Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Frankfort,

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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HISTORIC	Bayly-Schroering	House		
AND/OR COMMON				
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#### CONDITION

XEXCELLENT \_\_DETERIORATED \_\_RUINS \_\_GOOD \_\_UNEXPOSED \_\_FAIR

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X ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

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

The Bayly-Schroering House is located on Fourth Street south of Broadway and is just outside the boundaries of the Old Louisville Preservation District (listed on the National Register in February, 1975). The block where the house stands was, in the late nineteenth century, a block of elegant mansions, built in the 1870s and 1880s when the city of Louisville was in a period of great economic expansion, and the fashionable residential areas were along Fourth and Third Streets, just south of Broadway. Today, only two of these residences remain in this particular block.

The Bayly-Schroering House is an imposing three-story structure of brick with a limestone facade and ornate architectural details typical of the "High Victorian" style. The asymmetrical, three-bay facade features a battered base of smooth stone and a recessed entry with tall, double doors having their original panels of etched glass. The outer doors to the vestibule were long ago removed.

The entrance has a lavishly carved hood and brackets with both stylized and natural foliated motifs. There are slender columns within the window enframements and incised chevron designs around the windows. Rusticated quoins decorate the first story, and plain quoins are on the upper stories. European design influences of the 1870s are reflected in the ornate carving and the use of combined natural and stylized forms. An iron fence on a raised limestone curb separates the yard from the sidewalk. The fence has a leaf and flower design reminiscent of the motifs favored by Viollet le Duc.

The interior of the house is equally rich in decorative details. The first-story rooms are large, with ceiling heights of fourteen feet, seven inches. The woodwork is of walnut, ornately carved and extremely architectural. The stairway, also of walnut, is a graceful, "flying" stairway which rises to the second story along the full length of the hallway.

Most of the interior shutters remain with their original, decorated brass hinges and latches. All of the old brass door knobs and hinges are also intact. They are incised and the designs differ on each story. Woodwork on the second story is also walnut, but is more simple in design. The finishing details on the third story are even plainer, typical of a story used as servants quarters. Two mirrored hall trees in the entrance hall are original since they have the same carved "Norman" motifs as the woodwork.

Some of the decorative details appear to be of a later period, perhaps around the turn-of-the-century. The house was sold in 1897, and it is probable that the new owner did some redecorating. The pier mirror in the front parlor has, beneath a marble top, a written notation that it was regilded in July, 1899, by Walter N. Escott. The two stained-glass windows on the stairway may be of this period, and the paneled ceiling in the dining room also appears to be a turn-of-the-century addition.

Other interior details include gold-leaf molding in the front parlor, several castiron mantels which are handsomely japanned, and the original etched-glass transoms above the first-story doors. The pantry has its original black and white marble floor. Several chandeliers have been installed where the originals were missing, and they are either of the period or reproductions which blend with the others. The

#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bayly-Schroering House is a significant example of late nineteenth-century, residential architecture in a "High Victorian" style. It is one of a very few residences in the Old Louisville area dating from the 1870s and 1880s—the earlier period of development in this area. Fourth Street south of Broadway was, in the latter half of the nineteenth century, part of Louisville's most desirable and socially prominent residential neighborhood. After the Civil War, the city experienced great economic progress and growth. Elegant mansions were built by Louisville's successful businessmen and industrialists, and they chose to move south of Broadway along Third and Fourth Streets. The Southern Exposition of 1883-1887 paved the way for the subsequent development of Central Park, St. James and Belgravia Courts, and the surrounding areas.

The Bayly-Schroering House was built in 1880-81 for J. W. E. and Fannie Tyler Bayly. The lot was purchased in May 1880, by Mary L. Tyler, acting as trustee for her daughter, Fannie Bayly. The American Architect and Building News of September 25, 1880, noted that J. W. E. Bayly was to build a three-story, brick and stone dwelling on Fourth Street between Kentucky and St. Catherine Streets at a cost of \$15,000. Bayly was first listed at this residence in the city directory of 1882. In 1885, Mary L. Tyler conveyed title to the house and lot to her daughter.

J. W. E. Bayly was a partner in the general insurance firm of Morris and Bayly. Fannie Bayly was a daughter of Robert and Mary L. Chambers Tyler. Robert Tyler was James Guthrie's partner in the firm of Guthrie and Tyler, and Mary Tyler was a daughter of William Chambers, prominent Louisville businessman and landowner. Tyler died in 1852, leaving a considerable estate to his wife, son, and six daughters.

Both the Bayly and Tyler families were prominent members of Christ Church Cathedral. In the 1890s, numerous memorial gifts were made to Christ Church by various members of the two families. These included a substantial choir endowment in memory of Fannie Tyler Bayly, silver communion vessels, and the c. 1893 altar and reredos in memory of Mary L. Tyler. Mr. Bayly was for many years secretary to the Bishop and Chapter of Christ Church and chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds. He died in 1926 and in 1930, the Bayly Memorial Hall at Chrust Church was dedicated to his memory.

J. W. E. and Fannie Bayly lived in the house until her death in 1897. Bayly then sold the house to his wife's sister, Roberta Tyler, who lived there until she died in 1916. She left the house to her niece, Mary Chambers Wooldridge, who owned it until 1940. In recent years, it was used as a rooming house.

			RENCES		
American Archi	itect and Buildi	ng News, 25	September 188	0, p. 156.	
	nty, Kentucky, D p. 141 (1897); B				44, p. 46 (1940); 175 (1880).
Jefferson Cour	nty, Kentucky, W	ill Book 34	4, p. 578 (1916	); Book 21,	p. 382 (1897); continued)
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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Bayly-Schroering CONTINUATION SHEET House

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doors dividing the front hall from the rear service wing have new stained-glass panels in a design which conforms to the style and period of the house. Removal of an added wall in the kitchen revealed an iron and brass "Bridgeford" stove, manufactured in Louisville by Bridgeford and Company and probably dating from the 1890s.

The house is being renovated and adapted for use as offices. Some changes have been made, such as the addition of modern kitchens and bathrooms, but the original elements which remain are being carefully restored to preserve the ambiance of the house as an elegant, nineteenth-century residence.

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Bayly-Schroering CONTINUATION SHEET House

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No record of an architect for the Bayly-Schroering House has been found. There are certain similarities to two other houses on Fourth Street. These are Nos. 957 and 961, which have been connected to form the Mc Auley, a residence hotel for women. No. 957 was built in 1878-79 for William Cornwall, owner of the Cornwall Soap and Candle Manufactory. An application for a building permit, dated July, 1878, described this house and listed the architect as William H. Redin. The other house, No. 961, was built about 1879-80 for John Mason Brown, prominent Louisville attorney. No record of an architect for the Brown house has been found.

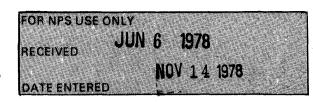
The similarities in these two houses and the Bayly-Schroering House are intriguing. The Brown and Bayly houses are most alike, with the Bayly house being larger and more elaborate. The stone facades of these two houses are quite similar, while the Cornwall house facade is simple and resembles the Renaissance Revival work of Henry Whitestone. All three houses have "flying" staircases embellished with stained-glass windows and ornately carved woodwork and trim. Here again the Bayly house, while bearing resemblances to the Brown and Cornwall houses, is more elegant and imposing. Because of the similar design features and because the architect of the Cornwall house is known, one is tempted to attribute the other two houses to this same architect, William H. Redin. Redin did use a variety of design motifs in his work, and the facade treatment, particularly of the Brown and Bayly houses, resembles some of his known buildings. However, until some definite documentation is found, the architect of the Bayly-Schroering House must remain unknown.

The Bayly-Schroering House is significant as an outstanding example of the "High Victorian" style of nineteenth-century architecture. Despite its years of use as a rooming house, the original architectural and decorative elements of the interior are almost totally intact. Its importance is even greater since the majority of surviving structures in Old Louisville date from the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, and most are in the Richardsonian Romanesque and Colonial Revival styles popular at that period. The Bayly-Schroering House is one of a very few surviving residences from the earlier period of the 1870s and 1880s, and its style is typical of that era.

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Louisville City Directories.

McCready, Richard L., History of Christ Church Cathedral, 1822-1937.

