Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

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Frankfort,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS 1 NAME HISTORIC Giltner-Holt House AND/OR COMMON Same 2 LOCATION Tomi. (& King) Not Frankfact STREET & NUMBER Holt Lane CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Frankfort X VICINITY OF COUNTY CODE Kentucky Franklin 073 CLASSIFICATION **CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE** X_OCCÚPIED __DISTRICT __PUBLIC _AGRICULTURE __MUSEUM X_PRIVATE BUILDING(S) __UNOCCUPIED __COMMERCIAL _PARK XSTRUCTURE _BOTH X PRIVATE RESIDENCE _WORK IN PROGRESS __EDUCATIONAL __SITE **PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE** __RELIGIOUS _ENTERTAINMENT __OBJECT X_YES: RESTRICTEDIN PROCESS __GOVERNMENT __SCIENTIFICBEING CONSIDERED ___YES: UNRESTRICTED __INDUSTRIAL __TRANSPORTATION __NO ...MILITARY __OTHER: 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Richard and Elizabeth Taylor STREET & NUMBER Holt Lane, Route 6 CITY TOWN STATE VICINITY OF Frankfort Kentucky 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE. Franklin County Courthouse REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. STREET & NUMBER St. Clair Street CITY, TOWN Kentucky Frankfort, 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky __FEDERAL X__STATE __COUNTY DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Giltner-Holt House is located about four miles northeast of Frankfort off Peak's Mill Road. This imposing Greek Revival structure with strong Gothic Revival influence, is set on a rise facing east. The short, shaded drive that leads up to the house is lined with long narrow limestone blocks. The massive main block is a three-bay, two-and-a-half-story frame structure on a limestone foundation. Extending off the rear of the main block is a two-story frame ell with a projecting wing to the south. Paired interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops are located at the ends of the main block, while a chimney is also placed in the center of the wing and the west side of the rear room of the ell. Wide eaves, characteristic of the Gothic Revival style, extend around the entire house, as does the richly carved bargeboard. Large pendants accent the apexes and corners of the gabled ends (see photo 1).

The two-story portico, which spans the center bay, has a very classical flavor, being supported by tapered columns with flaring capitals. A center segmental arch is flanked by smaller semi-circular arches. Keystones decorate all of the arches. A two-story gallery connects the main block with the back part of the ell on the south side. The first floor has been screened-in, although the second floor remains open. A smaller porch, supported by paired posts with brackets and scroll-like carvings, is located on the north side of the wing (see photos 1, 3, & 4).

The front entrance in the center bay has a two-light transom and three-pane sidelights. The sidelights are flanked by pilasters which support a plain entablature. An identical doorway is located directly above on the second floor level. A third entrance with transom and sidelights is placed on the north side of the wing (see sketch of the floor plan).

The facade fenestration consists of shuttered paired windows with four-over-four pane sash. Label moldings are above and wooden sills below. All other openings have six-over-six pane sash. Label moldings are above the windows on each side of the main block, but only on the north side of the wing.

The layout of the house is based on the two-room central hall plan. A half-turn staircase with a full landing rises along the north wall (see photo 5). The door on the landing opens onto the second floor of the gallery, while the door below it on the first floor opens onto the first floor of the gallery. Crown molding extends around the central half and the double parlors. The door moldings in the hall are composed of Greek crossetts with plain entablatures above. All the doors in the main portion of the house are Greek Revival, consisting of double vertical panels (see photo 6).

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

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| SPECIFIC DATES 1859;1880 | | BUILDER/ARCHITECT | | • |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Giltner-Holt House, located several miles north of Frankfort off Peaks Mill Road, was built in 1859 by Henry Giltner, "a progressive farmer, "I on the site of Inness Station. The two-story frame wing was added in 1880 by James A. Holt, superintendent of the State Penitentiary. The house is an unusual Greek Revival structure with Gothic Revival influence.

The house is located on land originally owned by Judge Harry Inness (1752-1816). Inness, a native of Virginia, was elected as one of the judges for the Supreme Court for the District of Kentucky in 1783, and appointed Judge of the United States Court for the District of Kentucky in 1787. Judge Inness purchased 1, 200 acres of land, which encompasses the site of the present house, in 1792. Here he built a two-story log structure (Armstrong, p. 199).

After the death of Judge Inness and his wife, who survived him many years, the estate was sold in 1858 to Henry Giltner. Giltner lived in the log house for a year while building the two-andra-half story main block in 1859. In a biography of the time, Giltner is simply described as a successful farmer (Perrins, p. 810).

In 1863 Giltner sold the farm to a grandson of Judge Inness, Harry P. Todd (1807-1886). Todd, who had also been a steamboat captain, sheriff and a state representative, served as the keeper of the State Penitentiary in Frankfort during his ownership of the house. In the early 1870's, Todd suffered several severe financial losses which forced him into bankruptcy and, as a result, was unable to hold onto the land.

James A. Holt, of Louisville, purchased the Todd property in 1879, when he accepted the position of superintendent of the State Prison. It was under Holt's ownership that the two-story ell was added to the house in 1880. Holt employed prisoners to work on his farm and the rings around the walls of the second floor room in the rear of the wing appear to have been where the prisoners were shackled each evening. (Rumor has it that the floor was painted in red and green squares or checkerboard for the prisoners

¹ W. H. Perrin, <u>Kentucky-A History of The State</u> (Chicago & Louisville, F. A. Battey & Co., 1887), p. 810.

(continued)

| 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRA | PHICAL REFE | RENCES | | |
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| An Atlas of Franklin C | ounty, Kentucky. | Philadelph | nia: D. J. Lak | ce & Co., 1882. |
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| Mary Cronan Oppel, | Historian | | | |
| organization Kentucky Heritage C | lommission | | November 1 | 7, 1977 |
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The two rooms on the south side of the central hall form a double parlor divided by double doors which open into the southwest room. The door and window moldings in both rooms are like that in the hall.

Victorian grates replace the original plain Greek Revival mantels. Decorating the ceiling of the southeast parlor is a (partially damaged) plaster medallion in an acanthus leaf motif.

The two rooms on the north side of the hall have the Greek 'ear' moldings around the doors and windows without the entablatures above. The fireplaces, which are faced with stone, have been reopened and framed by Greek Revival mantels. The northeast room contains a plaster medallion which is comprised of a series of raised circles.

The floor plan of the second floor of the main block follows that of the first, with the exception of the double parlor on the south side. The woodwork on the second and third floors is grained. A single flight of stairs rises along the north wall of the hall to the third floor where two full size rooms are located.

The woodwork in the wing is also composed of Greek 'ear' moldings, as well as wainscoting. Unusual features found in the second floor of the rear portion of the wing include rings in the wall to secure the prisoners who worked on Holt's farm, and the checkerboard painted in red and green on the floor, presumably for the prisoners' entertainment.

The outbuildings located immediately behind the house to the west include a three-bay, one-story frame cottage on a stone foundation. Exterior brick chimneys with stone bases are located at each end. The eaves are trimmed with the same bargeboard as the house. Also remaining are a frame privy and smokehouse. The smokehouse retains the original bargeboard and center pendant.

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entertainment.) Holt lived in the house until his death in 1906. The property passed through several owners in this century until 1975 when it was purchased by the present owners.

The Giltner-Holt house is essentially a Greek Revival structure with Gothic Revival overtones. The massing of the main block, the floor plan, and interior woodwork, are Greek Revival, yet the exterior details are Gothic Revival. The front fenestration is composed of narrow paired windows with four-over-four pane sash, with label moldings above. The side openings have label moldings above, as well. Wide eaves decorated with bargeboard extend around the house, with strikingly large pendants accenting the apexes and corners of the gables. While it has been found that a number of houses in Central Kentucky with Gothic Revival exteriors have Greek Revival floor plans and woodwork, (such as the Three Gothic Villas, Danville, Boyle County, listed on the National Register, July 20, 1977) the Giltner-Holt House is one of the more interesting interpretations of these combined architectural styles and one of the few such examples in Franklin County.

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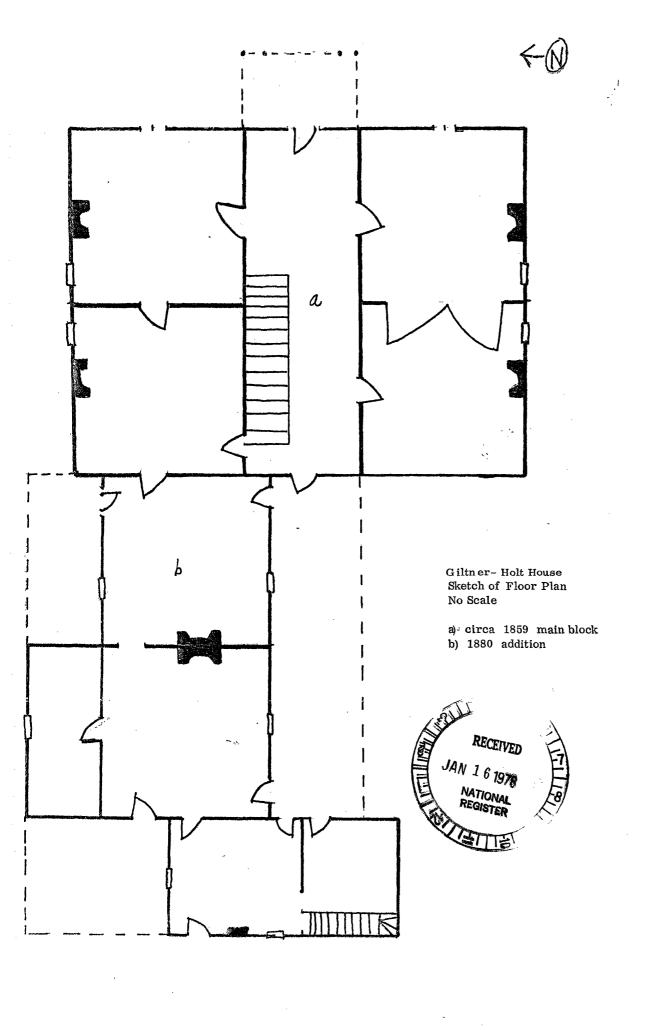
"Judge Harry Inness." The Biographical Encyclopedia of The Famous, Dead and Living-Men Of The Nineteenth Century. Cincinnati: Armstrong & Co., 1876.



Giltner-Holt House Frankfort Vicinity Franklin County, Kentucky 1978

JAN 161978

An Atlas of Franklin County, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1882. Map 2: House circled in red.



Giltner-Holt House 5 5 1978 Frankfort Vicinity
Franklin County, Kentucky

Mary Cronan Oppel, Historian Kentucky Heritage Commission November 1977 Map 3: Sketch plan of house.