

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received **FEB 26 1987**  
date entered **MAR 26 1987**

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

**1. Name**

historic David Wilson House

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number 2215 Carolina Avenue na not for publication

city, town Louisville na vicinity of

state Kentucky code 021 county Jefferson code 111

**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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>na</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>na</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input 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 John O. and Ellen S. Ostrander

street & number 2215 Carolina Avenue

city, town Louisville na vicinity of state Kentucky

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number 6th and Jefferson Streets

city, town Louisville state Kentucky 40202

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

Kentucky Resources  
title Inventory (JFEH 3031) has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date November, 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

# 7. Description

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

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The David Wilson House is a two-and-one-half story residence clad in stone and shake shingles. It is located in the eastern portion of the city in the Douglass neighborhood. This house dates from 1905 and is a rare example of Shingle style architecture in Louisville.

Cherokee Park, which is part of the Olmsted Park System (National Register: May, 1982), is located north of the David Wilson House and the Highlands District (National Register: February, 1983) is located to the east. There are a few remaining structures in the area that are eligible for National Register listing and a number of individual structures have already been placed in the National Register. Among those are the Adamesque style Humphrey-McMeekin House that was completed in 1915, based on the plans of the architectural firm of Gray and Wishmeyer (National Register: March, 1986). The nearby Steamboat Gothic style Bullock-Clifton House dates from 1834 and 1873 (National Register: May, 1982).

The Douglass neighborhood developed sporadically between 1901 and 1952 and is predominantly residential in character. Cherokee Park forms its northern boundary, and Bardstown Road, a commercial corridor and transportation artery, forms its southern boundary (see USGS Map: Louisville East Quadrangle). Large historic revival houses including Colonial, Tudor and Dutch Revival styles are found throughout the area. The David Wilson House is one of the first residences constructed in the area and occupies one of the Douglass neighborhood's larger lots (see site plan). It is sited on a hilltop and its main facade is oriented toward Cherokee Park.

The David Wilson House is loosely rectangular in shape (see Photos 2 and 3). Its massing is asymmetrical. Exterior material consists of randomly coursed rubble masonry on the ground floor and wooden shake shingles on the upper stories. The house has windows in a variety of shapes and sizes that are randomly placed. Asphalt shingles cover the broad hipped roof and intersecting cross gable. There are three brick chimneys that extend above the roof.

The main entrance to the David Wilson House (see Photo 1) is to the right and is protected by a three columned porch with a hipped roof. Two one-over-one windows are located just to the right of the door. Directly above the porch on the second floor are two one-over-one windows and above that is a roof dormer with three one-over-one windows and a pyramidal roof. To the left of the entry is a projecting bay that has a one-over-one window with a stone lintel at the ground level. The second floor has three one-over-one windows of stained glass that were clearly inspired by the geometrically patterned Prairie style art glass of Frank Lloyd Wright. The pyramidal roof of this portion has a denticulated cornice. To the left of this bay is another bay that is set further back. There are four one-over-one windows on the first floor, two one-over-one windows on the second floor and three casement windows with lattice panes supported by Craftsman style brackets above. The second floor is

## 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** 1905 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The David Wilson House is unusual because of its style. Louisville has very few shingle style homes, especially ones built on such a large scale. The structure is also representative of the first wave of development in the Douglass neighborhood. Built in 1905, it is one of the area's oldest extant residences.

In 1905, when David Wilson, owner of the Wilson Ear Drum Company, and his wife Mary purchased the lot upon which they would build their house, the surrounding area was still undeveloped. The 1905 Carons Directory of the City of Louisville, in which an entry for the house first appears, lists the property as simply Douglas (sic) Park on Bardstown Road. It was not until 1944 that a public road was laid out near the David Wilson House. The deed conveying the property from the Central Concrete Company, who had subdivided the surrounding area and renamed it Park Acres, specified that the buyers, Harry and Evelyn Schacter, could construct a road connecting Woodbourne and Douglass Boulevard and were to name it Carolina Avenue. It was between 1938 and 1952 that the second major wave of development occurred in the area.

Of the few Shingle style houses built in Louisville, the David Wilson House is a particularly fine example. The S. S. Bush residence, located in the southern part of Louisville, is the only Shingle style house that has been recognized as an outstanding example (National Register: April, 1979). It was built circa 1893 and represents one of the finest efforts of Maury and Dodd. The architect for the David Wilson House is unknown but it is possible that it is the work of one of the partners in the firm. Mason Maury, a follower of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie style and Chicago School architecture, built several houses in the Highlands that have similar Wright inspired stained glass windows with geometric patterns. This lends credence to the argument that Maury had a hand in the design of the David Wilson House, but additional information has not been found.

The David Wilson House has remained substantially intact with only a few minor alterations. A single story greenhouse was added to the southwest side between 1905 and 1926 (see Caufield and Shook Photo #72209). The addition however, was made in a sympathetic manner and occurred early enough in the house's history to have established a significance in its own right. Sometime in the last ten years iron security grills were installed on all of the windows and doors, and the porch with the hipped roof on the south east side of the house was glass enclosed (see Caufield and Shook Photo #72210). This change is not significant enough to diminish the overall architectural integrity of the house.

The David Wilson House, is significant as one of the earliest

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle name Louisville East Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	6	6	1	5	2	1	0	4	2	3	1	8	6	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 legal boundary chosen for this nomination is based on the lot historically associated with the David Wilson House. That lot is City of Louisville Block 78E Lot 73. The lot dimensions are 186.97 x 122.43' x 100.14' x 162.85' x 193.88'

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

state NA code county NA code

state NA code county NA code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joanne Weeter, Research Coordinator

organization Louisville Landmarks Commission date December, 1986

street & number 609 W. Jefferson St. telephone (502) 587-3501

city or town Louisville state Kentucky 40202

# 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. Meyer

title State Historic Preservation Officer date February 13, 1987

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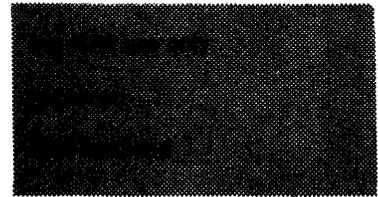
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Nelson Byers Keeper of the National Register date 3-26-87

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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



**National Register of Historic Places  
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David Wilson House, Louisville Jefferson Co., KY

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capped by a large front facing gable with short returns. To the left of this is another bay that is even more deeply recessed. It has simple one-over-one windows on both its first and second floors.

The secondary facade of the David Wilson House faces towards Woodbourne Avenue and has a central entrance (see Photo 3) flanked by lancet windows. The entry is covered by a porch with plain Classical columns and a pyramidal roof. Another entrance to the right serves the home's pantry area. A total of three one-over-one windows completes the first floor fenestration. The second floor has eight one-over-one windows of varying size and arrangement. The hipped roof has two dormers with casement windows and a one-over-one wall dormer.

The northeast facade of the house (see Photo 2) is closest to Millvale Avenue. Located at the ground level is a simple, single-story porch that serves as a balcony for the second floor. The second floor door is topped by a transom. A dormer is centered on the building's roof.

Projecting from the southwest end of the structure is a single-story polygonal greenhouse that was added some time between 1905 and 1926 (see Photo 4). It has a single door and is topped by a standing seam metal roof. The second floor of the principal structure has two one-over-one windows with a chimney located at this end of the building's hipped roof.

The interior of the David Wilson House has a large central hallway. The fireplace mantle found in the living room has Classical Revival style fluted pilasters, eagles and egg and dart motifs and is faced with ceramic tile (see Photo 5). The bedrooms on the second floor also have fireplaces with mantels adorned with Classical Revival details (see Photo 6). The stairwell that leads to the second floor has Victorian spindles and a carved newel post (see Photo 7). At the landing level are three slender art glass windows adorned with geometric patterns (see Photo 8).

The nominated area includes one contributing building.

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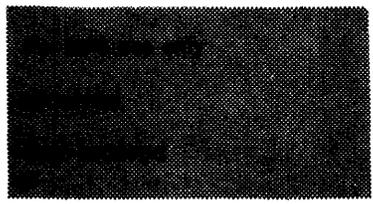
**National Register of Historic Places  
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David Wilson House, Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY

Continuation sheet

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residences constructed during the first major wave of development in the Douglass neighborhood and is a rare local example of Shingle style architecture.

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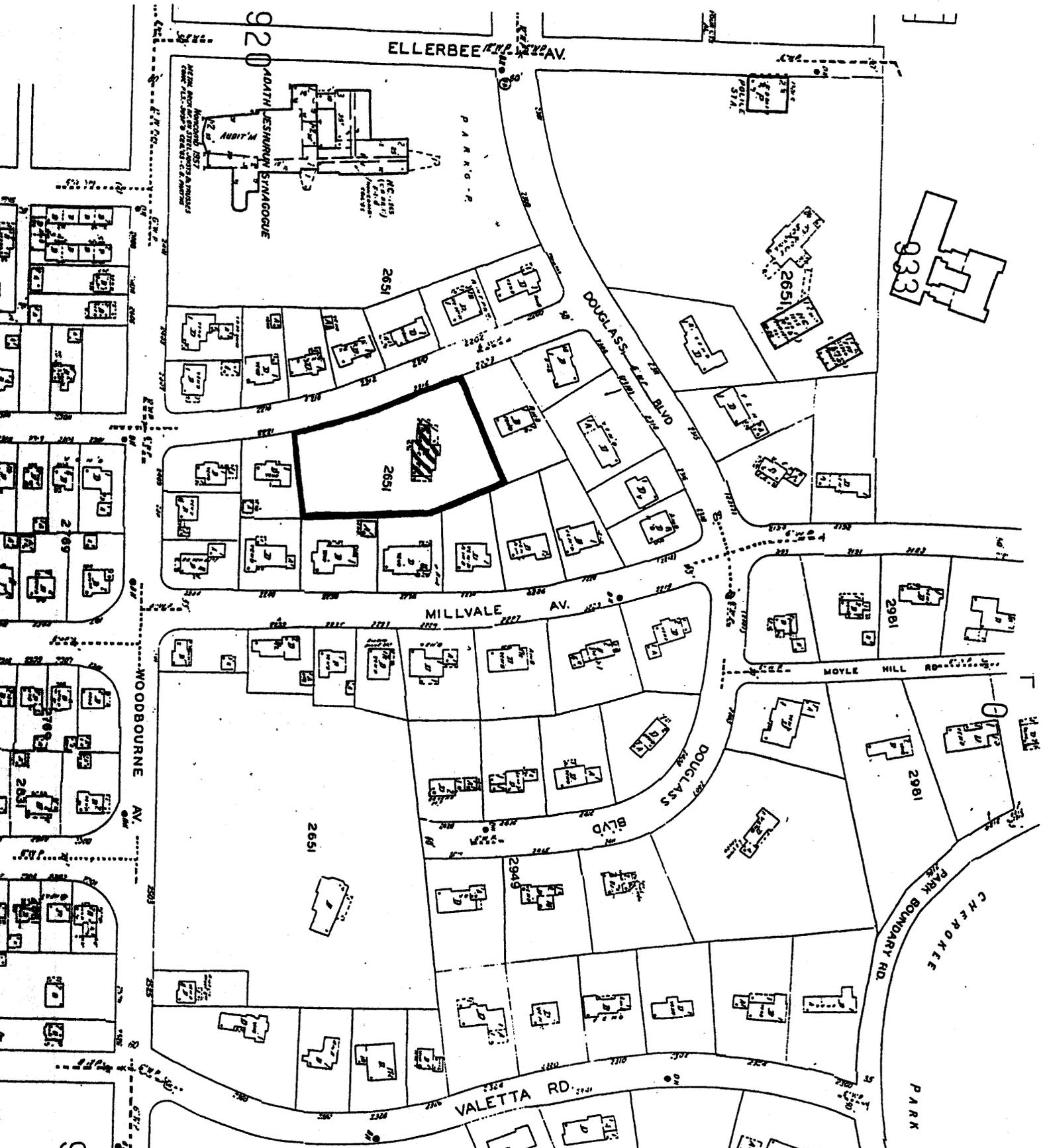
**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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\_\_\_\_\_. Caron's Directory of the City of Louisville.  
Louisville: Caron Directory Company, 1900-1935.

Jefferson County (KY) Deed Book. 571, p. 166 (1899); Book 591, p. 14  
1903; Book 804, p. 137 (1903); Book 919, p. 108 (1914); Book 953,  
p.88 (1920); Book 1957, p. 269 (1944); Book 1960, p. 43 (1944);  
Book 1960, p. 54 (1944); Book 1960, p. 83 (1944).

\_\_\_\_\_. Louisville Survey East Report. Louisville: City of Louisville  
Community Development Cabinet, 1979.



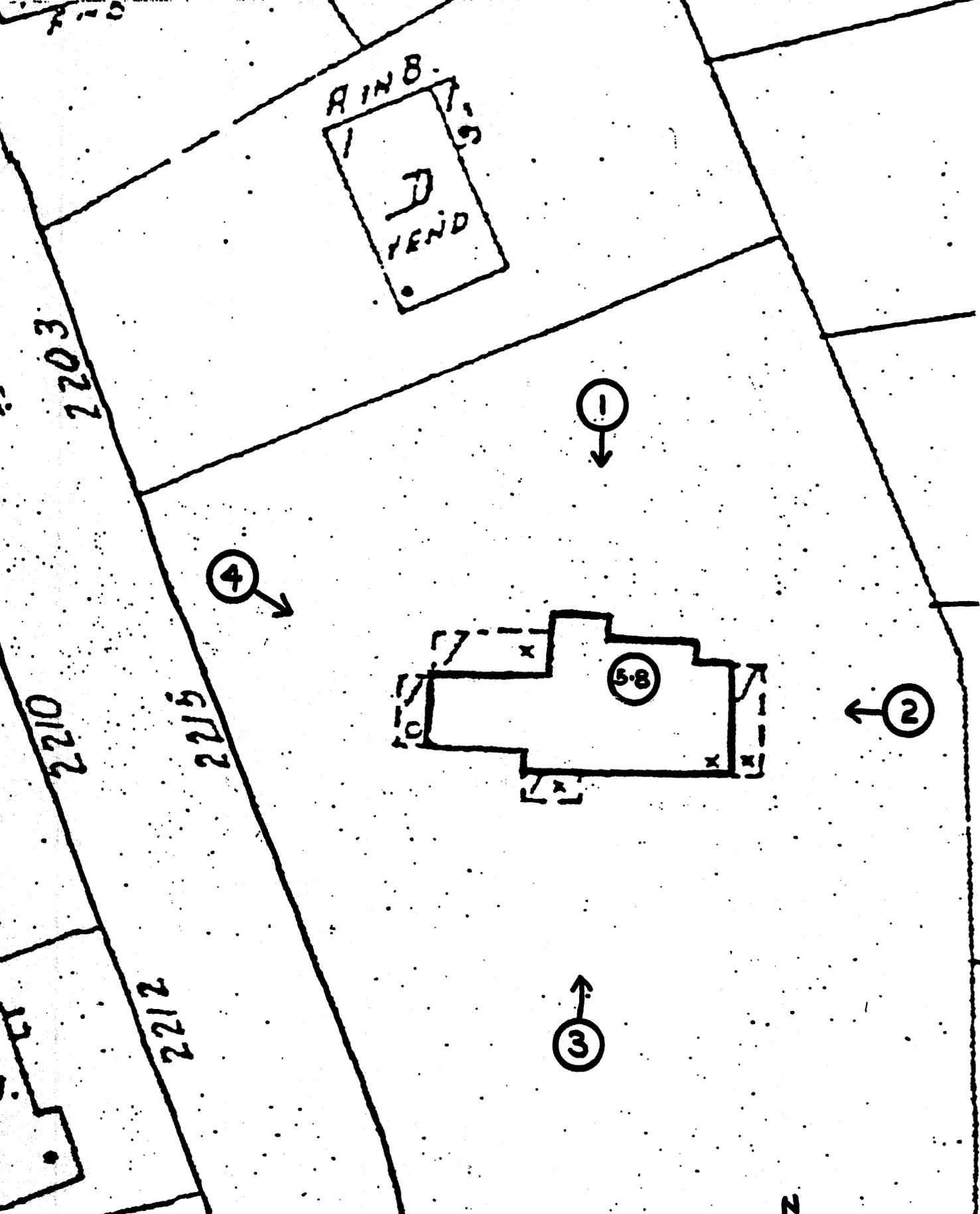
DAVID WILSON HOUSE  
 2215 Carolina Avenue  
 Louisville, KY 40205

Site Map showing building configurations and boundary of property being nominated.

LOUISVILLE, KY INC 3  
**934**

926





DAVID WILSON HOUSE  
2215 Carolina Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40205

Photographic Key