

88001801

AUG 26 1988

Historic Resources of Hardin County

Historic Name: Helm, Benjamin, House (HDE-20) Classification: Building
Common Name: Helm, Benjamin, House

Owner: Mr. Horace T. Bird, 238 Helm Ave., Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

Location: 238 Helm Avenue, 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 Benjamin Helm House is a two-story brick residence constructed ca. 1816. The house was originally built in a Federal style, central passage, single pile plan. It originally had one-story wings on the east and west but these have been removed. Original features include the Flemish bond exterior, window jack arching and a second story door with an elliptical fanlight. The first floor doorway on the main facade was altered ca. 1910 into a Colonial Revival appearance with two-light sidelights. The present two-story porch was added ca. 1960 with large Doric columns. At the rear of the house are numerous two-story brick additions added in the late 19th century. Also at the rear is an attached ca. 1960 garage. The interior was inaccessible. There are no outbuildings.

Period of Significance: ca. 1816 - 1858

Area of Significance: Settlement/Exploration /Politics

Criterion: B

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The Benjamin Helm House is notable for its association with Benjamin Helm, an important early settler of Elizabethtown. Helm came to Hardin County in 1780 and helped with the formation Elizabethtown. He made the first survey of the town and was one of the first Trustees. He was appointed Hardin County Clerk in 1800 and was also a clerk of the Circuit Court. During these years he also helped to found and serve on the board of the Hardin Academy. Helm served in the War of 1812 rising to the rank of Major but seeing no significant action. After the war Helm became actively involved in local business becoming quite wealthy. Around 1816 this large two-story brick residence was constructed for Helm which originally featured attached one-story wings. Helm was appointed director of the Union bank in 1818 and continued to be active in business until his death in 1858. Under later owners the house was remodeled several times and can longer be considered significant under criterion C.

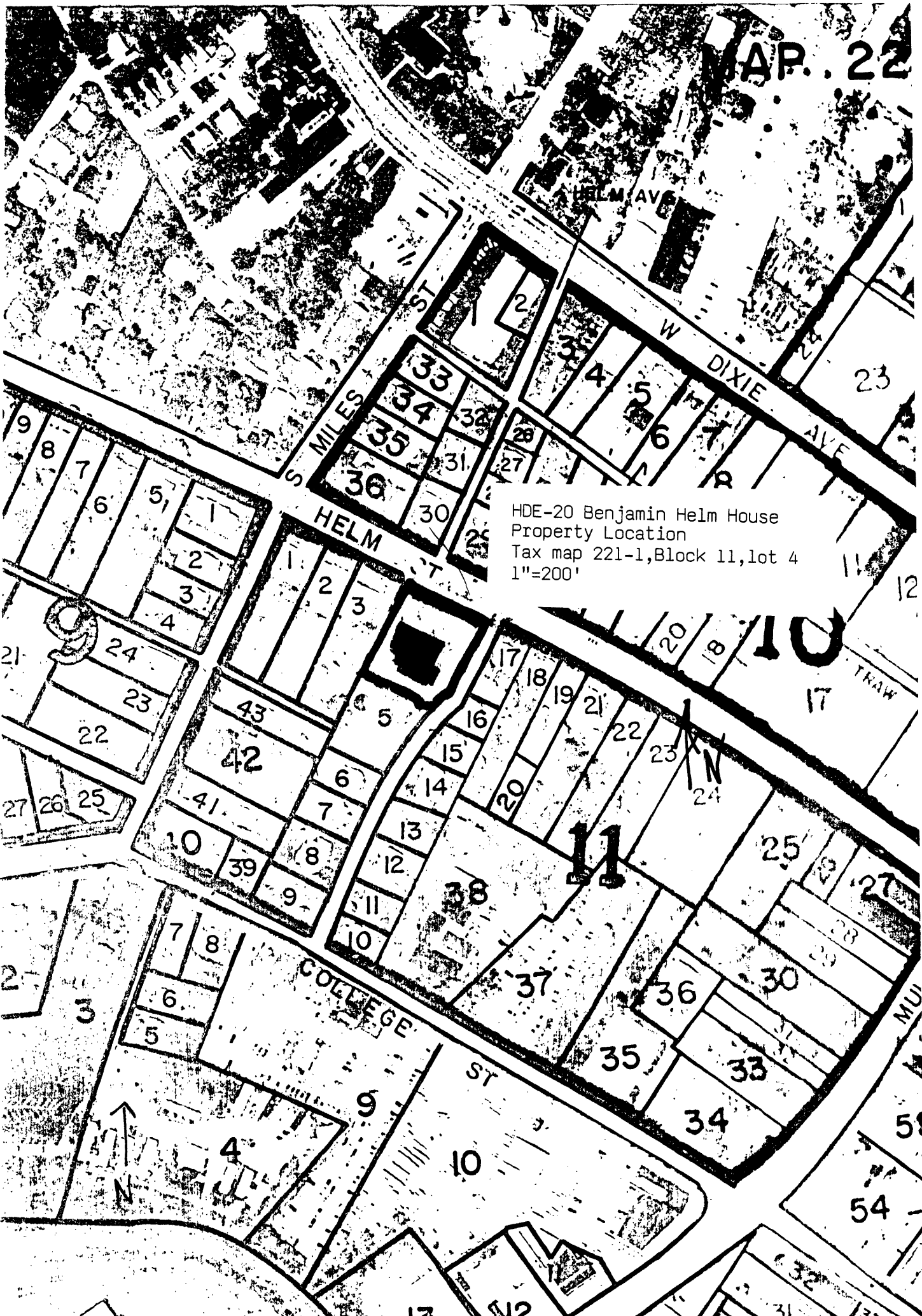
Acreage: Less than one acre.

UTM References: Elizabethtown Quad 16/600230/4172270

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary for the Benjamin Helm House is illustrated on the accompanying Hardin County property tax map 221-1, block 11, lot 4, and is defined on all sides by the legal property boundary. The boundary includes the house and property sufficient to protect the historical setting of the site.

AP. 22



HDE-20 Benjamin Helm House
 Property Location
 Tax map 221-1, Block 11, lot 4
 1"=200'