

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Krahwinkel, Thomas, Farmhouse

other names/site number Miller House, DA-8

## 2. Location

street & number 10501 Highway 60 West

NA
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not for publication

city or town Owensboro

X
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vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Davies code 059 zip code 42301

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ statewide      X local

Signature of certifying official/Title Lindy Casebier, Acting SHPO Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register      \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register      \_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals/Dutch Colonial  
Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: Concrete Block  
walls: Brick  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: Asphalt Shingle  
other: Asbestos Shingle  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

The Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse (DA-8), constructed c.1915, is located in rural Daviess County, approximately one mile northwest of the unincorporated village of Newman, four miles northwest of the larger community of Stanley, and two and one-half miles southeast of Reed in Henderson County. Owensboro, the county seat is situated approximately twelve miles southeast of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse. The Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse is located within a 98-acre tract of land on US Highway 60 West in the county's Oakford Precinct. The land tract borders the Henderson County line to the west. The 1½-story Colonial Revival brick farmhouse features a T-plan with multiple gambrel roofs, a common element of the Dutch Colonial Revival subtype. While the nominated property is being interpreted for its architectural values, much of its identity as part of a larger farm will be described. The nominated property more or less encompasses the domestic complex of the farmstead. As such, a non-contributing c.2005 garage is included within the proposed boundary.

### Setting and Description of Farm Complex

Since the house's construction around 1915, the historic agricultural setting has remained nearly unaltered. The 1933 construction of Highway 60 West, which followed an existing wagon road, resulted in the loss of two acres of land for the public right-of-way. The house stands on its original site surrounded by its historic farmland. The site selection was likely influenced by the advantage of nearby transportation networks. Worthington Station along the Louisville, Henderson, & St. Louis Railway (L.H. & St. L. RR; presently CSX Railroad) sits to the southwest; the Ohio River flows north of the farm; Highway 60 West (formerly Roost Road or Henderson Road) lies immediately southwest of and adjacent to the farm. The site is centrally located between the early-20<sup>th</sup>-century railroad-inspired villages of Newman to the southeast and Reed to the northwest in Henderson County.

The property is located south of the Ohio River within Kentucky's Western Coal Field, a subregion of the larger Pennyroyal Plateau. Soils along the Ohio, Green, and Tradewater River systems within the Western Coal Field are the most fertile of the subregion, and form the basis for the region's diversified agriculture.<sup>1</sup> Agricultural products within the Western Coal Field include corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, tobacco, hogs and beef cattle.

Buildings on the farmstead are accessed by a gravel driveway extending in a northeasterly direction from US Highway 60 West (see Figure 3). Woods Road (date of construction unknown) runs parallel along the west boundary of the nominated property; and US Highway 60 West forms the southwest boundary. The Krahwinkel Farmhouse is set back approximately 80 feet northeast of the highway. A barn and concrete block equipment shop are situated behind the domestic yard, suggesting a deliberate attempt to separate the residential and agricultural resources, a common practice among farmsteads established across the State. A drainage ditch crosses the farm in a southwesterly direction (see Figure 3). The drainage ditch then crosses below the highway, through a culvert engraved with the date 1933, and continues through another culvert below the railroad before veering westward to join Haynes Ditch, a natural drainage feature that also extends across the nominated property.

### Krahwinkel Farmhouse, ca. 1915 contributing building

### Exterior Description

The common bond brick farmhouse exhibits Colonial Revival style and rests on a raised basement foundation of formed rock-faced concrete blocks. These were manufactured on-site when the building was constructed.<sup>2</sup> A smooth concrete water table course is situated above the basement. The house features a T-plan with partial-width front and rear porches. The principal front massing of the house features a side-gabled gambrel roof and is forty feet wide. The rear "T" of the house is approximately sixteen feet deep and thirty feet wide,

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<sup>1</sup> Kleber, John E ed. *Encyclopedia of Kentucky*. Louisville: University of Kentucky, 1992; 942-943.

<sup>2</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author. September 22, 2012.

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centered along the north side of the house's principal massing. The main mass of the house also features a gambrel roof. Asphalt shingle roofing replaced original slate shingles in 2006. Character-defining exterior elements include steeply-pitched Dutch Colonial Revival gambrel roofs, hipped dormers, a prominent off-centered front-facing gambrel roof, entry porch with square columns, and a Colonial Revival-style entry door with sidelights and transom. The gable ends of the gambrel roofs are clad in asbestos siding and feature partial cornice returns. Windows throughout the house are one-over-one double-hung vinyl sash that replaced original wood sash windows. Second floor windows feature applied metal muntin and rail grids, giving the appearance of multi-light sash. Windows on the first floor feature smooth concrete sills. An interior stuccoed brick chimney is located within the roof surface of the front massing near its northeast end.

### ***Front (South) Façade***

The front (south) façade is three structural bays wide, with a central entry door and paired windows on the first and third bays (from west to east). The façade's central and eastern bays are set back from the western bay. A nine-foot section centered on the façade (second bay) is set back approximately two feet, followed by fifteen feet of the third bay that is set back an additional two feet. A one-story off-centered partial-width porch, with a hipped roof supported by three formed rock-faced concrete block columns, is accessed by a set of concrete steps (Photo #1). The entry porch occupies the second and third bays of the front façade. The columns rest on concrete block piers with flat concrete caps. Surrounding the majority of the porch is a concrete block wall approximately three feet in height. The entry door is original and features a large rectangular light with horizontal wood panels below (Photo #2). Flanking either side of the entry door is a single light sidelight with horizontal wood panels. A three-light wood transom is located above the door. The steeply pitched gambrel roof allows for a nearly full second story. The upper story of the front façade features a front-facing gambrel roof above the first bay and entry door of the first floor. Within the gable of the gambrel are three windows. A louvered wood vent is situated above the windows within the gable. A hipped dormer with paired windows is situated within the roof surface at its east end and directly above the easternmost bay. Along the west side of this façade, a portion of the basement is raised and contains a single window.

### ***West Elevation***

The west elevation consists of three structural bays, with an original one-story brick extension set back approximately four feet at the north end (Photo #3). The west elevation of this extension does not contain a window or door opening. The first bay (from north to south) of the west elevation features a single set of paired windows. Above the paired windows, and within the roof surface, is a gabled window dormer. The second and third bays are situated within the principal front massing of the house and are occupied by single windows. The side gable of the gambrel roof features a set of paired windows with wood louvered vent above. Along this elevation, paired windows are situated within the raised basement of the rear "T" and a single window within the front bay. An iron coal chute is also located within the raised basement of the front massing. The coal chute is rectangular in shape and hinged along the top. It was manufactured by the *Majestic Furnace and Foundry Company*, established in 1907, and whose headquarters was located in Huntington, Indiana.<sup>3</sup>

### ***North Elevation***

The north elevation of the Thomas Krahwinkel House consists of four bays situated within the rear of the "T" (Photo #4). Two doors are centered on this elevation; the first (second bay from the east) enters into the sitting room while the other leads to the kitchen. The wood doors are original and feature six lights with two horizontal wood panels below. A single-light rectangular transom is located above each door. The fourth (west) bay is a single window located within a projecting one-story extension that is occupied by a laundry room. This projecting bay is likely a historic enclosure of a portion of the rear porch that is centered on the building's north elevation. The one-story partial-width porch features a half-hipped roof supported by square metal columns on concrete block piers matching those of the foundation. Concrete steps with metal railing lead to the porch. Two windows are situated directly above the first floor doors on this elevation. The gable end of the rear massing features asbestos shingle siding, a wood louvered vent, and cornice returns. West of the principal rear massing is the north elevation of a small one-story brick-enclosed front-gabled stairwell leading to the basement. The

<sup>3</sup> Frank Sumner Bash. *History of Huntington County, Indiana, Volume 2*, (New York and Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1914), 845.

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stairwell projects from the east elevation of the house and is set back approximately eleven feet from the northern rear massing. There are no openings on this elevation of the stairwell. West of the "T" is the west end of the side-gabled principal front massing. A single one-over-one vinyl sash window is situated within its north wall.

### ***East Elevation***

The east elevation of the house is nearly identical to that of the west; however, a one-story brick-enclosed stairwell with gabled roof is situated within the ell of the "T" (Photo #5). The stairwell projects from the principal massing approximately one foot. The rock-faced concrete foundation and smooth concrete water table surrounding the house continue along the stairwell addition. A nine-light modern door centered on the projecting stairwell leads to the basement.

### ***Exterior Alterations***

Little has been done to compromise the historic integrity of the building's exterior design and materials. The majority of exterior alterations occurred during the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In 2000, repointing of the exterior brickwork helped to maintain the brick. During this period, the owners replaced the original one-over-one double-hung wood-sash windows on the first floor with the current one-over-one double-hung metal-sash windows. That same year, they also replaced the six-over-six double-hung wood-sash windows on the second floor with the current one-over-one double-hung metal-sash windows containing applied metal grids that give the appearance of six-over-six. In 2006, the historic slate roof was replaced with asphalt shingles.

### ***Interior Description***

The interior of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse retains a large degree of its original fabric. The overall floor plan has remained relatively unaltered since its construction. The front massing of the house follows a central hall floor plan, two rooms wide and one room deep. The rear section of the house includes two rooms of equal size. Unless otherwise specified, surviving historic interior features include original tongue-and-groove wood flooring; wood baseboards, window and door surrounds; and interior transoms with associated hardware above the first floor doors. Baseboards and window and door surrounds throughout the first floor are simple with flat molded architraves, and are stained. Most doors on the second floor feature the same surround as those on the first.

### ***First Floor***

Upon entry from the front porch, the central hall runs north to south and features a quarter-turn stairway along the east wall (Photo #6). Throughout the central hall, baseboards and door surrounds are stained wood. The historic tongue-and-groove flooring is covered with linoleum. The principal entry door with sidelights and transom occupy the entire width of the south wall of the hall (Photo #7). Located at the hall's north end is a cased opening leading to the kitchen. A single-light awning transom with historic hardware is situated above the door. Adjacent to the kitchen opening, a second opening is located at the north end of the hall, and hidden behind the stairway, leads to the former dining room (presently a sitting room). This opening does not feature a transom. Two doors are located on the west wall of the central hall. The first door (from north to south) leads to a narrow bathroom. The five-paneled door features original porcelain doorknobs. The second door leading from the west side of the hall is a wide two-leaf pocket door. Each leaf of the pocket door features six raised horizontal wood panels. The pocket door leads to the front parlor located at the southwest corner of the first floor. South of the stairway on the east wall of the hall is a door with transom leading to a bedroom. A unique feature of the central hall is an original laundry chute with a wood door featuring a modest trim. The laundry chute is situated on the west wall just north of the bathroom door.

The quarter-turn stairway dominates the central hall and is the building's most detailed and ornate architectural design element. All details of the wood stairway are stained. The stairway features a simple turned wood handrail with modest molding near its base. Balusters are square. A square newel post features decorative wood panels and molded cap. A plain stained wood wall stringer is located along the east wall of the stairway. Upon reaching the landing, the wall stringer runs along the north wall. The carriage of the stairway features

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decorative molding. Below the carriage, a stained wood, paneled wall extends to the floor. The stairway landing features original decorative inlaid stained wood. The underside of the landing, and the second flight of stairs, that leads to the second floor, features horizontal raised wood paneling, creating a coffered ceiling at the north end of the central hall. Directly below the stairway, a second straight set of stairs leads to the basement. The basement stairway is accessed from an original six-panel wood door.

The first floor parlor, situated at the southwest corner of the farmhouse, is accessed through the pocket doors in the central hall (Photo #8). The parlor features plaster walls and ceiling, a plain stained wood baseboard, and original exposed tongue-and-groove flooring. The original window and door surrounds are stained wood with plain trim and a molded architrave. The south wall of the parlor features a single set of paired windows. A single window is situated on the west wall of the parlor.

The downstairs bathroom, also situated on the west side of the hall, appears to be original to the house with modern modifications. Flooring within the bathroom is laminate. Immediately upon entry into the narrow bathroom is a small mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century built-in cabinet with plain doors, situated on the north wall. The cabinet is full-length; within it is the laundry chute that extends to the basement. West of the cabinet on the west wall is a modern glass-enclosed shower. A sink is situated at the southwest corner of the bathroom. A single window is situated on the west wall of the bathroom. Two original five-paneled wood doors are located on the north wall. One leads to a small toilet area, the other leads to a closet space. A window is located within the toilet area on the north wall.

Opposite the parlor at the southeast corner of the main house is a bedroom accessed from the east side of the central hall (Photo #9). The bedroom features are nearly identical to that of the parlor. Unlike the parlor, however, the historic flooring is carpeted. A single window is situated on the east wall, and a set of paired windows situated on the south wall. Unique to this room is a bump-out centered on the north wall where the original brick chimney is presently enclosed and covered with drywall. Evidence of the former coal-burning fireplace is its iron cover, currently hidden behind furniture. Adjacent to the west of the enclosed chimney is a five-panel wood door with awning transom leading to the sitting room situated within the rear massing of the house.

The kitchen and sitting room are situated within the historic rear massing of the house. The kitchen occupies the western portion of the massing while the sitting room occupies the east. The kitchen features laminate flooring and plaster walls and ceiling. Baseboards and window and door surrounds match the front of the house; however, these elements are not stained. Historically, the kitchen contained minimal wood cabinetry. Plain laminate countertops are located along the south and west walls of the kitchen. Another c.1965 countertop extends northward from the south wall into the kitchen, dividing the room into distinct cooking and eating spaces. Above the sink on the west wall is a set of paired windows. The north wall of the kitchen includes two doors. One is the six-light horizontal-paneled wood door with transom that leads to the rear porch. The other door is an historic five-panel wood door that leads to a small laundry room. A single window is located on the north wall of the laundry room and is stained. The east wall of the kitchen features a cased opening that leads to the sitting room. A cased opening with transom on the south wall leads to the central hall.

The sitting room, located at the northeast corner of the house has four different access points - one from the central hall, a second from the front bedroom, a third from the kitchen, and the fourth from the rear porch on the north wall. The exterior access door matches the exterior door in the kitchen. Like the kitchen door, this door features an awning transom window. Also on the north wall of the sitting room is a single window that reaches the height of the top exterior door's transom. A set of paired windows is situated on the east wall of the room. The sitting room features plaster walls and ceiling with carpeting covering the original wood flooring. Baseboards and window and door surrounds match others on the first floor and are not stained. The original brick chimney and coal-burning fireplace in this room have been enclosed with modern ceramic brick tiles (c.1975). The coal burning flue that once extended from the chimney is covered with a round iron cover. The same brick used to cover the original brick of the chimney was used to create a large hearth area.

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### **Second Floor**

All rooms on the second floor of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse are accessed from a central hall stairway. The second floor follows a similar floor plan to that of the first, with rooms flanking either side of a central hall in the principal, front massing of the house. Unlike the floor plan on the first floor of the rear mass, the second floor's rear massing is occupied by a single room with mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century closets and a small bathroom located at the east and west ends. The central hall on the second floor features original stained hardwood tongue-and-groove flooring and plaster ceiling. The walls within the hall are covered with c.1970 horizontal laminate paneling. The balustrade of the stairway continues along the second floor to surround the stairwell. At the southeast corner of the second-floor hall is a small closet that extends from floor to ceiling. The closet shares the same laminate paneling as the rest of the hall. A historic five-panel wood door is situated on the west wall of the closet. A single window with interior shutters is located on the south wall of the hall. In addition to the closet door, four stained five-paneled doors lead to various rooms off the hall. At the north end of the hall, a door leads to the largest of the rooms on the second floor, which presently serves as a game room, but historically was a master bedroom. A second door located near the south end of the east wall leads to a narrow office. Adjacent to the office door on the right (north) is a rectangular laundry chute door matching that of the chute directly below it on the first floor. Situated above the laundry chute is a square door similar to the chute's. This stained wood paneled door, with its original latch, opens into what was originally used as part of the coal-burning radiator system. At the south end of the hall, a door is located on either side of the hall and leads to two additional bedrooms.

The large rectangular game room occupies the rear (north) of the second floor. The room features original tongue-and-groove hardwood flooring and stained window and door surrounds. Walls are covered with horizontal laminate paneling matching that of the second floor hall. Baseboards may be original; however, the crown molding appears to have been installed when the wall covering was added. Two windows, having interior wood louvered shutters that fold, are situated on north wall. A single window is centrally located on the east and west walls of the room. Two small rooms were installed at the east and west ends of the room and within the gambrel ends. The construction of these rooms resulted in the dropped ceiling between each grouping that created a level ceiling within the gambrel ends, as opposed to the original slanting ceiling. Doors leading to the four small rooms (one bathroom and three closets) feature historic doors with five horizontal wood panels and original hardware. These doors suggest that the rooms may have been original to the house, or constructed prior to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

The office is a narrow room with modern laminate paneled walls and a dropped ceiling with fiberglass tiles. Flooring is original hardwood tongue-and-groove, and window and door surrounds are stained wood matching the other rooms in the house. A window is off-centered on the west wall and is nearly flush with the wall corner. Near the west end of the office, a portion of the north wall tapers inward toward the ceiling and follows the contours of the gambrel roof.

The southeast bedroom features original hardwood floors and stained window and door surrounds. Walls are covered with horizontal laminate paneling and the ceiling is covered in fiberglass tiling. Unless otherwise specified, all doors and surrounds in this room are faux-grain painted in a cream color. Paired windows with interior shutters are centrally located on the south wall. Flanking either side of the window pairing are small closets with historic five-paneled wood doors. The closets may have been installed prior to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The placement of the closets creates a small window nook between them. The ceiling within this nook is dropped to accommodate the tapering of the gambrel roof. Paired windows with interior shutters are located on the east wall. An original closet at the southeast corner, accessed by an original five-panel wood door, occupies the south wall of the bedroom. A ca.1970 closet with sliding hollow door is located along the west end of the north wall. Between the two closets, the historic brick chimney is covered with the same laminate wall

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paneling seen throughout the second floor. The room's west wall contains the door that leads to the central hall.

Located at the southwest corner of the house, another bedroom features original hardwood tongue-and-groove flooring, and stained wood door and window surrounds. The walls match the ca.1970 laminate paneling seen across the second floor. Two individual windows with interior shutters are situated on the south wall of the bedroom. Located at the southwest corner is a small closet with a five-panel stained-wood door. A single window is located on the west wall adjacent to the closet. There are no openings on the north wall and a door leading to the hall is situated on the east wall.

### ***Interior Alterations***

The house was historically heated with a coal-fired boiler located in the basement and radiators in all of the rooms. Approximately fifteen years ago, the current owners replaced the coal boiler heating system with an exterior wood burner. In 2010, this was replaced with the present gas furnace. According to the current owners, no ceilings or walls were altered as a result of its installation. Evidence of a major flood of the Ohio River in 1937 is seen in the central hall where a faint watermark is visible on the exterior paneling of the stairway. During the late 1970s, the fireplace and chimney in the sitting room and bedroom were enclosed and covered with ceramic brick tiles. A gas heater replaced the fireplace in the sitting room, but the coal box cover remains intact in the bedroom. The large ceramic brick hearth was also added at this time in the sitting room. Three interior doors were removed during the 1970s, leaving open doorways between the kitchen and parlor, kitchen and hall, and parlor and hall. The doors are presently stored in the basement. Another project during the 1970s occurred on the second floor, when all walls were covered with the present vertical laminate paneling. The ceilings were covered at this time with dry wall or fiberglass tiles. When the Miller family acquired the property in 1964, the only access to the attic was via a small ladder located within the closet at the southeast corner of game room. Since this time, the Millers have added a pull-down attic door in the ceiling of the northwest bedroom on the second floor.

### **Garage, circa 2005, Non-Contributing Due to Age**

The front-gabled metal garage was constructed on the site of a former frame garage.<sup>4</sup> Despite its modern materials, including metal siding, the present garage exhibits a similar scale and character to the historic building, as seen in a ca. 1980 painting of the farmstead (see Figure 9).

### **RESOURCES ON THE FARM OUTSIDE THE NOMINATED BOUNDARY (see Figure 4)**

#### ***Barn, circa 1915***

Thomas Krahwinkel constructed this frame barn which measures approximate 55' x 40'. It is a front-gabled transverse barn with three aisles sharing loft space above. Originally covered with wood siding, the present owners installed metal siding and sliding doors, as well as a centered entry door during the 1970s. The barn interior features exposed wood framing. The roof is clad in metal. Historically, Thomas Krahwinkel used the barn as a stable for his field horses. Krahwinkel also used the barn for the storage of soybeans, an important staple crop of Daviess County by the 1930s.<sup>5</sup> The barn is currently used for the storage of farming equipment.

#### ***Man-Made Drainage Ditch, circa 1915***

Thomas Krahwinkel constructed this ditch through his farm to act as a drainage system that supplemented an existing natural drainage feature (Hayne's Ditch, see Figures 2 & 3) traversing the property. The man-made drainage ditch not only crossed the current parcel, it extended to the portion of Krahwinkel's estate south of the highway. At the time of its construction, US Highway 60 West was not completed, and the two parcels of land were separated by a dirt wagon road known as Roost Road.<sup>6</sup> The drainage ditch remains intact and continues

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author, November 28, 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Hugh O. Potter, History of Owensboro and Davies County, Kentucky. Owensboro, Ky. : Daviess County Historical Society, 1974;171.

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to serve as part of the farm's drainage system. It is also indicative of early-20<sup>th</sup>-century Kentucky legislation promoting field irrigation systems and the development of drainage districts.

### ***Equipment Shop, circa 1970***

Herman and Martha Miller constructed this approximately 28' x 40' front-gabled concrete block equipment shop.<sup>7</sup> The roof is clad with metal and features exposed rafter ends. The front (south) façade contains a single entry door and a larger garage bay door. The east and west elevations feature two sets of metal multi-light casement windows with a concrete lintel above. A matching window is located on the rear (north) adjacent to a large garage bay opening. The building is currently used as an equipment garage and tool shed.

### ***Ranch House, 1973***

The side-gabled modestly-styled Ranch House was constructed by the Miller family as a secondary dwelling in 1973.<sup>8</sup> The house faces south and features metal siding and roofing. The façade is three bays with triple one-over-one double-hung metal sash windows and an off-centered entry door. The building is currently vacant.

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<sup>7</sup>Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author, September 22, 2012.

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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 N/A**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The Period of Significance (c.1915) is the date of construction of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse. This choice follows the conventions of the National Register for architecturally significant resources. The primary identity of this property, being interpreted here on this form, is its design.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A**

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

ca.1915

**Significant Dates**

ca.1915

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

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## **Statement of Significance**

### **Summary Paragraph**

The Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse (DA-8) meets National Register Criterion C and is significant within the context "Historic Context: Dutch Colonial Revival Architecture in Daviess County, Kentucky." The nominated property is a significant occurrence of the Dutch Colonial Revival style in Daviess County. The use of the style for a farmhouse in a rural setting further enhances the stylistic elements, and in turn, the building's overall architectural merit. As early as the 1950s, the house was considered a local landmark due to its style and size relative to other nearby farmhouses. In addition to aesthetics of style, the house also points toward the farming success of its original owner. The relatively large house, with distinct style, was built early in the tenure of Thomas Krahwinkel, who owned the property from 1909 until his death in 1963. Krahwinkel's farming of the acres reveals patterns of farming in Daviess County agriculture in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, patterns which are discussed below. The farmhouse becomes important, then, as a statement of what a farmer, owning an average-sized farm, could reap from his efforts and build for his residence in early-20<sup>th</sup>-century Daviess County, Kentucky. The farm is not proposed for listing under Criterion A, as several of its key features have been removed, making it not as effective as other farms locally would be in telling the story of average farms in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Still, the spatial arrangement of the remaining buildings, and distinct landscape features such as the man-made drainage ditch, remain to give further evidence of Krahwinkel's agricultural activity. Knowing the property's agricultural background, and how it followed local farming patterns, gives us the ability to realize more fully the message within its architectural expression.

### ***Agricultural History of Daviess County, Kentucky***

To better interpret the Krahwinkel farm's role in the agricultural history of Daviess County, a number of resources were reviewed, including *Kentucky's Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, census records, and other local histories. These resources provide a basic understanding of agricultural trends in Daviess County throughout the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Krahwinkel Farmhouse is situated within the Western Coal Field subregion of the larger Pennyroyal Physiographic Region, which is bordered by the Ohio River to the north, Tennessee on the south, the Outer Bluegrass Region to the east and the Jackson Purchase Region on the west. The Pennyroyal is made up of 33 of the 120 Kentucky counties. The Western Coal Field, a major subregion of the Pennyroyal, stretches in an oval pattern across nine counties, including Daviess County.<sup>9</sup> Since the early settlement of the Pennyroyal Region, agriculture has remained a primary part of the economy with farming being the predominate form of land use.

Formed in 1815 from portions of Ohio County, Daviess County is situated along the banks of the Ohio River. Owensboro was named the county seat and is currently the third largest city in the State.<sup>10</sup> Since its formation, the boundaries of Daviess County have changed four times. The final change occurred in 1860, when Henderson County gave a 44-square mile section of land between the Green and Ohio Rivers to Daviess County.<sup>11</sup> The latter land is within the Oakford Precinct, and consists mostly of low lands containing ponds and swamps that were considered ideal for hunting during the region's early settlement.<sup>12</sup> The Krahwinkel Farmhouse is situated within the Oakford Precinct in northwest Daviess County.

<sup>9</sup> C. Ardell Jarret, "The Pennyroyal Region," *Kentucky's Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1994; p.44.

<sup>10</sup> "Daviess County History." Daviess County Fiscal Court. <http://www.daviessky.org> (accessed October 15, 2012).

<sup>11</sup> Hugh O. Potter, *History of Owensboro and Davies County, Kentucky*. Owensboro, Ky. : Daviess County Historical Society, 1974; 28.

<sup>12</sup> *History of Daviess County, Kentucky together with sketches of its cities, villages and townships, educational, religious, civil, military and political history; portraits of prominent persons, biographies of representative citizens and an outline history of Kentucky*. Utica, KY: McDowell Pub., c.1980. Reprint, Originally published 1883; p.758.

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The varying topography and soil throughout the Pennyroyal Region contributed to its diversity and the establishment of subregional farming patterns.<sup>13</sup> Daviess County's Oakford Precinct, where the nominated farm resides, is situated between the Ohio and Green Rivers. As such, it is probable that this region quickly embraced agricultural development due to the advantage of its proximity to shipping routes.

Between the 1890s and World War II, agriculture remained the most important economic base in the region. However, a number of events affected farming across the Pennyroyal Region, as well as the State: the 1893 recession, the tobacco war (1905-1908), World War I (1914-1918), and the 1929 stock market crash and the subsequent Great Depression.<sup>14</sup> Other factors either affecting or caused by agricultural practices in the Pennyroyal included an increase in population, rising land costs, a growing number of tenant farmers, reduction in farm size as heirs subdivided family land, and an influx of new immigrants. In fact, by the 1920s, Daviess County was among the Pennyroyal counties having the largest number of farms operated by tenants. Not coincidentally, the county remained a leader in the production of tobacco, a crop reliant upon a large number of farm laborers, which tenants and sharecroppers provided.<sup>15</sup> While Thomas Krahwinkel did cultivate tobacco on his farmstead, there is no evidence indicating that his operation was reliant upon tenantry.

Efforts to support farming operations are evident. One of the most important advances in farming practices during the early-20<sup>th</sup> century in Daviess County was the establishment of drainage districts. In order to make the land suitable for crops, drainage ditches were required. These would oftentimes cross several farms. Kentucky laws passed in 1912 and 1918 assisted farmers in establishing drainage districts, which enabled farmers to remove excess water from their land by tying into a network of ditches. Although landowners were required to pay for the construction of the ditches, by 1925, with more than 210 ditches, Daviess County had the highest number in the State.<sup>16</sup> Thomas Krahwinkel took advantage of the legislation when he constructed a lengthy drainage ditch ca.1915 across his farm.

The early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century also saw the introduction of new farming methods, soil management, plant breeding, and livestock production. One of the most significant advances was the genetic improvement of staple crops. The hybridization of corn greatly increased the crop yield.<sup>17</sup> At the turn-of-the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Daviess County was recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture as part of the Corn Belt area, where the majority of the nation's corn is grown.<sup>18</sup> In 1935 soybean and the first hybrid corn was introduced to Daviess County.<sup>19</sup> By 1963, the county was the state's primary soybean producer and soon surpassed corn in production.<sup>20</sup> Throughout the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, Daviess County was a leader in tobacco and corn production, contributing substantially to the overall agricultural and economic growth of the Pennyroyal and Kentucky.

By the turn of the twentieth century, family farms varied in size and design, depending on the cultural background of the family, geography, crops raised, and the stage of the farm's development. For example, German-American families tended to settle along the Ohio River and worked small farms of 15 to 30 acres.<sup>21</sup> In 1900, the average farm size in Kentucky was 93.7 acres, with Daviess County averaging 78 acres. Both numbers demonstrate that small- to mid-sized family farms occupied the majority of the county's rural landscape.

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<sup>13</sup> Jarret 1994; p.45.

<sup>14</sup> Jarret 1994; p.52.

<sup>15</sup> Jarret 1994; p.53.

<sup>16</sup> Hugh O. Potter, *History of Owensboro and Davies County, Kentucky*. Owensboro, Ky. : Daviess County Historical Society, 1974; 178.

<sup>17</sup> Clark 1994; 28.

<sup>18</sup> Kleber 1992; 254.

<sup>19</sup> Hugh O. Potter, *History of Owensboro and Davies County, Kentucky*. Owensboro, Ky.: Daviess County Historical Society, 1974; 179.

<sup>20</sup> Kleber 1992; 254.

<sup>21</sup> Kleber 1992; 306-307.

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Census records between 1910 and 1950 provide comparative totals for the number of farms by acreage in Daviess County.

1910-1950 NUMBER OF DAVIESS COUNTY FARMS BY ACREAGE <sup>22</sup>										
YEAR	FARM ACREAGE									
	<3	3-19	20-49	50-99	100-174	175-259	260-499	500-999	1,000+	TOTAL FARMS
1910	16	802	884	1,078	665	177	71	13	1	3,694
1920	18	1,004	931	1,071	610	116	49	7	2	3,808
1930	4	1,019	800	1,067	638	131	60	9	0	3,728
1940	7	908	709	1,046	673	162	65	18	5	3,593
1950	60	1136		869	591	185	85	20	4	2,950

This table demonstrates that Daviess County reached its peak number of farms by 1920. However, the above table also shows that between 1910 and 1920, the number of farms averaging more than 100 acres declined, as the number of farms less than 50 acres increased. This indicates the general shift in agriculture in Daviess County, with property owners subdividing their farms, perhaps in response to the recessions and World War I. The table also shows that farms within Daviess County were predominantly small to mid-size, less than 175 acres. The Thomas Krahwinkel Farm reportedly extended beyond the present 98 acres. According to current owners, Herman and Martha Miller, Thomas Krahwinkel owned additional land adjacent to the northwest and southeast. Collectively, the Thomas Krahwinkel farm and estate most likely exceeded 200 acres, placing his farm among the large farms locally in terms of acreage.

The Pennyroyal Region saw a decline in the relative importance of agriculture in the years following World War II, as manufacturing increased. Between the mid-1940s to the present, a number of new influences affected agriculture. These included rural electrification, the construction of interstate highways, coal mining, government regulation of agricultural practices and products, flood control and water management, increased mechanization of farm operations, and a shift from a rural to urban mindset.<sup>23</sup> Improved roads and an increase in automobile ownership encouraged family farms to embrace “truck farming.” These farms tended to produce a variety of crops for transport via pick-up trucks to nearby urban markets.<sup>24</sup> Large-scale production of single crops diminished as a result.

Beginning in the 1960s, the number of farms began decreasing while the average farm size increased slightly. Throughout the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this happened not only in the Pennyroyal but also across the State. By the 1990s, the average farm size in the Pennyroyal was approximately 200 acres, much larger than the average size of farms in Daviess County, which averaged below 100 acres in 1950. Tobacco, corn, hay and soybeans were the major cash crop in the 1990s.<sup>25</sup>

***Establishment and Development of Krahwinkel Farmhouse and Property, circa 1915-1963***

Thomas Krahwinkel (1873-1963), son of German immigrants, first acquired the 100-acre parcel, which encompasses the nominated property, in 1909.<sup>26</sup> Construction of the house was completed ca.1915. Present outbuildings and landscape features of the property were constructed following Krahwinkel’s acquisition of the land. Therefore, research pertaining to the developmental history of the property is more or less confined to the

<sup>22</sup>Chart prepared by the author and is based on census results provided on the University of Virginia *Historical Census Browser*.

<sup>23</sup> Jarret 1994; p.55.

<sup>24</sup> Kleber 1992; 306-307.

<sup>25</sup> Jarret 1994; p.56.

<sup>26</sup> Giles County Deed book 85, page 484.

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early-20<sup>th</sup> century through 1963. The following chart provides a detailed chain-of-title of the nominated property between 1892 and 1964 when the present owners, Herman and Martha Miller, acquired the property from the Krahwinkel family at its present size of 98 acres.

Record Date	Record Type	Grantor	Grantee	Lot Acreage	Record Book/Page	Additional Notes
October 1964	Warranty Deed	Thomas Krahwinkel (executors)	Herman and Martha Miller	98.39	326/412	"about one mile west of the village of Newman" and adjacent to the James Ellis tract known as the "Happy Go Lucky Farm"
March 1960	Will of Thomas Krahwinkel	N/A	N/A	N/A	Will Book Q/586	divides estate among children
January 1909	Warranty Deed	N.B. Cooke	Thomas Krahwinkel	100	85/484	"near Worthington Station on the L. St. L & H. RR"
September 1902	Warranty Deed	W.P. Miller (widower)	N.B. Cooke	100	74/423	"near Worthington Station on the L. St. L & H. RR"
January 1899	Warranty Deed	F. Freeman Little and Hugh A. Williams	W.P. Miller	100	68/594	"near Worthington Station," "being a part of the land conveyed to the first part"
January 1889	Warranty Deed	N.M. Lancaster	H.A. Williams and F. Freeman Little	373	67/127	Acreage is made up of land conveyed to Lancaster by two separate deeds
April 1893	Warranty Deed	Washburn	N.M. Lancaster	244	58/431	Situated "in the vicinity of Worthington Station" and "containing 369 acres excepting 125 acres sold off the south end of the above described land" to W. Vittetoe (see below).
April 1893	Warranty Deed	Vittetoe	N.M. Lancaster	125	58/432	
October 1892	Warranty Deed	Washburn	Clara B. Vittetoe	125	57/212	Acreage extends "southward to the Louisville St. Louis & Texas Railroad"
September 1892	Warranty Deed	Abbie Williams	Washburn	125	57/1	

The chart demonstrates the fluctuation in acreage of the property during the final decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This fluctuation is tied in part to the introduction of the railroad south of the property. That development increased land value and encouraged the establishment of nearby farming operations. The deed records suggest that a 369-acre tract of land was subdivided in 1892, when 125 acres along the south end of the property, extending southward to the railroad, was conveyed to Clara B. Vittetoe. These two tracts were once again joined, and in 1889, N.M. Lancaster sold land acquired by two separate deeds, totaling 373 acres, to F. Freeman Little and H.A. Williams. There is no indication that the land was cultivated by this time. That same year, the 100-acre tract of land on which the Krahwinkel Farmhouse would be erected was subdivided to its present size (with the exception of the two acres for the public right-of-way). According to Herman and Martha Miller, Thomas Krahwinkel owned additional land tracts nearby in 1964 when the Millers acquired the parcel. This land included the 125-acre parcel south of US Highway 60 West that extends to the railroad. The total acreage of the Krahwinkel Estate at the time of his 1963 death has not been learned. However, it is evident that Thomas Krahwinkel had established at a minimum, a mid-size family farming operation within the area. The Krahwinkel Farmhouse, and its associated outbuildings and acreage, were the heart of his farmstead.

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In addition to the construction of the farmhouse, Thomas Krahwinkel quickly took advantage of the drainage district laws passed in Kentucky in 1912 and 1918. Krahwinkel constructed a linear drainage feature connecting his farm to Haynes Ditch, a natural drainage feature that flows eventually to the Green River to the south. A 1952 USGS topographic map shows Haynes Ditch crossing the western portion of the Krahwinkel property (see Figure 2). The drainage feature constructed by Krahwinkel, along with the existing natural drainage, improved farming operations on the property. During the 1930s, the construction of Highway 60 West required the installation of a culvert below the road for Krahwinkel's drainage ditch to flow.

Between 1915 and the 1960s, Thomas Krahwinkel established a homestead and family farming operation on the property. In addition to the house and drainage ditch, Krahwinkel constructed the present frame barn (see Figure 2), a tobacco barn (not extant) adjacent to the highway (see Figure 2), a frame shed (not extant), granary (not extant), blacksmith shop (not extant), chicken coop (not extant), and a frame garage (not extant). These resources were extant when the Millers acquired the property in 1964 and remained on the property through the early-1980s. A c.1980 bird's eye view painting of the property shows the locations of all buildings, with the exception of the tobacco barn (see Figure 9). The granary and blacksmith shop were replaced by the present Ranch House in 1973. The frame garage was replaced with a metal garage in c.2005. The chicken coop, a frame building covered in metal siding, and frame shed were removed by the 1990s (see Figure 9). The tobacco barn was destroyed by a tornado in 1982. This was the final year the farm produced a tobacco crop.<sup>27</sup>

According to the Millers, who grew up in nearby Newman, tobacco was initially the primary crop cultivated on the 100-acre parcel during the early years of Krahwinkel's occupation. Eventually, corn and soybeans replaced tobacco as the staple crops cultivated on the farm. The shift in crops demonstrates Krahwinkel's acknowledgement and acceptance of advances in agriculture that allowed both corn and soybeans to prosper in the region. Today, the Millers continue the cultivation of corn and soybeans on the farm. The Millers do not recall livestock ever being raised on the farm. However, Krahwinkel followed customary farming methods typical of small to mid-sized family farms with the use of horses for the pulling of large equipment. The field horses were housed in the surviving barn.<sup>28</sup>

In January of 1937, the Krahwinkel Farm and others situated along the Ohio River and Green Rivers in Daviess and Henderson Counties experienced one of the most devastating natural disasters. In January of that year, major flooding occurred as the Ohio and Green Rivers reached record levels. Large expanses of northern Daviess County including Owensboro were inundated. Land west of Newman and Stanley where Thomas Krahwinkel had established his farm nearly 20 years earlier were under several feet of water. Houses were destroyed and outbuildings washed away. One recollection of a family stranded in Reed in Henderson County details their rescue when people in a canoe paddled from Newman to rescue them.<sup>29</sup> The Krahwinkel farmhouse was saved and the only evidence of the devastation is seen along the base of the stairway on the first floor where slight discoloration of the wood is visible two feet above the floor. Despite the severity of the flood, because it occurred during the winter months when crop cultivation was not in full swing, it appears that the Krahwinkel farming operation was not substantially impacted.

Little is known about Thomas Krahwinkel and his family. Cemetery burials in nearby Reed, Henderson County, Kentucky and Owensboro, Daviess County, Kentucky suggest that several members of the Krahwinkel family occupied the area throughout the early- to late-20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1910 Federal Census indicates that Thomas Krahwinkel was born in 1874 in Indiana to parents of German descent. He resided in Point, Henderson County with wife Irean (Irene) Krahwinkel and seven children. The same census indicates that Thomas Krahwinkel was a farmer practicing "general farming." A 1917-1918 U.S. World War I Draft Registration Card indicates that

<sup>27</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author. September 2012.

<sup>28</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author. November 2012.

<sup>29</sup> Sue Perkins, "Henderson County Devastation, 1937," A recollection of her uncle Gerald Rhodes, 2000.

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Krahwinkel was a farmer, “working for self,” and residing in Stanley, Daviess County. This card confirms his relocation to the Stanley-Newman area and his establishment of a farm by 1917.

A 1922 Owensboro City Directory confirms that Thomas and Irene were living in Stanley. Newman was an unincorporated village at this time and it is likely that their farmhouse was considered within the limits of Stanley. The 1930 census identifies Thomas Krahwinkel and wife, Irene residing in the “Newman Precinct, Magistrate District 3” with two of their children, the others having moved on to establish their own families.

Thomas Krahwinkel died in 1963, leaving his estate to his children. Following his death, his children subdivided his land holdings and sold the 98-acre tract of land to the Miller family who continue to own and operate the small family farm. Following a significant drought in 1983, the Millers invested in their first center pivot irrigation system in 1988.

### **Historic Context: Dutch Colonial Revival Farmhouse Architecture in Daviess County, Kentucky**

Originating during the early-19<sup>th</sup> century, the Colonial Revival style remained a “mainstay of housing design in America” through the World War II era, never fully disappearing.<sup>30</sup> Colonial Revival influences include general Classicism, double-hung windows with multiple glazing, paired windows, symmetrical facades with central entry, symmetrical floorplans, and restrained Classically-derived ornamentation. Traditional Colonial Revival houses were inspired by the formality and symmetry of the earlier Georgian style.<sup>31</sup>

Dutch Colonial Revival is considered a subtype of the Colonial Revival style and was prominent throughout the United States during the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, becoming less prolific by the 1930s.<sup>32</sup> Inspired by 17<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouses built by settlers of the Dutch colony which became New York, New Jersey, and Delaware, the style is oftentimes described as a “barn house” due to its most prominent, character-defining feature – the gambrel roof, with or without flared eaves. The frequent use of dormers is also an important element of Dutch Colonial Revival domestic architecture. While many Dutch Colonial Revival houses reflect the symmetry and balanced appearance of the Colonial Revival style, many tended to venture away from this formality to an asymmetrical plan or façade arrangement, oftentimes with the application of multiple exterior materials. In most examples, a combination of the formal and informal can be discerned.<sup>33</sup>

Whether the building follows formal precedents, or evokes a more asymmetrical design, the distinctive roofline of the Dutch Colonial Revival evokes a picturesque, rural quality valued by early-20<sup>th</sup> century homeowners. Not only is the style architecturally pleasing, it is also highly functional and economical. Whether a central hall plan or a hall-parlor plan, the Dutch Colonial Revival houses of the early-20<sup>th</sup> century consistently provided a degree of practicality. Rooms were conveniently arranged and the application of the gambrel roof, the most prominent element of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, allowed for an almost complete second floor without the expense of two-story construction. In doing so, bedrooms, closets and bathrooms, were moved to the second floor, away from the daily activities of the household.<sup>34</sup> Another important feature of the Dutch Colonial Revival house is the incorporation of multiple dormer windows. Not only do the dormer windows allow for more space on the upper levels, they also provided additional lighting and ventilation.

The use of Dutch Colonial Revival stylistic elements is seen across the landscape, both rural and urban. “Kit home” plans utilizing the Dutch Colonial Revival style appear in the early-20<sup>th</sup> century. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Aladdin, and Sterling Homes, among others were producing a variety of plans designed utilizing this

<sup>30</sup> Jeffery Howe. *The Houses We Live In*. San Diego: Thunder Bay Press, 2002; 273-274.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> “Colonial Revival: Dutch Colonial,” Antique Home. Website <http://www.antiquehome.org/Architectural-Style/dutch-colonial.htm> (accessed October 2012).

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*; and Virginia and Lee McCalaster. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.

<sup>34</sup> Harris Brothers Company, *A Plan Book of Harris Homes*. Chicago: Harris Brothers Company, 1918.

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style.<sup>35</sup> The plans, readily available to the public, and economically practical, propelled the use of the style throughout the early-20<sup>th</sup> century. Its use on farmsteads may or may not occur at a higher rate than on urban sites, but its barn-like appearance certainly is conspicuous, and might account for its popularity on farmsteads.<sup>36</sup>

Among the many historic farmsteads described in *Kentucky's Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, none were identified in Daviess County as exhibiting Dutch Colonial Revival stylistic elements. The properties identified were those listed as Bicentennial, Sesquicentennial, Centennial, and Heritage Farms and do not include all farmhouses constructed during the early-20<sup>th</sup> century. The Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse is not included.

A formal county-wide architectural survey has not yet been conducted in Daviess County. Nor has a formal survey related to rural historic properties been conducted in the area. Miscellaneous buildings and districts have been identified over the years and official survey forms have been completed. These records are on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council (the SHPO) and also in their online GIS database. A GIS search identified only one other example of a Dutch Colonial Revival-style farmhouse in Daviess County - the Miles Farm (DA-1) located on Laketown Road, just north of the Krahwinkel farm, and within the Oakford Precinct. Also constructed during the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, the 1½-half-story brick farmhouse features a nearly identical exterior configuration to the Krahwinkel Farmhouse with a T-shape form, and multiple gambrel roofs. Its brick construction and rock-faced concrete block foundation also match the Krahwinkel Farmhouse. Unlike the Krahwinkel house, this building features a centered gabled dormer on the front façade, a full-width front porch, and an off-centered entry door with hall-parlor interior plan.<sup>37</sup> The Miles farmhouse (also known as the Ellis Estate) was destroyed sometime in the 1990s.<sup>38</sup> Today, it appears that the Krahwinkel Farmhouse is the only surviving Dutch Colonial Revival farmhouse in the County. Only one other example of the style has been identified in Daviess County, however, it was constructed in an urban setting in nearby Owensboro (DA-139), and does not evoke the rural, picturesque quality as seen on the Krahwinkel Farmhouse. In neighboring Henderson County, only one Dutch Colonial Revival house has been surveyed (HE-H-543). Unfortunately, the survey documentation is unavailable for comparison.

Due to the rarity of the Dutch Colonial Revival-style in Daviess and Henderson Counties, any surviving example should be considered significant as a valuable architectural style chosen by its builder that individualizes a residence, in both urban and rural settings, by evoking an exclusive aesthetic distinct from other architectural styles, particularly with its multiple gambrel roofs and the use of dormers. Those buildings that have lost this distinctive design element, or have undergone alterations that diminish the picturesque quality for which the style is noted, no longer retain integrity.

### ***Evaluation of the Architectural Significance of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse***

The Krahwinkel Farmhouse is significant as an excellent example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, a distinct, picturesque architectural style popular throughout the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The Krahwinkel Farmhouse's architectural features, including cross gambrels, and hipped and gabled dormers are indicative of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. The central hall plan, stained wood window and door surrounds with molded architraves, and embellished paneled stairway, suggest a deliberate attempt at formality, following Colonial Revival precedents. While the interior plan of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse follows a formal arrangement common among Colonial Revival residential construction, its exterior conveys a sense of asymmetry through

<sup>35</sup>"Colonial Revival: Dutch Colonial," Antique Home. Website <http://www.antiquehome.org/Architectural-Style/dutch-colonial.htm> (accessed October 2012).; and Katherine Cole Stevenson. *Houses by Mail: A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company*, Washington DC: the Preservation Press, 1986.

<sup>36</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>37</sup>"Miles Farm, DA-1." Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory Form. Surveyed 1977.

<sup>38</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author, November 28, 2012.

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its application of a large, front-facing gambrel dormer and smaller hipped dormer. Although the entry door is centered on the façade, the asymmetry of the house is further enhanced with the slightly recessed bays and partial-width front porch. What makes this particular building unique, is not only its deviation from formal precedents, but its deliberate incorporation of the most prominent Dutch Colonial Revival stylistic elements on the exterior. Its dominant gambrel roofs and dormers, the most character-defining elements of the style, evoke a unique aesthetic not portrayed by other architectural styles.

Furthermore, the Krahwinkel Farmhouse is a rare example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style found within in the region which further supports its local significance. It is the only known farmhouse exhibiting this style in Daviess County. Its use on a farmhouse is important as the aesthetics of style engages with the agricultural landscape in such a way as to further emphasize its picturesque quality, and, in doing so, accentuates its unique architectural features. The only other known example of Dutch Colonial Revival construction in Daviess County evokes a more formal symmetric façade in keeping with residential construction in an urban setting. In neighboring Henderson County, only one other Dutch Colonial Revival building has been identified to date. As early as the 1950s, the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse was considered a local landmark due to its unique aesthetics of style and its large scale relative to other nearby houses.<sup>39</sup> This view of the house further points toward the distinctiveness of the architectural style in the community. The Dutch Colonial Revival style is often viewed as a reinvention of the formal Colonial Revival style. The more informal, asymmetric, yet picturesque appearance of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse, particularly set within its agricultural landscape, is considered aesthetically pleasing and unique among the surrounding community.

### **Evaluation of Integrity between the significance of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse and its physical condition**

The Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse retains a large degree of its historic architectural integrity, particularly related to its stylistic design for which it is significant. The most character-defining elements of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the gambrel roof and use of dormers, remain the buildings most prominent features. Its combination of formal Colonial Revival elements on the interior, combined with a more informal, picturesque exterior continue to reflect its architectural merit as a representative example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Despite the loss of surrounding agricultural buildings, the farmstead and agricultural lands surrounding the house continue to heighten the overall aesthetics of the style.

The Krahwinkel Farmhouse retains excellent integrity of *design* and *workmanship*, and a good degree of integrity of *materials*. With the exception of the construction of small closets on the second floor and the enclosure of the fireplace in the sitting room, there have been no significant alterations to the building's form, shape, or floorplan. The T-shape form; central hall floorplan; interior woodwork and detailing; exterior brickwork and gable siding; decorative detailing; and the majority of the interior wall, ceiling, and floors, are remarkably in situ. Most importantly, the Dutch Colonial Revival influences remain intact. The most noticeable loss of integrity of *materials* is the replacement of the one-over-one wood sash windows with one-over-one metal sash windows on the first floor, and the replacement of the six-over-six wood-sash windows on the second floor with one-over-one windows containing applied muntin and rail grids that give the appearance of six-over-six. The historic slate roof was replaced with asphalt shingles. Lastly, the interior walls on the second floor have been covered with vertical laminate panels. Despite these *material* alterations, the majority of the building's historic *materials* survive, particularly evident on the first floor and exterior.

Another important quality of integrity that contributes to the building's significance is that of *setting*. The agricultural lands and associated outbuildings found within the entire property comprise the farmstead's historic rural setting. Furthermore, the setting's openness and rural nature enhance the picturesque quality and Dutch

<sup>39</sup> Herman and Martha Miller. Interview with the author, November 28, 2012.

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Colonial Revival style of the farmhouse. In addition, this setting emphasizes the grandeur of the house in not only scale but design and stylistic detailing. In doing so, the architectural value of the house as a rural farmhouse exhibiting this unique style is underscored.

Integrity of *Feeling* survives with the farmhouse as a result of such a high degree of integrity of *design, workmanship, and setting*. The design and stylistic elements of the Krahwinkel Farmhouse, as well as its surrounding setting together, convey a significant aesthetic and a historic sense of the community during the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The combination of formal interior design elements with the asymmetric elements seen on the exterior evoke feelings of both grandeur and picturesque rural qualities.

Krahwinkel, Thomas, Farmhouse  
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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Maps

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United States Geological Survey. Topographic Map. 1952.

United States Geological Survey. Topographic Map. 1971, Photorevised 1980.

*McDonough, Leo & Co. Map of Daviess County, from An Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Kentucky, 1876.*

*McDonough, Leo & Co. Map of Oakford Precinct, from An Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Kentucky, 1876*

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: Daviess County Public Library, Owensboro

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DA-8

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**10. Geographic Data**

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**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

**Quad**

**Coordinates expressed according to NAD 27: Zone 16; Easting 472 ; Northing 4185**

**Coordinates expressed according to NAD 83, below:**

1	<u>16</u>	<u>472657</u>	<u>4188519</u>	3	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	4	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary encompasses the domestic complex of the farmstead and includes the house and a non-contributing garage. The nominated property is less than one acre and is located within a larger 98-acre parcel identified as 018 on Map 10 of the Daviess County Property Valuation Office (see Figure 1, tax map).

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The majority of the historic agricultural-related outbuildings have been lost or replaced with modern construction. As such, the nominated boundary encompasses only the domestic complex of the farmstead.

Krahwinkel, Thomas, Farmhouse  
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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Jaime L. Destefano, Principal Architectural Historian  
organization History, Incorporated date January 2013  
street & number 1104A Fatherland Street telephone 615-228-3888  
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37206  
e-mail Jaime.destefano@historyinonline.com

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### Photographs:

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**Name of Property:** Krahwinkel Farmhouse  
**City or Vicinity:** Owensboro  
**County:** Daviess **State:** Kentucky  
**Photographer:** Jaime L. Destefano  
**Date Photographed:** September 22, 2012  
**Location of Original Digital Images:** Kentucky Heritage Council

### Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 10. Front (southwest) façade. Photographer facing northeast.
- 2 of 10. Front entry and porch. Photograph facing northeast.
- 3 of 10. Northwest oblique. Photographer facing southeast.
- 4 of 10. Northeast oblique. Photographer facing southwest.
- 5 of 10. Southeast oblique. Photographer facing northwest.
- 6 of 10. First floor central hall. Photographer facing northeast.
- 7 of 10. First floor entry door and door surrounds. Photographer facing southeast.
- 8 of 10. Parlor. Photographer facing west.
- 9 of 10. First floor bedroom. Photographer facing northeast.
- 10 of 10 Overview of farmstead and buildings from Highway 60 West. Photographer facing north.

---

### Property Owner:

---

name Herman and Martha Miller  
street & number 10501 Highway 60 West telephone 270-764-1003  
city or town Owensboro state KY zip code 42301

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Figure 1: 2012 Google Earth Aerial Photograph Showing Approximate Boundary of 98-Acre Parcel and the Nominated Property Boundary



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Figure 2. 1952 USGS Topographic Map Showing Location of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse

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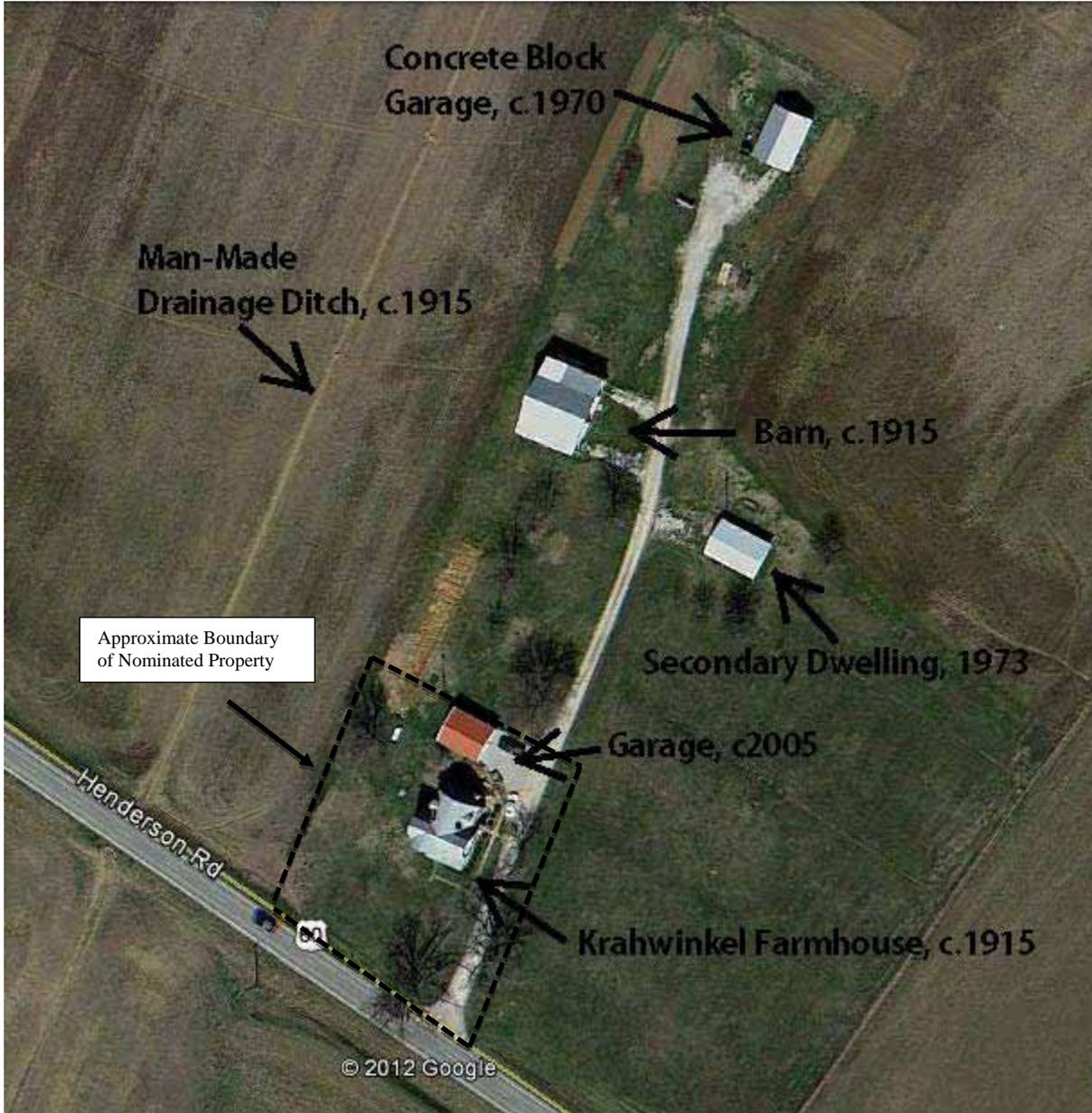


Figure 3: Site Plan Showing Location of the Nominated Thomas Krahwinkel House, and Associated Outbuildings and Landscape Features

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Figure 4. Exterior Photograph Locations and Orientations

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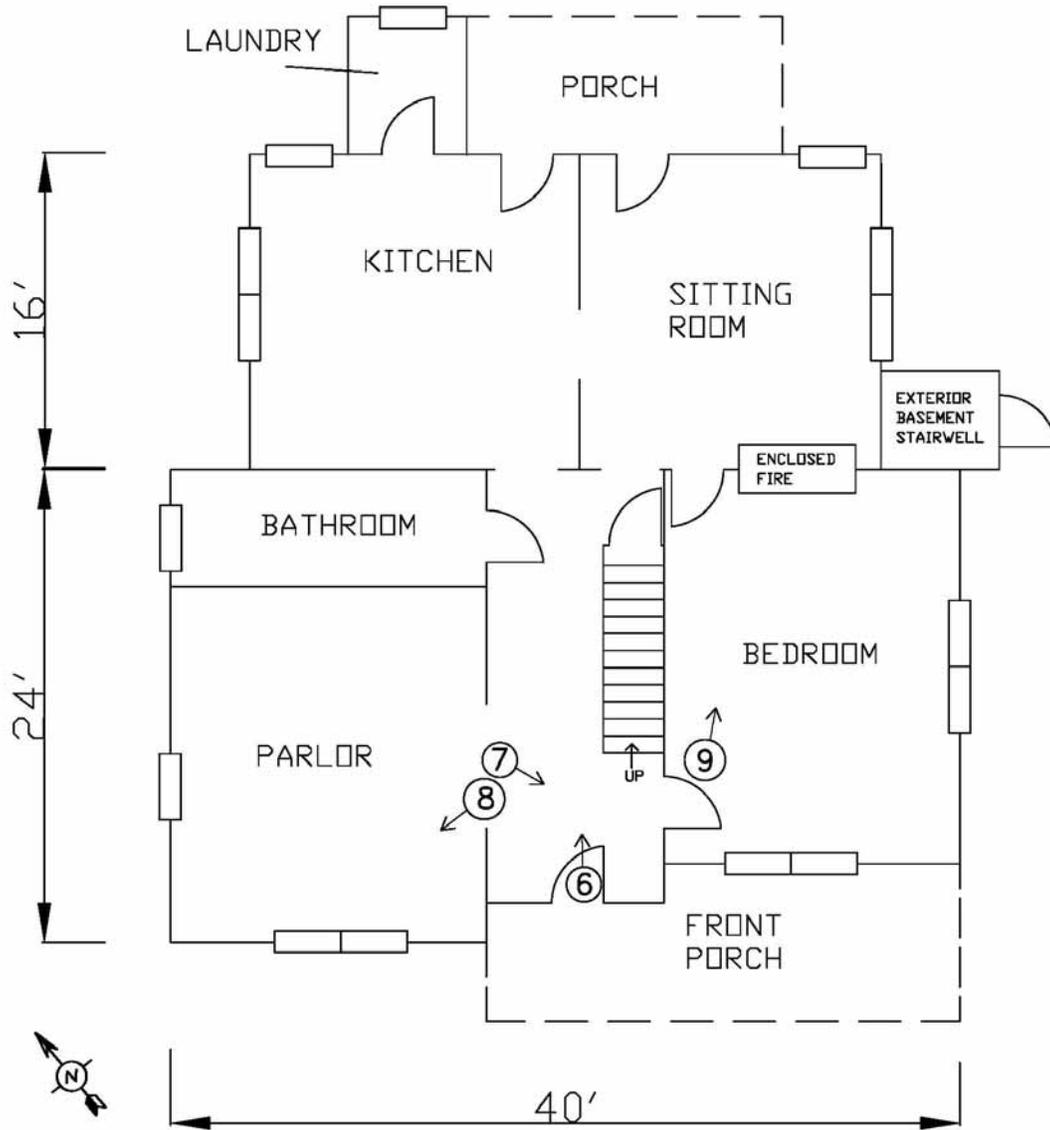


Figure 5: First Floor Plan and Photographic Locations (Not to Scale)

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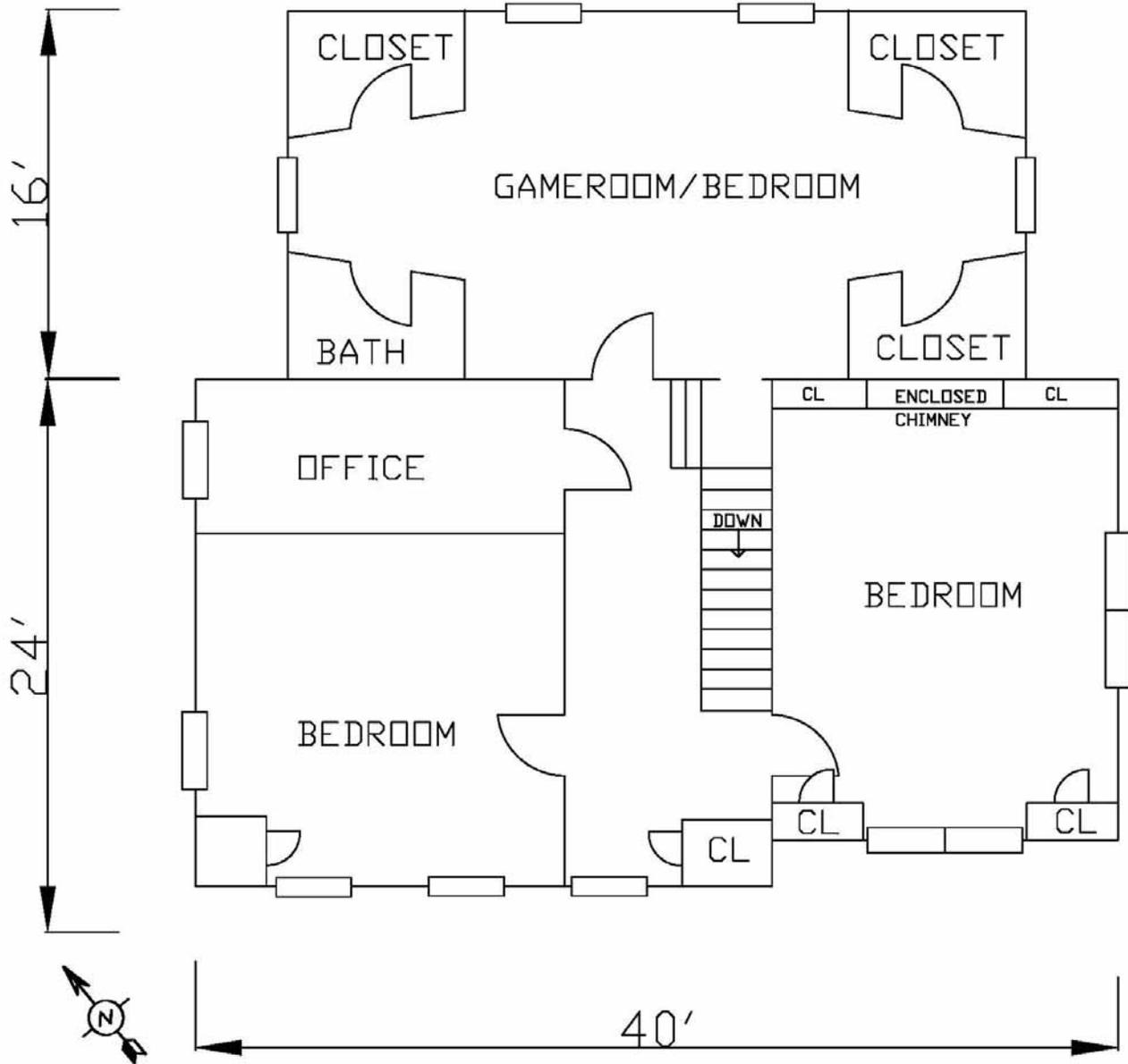


Figure 6: Second Floor Plan and Photographic Locations (Not to Scale)



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Figure 8. 1876 Map Showing Oakford Precinct  
Source: *Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Kentucky*

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Figure 9. Circa 1980 Framed Painting of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmstead  
Courtesy of Herman and Martha Miller

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Figure 10. 1982 Framed Sketch of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse, Drawn by Gary Adelman  
Courtesy of Herman and Martha Miller

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Figure 11. Circa 1990, Framed Aerial Photograph of the Thomas Krahwinkel Farmhouse  
Courtesy of Herman and Martha Miller



















