

Historic Resources of Hardin County

AUG 26 1988

Historic Name: Arnold, Philip, House (HDE-14) Classification: Building
Common Name: Arnold, Philip, House

Owner: Lamonte Hornback, 308 Edgewood Dr., Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

Location: 422 E. Poplar Street, Elizabethtown, KY

<u>Contributing:</u>		<u>Non-Contributing:</u>	
Buildings	1	Buildings	0
Structures	0	Structures	0
Sites	0	Sites	0
<u>Total:</u>	1	<u>Total:</u>	0

Description:

The Philip Arnold House is a two-story brick Italianate style residence built in 1869. The house was built in a T-plan and retains much of its original detailing. On the main (south) facade is a one-story frame porch added ca. 1912. This porch has square Doric posts and square balusters. The west bay of the porch has been enclosed. On the first floor of the west facade is a bay window with arched four-over-four sash windows. Other windows on the house are arched four-over-four sash with sheet metal hood molding. This hood molding has decorative brackets and floral designs in the frieze. The main entrance has a modern door but the original surround and transom remain. On the east facade is a ca. 1960 one-story brick addition. The gable roof has a surface of composition shingles. The interior was inaccessible. The house sits on a large lot on the eastern edge of Elizabethtown. There are no outbuildings.

Period of Significance: 1872-1879

Area of Significance: Commerce

Criterion: B

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The Philip Arnold House is notable for its association with Philip Arnold, a prominent businessmen of Elizabethtown in the 19th century. Arnold was a native of Elizabethtown who gained notoriety after claiming the discovery of diamond mines in Colorado and Arizona. Arnold formed a company to exploit the mines and moved back to Elizabethtown in 1872 a wealthy man. The mines later turned out to be a hoax and Arnold was the subject of several lawsuits and briefly spent time in the Elizabethtown jail. In 1872, he purchased this home from original owner William Wilson and lived here until his death. Arnold later opened a bank in the city and built the Gilded Age building, a prominent Italianate commercial building still standing, although altered, on the public square. Arnold's business dealings remained suspect in these years and in 1873 he was wounded in a shoot out with a rival businessman. Arnold continued to be active in local commerce until his death in 1879. The diamond hoax was one of

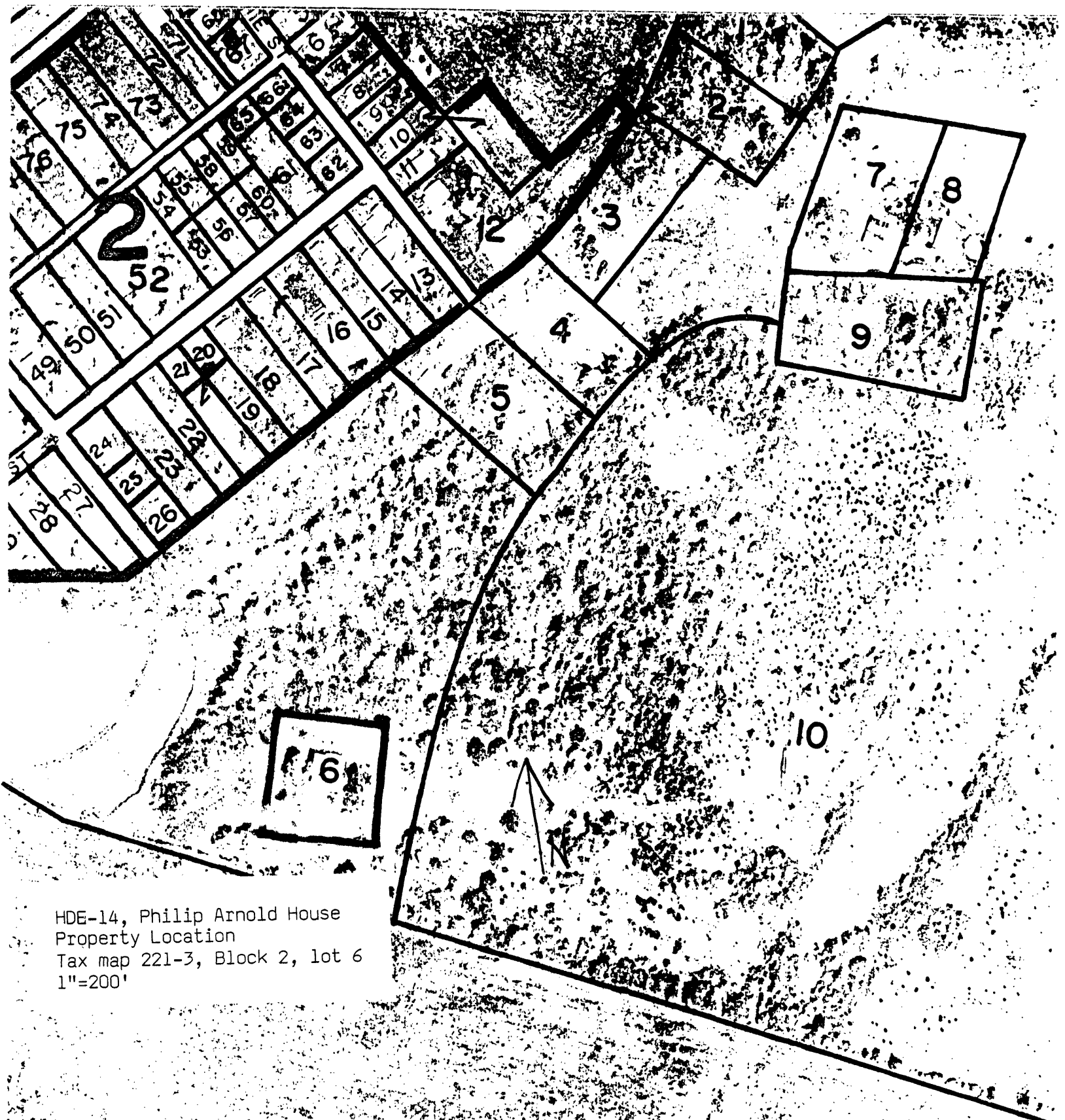
the most famous of the 19th century and several books have been written dealing with Arnold and this famous incident. His house was later the home of the McMurtry family and it was one of the city's most notable Italianate residences. In recent years the porch has been remodeled and a brick addition which renders the house ineligible for criterion C significance.

Acreage: Less than one acre.

UTM References: Elizabethtown Quad 16/601610/4172070

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary for the Philip Arnold House is illustrated on the accompanying Hardin County property tax map 221-3, block 2, lot 6, and the house is centered in a square with the sides 75' from the main facades of the house. The boundary includes the house and property sufficient to protect the historical setting of the site.



HDE-14, Philip Arnold House
Property Location
Tax map 221-3, Block 2, lot 6
1"=200'

