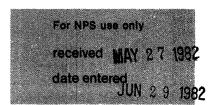
**United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** 

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/34



Accessible public Accessible and Comment a	1. Nam	le	100010				
2. Location  Street & number   362 Walnut Street   NA_not for publication   Street & number   362 Walnut Street   NA_vicinity of   State   Kentucky   code   021   county   Fayette   code   067    3. Classification  Category   Ownership   Status   Your   Status   Street   Commercial   park   Sulding(s)   Exprivate   Street   Commercial   park   Street & number   Status   Street   Street   Status   Street   Street & number   Status   Status   Street	historic	Kinkead H	Iouse				
Street & number 362 Walnut Street NA_not for publication only, town Lexington NA_vicinity of code 021 county Fayette code 067  3. Classification  Category Ownership Status Present Use Industrial Street & public Accessible Wark in progress NA_being considered yes: unrestricted Industrial Industria	and/or common			cienc	re Center		
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#### 7. Description Condition Check one Check one \_Xunaltered deteriorated X original site \_\_ excellent \_ good ruins altered × fair

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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unexposed

The Kinkead House is located in still fairly extensive grounds on the southeast corner of Walnut and East 4th streets, with Campsie Place (developed from the Kinkead property after the turn of the century) on the south side and the rear of properties on E. 4th St. and Campsie Place rather close behind the house on the east. Impressive trees and planting define the property, which is accessible by a drive off Campsie Place, a block-long street of medium-size brick or brick-veneered dwellings. The Kinkead House, originally a two-story brick single-family dwelling, was remodelled at least twice during the Kinkead family occupancy.

: Probably built in the late 1840s, as a Greek Revival townhouse with the service wing projecting on the north side (the house faces west toward Walnut St.), it was Italianized probably shortly before or after the Civil War, with the addition of a third-floor attic and probably a two-story section on the north of the main block. (Photo 1) Probably near the turn of the century the residence was subdivided, with one or more units approached through a new entrance onto 4th St. (Photo 5); at this time other additions and enclosures or porches may have been made on the rear portions (Photo 2), and the upper part of the main staircase was altered somewhat.

The original front facade of the townhouse had two stories (with perhaps a plain attic) and three bays; it is unlikely that it was articulated by the present full-height pilaster strips. The slightly set-back north wing, of which the front rooms may have been a Civil War-era addition, has a pair of narrower pilaster strips flanking the single front bay. The foundations of the front only, from which the pilasters (once painted white) rise, is of fine ashlar masonry, probably the local "Kentucky marble." Integral to the original construction is the one-story entrance porch over the north bay of the townhouse section, (Photo 3), whose few steps ascend between stone antepodia. A pair of Doric columns on low concrete bases (probably not original) supports an appropriately plain entablature, without pediment. The entrance itself is slightly recessed between panelled pilasters; narrow sidelights of frosted and etched glass (with smaller panes at top and bottom) surround the handsome double door with single vertical panels and original plain brass hardware, leading to avestibule with inner doors.

The original portion of the building probably included the entrance stairhall with double parlors opening into each other on the right (south), with a two-story service wing extending to the rear from near the back of the north side of the main block. The ell consisted of an elegantly plain backstairs, with a pair of service rooms behind on each flocr and possibly an additional front room on both floors in front of these stairs. which run north-south. All these sections have plain Greek Revival woodwork, with shoulders (or crossets) on the frames of the front block, except for the parlor frames. The woodwork of the various additions is similar, but which have full entablatures. with a more Italianate character. There was probably originally a gallery, later enclosed, along the south side of the ell, and perhaps across the rear of the main block (see the 1855 map).

Windows are mostly 6-over-6 pane sash, with thin stone sills and brick jack arches although the later windows on the rear sections vary. The attic windows are low rectangles divided vertically, set between pairs of Italianate brackets on the main block, with single or slightly different brackets on the ell sections. All the brackets are scalloped, those on the main block having cut-out centers (see Photo 5). The added north entrance (in its own two-story pavilion) has heavy Italianate consoles on a raised-panelled

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture _X architecture — art — commerce — communications		e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	ca. 1846 and later	Builder/Architect probably Thomas Lewinski	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George B. Kinkead House, now the Living Arts & Science Center, is an antebellum mansion important both historically and architecturally. Originally a large-scale Greek Revival townhouse (although then in a suburban setting on the outskirts of town), it was sympathetically enlarged during the Civil War period with Italianate features, for members of the Kinkead family who had originally built it and who owned the property until 1982. Notable features are the Doric entrance porch, plaster ceiling medallions, Grecian marble mantels, and plain but handsome woodwork from both building phases. The house was built for the Honorable George Blackburn Kinkead (1811-77), one of Lexington's most distinguished mid-19th century attorneys. many upper-class citizens of the Bluegrass during the Civil War, he was definitely pro-Union and provided solid support for his views after the war by developing a black residential area, known as Kinkeadtown, on nearby property. His widow, and other members of the family who continued to live here until recently, were also social, cultural, and civic leaders. The present owner and occupant is a non-profit educational organization with plans to stabilize the building while recognizing its historic architectural character. Thus, both the structure and the Center will continue to provide an urbanistic anchor for its somewhat deteriorated but currently improving residential neighborhood not far from downtown Lexington.

The Kinkead family was very exclusive, however, and little published material other than laudatory obituaries and official biographical sketches of the male attorneys in the family remains. Even the legal records, including the deed for the presumed acquisition of this property by George B. Kinkead in the 1840s or '50s, are scant or missing. His 1874 will, for instance, left everything to his "dear wife, absolutely. As there will be abundant assets to pay what debts I owe, I direct that no inventory or appraisement of my estate be made." Unusually, even for this period, Kinkead's sales of property do not refer to the original purchase. Only one interesting note has emerged from intense perusal of the Fayette County legal records concerning these Kinkeads: in March 1850 George B. Kinkead replaced Ninian Edwards as attorney for "Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln, his wife," among others.<sup>2</sup>

In any case, it seems likely that George B. Kinkead (or his wife) acquired this property and had the house constructed in its original Greek Revival form shortly after his marriage in 1846 to Elizabeth Pearce of Louisville. The architect was probably Major Thomas Lewinski, an English-born architect, engineer, and teacher of foreign languages. Of Polish extraction, he had come to Lexington from Louisville about 1840 and designed many of the finest and most characteristic "Blue Grass" buildings during the 1840s and '50s before devoting himself to the position of secretary of the recently established Lexington Gas Company. Lewinski's clients included members of several branches of the Clay family (both statesman Henry and Abolitionist/diplomat Cassius Marcellus), and others of the social and economic elite of the area. It was perhaps also he who was architecturally responsible for the enlargement of the house in an Italianate vein before 1877.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References All

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geogra	phical Data		
Acreage of nominated prop	erty 1.39 acres		
	xington East, Ky.	- <del></del>	Quadrangle scale 1:24000
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See continua	tion shoot	*	
See Continua	cion sheet.		
List all states and coun	ties for properties over	lapping state or count	y boundaries <sub>NA</sub>
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state	code	county	code
II. FORIII PI	epared By		
name/title Walter E	. Langsam, Architec	tural Historian an	d Preservation Consultant
organization Lexington	-Fayette Co. Histor	ria Commission data	Towns 1000
Digameation Deating con	rayecte co. mistor	TC COMMITSSION COLOR	January 1982
street & number 253 Ma	rket Street	telepho	one (606) 255-8312
city or town Lexing	ton	state	Kentucky 40508
12. State H	istoric Pres	ervation Of	ficer Certification
The evaluated significance	of this property within the	state is:	
national	state	<u>X</u> local	
	property for inclusion in t	he National Register and	reservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– certify that it has been evaluated
State Historic Preservation	Officer signature Ma	n land	200
		y Crosses C	geges .
Itle State Sister	ic Preservatio	i sklicio	date 5/20/82
For NPS use only	ils property is included in t		
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Chief of Registration			

Form No. 10 300a (Hev. 10-74)

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

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DATE ENTERED

frame (Photo 5). The two-bay porch across the rear of the double parlor has brackets over the plain square (replaced) posts (Photo 2), but a shallow porch along the north side of the ell has delicate posts with openwork spandrels that probably date from the first Italianate campaign; the two of the posts extend to the ground, while the third rests on a raised platform (Photo 4).

The low hipped roof, of standing-seam metal with extended eaves, has gables over round-arched attic openings in the center of each side except the rear of the main block. Wide chimneys on the side of the main block and in the center of the original ell have shallow recessed panels on their faces, and corbelled brick trim at the top; a break is visible where the panelled upper portions were presumably added in the second campaign (see Photo 2).

One-story semi-octagonal bay-windows have been added on the south side of the ell and on the north side of the front room of the north side. There are no outbuildings, although two two-story brick dwellings behind the house on E. 4th St. were formerly associated with the property.

The main interior rooms have been remarkably little altered, retaining high ceilings, ample proportions, and mostly original woodwork. The main staircase is rather plain (Photo 6), although the return at the top has been altered with some "Queen Anne" p panelling below the return; the continuation to the third story or attic is probably original. The double parlors have full-height panelled pilaster frames with entablatures continuous with the original crown-molding. Fine recessed plaster chandelier medallions here are based on Minard Lafever patterns (see Photo 8). Plain but handsome Grecian mantels of slightly veined black marble support fine Renaissance Revival overmantel mirrors that may date from the second phase (Photo 7). The pairs of rooms on the left (north) in front of the back staircase have applied ornament on the cornerblocks of the pedimented frames (Photo 10), and slightly heavier Italianate moldings; although the rectangular black marble mantels downstairs in this section match those of the parlors, the second-story mantels are round-arched marbelized castiron.

The front downstairs room in this wing has been fitted up as a library, with handsome built-in bookcases (Photo 10). Woodwork upstairs is plainer, especially in the original service ell, where there are original plain wooden Greek Revival mantels, as on the first floor of the ell. Because of the additions, the attic space on the third floor has become quite complex with a variety of ceiling heights and floor levels.

A number of castiron grate frames and covers remain in the mantels, and there is a superb late 19th-century chandelier, originally for gas, (Photo 9)..., in the front hall. Plumbing has generally been confined to the additions and there has been minimal intrusion of storage space and utilities in the main block.

The use of the building in the last decade or so as a teaching institution has had minimal physical affect on the building, although its condition has somewhat deteriorated; it is hoped that the structure can at least be stabilized in the near future, now that the institution has gained ownership of the property.

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Architectural historian Clay Lancaster suggests, based upon interviews with family members, that the dwelling was enlarged after 1853. Unfortunately it is not possible to determine from the 1855 map and 1856 view whether it had yet been enlarged, as the plan was not noticeably affected by the additions. The present Doric entrance portico is clearly shown in profile in the 1856 view, however, and a gallery across the back of the main block and along the southside of the ell is shown on the 1855 map. The 1871 bird's-eye view of Lexington, taken from the northwest, shows the new entrance on the north side, with a one-story section in front of it, as well as the third-story attic windows. It seems likely that there were other changes made slightly later, however, to permit the division of at least part of the rear of the mansion into apartments, probably after the death of Mr. Kinkead in 1877.

Surely dating from the original Greek Revival phase are the small but bold Doric distyle entrance portico with its stone pedestals, the plain entrance with sidelights, most of the basic interior frames, the elegantly simple main staircase (although the return to the second-story level has been altered), and the superb black marble mantels in the double parlor, which has recessed Grecian chandelier medallions based on a pattern book by Minard Lefever. The pilaster strips on the front of the original right wing are possibly original, extended upward to the new bracketted cornice in the 1870s, but the slender double pilasters on the left wing, along with the low-standing-seam metal roof and shallow gables, belong to the Italianate phase.

George Blackburn Kinkead was born in 1811 in Woodford County, Ky., where he began the study of the law after being graduated from Transylvania University in 1830 (he later taught at Transylvania during the great days of its Law Department). He was trained and later became the partner of several of the most distinguished attorneys of his day, including Judge Boyle, Dr. Louis Marshall, Vice President John Cabell Breckinridge, and Richard Buckner. He practiced in Paris and Versailles with his distinguished elder brother, Judge William B. Kinkead, and was appointed commonwealth attorney at an early age. He moved to Lexington in about 1846, perhaps upon the time of his marriage. In that year Governor Owsley appointed him secretary of state, a position he filled effectively, although he never ran for office on his own.

Apparently his "earnest but unpopular opinions on the slavery question," as the author of the Lexington Bar's official tribute to him after his death delicately puts it, "caused him to refrain from looking toward political preferment." Although his antebellum association with Abraham Lincoln and his family may only have been incidental, Kinkead was eswidently anti-secession and pro-Union. Shortly after the war he developed Kinkeadtown for freed blacks near the family home, as mentioned above. This was apprently not, as was sometimes the case, in order to provide housing for workers in a family factory, but simply in recognition of the needs of the black population—including perhaps some of his own family's former slaves—who were rapidly moving from rural areas into the city.

George B. Kinkead's widow, Mrs. Eliza Pearce Kinkead, survived him over a quarter of century. Referred to impher 1904 obituary as a "beloved woman...of splendid intellectual attainments and great strength of character," she was the mother of

(continued)

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Kinkead House
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nine children, most of whom were distinguished in their own rights and also intermarried with some of the leading intellectual and social figures of the area.

Members of the Kinkead family donated the property in 1981 to the Living Arts & Science Center, a non-profit educational institution that has occupied the building since 1970. This organization provides classes and other activities in the arts, crafts, and natural sciences to children, senior citizens, and others. It is expected that with ownership the center, which initiated this nomimation, can now stabilize and to some extent renovate the structure while protecting its historic and architectural value.

- laFayette County Will Book
- <sup>2</sup> Fayette County Deed Book
- 3 See <u>Biographical Encyclopaedia</u> (1878), pp. 163-64, for basic biographical information on Kinkead.
- On Lewinski, see Clay Lancaster, "Major Thomas Lewinski: Emigré Architect in Kentucky, " Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (December 1962), pp. 13-20. Lewinski's surviving account Book, from March 24, 1845, to July 6, 1847 (now in the Special Collections of the Margaret I. King Library at the University of Kentucky, Lexington), doesnot, however, mention this commission, according to recent research by William B. Scott.
- Lancaster, Ante Bellum Houses, p. 141; Vestiges, p. 257.
- 6 "City of Lexington, Fayette Co., KY." (Louisville; Hart and Mapother, 1855); "View of City of Lexington, Ky." (Cincinnati: Middleton, Wallace & Co., ca. 1856)
- 7 "Bitd's Eye View of the City of Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky" (Cincinnati, O.: Ehrgott & Krebs, 1871); see also Beers & Lanagan, Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine & Woodford Counties, KY. (Philadelphia: D.G. Beers & Co., 1877).
- Lancaster, Ante Bellum Houses, Fig. 111.
- See <u>Biographical Encyclopaedia</u>, <u>loc. cit.</u>; Levin, <u>Lawyers</u>, pp. 596-97; Lexington Daily Press, 11/13/1877, pp. 2,4.
- 10 Lexington Daily Press, 11/20/1877, p. 2.
- 11 See Fayette County Deed Books, Index 1793-1904 under George B. Kinkead, ca. 1870-75.
- 12 Lexington Herald. 1/8/1904, p. 5; also Mastin, Herald-Leader, p. 46.

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Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

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PAGE

Fayette County Deed and Will Books and Indexes.

Biographical Encyclopaedia of Kentucky. Cincinnati: J. Armstrong, 1878.

H. Leyin, ed., Lawrers and Lawrakers of Kentucky. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1897.

Lancaster, Clay. Ante Bellum Houses of the Bluegrass. Lexington, Kentucky: The University of Kentucky Press, 1961.

Lancaster, Clay. <u>Vestiges of the Venerable City</u>. Lexington, Kentucky: Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission, 1978.

Bettye Lee Mastin. "Furnishings Are Owned by Fifth Generation." <u>Lexington</u> Herald-Leader. August 31, 1969.

Additional information from William B. Scott, membersaandaassociates of the Kinkead family, and members of the staff of the Living Arts & Science Center.

Form No 10-300a (Hev 10-74)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

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PAGE 2

The boundary begins at a point (1) at the northwest corner of the property (this point being approximately six feet south of the southwest corner of East Fourth and Walnut) proceeding northeast along the property line 265 feet to point 2, proceeding south, southeast and south along the rear property line encompassing points 3 and 4 to point five (the southern corner of the property) proceeding northwest along the property line 300 feet to point 5, then northeast with the property line 210 feet to the point of origin, thereby incorporating the house.

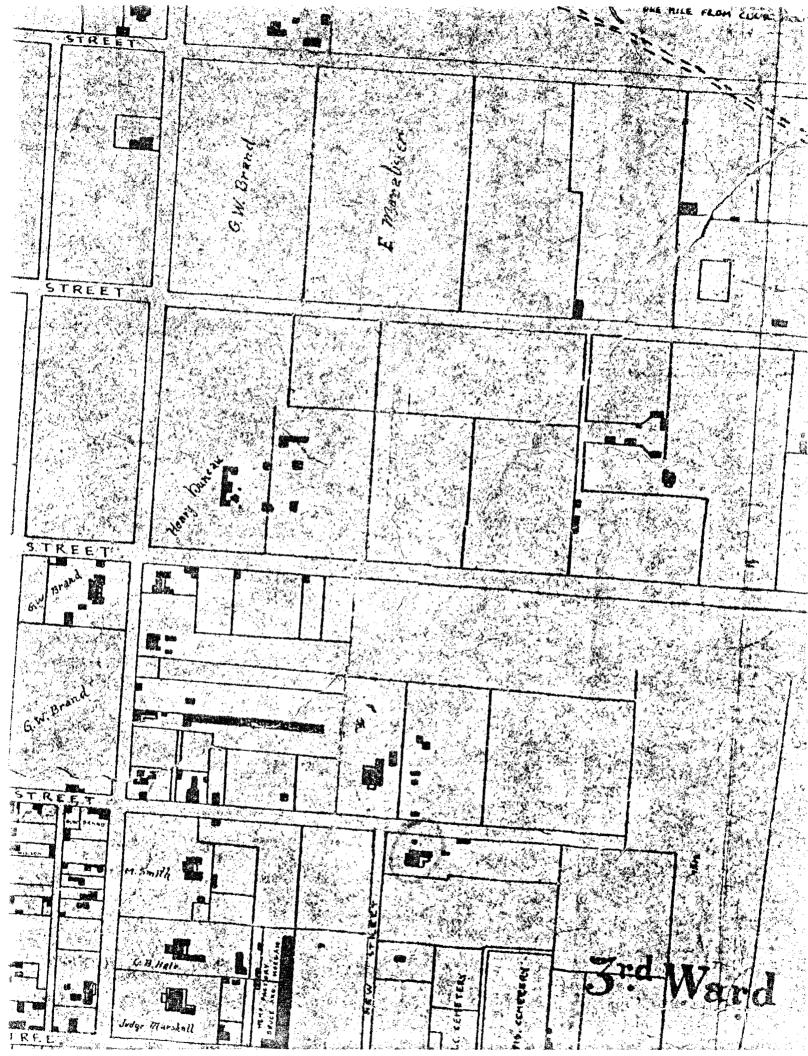
(See Map 5.) No other buildings stand on this lot.

*a. E. i* .

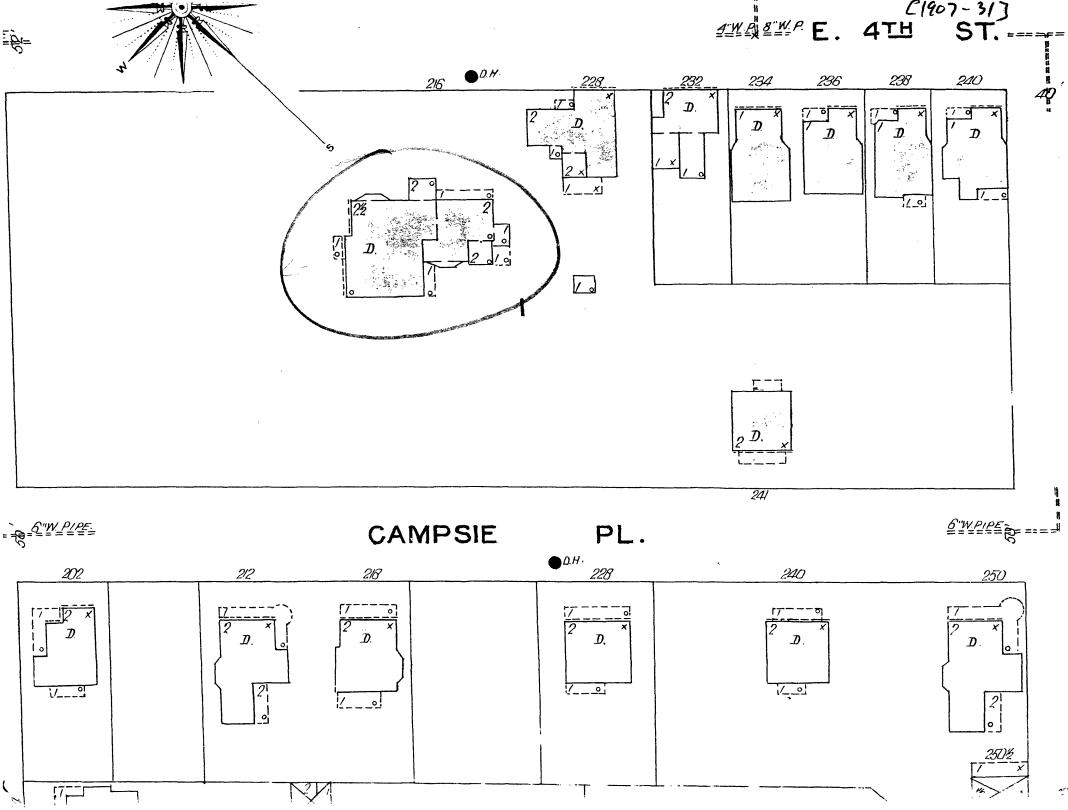
George Blackburn Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky J.T. Polmatary 1856 Scale: Unknown Map 1 of 6



George Blackburn Kinkead House
Fayette County, Kentucky
Bizzdos-Eye View of City of Lexington
1871 Seess
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Map 2 of 6



George Blackburn Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky Hart-Mapother Map of the City of Lexington, Fayette Co., Ky. 1855 Scale: Unknown Map 3 of 6



George Blackburn Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky Sanborn Map 1907 Scale: 1" = 50' Map 4 of 6



The Kinkead House Fayette County, Kentucky Planning Commission Map Current Scale: 1" = 100 ft. Map 5 of 6

Nominated area shown in red.