity.\textsuperscript{12} Sand was added to lime for economy and to prevent shrinkage. The quantity and type of sand used was important. With excess sand, the bond would be poor; with insufficient sand, the mortar would shrink and crack. Also, limes with different impurities absorb differing them. The fire thus works from the bottom up and from the inside of the kiln outward . . . . It takes thirty-six hours for a kiln to burn completely, and when a good burn has been achieved the limestone fragments are completely reduced to a pile of powdered lime. (Sylvanus Griswold Morley, The Ancient Maya, 2nd ed. [Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 1947], pp. 350-351; quoted by McKee, p. 63).


\textsuperscript{11}Pure limestone is calcium carbonate; at 1650° F, carbon dioxide is given off leaving calcium oxide, called quicklime. Quarried limestone also contains substances like alumina, silica, magnesia; Ordovician Grier limestone (the Kennedy House type) contains several times more phosphate than most other limestones. See Cressman, pp. 21-22.

\textsuperscript{12}The order in which lime, sand, and water were mixed varied considerably; Harley J. McKee, in his Introduction to Early American Masonry, p. 63-65, details the alternative methods.
amounts of water, which in turn affects the amount of sand needed. Writing in 1758, George Mason, of Gunston Hall, Fairfax County, Virginia, recommends two parts of lime and one part sand:

When I built my House I was at pains to measure all the Lime and Sand as my Mortar was made up and always had two Beds, one for outside-work 2/3 Lime and 1/3 Sand . . . it is easily measured in any Tub or Barrel . . . . If you have any good pit sand, out of your Cellars or well, it will make your mortar much tougher and stronger . . . . Next to pit sand the River Shoar Sand on fresh water is best and the Sand in the road worst of all; as being very foul and full of Dust.

I wou'd by no means put any Clay or Loam in any of the Mortar, in the first place the mortar is not near so strong and besides from its being of a more soft and crumbly nature, it is very apt to nourish and habour those pernicious little vermin the Cockroaches . . . .

Also, the quantity of water added had to be exact. When mortar hardens, the hydrated lime crystallizes and binds the mass together. For this reaction to take place there cannot be less than 7/10 percent or more than five percent water.

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George Mason's remarks might explain the change from dirt mortar to lime/sand mortar in bedding the stones of the original house and the addition.

14Carbon dioxide from the air combines with hydrated lime in the mortar to form calcium carbonate.

15McKee, p.65.
Condition and Restoration

Given the intricacies of preparing lime mortar, it is not surprising that the Kennedy House, like most other stone houses, had been repointed in intervening years with portland cement.\(^1^6\)

Most of the original mortar which did remain on the Kennedy House exterior was on the east facade, probably because it was most protected from storms and because for many years a porch ran almost the entire length of this side. This original mortar is now largely moss covered and cracked. An exception is that directly under the cornice molding, which interestingly bears several imprints of the tip of a trowel used in the eighteenth century pointing (Figure 44). Original mortar also remains in excellent condition on the south wall of the original house, having been covered early by the addition.

Unfortunately, most of the Kennedy House exterior had been buttered with cement. Cement pointing is detrimental when applied to a soft stone like limestone because

\[\text{it is hard, non-resilient, comparatively non-absorbent and therefore does not respond to the}\]

\(^{16}\)Patented in 1824 by Joseph Aspdin (1799-1855), an English mason, portland cement was manufactured in the United States from 1871 on. While beneficial for modern masonry, its qualities of strength, low absorbency, and hardness make it inappropriate for earlier masonry which requires a certain elasticity.

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variations in the atmosphere to the same extent as the stone or brickwork with which it is in contact. If hard pointing is employed the physical action causes rapid weathering and disintegration of the softer stone or brickwork. Many cases of stone decay have been directly traceable to a porous stone being pointed with impervious mortar. In such cases both saturation and evaporation are confined to the stone whereas the process should be evenly distributed over stone and pointing.\footnote{\textsuperscript{17}McKee, p. 72, quoting T. A. Bailey, "Notes on Repair and Preservation: Masonry, Brickwork," mimeographed (London: Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, 1960), Masonry, p. 1.}

If water enters even hairline cracks in the masonry (Figures 16-17), on freezing and expanding, the soft limestone cracks before the hard cement does.

For these reasons, the major decision was made to remove all cement and repoint with appropriate mortar joints. Repointing was done mainly to safeguard the physical structure of the building, although the degree to which the original character of the house was regained by repointing is a compelling added benefit.

The first step in repointing was to remove all loose and improper mortar \(5/8\)" to \(1\)", this depth being required for the new joint to adhere properly (Figure 45). Because the joints of the Kennedy House are large, an air activated chisel could be used safely to expedite the work; at no point was an abrasive saw used, due to the danger of its blade cutting into the stone. Loose particles were then removed from the masonry with brush or jet of air from a compressor and the pointing begun (Figure 46). Figures 47-52 show the duplication of the original raised "V" profile and the care...
taken to stay within the confines of the joint and to wed the vertical
and horizontal joints properly.\textsuperscript{18}

\textsuperscript{18}The mortar proportions found by Stanley Kelly to be most
successful in terms of adhesiveness, strength, setting time, handling
ease, and final appearance are: 2 gallons sand; 1 gallon white portland
cement; 1 quart lime. In Mr. Kelly's experience, more lime would make
the mortar tend to crack.
Framing Members

Timber provides the Kennedy House with the transverse support it needs in areas of lateral stress, like the roof. Ash, today considered a relatively brittle wood, was the most commonly used framing material in Kentucky. Compared to the amply dimensioned framing members of contemporary New England and Pennsylvania houses, timbers in the Kennedy House are relatively slight, with the exception of the first floor joists. Figures 53-79 illustrate the physical properties, condition, and restoration of these structural timbers.

Ground Sill and First Floor Joists

The ground sill plays a minor role in the Kennedy House. Whereas in frame houses the sill provides basic support for the entire house, the sill in the Kennedy House acts only as a leveling agent for the joists which rest upon it. The sills in the original section of the house measure 1" x 8" and extend the length of the east and west walls, about a foot above ground level. The sill in the addition has for the most part disintegrated. Figure 53 shows the earth beneath Room VI compacted against the sill course and the holes which indicate the positions of twentieth century joists that had rested upon the sill.

The original first floor joists of the Kennedy House were logs, hewn on the top side only. The joists remained exposed in the cellar,
and so did not need to be evened on the bottom to accommodate ceiling lathing. Only two original first floor joists remain in the Kennedy House, these being under Room I and severely riddled with insect holes; they still retain some bark (Figure 54).  

Condition and Restoration

The recently replaced floor joists of Rooms I and II were sound and needed no attention. Those of Room VI rested directly on soil, however, and were rotted. Sixteen inches of dirt had to be removed to create a crawlspace beneath this room and a 9" x 9" cement foundation poured against the perimeter walls and in the center of the crawlspace to support new joists. Galvanized bolts set in the concrete anchored 2" x 6" sills impregnated with wood preservative. On these sills 2" x 10" x 10' pressure treated joists were laid, 16" on center, with double joists under the new bathroom partition and bridging for the hearth. To further protect the new joists, cross ventilation was provided and polyfilm laid to prevent ground moisture from rising.

Second Floor Plate and Joists

The second floor joists of the original house are hewn on all four sides, measure approximately 3" x 9" x 17' and rest upon 1" leveling plates set in the east and west walls (Figure 55). The joists are spaced 22"-25" on center. Second floor joists of the

19 First floor joists of the Redmon Family House (ca. 1790) in Bourbon County and the Amende House (ca. 1785) in Harrison County are also entire tree trunks with their bark intact.
addition appear to be pit-sawed, measured 2 1/2" x 9", and are spaced 16"-19" on center (Figure 56).

Figure 55 shows a charred leveling plate used in the east wall. This timber appears to have been reused from another building, for there is no evidence of a fire ever having destroyed any part of the Kennedy House; charred but sound lumber was also used as partition studs between Rooms IV and V (Figure 86).

Second floor joists were cut on all four sides to create level support for the floor above and ceiling below, but at best, this was approximate. Figure 57 shows an irregularly shaped joist leveled with a piece of lathing. Due to irregular spacing in the same room, one joist fell short of the standard ceiling lath length and required added width to avoid recutting the lath (Figure 58).

Condition and Restoration

The second floor joists are sound and required no work apart from some leveling for the application of the finished ceilings.

Roof Structure: Lower Plates and Cornice Plancia

On top of the uppermost masonry course of the east and west walls are laid two timbers, the outermost measuring 1 1/4" x 8" and the inner plank 1 1/4" x 9". These boards average about 12' in length, their ends joined by tongue and groove (Figures 59-60). Although no mechanical anchoring to the masonry could be observed, it is probable that these plates are nailed to wooden blocks set in

20All stone houses visited by this writer had plastered ceilings. The only known exception is the John Floyd House (before 1800) in Garrard County, where the ceiling beams are exposed and beaded.
the top masonry course. Their main function is to provide a level base for the attic tie beams (Figures 61-64). By extending approximately 6" beyond the exterior masonry face, the outermost plank also forms the bottom of the box cornice.

Roof Structure: Attic Ties

The attic joists act as horizontal ties holding the roof frame together laterally (Figure 65). The ties rest upon and are only toe nailed into the lower plates. This lack of significant anchoring between the ties and the upper and lower plates is demonstrated by the once effective use of shims to level the plates above and below the ties (Figures 66-67). The joists or ties of the original house are rough hewn, approximately 1/2" x 9", and 22"-25" on center (Figure 68); in the addition they are sawed, 2" x 6" and spaced 16"-19" on center. The ties measure 20' in length, projecting beyond the exterior masonry face approximately 6", thereby providing support for the cornice (Figures 63-64).

The northern and southernmost tie beams lie against the interior end chimneys of the original house; butted into the chimneys' midsection are half ties and rafters. Embedded within the end stone walls are final lateral stays which extend approximately 2 1/2' into the end wall fabric (Figure 69). Figure 70 shows similar end stays exposed on the exterior of the Frederick Shryock House.²¹

²¹These end stays are not visible in most Kentucky stone houses; exceptions are the Robert Guyn House (1801) in Woodford County and the David House (1802) in Bourbon County. A return cornice, common on the gable ends of Pennsylvania stone houses but absent in Kentucky and Virginia (with the exception of Abram's Delight [1754], Winchester, Virginia), would hide the presence of these stays in many Pennsylvania houses.
In addition to equilibrating the outward thrust of the rafters and backing the cornice, the ties also supported attic floor boards in the original house, as a few remaining nails indicate. Ties in the addition show no flooring nails or nail holes. As Figure 69 illustrates the ties are ash heartwood; the season checks seen here are very early, probably appearing as the timbers dried in situ.

Since the ties are structurally sound, no work was done to them except to even their ends and add nailing blocks to their sides to ensure an even cornice. Also, knee braces were added between ties and rafters to improve the cohesion of these framing units.

Roof Structure: Top Plate

On top of the ties and receiving the full thrust of the roof rafters is the slender 1 1/4" x 8" top plate. The rafter feet are nailed through the plate into the ties below. The plate is made up of boards averaging ten feet in length, lying end to end and merely butted not scarfed (Figures 71-72). In the addition, the ends of the top plates are aligned opposite one another on the east and west walls; in the original house there is a 20" offset between the butting ends of the east and west top plates. This parallel alignment of the abutting plates, the non-interlocking of consecutive boards, and the light nailing to adjacent frame members represent more casual engineering than one would find in a comparable New England house.

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22Dimensions and construction of the top plate and adjacent framing members appear to be similar to those of Virginia dwellings; see Glassie, Folk Housing, Figures 52 and 70.
As seen in Figure 69, the north and south ends of the top plate extend beyond the terminal lateral ties to act as nailing blocks for the gable end rake boards. Along its lateral side, the top plate extends flush with the tie ends, to act as a nailing block for the cornice fascia board (Figure 73).

The top plate has been shimmed at an early date, possibly at the time of the original framing, in order to level the roof rafters and cornice.

Condition and Restoration

By the twentieth century, there was a great difference between the roof line of the original house and the addition, largely caused by the unequal settling of the two structures. The discrepancy was too great to be overcome by shims alone, as can be seen in the divergent plate heights in Figure 63. The problem was solved by heightening the rafter feet of the addition and by masking the resultant increased cornice depth with a deep fascia board (Figure 74).

Roof Structure: Rafters, Sheathing and Shingles

There is no distinction between principal and common rafters, there is no ridge pole, and there are no collar beams in the Kennedy House. Rafters of the original house are hewn, measuring 5 1/2" in width x 7 1/2" in depth at the foot and tapering to 4 7/8" square at the ridge where they are joined by pegged open face mortise and tenon (Figures 75-76). The pegs are driven into the joint from the north,

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23The absence of principal rafters and ridge pole is common for Kentucky stone houses; collar beams, however, are often found.
suggesting that the roof was erected in a north to south progression. Although the rafters are numbered with elongated Roman numerals (Figure 75), these numbers serve only to ease the assemblage of mated rafters, east to west, and do not reflect the sequence in which they were raised.

Rafters in the addition do not appear to be original: they are power-sawed, measuring 3 1/4" x 4 1/2" at the base, tapering to 3" square at the ridge, where the paired rafters are butted and nailed together (Figures 77-78); the rafters are not numbered; and nailholes in the rafters indicate only one application of sheathing.

The main function of rafters is to support the horizontal sheathing which receives the shingles and gives lateral stability to the roof—especially important in the Kennedy House where there are no wind braces and no ridge pole. No original sheathing remained at the Kennedy House; that which was there was quite old and in very poor condition (Figure 79). Naturally there were no original roofing shingles either, although under a top layer of green asphalt shingles was a layer of mid-nineteenth century cedar shingles.

Among these early shingles was a set which bore a manufacturer's stamp (Figure 80); others showing the degree to which the exposed end of the shingle becomes weathered (Figure 81); and, most interesting, specimens of early shingles steamed to form an angle for flashing at the base of the chimneys (Figure 82).

Condition and Restoration

Due to the uneven settling of the masonry structures and
inherent weaknesses in the rafters, their supporting members, and the joints used, the roof had very severe sags which only compounded the leakage problems of the roofing and sheathing. The only remedy was to remove the old sheathing, level and strengthen the rafters, and apply new, sound sheathing and shingles.

A quarter of the roof was undertaken at a time, to expose as little of the interior to the elements as possible. Straight 2" x 6" construction grade lumber was nailed against existing rafters throughout the original house and the addition in order to strengthen and level the rafters; knee braces were added throughout the addition (where there had been none) and supplemented those braces already present in the original house; high spots in existing rafters were reduced; and, to increase stability and ease the transition from the original roof to the addition, purlins were added on both sides of the central chimney.

The roof was then prepared with yellow pine sheathing,\textsuperscript{24} 30 lb. roofing paper, and heavy copper flashing. A carbide blade was used to cut a 1/2" channel in the chimney base for the copper about 1" above and parallel to its intersection with the roof shingles.

The technique used in flashing the chimney bases is unique. Devised by mason Stanley Kelly, this method is particularly well suited for restoration work because it deflects water to the same degree as conventionally stepped copper, yet the metal remains barely

\textsuperscript{24} 1" x 4" x 10' to 1" x 8" x 12' boards were used; while faster to apply, conventional plywood sheathing would not allow shingles to dry underneath, as individually spaced boards do.
visible from the ground. The correct ridge profile for early Kentucky houses was not the so-called "Boston-ridge" (where shingles form an inverted "V") but rather an overhang (forming an inverted "Y"), by which the shingles on the slope encountering the worst weather extend at least six inches beyond the juncture with the opposite slope.

Shingles used in the restoration were 3/8" x 16" premium grade (heartwood) sawed cedar shingles. They were applied with a double starter course, careful spacing, and a 6" exposure to ensure that the roof would be covered with three thicknesses of shingles at every point. Because eave gutters were almost unknown in early Kentucky houses, the shingles generously overhang the cornice and the end rake boards.
**Partitions**

There are three types of partitions in the original Kennedy House: masonry in the cellar (described above), stud with lath and plaster, and beaded board. Stud partitions separate Rooms I and II and Rooms III, IV, and V. Single boards, beaded on both sides, form the north wall of the stairs in the original house; the stairs in the addition were probably also enclosed with a beaded board wall (Figures 83-84).

Kennedy House partition studs are rough hewn and usually measure 3" x 4 1/2", spaced 24" on center (Figure 85). The main load-bearing partition (between Rooms I and II) is directly above the central masonry partition of the basement. In addition to helping resist the downward compression of framework above, the studs also support a lath and plaster wall covering and interior trim (Figure 86-87).

Plaster wall partitions represented greater time and expense than beaded board partitions. The latter were therefore frequently located in rooms of lesser importance—or where space was limited. Both criteria were met in Room II of the Kennedy House, where the stairs are enclosed by poplar boards beaded on both sides.
(Figures 84 and 88).  

There may also have been a beaded board partition enclosing the stairs of the addition. Several tongue and groove boards remain here, beaded only on the side facing the steps, and cut down from their original height to below the second floor level. At the time the restoration began, there was a floor to ceiling post at the head of the stairs and a vertical discolored line 1" wide in the plaster, just where a board partition typically would have gone (Figure 89). The joists above the stair opening give no indication of a ceiling height partition, although this should not preclude such a possibility. A makeshift hand rail had been nailed to the post, and indeed, the stairs of many early Kentucky houses do terminate with handrails in place of partitions (Figure 90).

Condition and Restoration

Restoration work on the partitions was limited to removing modern or unsound wall coverings. Exposing the partition studs also facilitated the installation of plumbing, wiring, and venting, much of which is now hidden within the partitions.

Stairs

The stairs in the Kennedy House, as in most early Kentucky

25 The Practical House Carpenter's Directory (West Chester, Pa., 1797), a pamphlet reprinted in its entirety by Schiffer, pp. 209-216, gives the cost of "partitions of pine or poplar planed on both sides and grooved . . . 0. .15 .0" and "ditto, if planed on one side and grooved per square . . . 0. .11 .0."

26 Examples of the handrail-stairwell terminations are to be found in the Anderson House (ca. 1800) in Harrison County, and the Redmon Family House (ca. 1790), David House (1802), and Eagle Bend (ca. 1780) in Bourbon County.
houses, are starkly functional. There is no more space allotted to them than is strictly necessary, and, as a result, the steps are steep and narrow. In the original house, the height of the stairs riser is 8 1/4" and the tread 8 3/4" deep by 1" thick by 2' 6" wide; in the addition (slightly gentler) the height of the riser is 7 1/4" and the tread 9 3/4" deep by 1" thick by 2' 7" wide (Figure 91). To minimize the run of the stair and make more room available at the top, both stairs of the Kennedy House have 90° wider steps at their bases.\(^{27}\)

The stairs are enclosed on both sides and have no natural light except that from the room at the top. For this reason there were probably no doors at the top of the stairs, although there were doors at the bottom. As interior stairs lead only to the second floor and do not descend to the cellar, a small door enclosing a closet at the base of the stairs was found in all stone houses visited by this writer. While strictly utilitarian (so unlike the open, graceful flights built in Kentucky a generation later), the stringers and adjacent trim are modestly ornamented with a half-inch bead (Figures 91-92).

Condition and Restoration

Restoration work on the stairs consisted of removing recent wallpapers, removing a lowered ceiling, replastering where necessary,

\(^{27}\)Winder steps and enclosed stairs are common to most of the Kentucky stone houses visited by this writer. Exceptions include the Grimes, Amende, and Williams Houses and Mount Lebanon, where a minimum of eight treads with open stringer lead to a platform.
replacing doors at the foot of the stairs, replacing the lowermost
winders in the addition, and fitting the stairs entrance in Room I
with a transom.28

28 Because of this stairs' proximity to an exterior door the
winder steps are enclosed within the stairwell and do not extend into
the first floor room, where normally three or four steps would be
expected (see Drawing 1). This results in a stairs door hung lower
than is usual, creating an especially deep soffit which might well
have had a transom, although there is no evidence for or against it.
Because the Shakers of the region frequently lit their stairways with
transoms, and because there are already two exterior door transoms in
Room I, it was considered practical and appropriate to place a transom
above the stairs door.
Finish Elements

Door and Window Frames and Casings

Wherever door and window openings occur in the Kennedy House, two wood timbers are laid horizontally to form a lintel (Figures 93-95). Most of these lintels have deflected under the masonry weight and decayed from fungus and dampness.

Door and window frames were assembled as individual units and inserted into the masonry opening (Figure 96). The only anchoring devices were nailing blocks (2" x 2" x 20") built into the masonry wall. The frames of both windows and doors consist of jambs joined to a head by mortise and tenon. The head forms the mortise and the jambs form the tenon, the joint being pegged with a 1" dowel (Figures 97-99). The jambs are rabbetted to receive the doors and window sashes.

The exterior faces of door and window jambs have no casings beyond a 1 1/2" molding strip that closes the joint between the wood frame and the masonry wall (Figures 100-103). The attic and cellar window frames are exceptions, with mortar alone closing this gap (Figure 104).29 A simple half-inch bead drawn along the jamb's

29 Although the cellar window frames remain intact, the original wooden bars were missing; two bars did, however, turn up in the basement excavation (Figure 105). Their length indicates that the bars were set vertically, in a manner that can be seen on the cellar windows of Shirley Plantation in Virginia and Cragfont and Rock Castle in Tennessee. In Kentucky, it was more usual for the wooden cellar window bars to be
inner edge is the final exterior articulation for door and window frames.30

No original door sills remain, and most window sills were extensively decayed; the window sill projection is slight, only a bit over an inch.

Because the stone wall is so thick (20" at the first floor, tapering to 15" at the cornice), jamb casings are required to seal the space between the door and window frames set at the exterior face of the masonry and the interior finish plaster wall (Figure 107).31

set horizontally in the frame, as exhibited in Duncan Tavern and Johnson's Inn, and the Leo Midden House (Figure 106) in Bourbon County, Wickland in Nelson County, Valley Farm in Franklin County, the James Lindsay House in Scott County, and the Amende House in Harrison County.

30This modest articulation of window and door frames is typical of early Kentucky stone houses, but contrasts the deeper and more richly profiled door and window frames of Rock Castle (ca. 1793-1797) and Cragfont (1802) in Sumner County Tennessee, and 28 South Loudoun Street (ca. 1790) in Winchester, Virginia. It must be mentioned that despite their basic similarity to the Kennedy House and other Kentucky stone houses, these three examples also have heavily worked cornices and other refinements that reflect the tastes of a class different from that of the early Kentucky settlers. Rock Castle was, for example, built by a graduate of William and Mary College and Cragfont was the home of a significant Tennessee political figure (Brumbaugh, Architecture of Middle Tennessee, pp. 96 and 110).

31In the Jones Farmhouse (1780-1790) and James McKee House (1791) of Bourbon County, like the Bennet-Search House (ca. 1744) and Jacob Martin House (1805) of Chester County, Pennsylvania, the door frames are set at the interior of the masonry walls, creating deep exterior (rather than interior) reveals (Figure 14). Although this was not the case at the Kennedy House originally, one exterior casing has been introduced in the addition's entrance in the present project in order to accommodate a paneled eighteenth-century replacement casing and door.
The door and window casings, or reveals, of both first floor rooms of the original house are reeded. This quarter-inch reeding is similar in profile to, but appears to be more extensive than, examples found in other early Kentucky stone houses (Figures 108-109).\(^{32}\) Reveals of the second floor windows and of all openings in the addition were made of the more common plain, single board.

Five-inch interior casing, with a 1 1/2" backband molding applied to its outer edge and a 3/8" bead drawn along its inner edge, covers the junction between the jamb casing and interior plaster finish (Figures 110-111). The interior casing is butted, while the molding strips are mitered.

The door casings are set on top of the finished flooring. The stool upon which the Kennedy House window casings are set is a single horizontal flat piece of lumber twenty inches deep which projects into the room and forms an integral part of the top molding of the chair rail (Figures 112-113).

Condition and Restoration

Because of their exterior exposure, many door and window frames were rotted and gouged with nails and hardware changes. Most jambs and sills required patching or complete replacement. Because all exterior walls were furred to accommodate insulation, all window and door casings had to be pieced to make up the additional three inches in depth. In the addition, salvaged contemporary paneled and

\(^{32}\)Reeded reveals are also to be found in the Jones Farmhouse (1780-1790) and the John Kiser House (1786) of Bourbon County.
door casings were introduced where the originals were in too bad condition to be serviceable.

Doors

Original doors remaining at the Kennedy House are ash and poplar, the two woods mixed indiscriminately on the same door.\textsuperscript{33} The doors which remain include four interior six-panelled doors and three beaded batten closet doors (Figures 114-115). Early, but probably not original, batten doors were also being used as exterior doors at the time the restoration began. All were hung with butt hinges, and only one retained early hardware (Figure 110).

Evidence of double doors exists in two places in the Kennedy House. Hinge marks suggest that two pairs of double doors hung in front of a cupboard to the right of the fireplace in Room I and the hinges to double doors in a hatchway to the attic remain in place above Room IV (Figure 116).\textsuperscript{34}

In the restoration, the several modern or missing doors were

\textsuperscript{33}Similarly, walnut and cherry are used together in the paneling of the Amende House. The different woods do not form any coherent pattern, indicating that they were painted from the beginning. Almost all interiors visited by this writer were painted, obscuring the identity of the wood. One exception was a uniform cherry trim in the John Redmon House (ca. 1800), Bourbon County.

\textsuperscript{34}Double doors are necessary due to limited height close to the eaves. This is the only access to the attic. With no stairs, the hatchway must have required a ladder. Remnants of red paint and a beaded edge are clearly visible on the hatchway casing (Figure 117).
replaced with salvaged eighteenth century doors from the Amende
House (Figures 96 and 118-119).

Windows

No original sashes remain, although the window jamb rabbets
indicate nine lights over six on the first floor and six lights over
six on the second floor. The placement of taller windows on the
first floor is characteristic of stone houses in Kentucky and in
Pennsylvania.

Double-hung sashes have been made for all sixteen windows,
reproducing the dimensions, profile, and framing of window sashes
dating to about 1810 at Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky.

All exterior door frames were rabbetted for four-light
transom windows. These transom windows have been reproduced with
pegged mortise and tenon framing also.

Closets

In addition to the cupboard mentioned above, closet shelves
were built in to the recesses to the left of the chimneys of Rooms III
and V (Figure 115). Nailing blocks embedded in the masonry suggest
these shelves were original.

In the Kennedy House (as in the David House of Bourbon County
and Amende and Williams Houses of Harrison County), four-door cupboards
or presses are located in corner recesses of the first floor, while
more simply constructed closets are to be found on the second floor.

Flooring

Flooring in the Kennedy House, as in most Kentucky stone houses,
is ash. In the original house, the floor boards are 1" - 3/8" thick, 12'-15' long, with a random width of 4 1/2"-7", butt-ended with tongue and groove lateral joints, and face-nailed with rectangular T-head nails (Figures 120-122). The upper surface is planed, but the lower surface was left rough, except where it is feathered to lie evenly on the floor joists (Figure 123). Floor boards in the addition bear the same characteristics but are wider, averaging 6"-9" (Figure 124).

These characteristics appear to be common to most early Kentucky stone houses. However, the David House (1802) in Bourbon County is an example of the exception sometimes found in second story flooring. Here, where less traffic was expected, soft wood was substituted, giving wider but less durable boards.

In the attic of the original house there remain scattered pieces of nailed flooring as well as drilled holes in the joists, believed to have been used as pivot points for a lever in wedging tongue and groove boards together (Figure 125). The cellar and the attic over the addition show no evidence of permanent flooring.

Restoration

Original flooring was missing in Rooms III and VI. In VI salvaged contemporary flooring from the Amende House has been laid over the modern joists and subfloor installed in the course of restoration. Room II, which will be the kitchen, and the two new bathrooms, are to have modern tile floors.

Interior Trim: Chair Rails and Baseboards
Original chair rails remain throughout the Kennedy House and are of uniform dimension in both the original house and the addition: 4 1/2" deep, including a rabbeted 1" top molding and a 3/8" bead at the base (Figures 126-127). Interior corners are mortised and tenoned, and exterior corners are mitered (Figures 128-129). The top of the chair rail is three feet from the floor, forming an apron under the window stool which is rabbeted to it. Chair rails are secured by ash nailing blocks built into the masonry (Figure 130).

Baseboards in the original house are 5 1/4" in height, including a 3/8" bead, while those of the addition are 6 5/8" with a 1/2" bead. Like the chair rails, baseboards were put in place after the finish floor but before the plaster was laid, so that the plaster is applied up to the trim but not behind it (Figure 131).

The construction of the Kennedy House interior trim is characteristic of that of most Kentucky stone houses. Variations in profile, however, naturally exist, as all trim was hand-planed. The Kennedy House's simple 3/8" bead is typical, although much less graceful than the concave and convex profile of the Amende House trim. The three-foot chair rail height is also typical of early Kentucky houses. The chair rail height of later Bourbon County houses like Runnymede (ca. 1830) and Auvergne (1837) drops about 10" and becomes more massive, reflecting changing furniture styles.

Restoration

Chair rails and baseboards were removed from all exterior
walls to permit furring and insulation. The original trim was then replaced, nailed to the furring strips and joined to the newly extended window and door casings. In areas where the original trim was severely damaged by successive layers of wall covering (tin, paper, cloth, and even cement in Room II), or where it was missing, salvaged contemporary trim was installed.

Only preliminary paint analysis has been undertaken on the Kennedy House interior trim. Initial investigation reveals the following painting sequences (beginning with the earliest, lowermost layer):

Room I: peach; gray, white;
Room II: green-black; light brown; dark brown; green; ivory; white; yellow;
Room III: brown; carmine; gray; light gray; white;
Room IV: brown; tan, white; white;
Room VI: green-gray; black; brown; green; white;
Room VII: ivory; white; gray.

Interior Trim: Chimney-Pieces

All four original Kennedy House chimney-pieces survive. Three are a typical early "shelf" type, while one has attenuated reeded pilasters, repeating the motif of door and window reveals in the same room (Figures 132-133). 35

As with all trim, the chimney pieces are anchored to nailing

35 Figure 134 pictures two early brass escutcheons attached to the reeded chimney-piece jambs; they were probably anchors for an early nineteenth-century firescreen.
blocks embedded in the masonry, with the surrounding wall plastered up to the chimney-piece once it is in place.

The simple Kennedy House chimney-pieces are typical of those found in modest settlers' houses like Eagle Bend (ca. 1780) and of almost all second story chimney-pieces. Their only ornamentation is derived from applied molding strips (usually with the same profile as the backband of the window frame). The mantel shelf is uninterrupted and projects about 6".

The reeded chimney-piece of Room I in the Kennedy House has much more slender proportions than similarly reeded chimney-pieces found in the Samuel Taylor (1790) and Williams (1790-1800) Houses in Mercer and Harrison Counties.

Overmantels are rare, and when they do exist (as in the McAfee House [1790] in Mercer County) they are much more plain than those found in Virginia's plantation houses.

Plaster

All walls were plastered with two coarse base coats and one fine grained finish coat. The chief components of plaster are the same as for mortar: clay, lime, and sand. The first coats have an admixture of diverse binding elements. The usual ratio is 1/6 volume hair: 1 part lime paste: 2-2 1/4 parts sand.

36 The cellar received a ground coat only, which was subsequently white-washed. A notice for a stone house in the Chester and Delaware Federalist (West Chester, Pa., May 24, 1815; quoted by Schiffer, p. 284) advertises the benefits of a plastered storehouse: "The cellar is divided into two apartments, one half of which is completely covered with mortar and is impregnable to rats."

37 McKae, Masonry, p. 82.
glass, cow hair, horsehair, pig hair, and rags were all discovered in the Kennedy House plaster (Figures 135-137). The finish coat is a fine slaked lime paste containing about one-third white sand (Figure 138).

The thickness of the plaster reflects the irregularity of the masonry wall. The total thickness at the Kennedy House varies from 7/8" to 1 1/4". The plaster was rendered directly onto the masonry exterior walls and laid onto lathing on the interior partition walls, where care was taken to angle exterior corners (Figure 139). The plaster was applied against the wood trim but never behind it (as is common today), since the trim was installed before the wall was plastered.

An unusual feature in the Kennedy House is the painting of the plaster between the chair rail and baseboard at an early date, as in Room I, where it was painted a peach color to match adjacent trim and thus simulate wainscotting, and in Room VI, where the plaster was painted a dark green-black like the trim to achieve the same effect (Figures 140-141).

Restoration

Unfortunately, the plaster in most of the house was in too poor condition to save. Figures 142-144 show the successive wall coverings of paper, cloth, tin, and even cement which had been applied to the

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38Laths were ash, 1/4" x 1 3/4" x 4'-8', nailed to studs with small wrought nails, and spaced about 1/2" apart to form a key for the plaster.
plaster walls in later years. Moisture was the chief destructive force, however, and most plaster had to be removed.

Once the decision was made to insulate exterior walls, even the relatively sound plaster on the second floor was furred over with studs. These walls have been insulated and replastered on metal lath.

Exterior Trim: Cornice

Enough remains of the original Kennedy House cornice to reconstruct it accurately. The plancia, or bottom of the cornice, is formed by an extension of the outermost, lower roof plate (Figure 145). Nailed perpendicular to this plate and to the ends of the attic joists is the fascia board (Figures 146-148). This forms the essence of the box cornice, and usually it is all one finds on early Kentucky stone houses. As added embellishment and added protection for the enclosed roof framing members, the Kennedy House cornice also had a crown molding closing any gap between the roof sheathing and the fascia (Figures 149-150), and a frieze molding below the plancia to keep rain from being driven underneath the cornice (Figures 151-153). The preceding slides show construction details and profiles of the Kennedy House frieze molding compared with that of the Amende House. Interestingly, the frieze molding of the original Kennedy House

39More elaborate dentil and modillion cornices appear on the Grimes, Amende, McKee, and Spears Houses (in Fayette, Harrison, and Bourbon Counties, respectively), and on Rock Castle and Cragfont in Sumner County, Tennessee. The degree of sophistication that these houses exhibit in their elaborate cornices and in other details, however, is less typical of early Kentucky stone architecture than the Kennedy House with its plain box cornice.
and the addition are close but not identical; that is, they are not made from the same plane, suggesting that Kennedy purchased and did not make the molding. The frieze molding records another minor stylistic change: on the original house the frieze molding stops a foot from the end of the cornice, whereas on the addition the frieze molding extends almost to the cornice end-lookout.

A simple barge board, or rake board, protects the edges of the roof sheathing from inclement weather (Figure 154). On all early Kentucky stone houses visited by this writer, the rake board was a single, unornamented plank; on Pennsylvania stone houses, it is not uncommon to see heavily molded rake boards (e.g., Chrome Hotel, Miller House, and Taylor-Parke House of Chester County).

Restoration

Uneven settling and decay had largely destroyed the cornice and rake boards. What remained sound was kept, but much had to be extensively reworked (Figures 155-158).

Exterior Trim: Shutters

Window frames at the Kennedy House show traces of multiple types of shutter hardware, although no shutters remain. Evidence gleaned from comparable stone houses, however, provide enough information for an appropriate reproduction.

Contemporary shutter hardware located on the Amende House in Harrison County and Thompson House in Nicholas County included various forms of strap hinges with either single forged pintles or pintles mounted on plates. Early examples of paneled, louvered, and
board shutters were found in Millersburg and Ruddells Mills, Kentucky, and in illustrative material published in Schiffer's Survey.

It was determined to have louvered shutters made for the second floor, where more ventilation and less security would be needed, and panelled shutters for the first floor—a combination recorded in early prints and photographs of contemporary Kentucky and Pennsylvania stone houses (Figures 159-160).

The model used for the first floor shutter is located on a stone house on the main street of Millersburg, twenty miles from the Kennedy House. The shutter interior is composed of three panels which are sheathed on the exterior with beaded boards in a chevron conformation. This doubling of panels with a beaded, diagonal board backing is also to be seen on several contemporary doors in the region (Figure 96).

The model for the fixed-louver shutters of the second story is located at Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky.

The shutters are made of redwood, with original mortise and tenon and panel construction carefully reproduced.

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40 Kentucky examples include: Keene Tavern (1843), Jessamine County; Old Mason County Courthouse (1794), Mason County; and Liberty Hall (1796), Franklin County. In Chester County, Pennsylvania, panelled first floor shutters used in combination with louvered second floor shutters are to be found on the Bennet-Search House (ca. 1734), Jacob Martin Farmstead (1805), Pusey House (1728), Taylor-Parke Home (1768) and Moore Hall (1800).

41 Panelled doors with beaded, diagonal backing are to be found in the Amende and McAfee Houses in Kentucky (ca. 1785 and 1790) and in Pennsylvania, on Chadds House (ca. 1710), Temple House (1714), and Chrome Hotel (1715-1720).
Porch

At one time a porch extended along the east facade connecting all three exterior doors. The length of the porch is inferred from nailing blocks in the masonry and from the relatively better condition of mortar where it was protected by the porch. The discovery of three square support stones (Figures 161-162) and reference to a porch lamp in the sale of Jesse Kennedy's property in 1863 give further evidence of a porch.\textsuperscript{42}

The porch appears to antedate construction of the addition, for the porch nailing blocks are thin strips of wood inserted in the mortar joints and not the customary 2" x 2" x 1' nailing blocks embedded in the masonry as the wall was constructed. Also, remains of a brick terrace lie under the porch run (Figure 163).

The one and two story porches which appear today on the Williams, Jacob Spears, Robert Boggs, and John Kiser Houses, among others, are nineteenth century additions. A porch which projected and called attention to an opening was not compatible with the flat, cubic design of the earliest settlers' stone houses.

\textsuperscript{42}Bourbon County Will Book Q, 510.
CONCLUSION

In its simplicity the Kennedy House has been shown to be typical of Kentucky's stone houses and to reflect the modest and industrious character of its builder. By comparison with stone houses in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Tennessee, Kentucky's stone houses appear to belong to a basic building tradition which evolved among the earliest settlers of the Southern and Middle Atlantic States.

Thomas Kennedy's arrival in Kentucky has been explored to help establish a construction date for the Kennedy House and to document its early use.

A detailed analysis of the architectural components of the Kennedy House has been provided as a basis for future comparison with similar regional structures. Very little published material exists on southern vernacular architecture in general, and there is, at present, no detailed recording known to this writer which deals specifically with Kentucky stone houses.

Attention has been given to specific restoration procedures taken at the Kennedy House because this information, too, is not readily available in printed sources. The majority of restoration manuals provide suggestions on funding projects, locating contractors, interpreting the house historically, and identifying common structural
problems, but rarely do they offer insight into the actual execution of the restoration, this being left to the architect and contractor. Although the corrective measures taken in the Kennedy House restoration answer problems particular to that house, their inclusion in this study could aid others in estimating the scope of other projects and the nature of the problems and solutions it might entail.
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources


Secondary Sources


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FIGURE 9

FIGURE 10
FIGURE 39

FIGURE 40
FIGURE 89

FIGURE 90
Negative lost by processor of photographs—4/28/80

FIGURE 103

FIGURE 104
FIGURE 105

FIGURE 106