

79003626  
KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ch-172

1. Historic Name (s) <b>Blue Lantern Farm</b>			22. ADD/County <b>Pennyrite/Christian</b> <span style="float:right">□□□</span>																													
Original Owner <b>Robertson T. Torian</b>			23. Zoning Classification <b>Magisterial District</b>																													
2. Present Name			24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75') <b>Church Hill</b>																													
3. Owner's Name <b>Ben S. Wood</b>			25. UTM Reference <table border="1" style="width:100%; text-align:center;"> <tr> <td>1</td><td>6</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td>0</td> <td>4</td><td>0</td><td>8</td><td>0</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Zone</td> <td colspan="4">Easting</td> <td colspan="4">Northing</td> </tr> </table>			1	6	4	5	3	5	1	0	4	0	8	0	7	9	0	Zone				Easting				Northing			
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4. Owner's Address <b>Route 8, Hopkinsville 42240</b>			26. Prehistoric Site Historic Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object Structure <input type="checkbox"/>																													
5. Location <b>Hwy. 68</b>			27. District <input checked="" type="radio"/> Building <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No																													
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>																												
9. Local Contact/Organization			28. Significance Evaluation																													
10. Site Plan with North Arrow			29. Status <table border="1" style="width:100%; text-align:center;"> <tr> <td>National Landmark</td> <td rowspan="4" style="width:20px;">X</td> <td>Date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Register</td> <td>4-29-75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landmark Certificate</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kentucky Survey</td> <td>2-16-78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Landmark</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HABS/HAER</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			National Landmark	X	Date	National Register	4-29-75	Landmark Certificate		Kentucky Survey	2-16-78	Local Landmark			HABS/HAER														
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11. Architect			30. Theme Primary <b>Architecture</b> <span style="float:right">□□</span>																													
12. Builder <b>Samuel Salter, John Orr</b>			31. Endangered <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No																													
13. Date <b>1851-1856</b>			32. ATTACH PHOTO																													
14. Style <b>Italianate</b> <span style="float:right">□□</span>			Roll No. <b>25, 28, 41</b>																													
15. Original Use <b>dwelling</b>			Picture No. _____																													
16. Present Use <b>dwelling</b>			Direction _____																													
17. Condition <span style="float:right">□□</span> Interior _____ Exterior <b>excellent</b>			33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____																													
18. Description <b>2-story, cross-plan brick; double windows, Italianate details including (originally, pointed quoins) large brackets over front entrances, and arched windows.</b>			34. Prepared by: <b>CMT-KTG</b>																													
19. History <b>Built between 1851-1856 by Samuel Salter and John Orr for Robertson T. Torian. Farm to Madison Sims Major in 1856 (included 631 acres) and remained in Major family until 1903. Used as a tea room and tavern, the "Blue Lantern" in the 1920s.</b>			35. Organization <b>KHC</b>																													
20. Significance <b>Samuel Salter and John Orr are responsible for several fine houses in Christian County, Blue Lantern being among the best. (see Ch-119). Built for Robertson T. Torian between 1851-1856, the project was too costly and in 1856 the entire farm was sold to Madison Sims Major. (cont.)</b>			36. Date <b>Spring 1977</b>																													
21. Source of Information <b>William Turner, survey Dec. 3, 1970</b> <b>Battle, H. and Perrins W. H. Counties of Todd and Christian, Kentucky. Chicago, Illinois: F. A. Battey Pub. Co., 1884 pp. 550-551.</b> <b>Meacham, Charles. A History of Christian County, Kentucky. Nashville, Tenn.: Marshall &amp; Bruce Co., 1930 p. 655.</b>			37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____																													

Significance (cont.)

It remained in the Major family until 1903. In the 1920s it was used as a tea room and tavern, called the Blue Lantern, a name which has been retained. In form, the house is relatively simple, consisting of a cross-plan two-storied main block with flanking one storied wings. The wings and the center of the main block project forward and are connected by extensions of the hipped roofs of the wings. The main entries to the central passage of the house are at the sides of the central bay--under the covered walkways of the facade. The windows are segmentally arched and placed in pairs across the main facade. The Italianate inspiration is found in the low hipped roof, the bracketed cornices, the tower-like central projection and in the lack of a central entrance. Originally, the corners of the brick structure were painted white in imitation of stone quoins.

