

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

MD-B-1

Site No. _____

1. Historic Name(s) Meade County Clerk Office; Rankin House

Original Owner Meade County Court; Adam Rankin

2. Present Name _____

3. Location 205 Lafayette St.

4. Owner's Name Mrs. Jeanne Marcum

5. Owner's Address 205 Lafayette, Brandenburg, Kentucky

6. Open to Public Yes No

7. Ownership Private Local State Federal

28. ADD/County Lincoln Trail/Meade 082

29. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15/75) Mauckport

30. UTM Reference 16 5,7,3,1,6,0 4,2,0,6,3,4,0

Zone Easting Northing

31. Coordinate Accuracy

32. Prehistoric Site _____ Object _____
Historic Site _____ Structure _____
(Building) _____ Other _____

33. National Register District Name: Historic Resources of Brandenburg

8. Site Plan with North Arrow _____

9. Architect/Builder _____

10. Date ca. 1826; 1874 3 B. 4

11. Style Gothic Revival D

A. _____ B. _____

12. Original Use Dwelling A
County Clerk's Office J

13. Present Use Dwelling

14. Condition Excellent A

15. Stories, No. of 1 1/2 B

34. Significance of Evaluation National Register

35. Status _____ Date _____

National Landmark	
National Register	
Landmark Certificate	
Kentucky Survey	
Local Landmark	
HABS/HAER	

36. Historic Theme C

Primary Architecture

Secondary Politics/Gov't. V

Other _____

37. Endangered Yes No

16. Description 1 1/2 story brick with one story brick wing which was the original structure, the County Clerk's Office. Five-bay with center entrance with two-pane transom. Asymmetrical facade treatment. One-story, one-bay entrance porch. Current entrance original rear of house. Original facade faced Ohio River. Facade windows 2/2 pane with one-course rowlock arch. Center gable pierced by a single 2/2 pane window with one course rowlock arch on facade. Cornice enhanced by gingerbread exterior trim. Facade and rear in common bond with row of headers every seven rows, every nine rows on each gable end.

(Continue on Back)

17. Single Pile _____ NA _____
Double Pile

18. Floor Plan Central Passage K

19. Structural Fabric Brick A. C B.

20. Decorative Fabric Common Bond A. E B.

21. Roof Form & Material Gable

22. Foundation Material Quarried Limestone B

23. Outbuildings I

24. Alterations Moved Additions
Wall Treatment

38. ATTACH PHOTO _____

Roll No. 1

Picture No. 22 - 35

Direction Roll 2 #2-14

39. Prepared by: William G. Johnson
Senior Historian

40. Organization Kentucky Heritage Council

41. Date September 1983

42. Revision Dates _____ 43. Staff Review _____

25. History On March 10, 1825, Solomon Brandenburg deeded sixty acres of land to William L. McGehee, Girard Alexander, William Fairleigh, Dr. David A. Hascall and Joseph Atwill, Trustees appointed by the Meade County Court, to establish the _____

26. Significance The Adam Rankin House is architecturally significant as the outstanding representation of the Gothic Revival cottage style in Brandenburg. The dwelling displays qualities of _____

27. Source of Information Arts of the Kentucky General Assembly, 1871-72. Vol. 2.

44. _____

45. _____

46. _____

47. _____

48. _____

49. _____

50. _____

51. _____

52. _____

53. _____

54. _____

55. _____

56. _____

57. _____

58. _____

59. _____

60. _____

61. _____

62. _____

63. _____

64. _____

65. _____

66. _____

67. _____

68. _____

69. _____

70. _____

71. _____

72. _____

73. _____

74. _____

75. _____

76. _____

77. _____

78. _____

79. _____

80. _____

81. _____

82. _____

83. _____

84. _____

85. _____

86. _____

87. _____

88. _____

89. _____

90. _____

91. _____

92. _____

93. _____

94. _____

95. _____

96. _____

97. _____

98. _____

99. _____

100. _____

16. Interior chimneys on main block; interior gable end chimney on original County Clerk's Office. Limestone foundation. Each gable end pierced by two 2/2 pane windows with one course rowlock arch two limestone sills. All windows have one course rowlock arch and limestone sills. Right gable end also has smaller, rectangular 2/2 pane gable window. Original facade which displays a fenestration of five bays has a water table, eight brick rows below windows. One story, three bay porch with gingerbread trim on original facade, now rear. Original facade center gable pierced by single long and narrow rectangular window of 2/2 pane and a single smaller rectangular 2/2 pane window.

Interior: Original wide-plank pine flooring in 1870 addition. Shouldered architrave trim for doors and windows. Open two run stairway with light sawn brackets. Front rooms have cast-iron mantels.

Meade County Clerk's Office - Constructed ca.1825-26 as the first county clerk office, the single-story brick structure exhibits a facade executed in Flemish bond brickwork with the remainder completed in common bond brickwork. Although heavily damaged by the tornado which devastated Brandenburg in 1974, the building retains several Federal architectural features such as the Flemish bond facade, corbelled cornice and an original 12/8 pane window enhanced by a reeded wooden lintel with corner blocks and wooden sill. The two-bay structure with an interior gable-end chimney rests on a limestone foundation, and retains original interior features such as wide-plank hardwood flooring, a plain Federal mantel and four door wallpress.

25. county seat according to the provisions of an act passed by the Kentucky Legislature which specified that the seat of government for Meade County be laid off on Brandenburg's land. In addition, Brandenburg deeded an additional acre of land for public buildings. In March 1825, the trustees selected a site for the courthouse situated on East Hill overlooking the Ohio River, and contracted with Leonard B. Parker for the construction of the public buildings. In 1825-1826, Parker built a single-story brick courthouse and a one-story brick county clerk office on the East Hill site which were used until 1851 when a second courthouse was constructed on the same site.

On August 8, 1874, the Meade County Court sold the acre site to Adam Rankin for fifty dollars, who constructed a one and one-half story Gothic Revival brick cottage which incorporated the original county clerk office as a wing. Shortly after the completion of the dwelling, Rankin suffered severe financial losses, and the house was sold at auction to Ephram Wimp who gave it to one of his daughters as a wedding gift.

26. excellent craftsmanship and design, and is a significant architectural resource in Brandenburg. In addition, the dwelling is historically significant in the area of politics/government as the site of the original Meade County Courthouse and the county clerk office, which survives today.
27. Ridenour, George. Early Times in Meade County, Kentucky. 1929.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY SUPPLEMENT
BOUNDARY AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Historic Property Name Meade County Clerk Office; Rankin House Site # MD-B-1
Multiple Resource/Thematic Nomination Title Historic Resources of Brandenburg, KY

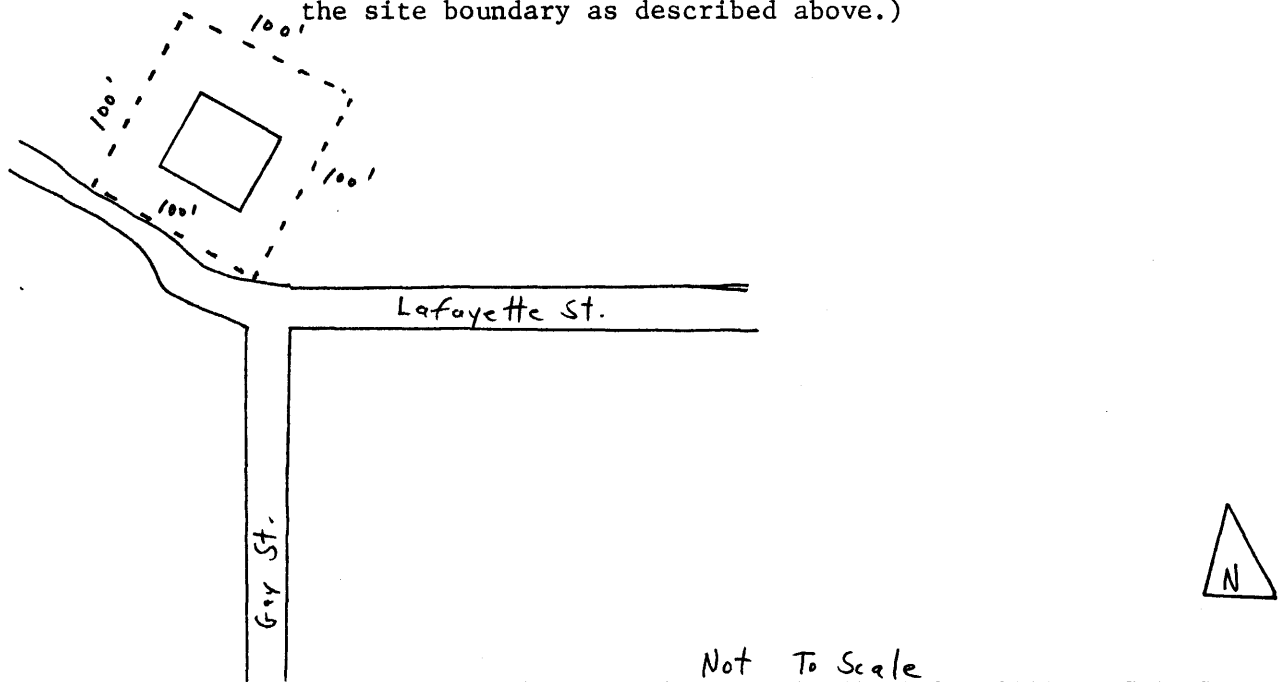
U.T.M. Coordinates - List multiple UTMs if property is ten or more acres.

A. 16 573160 4206340 D. _____
B. _____ E. _____
C. _____ F. _____

Verbal Boundary Description Acreage .5

Beginning at a point on the north side of LaFayette Street, approximately fifty feet from the center of the house; proceed 100 feet in a northeastward direction; thence 100 feet in a southeastward direction; thence 100 feet in a southwestward direction; thence 100 feet in a northwestward direction to the point of origin.

Sketch of Site Plan (Showing outbuildings, structures, landscape features and the site boundary as described above.)



Official Courthouse Property Reference:

Meade County Deedbook