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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Daniel Carter Beard House is an attractive two-story brick structure with a wing on the northeast corner of the house. There is a third floor tower above the center of the south facade or main entrance. The exterior of the building shows that the property is very well maintained and the grounds are kept quite neat. An interior visit to the property was not permitted by the present administrator. It is known, however, that the building is used as a domicile for nurses in residence at the William Booth Memorial Hospital, which sits to the north of the landmark.

At the time of the biennial visit in August, 1970, the house was found to be in the same condition as when designated a National Historic Landmark. It was also indicated in this report that the interior of the house was in good condition. Likewise, it was stated that the floors and foundation of the building were stable and that the house was protected from encroachment by the William Booth Memorial Hospital as future development would be steered in another direction. There has been no further inspection since that time.

BOUNDARY INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION

The Daniel Carter Beard House, 322 East Third Street sits on the north side of Third Street on the last lot. North of the house (in rear) across a small parking lot is the William Booth Memorial Hospital. From the property one may look out over the Licking River.

Commencing at the juncture of East Third Street and a one-way alley on the west side of the property, proceed in a northerly direction approximately 90 feet to the intersection of the south side of the William Booth Memorial Hospital rear parking lot; thence proceed east along the south side of the parking lot around another unpaved parking area on the southeast side of the hospital a distance of approximately 120 feet; thence in a southwesterly direction along the ridge line of a hill overlooking the Licking River to the terminus of East Third Street, thence west along the north curb line of East Third Street to the point of origin. (This boundary is indicated on an accompanying sketch map entitled The Daniel Carter, Beard Boyhood Home Sketch Map. S

PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		/
📋 Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
📋 15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 1910-	1941	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appropr	iate)	
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Daniel Carter Beard was one of the key figures in the movement that led to the founding of the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. Beard served from that time until his death in 1941 as National Scout Commissioner. Because of his long years of dedication and service to the Boy Scout movement and the great contribution which he made to it, he came to be regarded as the symbol of scouting and the personification of its spirit.

His contributions to the Scout movement were myriad. He developed training programs for scout leaders; was a member of the group which acquired a Federal Charter from the Congress in 1916; wrote a monthly column for <u>Boy's Life</u>, the official Scout organ; was largely responsible wording of the Scout Oath and for designing the Scout uniform. Truly Daniel Carter Beard, or "Uncle Dan" as he was known to million of Scouts, was the one person which most identify with scouting.

BIOGRAPHY

Daniel Carter Beard was born in 1850. As a small boy, Beard and his family moved to Covington, Kentucky, where he first heard of Daniel Boone and other Kentucky pioneers. These frontiermens became his heroes; and at play he and his friends, who termed themselves the "Boone Scouts", imitated their exploits and way of life. In this way he developed an interest in nature, handicrafts, and camping that he was to retain for the remainder of his life.

At 19, he received a degree in Engineering and began work as a civil engineer. After spending several years as an engineer, a surveyor, and a map maker, he visited New York City in 1878. Here some of his animal sketches attracted the attention of a magazine editor, who purchased them for publication. Beard immediately decided to become a professional artist. Staying in New York, he supported himself by doing illustrations while attending night classes at the Art Students League.

The life of the youth of the city caught his attention, and he was, in his own words, "shocked beyond expression by the almost total lack of breathing spaces for boys, in the greatest of American cities."¹ In an attempt to encourage these and other urban boys to develop an appreciation and an understanding of the out of doors, he began writing and illustrating articles for <u>St. Nicholas</u>, <u>Youth Companion</u>, and other similar magazines.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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These he collected and, with the addition of much new material, published in 1882 as the American Boy's Handy Book. The book, the first of his many books for boys, covered almost anything a boy might want to know about camping, crafts, and the out-of-doors. It remained in print for over 60 years and sold some 250,000 copies.

During the next 20 years Beard became a highly successful artist, whose illustrations appeared widely in popular magazines and in books, including Mark Twain's <u>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</u>. However, he retained his great interest in the boys of America and continued writing for them in youth magazines.

Beard published two books for boys in 1900; and in 1905, when he became editor of <u>Recreation</u>, he set aside a section of the magazine as a boy's department which stressed outdoor activities. Boys throughout the country showed a tremendous interest in this department and Beard decided to set up a national society for the boys who read the magazine. This organization, the Sons of Daniel Boone was very successful. When Beard left <u>Recreation</u>, he took it with him to the <u>Woman's Home Companion</u>. There it attracted even wider attention and gained the support of President Theodore Roosevelt and other prominent men. When Beard again changed magazines, he left the Sons of Daniel Boone to the management of other, but he did not leave the idea. Soon he had organized the Boy Pioneers, which was similar in scope and purpose.

Inspired in large part by Beard's books, articles, and lectures, other boy's organizations were being formed in the United States at this time. Probably the most prominent of these was the Woodcraft Indians, which was founded by Ernest Thompson Seton, a friend and former art school classmate of Beard.

In England a similar movement was occuring. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who had become convinced of the good of boys' organization during the Boer War, was advocating the founding of an organization to give boys systematic guidance. Learning that Beard and Seton were already experimenting with much the same idea, he studied their work carefully and borrowed from it a large number of features that he adapted to the needs of British youth. The result was the formation of the Boy Scouts in England, in 1908.

The trans-Atlantic exchange of ideas continued, and on February 8, 1910, William D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher, incorporated the Boy Scouts of America under the laws of the District of Columbia. On June 21, Beard, Seton Edgar M. Robinson of the Y.M.C.A., and 31 other leaders of boys'

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groups and major social agencies met in New York City to make plans for organizing the Scouting movement. At that meeting, both Beard and Seton promised to incorporate their groups into the new organization. A committee on organization was appointed and given executive powers, and a temporary headquarters was established. Thus the Boy Scouts of America was officially activated.

From the outset Beard played an important role in scouting. Named one of three National Scout Commissioners in 1910, he became the sole commissioner in 1912. In this position, which he held until his death in 1941, he was in effect the chief of the volunteer forces of scouting.

1. Quotation cited in Statement of Significance for "Daniel Carter Beard Boyhood Home, Kentucky."