

PH0093923

STATE: Kentucky
 COUNTY: Scott
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: DEC 2 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Payne-Desha House
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Governor Joseph Desha House; Robert Payne House

2. LOCATION

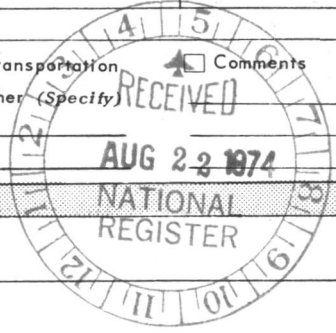
STREET AND NUMBER: Kelly Avenue
 CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th
 STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21 COUNTY: Scott CODE: 209

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: James R. Hamilton
 STREET AND NUMBER: Hamilton Oil Company, Paris Pike
 CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown STATE: Kentucky CODE: 021

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Scott County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER: East Main Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown STATE: Kentucky CODE: 021

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kentucky Heritage Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: 401 Wapping Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort STATE: Kentucky CODE: 021

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: KY
 COUNTY: SCOTT
 ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 2 1974
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Payne-Desha House was constructed c. 1815 with the east side overlooking the Royal Spring Branch and much of Georgetown. It is of Federal style, five-bay in width with an upper story and three dormer windows within the hipped roof. The exterior was originally unadorned field stone, later stuccoed. The shuttered windows set off a recessed entrance, in front of which is a jigsaw portico, another later addition. The side porch is identical in design to that of the front except for the railing.

The house has twelve rooms, wide-plank ash floors and high ceilings. The central hall is divided by an unusual arch and measures 54' by 12'. An elliptical stairway is situated at the far end. Several hand-carved mantels with sunburst design and beaded and fluted woodwork are evident. The arch, stairway and mantel are Federal and original to the house. There are three distinct basements which housed the servants.

It was during the late 19th century that the Victorian changes were made, which included elongation of the windows, installation of deep window sashes, the addition of cast-iron hood molds over the windows, brackets along the roofline and Victorian molding on the woodwork. The door facings and entranceway were also altered.

An indistinct photograph in B.O. Gaines History of Scott County seems to indicate a high gable over the porch. It is not known whether it was original to the house or dates from the Victorianization.

Other changes were initiated ten to fifteen years ago in which the upstairs interior was finished and the dormers added.

Despite the alterations, the interior remains intact and the overall character of the exterior retains its Federal proportions and original dignity.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **c. 1814**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Built on a bluff overlooking the Royal Spring Branch is the Payne-Desha House, notable as being the last home of Governor Joseph Desha, controversial Kentucky politician and soldier. Originally granted to Captain Daniel Gano for services during the Revolutionary War the first purchaser of the land on which the structure stands was General John Payne (1764-1837), an early resident of Scott County (1786) and father of the builder of the house. Payne was a veteran of the 1791 Indian wars and, during the War of 1812, served as a brigadier general of the second brigade of the Kentucky militia. He commanded the Light Dragoons in the battle of the Thames, a decisive victory against the British and Indian forces in October, 1813. The outcome was to re-establish the American military frontier in the Northwest and to effectively extinguish the Indian menace in that region. During his later years Payne was elected state senator from 1830 to 1832.

His son Robert was also a veteran of the battle of the Thames-- one of the volunteers known as "Forlorn Hope" who drew the first fire from the Indians hiding in the brush across from the swamp near the battle ground. It was Robert Payne who, c. 1814, built the house on his father's property near the Royal Spring Branch. Not long after construction was completed, however, he and his wife moved to Missouri. The twenty-acre tract was bought by Benjamin Smith in 1821 from the Bank of the United States, which had gained title from John Payne. Seven years later the house was acquired by Governor Joseph Desha.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1768, a descendant of French Huguenots, Desha moved with his family to Kentucky in 1781 and then to Tennessee the following year. In 1792 Desha married and settled in Mason County, Kentucky. From 1794-1797 he served in the Indian Wars under General Anthony Wayne and General William Henry Harrison. His war record and his amiable

(Continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bevins, Ann B. "Former Governor Built Georgian Home in Scott," August 18, 1964, The Lexington Leader.
 Coleman, J. Winston, Jr. Historic Kentucky. Lexington: Henry Clay Press, 1967, p. 142.
 Collins, Lewis. Historical Sketches of Kentucky. Published by Lewis Collins, Maysville, Ky., 1847, pp. 87-93, p. 515.
 Johnston, J. Stoddard. "Col. Asa Payne." The Georgetown News, September 20, 1898.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

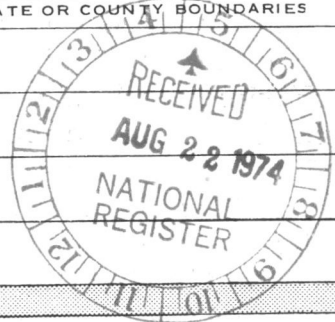
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 12 47	84 33 47	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

UTM
 16/713330
 4232010
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **One acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Ann B. Bevins, Scott County Representative** GJM

ORGANIZATION: **Kentucky Heritage Commission** DATE: **May 12, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **401 Wapping Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Cedric W. Melton

Title State Liaison Officer

Date 8-16-74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

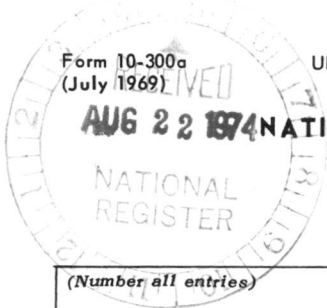
W. A. Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/2/74

ATTEST:

George Emery
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date Nov. 26, 1974



Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Kentucky	
COUNTY Scott	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 2 1974

(Number all entries)

Payne-Desha House

8. Significance (continued)

Page Two

personality rendered him popular with the populace and from 1799 to 1802 he represented Mason County in the Kentucky State House of Representatives and from 1802-07 in the State Senate. He was elected as a Democrat to the United States Congress in 1807 where he continued in that body until 1819. In the intervening years Desha also fought in the war of 1812 as Major General of Volunteers, serving under General William Henry Harrison in the battle of the Thames.

Desha ran for Governor in 1820 and lost, but won four years later on the "relief" issue precipitating, according to Lewis Collins, "the most embittered and violent conflict of parties, which has ever occurred in Kentucky." (Historical Sketches of Kentucky, Maysville: Lewis Collins, 1847, p.87.) Involved was a complex international monetary situation concerned with specie versus paper money in payment for debt. The debtor class demanded relief and was successful in electing a pro-relief governor and legislature in 1824. Once in office Desha attempted to provide relief on the "replevin issue" by appointing a new Court of Appeals when the existing court declared his replevin act to be unconstitutional. For a time, until 1826 when the matter was resolved in favor of the old court party, two courts of appeal sat in session.

Another controversy in which Desha was involved during his term in office was the internal improvement tax, transferring the proceeds from schools to road building. Profits from the roads, he stated, would be devoted to education. Schools were to suffer many years afterward because of his action.

Controversial to the last, Desha, in 1828 when newly elected Governor Thomas Metcalfe appeared at the Governor's mansion, refused his admittance. He announced that Metcalfe, a former stonemason who had laid the foundation of the Governor's Mansion, was a common workman and had no business in the dignified office of the Governor of Kentucky.

Desha retired from public life in 1828 to a farm near Cynthiana in Harrison County, Kentucky, which he purchased in 1829. He later sold his Harrison County estate, now known as Howk House

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kentucky	
COUNTY	Scott	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		DEC 2 1974

(Number all entries)

Payne-Desha House

8. Significance (continued)

Page Three

and bought in April, 1841, the Robert Payne House in Georgetown and the surrounding five and one-twelfth acres. He most probably moved to the town to be nearer his son who was engaged in the practice of medicine there.

Desha did own other properties. In 1828 he purchased "The Oaks," an estate located one and one-half miles east of Cynthiana, for his son Lucius. Although the Governor never lived there, it was and still is associated with the Desha family. The Payne-Desha House, however, is more accurately identified with Governor Desha.

Desha died October 11, 1842 and was buried on a hill on his Georgetown farm, as was his wife. Within a few years the farm passed from Desha family ownership and, in the late 19th century, eventually came into the possession of Judge James Y. Kelly. It was Judge Kelly who made the more radical alterations in the house and divided parts of the property into building lots upon which residences were erected. Because of the subdivision of the land, the Legislature passed an act in 1897 ordering the remains of Governor Desha and his wife to be disinterred and reburied in the Georgetown cemetery.

This fieldstone house as well as being an interesting structure architecturally, is important because of its historic links to a noted early Kentucky family and to a political figure who was to have considerable influence during a very critical period in Kentucky's history.



PROPERTY <u>Desha, Gov. Joseph, House</u> STATE <u>Ky.</u>		74000002
WORKING NUMBER <u>9.14.73.3583</u>		
TECH REVIEW		
	Photos <u>2</u>	
	Maps <u>1</u>	
CONTROL REVIEW		cm 9-17- OK 13
HISTORIAN	I'm not to sure exactly when Desha lived there? I could read between lines and be sat. on that, however but am not sure Desha is only sign to house - may be other better Desha properties - house is very good and hist. sign.	Return Am 9/18/73
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN	but need Arch. opinion on recent enlargements? Agree with Art Ditto	Return for more info. 9-25-73 cshul
ARCHEOLOGIST		Return etc 10/9/73
REVIEW UNIT CHIEF		
BRANCH CHIEF		
KEEPER		

National Register write-up 1
Federal Register entry _____

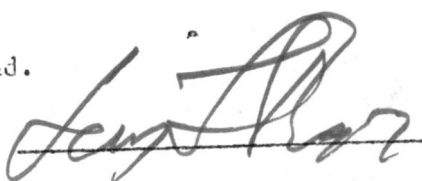
Send-back 10.18.73
Re-submit 8.22.74
Entered _____

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

- 1. Name. _____
- 2. Location. _____
- 3. Classification. _____
- 4. Owner of Property. _____
- 5. Location of Legal Description. _____
- 6. Representation in Existing Surveys. _____
- 7. Description. Please give some information on recent enlargements? _____
- 8. Statement of Significance. When exactly did Desha live here (? - 1842)?
Are there more import Desha properties (then should this be Payne House)? can see hist sign. but who should be stressed? _____
- 9. Bibliography. _____
- 10. Geographical Data.
 - a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. _____
 - b. Acreage. _____
- 11. Form Prepared By. _____
- 12. Certification. _____
- Photographic Coverage. _____
- Map Coverage. _____
- Other. _____

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.

SIGNED: 

PROPERTY Payne - Desha House STATE Ky

2nd Control Sheet

WORKING NUMBER 9.14.73.3583

TECH REVIEW
PHOTOS 2
MAPS 1

Scott

CONTROL REVIEW
They did not make the case as strongly as they could have - but Accept w.r. Luce 11/29/74

cm
8.26.74

HISTORIAN Desha is v. imp., but only lived in house 1 1/2 yrs - Probably eligible, but... called 8/27/74 - They will send continuation sheet on arch. Sign. Conf - w.r. Luce 8/26/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN I'd be happier w/ this if it were nominated for architectural sig. as well as its historic. Association. Conf JCT 8/26/74

ARCHEOLOGIST I don't think we're going to get any more info. on this - Accept JCT 11/22/74

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF Accept Cole 11/25/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER
Use of money for... w.r. Luce 11/26/74

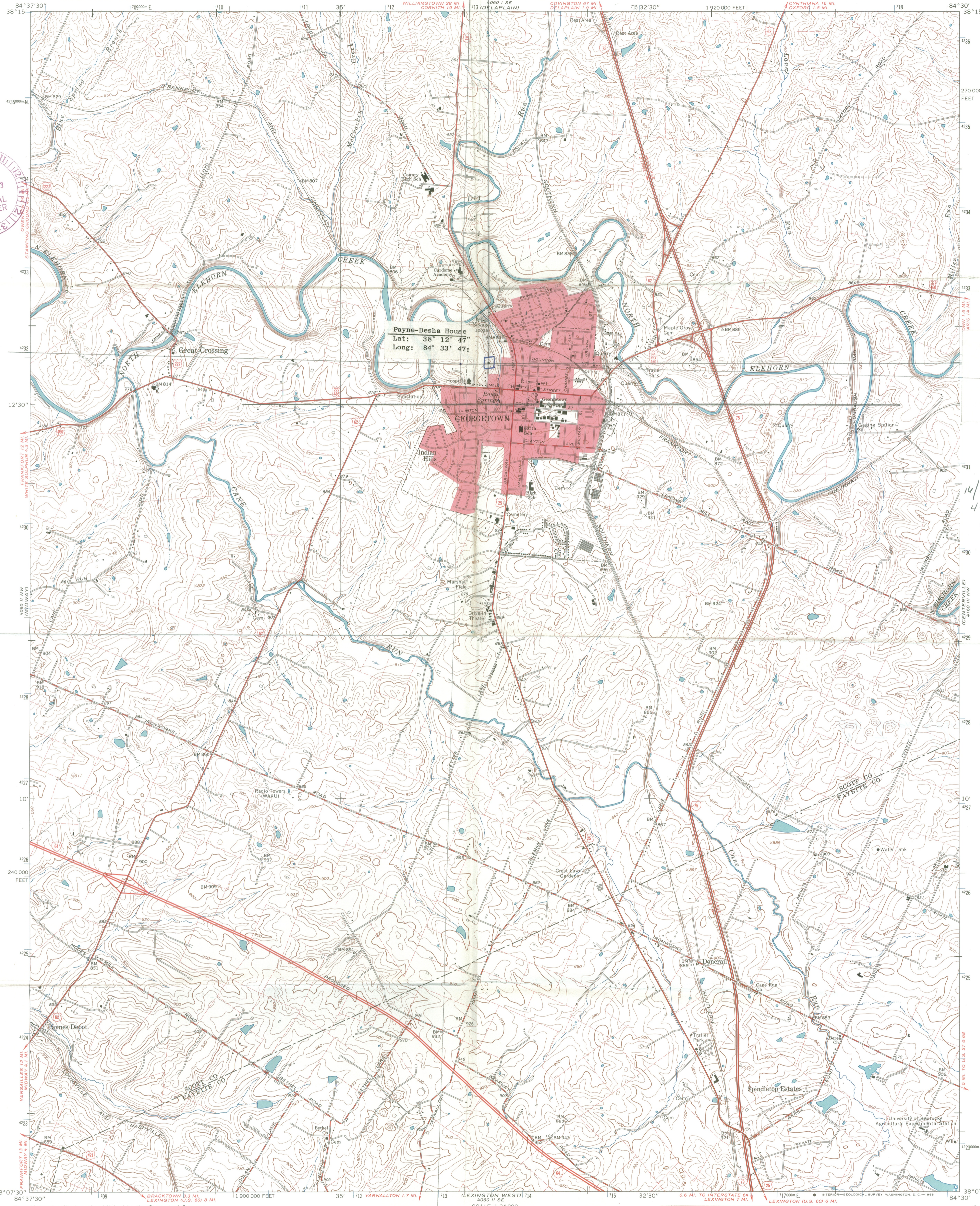
National Register Write-up 12/23/74
Federal Register entry 2-4-75

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____
Entered DEC 2 1974





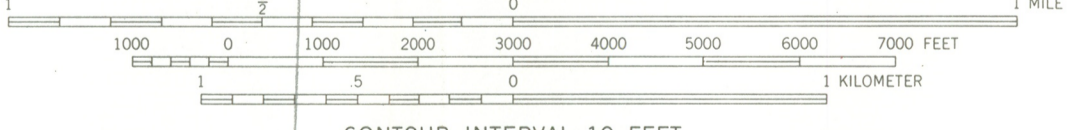




Payne-Desha House
Lat: 38° 12' 47"
Long: 84° 33' 47"

14713330
4232010
CD

SCALE 1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

Payne-Desha House
Lat: 38° 12' 47"
Long: 84° 33' 47"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
hy-duty	Light-duty
bi-um-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised 1965
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

UTM GRID and 1965 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242,
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

GEORGETOWN, KY.
NE/4 GEORGETOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3807.5-W8430/7.5

1965

AMS 4060 II NE-SERIES V853



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Kentucky Heritage Commission
CORNER IN CELEBRITIES
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

August 19, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Doctor Murtagh:

Enclosed is the revised National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Payne-Desha House, Kelly Avenue, Georgetown, Scott County, Kentucky; formerly titled the Governor Joseph Desha House. This site was approved by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board on June 5, 1973, and submitted to you on September 10, 1973. Enclosed is also your review sheet which accompanied the nomination form when you returned it on October 17, 1973.

We have added information in response to your suggestions, and hope that it will now meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

Eldred W. Melton

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton
State Historic Preservation
Officer

Enclosures: See attached list of forms

cc: Mrs. Ann Bevins
Scott Co. Representative

ATTACHMENT

Enclosures: National Register of Historic Places Nomination
Form - Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

National Register of Historic Places Nomination
Form (Continuation Sheet) - Form No. 10-300a
(July 1969) - Two Pages

Property Photograph Form - Form 10-301 A
(Photograph showing front view, taken from South)

Property Photograph Form - Form 10-301 A
(Photograph showing front & side view, taken from
southeast.)

Property Map Form - Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 7-72)
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute Quadrangle, Georgetown



numb:
8-22-74

Kentucky Heritage Commission

401 Wapping Street

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

November 15, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Doctor Murtagh:

Enclosed is an interior photograph to be added with the Payne-Desha House nomination form as requested in a telephone conversation with a member of your staff.

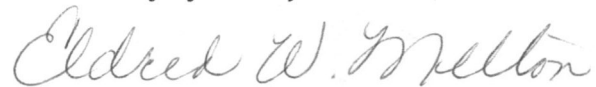
There is a central hall with an archway dividing the two front rooms from the rear of the house. The arch both frames and provides a transition from the rectangular hallway to the gently curving staircase beyond. The arch itself is one of the most impressive examples of Federal woodwork in the area. A sweeping segmental arch of fine superimposed moldings is apparently carried on banded coupled columns separated by paneled antae on both sides. The columns and antae rest on pedestals that sustain the level of the chair railing. The undersurface of the arch is paneled with a delicately curved sunburst motif under the central "keystone."

The front rooms also contain fine Federal wood trim, including attractive Federal mantels with raised sunburst motifs on the far eastern and western walls.

Dr. William J. Murtagh
November 15, 1974
Page Two

The approach to the property, presently consisting of thirty-nine acres, is impressive; Kelly Street off West Main in Georgetown deadends at the Payne-Desha House. There is a large front lawn with numerous shade trees. The house is located at the midpoint of a ridge sloping down to Royal Springs with a fine view across to the town center.

Sincerely yours,



(Mrs.) Eldred W. Melton
State Historic Preservation
Officer

GM:EWM:bsc

Enclosure

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered DEC 2 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Payne-Desha House	Georgetown Scott County

Also Notified

Hon. Marlow W. Cook
Hon. Walter D. Huddleston
Hon. John B. Breckinridge

Regional Director, Southeast
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Eldred W. Melton, Director
Kentucky Heritage Commission
401 Wapping Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

PR MMott/bsh 12/12/74