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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

DEC 13 1993

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Nugent's Crossroad Historic District

other names/site number Leesburg

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Old Frankfort Pike and Midway Pike  not for publication N/A

city or town Midway  vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Woodford code 239 zip code 40347

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David M. ... SHPO/Ex. Director/11/18/93  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office/Kentucky Heritage Council  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

Entered in the  
National Register

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
  - determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Ray M. Lapsley Date of Action 1/27/94

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nugent's Crossroad Historic Distric  
Name of Property

Woodford, Kentucky  
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
12		buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
14	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
Historic & Architectural Resources of  
North West Woodford County, Kentucky

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC / single dwelling
- DOMESTIC / secondary structure
- COMMERCE / specialty store
- COMMERCE / tavern
- TRANSPORTATION / stage station
- AGRICULTURE / outbuilding

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC / single dwelling
- DOMESTIC / secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE / outbuilding
- VACANT / not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- EARLY REPUBLIC / federal
- LATE 19th - EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVAL /  
colonial revival
- EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN / commercial /  
craftsman

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE
- walls BRICK, frame, log
- roof ASPHALT, METAL
- other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

COMMERCE

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1775 - 1930

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

R.W. Lacefield & Sons (builder)

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council

Nugent's Crossroad Historic Distric  
Name of Property

Woodford, Kentucky  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 11 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Versailles, Kentucky U.S.G.S. Quad; Midway, Kentucky Quad. MAPS

1 

1	6	7	0	1	7	1	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

3 

1	6	7	0	1	6	4	0	4	2	2	1	6	8	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

2 

1	6	7	0	1	8	8	0	4	2	2	1	9	2	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

4 

1	6	7	0	1	5	2	0	4	2	2	1	7	4	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Christine Amos, Historian

organization Burry & Amos, Inc. date January 8, 1993

street & number 926 Main Street telephone (502) 633-5530

city or town Shelbyville state Kentucky zip code 40065

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

## 7. Narrative Description

Nugent's Crossroad Historic District is located in north Woodford County at the intersection of Old Frankfort Pike and Midway Pike. The District contains four individual properties that are the physical evidence of historic events and transformations in overland transportation and local agricultural trends over a period from c. 1775 through 1930 with significance on a local level. The District is located within a comprehensively surveyed area encompassing approximately 40,000 acres in northwest Woodford County. The historic contexts, property types, significance and registration requirements for significant properties in the area are detailed in the Multiple Property Form titled, "Historic and Architectural Resources of North West Woodford County, Kentucky" (Amos:1992). The level of documentation for that survey and MPL documentation included entire farm units with buildings and acreage, rural communities, and individual historic resources. The Nugent's Crossroad Historic District is one of three historic districts and nine individual nominations to the National Register that resulted from the project efforts. In total, there are fifteen contributing resources within the District including twelve buildings and two structures. There are no non-contributing resources. One resource, the Offutt-Cole Tavern (WD 83) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 11-23-1977. The district consists of 11 acres.

The District includes four properties, located on the northeast, southeast and southwest corner of the intersection. The northwest corner contains no buildings, but is the wood fence enclosed pasture of a large Thoroughbred horse farm. The roads, Old Frankfort Pike (e-w) and Midway Pike (n-s) are two-lane blacktop, without shoulders and the crossroad is a four-way stop, marked by regulation signs and a red flashing, suspended light. Large deciduous trees vegetate much of the crossroad, lending a comfortable, shaded atmosphere in summer months. All of the resources are visible from the center of the intersection. The two dwellings are set back from the right-of-way a greater distance than the tavern and garage, which are built very near the road edge.

### WD 83 Offutt Tavern

Listed on the National Register in 1977. Includes three contributing buildings and one contributing structure: tavern, two sheds, rock wall. (These resources are not included in the overall district count.)

**WD 247 Nugent House, contributing building**

A two-story, brick veneer, early 20th century residence with Bungalow and Colonial Revival influences to the form and plan. The house features an asymmetrical, bungalow plan with a central entry accessing a large front room with smaller room to the side, from other bungalow. The extended eave, clay tile roof and dormers also suggest Craftsman influences. From the Revival comes the smooth brick veneer finish, a symmetrical front, and oversized sash windows. Details include a random-coursed limestone ashlar foundation, three bay front, full front porch supported by battered wood columns on a solid brick rail, 9/1 sash windows with stone sills, two shed dormers, an extended eave, two interior chimneys (one a flue) and multi-light entry flanked by multi-lite side lights. The Nugent House is reported to have been built by R.W. Lacefield and Sons of Midway (Sames:1991).

**WD 245 Ford Garage, contributing building**

An early 20th century, rectangular, frame, one-story commercial building with limestone foundation, board and batten siding, standing seam metal gable roof fronted by a square false front frieze. One large vehicle bay with hinged doors faces south to the Old Frankfort Pike and along the axis walls are small, sliding multi-light wood frame windows.

**WD 246 Wallin Redden Farmstead**

The property is an eight acre tract of land that contains a turn-of-the-century residence, support domestic out buildings, stock/tobacco barn, and land used for agricultural purposes such as hay and tobacco beds. The property contains five contributing buildings, two contributing structures and one non-contributing building.

**1. Residence, contributing building.** The house is located about 100' east of the Midway Road with a stone fence and entry to the drive and a surrounding yard area. It is a one-to-one-and-one-half story (rear ell has upstairs), late Victorian vernacular, frame residence with random ashlar limestone foundation with raised mortar bed, wood shingled roof with center hip and projecting gables, two interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops and flared eaves with boxed gutters. Other details include a corner porch located at the junction of the two projecting gables, supported by square posts with a railing. Windows are single light sash and fixed plate with geometric-divided, leaded glass transom. Walls are sided with clapboard and there is a wrought iron railing located at the peak of the hip roof. To the rear is a one-and-one-half story, ell with end chimney, a one-story shed to the east with porch and minor shed addition to the rear, east side. Unless indicated otherwise, all of the buildings date to the period of the house construction.

2. **Meat house, contributing building.** Located in the yard area, about 25' east of the rear door. A tall board and batten frame building with metal gable roof, hinged door to west, measuring 10' by 12' overall.
3. **Garage, contributing building.** A board and batten, single bay garage open to the south with wood shingled gable roof and a track door hung on a horizontal metal track that extends beyond the facade of the building to hold the opened door.
4. **Chicken coop, contributing building.** Located north of the garage, a one-story, rectangular shed with board and batten siding, six light windows to the south and west, east side entry door and one vehicle bay.
5. **Storage shop, non-contributing building.** A modern metal storage building/shop, with oversized, overhead bay door facing west, gable roof.
6. **Barn, contributing building.** A gambrel roofed barn, attributed to the Lacefields of Midway with concrete perimeter foundation, standing seam metal roof, two square louvered ridge vents with gables, flush board walls, six light sliding windows, an open six-bent shed to the south side for vehicle and implement storage and cattle loading ramp. A corn crib with horizontal slats is located in the SE corner bay. The interior of the barn features a large loft area and is assumed to have been built with loose box stalls..
7. **Well and pump house, contributing structure.** Located NE of the garage, a metal well casing and pump house of concrete block.
8. **Rock fence, contributing structure.** A dry laid limestone rock fence extends along the west boundary of the property parallel to the Midway Pike in front of the domestic yard area. The fence curves to form a break for the vehicle drive that accesses the farm buildings.

#### 8. Written Statement of Significance

The Nugent's Crossroad Historic District is significant under Criteria A as a diverse and well preserved example of a small, commercial crossroad community in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky, established before the 1790s and transformed through circa 1930. The crossroad district contains four individual properties including:

- Offutt-Cole Tavern (WD 83, individually listed on the National Register in 1977
- Nugent House, c. 1924 (WD 247)
- Ford Garage, c. 1920 (WD 245)
- Redden Farmstead, c. 1890-1925 (WD 246)

This small district is comprised of several historic resources, each making a physical statement about different eras and activities both directly and indirectly related to local transportation history and to the surrounding agricultural activities of north Woodford County. Together, these resources convey, through a variety of recognizable building forms and through their physical proximity to each other and the intersection of the two major thoroughfares, a sense of historic progression and economic diversity and vitality at an important transportation-related commercial center in northern in Woodford County.

The location of commercial enterprises during all periods of history in the Bluegrass region is directly related to transportation routes, both road and rail. During all periods of history, these transportation-related commercial resources are located immediately adjacent to the transportation corridor; most were integral or even pivotal elements of a small community or hamlet. During the settlement era, the closest major centers of trade to north Woodford were located at Versailles, the county seat to the south and Frankfort to the northwest in Franklin County. After the 1830s, the railroad town of Midway was added as a trade center. Because of often extended distances to these points, small centers of trade and social interaction were important to the surrounding rural community. Examples of small trade communities identified in the MPL include Duckers, Nugent's Crossroad, Wallace, and Spring Station. Others outside the area but in Woodford County include Pisgah Station and Faywood. Nugent's Crossroad is comprised of several different historic resources, each making its own statement about the history of transportation and local commerce in north Woodford. Together, the properties of Nugent's Crossroad convey the appearance of a long-established rural commercial center and maintains a greater degree of physical integrity than most other examples of the type in the area.

The North Woodford County MPL established the historic contexts and property types for the themes of transportation, commerce and agriculture from ca. 1780 through 1940. That discussion identified two important settlement era transportation routes that crossed north Woodford County and connected Lexington to Frankfort; the Leestown Road and Frankfort Pike.

Along the early roads, inns and taverns (sometimes called ordinaries) offered lodging and/or food to the traveling public. Early Woodford County tavern licenses from 1800 through 1839 document three taverns in north Woodford: Lee's and Offutt's Taverns on the Frankfort Pike and Cole's Black Horse Tavern on



the Leestown Road. As the town of Midway (currently the largest town in north Woodford) did not exist during this era, "...all gatherings of the clans in that end of the county was wither held at Cole's tavern or Offutt's crossroads" (Railey:1927,65).

The Offutt-Cole-Offutt (WD-83), listed on the National Register in 1977 and the only surviving settlement tavern in the area, was actually first known as Lee's Tavern. As a pivotal resource of the Nugent's Crossroad Historic District, the two-story log and brick tavern is located at the southwest corner of the Frankfort Pike and Midway Pike intersection with a dry-laid rock fence cornering the site. The first proprietor, John Lee, acquired the land and a cabin (probably the log portion) from Hancock Lee in 1794. The brick portion was added ca. 1799 and a tavern operated here until at least 1839 (the extent of tavern license research in Woodford County). Across the intersection to either the north or east, Horatio Offutt opened a second tavern in 1804. Offutt's tavern evidently operated out of George Caplinger's prior residence as the deed locates Offutt's purchase as "on the road where George [Caplinger] now lives nearly opposite the tavern the said Lee is now building on the other side of the road" (KHC Woodford County files, W. Hearn:1980). Soon after Offutt opened shop, the Lexington stage coach line of Kennedy and Dailey established a route between Lexington and Frankfort with a stop at the crossing. Thus, since early settlement, the intersection has gained recognition as a transportation-related hub of commerce.

About 1825, newly established, chartered toll road companies built roads with subscriptions and tolls that funded construction and maintenance. Toll houses were generally spaced at five mile intervals and at intersections and road terminations (Coleman:1935). The long established Midway-Versailles Pike (Hwy. 62) was improved and chartered as a toll road in the 1840s. Although at least six toll houses operated in the area between 1861 and 1877 (according to Hewitt and DeBeers' Atlases), the Tavern is the only surviving example.

During the antebellum, the crossroads community was known as Leesburg and contained a mercantile (no longer extant) that drew customers from a three-to-eight mile radius and offered goods from calico to coffee to iron by the pound (Jillson:1932, 198-200). The crossroad continued to evolve into the 20th century as a local center of trade and became known as Nugent's Crossroad, for the family that operated a mercantile on the southeast corner of the intersection (no longer extant). Immediately south of the Nugent's mercantile site, in the southeast quadrant, stands the Nugent House, a substantial, ca. 1925, brick veneer, two-story

residence that speaks well of the owner's comfortable commercial income and was reportedly built by R.W. Lacefield and Sons, builders from Midway.

Contemporary with Nugent's business, and located opposite on the north side of the Pike, was the first Ford Dealership or garage in Woodford County. That the dealership was not first located in Versailles, but here, between Midway and Versailles provides subtle information concerning demographics and economic trends during the era. Those who purchased automobiles were just as or perhaps more likely, to live on farms as in town. The crossroads location for the garage could hardly have been better: the surrounding area contained some of the region's most prosperous farms and the VM&G Railroad stopped at Wallace Station about 1/4 mile to the east (see National Register nomination). The central location of Nugent's crossroad drew car buyers from throughout the county (Davis; Craig:1991).

North of the Ford Garage, is the Wallen-Redden farmstead. The original owners sold the late 19th century farmstead to the Forrest Redden family ca. 1915. The Reddens were related to the Nugents who operated the store and lived at the crossing from the turn-of-the-century forward. The Reddens farmed actively in the area, doing custom hay threshing, breaking teams of horses which they probably sheltered in the large stock barn, and raising tobacco. Although they farmed extensively, their personal holdings amounted to about 13 acres here at the crossroad, with some of that acreage later sold as lots along the Old Frankfort Pike to the southeast. The present owners reported that the barn was built by the Lacefields, a family of local builders from Midway. It is possible that they also built the residence, as the Lacefield home in Midway resembles this dwelling. (Varner interview:1-25-91). The Wallen-Redden farmstead contributes to the overall physical integrity and historic diversity of the crossroad as a good example of a turn-of-the-century diversified farm containing buildings, structures and layout that are good examples of the property type. Although not related to the crossroad as a commercial establishment, the location must have been an excellent one for the Reddens, who gained much of their agricultural income by performing "custom" work for neighboring farms. As neighboring farmers visited the mercantile next door, a side trip to the Reddens to ask about hay baling or to view a recently-broken horse or mule for purchase, was a simple task.

Together, this variety of historic resources continue to convey a sense of history and continuity at Nugent's Crossroad in northern Woodford County.

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

Kentucky Heritage Council, vertical files: Woodford County historical information file (W. Hearn notes), and WD83: Offutt-Cole Tavern file.

Railey, William E. History of Woodford County. (Versailles, Woodford County Improvement League), 1927.

Sames, Mr. James, interview at Nugents Crossroad. January, 1992.

Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Robert, interview at Nugents Crossroad. January 25, 1992.

**10. Verbal Boundary Description**

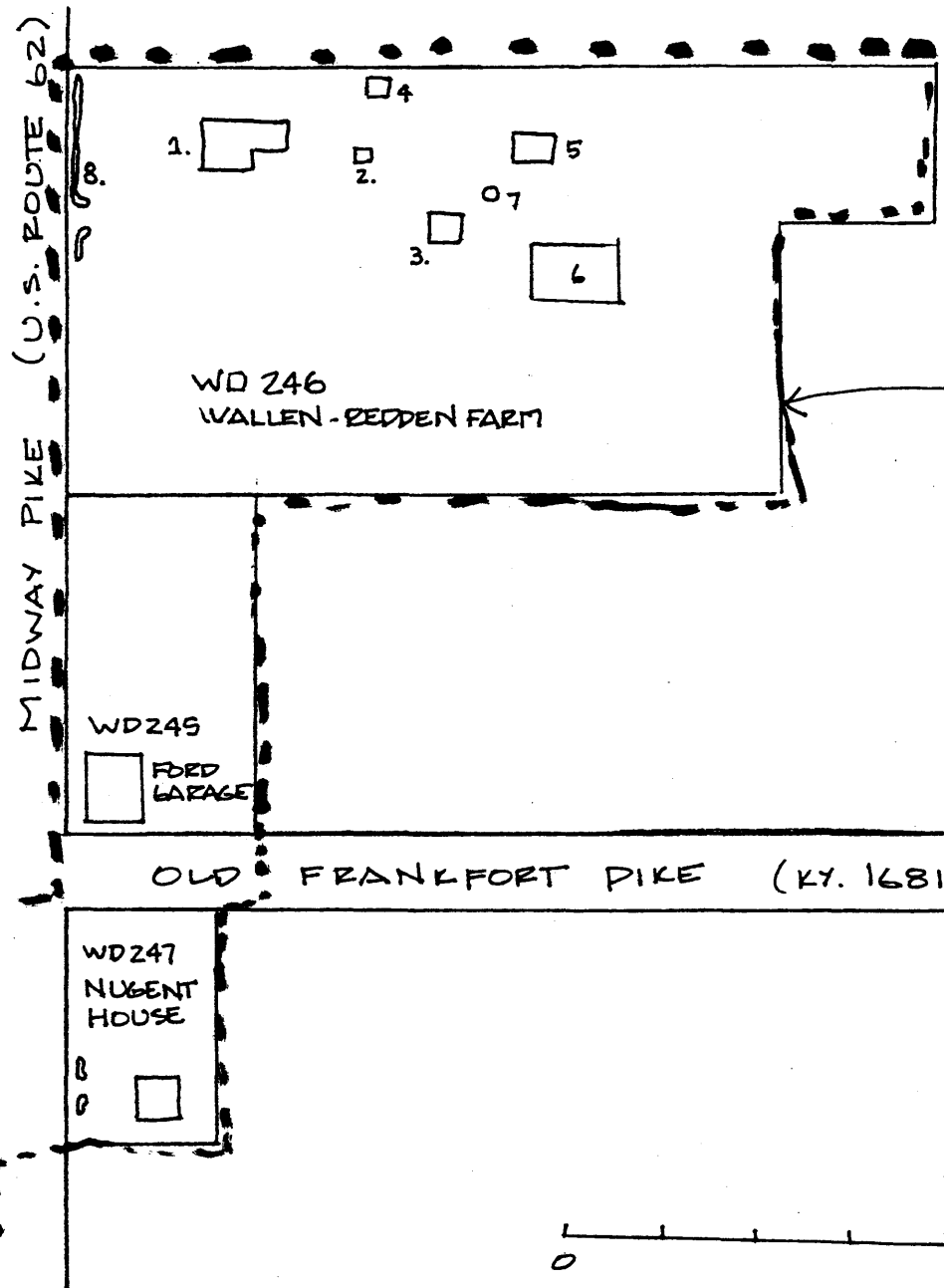
The property boundary contains approximately 11 acres and is defined by a rectangle formed by the lines drawn on the accompanying property map. The nominated area is part of the property depicted on Woodford County Property Valuation Assessor map 39, parcels 5-7 and **Boundary Justification** map 28, parcel 13.

The property included within the Nugents Crossroad Historic District includes only that acreage associated with historic events at the crossroad that continues to maintain good physical integrity to the period of significance. Newer homes (post World War II) built on small acreage tracts to the east on the Old Frankfort Pike are not included within the district boundaries.

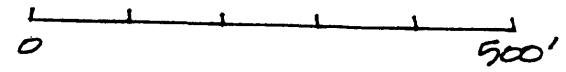
Property Ownership

- WD 245 Mabel Clark  
4191 Versailles Road  
Lexington, Kentucky 40511
- WD 246 Robert & Sara Varner  
Route 1  
Midway, Kentucky 40347
- WD 247 Grady & Anita S. Moore, Jr.  
Route 1  
Versailles, Kentucky 40383

↑  
NUGENT'S  
CROSSROAD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT



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DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
CORRESPONDS TO  
PROPERTY LINES TAKEN  
FROM KY. DEPT. OF  
REVENUE AERIALS  
WOODFORD CO. # 39



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PHOTO LOG: Nugent's Crossroad Historic District

Property location: Woodford County, Kentucky.

Photographer: Christine Amos

Date of photograph: 1992

Location of original negative: Kentucky Heritage Council,  
Frankfort, Kentucky

1. Looking N-NW to the Wallen-Redden house (WD 246) from the entry fence/gates on the east side of the Midway Pike.
2. Looking S-SE to the Nugent House (WD 247) across the Midway Pike, with stone entry piers.
3. Looking N-NE to the Ford Garage (WD 245) and the crossroad from the west side of Midway Pike, in front of Offutt Tavern.