

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kentucky	
COUNTY: McCracken	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Market House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Gen. William Clark Market House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Second Street, between Broadway and Kentucky Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Paducah

STATE Kentucky	CODE 21	COUNTY: McCracken	CODE 145
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum 	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) theatre art gallery <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Paducah

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Paducah	STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
McCracken County Courthouse (County Clerk's Office)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Paducah

CITY OR TOWN: Paducah	STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

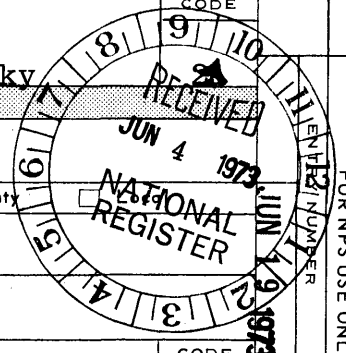
DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Kentucky Heritage Commission

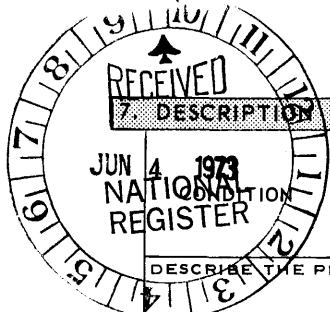
STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN: Frankfort	STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:



7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)							
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed		
(Check One)			(Check One)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered		<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The General William Clark Market House building, designed by the distinguished Boston architect, W. L. Brainerd, is a fine example of civic architecture marked by purity of line and classic form unusual for western Kentucky. Located in the center of a wide street, the red brick building with stone and wood trim is 36 feet wide by 350 feet long, extending the length of the block.

The central section of the building, over two stories in height, has a facade composed of a series of eleven semi-circular blind arcades, defined by beautifully carved stone molding of great simplicity and refinement. The rhythmic pattern of the facade is further enhanced by a series of stone roundels, small ones centered at some height above each arch and larger ones in the spandrels -- a motif dating back to the Italian Renaissance architect Leon Battista Alberti.

From the taller central section of the building symmetrical wings extend on either side. Square cast-iron pillars of the Roman Doric order, regularly spaced, form the skeletal framework of these two wings. This use of pre-fabricated iron components, combined with classic form, is one of the distinguishing marks of turn-of-the-century architecture. The iron pillars carry metal horizontal supports for the wide eaves which extend some six feet beyond the wall of the building.

The symmetrically balanced facade at the wing ends of the building is divided in three sections: tall in the center and lower on each side. The high pedimented center section has strong focal interest. Central double doors, with glass side panels, are topped by a large stone lintel bearing the work "Market," over which is a large semi-circular lunette. This entrance is flanked by coupled brick pilasters bearing stones carved with a laurel wreath in bas-relief. These stones support the ends of the broken pediment which projects above the lunette and frames the entrance. In the lower side sections of the facade there are glass double doors, with side panels above them.

Dentil and egg and dart moldings are used throughout the building. In the interior, the lower members of the roof trusses appear as exposed wood beams, spanning the 36' width. The trusses rest on exposed brackets supported by cast-iron corbels on the pillars. The ceiling itself is made of beaded wood.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1905**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1804 George Rogers Clark's brother, General William Clark, made a memorable western exploration with Meriwether Lewis. In 1827, for five dollars General William Clark purchased 37,000 acres of western land, including a village called Pekin, which he renamed Paducah. When General Clark laid out the town site he platted South Second Street in Paducah as a market area and the first Market House was built of logs in 1836. It was replaced in 1850 by a second Market House, which served as a hospital during the Civil War. In 1905 the present Market House was built on the site of its two predecessors.

The General William Clark Market House, designed by the distinguished Boston architect, W. L. Brainerd, is a fine example of civic architecture marked by purity of line and classic form, unusual for western Kentucky. The Market House is located in the center of Second Street and extends the length of the block. The facade of the central section of the building displays a series of graceful semi-circular blind arcades. The symmetrical wings extending from either side of the central section were originally open to the air. At the ends of the wings are symmetrically balanced facades that are divided into three sections with the center section taller than the side sections. The center section features a broken pediment projecting above a large semi-circular lunette which is located above the wide entrance. To the sides of the entrance are coupled brick pilasters bearing stones carved with a laurel wreath in bas-relief. The wide eaves of the roof provided the maximum amount of shade for the buyers and sellers at the Market House. Although the Market House served a very utilitarian purpose, its design is pleasing to the eye and it is obvious that the comfort and needs of the buyers and sellers were taken into consideration by its designer.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Story of Paducah" by Fred Neuman (published in Paducah).
 J.A.James: "Dictionary of American Biography, Vol.4, P.127-130,
 (biography of Gen. Wm.Clark), pub. by Scribner's (1930)
 Wm. Clark Kennerly: "Persimmon Hill,"pub. by University of
 Oklahoma Press, 1948.
 Fred G. Neuman: "Paducahans in History",page 19. published by
 Young Printing Co. 1922.
 McNerney, Maureen, "Paducah Saves Market House and Gains
 Cultural Center," Courier-Journal, Feb. 25,1972, "p.A-16."

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

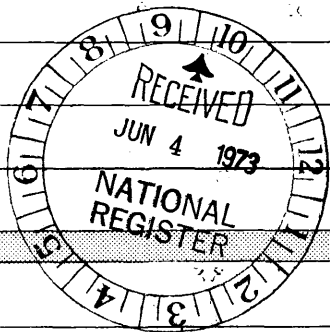
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 05' 14"	88° 35' 42"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

U11 M
 16/358210/
 4105520
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 10 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mrs. W. H. Beaman**

ORGANIZATION: **Civic Beautification Board** DATE: **March 16, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **City Hall**

CITY OR TOWN: **Paducah** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Name Mrs. Simpson W. H. S. Title State Historic Preservation Officer Date May 30, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Tuttle
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/19/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 6.12.73

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(Continuation Sheet)

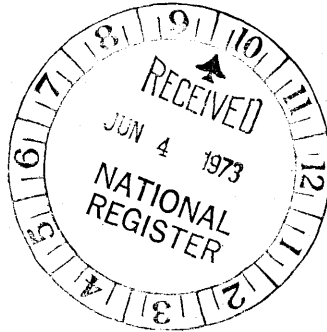
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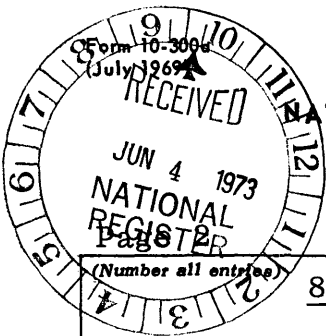
(Number all entries)

7. Description Cont'd.

The lantern on top of the central section of the building, which appears in an early photograph, was entirely of wood. Due to its deterioration it was removed in the late 1930's. Close-up photographs were taken prior to its removal, and are available for planning its eventual restoration.

The central section of the building (where the museum is now located) has always been enclosed; however, the two wings (where the art gallery and theatre are now located) were originally open to the air; the doors and windows are a more recent addition.





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8. Significance

The Market House serves as a reminder of an earlier era in Paducah's history. In its heyday the Market House was the center of activity in Paducah. In fact, in 1863 the Kentucky General Assembly recognized this and designated the spot as a legal site for the sale of property: "Be it enacted that in all cases when the sheriff or commissioner of McCracken County is required to sell property at the Courthouse door, the sale may be made at the Market House in Paducah; and such sale shall be valid as if made at the Courthouse door."

In the present Market House, a great variety of produce was sold, including all types of greens, vegetables, citrus fruits, apples, strawberries, shrubs, plants, bulbs, and flowers. The center section was always occupied by people selling meat. Some of the varieties of meat offered for sale included country ham, sausage and chicken. In the years before modern refrigeration, the chicken was kept cold in tubs of ice.

Late every afternoon farmers brought their products to the Market House; at that time townspeople visited the Market House to make their purchases. The farmers would generally spend the night, then sell to grocers and peddlers early the next morning. These people would back in their wagons (and later, trucks) to be filled with fresh produce.

Two alternatives were available to the person who wanted to sell his products. He could either rent a space inside the Market House to display his products or he could sell his products from his wagon parked outside the Market House. This was called the "curb market." There was no fee charged for using the curb market. Ladies frequently earned extra money by selling their flowers, plants, bulbs and shrubs at the Market House.

The General William Clark Market House served as a market area until the early 1960's, but by that time there were only eight meat and vegetable vendors, who still paid the city only sixty dollars a year for the space they occupied in the Market House. Standing near the waterfront, the building had become a health and safety hazard and plans were made to replace it with a parking lot when a group of interested citizens intervened to save it. It has since become Paducah's cultural center, housing an art gallery, a 250-seat theatre, and a museum. The museum contains Indian artifacts; a 25,000 - 40,000 year old skeleton of a peccary that was restored by the Smithsonian Institution; a quilt made by Mrs. Robert E. Lee, wife of the Confederate general; a 1913 LaFrance, Paducah's first motorized fire truck;

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(Number all entries)

8. Significance

mementoes of the late Vice-President Alben W. Barkley and American journalist and humorist Irvin S. Cobb; and replicas of doctor's and dentist's offices with some of the old instruments. One of the most interesting exhibits is the reconstructed interior of a drug store that was built in the 1870's. The drugstore's ornate "gingerbread" woodwork fills nearly a third of the museum.

The Market House was always the center of activity in Paducah -- a place where people could buy or sell products, transact business, and visit with their friends. It has been saved, and for future generations it will also serve an important function as Paducah's cultural center.



Downtown section Paducah, Kentucky
Scale 1" = 300'

Postoffice



Fifth Street

City Hall

N

Market House
Longitude 88° 35' - 42"
Latitude 37° 05' - 14"

Fourth Street

Third Street

Street

Street

Avenue

Street

Street

Second Street



Market House
36ft. X 350 ft.

Broadway

Jefferson

Monroe

Clark

Washington

Kentucky

First Street

River Front

