

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

James Young House and Inn

AND/OR COMMON

James Young House and Inn

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

109 Elm Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

West Point

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Hardin

CODE

093

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan S. McCoy, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

7916 Wolf Pen Branch Road

CITY, TOWN

Prospect

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 40059

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hardin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Elizabethtown

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

October 30, 1969

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky 40601

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Young House and Inn is located at the east end of Elm Street in the small river town of West Point, Kentucky. The imposing L-shaped Federal brick house, built c. 1797, is situated on a slight rise above the confluence of the Ohio and Salt Rivers. Directly across the street from the Young House and Inn, is a large frame structure (which has been extensively remodeled), also constructed and operated as an inn by James Young.

The house is a five-bay two-story brick structure with a lower two-story ell extending off the west side of the back to the south. Interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops are located at the ends of the main block and in the center of the ell. The brick is laid in Flemish bond in the front with queen closers at the corners, and common bond on the sides and rear portions (see photos 1 & 2). The brick cornice that spans the facade is composed of a row of headers set diagonally between single rows of projecting headers (see photo 6). In the back, the brick cornice is formed by four corbelled rows of headers, while two corbelled rows of headers form the cornice on the ell. The small cupola which is placed in the center of the roofline in the back of the main block replaces an earlier one (see photo 4).

The round arched front entrance, which is located in the center bay, has a spiderweb-like fan-light above. The shuttered windows have nine-over-six pane sash with jack arches above and narrow wood sills below. The second-story windows in the ell are single sash with nine panes. In the front and rear of the main block, directly above the low stone foundation, is a row of narrow slits spaced every foot which allows ventilation in the crawl space beneath the house (see photo 1).

In the west end of the main block is a second entrance with a four-light transom above, which leads into the northwest room which was used as a bar room in the inn. The door is sheltered by a stoop. A one-story porch, supported by four simple columns, extends along the west side of the ell (see photo 2).

The floor plan of the main block is based on the two-room central hall plan. The rooms are approximately 18' x 18'. The front entrance opens onto a central hall with a half-turn stairway with a full landing rising up on the east side. A back entrance opening onto an open porch is opposite the front door (see photo 8). The room on the east side of the hall had a door in the west bay of the rear wall leading outside. This door has been replaced by a window. The Federal mantel in this room has a row of reeding below the shelf. The raised corner blocks are grooved and a raised panel is centered between them. Grooved pilasters support the end block (see photo 9). The chair-rail that extends around the room replaces the original. The mantel in the northwest room, which served as the bar room is more ornate. It has a plain shelf with small diamond shapes formed by reeding in the corner blocks. The blocks are supported by reeded pilasters. A large diamond, formed by reeding, is placed between the end blocks. A raised molding extends around the outside of the mantel (see photo 10). The two bedrooms on the second floor have plain shelf mantels with no ornamentation.

The main block of the house is detached from the ell, which is composed of two rooms down and two rooms up connected by a central chimney. Two doors, each with four light transoms, are located on the east side of the ell and open onto the first floor rooms. The mantels in these rooms have a plain shelf and center panel with grooved corner blocks. The pilasters which support the end blocks are plain (see photo 16). The stairs which rise to the second floor are placed along the north wall in the north room. The mantels in the upstairs rooms have no ornamentation (see photo 12).

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Ca. 1798

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James Young House and Inn, believed to have been built ca. 1798, is located at the east end of Elm Street (formerly High Street) in West Point, Kentucky, at the confluence of the Salt and Ohio Rivers. The imposing Federal two-story brick main block with a detached two-story brick ell was built by James Young for use as a tavern and as his residence. Young, one of the first settlers in West Point was not only a large land holder, but he also owned and operated a ferry across the Salt and Ohio Rivers, as well as a large tavern and inn. In addition to managing his successful business enterprises, James Young took an active role in the development of the community of West Point by donating land for a public square and by organizing the construction of the first public roads connecting West Point to neighboring towns; his major contribution being his work on the Louisville and Nashville Turnpike.

James Young was born in Henrico County, Virginia, in 1767. It is believed that he came to Kentucky around 1790, for in 1791 his marriage to Elizabeth Nokes was recorded in Lincoln County. Elizabeth Nokes was the daughter of George Nokes of Orange County, North Carolina. According to a deposition of James Young taken in 1844, he settled at Williamsville in 1796. (Williamsville was established in 1792 on the northeast side of the Salt River at the Ohio. The settlement was eventually superseded in 1832 by West Point, on the opposite bank of the Salt River, because of Williamsville's susceptibility to flooding. The only evidence that remains of the town are a few stone foundations and two cisterns).

In 1798 an order for James Young to establish a ferry across the Salt River was recorded in the Hardin County Order Book #1 (p. 165). It mentions that Young owned land on both sides of the river. A year later Young was operating a ferry across the Ohio River to what was then the Northwest Territory. Several years beforehand the State general assembly passed an act regarding the establishment of ferries. The act established the rates that could be charged, as well as dispensing the ferry-keeper from paying county levies and from participating in other public services. It also allowed ferry-keepers to operate a tavern without paying a fee for a license (Littel pp. 118-119).

In 1799 the town of West Point was established by another act of the general assembly and town lots were sold. It wasn't until 1801, however, that the town plat was recorded. In 1799 Young bought two lots, including the lot where he built the frame inn, opposite the brick house. A deed recording Young's purchase of the lot where the brick house now stands was never recorded. Therefore it is believed that Young owned the land on which the house was built before 1799 when town lots were sold. There is evidence which indicates that the brick house was built around 1798 and that Young and his family lived in the back ell for several years, while operating an inn in the main block.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

James Young House and Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6

PAGE 2

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky 1971.

Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

James Young House and Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

Originally directly south of the rear wing was a log kitchen. The kitchen was destroyed in the 20th century. Recently a "saddle bag" log cabin, with two rooms, on either side of a central stone chimney, was reconstructed on the foundations of the original kitchen. The reconstructed cabin was originally situated on a lot west of the Young House. It was built by James Young for his daughter Elisha Hall.

East of the log kitchen is a reconstructed brick smokehouse (see photo5). The James Young family cemetery is located several hundred yards southeast of the house between the Illinois Central Railroad and U.S. Highway 60.

Located on this nominated property are very interesting archaeological components, both historic and prehistoric. A deposition made in 1850 makes mention of kitchens, ice house, well, milk house, stables, cribs, and sheds. Currently, none of these structures are standing or visible, but it is likely that archaeological investigations would reveal a great deal of information. The owners dropped the existing grade approximately eight inches in some areas at the rear of the residence. This grading activity exposed numerous historic artifacts, some of which were concentrated in small areas suggesting that trash pits may exist. The current owners collected a majority of these artifacts and have retained them. A brief examination of these indicated a fairly representative sampling of glass, ceramics and metal. These are further discussed in Section #8. Two brick cisterns, are located in the side yard, one of which has been filled. Even though it was a common practice to periodically clean cisterns, archaeological excavations could possibly shed new light on this residence complex.

An adjacent garden was walked and examined, resulting in the observance of a high concentration of chert debitage (waste flakes from stone tool and artifact production) and a few artifacts. These prehistoric artifacts, as well as the historic ones are discussed in section #8.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

James Young House and Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Because there seemed to be no improvement on the lot opposite the brick house when Young bought it in 1799, it indicates that he built the frame house (also used as an inn) in 1800. The deposition taken from Young in 1844 confirms the construction date of the frame inn, for he states that he moved into the house in 1800. Evidently Young continued to operate the brick house as a tavern, as well as the frame structure where he was residing. In 1821, Young apparently moved back to the ell of the brick inn for convenience sake. In 1832 Young sold the frame inn to his son-in-law, John W. Hall who continued to operate it. In 1837 it was sold out of the family, but still used as an inn until after the Civil War when it became a private residence.

James Young continued to run the brick house as a tavern and an inn, while living in the rear ell. During this time Young played an active role in the development of the community. He was one of several men appointed to survey and lay out roads leading from the Salt River ferry to Elizabethtown, the county seat of Hardin County, and to Hardinsburg, the county seat of Breckinridge County. Young was also selected to survey a portion of the turnpike which reached from Louisville to Nashville. Because of the Ohio River landing and the improved roads, West Point became a prosperous trading center where goods were unloaded from boats and carried over land to Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee. West Point's prosperity was at its height in the mid-1800s, eventually losing its prestige to the thriving town of Louisville, located twenty miles up river.

In 1805, Young was appointed inspector of beef and pork. He owned a warehouse where the meat was stored, diagonally opposite the tavern. He also served as a patroller. A 1799 act of the State legislature decreed that districts within a county should appoint certain men to act as patrollers and visit negro quarters and other places of assembly in order to guard against slave uprisings.

Upon the death of his wife in 1839, Young gave the brick inn to his youngest daughter, Zoraydo Young Thomas, the wife of Samuel Beal Thomas, a wealthy businessman. James Young died ten years later.

Samuel B. Thomas (1811-1874), a native of Maryland, came to Kentucky at the age of seventeen and started work with Edward P. Johnson, a mail contractor, as a clerk and then as a general road agent over all the mail routes. After several years, Thomas along with several other men, bought out Johnson and the firm known as Hough, Carter, and Thomas, operated successfully until 1860 when the Louisville and Nashville Railroad was completed. The stage, which carried six passengers and the mail, made a daily run each way from Louisville and Nashville. The firm also controlled large mail routes in Tennessee and Alabama. At one point the company had as many as 1,600 horses in daily use.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

James Young House and Inn
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

In the 1830s, Thomas resided in West Point. He established several large warehouses there to store goods from the river traffic. In 1844 he and his wife relocated in Elizabethtown about ten miles south of West Point, although the brick house continued to be operated as an inn.

Samuel Thomas was elected to the State legislature in 1863 and served two years. Not only was he instrumental in the formation of the Elizabethtown-Paducah Railroad, but he also served as president. For many years he was a director of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. Samuel Thomas and his wife, Zoraydo, died in 1874.

The Thomas' sold the house and inn around 1846. In 1858 it was purchased by the McCoy family, who continued to operate it as an inn until 1917 at the death of Mrs. Ann Eliza McCoy. During the McCoy's ownership in 1862, the Union General Don Carlos Buell and his troops marched through West Point, on their way to intercept the Confederate forces of General Braxton Bragg, who had invaded the State from Tennessee. While in the town, General Buell requested that Mrs. McCoy prepare meals for seventy-five officers to which command she complied with. The Union and Confederate forces went on to clash at the Battle of Perryville, October 8, 1862. (See Perryville Battlefield, Boyle County, listed on the National Register December 19, 1960).

In the severe flood of 1884, Clara Barton, the founder of the Red Cross, used the Young Inn as her headquarters. She stayed at the house several months, while distributing clothes and rations to the flood victims.

After 1917 the house was used as a private residence. In the 1940s rooms were rented out until 1973 when it was purchased by the present owner, who is now in the process of restoring it.

The Young House and Inn is an imposing Federal brick structure with a low two-story ell off the rear. The openings seem relatively small and spaced widely apart between floors, giving the impression of a wide expanse of brick which makes the house seem even larger than it is. An unusual brick cornice, composed of a row of headers placed diagonally between rows of projecting headers, spans the facade, while the brick cornice across the back is formed by three corbelled rows of headers. A third cornice made of two corbelled rows of headers extend along both sides of the ell.

The layout of the house, which remains essentially unaltered, was designed specifically for use as a tavern and inn. A door, entering into the northwest room of the main block, is located on the west gable end of the house. The door served those entering the bar room. The two-story

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

James Young House and Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

ell with two rooms down and two rooms up connected by a central chimney, is completely detached from the main block. In order to gain access to the ell one had to go outside and enter one of the two doors opening onto the first floor rooms. The detached ell could have been designed as a private residence for the proprietor of the inn, or for additional rooms for guest. All the original Federal mantels remain intact, varying in design from the grooved panel and corner blocks, found in the northeast parlor and ell, to the unusual reeded diamond shapes found in the end blocks and center panel of the mantel in the bar room.

Although none of the original outbuildings survive, the log kitchen and brick smokehouse have been reconstructed on the original foundations. Unfortunately little or no evidence remains of the ice house, dairy, carriage house, and stables which were known to make up the original James Young House and Inn complex.

As mentioned in section #7, the significance of this nomination is greatly enhanced by the presence of both historic and prehistoric archaeological components. The prehistoric artifacts observed in the adjacent garden included a groundstone, a large biface, and one projectile point.

The groundstone has been partially worked with one end possibly having been used as a cutting edge. It appears to have been hafted with a groove running around the entire midsection.

The large biface encountered on the garden surface is one with all edges worn, suggesting its use as a knife. One end is truncated and has been reworked, possibly for utilization as a scraper.

The single projectile point recovered is a straight-stemmed, triangular blade with shoulder. A portion of the stem has been broken, but the point resembles a Delhi point as described by Perino in Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points Vol. IV on pages 20 and 21. The estimated age would be 1300-200 B.C.

Although quite densely scattered on the surface, only a small quantity of waste flakes were collected. Of twenty-four, twenty appear to be derived from the later stages of artifact production. They are small, thin, and lack cortex. The remaining four flakes also lack cortex, but are comparatively larger.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

James Young House and Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 5

Although the sample is really too small to render an adequate analysis, it seems to indicate that there was a habitation site here where a variety of functions were carried out. These include the manufacture of chipped stone tools, possibly woodworking, hunting, and possibly butcher and hide processing.

The area in general is well known for its archaeological sites, both on the Salt and Ohio Rivers. Dr. Donald Janzen of Centre College in Danville has excavated on the Horning site nearby. Dr. Joseph Granger has also excavated at sites on the Ohio and Salt Rivers and is now with the University of Louisville Archeological Survey.

Some of the historic artifacts which were previously recovered in grading operations were examined on location. Of the more interesting were transfer-printed ironstone sherds in various monochromes, stonewares, wine bottle fragments characteristic of periods throughout the first half of the nineteenth century, machine-cut square nails, historical flasks in aqua, and fragments of nineteenth century patent medicine and condiment bottles.

Although disturbed by the aforementioned grading, it is likely that the remains of outlying components were essentially skinned from the top and that a great deal of these archaeological remains still exist.

On file there exist an 1851 inventory of the property which was sold at auction that year by the Hardin County Sheriff. Such an inventory is obviously of tremendous assistance in conducting archaeological research and excavations. Although it has not been possible to conduct any test excavations at this site, it is strongly believed that the historic and prehistoric archaeological components add greatly to the significance of the nominated property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

James Young House and Inn

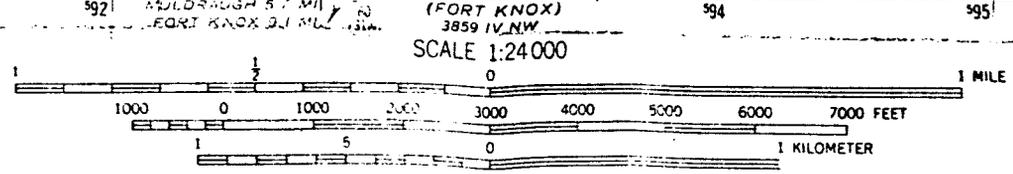
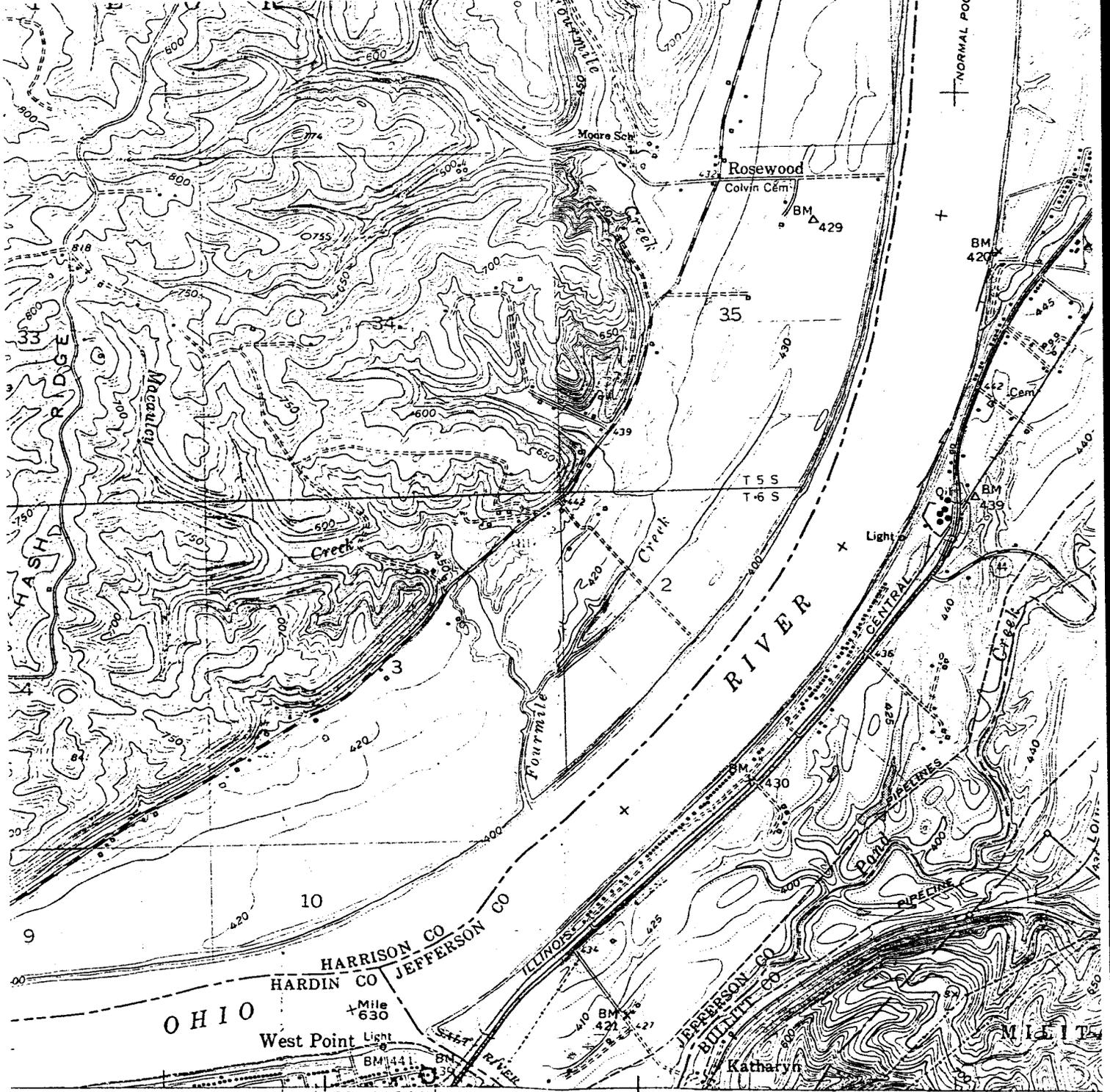
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

* Court Order Records and Deed Books at the Hardin County Courthouse.

Additional research and material from Mr. Bryan S. McCoy, Louisville, Kentucky.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
 INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
 KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,
 AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MAGNETIC NORTH
 CENTER OF SHEET

Revisions shown in pu
 Survey in cooperation
 from aerial photogra