

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

William Beith House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

6 Indiana Street

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Charles

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

13th

STATE

Illinois

VICINITY OF

CODE
012

COUNTY

Kane

CODE

089

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDEN
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATIO
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. R. Ladewig

STREET & NUMBER

1015 South Third Street

ILLINOIS

CITY, TOWN

St. Charles, Illinois

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office, Kane County Government Center

STREET & NUMBER

South Batavia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Geneva, Illinois

STATE

Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Structures in Kane County: Interim Report

DATE

October, 1972

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Illinois Dept. of Conservation

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

STATE Illinois

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED slightly	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR to good	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Original exterior appearance:

Simple Greek Revival riverstone, two story ^{rectangle} with single story ell with inside chimneys at either end, walls of two to three inch random slabs, gabled roof, flat cedar shingles (original still under asphalt roofs), six over six sash

Main entrance is on left of east side (facing river) of two story portion, with window above, two windows to right of door with two windows directly above; stoop is of large slabs of four inch riverstone laid over a brick foundation; ell has entry door to left (east) and entry door in north center, with one window to right of east door and two windows on west side. Two basement windows on south side.

South side of two story rectangle has two windows on first floor with two directly above on second floor; west side has two windows below with two directly above on second floor; north side has one window on each floor.

Two story portion has two inch fascia board along gables with overhang and molding running along the upper edge of roof line and corner returns

Ell has eight inch fascia board with inconspicuous moldings and no corner returns.

The ell apparently was built when the original house was built inasmuch as the stone is laced together (according to stone mason who inspected building)

Both ell entry doors are replaced but the front door is original with four panels

PRESENT Appearance: Exterior

Exterior is same as originally with following exceptions:

Two upper front door panels have glass replacements

Two windows have sashes removed with frames left intact and have been filled in with stone on east upstairs wall while the lower southeast window frame is filled with brick.

Limestone entry steps to ell have both been covered with cement and extended into larger stoops

The chimneys have been replaced above roof line with later brick (and badly done); asphalt shingles cover the original cedar shingles

Frame around main entry has been mortared over

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Original Interior:

Entry Hall has turned walnut railing, spindles and newel post; crosseted
woodwork in hall and parlor; plain flat four inch woodwork in remainder
of house; plastered walls, eight inch flooring throughout house

Nine foot ceilings downstairs with eight foot ceilings upstairs and in
ell ceilings are seven and a half feet

Cast iron butt hinges and door latches which remain on most doors

Two story portion of house has entry hall on southeast corner with parlor
to right; bedroom to rear with two large closets with two panel doors
in west rooms and ell; four panel doors in parlor; hallway between
parlor and west room leads to ell where kitchen is across east end
with two small bedrooms on west end

Upstairs are three bedrooms and hallway
Entry hall is open above stairway full two stories

Full basement with large brick cistern; a bricked in opening in the
east wall supposedly is the entrance to a tunnel which led to the river
(Mr. Beith was a strong Abolitionist)

Wooden gutters hollowed from a solid piece of wood are stored in the
basement (sketch of end view)

Quarystone walls in basement support upper floor partitions

A stairway to the basement is entered through a door underneath the
west end of the entry hall stairs

Present Interior:

The interior is as original except for the two winders which have been
bricked in as described above; a bathroom has been installed in the
center bedroom of the ell; the door between the parlor and sitting
room has been recently made into a double opening with curtains. This
door is apparently missing.

The woodwork has been painted white over the original blue/gray. The
plaster is still in good condition. Floors have grey paint.
Major house cleaning would bring the house into acceptable condition.
(and decorating)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Home
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Important Building

in Fox River Valley

SPECIFIC DATES 1844-1865 of residential and commercial

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Beith

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This simple Greek Revival riverstone house is one of the very few surviving examples of riverstone houses of the 1840-50s which has not been stucco covered or significantly altered (in the St. Charles area).

- William Beith built this house between 1845-50 for his family, "having learned stone masonry from his father when a young man in Scotland. Coming to St. Charles in 1843, the following spring he took his first building contract- to erect the Congregational Church of St. Charles
- * (now stuccoed), and subsequently erected many of the prominent structures at that place, including the papermill, etc., and built
 - * many buildings in Batavia, so many that it may be said that most of the prominent buildings in that place were constructed by him (those
 - * that predate 1865. His handiwork is largely seen in Aurora--the Jennings Seminary (died 1951), the Dunning Block (some listed in National Register), Methodist Church, factory buildings. His operations extended to Chicago, where, with a partner, he was largely interested in contracting and building. Until 1865 he was the most prominent contractor and builder in Kane County, when he retired partially and devoted his time to farming and the tiling of many acres of land to make it farmable."
 - * "Mr. Beith was largely involved in introducing and starting the manufacture of tile in Aurora, supplying tile for hundreds and hundreds of miles for low and marshy land in Kane County, making it one of the foremost counties for rich farm land."

Many of the riverstone factories in the Fox River Valley have been lost to the bulldozer, as have many of the stores and several of the houses.

This house is located in a prime spot along the river between two brick commercial buildings which are slated to become retailing and office complexes within the next two-three years. It is on a large lot from which one can walk across the river on a footbridge to a lovely stretch of public open space. It is felt by many that this house could be a focal point of this area and could be used as a shop or office, or an extension of the local Historical Society, with parking space for 25 to 30 cars at the rear of the house where a mechanic's garage now stands which is slated to be demolished soon. The city would like to demolish the house and make the entire lot into a parking lot, if they are able to acquire this private property.

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The property is for sale to settle the Ladewig estate.
Mr. Beith came from Scotland in in 1843. (in 1843)
Family records state that Mr. Beith purchased the land along the river
and built a stone house for his wife and daughter who came from Scotlar
in 1844.
Comparison of price paid for land at time of purchase and of its value
in 1850 Kane County census would verify the property having been
improved.

"In 1865 he moved to his farm, 160 Acres of which he had purchased from
the U.S. Government in 1845, which now consisted of some 400 acres, muc
of which the owner had thoroughly tilled in the low and marshy places,
making his farm as fertile land as there is in the county. The family
residence on the farm is a commodious structure....."

Kane County History of 1888 quotes

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kane County History 1838
Family Records of Beith Descendents

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

East lot on north side of Indiana going East, fronting on west bank of Fox River, stretching northward to South Wall of Hawley Products, stretching westward to Boundary (east line) of Fox Valley Cleaners

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Eve Johnson

January 11, 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

312-584-4034

STREET & NUMBER

41 W 483 Beith Road, Route 2

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Elburn, Illinois 60119

STATE

Illinois

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

DEC 12 1983

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places beginning December 4, 1983 and ending December 10, 1983. For further information call (202) 343-9552.

STATE, County, Vicinity, Property, Address, (Date Listed)

ARIZONA, Maricopa County, Phoenix, San Carlos Hotel, 202 N. Central Ave. (12/08/83)
ARIZONA, Navajo County, Winslow vicinity, Chevelon Creek Bridge, Chevelon Creek, SE of Winslow (12/08/83)

CONNECTICUT, Fairfield County, Stamford, St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Church, 1231 Washington Blvd. (12/06/83)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Malden Towers, 4521 N. Malden St. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, New Michigan Hotel, 2135 S. Michigan Ave. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Oliver Building, 159 N. Dearborn St. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, S/S CLIPPER, Navy Pier 600 E. Grand Ave. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Cook County, Oak Park, Ridgeland-Oak Park Historic District, Roughly bounded by Austin Blvd., Harlem, Ridgeland, and Chicago Aves., Lake and Madison Sts. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Jefferson County, Belle vicinity, Judd, C. H., House, Ina-Belle Rive Rd. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Kane County, St. Charles, Beith, William, House, 6 Indiana St. (12/07/83)
ILLINOIS, Lake County, Libertyville, Public Service Building, 344-354 N. Milwaukee Ave. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, McLean County, Bloomington, Holy Trinity Church Rectory and Convent, 704 N. Main and 106 W. Chestnut Sts. (12/08/83)
ILLINOIS, Montgomery County, Virden vicinity, Thomas, Lewis H., House, N. Virden Rd. (12/07/83)
ILLINOIS, Ogle County, Stillman Valley, Stillman's Run Battle Site, Roosevelt and Spruce Sts. (12/08/83)

KENTUCKY, Jefferson County, Louisville, Ballard, Rogers Clark, Memorial School, 4200 Lime Kiln Ln. (12/08/83)
KENTUCKY, Jefferson County, Louisville, Gaffney House (Jefferson County MRA), River Rd. (12/08/83)
KENTUCKY, Jefferson County, Louisville, Haldeman House (Jefferson County MRA), 3609 Glenview Ave. (12/08/83)
KENTUCKY, Jefferson County, Louisville, Thornburgh House (West Louisville MRA), 376 N. 26th St. (12/08/83)

LOUISIANA, Terrebonne Parish, Houma, Houma Historic District, Roughly bounded by East Park Ave., Main, Roussell, Goode, School, Belanger, Church, Verret, Grinage, Lafayette, and Canal Sts. (12/08/83)

MARYLAND, Baltimore (Independent City), Dundalk Dundalk Historic District, Roughly bounded by Liberty Pkwy., Dunman, Dundark, Willow Spring and Sunship Rds., Colgate, Chesapeake and Patapsco Aves. (12/08/83)

MARYLAND, Baltimore County, Parkton, Parkton Hotel, York Rd. (12/08/83)

MISSISSIPPI, Copiah County, Hazlehurst, Cook House, 222 Extension St. (12/08/83)
MISSISSIPPI, Madison County, Tilda Bouge, (12/09/83)