Historic Resources of Hardin County

Historic Name: Nolin Banking Company(HD-62) <u>Classification</u>: Building Common Name: Nolin Banking Company

Owner: Frank Vinson, Route 1, Box 153, Sonora, KY 42776.

Location: KY 1407 in Nolin, KY.

Contributing:		Non-Contributing:	
Buildings	2	Buildings	0
Structures	0	Structures	0
Sites	0	Sites	0
Total:	2	Total:	0

Description:

The Nolin Banking Company building is an excellent Victorian Romanesque design commercial building. The building is unaltered and displays its original storefront. The storefront is three bays wide with the east bay containing original glass and frame double doors and a two-light arched transom. The central bay has two large plate glass display windows and a two-light arched transom. On the west bay is a frame door and single light arched transom which opens onto the staircase connecting the two floors. The connecting arching over the storefront is of limestone. On the second story of the main facade are three rounded arch one-over-one sash windows with connecting limestone arching. Near the roofline are two porthole vent windows with wooden grilles. The windows on the east and west facades are rectangular one-over-one sash. At the roofline is a simple corbelled brick cornice. The interior of the structure has not been significantly altered and displays its original pressed metal ceiling and cast iron bank vault. Attached to the west facade of the building is a ca. 1915 one-story frame addition with weatherboard siding and a frame door on the main facade.

Period of Significance: 1899-1913

Area of Significance: Architecture/Commerce

Criterion: A and C

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The Nolin Banking Company is a notable example of a late 19th century Romanesque influenced commercial building and is also significant in the commercial history of the community. The Nolin Banking Company was formed in the 1890s by a group of area residents and stockholders. They constructed this two-story brick building in 1899 in downtown Nolin during the community's most prosperous period. Although the bank met with initial success its assets declined after ten years and the bank was forced to close in 1913. Little information is available as to why the bank did not succeed while banks in other small communities such as Sonora and Cecilia managed to operate for many years. After 1913 the building was sold to D.A. Terry for \$1,025 who added the one-story frame addition. Since 1913 the building has contained a variety of stores and other businesses. The last business in the building closed in 1960 and it is presently used for storage.

The design of the building reflects the Victorian Romanesque style with large rounded arching on the main facade and polychrome effect of the brick and stone. The building is the best example of this style outside of Elizabethtown and has not been altered. Due to fires and deterioration the Nolin Bank is the only remaining commercial building standing in Nolin.

Acreage: Less than one acre.

UTM References: Sonora Quad 16/596874/4157420

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary for the Nolin Banking Company is illustrated on the accompanying Hardin County property tax map 192-3, lot 19, and is defined by the legal property boundary. The boundary includes the main building, a frame addition, and property sufficient to protect the historical setting of the site.

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HD-62, Nolin Banking Company Property Location Tax map 192-3, lot 19 1"=200' Boundary

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