

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 28 1980

DATE ENTERED

APR 30 1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Gooch House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

104 Second Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

6

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Franklin

CODE

073

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY** DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS** OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE** YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER: Vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

c/o Mr. James Childers, Farmers Bank

STREET & NUMBER

Farmers Bank Plaza

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Franklin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

St. Clair Street

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1979 (Supplement)

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Situated on the northwest corner of Second Street and Capitol Avenue in Frankfort, Kentucky, the Gooch House lies just south of the Kentucky River on the fringe of the residential area of South Frankfort (see photo 1). A separate community until its merger with Frankfort proper in 1850, present-day South Frankfort comprises a collection of modest turn-of-the-century residences, including numerous one- and two-story T-plans and some 1920s and '30s bungalows. The major portion of Second Street is now lined with gas stations, liquor stores, a chain grocery and other such intrusive elements which contrast with the quiet ambience of the South Frankfort neighborhood. Capitol Avenue, a broad boulevard known as Main Street until the early twentieth century, stretches southward for five blocks from the Kentucky River to the state capitol, linking that building with Frankfort's commercial district (listed on the National Register May 10, 1979) on the north side of the Kentucky River.

Constructed during the 1890s, the Gooch House is a 2 1/2-story, frame Queen Anne structure embodying the irregular massing and asymmetrical facade typical of the period (see photos 2 and 3). The main (south) facade reveals a gable-roofed section displaying fish-scale shingles, louvered ventilators, and a multi-paned window. All windows are straight-headed with bracketed cornice strips accented by scalloped trim and bulls-eye molding. In the upper sash, the muntins are arranged in simple geometric patterns.

A highly decorative wooden verandah wraps around the front and sides of the house, extending to the projecting section on the east elevation which contains a bay window. Elaborately turned posts and scrolled trim with brackets adorn the verandah, adding to the rich variety of forms incorporated in the design (see photos 4 and 5). The steeply-pitched, multi-gabled roof is composed of hexagonal shingles and displays numerous finials, the most ornate of which is atop the front gable. Tall, panelled chimneys with corbelled collars project from the roofline.

The interior retains the original woodwork including molded trim, chairrail, wainscoting, and a plaster relief cornice (see photos 6, 7, 8, and 9). However, the mantles have been removed although the hearth tiles and those in the fireplace surround remain. A majority of the original light fixtures and hardware survive as well (see photo 10). Double parlors are located off the entrance hall which in turn gives access to the dining room with the kitchen and pantry located at the rear of the house. The second floor contains four bedrooms and a bathroom.

The nomination consists of the rectangular corner lot containing the house and a frame garage to the rear.

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 1890s

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at the busy intersection of Second Street and Capitol Avenue, the Gooch House displays a high quality of design and an abundance of architectural detail which render it the most outstanding structure of its type in Frankfort and among the finest of Franklin County's historic buildings. Even in a community that has an abundance of noteworthy structures spanning the full range of nineteenth century styles (including two historic districts listed on the National Register, and another proposed district) the picturesque qualities and visual richness of this Queen Anne house make it unique in Frankfort.

Furthermore, the Gooch House occupies a strategic location on the edge of residential South Frankfort. Virtually surrounded by incompatible modern commercial and business establishments along Second Street, the Gooch House is the only remaining late nineteenth century building of significance bordering the northern edge of South Frankfort. The house also serves to anchor the northern terminus of Capitol Avenue, South Frankfort's major north-south thoroughfare. Due in part to its highly visible location, the Gooch House has become a community landmark, and more recently, a rallying point for the local preservation group. Preservationists and residents of the area see the building as threatened because the corner lot is considered by some to be a prime site for expanded commercial development. This would not only destroy one of Frankfort's more important buildings but would further encroach upon the South Frankfort neighborhood.

Constructed during the 1890s, the Gooch House derives its name from George R. and Sarah Elizabeth Gooch who purchased the building in 1919 and in whose family the house remained until 1978.¹ Although George Gooch died shortly after purchasing the property, his wife continued to reside there and operated a boarding house in her home known as the Green Hedges Tourist Home. This boarding house functioned throughout the better part of the twentieth century and helped establish the building as a local landmark.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Frankfort City Directories, 1907-1978.

Franklin County Deed Books.

The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Kentucky Business. Frankfort, Kentucky.
February 1950.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

(continued.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1 acre.

QUADRANGLE NAME Frankfort, Ky.-East

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6	6	8	6	1	1	2	1	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

A rectangular lot 100' x 192' on the northwest corner of Second Street and Capitol Avenue. 192' dimension goes along Capitol Avenue. KOC - conversation with C. Schneider 4/28/80

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

Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

DATE

December 1979

TELEPHONE

502/564-3741

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE "

LOCAL X

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

Edward W. Gutter

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2-12-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Luce
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4/30/80

ATTEST: *Kristen Z. Council*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 4/28/80

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Gooch House
Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky

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In addition, the Gooch House was the residence of Rebecca Gooch who founded the popular Rebecca-Ruth Candies in partnership with Ruth Hanly Booe. The business was begun in the early twentieth century and is now well-known throughout the state for the bourbon-flavored confections it produces. Rebecca Gooch withdrew from the partnership in 1929, but her name remains part of the firm's trademark. The candy is still manufactured in Frankfort within one block from the Gooch House.

¹The unoccupied property is currently held in trust pending the settlement of the estate of Rowland Gooch.

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Major Bibliographical References

Morton, Jennie C. "Second Street, South Frankfort." The Register of the
Kentucky State Historical Society, Vol. 11, No. 33 (1913): pp. 31-41.