

Historic Resources of Hardin County

AUG 26 1988

Historic Name: Thomas, Samuel B., House (HDE-13) Classification: Building
Common Name: Thomas, Samuel B., House

Owner: Mrs. Foster Brewer, 337 W. Poplar Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

Location: 337 W. Poplar Street, Elizabethtown, KY

| <u>Contributing:</u> | | <u>Non-Contributing:</u> | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| Buildings | 1 | Buildings | 1 |
| Structures | 0 | Structures | 0 |
| Sites | 0 | Sites | 0 |
| <u>Total:</u> | 1 | <u>Total:</u> | 1 |

Description:

The Samuel B. Thomas House is a two-story brick residence constructed in 1842. The house is a central passage plan, five bay structure with Greek Revival detailing. On the main (south) facade is a one-story porch added ca. 1946 with a gable roof and Doric columns. An original two-story porch on this facade was removed in 1946. On the east facade is another ca. 1946 added porch with Doric columns. The main entrance retains its original door with three light sidelights and a three light transom. Windows are original four-over-four sash with wooden shouldered lintels and bull's eye corner blocks. At the rear of the house is a ca. 1900 one-story brick addition. The house has a gable roof with composition shingles. At the rear of the house is a ca. 1842 one-story brick building used as a servant's quarters. This building is of double cell design with exterior end brick chimneys. The original doors and windows have been replaced and on the west facade is a one-story ca. 1870 brick addition and on the east facade is a ca. 1930 frame addition. Because of these alterations the building is included as non-contributing to the site.

Period of Significance: 1844-1874

Area of Significance: Commerce

Criterion: B

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance:

The Samuel B. Thomas House is notable for its association with Elizabethtown businessman Samuel B. Thomas. Thomas moved to West Point in Hardin County in 1828 where he opened a stage coach line and had several other business ventures. Thomas bought this house in 1844 from Archibald Chaffin and resided here until his death. Thomas was influential in the financing and direction of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad serving as one of the first directors. In 1863, he was elected to the state legislature where he served two years. Thomas later helped to promote and finance the Elizabethtown and Paducah Railroad and was instrumental in having the shops of the railroad locate to Elizabethtown in 1872. Thomas operated a bank in the city and had large land

holdings. When he died in 1874 his worth was in the millions of dollars. While much of the original residence is intact, alterations make it ineligible under criterion C.

Acreage: 2.75 acres

UTM References: Elizabethtown Quad 16/600310/4172690

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary for the Samuel B.Thomas House is illustrated on the accompanying Hardin County property tax map 220-2, block 6, lot 5, and is defined by the legal property boundary. The boundary includes the house, servant's quarters and property sufficient to protect the historical setting of the site.

VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



W POPLAR DR

DIXIE AVE

ST JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

HDE-13, Samuel B. Thomas Property Location House Tax map 220-2, Block 6, lot 5 1"=200'

