Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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ö	DESCRIPTION							
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CONDITION	(Check One)				(Check One)			
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	DESCRIBE THE PE	ESENT AND ORI	IGINAL (if kno	wn) PHYSIC A	L APPEARANC	E		

Adsmore, a lovely Greek Revival house, was constructed prior to 1860 by a Mr. Higgins. Two stories in height, its brick walls have been painted ivory, while its shutters are a dark green. A colossal-order portico extends across the three central bays of the five bay front facade. The handsome portico has four fluted Corinthian columns. The front entrance has a double door, surmounted by a glass transom and flanked by applied Corinthian pilasters and period lighting.

On the main floor of Adsmore, there is a large entrance hall which contains a stairway. The rear wall of the entrance hall contains a doorway that opens into a room that leads to the living porch at the rear. To the right of the entrance hall are the living room and the bedroom; to the left are the parlor, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen and pantry. The ceilings are 10 feet in height and the rooms are 20'x21'.

On the second floor, there are two halls, four 20'x21' bedrooms, and a bathroom. Above the second floor is a full attic.

The grounds surrounding Adsmore are beautified by a large, tree-shaded lawn and a carefully trimmed hedge. Behind the house are a garden, an old smokehouse, an old well, and a garage.

The handsome front portico was not part of the original house, but was added in the 1890's. The architect who designed the portico was Brinton B. Davis, of Louisville, Kentucky. In 1920 a new kitchen and a large back living porch were added. Adsmore has always been well cared for, and therefore is in excellent condition at the present time.



	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ Pre-Columbian∤ ☐ 15th Century	17th Century	□ 19th Century	,
CIFIC DATE(S) (If Applica	ble and Known) Befor	e 1860	
AS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	late)	
Abor iginal	Education	XX Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
XX Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	
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	F 2		

portico. The name Adsmore has always been associated with the house; although at the present time no one is certain of the origin of its name.

Colonel James B. Hewlitt purchased Adsmore circa 1860 and sold it in 1899 to John Parker Smith. Smith was the second cousin of Samuel P. Chase who was Secretary of the Treasury under President Abraham Lincoln, and later Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The most famous owner of Adsmore was Governor John E. Osborne, the third Governor of Wyoming, and the first assistant Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson. interesting positions held by Osborne included: Assistant surgeon for the Union Pacific Railroad; owner of a wholesale and retail drug house, 1886; livestock owner, 1887; Wyoming Territorial Legislator, chairman of the territorial penitentiary commission, 1880; mayor of Rawlins, Wyoming, 1888; delegate to the Democratic National Convention, 1896; member of the 55th Congress, 1897-99; vice-chairman of the Democratic National Congressional Committee, 1898; candidate for U.S. Senate, 1899, 1918; member of the Democratic National Committee, 1900-1921; and chairman of the board of the Rawlins National Bank, His wife was Selina Smith of Princeton, Ky.

Another owner, Robert D. Garrett, was Director of Insolvent National Banks under Andrew Mellon until his death in 1930. He was the father of the present owner. Miss Katherine Garrett is also related to other previous owners. Smith was her grandfather and Selina Smith Osborne was her aunt.

9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES											
	Family papérs on file at Filson Club, Louisville.											
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	As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:  National State Local X  Name May Local X  State Historic  Title Preservation Officer						I hereby Nationa Chiefa Associ	r certify the second of the se	kockentog	roperty is in the control of the con	ALLA ONEXXO	Sexvention
	Date July 19, 1973						Date	10	) · 18	<b>'</b> , ) 3	·	

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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STATE	
Kentucky	
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Caldwell	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

#8. SIGNIFICANCE

Adsmore is in excellent condition and has been furnished with many valuable antiques. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful houses in the town of Princeton, Kentucky. Although it is not open to the public, tourists regularly stop to take pictures of the public.

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

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Page	
Adamore Caldwell County, Kentucky	
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROYAL	for Keeper Laturk Andlus 6/27/91

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

MAY 1 3 1991

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Page	Adsmore,	Caldwell	County,	KY
Section number		Page				_

A number of features populate the Adsmore site. The original nomination (1973) Description notes the site contained a garden, smokehouse, old well, and a garage. Current (1991) caretakers of the site provide the following details about the site: the garden and old well apparently are no longer present; a structure which stood by the double privy has been removed; a replicated iron fence surrounds the property where a historic fence once stood at least as early as 1902.

#### SMOKEHOUSE: CONTRIBUTING (Photo 2)

This small square structure was constructed at the same time as the house. It is located to the rear of the rear wing of the house. It retains very good integrity.

#### BRICK GARAGE: NON-CONTRIBUTING (Photo 3)

The garage was built in the 1920s and is located south of the smokehouse. The garage was remodelled in 1987 to serve as a visitor's center. Project Architect, Dwight Cobb, converted the garage's two door bays into a bay window and a double pedestrian door. a 13' x 22' addition was added to the back of the building to contain two restrooms, a furnace room, and a small office/storage room. The floor was raised about nine inches to provide an air channel to divert moisture.

#### STABLE: NON-CONTRIBUTING (Photo 4)

The stable is a structure that appears to date no earlier than the late nineteenth century. It has a gabled roof, rectangular plan, and entry door under the gable. Windows are three-over-three fixed pane variety. Board and batten siding cover the walls. The roof's rafters project beyond and are visible at the eaves.

#### DOUBLE PRIVY: NON-CONTRIBUTING (Photo 5)

Informants at the site date this simple, rectangular structure to the time when the house was constructed. Several factors make the structure appear more likely to have been constructed after 1910 than before 1860. For example, it looks much like pre-cut housing of the 1920s and 1930s due to the projecting rafter tails; the thinness and condition of the weatherboards seems more like a seventy year old structure than one exceeding 130 years. The building is entered under the gable roof through a four-panel door. Small windows with simple surrounds are just under the eave overhangs. An opening in the roof is capped with a metal cover.

MAY 1 3 1991

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

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	7	_ 2	Adsmore, Caldwell County, KY
Section number		Page	

RATLIFF'S GUN SHOP: CONTRIBUTING (Photos 6 & 7)

The restoration of this one-story log house took place ca. 1988 and involved much alteration. Clapboards, rotted historic windows, shed-roofed rooms at the rear, and the porch were all removed. This revealed what is believed to be the original shape of the structure. In addition, new doors were manufactured with wooden hinges and latches.

The plan of the structure is slightly unusual. Like many log structures in Kentucky, this two-room building appears to have been built in different episodes. In this structure, the right cell, apparently the add-on, projects forward relative to the earlier left cell. The two cells are tied together with a log-faced connection which aligns with the frontal plane of the older portion, though without a front door or window opening. What results is a T-plan house with a window-door-window-door-window rhythm. Normally such a building might be tied together with an open dog trot or enclosed to form a central passage, where the facades of the two outside cells would occupy the same plane.

The original door opening at the rear of each cell have been preserved. In addition, a third door has been added in the small extention between cells, giving access to the resulting storage space. A chimney projects from the center of the roof ridge; this appears to have been an exterior end chimney on the older cell and is contained within the small log connection. Gutters line the eaves and inverted board and batten siding is found in the gables, along with a metal attic vent.

The interior of the structure has been remodelled to resemble a gunsmith shop on one side and a facsimile of an early Kentucky living quarter on the other side. Dr. Terry Leeper, a consultant from Western Kentucky University, assisted in the design of the gunsmith shop. Wide plank popular flooring has been installed.

RECONSTRUCTED FORGE: NON-CONTRIBUTING (Photo 8)

Post-framed structure with gently sloping shed roof and vertical plank siding. A stone bellows is within. Date of construction is later than 1950.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Photos

(Property Name) Page #

Information the same for all photos:

Property Name: Adsmore

Address: 304 N. Jefferson St., Princeton

Caldwell County, Kentucky

Photographer: Unknown

Date: 1991

Location of Negatives: Adsmore

Photo 2: Smokehouse, view to north

Photo 3: Brick garage, view to east

Photo 4: Stable, view to south

Photo 5: Privy, view to north

Photo 6: Log house, view to east

Photo 7: Log house, view to south

Photo 8: Forge, view to east

