Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Kentucky

COUNTY:

Bracken FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

(Type all entries - co	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)					-	
1. NAME	. NAME						
COMMON:							
Wine Cellar	•			<u> </u>			
Abraham Baker's W	ine Cellar			¢			
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	DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORI	GINAL (if kne	own) PHYSICA	L APPEA	RANCE			

When German immigrants arrived in the rolling hills of the Ohio River Valley they foresaw large vineyards, like the ones they had left in Germany, dotting the countryside. According to the American Vine-Dresser's Guide (1826) the temperature of a wine cellar should remain a constant 55°F the entire year for best results. The wine cellar must be eighteen feet deep, walled and arched with stone or brick, the abutments of the vault must be below the surface of the ground, the entrance to the north with shutters. The Wine Cellar at Augusta, built in the 1850s by Abraham Baker, meets these The entire structure (living quarters and wine cellar) Large structural beams support the roof of is of native limestone. The cellar is vaulted and 104 feet long, 22 feet the living quarters. The walls are approximately 30 inches thick wide, and 37 feet high. and the timbered beams are 12 x 12. The door to the cellar is built facing a northeasterly direction and two strong shutters cover the opening to the cellar. It also has two small cellars built over the A small doorway on the south side of the building leads to one of the cellars. The cellar still maintains its cool temperature as vegetables are now stored there.

The living quarters up over the cellar were built shortly after the cellar. The living quarters originally had arched entranceways to a central, open passageway (running north and south) which separated the living quarters on the east from the area on the western end (which was probably used for storage). The arch on the north side has been removed. There is a connecting hallway between the front and back doors of the living quarters. The door on the south side is used to enter the structure while the northern door is not in use. The actual living quarters are composed of two rooms. The ceilings in the living quarters are very high and large double doors separate the two rooms.

The cellar is built with many small stones while the living quarters are built with large stones.

The only noticeable wear or age of the structure is the disrepair of the stones of the southeast corner.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) Circa	a 1850	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ock One or More as Appropria	te)	•
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
Agriculture .	☐ Invention .	Science	
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art ·	Architecture	Social/Human-	
🔀 Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	X Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The picturesque town of Augusta, located on the Ohio River between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, is one of the oldest towns in Bracken County. Bracken County was formed in 1796. Many German immigrants found their way to Bracken County and Augusta on flatboats via the Ohio River. The rolling hills around Augusta served as a reminder to the Germans of their homeland. Ulericks, Sliefnatins, Switzers, Heines, Dlfiners, and Bakers brought their wine-making expertise with them. In the 1850s the Germans started their wine-industry in the Ohio Valley. planted vinevards, built wine cellars and transported their wines down the Ohio River by flatboat as far as New Orleans.

Abraham Baker began his vineyard at Augusta in the 1850s. The cellar was a very important part of the wine-making process. It is reported that wooden troughs led down the hill from the vineyard to huge vats above the cellar. More troughs and pipes carried juice from the crushed grapes to casks for storage in The Wine Cellar was built by German masons who the cellar. also helped in the actual production of grapes.

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> NOV 1 1974 NATIONAL REGISTER

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOV 1 1974 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NATIONAL REGISTER

(Continuation Sheet)

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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar 8. Significance (continued) Page Two

When the Civil War came to Augusta in September 1862 Baker's Wine Cellar was used as a place of safety by many citizens. John Hunt Morgan's forces, led by General Basil Duke, entered Augusta from the south. The Confederate troops met resistance from the Home Guard, led by vintner Joshua Bradford. from which the Home Guard were shooting were set afire by the Confederate troops. The action was fierce for a short time. The following account by a young boy describes the action and the part Baker's Wine Cellar played; his father was stationed at the Fourth Street and Dutch Ridge Road as an inside picket: "About 11 o'clock a passer-by brought a message from father to mother, to bring the children and noon lunch, and come at once to him at where he was stationed. I can never forget his words, *Go quickly to Baker's Wine Cellar, I want to get you out of town before I am released; I am afraid of the Rebels coming today.' We hurried out to the Wine Cellar. He came with us and we all ate lunch together. He then went up the hill to gather grapes. I had been instructed by him to go to our small barn, near the junction of Dutch Ridge Road and Fourth Street, and ride the 'old black mare' (followed by the mule colt) to As I rode into the river above the wharf boat, I noticed Dr. Bradford's water wagon, with two barrels of water, drawn by a mule, which was driven by a small Negro man, whom I believe was named Dan. He was just ready to leave the river when Dr. Bradford appeared at the corner of Front and Upper Streets and called him *Dan, turn loose your water barrels and get the mule back to the barn quick! The Rebels are coming.' You may know that I do not know whether my mount drank or not but I do know that I was scared. I rushed back near the barn where I saw my father coming over the hill shouting, 'Leave the mare and colt in the road, throw the bridle over the fence into the weed and make for the Wine Cellar.' He beat me across the point of the hill, shouting to the folks about the wine press, warning them to take to shelter." (Rankin, p. 312). It would be safe to assume that the cellar was full of wine and people during this day in September, 1862.

After the Civil War the wine industry reached its peak, but declined after the 1870s. A blight set in and the wine harvests were never as productive as they had once been. Today few, if any, vineyards can be seen around the town of Augusta.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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STATE	
Kentucky	:
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar

8. Significance (continued)

Page Three

The Wine Cellar is one of the last remaining sites associated with the wine industry of Bracken County and Kentucky. The Wine Cellar is an example of Germans' masonry and their expertise in construction. Others have shown interest in growing grapes along the Ohio River but none have been as successful as those first Germans who settled this land. Others, like the Germans found it impossible to continue the industry owing to the blight and other problems. Others also did not build such large cellars which helped produce excellent wines.

Architecturally, the few remaining mid-19th-century wine cellars such as this one are examples of specialized functional requirements producing impressive structures. All the environmental factors--slope, runoff, temperature, ventilation, agricultural and industrial processes--are integrated into a substantial yet unself-conscious entity.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Page Two

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Bracken County, Kentucky. 1860 Census.



Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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STATE: Kentucky

COUNTY:

Bracken FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

(Type all entries - co	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)					-	
1. NAME	. NAME						
COMMON:							
Wine Cellar	•			<u> </u>			
Abraham Baker's W	ine Cellar			¢			
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STREET AND NUMBER:		70	2 Cr . Cr .	183°	*}		
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3. CLASSIFICATION							
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNER	SHIP		STATUS	TO THE PUB	1	
District 🗶 Building 🗆 P	ublic Public	Acquisiti	on:	🔀 Occupied	Yes:	.	
Site Structure X P	1	In Prod		Unoccupied	Restricted Unrestrict		
□ Object □ B	oth [Being	Considered	Preservation work	☐ No	ea	
				in progress			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as	Appropriate)			181	19/		
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Commercial Industria	l 🗓 Privo	ate Reside	nce 🗌	Other Speciff [[F]	VEIT XX		
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:				NATIO			v _i
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	DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORI	GINAL (if kne	own) PHYSICA	L APPEA	RANCE			

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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) Circa	a 1850	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropria	te)	•
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Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
Agriculture .	☐ Invention .	Science	
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Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

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The Augusta Times. ''The Winery: A Look in the Past'' November 29, 1972.										
Collins, Lewis. Collins History of Kentucky. Maysville, Ky.:										
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar 8. Significance (continued) Page Two

When the Civil War came to Augusta in September 1862 Baker's Wine Cellar was used as a place of safety by many citizens. John Hunt Morgan's forces, led by General Basil Duke, entered Augusta from the south. The Confederate troops met resistance from the Home Guard, led by vintner Joshua Bradford. from which the Home Guard were shooting were set afire by the Confederate troops. The action was fierce for a short time. The following account by a young boy describes the action and the part Baker's Wine Cellar played; his father was stationed at the Fourth Street and Dutch Ridge Road as an inside picket: "About 11 o'clock a passer-by brought a message from father to mother, to bring the children and noon lunch, and come at once to him at where he was stationed. I can never forget his words, *Go quickly to Baker's Wine Cellar, I want to get you out of town before I am released; I am afraid of the Rebels coming today.' We hurried out to the Wine Cellar. He came with us and we all ate lunch together. He then went up the hill to gather grapes. I had been instructed by him to go to our small barn, near the junction of Dutch Ridge Road and Fourth Street, and ride the 'old black mare' (followed by the mule colt) to As I rode into the river above the wharf boat, I noticed Dr. Bradford's water wagon, with two barrels of water, drawn by a mule, which was driven by a small Negro man, whom I believe was named Dan. He was just ready to leave the river when Dr. Bradford appeared at the corner of Front and Upper Streets and called him *Dan, turn loose your water barrels and get the mule back to the barn quick! The Rebels are coming.' You may know that I do not know whether my mount drank or not but I do know that I was scared. I rushed back near the barn where I saw my father coming over the hill shouting, 'Leave the mare and colt in the road, throw the bridle over the fence into the weed and make for the Wine Cellar.' He beat me across the point of the hill, shouting to the folks about the wine press, warning them to take to shelter." (Rankin, p. 312). It would be safe to assume that the cellar was full of wine and people during this day in September, 1862.

After the Civil War the wine industry reached its peak, but declined after the 1870s. A blight set in and the wine harvests were never as productive as they had once been. Today few, if any, vineyards can be seen around the town of Augusta.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar

8. Significance (continued)

Page Three

The Wine Cellar is one of the last remaining sites associated with the wine industry of Bracken County and Kentucky. The Wine Cellar is an example of Germans' masonry and their expertise in construction. Others have shown interest in growing grapes along the Ohio River but none have been as successful as those first Germans who settled this land. Others, like the Germans found it impossible to continue the industry owing to the blight and other problems. Others also did not build such large cellars which helped produce excellent wines.

Architecturally, the few remaining mid-19th-century wine cellars such as this one are examples of specialized functional requirements producing impressive structures. All the environmental factors--slope, runoff, temperature, ventilation, agricultural and industrial processes--are integrated into a substantial yet unself-conscious entity.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Wine Cellar/Abraham Baker's Wine Cellar

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