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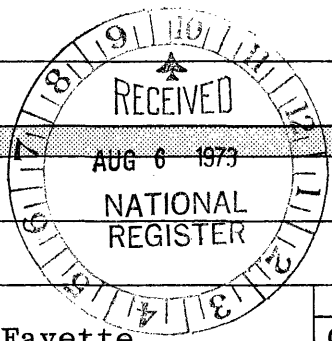
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Kentucky	
COUNTY:	Fayette	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	OCT 25 1973	



1. NAME

COMMON: McAdams and Morford Building

AND/OR HISTORIC: Melodean Hall

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 200-210 West Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lexington

STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21 COUNTY: Fayette CODE: 067

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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input 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: William & Martie Lucas

STREET AND NUMBER: 216 Albany Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lexington STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Fayette County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street (between Cheapside and Upper)

CITY OR TOWN: Lexington STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

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: 21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

OCT 25 1973

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three story building, which was completed in 1849, has a beautiful articulated cast iron facade facing on Main Street across from the courthouse. This cast iron facade, an outstanding example of Renaissance revival architecture, was added after 1857. A June 13, 1857 engraving in the Lexington Observer and Reporter shows a three story brick building, probably six-bayed, with a balcony at the second floor level.

The architectural designs of antiquity were easily emulated in cast iron. The cast iron facade of McAdams and Morford reproduces the notable features of the Italian Renaissance. Architectural historian Clay Lancaster called attention to the "Corinthian pilasters, the half-round arches spanning coupled arched windows, and the very delicate relief in the spandrels. There are singled and coupled consoles supporting a deep overhanging cornice, the building's most renaissance feature."

Sir Banister Fletcher outlines the characteristics of Italian Renaissance architecture in his noted work, A History of Architecture. The following characteristics, generally Venetian, are all reproduced on the cast iron facade of McAdams and Morford. The wall has the "Orders superimposed in tiers." "The windows are large, flanked by columns, sometimes supporting round arches with carved spandrels." "Mouldings are extremely refined and original. Mouldings of pedestals, doorways, entablatures, and capitals are frequently carved with intricate ornament." Fletcher's description of the Palazzo Vendramini built in Venice in 1481 describes in perfect detail the cast-iron facade of McAdams and Morford. It "has the customary three-floored scheme and window arrangement. The top entablature is made abnormally deep so as to serve as a fitting termination for the whole front; and, as usual in Venetian palaces, the full architectural treatment is confined to the main facade."

McAdams and Morford Building remains virtually unaltered since the addition of this cast iron facade. Although the interior was damaged after loss of part of the roof, the roof has been replaced. The facade is in excellent condition needing only paint and the replacement of a window pane. The store front signs on the first level are fairly recent additions. However, engravings show that store signs existed in 1857 when the first floor was used for commerce, as it is now.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

do not stress it. Ren.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1849**

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building presently known as McAdams and Morford has occupied the corner of West Main Street and South Upper Street across from the courthouse since 1849. In this location the cast iron facade with its rich Renaissance detail is highly visible and makes a strong architectural anchor for a busy downtown corner. The primary significance of this building is its emulation in cast iron of the architectural designs of the Renaissance. This facade was added during the "cast iron age" in the 1850's and 1860's. This facade has a fine, sharp outline and a richness of design characteristic of the best cast iron work.

This building also represents the cultural, social, and commercial life style of early Lexington. In an article entitled "Revitalization of a Cast Iron Building" it was stated that "upon its completion...it was put into public use as the Melodean Hall, home of the theatre and gathering place of Lexington residents during the ante-bellum days...the theatre can still be seen on the second floor with its splendid arched windows facing Main Street." The first performance was held there on January 1, 1850. Melodean Hall was one of Lexington's first theatres with a seating capacity of 300 and occupied the second floor of the building. Jenny Lind, Patti, and General Tom Thumb are among the performers who appeared there. On January 4, 1861 Dr. Robert Breckinridge delivered an address on the state of the Union which is credited with saving Kentucky for the Union. Another noted Kentucky figure, Colonel Frank Wolford, denounced Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on March 11, 1864.



- Continued -

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Revitalization of a Cast Iron Building," Kentucky Architect, (Jan., Feb., Mar. 1972), pp24-25.

Lexington Observer and Reporter, June 13, 1857 An engraving.

J. Winston Coleman, Historic Kentucky, Lexington (1968), p. 41.

City Directories of Lexington, Kentucky, 1824-1898.

Sir Bannister Fletcher, A History of Architecture, 17th edition, revised. Charles Scribner's Sons: New York, 1963, pp 731, 748, 751, 752

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

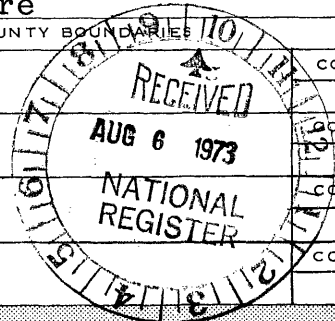
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 02 50	84 29 54	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

UTM
16/71951C
4213810
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1 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: **Mrs. Carol Mayfield**

ORGANIZATION: **City-County Planning Commission** DATE: **July 1, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **227 North Upper Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lexington** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

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: Mrs. Simeon Welles

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: August 2, 1973

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

Ernest A. Connally
Associate Director, Professional Services

Date: OCT 25 1973

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10.18.73

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

(Continuation Sheet) # 1

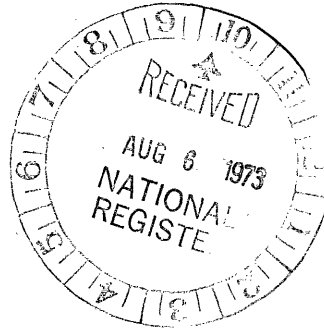
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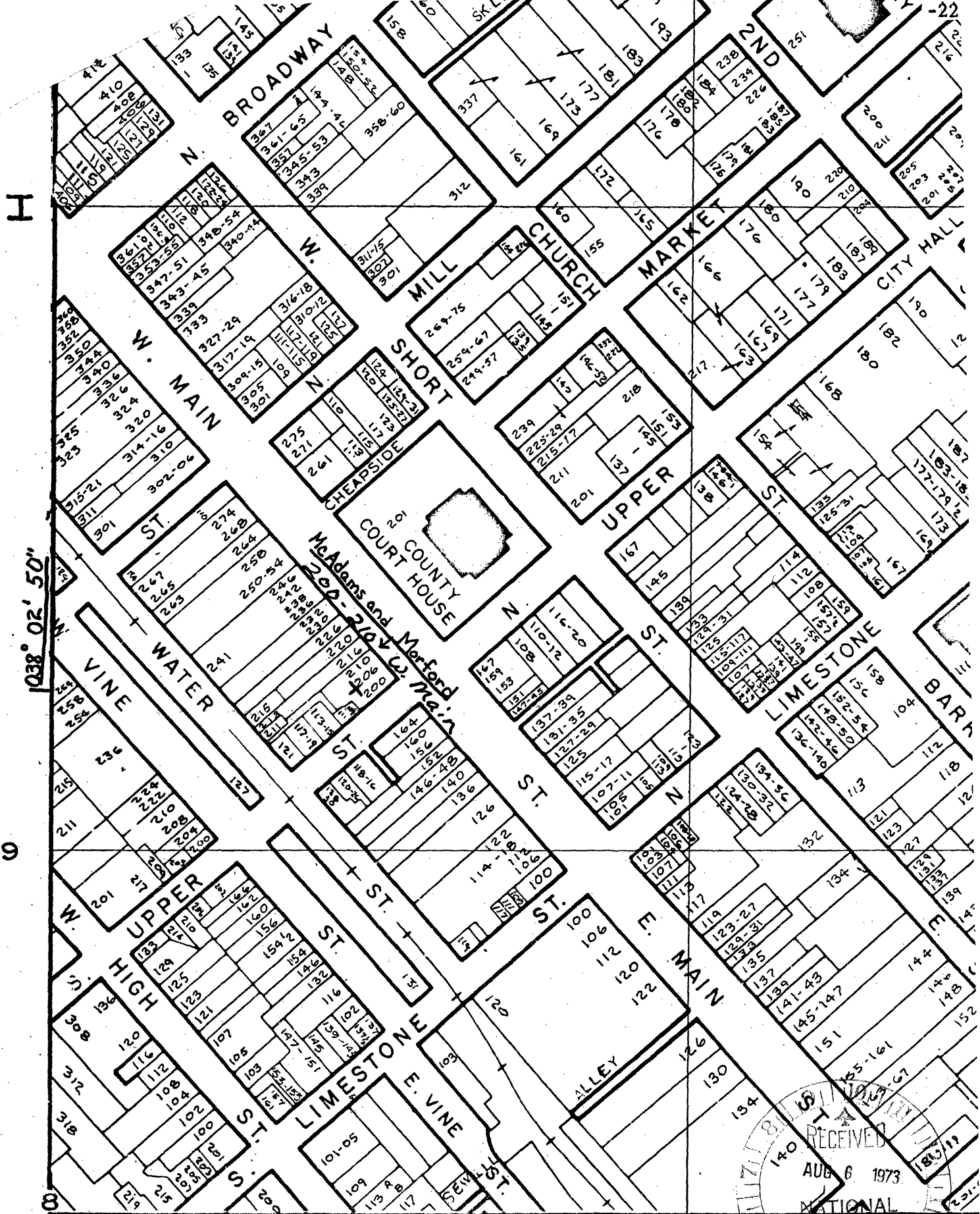
(Number all entries)

#8. SIGNIFICANCE - Cont'd

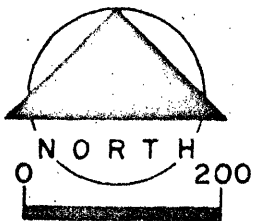
Although noted as a theatre and social center, this building also has a history of commercial uses on the first floor. Merchants still occupy the first floor of the building as they did since 1849. In 1824 John Norton operated a drug store on the site of what is now McAdams and Morford. George W. Norton, a nephew, bought the business in 1835, and with various partners over the years, operated a drug store there until 1881. In the period 1881-1898 the drug store was operated under the following names: J.P. Ballard; C.P. Williamson & Co.; J.C. Bryant, &nd.F.FOverstreet; and the James Wilson Drug Co. Around 1898 Harry K. McAdams and J.W. Morford bought the business and the firm has been in the wholesale and retail drug business there continuously since then. In addition to the numerous drug stores operated on the first floor, the Commercial College of Kentucky University was conducted on the second floor by General Wilbur Smith in 1885.

This building is noted as a landmark in the growth of Lexington's commerce and culture, but is noted most importantly as the building with the richly designed and outstanding cast iron facade.





084° 29' 54"



LOCATION OF McADAMS AND MORFORD DEFINITION OF PROPERTY

MAP 30F 3

Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

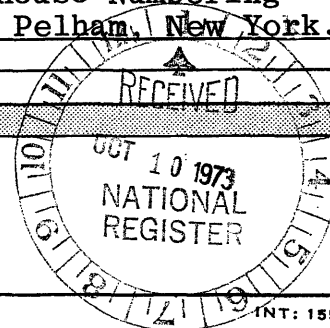
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Kentucky	
COUNTY Fayette	
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	OCT 25 1973

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1. NAME			
COMMON: McAdams and Morford Building			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Melodean Hall			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 200-210 West Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Lexington			
STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21	COUNTY: Fayette	CODE 067
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Map Atlas Portion of Street Names and House Numbering Plan. Compilation by Sanborn Map Co., Inc. Pelham, New York.			
SCALE: 1" = 200'			
DATE: original 5/68 updated 1/73			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



INT: 155-72

