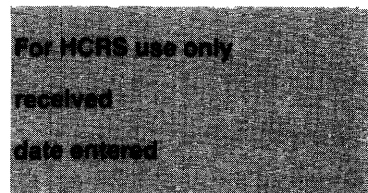


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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



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

1. Name

historic Octagon Cottage (William Henry Edmunds House)

and/or common Octagon Cottage

2. Location

street & number Becton-Rocky Hill Road NA not for publication

city, town Beckton vicinity of congressional district 2

state Kentucky code 021 county Barren code 009

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Alice Rose

street & number

city, town PaoLi vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Barren County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Glasgow state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Sites in Ky. BN-179 has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Heritage Division--Dept. of the Arts

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Octagon Cottage is located about eight miles west of the county seat of Glasgow in rural Barren County. The house sits on a slight rise, facing west above the backwaters of the Barren River reservoir.

The one-story frame house, constructed c. 1850, sits on a stone foundation, and displays plain exterior detailing. The front (west) facade contains the entranceway, incorporating a transom and sidelights. The windows on the remaining sides are double hung and have eight over eight lights with paneled aprons beneath.

"Its four large hexagonal rooms and four small triangular rooms have sixteen-foot ceilings and ten-foot doors and windows which are framed inside by fluted Ionic pilasters. A ten-foot-square brick central chimney with four flues serves the four principal rooms.

"Like Thomas Jefferson's Bedford County, Virginia, retreat, Poplar Forest, the Edmunds house had four octagonal outbuildings within sixty feet of the four principal sides of the house. At the front were an office from which the large farm was run, and a carriage house. At the rear were a kitchen and a washhouse, both shielded from view by mounds of earth planted with flowers and shrubs. Only the office building survives."¹

¹Riley Handy, "Some historic architecture of western Kentucky," *The Magazine Antiques*, April 1974.

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 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 c. 1850

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Octagon Cottage, located in Barren County in western Kentucky, is one of less than five octagonal houses in the state.¹ The existence of an octagonal dependency serves to establish the rarity of this complex and its importance within the state.

The house was constructed around 1850 by William Henry Edmunds, a native of Barren County. Edmunds, born in 1823 near Glasgow, was an attorney and businessman by profession. In the mid-1850s, he and his family moved from Glasgow to a farm where he built his octagon-plan house.

Originally the farm complex was comprised of the main house and four dependencies--all octagonal in form. Situated within sixty feet of the house, the outbuildings included the office, which still stands; carriage house; wash house; and kitchen.

The uniqueness of the octagonal plan as a house form and the few existing examples within the state are evidence of the significance of the Edmunds house as an architectural type. In addition, the house has experienced little alteration and remains virtually unaltered since its construction.

¹Other surviving octagonal houses, pure in form, include Octagon Hall, a two-story brick house listed in the National Register April 10, 1980; and the Kouns-Cole House, a two-story frame structure located in Greenup County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 8 Acres

Quadrangle name Lucas, Ky.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	5	8	4	9	6	0	4	0	9	1	7	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

The nominated area is a rectangular space beginning at a point on the Becton-Rocky Hill Road 200 feet north of the lane leading to Octagon cottage, then east, southeast 700 feet to a point northeast of Octagon collate, then south, southeast 500 feet. The west,

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 Jayne Henderson, historian; Gloria Mills, National Register Coordinator

organization Heritage Division--Dept. of the Arts

date February 1982

street & number 2200 Capital Plaza Tower

telephone (502) 564-7508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title	date
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Octagon Cottage (Barren County MRA)

Continuation sheet Barren Co., Kentucky

Item number

10

Page 2

northwest 700 feet to the Becton-Rocky Hill Road; then north 500 feet to the point of origin. The nominated area encompasses the office which is between the cottage and the road and Octagon cottage and omits the 20th century structures to the rear of the cottage.

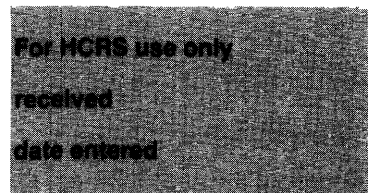
KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Bn-179

1. Historic Name(s) Octagon Cottage		22. ADD/County BRADD/Barren <input type="checkbox"/>	
Original Owner William Henry Edmunds		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') Lucas <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Present Name		24. UTM Reference 16 584960 4091700	
3. Location Rocky Hill Vicinity Beckton-Rocky Hill Road -1 1/2 miles south of 1297		Zone Easting Northing	
4. Owner's Name Alice Cortner		25. Coordinate Accuracy <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Owner's Address Paoli, Kansas		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building Other	
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8. Ownership <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization		Private <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Local <input type="checkbox"/>	
		State <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		27. National Register District Name: <input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Architect		28. Significance Evaluation National Register <input type="checkbox"/>	
		29. Status <input type="checkbox"/> Date	
		National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
		National Register <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Kentucky Survey <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
		HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>	
		30. Historic Theme <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Primary <input type="checkbox"/>	
Secondary <input type="checkbox"/>			
Other <input type="checkbox"/>			
12. Builder W. H. Edmunds		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
13. Date 1850 A. <input type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Preservation Project Status <input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Style A. Octagon <input type="checkbox"/>		Actual Cost in \$1,000s <input type="checkbox"/>	
B. <input type="checkbox"/>		33. ATTACH PHOTO	
15. Original Use dwelling <input type="checkbox"/>		Roll No. <u>26</u>	
16. Present use same <input type="checkbox"/>		Picture No. <u>Photos 99-100</u>	
17. Condition good <input type="checkbox"/>		Direction _____	
18. Description		34. Prepared by: Jayne C. Henderson	
No. Stories one <input type="checkbox"/>		35. Organization SCKHS	
Single Pile _____ NA _____		36. Date Fall, 1981	
Double Pile _____		37. Revision Dates 38. Staff Review	
Floor Plan octagon <input type="checkbox"/>			
Structural Fabric frame A. <input type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Decorative Fabric A. <input type="checkbox"/>			
B. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Roof Form pyramidal			
(Continue on Back)			
19. History (See individual National Register form) pending			
20. Significance One of few octagon style structures in Kentucky. Originally the Edmunds house had four octagonal outbuildings, one remains intact.			
21. Source of Information			

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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



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

1. Name

historic Octagon Cottage (William Henry Edmunds House)

and/or common Octagon Cottage

2. Location

street & number Becton-Rocky Hill Road NA not for publication

city, town Beckton vicinity of congressional district 2

state Kentucky code 021 county Barren code 009

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Alice Rose

street & number

city, town PaoLi vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Barren County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Glasgow state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Sites in Ky. BN-179 has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Heritage Division--Dept. of the Arts

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Octagon Cottage is located about eight miles west of the county seat of Glasgow in rural Barren County. The house sits on a slight rise, facing west above the backwaters of the Barren River reservoir.

The one-story frame house, constructed c. 1850, sits on a stone foundation, and displays plain exterior detailing. The front (west) facade contains the entranceway, incorporating a transom and sidelights. The windows on the remaining sides are double hung and have eight over eight lights with paneled aprons beneath.

"Its four large hexagonal rooms and four small triangular rooms have sixteen-foot ceilings and ten-foot doors and windows which are framed inside by fluted Ionic pilasters. A ten-foot-square brick central chimney with four flues serves the four principal rooms.

"Like Thomas Jefferson's Bedford County, Virginia, retreat, Poplar Forest, the Edmunds house had four octagonal outbuildings within sixty feet of the four principal sides of the house. At the front were an office from which the large farm was run, and a carriage house. At the rear were a kitchen and a washhouse, both shielded from view by mounds of earth planted with flowers and shrubs. Only the office building survives."¹

¹Riley Handy, "Some historic architecture of western Kentucky," *The Magazine Antiques*, April 1974.

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 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 c. 1850

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Octagon Cottage, located in Barren County in western Kentucky, is one of less than five octagonal houses in the state.¹ The existence of an octagonal dependency serves to establish the rarity of this complex and its importance within the state.

The house was constructed around 1850 by William Henry Edmunds, a native of Barren County. Edmunds, born in 1823 near Glasgow, was an attorney and businessman by profession. In the mid-1850s, he and his family moved from Glasgow to a farm where he built his octagon-plan house.

Originally the farm complex was comprised of the main house and four dependencies--all octagonal in form. Situated within sixty feet of the house, the outbuildings included the office, which still stands; carriage house; wash house; and kitchen.

The uniqueness of the octagonal plan as a house form and the few existing examples within the state are evidence of the significance of the Edmunds house as an architectural type. In addition, the house has experienced little alteration and remains virtually unaltered since its construction.

¹Other surviving octagonal houses, pure in form, include Octagon Hall, a two-story brick house listed in the National Register April 10, 1980; and the Kouns-Cole House, a two-story frame structure located in Greenup County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 8 Acres

Quadrangle name Lucas, Ky.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	5	8	4	9	6	0	4	0	9	1	7	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

The nominated area is a rectangular space beginning at a point on the Becton-Rocky Hill Road 200 feet north of the lane leading to Octagon cottage, then east, southeast 700 feet to a point northeast of Octagon collate, then south, southeast 500 feet. The west,

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 Jayne Henderson, historian; Gloria Mills, National Register Coordinator

organization Heritage Division--Dept. of the Arts

date February 1982

street & number 2200 Capital Plaza Tower

telephone (502) 564-7508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title	date
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Octagon Cottage (Barren County MRA)

Continuation sheet Barren Co., Kentucky

Item number

10

Page 2

northwest 700 feet to the Becton-Rocky Hill Road; then north 500 feet to the point of origin. The nominated area encompasses the office which is between the cottage and the road and Octagon cottage and omits the 20th century structures to the rear of the cottage.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Bn-179

1. Historic Name(s) Octagon Cottage		22. ADD/County BRADD/Barren <input type="checkbox"/>	
Original Owner William Henry Edmunds		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') Lucas <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Present Name		24. UTM Reference 16 584960 4091700	
3. Location Rocky Hill Vicinity Beckton-Rocky Hill Road -1 1/2 miles south of 1297		Zone Easting Northing	
4. Owner's Name Alice Cortner		25. Coordinate Accuracy <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Owner's Address Paoli, Kansas		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building Other	
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8. Ownership <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization		Private <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Local <input type="checkbox"/>	
		State <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		27. National Register District Name: <input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Architect		28. Significance Evaluation National Register <input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Builder W. H. Edmunds		29. Status <input type="checkbox"/> Date	
13. Date 1850 A. <input type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Style		National Register <input type="checkbox"/>	
A. Octagon <input type="checkbox"/>		Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/>	
B. <input type="checkbox"/>		Kentucky Survey <input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Original Use		Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
dwelling <input type="checkbox"/>		HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Present use		30. Historic Theme <input type="checkbox"/>	
same <input type="checkbox"/>		Primary <input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Condition		Secondary <input type="checkbox"/>	
good <input type="checkbox"/>		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Description		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
No. Stories <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>	
one <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Preservation Project Status <input type="checkbox"/>	
Single Pile <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>		Actual Cost in \$1,000s <input type="checkbox"/>	
Double Pile <input type="checkbox"/>		33. ATTACH PHOTO	
Floor Plan <input type="checkbox"/>			
octagon <input type="checkbox"/>			
Structural Fabric			
frame A. <input type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Decorative Fabric			
Roof Form			
pyramidal			
(Continue on Back)			
19. History (See individual National Register form) pending		Roll No. 26	
		Picture No. Photos 99-100	
		Direction _____	
		34. Prepared by: Jayne C. Henderson	
20. Significance One of few octagon style structures in Kentucky. Originally the Edmunds house had four octagonal outbuildings, one remains intact.		35. Organization SCKHS	
21. Source of Information		36. Date Fall, 1981	
		37. Revision Dates 38. Staff Review	