

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 678 287

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED MAR 19 1979 APR 30 1979

**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

Porter-Todd House

AND/OR COMMON

American Saddle Horse Breeders Association

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

929 South Fourth Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Louisville,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 and 4

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

111

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER: offices

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

American Saddle Horse Breeders Association ✓

STREET & NUMBER

929 South Fourth Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 40203

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County (Ky) Court House

STREET & NUMBER

517 West Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville,

STATE

Kentucky 40202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 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 Porter-Todd House, which is now occupied by the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association, is located on South Fourth Street, just north of the Old Louisville Residential District (National Register in February, 1975). It is also in the same block as the Louisville War Memorial Auditorium (National Register in December, 1977). The structure is representative of the gracious homes which lined both sides of this once residential street in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

The Porter-Todd House is one of three surviving mansions on this block of the street, which dates from this period. But more importantly, the two front porches of the structures are among a very few fine examples of decorative Victorian cast iron work remaining in Louisville.

The white painted brick building is asymmetrical in design, standing two and one-half stories with a small two-story wing in the left rear. There seems to have been some alterations made in the facade. The cornice of the main building retains only one row of dentils while the wing not only has a deeper extension but also retains its brackets, spaced at regular intervals. The cast-iron porches also seem to be of a slightly later date and are quite elaborate with highly decorative railings, columns and a balcony on both the main building and the wing. The porch of the wing is smaller but equally elegant.

The entry of the main facade, has an extended hood supported by carved brackets. The door is recessed at the left of the facade and may have originally had a second set of doors. The blue and white tile floor at the entrance is a typical motif of the period. The first and second story windows of the main facade are long with two-over-two panes and capped by carved stone window hoods. The hoods are composed of a band of dentils with baskets of flowers topped by a band of egg and dart mold. These hoods are supported by carved brackets with leaf decoration. The upper story contains small segmentally-arched windows articulated by a protruding brick string course which continues around the building. The windows of the wing are of a different height and design. These windows are arched and accentuated by a band of egg and dart mold and a keystone.

Although the interior has lost its residential character due to modern light fixtures and its present day use as an office, it still retains its original walnut woodwork and a number of its mantels.

The entrance retains its fine curved and cantilevered walnut stairway and balustrade. There are five rooms on the first floor, the main one having originally been used as a double parlor. Although today the double fireplaces have been closed up, the room still retains its sixteen foot ceiling and classical woodwork of molded door jambs with ancons, which are repeated in the windows. On the second floor there is a large room which probably served as a formal reception room and still contains two matching marble Italianate mantels.

In the wing, there remains one mantel in the Victorian Eastlake style which has been painted. The woodwork of the jambs and about the windows is the same as that found in the main building; however the ceilings and windows are somewhat lower.

The exterior of the house has limestone steps and a retaining wall as well as a handsome cast-iron fence with limestone posts which encloses the lot.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 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 1869-1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Porter-Todd House is an excellent example of the Italianate style. It is typical of the types of homes being built on South Fourth Street in the decade after the Civil War. The house dates from the 1870s--falling into a period of great expansion when Louisville's prestigious neighborhoods were moving southward. It is one of a few homes left in what was the northern part of Old Louisville. Its two cast-iron porches are among a very few left in Louisville.

In February of 1946, the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association acquired the house and property. The association maintains its offices in the house.

This property was acquired by Charles C. Porter in 1868. Mr. Potter, a milliner, constructed the house on the site between 1869-1875. However, due to financial difficulties, a second mortgage on the house was acquired by Mr. James Todd in 1876 at \$5,000. Porter failed to meet the payments on the mortgage and was sued by Todd. The court ruled in Todd's favor and due to this and other debts, Porter and his wife were forced to file bankruptcy on December 21, 1978.

The house was appraised at \$14,000 and put up for public auction to pay off debts, interest and court cost. At this time Todd made a bid of \$11,020 and acquired the property and house. Todd's descendents appear to have owned and rented out the house until 1929. The house continued to be rental property until purchased by the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association.

James Todd, an Irish immigrant, became a successful businessman in Louisville. In 1848 he formed the Rawson, Todd and Company, dealing in coffee and sugar. He later became a partner in the firm of Todd and Richardson, manufacturers of jeans and woolen goods, a major Louisville industry. Todd died in Louisville in 1890. His son, James Ross Todd built both the Todd Building, at the corner of Fourth and Market, and the Italian Renaissance mansion, Rostrevor, 1908-1910, on Alta Vista Avenue.

The American Saddle Horse Breeders Association took over the house in 1946. The Association was founded in 1891 in Louisville, Kentucky by a number of leading saddle horse breeders. They set up a Registry which continues to function in Louisville, and have encouraged better breeding practices, more careful selection of stallions and mares, and the closer adherence to recognized types of saddle horses.

The Porter-Todd House is one of the earlier homes of the southern expansion of the residential district of Louisville, in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The occupancy of the house by the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association and their careful preservation of the building has saved it from the fate of the majority of the old residences in the area. The two cast-iron porches are among the finest which still survive in Louisville.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Saddle Horse Breeders Association. "The Saddlebred," pamphlet. Louisville: American Saddle Horse Breeders Association, n.d.

Caron Directory of the City of Louisville, 1868-1909.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1/10 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Louisville West Quadrangle

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 608600 4233110
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Louisville
 Block 29F Lot 105

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Suzan Odewahn - Volunteer
Marty Hedgepeth - Research Director

ORGANIZATION Louisville Landmarks Commission

DATE October 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 727 West Main Street

TELEPHONE 597-3501

CITY OR TOWN Louisville,

STATE Kentucky 40202

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Donna C. Hopkins

DATE 3-13-79

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4-30-79

ATTEST: Charles A. Harris
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Robert J. ...
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 4/29/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET Porter-Todd House ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Ford, Henry and Kate Ford. History of the Ohio Falls Cities and their Counties, vol. 1. Cleveland: L. A. Williams and Company, 1882.

Jefferson County (KY) Chancery Court Records, Case No. 32576; 1878. State Archives, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Jefferson County (KY) Deed Book 2089, p. 333 (1946); Book 1385, p. 58 (1929); Book 481, p. 366 (1897); Book 216, p. 572 (1878); Book 203, p. 73 (1876); Book 167, p. 315 (1868).

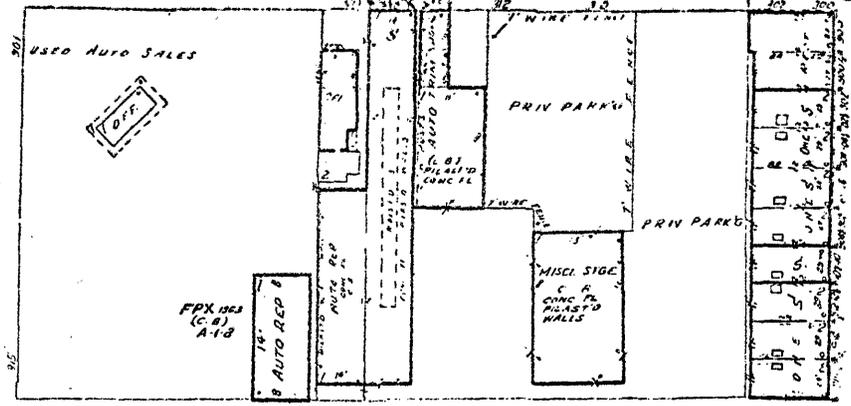
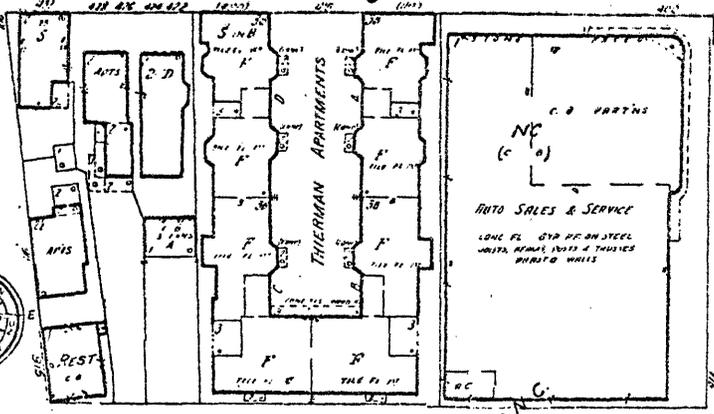
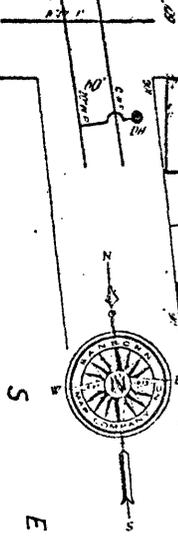
Johnson, J. Stoddard, ed. Memorial History of Louisville, vol. 1. Chicago: American Biographical Company, 1896.

LOUISVILLE, KY 40202

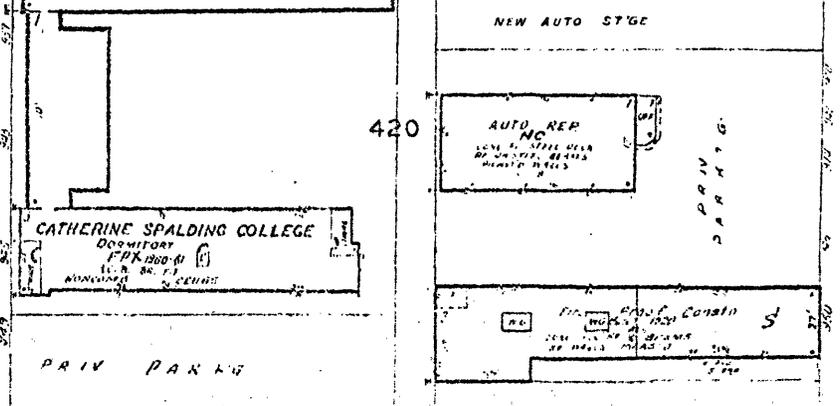
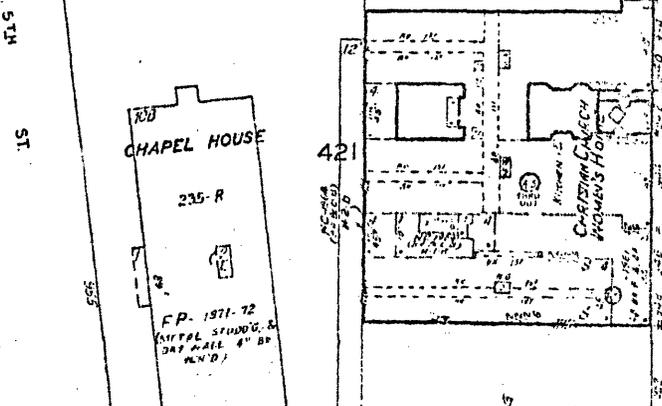
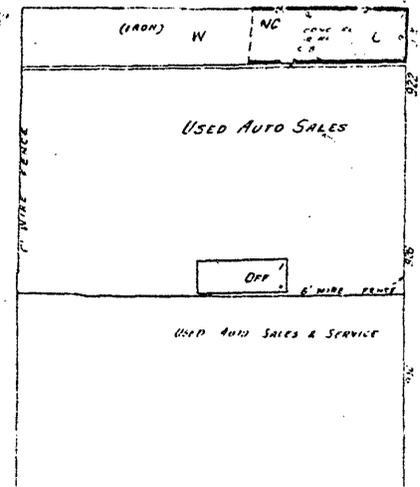
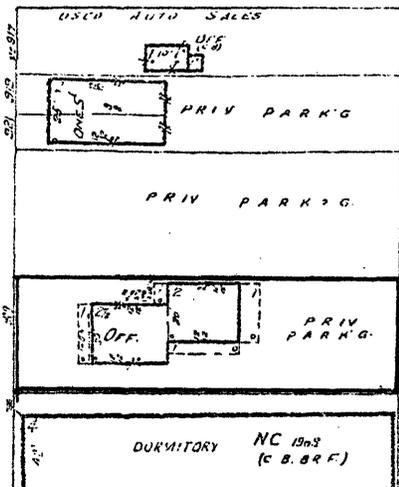
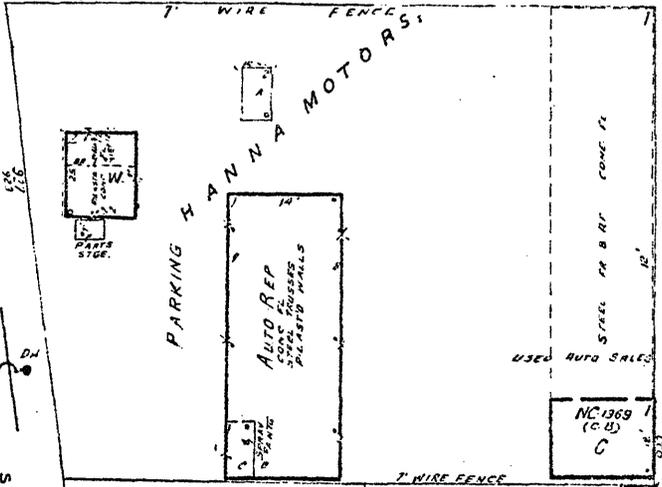
47E

45E

W BRECKINRIDGE



GARLAND AV. S. R. 1



S 3RD ST.

48E

Porter-Todd House **MAR 19 1979**
939 South Fourth Street
Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky
Real Estate Atlas
Jefferson County, KY (1968)
Miami, Fla. Map 1.

1 1/2"=100'

Scale 200 ft. to 1 in. Map No. 3.

BRECKENRIDGE

Map section showing Breckenridge street grid. Streets include POPE STREET, BRECKENRIDGE STREET, and ST. CATHERINE STREET. Owners listed include J.M. ZANONE, J.M. RIDDLE, S. GLOSS, H.A. THIER, E. BEILU, A.L. HARDING, GEO. S. JOSE, JOHN CRUSE, JOHANNES, M. BELLA, JNO. GAGELIN, W.T. GRAY, RUSSELL HOUSTON, PERSIS BIELD, S. STEVENSON, J.M. REED, E. WOOD, E.T. BUCHNER, S. DUBBLE, J.E. FRANK, S. WOODS, MRS. A. [unclear], MARY HAMILTON, JAS. G. CARP, J.A. CARP.

Map section showing Breckenridge street grid. Streets include BRECKENRIDGE STREET, KENTUCKY STREET, and ST. CATHERINE STREET. Owners listed include MEDANICH, C. CAMERON, E. KET, JOHN [unclear], C. HOLDEN, J.M. ALLEN, A. JEN, COEHL, W.M. F., GUS, ED. [unclear], A. HENRI, WALKIN, LANDAU ELDT, GOTTLIEBER, LOUISA NOV, W.C. WOOD, C. MARSH, H.G. PHILIP, CATH. J. [unclear], SARAH [unclear], W.M. GABLER, LOU. SAW MILL CO., WM. [unclear], PRECILLA RUSCH, JNO. [unclear], VIRG. SEMPLE, R.A. ROBINSON, W.B. HAMILTON, L.L. WARREN, WORDS ROBINSON, W. ROBINSON, W. GREEN.

STREET

Map section showing Breckenridge street grid. Streets include BRECKENRIDGE STREET, KENTUCKY STREET, and ST. CATHERINE STREET. Owners listed include SCHEIME, E.W. DICK, M. BORN, S.E. GARDNER, F.M.A., ELIZA LAY, DAN. CANNON, F. VAR, J.C. MULLIN, AMANDA J., R. B. MEL, DS. GAREI, CON. KESLER, C. SCHMELZE, R. D., N.B. ROGERS, SUSAN ROGEN, J. HORN, JULIUS BUES, WM. PETTIT, D. FRANTZ, KATE, L.L. ANDERSON, J.M. ANDERSON, ELIZABETH KEY, C.E. DIL, R.A. ROBINSON, WM. KENDRICK, M.G. EDWARDS, FLORA, J.S. NEASE.

KENTUCKY

Map section showing Kentucky street grid. Streets include BRECKENRIDGE STREET, KENTUCKY STREET, and ST. CATHERINE STREET. Owners listed include PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, JOHN BULL'S HRS., R. BUE, C. LE, ELIZ. BRANNIN, G.M. COCHRAN, A.M. GARDNER, W.N. THOMAS, D.H. DAVIS, SUSAN ALEXANDER, THOS. LEAHY, JANE G. BELL, W.H. THOMAS, SARAH J. BELKNAP.

ST.

Map section showing Kentucky street grid. Streets include BRECKENRIDGE STREET, KENTUCKY STREET, and ST. CATHERINE STREET. Owners listed include W. FITZPATRICK, J.W. BYBORNE, JOHN MCATEER, SARAH L. POPE, JOHN MCATEER, B.C. CASSILY, JOHN HAY, JULIUS WINTER, J.W. FITZPATRICK, J.C. [unclear], CHRIS. BAY, MRS. A. [unclear], GEO. KIMMEL, MET. [unclear], C. MEN, ECKSTENKEMPER, JOHN E. BELL, JNO. N. PFEIFFER, E. W. LANUS, JNO. O. [unclear], D. FRANTZ SR, D. FRANTZ JR.

ST. CATHERINE

Porter-Todd House **MAR 19 1979**
939 South Fourth Street
Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky
1876 Atlas of Louisville Map 2.