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

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JLL		COMPLETE APPLICAB		/3
NAME				
HISTORIC	Laidley-Summers-Qu	uarrier House		
AND/OR COMMON	"Glenwood"			
LOCATIO	N			
STREET & NUMBER	000 0 1 1 0	•		
0.77	800 Orchard Stree	L .	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	Charleston	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
STATE	West Virginia	CODE 54	соинту Kanawha	CODE 039
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRE:	SENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
$X_{\text{BUILDING(S)}}$	X PHIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
		X_no	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER O	F PROPERTY			
NAME	Miss Lucy Quar	ni o m		•
STREET & NUMBER	MI33 Lucy Qual	rier		
	800 Orchard St	reet	¢	
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Charleston	VICINITY OF		Virginia
LOCATION	N OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		25312
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS	ETC Kanawha County	Courthouse		
STREET & NUMBER	Virginia and Co	ourt Streets		
CITY, TOWN	Charleston	Charleston		
REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCA	L ·
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X\_EXCELLENT
\_\_GOOD
\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

X\_UNALTERED \_\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A mile west of the mouth of Elk River on a high bluff overlooking the Kanawha Valley stands "Glenwood", one of the oldest and best preserved houses in Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia. Prior to the Civil War, Glenwood was a large country estate that could be reached from the village of Charleston by a winding dirt road that is today West Washington Street. Shorn of its original large acreage, Glenwood nevertheless retains on its one and three-quarter acre site remarkabley well preserved architectural and landscape features that have not been impaired amidst the crush of residential West Charleston.

Gleenwood is a two-story, gable roofed brick residence of vernacular Greek Revival styling that combines excellence of proportion and articulation of detail. James Madison Laidley engaged the services of an English immigrant builder and stonemason, William Preston, who erected the house in 1852. The high sandstone ashlar block foundation and the elevated site gives the house an imposing appearance. The builder used readily available materials, including black and white walnut timber from the estate, bricks fired near the building site, and sandstone quarried in the vicinity of the house (a segment of the cellar is cut from solid sandstone).

The outer bearing walls of Glenwood are eighteen inches thick, while the inner partition walls are approximately fourteen inches thick. The medium pitch of the roof is due in part to the north plane that extends to cover the building's rear, two-story veranda. Brick parapets hide the roof at both the east and west gable ends of the house. Twin, interior end chimneys also complement the building's gables.

With the exception of the brown-painted brick walls and wooden trim that have been this color since the turn-of-the century, the exterior features of Glenwood have remained unchanged. The two bays of the front elevation flanking the pedimented, single-story portico, are resessed four inches to provide pseduo-pilasters at the corners of the house. The center bay is thus extended four inches to provide a subtle emphasis on the portico, the principal architectural feature of the house. Glenwood's expansive wooden entablature with its dentiled cornice is duplicated in the triangular pediment and cornice of the portico.

Paired Corinthian columns with fluted, sand-painted wooden shafts and enriched bases stand on sandstone plinths supported by solid sandstone rails. These rails border seven sandstone steps that form the approach to the building's entrance. The solid, white walnut front door is flanked by pilasters and sidelights and is headed with a rectangular transom. The side and transom glass was replaced in the early 1950s with Blenko glass form Hintington, West Virginia.

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The ecanthus leaf motif of the column capitals is echoed in the consoles beneath the wooden cornice window heads and lugsills. The double-hung windows with six over six light sashes are protected with mounted louvered shutters. Double, louvered shutter doors are in place over the front door. Metal details of the building's exterior are four cast iron foundation vents in the front elevation, and an S-shaped metal masonry brace in each gable.

The interior, like the exterior, has changed imperceptibly over the years. The great rooms of Glenwood are twenty feet square with finely paneled walnut doors and random-width pine flooring. The great windows rise above eleven-inch baseboards almost to the height of the twelve-foot ceilings. They are finished in a yellow stained poplar casing with a grained embellishment. Greek Revival murals in the entrance hallway depicting classical columns and female figures were painted over by earlier occupants who apparently disparaged the artistic merit of the paintings. The generally trabeated treatment of the building's design is broken in the arched opening between the hallway and the stairhall.

Glenwood is furnished with numerous pieces of furniture brought to the house by Judge Summers in 1857. Among these items are a cherry dining table capable of seating twenty people, a tall secretary bookcase, and a floor clock and piano. Chairs, beds, linen, an early Brussels carpet, and oil portraits of the Summers family are early items seen in various parts of the house. Several paintings are attributed to the American artist Catlin.

The grounds of Glenwood are neatly planted with perennial, herb, and boxwood gardens. A gable-roofed, two-story servant's quarters at the rear of the house also has served as a summer kitchen and weaving shed. The single-pile, four room structure is in excellent condition like the main house.

Glenwood was restored c. 1954 for the Misses Lucy and Elizabeth Quarrier, direct descendants of Judge George Summers. Genevieve E. Pennypacker, of Winchester, Virginia, was responsible for the interior restoration.

**PERIOD** 

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC \_\_\_1400-1499

\_\_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

\_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_\_CONSERVATION

\_\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

\_\_RELIGION

\_\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC

\_\_LAW

\_\_SCIENCE

...1500-1599 ....1600-1699

\_\_AGRICULTURE XARCHITECTURE \_\_LITERATURE

\_\_SCULPTURE

\_1700-1799

\_\_ART

\_\_MILITARY

\_\_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

ENGINEERING

\_\_MUSIC

\_\_THEATER

X\_1800-1899 .. 1900\_\_COMMERCE \_\_COMMUNICATIONS  $\underline{\underline{X}}_{EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT}$ \_\_INDUSTRY

\_\_ECONOMICS

\_\_EDUCATION

\_\_PHILOSOPHY

\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_INVENTION

\_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

\_OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1852

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Preston

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Glenwood" was built in 1852 in the Greek Revival style for James Madison Laidley, a local notable, who named the house from the near-by deep rock-strewn glen cut by a stream that cascaded from neighboring hills that is today a paved street called Mathews Avenue. Glenwood is a significant residence because it is an original example of the best of Charleston's (West Virginia) early houses, and because it holds the additional distinction of having been part of the background of a number of important local personnages who played notable roles in the history of the Kanawha Valley and West Virginia. These people are memoralized in several street names of Charleston: Bream, Lovell, Laidley, Summers, and Quarrier. The name of the estate itself is perpetuated in Glenwood Avenue and in Glenwood School.

James Madison Laidley (1809-1896) was the son of James Grant Laidley, an attorney from Parkersburg, who represented Wood County in the Virginia legislature in the years 1804-5-6. James M. Laidley, or 'Madison', as he was generally known, moved to Charleston as a young man and at age twenty, founded the Western Register, a newspaper he served as editor. 1848-9 Laidley was a member of the Virginia legislature and a decade later ran for Congress but was defeated by his Democratic opponent, General Albert Jenkins. By 1850 he had accumulated a small fortune from a saltmaking operation in the Kanawha City area of present Charleston. These resources enabled Laidley to build Glenwood in 1852. It is generally believed that the "business entanglements" and decline of local salt prices influenced Laidly to sell his house in 1857. Buyer of Glenwood was Judge George W. Summers, for whom Summers County, West Virginia, is named.

The Summers family came to the Kanawha Valley in the winter of 1813 from Alexandria, Virginia. They settled first near Winfield where they built a log house called "Walnut Grove". Lewis Summers' Journal of a Tour from Alexandria, Virginia, to Gallipolis, Ohio, in 1808," was published in the Southern Historical Magazine of February, 1892. Lewis Summers (1778-1843) was an attorney, judge, store owner at Kanawha Salines, member of the Virginia Assembly from Kanawha County, 1817-18, and member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829.

George W. Summers (1804-1868), younger brother of Lewis, was elected to the Legislature of Virginia in 1830-31, and in 1834-35. He was a

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member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the terms of 1841 and 1843. Summers won acclaim for his speaking and debating abilities in the Virginia Convention of 1850 where the questions of taxation and representation as veiwed by western Virginians were addressed in opposition to the power structure of Tidewater Virginia. The seeds of discontent so eloquently expressed by Summers, were issues that climaxed in the formation of the state of West Virginia in 1863.

Summers was defeated for Governor of Virginia in 1851, largely because he was tagged by the opposition as an abolishionist. In 1852, he was elected Judge of the 18th Circuit, serving until 1858.

George W. Summers is perhaps best remembered for his active work in the Washington Peace Conference of 1861 where "he did all he could to secure peace and prevent disunion." In the same year Summers was a delegate at the Virginia Convention where he bitterly opposed the secession of Virginia from the Union. Summers' pro-Union stance was known to President Lincoln, whom Charleston historian, W.S. Laidley, declares "contemplated, if not offered the Judge a place on his Cabinet or a place on the Supreme bench, ..." (History of Charleston and Kanawha County, p. 104).

During and after the Civil War, Summers devoted himself to his extensive legal practice and to the managment of his farm. His service was not forgotten, however. Laidley records that "if you ask the old people who was the ablest man this county has ever produced, they will uniformly tell you that it was Mr. Summers, the lawyer and advocate."

Following the death of Judge Summers in 1868, Glenwood passed to his surviving heir Lewis Summers II. The house is presently (1978) owned by Miss Lucy Quarrier, a descendant of Judge Summers. A tradition held by Amacetta Laidley, wife of Judge Summers, was that on occupying a new house, a Bible and salt must first precede the owners over the threshold to insure good luck and plenty. Mrs. Summers observed that tradition in 1857, a fact perhaps evident in the survival of Glenwood in its present handsome state.

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			LOW COOK I BOOMDAKIES
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11 FORM PREPARED BY	7		
NAME / TITLE	•		
Rodney S. Col	llins, Research	n Assistant	
W.V. Departme	ent of Culture	and History	DATE August 9, 1978
STREET & NUMBER The Cultural	Center, Capito	ol Complex	TELEPHONE 304 348-0240
CITI ON TOWN			STATE
Charleston			West Virginia 25305
12 STATE HISTORIC PR	<b>ESERVATION</b>	OFFICER CER	TIFICATION
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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER	SIGNATURE		
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