

PH0019171

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Kentucky
COUNTY:	Kenton
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUN 24 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Hearne House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
500 Garrard Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Covington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
06

STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21 COUNTY: Kenton CODE: 117

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

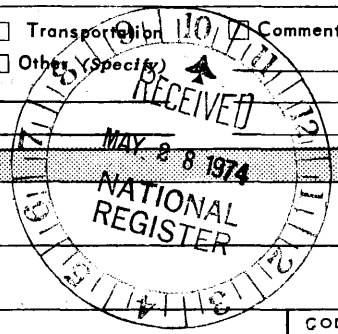
OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Robert A. Sweetser

STREET AND NUMBER:
502 Garrard Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Covington

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
21



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Kenton County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Third and Court Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Covington

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
21

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Frankfort

STATE:
Kentucky

CODE:
21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)
 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)
 Moved Original Site

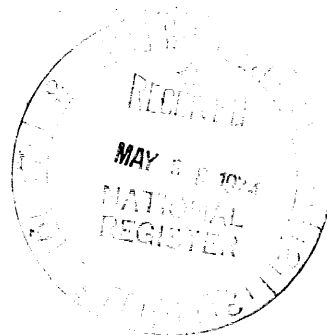
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

At one time the focal point of a large estate, the Hearne House commanded an imposing position between the river and the town, with the Licking River on the east within a quarter of a mile of its juncture with the Ohio, and the broad, extended vista from the town center along Fifth Street on the west.

The two-and-one-half story, red-brick home constructed in 1874 has anachronistically simple massing, evoking a Georgian model. Although no bays or other elements break the outline or wall surfaces, the first-floor window heads and enriched door treatment have mid-Victorian, Italianate plasticity. The stilted segmental hoodmolds of the second story, however, betray their actual date. The roofline cornice contains widely overhanging eaves decorated with brackets and a frieze punctuated by the attic windows.

Approximately twenty years ago the house interior was significantly altered when the house was converted from a private residence to apartments. However, the rooms are in good repair. Still visible is joinery typical of the mid-Victorian period with fine woods and excellent floors. The elaborately paneled sliding doors separate the front rooms on both sides and intricate plaster ceiling medallions.

To the rear of the house, on the southeast corner of the lot, is a carriage house, extensively altered, where the owners presently reside.



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) **1874**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The owner-builder of Hearne House was Jonathan David Hearne, a prominent nineteenth-century businessman and civic leader in the greater Cincinnati area. Among other important positions, Hearne served as Director of the Covington and Cincinnati Suspension Bridge Company and was responsible for the execution of John A. Roebling's bridge across the Ohio, completed in 1866. He was also President of the Cincinnati and Newport Iron and Pipe Company and President of the Third National Bank, which survives as the Fifth Third Bank. From 1872 to 1873 he served as a member of the Covington City Council.

Hearne was born August 7, 1829, in Bourbon County, and came to the Covington area around 1861. He was a close personal friend of Jesse Grant, who lived a short distance away on Greenup Street and was the father of President U. S. Grant. Hearne was a pallbearer at Jesse Grant's funeral, attended by the President.

In conclusion, Hearne House is important in that it was the home of one of Covington's most noted citizens of the late nineteenth century. The exterior, relatively unaltered since its construction, represents a handsome combination of several architectural styles. In addition, its location at the head of a major roadway approach to a nearby district already listed on the National Register makes it an exceptionally outstanding visual element related to the revitalization of this area of Covington.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky. Cincinnati: J. M. Armstrong and Company, 1878.
 Cincinnati Historical Society Collection of J. D. Hearne Memorabilia.
City Atlas of Covington, Kentucky. Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Eilerman, Charles B. Historic Covington. Covington: Charles B. Eilerman, 1973.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

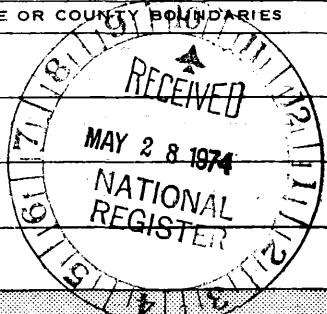
39 05 12 84 30 20

UTM
16/715740
4329130

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

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mr. Charles B. Eilerman, Policy Advisor**

ORGANIZATION: **Office for Policy and Management** DATE: **August 24, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **The Capitol**

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort** 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. Cedric W. Melton

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date May 15, 1974

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/24/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 6/21/74

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7. Description (Continued) Page Two

The house is located on a rather narrow strip of land between Garrard Street and the extremely steep bank of the Licking River. The house itself is built quite close to the street and, although an independent block with originally much land on either side, the front is treated as a mere facade: the sides are very plain compared to the ornamented and belted front.

The abruptness of the drop down to the river is emphasized dramatically by a gazebo, probably constructed late in the 19th century, which is perched on the edge of the bluff. It is octagonal in plan, with longer sides entered from the land and facing across the river. It is supported on stilts away from the cliff-face. Bold bracketed posts uplift a sweeping concave eight-sided 15-foot-high roof topped by High Victorian Gothic wrought-iron cresting. Although in somewhat poor condition, the gazebo, located on axis and about 20 feet behind the house, forms an integral part of the complex of house and carriage house.

Note that the details of the facade have a high Victorian Romanesque flavor, particularly the stylized capitals, similar to several other examples in Covington.

In spite of the closing off of some suites of rooms as apartments and lack of maintenance, the interiors are in remarkably complete and unaltered condition. The very narrow central hall and shallow vestibule give little hint of the splendors of the formal rooms.

To the right are double parlors linked by a segmental arch (now filled in). Mid-Victorian marble round-arched mantels are surmounted by handsome mirrors of somewhat more angular detail. There is also a series of friezes, cornice moldings, and ceiling medallions--some probably from the original scheme of 1874, others perhaps from a redecoration about the late 1880s. An antechamber across the hall features a frieze and medallion of heartily naturalistic morning-glories entwined with grapes. Its mahogany mantel inset with bronze plaques of male figures clad in elaborate Teutonic armor à la Dürer is echoed in still grander form in the dining room. There the mantel is enriched not only with multiple shelves, but by a colored-glass window deeply recessed in the wall above, the sides of whose niche are bevelled mirrors creating a startling effect. This end of the dining room was apparently extended out beyond the block of the house and redecorated about the same time as the parlors: a Lincrusta dado, painted ceiling, green-and-gold panelled doors and woodwork, and hand-blocked wall-paper with pastoral landscapes

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seem to date from just before the turn of the century. Other rooms are said to retain the original mantels and woodwork.