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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Gover-Hardin House
Other names/site number (PU-S-124)

2. Location

Street & number	307 West Mt. Vernon Street	Not for publication	N/A	
City or town	Somerset	vicinity	N/A	State Kentucky
code KY	county Pulaski	code 199	Zip code	42501

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Donna Neary
Signature of certifying official Donna Neary SHPO

05/25/2007
Date

 Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register Edson H. Beall 7.11.07
 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 Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> 0 </u>	<u> 1 </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
		<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0
 Name of related multiple property listing (N/A)

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions	Category	DOMESTIC/single dwelling
Current Functions	Category	DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification	Colonial Revival
Material	Poured Concrete
Foundation	Composite
roof	Brick
walls	

Narrative Description - SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 1

Section 7

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DESCRIPTION

The Gover-Hardin House (PU-S-124), is located in Somerset, Kentucky, seat of Pulaski County. Part of the Eastern Pennyrile region of the Commonwealth, Pulaski County is located in south-central Kentucky. The county is primarily rural with Somerset serving as the primary commercial, political and social center of the area.¹ The nominated property is at 307 West Mount Vernon Street, approximately 1/4 mile west of Somerset's courthouse square. The house sits on a less-than-one-acre lot.

History of Property Ownership

The Gover-Hardin House lot was an outlot in the original (1801) town survey. Lying two blocks west of the courthouse square, this area developed in the 1930s, later than subdivision development in other parts of town. Local businessman, W.D. Gover purchased the property in 1929 from J.M. Richardson.² According to the 1926 Sanborn Map, this property did not contain any dwellings. W.D. Gover had a two-story, brick, Colonial Revival house erected circa 1930 on the lot. Gover and his wife Artie lived in the house until 1937, when the property was transferred to their daughter Mary Katherine (Gover) Hardin and her husband W. Miles Hardin.³ The Hardin family sold part of the original lot in the 1950s, retaining one-third acre for themselves. The house and lot remained in the Hardin family, when Jolly Hardin Hill, the daughter of Mary Katherine and W. Miles Hardin, inherited the house in after her father's death in 1997.⁴ Jolly Hardin Hill sold the house to Brenda Popplewell in 1999.⁵ The house had remained in the same family for approximately seventy years.

Character of the property

The Gover-Hardin House is located at the intersection of Richardson Drive and West Mt. Vernon Street (State Highway 80). The property retains architectural integrity and its historic setting, which inform us about the development of Colonial Revival architecture in Somerset during the first half of the twentieth century. On the less-than-one acre proposed for listing are found the following features: the main house, a carport, and a dry-laid stone border outlining the drive.

The house is prominently sited on the south side of West Mt. Vernon Street, which serves as a major cross street leading directly into the town center. Since the road serves as a State Highway, the house is located on a major route through Somerset, giving the house high visibility, especially due to its situation at a prominent curve of the Mt. Vernon Street. The Gover-Hardin house was built facing north, just under a 1/4 mile from the Courthouse square. The surrounding neighborhood has a mix of commercial and residential properties on the outskirts of original town development. On the east and west side of the Gover-Hardin house are brick cottages dating from the same period of construction. Directly behind the house on the south boundary is a 1950s brick ranch house that was built by the Hardin family. Across the street from the Gover-Hardin house is the former Wilson's Automobile Dealership, which has Art Deco and Streamline Moderne characteristics. The neighborhood's character is indicative of its period of development, which occurred in the 1930s and 1940s.

¹ Carolyn Torma & Camille Wells. *Architectural and Historical Sites of Pulaski County*. P. 1.

² Pulaski County Deed Book 111, page 526.

³ Pulaski County Deed Book 113, page 478.

⁴ Pulaski County Deed Book 595, page 201.

⁵ Pulaski County Deed Book 641, page 14.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 2

Section 7

The entrance of the private drive is located on the west side of the house along Richardson Drive. A short dry-laid stone border surrounds part of the perimeter of the domestic yard along the driveway. This stone border has a rusticated face in a regular coursing pattern. This stone feature is associated with the original period of construction of the house. The rear yard contains a circa 1950s double-bay carport. It has wrought iron columns, which support a gable-front roof. The carport is open on all four sides. Several mature trees are located on the property including a Magnolia tree, which are located along the approach to the house and contained by the dry-laid stone border.

House Exterior

The Gover-Hardin residence was constructed in approximately 1930 in the Colonial Revival style. The main block of the house is a two-story three-bay double-pile brick veneered gable-roof residence. A two-story single-bay double-pile brick veneered flat-roofed wing addition dating from the late 1930s is located on the east elevation. A single brick chimneystack is located on the east side of the main block. The house has a poured concrete foundation that is partially exposed on the west and south elevations. The foundation was poured in distinct layers, giving it a regular coursing pattern. The exterior envelope of the house has red wire-cut brick on both the main block and wing addition. Decorative brick detailing is located on all elevations. The gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles with very shallow eaves.

The main façade (north elevation) has three bays, with a central entrance on the first story. The central doorway has engaged pilasters with reeding and a frieze that is surmounted by a broken pediment. The original front door has two recessed panels and a transom window with six divided lights. There are two windows flanking the main entrance with six-over-six double-hung wooden sash windows with wood panels beneath the windows. Brick lintels are above the window and original louvered wooden shutters are on either side of each window. A decorative brick belt course runs just beneath the window openings on the second story. Three windows pierce the upper story. These original double-hung sash windows have six-over-six divided lights and are surmounted by brick lintels. The original pairs of wooden shutters are extant. The cornice is defined by a row of soldier coursed bricks that are situated just beneath the shallow eave of the gable roof. A brick gable-end chimneystack is visible on the east side of the main block. A two-story single-bay brick veneer addition extends from the east side of the façade. Paired windows on the lower and upper level pierce this addition. The windows are six-over-six double-hung wooden sash windows with concrete sills and brick lintels on the lower level. On the upper story, the paired six-over-six double-hung wooden sash windows have both brick sills and lintels. A decorative belt-course is located just beneath the second story windows. This addition has a flat roof.

The east elevation contains two bays, and has a decorative row of soldier coursed bricks above the foundation wall. The paired original six-over-six double-hung wooden windows pierce the lower story. Both windows on the first level have concrete sills and brick lintels. Six-over-six paired double-hung sash wooden windows are located on the second story. These windows have brick sills and lintels. Just under the eaves are band of soldier coursed bricks that extend across the elevation. Above the flat roof of the wing addition the brick chimneystack is visible in the center. Half-round windows with arched brick lintels are located on either side of the chimney. These windows are located on the attic level of the main block. A wood fascia board rests below the eaves of the roofline.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 3

=====

The rear elevation (south) is comprised of the original block of the house plus the wing addition on the east side. The lower story of the main block has four bays. On the west side is a cross-gabled brick veneer bay pierced by a six-over-six double-hung wooden window. A single six-over-six double-hung wooden window is to the east of the brick bay and has a brick sill and lintel. A rear doorway with a cross-gabled roof and side brackets serves as a secondary egress. Three concrete steps lead from the rear door to the back yard. Another six-over-six double-hung wooden window is to the east of the rear door and has a brick sill and lintel. A brick belt course is below the second story windows. Three six-over-six double-hung wooden windows are located on the second story of the rear elevation. The central and east side window openings are smaller than the west side window and have concrete sills. A band of decorative, soldier coursed bricks extend across the rear elevation below the eaves. The two-story brick addition extends from the east side of this elevation. The first level has a French door with concrete steps. A single six-over-six double-hung wooden window is located to the east of the doorway. A single brick lintel encompasses both the door and window. A pair of six-over-six double-hung wooden windows that have a brick sill and lintel pierces the second story of the addition.

The west elevation contains two bays, and part of the poured concrete foundation is exposed. A band of soldier coursed bricks extend above the foundation. The paired original six-over-six double-hung wooden windows on the lower level pierce this elevation. Each pair of windows has a concrete sill and brick lintel. A brick belt course is located under the windows of the second level. A single six-over-six double-hung wooden window is on the upper story of the west-facing elevation. These windows have the brick sills and lintels. Another band of soldier coursed bricks extending across the elevation is located above the second story windows. A single attic window is visible on this side of the house. This window is a six-over-six double-hung wooden window with a concrete sill and brick lintel. A wood fascia board rests below the eaves of the roofline.

House Interior

The dwelling has a regularly massed floor plan with a central hall. Three principal rooms are located on the first floor, including a double parlor on the east side. An original mantelpiece is located in the double parlor, which now serves as the dining room. The first floor of the wing addition is entered from the double parlor through a French door. The dining room and kitchen are located on the west side. A wood staircase with the original newel post and cherry banister is found toward the front of the center hall. On the second level, there are also three rooms and a center hall. The second story of the later addition also entered from the master bedroom on the east side of the house. There is a staircase that accesses the attic located on the second floor. The attic is an unfinished undivided space that contains a large cedar closet near the center. Original hardwood flooring is found throughout the house. The historic mantelpieces, woodwork including recessed panels and trim from the original period of construction, remain intact.

Changes to the House Over Time

A two-story single-bay double-pile brick veneer addition with Colonial Revival detailing was added to the east side elevation in the late-1930s. This is the period when Mary Katherine and W. Miles Hardin assumed ownership of the property. It has a poured concrete foundation and a flat roof. A rear entrance is located on the south elevation. This addition was integrated into the main block of the house and has become a part of the historic dwelling.

During the 1950s, a double-bay carport was erected in the rear yard of the property. This structure is detached from the main house and does not interfere with the historic integrity of the house.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 4

Section 7

=====
Structures and Objects

Carport Non-contributing building (ca. 1950s) Situated in the rear (south) yard, this is a one-story double-bay carport with a poured concrete pad. The asphalt-shingled gable roof is supported by decorative wrought iron columns. The carport is detached from the main house and is open on all four sides. This carport is outside the period of significance.

Stone fence Contributing object (ca. 1930) The dry-laid stone fence surrounds the boundaries of the driveway on the property's north and west sides. It is low in profile, standing only two feet in height. The rusticated dry-laid stone is in a regular coursing pattern. Erected during the initial building campaign to define the boundary of the domestic yard, this low stone fence contributes to the significance of the property.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

Area of Significance	Architecture
Period of Significance	ca. 1930, 1939
Significant Date	ca. 1930, 1939
Significant Person	N/A
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Architect/Builder	Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

9. Major Bibliographical References

- 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 # _____

- Primary Location of Additional Data
- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other

Name of repository: Kentucky Heritage Council, 300 Washington Street, Frankfort, KY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gover-Hardin House (PUS-124), is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and is significant under Criterion C for its importance in conveying the Colonial Revival style of architecture within the context "Colonial Revival Style in Pulaski County, Kentucky 1880 - 1940." The Gover-Hardin House is significant as a dwelling that represents the Colonial Revival style in its late-period articulation. While retaining a traditional floor plan and massing found in the Colonial Revival aesthetic, the Gover-Hardin house represents the restrained ornamentation that was popularized for the style by the influence of modernism, Williamsburg, and mail-order houses. The Gover-Hardin house is significant as an example of this late-period style of Colonial Revival domestic architecture in the county, undoubtedly intended to display the modern tastes of its owner W.D. Gover. The property has two periods of significance. The first comes with the house's construction ca. 1930. In 1939, new owners updated the house with a Colonial Revival wing addition. That wing's design is very compatible with the original house's design, and will be shown to have significance within the context of Somerset's Colonial Revival style, giving the property its second Period of Significance, at 1939.

The Colonial Revival style emerged as a popular domestic aesthetic in the 1880s when interest began to rise in the houses associated with the founding of the North American Colonies, especially the English and Dutch houses on the Atlantic seaboard.¹ The style gained in popularity by the early-20th century, when the aesthetic was increasingly featured in pattern books and periodicals. The Colonial Revival was widely employed for dwellings and peaked in usage between 1915-1935.² The local appearance of the Colonial Revival in Somerset occurred primarily during the first two decades of the twentieth century, when the style was informed by a more academic design based on historic examples from the Colonial Period. The Gover-Hardin House's ca. 1930 construction is distinguished as a later interpretation of the Colonial Revival, which distilled the ornamentation into simplified forms.

Research Design

This is the first study focusing on the Colonial Revival-style of domestic architecture in Somerset, which is located in Pulaski County, during the period of significance. In order to evaluate Gover-Hardin House (PUS-124), a historic context was developed to provide an overview and chronology of the style. Sources used for the context included architectural guidebooks, cultural historic resource survey reports, National Register nominations, and survey forms prepared for buildings in Pulaski County, general United States architectural histories, Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells' *Architectural and Historical Sites of Pulaski County*, and Pulaski County histories. These sources provided a basis for understanding the development of Colonial Revival architecture both nationally and locally.

To gain insight into W.D. Gover's place in Somerset and the house's history, numerous sources were consulted. Historical records for the county consulted included deeds, wills, and Sanborn maps. City directories and local histories also yielded information about the Gover and Hardin families. The Kentucky Heritage Council's Historic Resources Inventory records did not contain specific information about Gover-Hardin House, but did provide data on similar properties for analysis of the architectural style in the county.

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Pg. 324.

² *Ibid.* pg. 326.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 2

=====

A comparison of similar domestic properties helped to define the Gover-Hardin House's place in the architectural history of Somerset. A small number of resources have been identified in Somerset with the Colonial Revival style. These dwellings were constructed as Colonial Revival buildings. This included two National Register listed resources, the Waddle-Prather House (PUS-22) and the Governor Edwin P. Morrow House (PUS-72). Two additional houses have been previously surveyed as Colonial Revival dwellings: an unnamed house (PUS-66) and the Slessinger House (PUS-67). As architectural fashions shifted from a Victorian architectural influence, these four dwellings illustrate the use of style in the first decade of the twentieth century in Somerset. Five additional resources were identified in the Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory that had additions with Colonial Revival styling or detailing. These modifications also date to the early-twentieth century, when the style was following an academic influence. By identifying these previously-surveyed resources, an evaluation of the Gover-Hardin House's design within a comparative framework could be accomplished.

Historic Context: Colonial Revival Architecture in Pulaski County 1880 - 1940

Colonial Revival Style's National Development

Architectural styles have been important throughout time for the social messages they convey about their buildings, designers, or occupants. A national frame of reference existed for architectural styles in the United States, promoted during the period of significance by pattern books and architects. These documents helped create the impression that a building's design is either old fashioned and staid, or the most up to date.³ The symbolism imbued in architecture demonstrates the desire of owners to employ certain styles at a particular time to communicate modernity or the sensibilities of their era.

Domestic examples of the Colonial Revival style of architecture were first seen in the United States in the 1880s. By the dawn of the twentieth century, the Colonial Revival was becoming a dominant architectural style for domestic buildings. During the period, interest in Revival styles began to appear with the influence of Beaux-Arts Classicism beckoning a return to order and restraint. By the 1880s, Americans had come to increasingly favor elaborate Victorian styles such as the Queen Anne, East Lake, Carpenter Gothic, and Italianate. In reaction to these Romantic styles, classically trained architects used pattern books in the last decades of the nineteenth century to create a desire for historic forms of design, bringing a return to rational architecture.⁴

The first occurrences of the Colonial Revival began appearing in the 1870s, as professional architects began to study Colonial architectural examples. Though the very first Colonial Revival could never be pinpointed, architectural historian Vincent Scully identified Richard Morris Hunt's own house, Sunnyside, in Newport, Rhode Island built in 1870 as the "first built evidence of colonial revivalism to exist anywhere."⁵ The architect, Charles Follen McKim, trained at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, published his Colonial Revival designs in the *New York Sketch Book of Architecture* in 1874. Through this exposure in professional journals, architects began to experiment with the style.⁶ The Philadelphia Centennial Exposition introduced Colonial Revival

³ Donna Neary. "The Bradshaw-Duncan House" National Register Nomination. P.8-1

⁴ William B. Rhoads. *The Colonial Revival*. Pg. 379.

⁵ Ibid. pg. 51.

⁶ Ibid. pg. 54-55.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Gover-Hardin House

Pulaski County, KY

Page 3

Implementation of Colonial Revival into elite levels of culture and increasing national exposure, the style developed vernacular forms. Colonial Revival's relative inexpensive construction cost compared to Victorian houses also helped popularize it. Building trade journals emphasized the simplicity of construction for a Colonial Revival house, which maximized building profits while making houses affordable to the working class. For example, the journal, *Carpentry and Building*, extolled the benefits of Colonial Revival in its editorial capacity, which historian William Rhoads quotes in his book *The Colonial Revival*: "Their [Victorian Queen Anne houses'] unreasonable features of construction and silly decorative gewgaws outrage every canon of true art...Let us hope that absurdity has reached its climax, and hereafter dwellings will be planned simpler and in better taste. The revival of the old colonial architecture will aid in correcting this evil."⁸ The style gained popularity in the North sooner than in southern states, when it began appearing in the 1890s.⁹

Mail-order house catalogs like *Sears and Roebuck*, *Aladdin*, *Wardway*, and *Gordon Van-Tine* featured numerous examples of Colonial Revival houses that a homeowner could even build without the aid of a contractor. With the wide distribution of mail-order catalogs, the Colonial Revival style became widely disseminated.¹⁰ Also the development of Colonial Williamsburg by Henry Ford at the beginning of the twentieth century renewed interest in Colonial-influenced forms. Additionally, the Colonial Revival style became increasingly simplified and scaled down by the 1930s and 1940s, which made the style affordable for the middle and working class. As the ideology of modernism began to infiltrate American architecture, extraneous ornamentation was minimized. This resulted in an even more restrained manifestation of the Colonial Revival style.¹¹

Colonial Revival Features

Buildings designed in the Colonial Revival style generally fit one of six defined subtypes: asymmetrical, hipped roof with full-width porch, side-gabled and hipped without full-width porch, one-story, Dutch Colonial (gambrel roof), and second story overhang. The majority of Colonial Revival-styled houses tend to be one or two stories tall, with moderately pitched gable roofs. Windows tend to be rectangular in form with double-hung sashes with six, nine, or twelve divided lights in each sash. Elaborate door surrounds are characteristic of Colonial Revival dwellings. Machine-produced columns, entablatures, friezes, and pediments were applied to the principal entrances. Porches are common on Colonial Revival-styled houses, especially prior to 1910. They can be one or two stories tall, and range from small entry porches to full-length constructions. Masonry construction is favored for the Colonial Revival aesthetic, and after 1915 brick veneer was widely used for the style. Clapboard Colonial Revival houses were found especially before 1920. Many mail-order house examples, for instance, employed wood siding as the cladding material. The majority of the Colonial Revival houses remaining in the U.S. were constructed between 1880-1940. Changing fashion and tastes influenced the use of Colonial Revival subtypes. For example, the asymmetrical and hipped roof forms waned in popularity by 1910. Early subtypes focused on copying original Colonial houses, while late examples of the style were simplified versions of historic examples.¹² Colonial Revival architecture was at its height between 1915-1940.¹³

⁷ Ibid. pg. 56.

⁸ William B. Rhoads. *The Colonial Revival*. Pg. 381.

⁹ Ibid. pg. 112.

¹⁰ Richard Guy Wilson. *The Colonial Revival House*. Pg. 19.

¹¹ Ibid. pg. 175.

¹² Virginia and Lee McCalester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. 324-325

¹³ Marilyn Klein and David P. Fogle. *Clues to American Architecture*. Pg. 47.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 4

=====

Historical Development of Somerset

Somerset, seat of Pulaski County, Kentucky, was established in 1799, but a plat and sale of lots did not occur until 1801. The selection of the site of Somerset was determined primarily by its central location and proximity to a large spring called Sinking Creek.¹⁴ The plan of the town was laid out following the Lancaster grid plan and originally had 76 town lots. The town had a central courthouse square plan with four major roads intersecting the four sides of the square.¹⁵ Mt. Vernon Street was one of these principal thoroughfares and ran east and west through the city. Referred to as the "Queen City of the Cumberlands," Somerset's population had reached to 412 citizens by 1850, and the town's size was approximately 1/10 of a square mile.¹⁶

Somerset remained a compact county seat town until the post-Civil War period when the railroad caused a major expansion in population and buildings. In 1877, the Cincinnati to Chattanooga line was established just to the southwest of town. With the construction of a new depot, Somerset began to see rapid development between the town center and along South Main Street to the railroad.¹⁷ The need for new housing stock and neighborhoods became apparent as the population grew from 587 in 1870 to 2,625 in 1890.¹⁸ As the community expanded southward, residential neighborhoods filled with one- to two-story Victorian styled houses such as the Queen Anne, Italianate, and Eastlake-style.¹⁹

Somerset continued to expand during the early-twentieth century. The prosperity of the community continued to be reflected in residential growth to the north and east of the downtown area. The Harvey's Hill area along North Main Street became the city's fashionable area for the upper class. Many homes were built in Classical Revival styles between 1900 and 1915 in this neighborhood.²⁰ According to Sanborn Maps, the population was 3500 in 1903 and had reached 6000 by 1914. Into the 1920s, the popular housing style in Somerset was the Bungalow, especially in the northern residential areas.²¹

¹⁴ Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. "Pulaski County Multiple Resource Area." Pg. 8-2.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Woodrow Allen. *Pulaski County Historical Research Book II (revised)*. Pg. 15-17.

¹⁷ George Tuggle. *Pulaski Revisited*. Pg. 42.

¹⁸ Woodrow Allen. *Pulaski County Historical Research Book II (revised)*. Pg. 16.

¹⁹ Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. *Architectural and Historical Sites of Pulaski County*. Pg. 9-10.

²⁰ Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. "Pulaski County Multiple Resource Area." Pg. 8-5.

²¹ Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. *Architectural and Historical Sites of Pulaski County*. Pg. 14.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 5

By 1930, Somerset's population growth had slowed, reaching 6500. Few changes occurred in the downtown residential and commercial neighborhoods during this era. The exception was the expansion to the west of the city and new construction improvements in the local highways, which fostered increased automobile usage. The major north-south route in east Kentucky was U.S. 27, which passed through Somerset and was paved in 1930. Paved in 1937, State Highway 80 became the primary east-west route through Somerset, being given the name Mt. Vernon Street as it crossed the town center.²² It was during this time that the area along the 300 block of West Mt. Vernon Street was developed. The area was a mix of residential and commercial buildings.²³ The most prominent commercial building was the Flynn Motors building (PU-S-59), which served as an exuberant Art Deco-styled building with a large pylon.²⁴ The houses were comprised of small cottages and Cape Cod Houses, as well as the Colonial Revival Gover-Hardin house. The area indicates what was considered the locally fashionable aesthetic for the period of the 1930s and 1940s.

Colonial Revival Style in Somerset

The Kentucky Heritage Council's historic structure inventory records only four other Colonial Revival-styled buildings constructed during the period between 1880-1940 in Somerset. This suggests that the style was modestly adopted into the Somerset architectural vocabulary. Two of these houses are listed on the Register.

The Waddle-Prather House (PUS-22), constructed in 1910, is an example of the earlier academic approach to the style. The masonry-constructed house has ornate detailing, a full-length one-story porch, and Palladian dormer windows. The other Colonial Revival house listed on the National Register is the Morrow House (PUS-72), which was associated with Governor Edwin Morrow. It is a one-and-one-half-story frame house with asymmetrical massing. Constructed in 1904, this house exhibits one of the earliest subtypes of the style.

The other two identified resources associated with the domestic Colonial Revival style were both two-story brick-clad houses. The John Sherman Cooper House (PUS-66) was constructed in 1909 at 510 N. Main Street. This house follows the asymmetrical subtype form. Its detailing is more modest than that found on the other local examples. It does have decorative brickwork and a one-story porch. The Slessinger House (PUS-67) constructed in 1915 is similar to the Waddle-Prather House. It is a large, two-story house with masonry walls, dormers, and a gable roof.

The Colonial Revival style in Somerset was also found associated with several resources that had period additions and details dating from the early-twentieth century. One resource, the Crawford House (PUS-68) was originally constructed in 1830. During the early-twentieth century, a Colonial Revival two-story porch was added to the façade. The rest of the resources include: the Richard-Cooper House (PUS-31); an unnamed house (PUS-32); the Dill-Scott House (PUS-33); and the Girdler House (PUS-64). These were built as Victorian-era dwellings that either employed some modest Colonial Revival detailing or had early-twentieth-century Colonial Revival porch additions. These resources helped to define the tentative local adoption of the style during its emergence in the first decades of the twentieth century.

²² Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. "Pulaski County Multiple Resource Area." Pg. 8-6.

²³ Sanborn Map, "Somerset," 1962.

²⁴ Carolyn Torma and Camille Wells. *Architectural and Historical Sites of Pulaski County*. Pg. 14.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 6

In Somerset, the Gover-Hardin House (PUS-124) built in circa 1930 was a later dwelling to be constructed in a Colonial Revival design. Most of Somerset's houses with Colonial Revival style were found in the north and east areas of downtown, built prior to 1920. A total of nine resources were recorded that date from the first period of Colonial Revival design in Somerset, from 1900-1915. Residential development on the west side of town occurred in the 1920s and 1930s. Houses built at this time and in this area of town tend more toward bungalow styles. The Gover-Hardin House was the only identified house in Somerset to be built as a Colonial Revival-styled dwelling during the period after 1920.

To summarize, Colonial Revival architecture in Somerset was most popular from 1900 to 1920. Of the nine Colonial Revival buildings considered for this comparison in Somerset, four were built as Colonial Revival houses. A total of three domestic Colonial Revival buildings in Somerset were two stories in height with the remaining one a one-and-one-half story house. Three resources were clad in brick and one had clapboard siding. Five resources identified in Somerset featured Colonial Revival elements that were added after their original construction. These additions occurred during the period between 1900-1920 and were in the form of porches or architectural detailing. The Colonial Revival era of architecture in Somerset appears to have two distinct eras—the early academic-influenced period from 1900-1920 and the more simplified form dating from 1920-1940.

Evaluation of the Architectural Significance of the Gover-Hardin House

W.D. Gover was a resident of Somerset at the beginning of the twentieth century. Gover owned a general merchandise store on East Mt. Vernon Street, which was known as the Weddle and Gover General Merchandise Store.²⁵ During the subsequent decades of the early- and mid-twentieth century, Gover owned a furniture and home furnishings store called W.D. Gover Furniture. The store was located at 112 East Mt. Vernon Street and specialized in glass, carpets, and paint.²⁶ Gover and his wife Artie had one daughter, Mary Katherine. Mary Katherine married Miles Hardin, who was the manager of W.D. Gover Furniture store.²⁷

Gover, having established himself as a successful storeowner, built a new family house at 307 West Mt. Vernon Street on property purchased in 1929. The construction of the Gover-Hardin House represented a departure from the earlier Colonial Revival architecture found in Somerset at the time. Appearing as a restrained, simplified version of Colonial Revival, the house design was less academic, or less a reproduction of a specific Colonial-era house. The Gover-Hardin House relied on a more modern approach to the Colonial Revival style. The heaviest detailing was found on the door surround and louvered window shutters. Beyond this woodwork, the exterior was devoid of any extraneous ornamentation. The most elaborate detailing is found in the decorative brickwork, which is subtly revealed on the exterior. This simplified subtype of the Colonial Revival incorporated the vocabulary of modernism, which emphasized clean lines and pure forms.

²⁵ George Tuggle. *Pulaski Revisted*. Pg. 67.

²⁶ R.L. Polk's City Directory "Somerset, Kentucky." Pg 9, 104.

²⁷ Woodrow Allen. *Pulaski County Historical Research Book II (revised)*. Pg. 205.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY

Section 8

Page 7

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Gover's house adopted a restrained Colonial Revival aesthetic, perhaps showing the acceptance of modern design in Somerset. The Gover-Hardin House, however possesses distinct Colonial Revival details that clearly characterize the style. The articulated door surround with the broken pediment was key device employed to express the style. The windows on all the elevations follow a traditional pattern with wide openings and six-over-six lights. The interior of the house utilized the central-passage double-pile room arrangement, typical for Colonial Revival houses. The interior treatments and finishes recalled a Colonial Revival aesthetic, as well. The two-story house with symmetrical form fits one subtype of the Colonial Revival style. The massing was reminiscent of earlier Colonial Revival dwellings in Somerset, but the lack of elaborate detailing signified a shift in the style's articulation to a more modernized or casual interpretation.

The impression that the Gover-Hardin House made in the Somerset architectural landscape cannot fully be known. The house itself remained unaltered through the Gover period of ownership, suggesting that the owners were satisfied with choice of the Colonial Revival style. The Gover-Hardin house, however, appears to have been a very fashionable and modern dwelling form at the time it was constructed. The house represents the local implementation of a national style at a time when the city of Somerset was modernizing its downtown landscape in the mid-twentieth century.

Gover-Hardin House after the Period of Significance

The property remained in the Gover family until 1937. The property was deeded to Mary Katherine (Gover) Hardin and her husband Miles Hardin. Mary Katherine was the only child of W.D. and Artie Gover. The Hardin family resided at the house for sixty years. In the late 1930s, a two-story brick veneer addition was added to the east side of the house. On the first floor, the space of the addition served as a sun porch. The second floor room was used as a nursery. The addition employed the Colonial Revival aesthetic, fitting the house's original design and indicating a continued local taste for the style.

The daughter of Mary Katherine and Miles Hardin, Jolly Hardin Hill, inherited the house in 1997. She did not make any significant changes to the house and the historic fabric of the house remained intact. Today, current owner Brenda Popplewell sensitively rehabilitated historic features that need repair after purchasing the house in 1999. The house is fully utilized, serving as both her residence and office.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Gover-Hardin House

Significant under Criterion C, the Gover-Hardin House in Somerset embodies the distinctive characteristics of Colonial Revival architecture in Somerset. Though not a dominant architectural style in the community, Colonial Revival dwellings in Somerset represent a popular national style that was prevalent during the early and mid-twentieth century. As a part of a Criterion C nomination, the integrity evaluation serves as an assessment of architectural significance. By comparing the Gover-Hardin house in terms of design and materials with other similar Colonial Revival properties in Somerset, a determination of significance can be accomplished.

The Gover-Hardin House was compared to Colonial Revival-styled houses in Somerset in order to assess its integrity of location, design, materials, setting, and feeling and association. The Colonial Revival-styled residences surveyed in Somerset retain one or more key physical features that define the style, period and type, which support integrity of design and materials. Integrity of feeling and association is enhanced by high levels of integrity of design and materials for architecturally significant Colonial Revival properties in Somerset.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY

Section 8

Page 8

Significant Colonial Revival houses in Somerset will have integrity of design if the resource exhibits original features, including fenestration patterns and multi-light window sashes, decorative elements, such as pediments, louvered shutters, and columned porches. Colonial Revival houses in Somerset are generally two-stories in overall scale and have a symmetrical massing. Some houses with asymmetrical massing were found, but were often associated with houses that had Colonial Revival additions. Additions were not uncommon, but should not impact the original massing and materials too dramatically. Features or dependencies associated with the period of significance enhance the property's integrity.

A Colonial Revival House in Somerset will be determined to have integrity of materials if the balance of materials originally used in construction of the house are intact. Materials that contribute to the Colonial Revival house's design underscore the unique characteristics of the architectural style. These materials include original cladding either masonry or siding; multi-light, double-hung sash windows; louvered shutters; and decorative architectural detailing such as Classically-ordered columns, broken pediments, and reeded, engaged pilasters.

The historic Gover-Hardin property exhibits a high level of integrity when compared to Somerset's similar Colonial Revival properties. The house and surrounding domestic yard retain the physical features to convey the historic significance of the property.

Location The Gover-Hardin House has a high level of integrity of location. The house has not been relocated and its relationship to the domestic yard remains intact. The stone fence, vegetation and immediate landscape enhance the Gover-Hardin House's connection to its historic site.

Design The Gover-Hardin House has a high level of integrity of design. The historic massing and floor plan of the house are evident in the current dwelling. There has not been any major alteration to these features through the course of time. The Colonial Revival details that characterize the exterior of house are also visible. The east wing addition successfully incorporates the architectural character of the original house by using the same masonry pattern and window patterns. The addition constructed in the late 1930s has become an integral element to the historic house. No major alteration to the original Colonial Revival features has occurred over time.

Materials There is a high level of integrity of materials at the Gover Hardin House. Taken in total, a substantial amount of historic fabric is intact at the house. Exterior elements that date to the original construction include many windows on every elevation, the wire-cut bricks that comprise the cladding for the structure, and the decorative door surround and the chimneystack. The woodwork and finish materials on the interior also remain intact.

Setting The Gover-Hardin house has a medium level of integrity of setting. The immediate area around the house has been retained, including the domestic yard and driveway approach with the stone border. While the Hardin family subdivided a part of the original property in the 1950s, the Gover-Hardin house retains a sufficient buffer to suggest an urban residential setting. Landscape features, including trees and rolling hills, enhance the historic setting.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY

Section 8

Page 9

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Feeling and Association a high level of integrity of feeling and association remains at the Gover-Hardin house. When considering these integrity factors, it is important to consider the other integrity factors that have been discussed. These elements, when combined, create the feeling and association of historic significance. The Gover-Hardin dwelling's relationship to the site underscores the historic location of the house. The approach to the house, along a prominent stretch of road leading into town, underscores the desire to appear fashionable in this modern section of town. Also important is the combination of design and materials that convey the Gover-Hardin House's Colonial Revival style and unique features as a fashionable house during the period of significance. While the remaining setting contributes to the feeling and association to a lesser degree, this element of integrity is still present when the site is physically encountered. The natural buffers in the landscape reinforce the historic tone of the property.

The historic Gover-Hardin house and its proposed boundary are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a significant example of Colonial Revival architecture in Somerset located in Pulaski County, Kentucky. The house represents a locally prominent businessman's desire to use architectural style to communicate a fashionable modernity.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 9**

**Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 1**

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property - less than 1 acre.

UTM References

Quad Somerset East Zone 16

UTM E 712613 N 4107493

Verbal Boundary Description See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification See continuation sheet.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/title Cynthia Johnson

Organization N/A Date March 1, 2007

Street & number 51 Mentelle Park #4 Telephone (859) 338-8284

City or town Lexington State KY Zip code 40502

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Property Owner
=====

Name Brenda Popplewell

Street & number 307 West Mt. Vernon St. Telephone (606) 806-9896

City or town Somerset State KY Zip code 42501
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 10**

**Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 1**

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Verbal Boundary Description

The Gover-Hardin House (PU-S-124) is located at 307 West Mt. Vernon Street in Somerset, Pulaski County, Kentucky. The entire property proposed for listing on the National Register is .33 acres and includes the main dwelling house as well as a non-contributing structure, and one contributing object. The area proposed for National Register listing includes the same property described in Pulaski County Deed Book 64I, page 14. Please see enclosed PVA map. The proposed boundary includes the historic house, carport, and fencing. The boundary includes the domestic yard and driveway that approaches the house.

Boundary Justification

The property proposed for inclusion on the National Register by the current nomination includes the .33 acres remaining from the original Gover-Hardin property purchased in 1929. This nominated property retains the historic dwelling constructed by W.D. Gover in the Colonial Revival style. The proposed boundaries provide an appropriate setting for understanding the significance of the design and construction of this house to the history of architecture in Somerset within the period of significance. The boundary includes the domestic yard and maintains the historic setting in which the house was constructed. Some of the architectural significance of this house relates to its domestic yard. Thus, it is judged to be important that sufficient setting around the house be retained to identify the house in its urban setting.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section Misc.

Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 1

All photographs share the same information:

Photographer: Cynthia E. Johnson
Location of Negatives: Cynthia E. Johnson
Date: January 26, 2007

1. View looking southwest at the Gover-Hardin house façade and the setting of the front domestic yard.
2. View looking southeast at façade and west elevation. The decorative brickwork is evident on the façade.
3. View looking northeast at the west elevation and a portion of the rear elevation. The projecting bay on the rear elevation is the breakfast nook.
4. Looking northwest at the rear elevation. The decorative brickwork is visible on the rear elevation. The addition is on the right side of the photograph. A portion of the non-historic carport is visible in foreground.
5. Looking west at the east elevation of the Gover-Hardin House. The wing addition is prominent on this elevation. The chimney stack from the original part of the house is also visible.
6. View looking southwest at the east elevation and façade of the Gover-Hardin House.
7. Looking west along West Mt. Vernon Street showing the Gover-Hardin House's proximity to the street.
8. View looking east along West Mt. Vernon Street in front of the Gover-Hardin House toward downtown Somerset.
9. Looking northwest along West Mt. Vernon Street at the neighborhood that developed during the 1930s and 1940s. The Flynn Motor Building (PU-S-59) is on the right side of the photo.
10. View of the facade looking south. This photo details the entrance piece, original shutters, and the decorative banding of the brickwork.
11. View looking north at the two-story addition. The original windows and door are intact.
12. A detail of the original windows and masonry on the west elevation.
13. Looking southeast at the non-historic 1950s carport that is located in the rear yard of the Gover-Hardin House.
14. View looking east at the dry-laid stone fence that surrounds the driveway to the Gover-Hardin House. The Flynn Motors Building is in the background of the photo.
15. Looking north down the driveway of the Gover-Hardin House showing the dry-laid stone fence bordering the driveway. The Magnolia tree that has been associated with the house as a landscape element is also visible.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 10**

**Gover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY
Page 2**

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Additional Documentation

Maps:

- Map 1 USGS topographic map showing location of property
- Map 2 PVA map showing property boundaries outlined in yellow

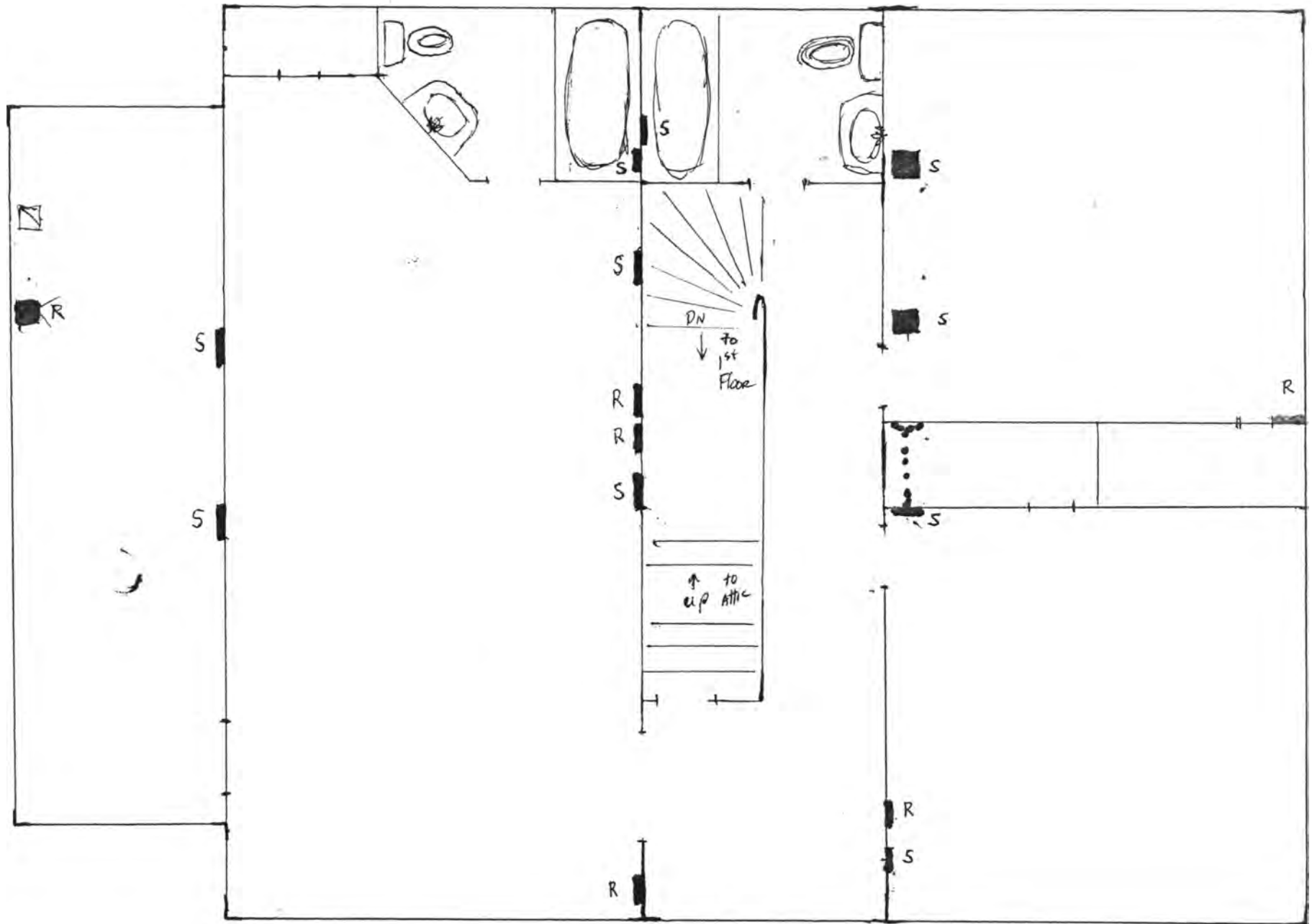
Figures:

- Figure 1 Floor plans of first and second floors at 1/4" scale

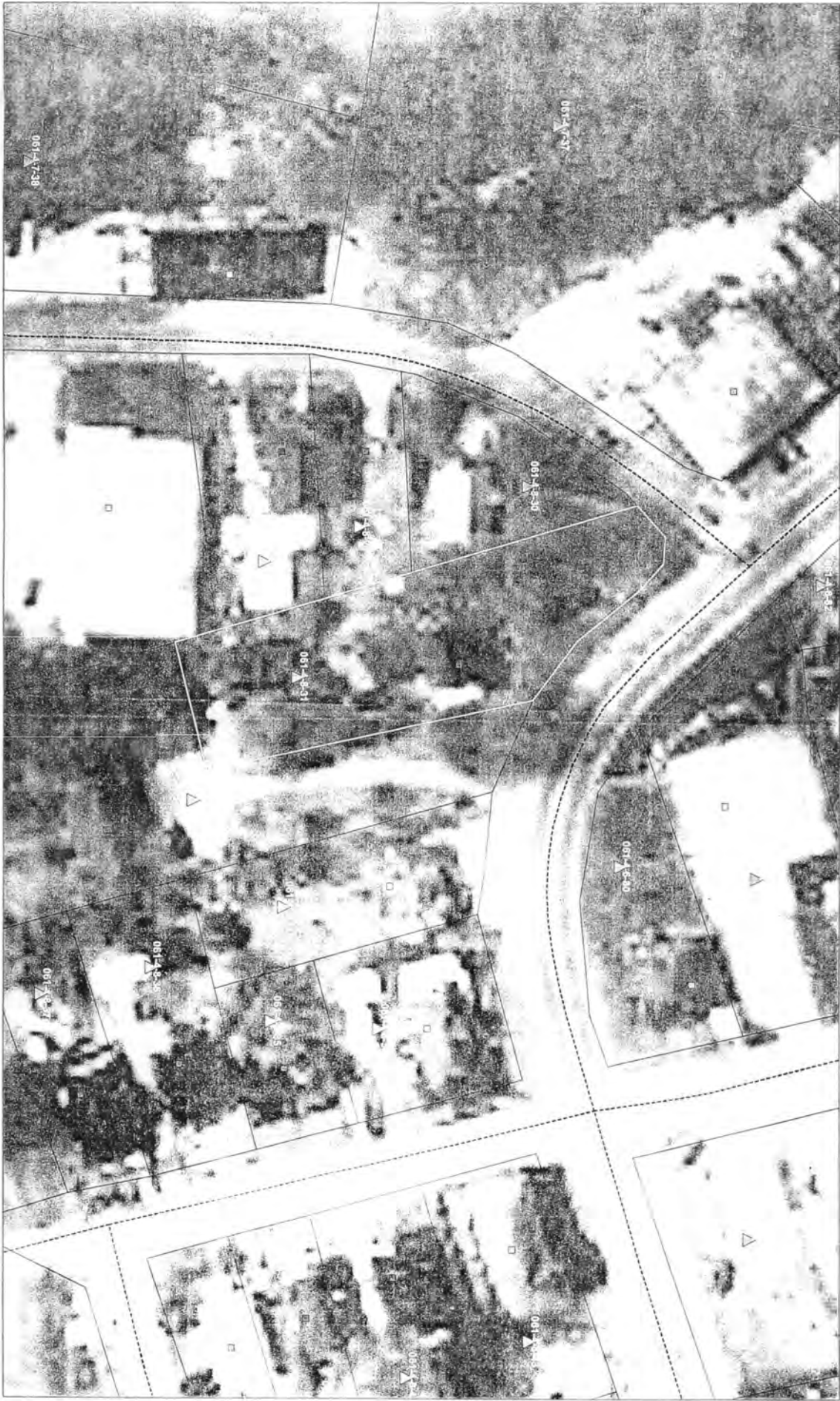
Fig. 1 Corner-Handin House

2nd FLOOR $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'$

Red = Supply Registers
Blue = Return Grilles



Map #2 PVA MAP Cover-Hardin House
Pulaski County, KY



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Gover--Hardin House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/19/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/04/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000674

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7-11-07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



























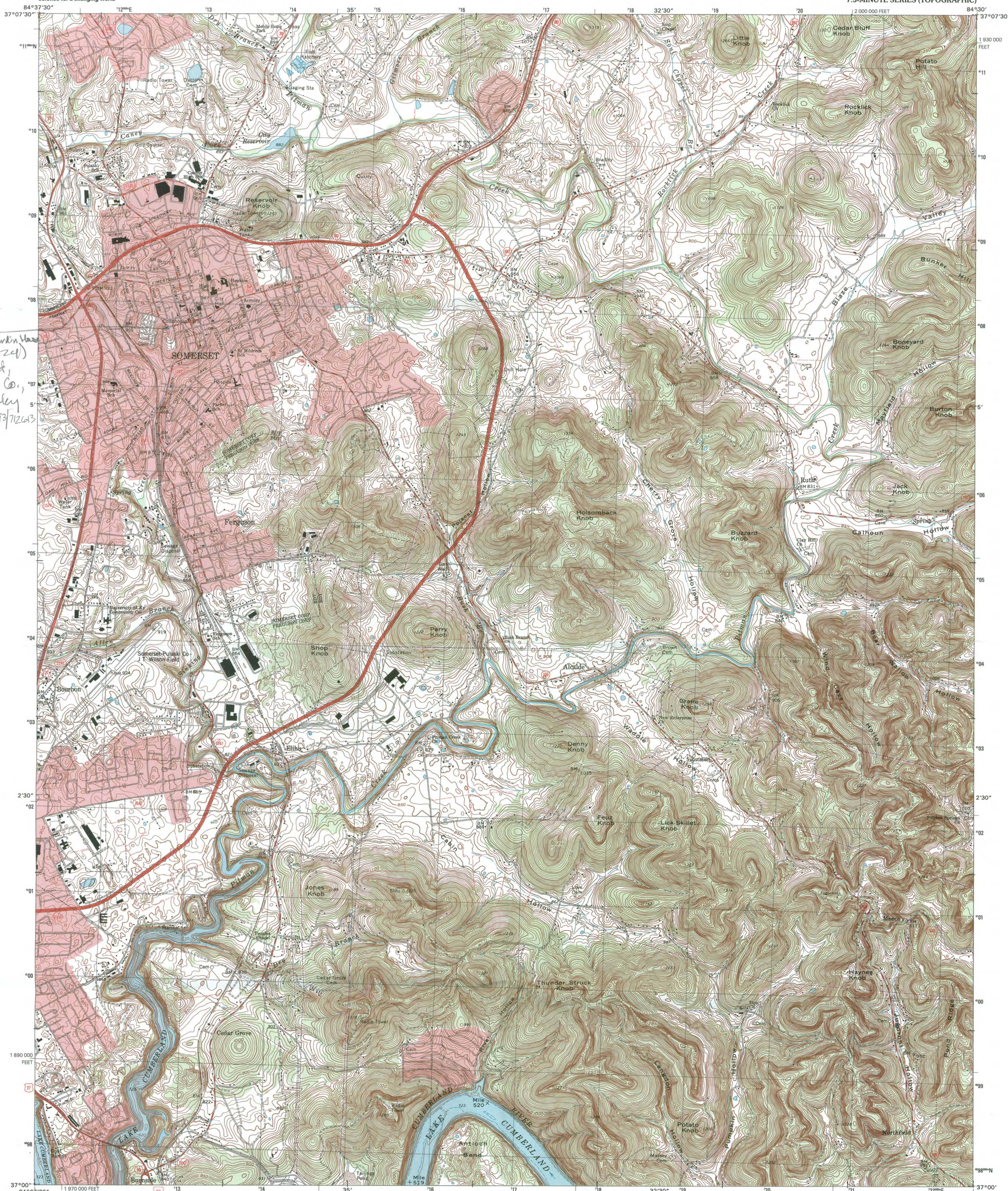


W. MYRTON ST

STOP

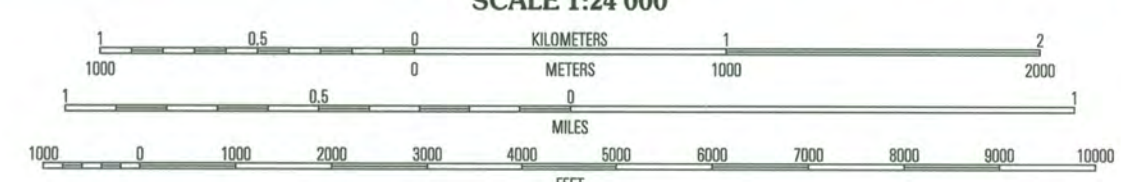
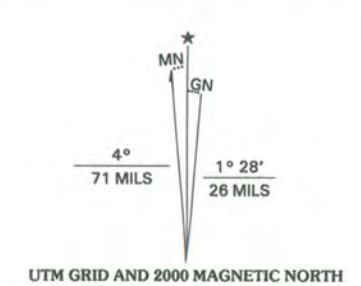
W. MYRTON ST





Cover-Hardin
(PUS-124)
Somerset,
Pulaski Co.,
Kentucky
16/4107493/712013

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1972. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1997 and other sources. Survey control current as of 1973
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 16
10 000-foot ticks: Kentucky Coordinate System of 1983 (south zone)
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software
Underwater contours in Lake Cumberland from USCE maps dated 1943
Landmark buildings verified 1973



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway hard surface	Unimproved road

Legend for road types:
Interstate Route (red shield)
U.S. Route (white shield)
State Route (blue shield)

1	2	3	1 Science Hill
			2 Bobtown
			3 Shopville
4	5	6	4 Delmer
			5 Dykes
			6 Frax
			7 Burnside
6	7	8	8 Hall

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

SOMERSET, KY
1997
NIMA 4058 II SE-SERIES V853





COMMERCE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

Ernie Fletcher
Governor

The State Historic Preservation Office
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone (502) 564-7005
Fax (502) 564-5820
www.kentucky.gov

George Ward
Secretary

May 25, 2007

Jan Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Keeper
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Dear Dr. Matthews:

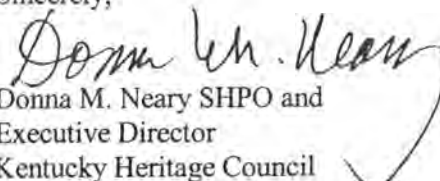
Enclosed are nominations for 7 properties approved at the April 25, 2007 Review Board meeting:

- Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase)** Bracken County KY
- John Weber Farm** Campbell County, Kentucky
- Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church** Clark County, Kentucky
- The Olympic** Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Hindman Ben Franklin** Knott County, Kentucky
- Bolen Building** Knott County, Kentucky
- ✓ **Gover-Hardin House** Pulaski County, Kentucky

Also enclosed is documentation for two Kentucky properties. The first is for the listed **Thomas Lyne House**, in Woodford County (#80001691). The information seeks to change its date of construction in the official record, including the NRIS. Second is photographic identification information on continuation sheets that should be added to the recent nomination of the **Carson-Annis Ferry Farm**, Butler County, which is on Dan Vivian's desk. Thank you for giving him those sheets quickly, as we're hoping the listing can occur as soon as possible.

We appreciate your assistance with these actions.

Sincerely,


Donna M. Neary SHPO and
Executive Director
Kentucky Heritage Council