

1. Historic Name (s) **Middletown Inn**

Original Owner **James Speer**

Present Name

3. Owner's Name
Mrs. Francis Thormahlen

4. Owner's Address
11705 Main Street, Middletown, KY.

5. Location
11705 Main Street, Middletown, KY.

6. Open to Public
Yes No

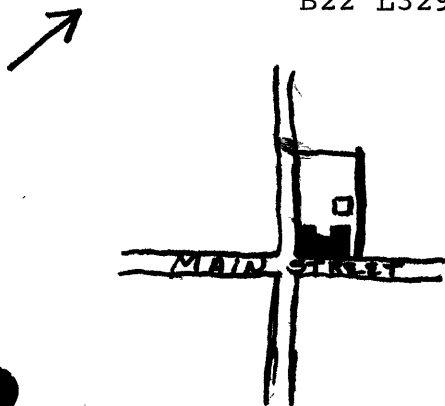
7. Visible from road
Yes No

8. Ownership
Private
Local
State
Federal

9. Local Contact/Organization

Blaine Guthrie/Middletown

10. Site Plan with North Arrow
B22 L329



11. Architect
Unknown

12. Builder
Unknown

13. Date
Ca. 1800-1804

14. Style

15. Original Use
Inn

16. Present Use
Dwelling & Shop

17. Condition
Interior Good
Exterior Good

22. ADD/County
VI Jefferson/Jefferson

23. Zoning Classification
Magisterial District

24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75')
Jeffersontown, Kentucky

25. UTM Reference
Zone **16** Easting **627810** Northing **4233870**

26. Prehistoric Site
Historic Site
Building

27. District
Yes No

28. Significance Evaluation

29. Status
National Landmark
National Register
Landmark Certificate
Kentucky Survey **1971**
Local Landmark
HABS/HAER

30. Theme
Primary **Commerce**
Secondary **Architecture**

31. Endangered
Yes No

18. Description The Middletown Inn is located on the north-east corner of Madison and Main Streets in Middletown. The original portion located on the east side is composed of a four bay two-story log structure. The door with a three light transom is located in the second bay from the east and the windows have eight-over-eight pane sash. Around 1804 a three-bay brick section with nine-over-six panes was added to the west. The entrance (see next page)

19. History The log section of the building was probably built about 1800 by James Speer. The brick section is believed to have been built about 1804. John Evans owned the building in 1815 and it probably housed the tavern he operated. In 1850 Dr. Robert V. Sprowl bought the building and lived there until 1872 when he sold it to Edward T. Hord. It became the Hord Hotel and was (see next page)

20. Significance The building known as the Middletown Inn is significant as one of Middletown's oldest commercial buildings. Since its early use as a tavern in the nineteenth century, it has always housed various commercial enterprises, most notably a hotel for many years in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. (see next page)

21. Source of Information
Atlas of Jefferson and Oldham Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia Beers and Lanagan, 1879.

32. ATTACH PHOTO

Roll No. _____
Picture No. _____
Direction _____

33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____

34. Prepared by: **Mary Cronan Oppel**
Historian

35. Organization
Kentucky Heritage Commission

36. Date **February 1977**

37. Revision Dates
October 4, 1979
JCOHP
December 9, 1982
JCOHP

38. Staff Review

18. Continued

in the brick section is placed in the center with another door on the east (originally a window). Chimneys are placed between the two sections and at the north end of the brick portion. In 1921 the entire structure was stuccoed, a one-story shop was added on the west end, and the front porch was built. A large stone smokehouse is at the rear.

19. Continued

owned by the Hord family until 1921. They also operated a grocery and bakery in the building. In 1929 the building was sold to the Middletown Hotel Company which operated a hotel and rooming house, pool and billiard parlor, and confectionery there until 1936. Since 1937 it has been a residence with space rented for an apartment and shops.

20. Continued

The structure has always been a prominent part of the Middletown streetscape and commercial life.

21. Continued

Jefferson County (KY) Deed Books.
Jefferson County (KY) Corporation Book 39, p. 440 (1929).
Kentucky Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1879-80.

Boundary Description

The nominated site of the Middletown Inn is Lot 329 in Block 22.

Acreage: approximately 1/3 acre

The site includes the main building and the smokehouse.