

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 17 1985
date entered MAY 16 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic

and/or common Hunter House

2. Location

street & number 118 West Walnut Street not for publication

city, town Leitchfield vicinity of

state Kentucky code county Grayson code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lucian O. Hunter, Jr.

street & number 118 West Walnut Street

city, town Leitchfield vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Grayson County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Leitchfield state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 (Site #GY-L-37) federal state county local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The imposing three-story residence at 118 West Walnut Street in the Grayson County community of Leitchfield, Kentucky, is a classic example of the turn-of-the-century Queen Anne style. Grayson County, formed in 1810, is in the midwestern Pennyrile region of the state. The land is primarily level, but limited agricultural land and is bounded by the Nolin River to the south and the Rough River to the north. Many mineral springs dot the landscape of this region. National Register listings in Leitchfield include the Court Square Historic District and the Jack Thomas House. The Grayson Springs Hotel on KY 88 and 1214 and The Cedars on KY 1214 are the county sites listed in the Register.

Built c.1886 on the corner of English and Walnut Streets on Lot No. 86 (107' X 158'), the house appears to have been of smaller configuration originally. The site plan (see Illustration A) taken from a 1901 Sanborn Insurance Map of Leitchfield indicates a T-plan residence with a three-sided or U-shape porch. No other evidence exists of this original plan or exterior details although local residents recall it being "a cottage." Exterior photographs taken of the property during the ownership of Edward R. Bassett (1918) show the house in present form so the expansion and Colonial Revival/Queen Anne detailing were finished prior to 1918 (perhaps the photographs were prompted by a recent remodeling).

This three-story, three-bay, clapboard residence has such distinguishing exterior features as a wrap around front porch and a three-story, round tower placed at its northwest front facade corner. The tower is capped with a conical turret that has two half-circle eyebrow windows at its base. Other Queen Anne details include denticulated cornices at both the floor and porch levels and full-height classic tuscan porch columns. The upper porch balusters are simple turned spindels. The absence of any decorative shingles might prompt some to classify this as "Princess Anne."

The asymmetrical facade has a rectilinear transom covered entrance and a small round window of blue and auburn stained glass above it on the second story. A second-story, stained-glass window is at the stair landing on the west facade. The house has multiple hipped roofs and a hipped dormer on the north or front facade, one on the front block of the west facade and one topping a two-story bay extension approximately mid-length on the east facade. First and second story windows are one-over-one with the third-story dormers multi-paned.

The floor plan is also asymmetrical in keeping with the Queen (or Princess) Anne style of the house. It has an off-center entrance and a side stair, corner hall plan. Rich with interior woodwork, outstanding features include numerous turn-of-the-century columned mantels and multi-colored tiled hearths. It has a particularly nice elliptical fan doorway ornamentation off the entrance hall that is reminiscent of the eastlake spindlework usually found on exterior gable detailing.

A recent (1970s) addition to the rear of the residence includes a family room/country kitchen, bathroom and chapel. This addition is sensitively read on the exterior with sympathetic materials, scale and woodwork profiles. A new brick garage is at the very rear of the property and is not visible from the front facade.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1886/1918 **Builder/Architect** UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

118 West Walnut Street in Leitchfield, Kentucky, is significant as a primary example in this region of the Queen Anne style.

This distinctive residence exhibits the qualities of fine materials and craftsmanship and the architectural characteristics that have come to be known as Free Classic Queen Anne.

Leitchfield, a rural county seat, is now a community of approximately 3,000 people. But in 1870 the population numbered only 314. A house of the scale and quality of 118 West Walnut was indeed significant for the size and rural nature of such a community.

The house was built c.1886 by an unknown builder for an unknown client. All county records were destroyed by fire in 1896 so the history of ownership of the property begins with the title transfer in 1917 to H. W. Story. In 1918, Mr. Edward R. Bassett, Grayson County National Bank Cashier, purchased, enlarged and embellished the house (see Illustration B). The house had changed ownership five more times when, in 1937, it was purchased by L. O. Hunter, Sr. It still remains in the Hunter family today and the present rear appendage was completed in 1977 by the present owner L. O. Hunter, Jr.

The house provides a strong example for the area of the Queen Anne style that was so popular throughout the Victorian years. The scale and integrity of materials and details make this property unequaled in Leitchfield and Grayson County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1/4 Acre

Quadrangle name Leitchfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	6	2	3	4	0	4	1	4	8	3	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning on the west side of English Street at the southside of the Walnut Street intersection and traveling east along Walnut Street for 107 feet; moving due south for 158 feet; proceeding due west along the rear property line for 107 feet; proceeding due north along English Street for 158 feet back to the initial point of departure.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary C. Breeding, Senior Historian

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date January, 1985

street & number 12th Floor, Capital Plaza Tower telephone 502/564-7005

city or town Frankfort state Kentucky

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature David L. Morgan

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date April 4, 1985

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

Entered in the National Register

date 5/16/85

for Allores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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J. W. Rogers House

Continuation sheet Leitchfield, Grayson County, KY Item number 9

Page 2

"Grayson County, Kentucky, in the 20th Century." Supplement to the Grayson County Gazette,
Leitchfield, November 1903.

Leitchfield City Map, Sanborn Map Company, New York, 1901.

Leitchfield City Map, Sanborn Map Company, New York, 1925.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York, Knopf, 1984.

Personal interviews with Mrs. Ruby T. Jones and L. O. Hunter, Jr.

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky. GY-L-37.

ILLUSTRATION A
 Sanborn Insurance Map 1901
 118 W. Walnut St., Leitchfield, KY

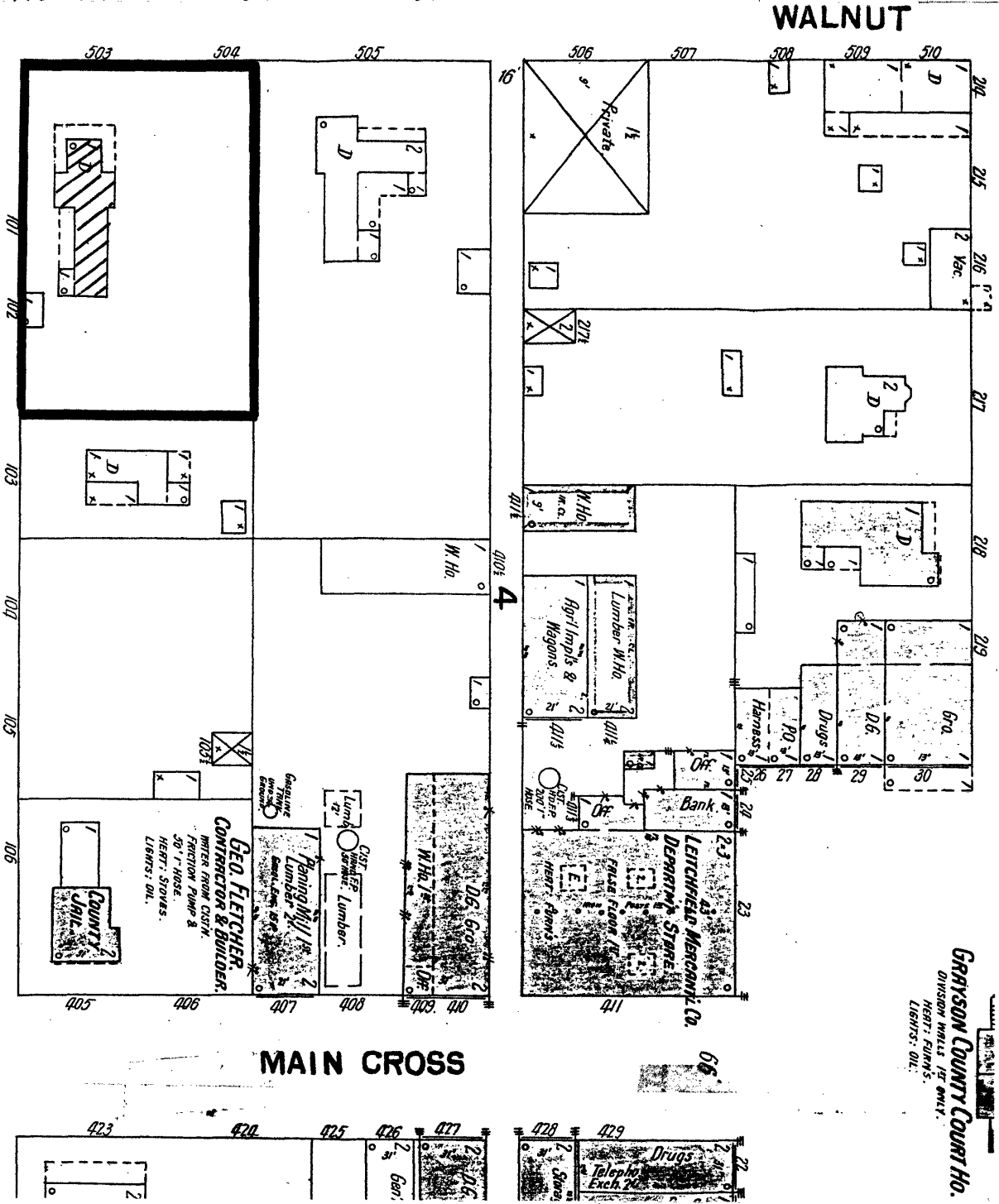


ILLUSTRATION B
 Sanborn Insurance Map 1925
 118 W. Walnut St., Leitchfield, KY

