

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Wade-Braden District

Other names/site number: The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House & The Anne and Carl Braden House; site numbers: Wade - JF-3690 Braden - JFC-2507

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & number: 4010 Clyde Drive (40216) & 4403 Virginia Avenue (40211)

City or town: Louisville State: Kentucky County: Jefferson

Not For Publication: N/ Vicinity: NA

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A X B ___ C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title: Craig Potts/SHPO Date _____ <u>___</u> Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p> <p>_____ Signature of commenting official: _____ Date _____</p> <p>_____ Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>
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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

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Wade House - ranch

Braden House - bungalow

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wade - limestone veneer, Braden - vinyl siding

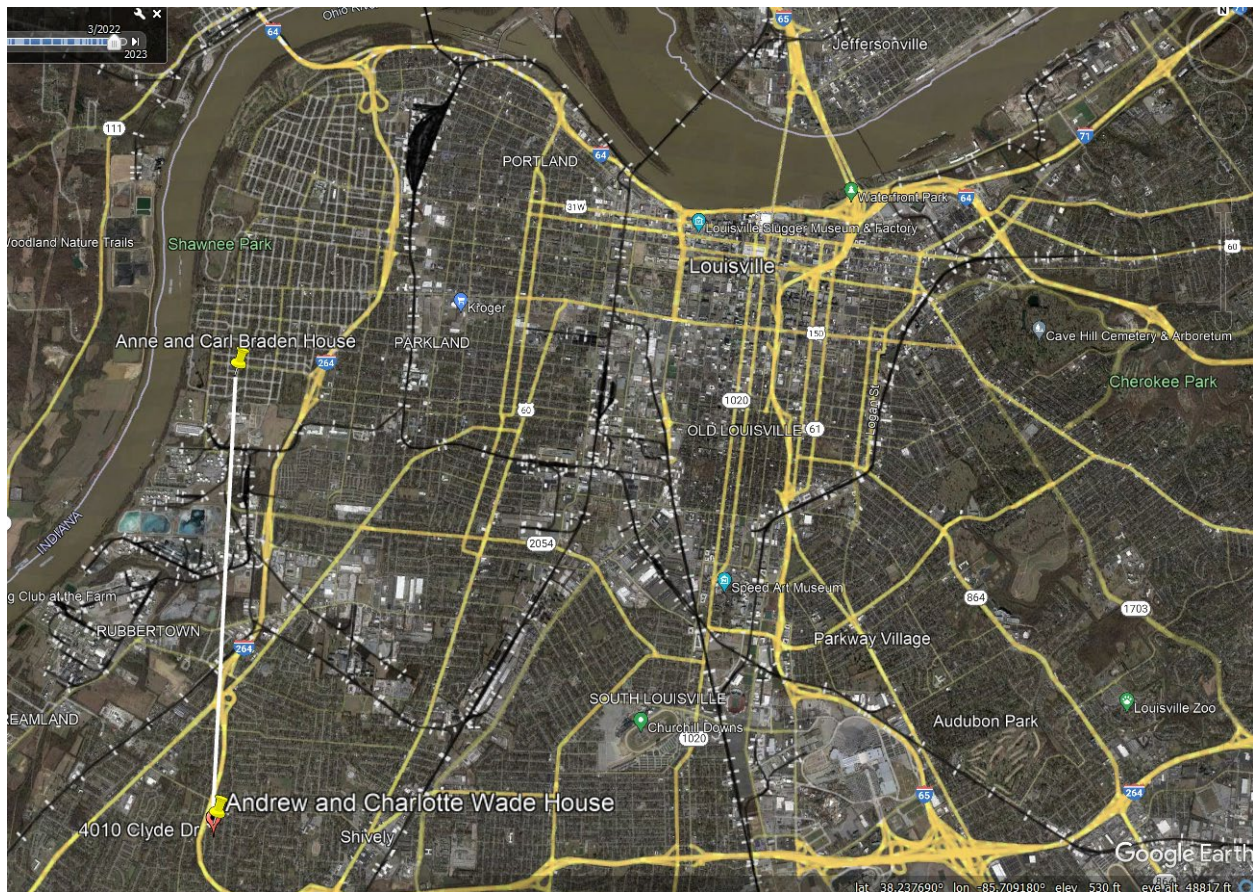
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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Wade-Braden District includes two houses, 3.27 miles from each other, as a single listing. The more southern of the two houses is the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House (JF 3690) at 4010 Clyde Drive (formerly 4010 Rone Court). The house resides in Shively, a home rule city within Jefferson County. Almost directly north of the Wade House is the Anne and Carl Braden House (JFC 2507) at 4403 Virginia Avenue, in the area west of downtown commonly referred to as West Louisville. The area proposed for listing includes the two properties, which combined are less than one acre. This includes six resources - the two contributing residences, a non-contributing garage and an above-ground pool counted as a non-contributing structure on the Wade property, and a storage shed and a historic marker, counted as a non-contributing structure and a non-contributing object, respectively, on the Braden property. The two properties are being nominated together because the significant event, that opened the doors to racially integrated housing Louisville, is inextricably linked to actions taken in both houses.



Relative Locations of Anne and Carl Braden House and Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

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Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House (JF-3690) was built in 1954 as a single-family residence and was occupied by the Wades, a Black family, in an all-white neighborhood, shortly after it was constructed. The property sits on .36 of an acre. The house was owned by fair housing activists Andrew and Charlotte Wade from their purchase of the home in 1954 to their sale of the home in 1958. Their purchase and occupancy of the residence advanced the Fair Housing Movement and Civil Rights, despite receiving a substantial amount of animosity from people in Louisville who regarded their ownership as a threat to the social order.



Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

Anne and Carl Braden purchased the home at 4010 Clyde Drive on May 10, 1954. On May 13, 1954, Andrew and Charlotte Wade purchased their home from the Bradens for \$11,300. The Wades assumed the mortgage that the builder, James I. Rone, had previously purchased from South End Federal Savings and Loan Association.

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History of 4010 Clyde Drive/4010 Rone Court: Site Ownership Since 1941

Seller's Name	Buyer's Name	Deed Book #	Page #	Date	Notes
Fay H. Miles and Mary E. Miles	James Ishmael Rone and Reldie Rone	1810	522	10/09/1941	
James P. McCormack	James Ishmael Rone and Reldie Rone	2841	175	12/28/1951	
Joseph R. O'Bryan	James Ishmael Rone	3032	195	6/13/1953	Sold for \$1
James Ishmael Rone	Carl J. Braden and Annie M. Braden	3154	524	5/10/1954	James Rone was the builder of the house
James Ishmael Rone	Carl J. Braden and Annie M. Braden	3155	15	5/10/1954	Mortgage
Carl J. Braden and Annie M. Braden	Andrew E. Wade, IV and Charlotte Wade	3156	440	5/13/1954	Bradens bought house to sell it to the Wades
James I. Rone, Reldie Rone, Laurance D. Moon		3490	106	2/13/1958	Quit Claim Deed
Andrew E. Wade, IV and Charlotte Wade	Laurance D. Moon	3490	105	2/14/1958	
Laurence D. Moon and Lois A. Moon	Elizabeth F. Cadle	3902	297	6/30/1964	
Elizabeth F. Cadle	Kelly Ray Goodlett, Hubert L. Goodlett, Donna M. Fackler	4933	868	5/06/1977	Elizabeth F. Cadle deeded the property to her 3 children
Kelly Ray and Martha Jean Goodlett, Hubert L. and Edith Ann Goodlett, Donna M. and Bernard Fackler	Geneva Catherine Nethery	5064	568	1/02/1979	Geneva C. Nethery passed away on 6-11-1988
Ronald E. Nethery, Executor	Michael L. Nethery	5836	746	1/19/1989	Ronald Nethery was executor of

The Wade-Braden District

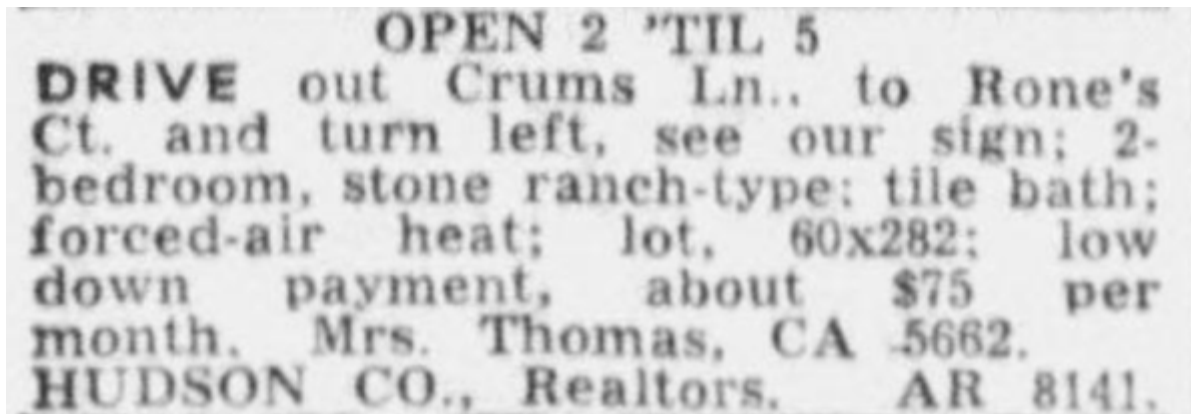
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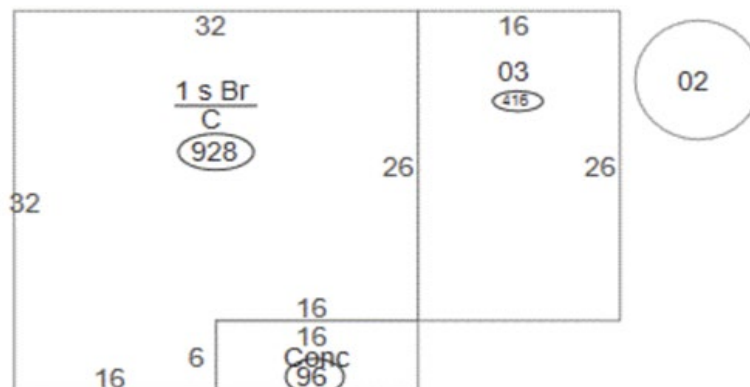
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					Geneva C. Nethery's estate
Michael L. Nethery and Patricia L. Nethery	Damon E. Bratcher	6420	30	2/18/1994	Damon E. Bratcher passed away on 2/20/1995
Damon E. Bratcher	Jeffrey S. Bratcher and Kelly J. Bratcher (parties of the first part) and Brian E. Bratcher (party of the second part)	6651	891	10/12/1995	Quitclaim Deed Brian E. Bratcher is the Current Owner

Documents Relating to the Architecture and Physical Features of the Wade House



Open House Ad for the Wade House, *The Courier-Journal*, April 4, 1954



Jefferson County PVA Drawing of 4010 Clyde Drive

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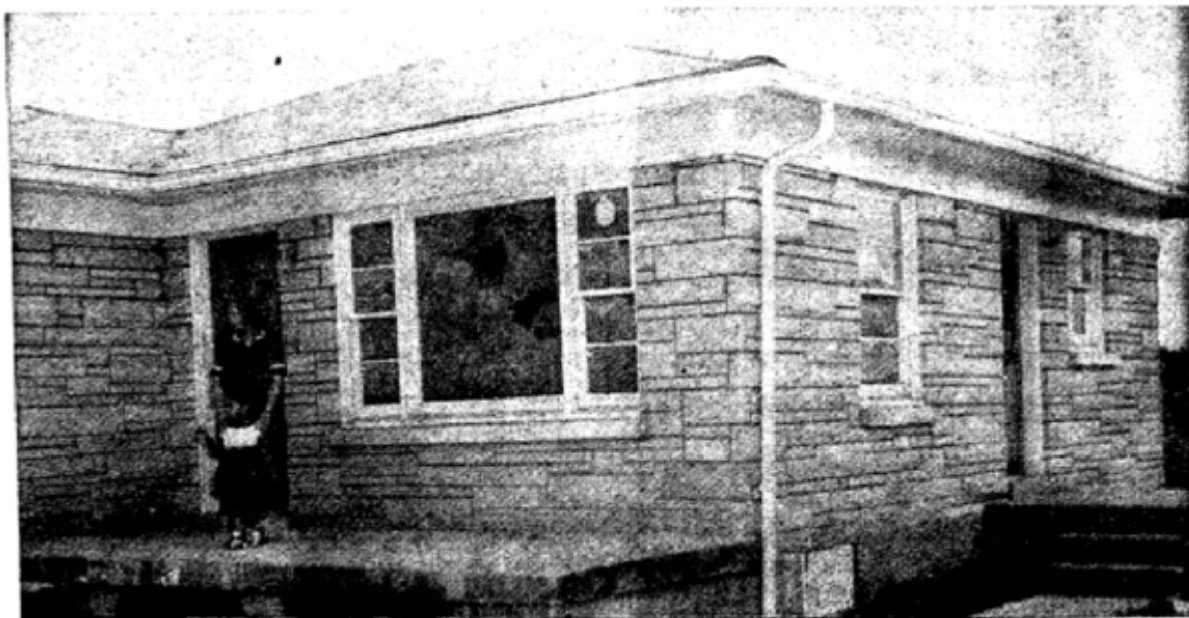
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Exterior Description of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

The house has a gray hip shingled roof and the original limestone veneer exterior. The front porch is accessed by two concrete steps which lead up to the porch's concrete slab sitting over a limestone veneer base. The front door is painted red and has an oval window. The house layout is a square shape with the addition of a carport on the north side. At some point, an unknown owner extended the driveway and added an unattached garage to the northwest corner of the property. The wood frame garage is covered in limestone veneer and has a gray shingled roof. A wooden deck begins at the edge of the driveway and runs along the back of the house and provides access to an above ground pool that also sits in the backyard. There is a small chain link fence on the north side of the property that connects from the edge of the carport to the garage. A wood fence on the south side of the property creates privacy for the pool. The garage and the pool are noted as non-contributing because they were not present when the Wades owned the property and the significant events took place.

There are multiple windows on the facade of the house – one double hung on the south side of the front door and two double hung windows on either side of a fixed picture window on the north side of the front door. On the north side of the house underneath the carport are two double hung windows on the left and right of the side door. On the south side of the house, there are three double hung windows. On the west side of the house which faces the rear of the property, there are also three double hung windows. There are also slightly protruding limestone sills underneath every window. The side door leads out to a raised concrete slab stoop over a limestone veneer base.



**The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House with Charlotte and Rosemary on the Front Porch,
The Louisville Defender, May 20, 1954
Northeast Corner of 4010 Rone Court, Looking Southwest**

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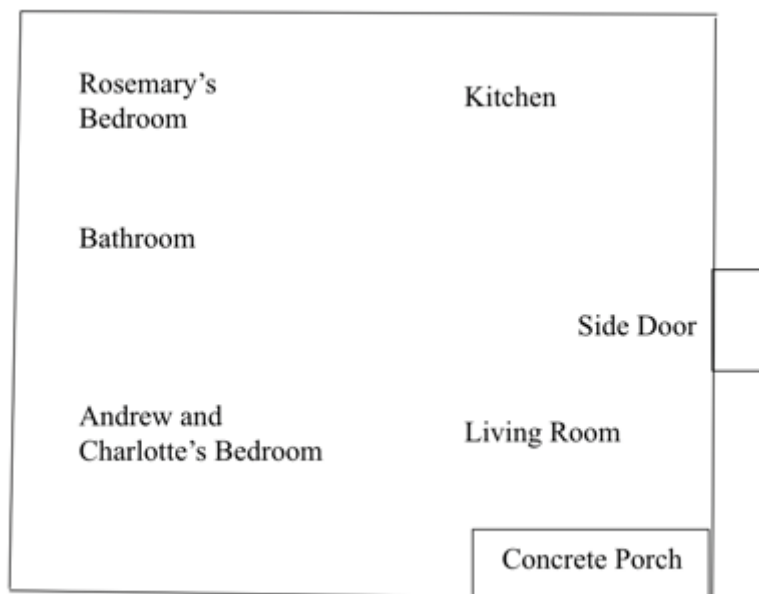
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This picture indicates that there was no carport on the Wade House originally.

Interior Description of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House As Built in 1954

It is known from the 1954 open house ad in *The Courier-Journal* that 4010 Clyde Drive (formerly Rone Court) was built as a two-bedroom home. The rest of the floor plan is based on an article and pictures from the May 20, 1954 *Louisville Defender*, Anne Braden's *The Wall Between*, and additional articles and pictures documenting the bombing. Andrew and Charlotte Wade's bedroom was in the southeast corner of the house and Rosemary's was in the southwest corner of the house. The one original tile bath was located between the two bedrooms on the south side of the home. The window sizes on the south side of the home support this. The rocks that broke the front picture window (see photo above) landed in the living room, while the north side door leading to the driveway connected to the kitchen, located in the northwest corner of the house. A hallway connected the bedrooms to the living room and kitchen.



Interior Floor Plan of the Wade House As Built in 1954

There is no basement, but there is a full crawl space according to the Jefferson County PVA. Any updates to the floor plan after the Period of Significance are unknown.

Garage—non-contributing structure

There is a non-contributing garage on the northwest corner of the property, added at some point after the Period of Significance.

Above Ground Pool—non-contributing structure

There is currently an above ground pool on the property that was not there during the Period of Significance.

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Changes to the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Since the End of the Period of Significance

A carport, unattached garage, wood deck, and an above ground pool were added to the house at unknown times. The gray shingled roof is of a more recent origin based on older Jefferson County PVA pictures.

Anne and Carl Braden House

The Anne and Carl Braden House (JFC-2507) is located on 4403 Virginia Avenue, about 3.8 miles southwest of the center of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, Kentucky. The house was built in 1947 as a single-family residence. The property sits on .0942 of an acre. The home served as a residence and home office for civil rights activists Anne and Carl Braden from the time of their purchase in 1952 until Anne's death in 2006.



Anne and Carl Braden House

In June 1952, Anne and Carl Braden purchased their home from the Tildens for \$7,800 and paid \$1,300 down. They received a mortgage from the Franklin Pioneer Corporation of Louisville. In 1954, with an FHA home improvement loan of \$1,000, the Bradens increased the size of their home with the addition of two finished rooms upstairs in the attic space. This loan was through the Bank of Louisville. Even with troubles regarding the Wade-Braden Alliance, and Carl being in jail for seven months during this time, the Bradens paid off the \$1,000 loan in three years.

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History of 4403 Virginia Avenue Site Ownership Since 1925

Seller's Name	Buyer's Name	Deed Book #	Page #	Date	Notes
Joseph Exly, Administrator of the Estate of Michael Exly (deceased), et al.	E.L. Bloom and Blanche Bloom	1151	294	6/02/1925	Lots 1-17 and 19-33 Exly Neighborhood named after Exly family
E.L. Bloom and Blanche Bloom	R. J. Reis and Josephine D. Reis	2107	294, 295	4/12/1946	Lots 1-17 and 19-33
R. J. Reis and Josephine D. Reis	W. A. Colyer and Thelma E. Colyer & Robert N. Hebel and Cally M. Hebel	2197	258	1/08/1947	Lot 29 (Robert N. Hebel was a realtor and developer)
W. A. Colyer and Thelma E. Colyer & Robert N. Hebel and Cally M. Hebel	Charles E. Tilden and Lure Lee Tilden	2265	278	7/30/1947	Tildens purchased a brand-new home
Charles E. Tilden and Lure Lee Tilden	Carl J. Braden and Anne M. Braden	2890	271	6/16/1952	House served as primary workplace for the Bradens' activism
Anne Braden	James M. Braden	5627	439	11/ 03/1986	Anne transferred the deed to her son
James M. Braden	Trena L. Waddles	09061	0098	6/28/ 2007	Current Owner

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Documents Relating to the Architecture and Physical Features of the Braden House

Building Permits

The Moll Company, wreck brick building, 2404 Bardstown Rd., \$500.
R. B. Dawson, frame dwelling, 3769 Parthenia Ave., \$4,000.
Robert Hebel, frame dwellings, 4313, 4401-3-5-7 Virginia Ave., \$5,400 each.
Merchants Ice & Cold Storage Company, brick and concrete-block storage plant, 2220 Taylorsville Rd., \$8,000.
Sallie Hunter, concrete-block store building, 216 S. Hancock, \$4,700.
O. & L. Stores, Max Oppenheimer, wreck one-story building and build concrete-block store building, 335-7 E. Jefferson, \$12,100.

Robert N. Hebel Filing to Develop the Property, *The Courier-Journal*, December 21, 1946

OPEN DAILY 4 TO 6 P.M.
30 New F.H.A. Approved Homes
Exly Subdivision, 43d and Virginia
Several of these lovely bungalows in this new subdivision can now be sold, with immediate possession; these homes are complete in every detail, with 4 rooms and large kitchenette, bath, gas floor furnace, screens, shades, linoleum, sod, shrubs, tinted walls, built-in cabinets and beautiful hardwood floors; bus at door; sewer, water, streets, gas and lights; priced right, terms \$800 cash, plus cost of loan, balance 25-year plan at 4% interest; be here early and be the first to live in this new subdivision.
ROBERT HEBEL, REALTOR
624 W. Jefferson. JA 8434. FR 7690.

Homes for Sale Ad for the Braden House property, *The Courier-Journal*, June 20, 1947

Above is the first known ad for the Anne and Carl Braden House. Charles E. and Lure Lee Tilden purchased 4403 Virginia Avenue on July 30, 1947.

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EXLY SUBDIVISION, 43d and Virginia.
Open For Inspection
Veterans and nonveterans; new F.H.A.-
approved homes, complete and ready to
occupy; 5 rooms, bath, gas floor fur-
nace, screens, shades, linoleum, sod,
shrubs, tinted walls, built-in cabinets
and beautiful hardwood floors; bus at
door; made street; sewer, water, gas,
electricity. Price \$6,750. Terms \$950
cash plus financing cost; balance \$44
month, including taxes and insurance.
ROBERT HEBEL, Realtor
JA 8434. 624 W. Jefferson. FR 7690.

Homes for Sale Ad, *The Courier-Journal*, August 5, 1947

The ad above lists five rooms in the homes rather than the four rooms and kitchenette highlighted in the first ad. The price for the homes is also mentioned, unlike in the first listing.

Building Permits

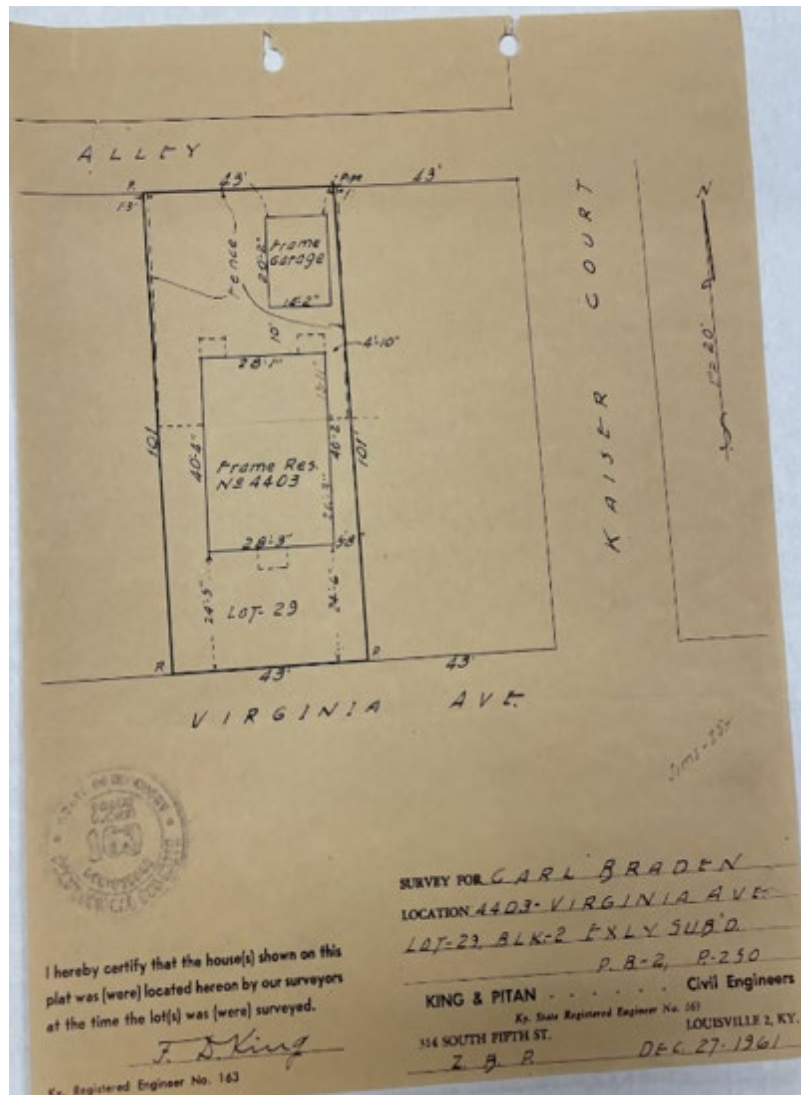
Louisville Composition Co., alterations to fire damage to building, 946 Swan, \$1,500.
Russell Vaughan, frame dwellings, 1314-18 Walter, \$4,000 each.
A. J. Maynard, frame dwelling, 105 N. Arbor Park, \$5,000.
Raidt-Barnett, brick veneer dwelling, 416 Eline, \$8,000.
Schickli Construction Co., concrete block garage, 915 E. Jefferson, \$1,800.
S. A. Faulkner, repairs to brick building, 1427 W. Jefferson, \$830.
R. L. Guenther, enclose rear porch of dwelling, 2111-13 Bradley, \$1,000.
Belknap Hardware & Mfg. Co., add loading platform to building, 121 W. Washington, \$3,000.
Charles E. Tilden, frame garage, 4403 Virginia, \$500.
J. B. Middendorf, frame dwelling, 425 N. 34th, \$5,000.

Building Permits, *The Courier-Journal*, September 4, 1947

Around a month after the Tildens' purchase, Charles Tilden applied for a building permit to construct a garage. This permit documents wood framing as the original structural material of the garage.

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December 1961 Survey of 4403 Virginia Avenue, U of L Special Collections

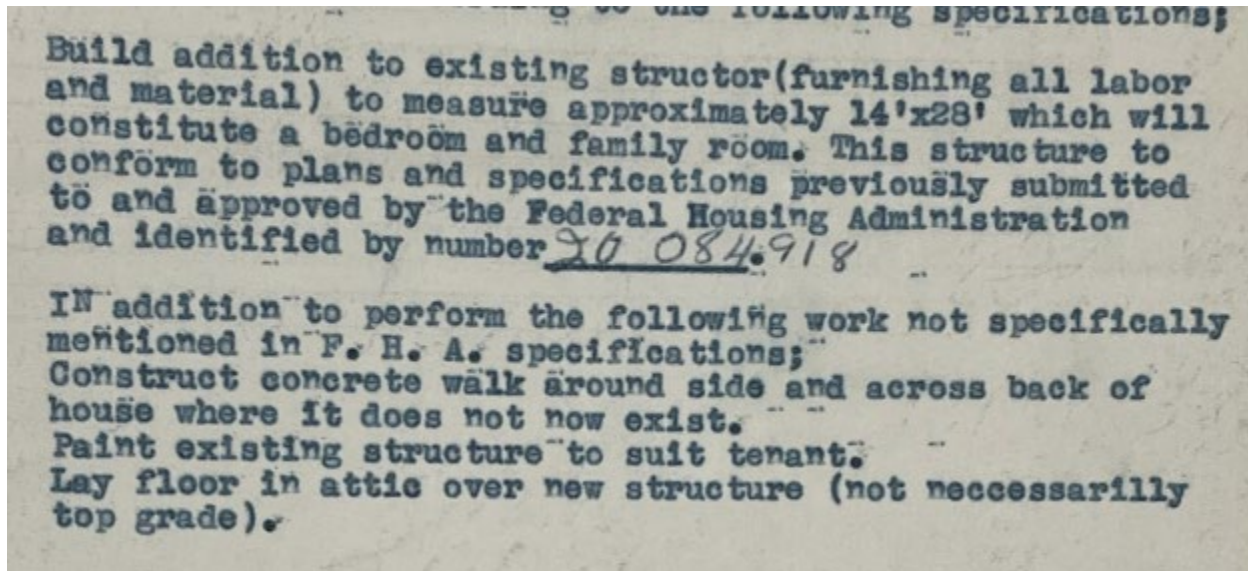
In late 1960, the Bradens decided to build an addition that cost \$4,200. With Carl having been sentenced to jail and Anne being as active as she was, the Bradens were in need of a secretary because the scope of their work was growing; they needed office and living space for a secretary who would be living with them full-time, so they decided to build an addition. On March 20, 1961, Carl wrote a letter to W.C. Reimbold, President of the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank in Chicago, Illinois, asking for a loan to cover the addition and existing mortgage. Because Carl Braden was ruled against in *Braden v. US*, Franklin Pioneer Corporation did not want to continue working with the Bradens. By January 31, 1962, the addition was completed.

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Contract for Addition to 4403 Virginia Avenue, Full Contract in Appendix A

This contract is significant to the house and to the Bradens because the contractor who handled the document is Sterling Neal. (For Neal's significance, see the Anne Braden: Career section and Wade-Braden Alliance Timeline.)

In early October 1977, Anne wrote a letter to her parents about her renovation plan and its pricing and logistics. She had aspirations to do the following:

- Reinforce the entrance to the garage
- Build and install doors on the garage
- Repair and tile the kitchen floor (rust tile)
- Tile the breakfast room (rust tile)
- Rebuild a sink cabinet
- Repair and tile the bathroom floor (blue tile)
- Paint some walls
- Purchase a new stove
- Convert an office to a bedroom

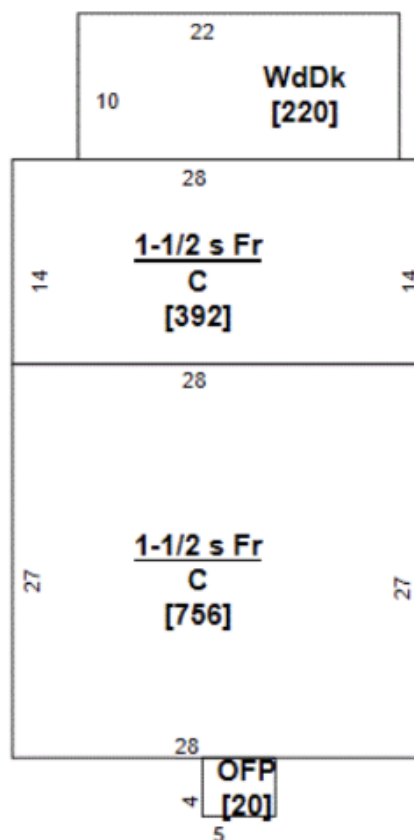
Anne also mentioned sorting through fifteen years' worth of items in the home's offices. Anne was in the process of sorting through many papers and other items to send to the Wisconsin Historical Society in mid-October of 1977. Anne shared that an archivist from the historical society was driving to her home to assist her in making final decisions about how much and where to archive certain items. Anne planned to begin painting after her documents were removed by the Wisconsin Historical Society. She was converting an office (maybe Carl's as he had passed away two years earlier) into a bedroom. Anne Braden's parents had been storing bedroom furniture in Anniston, Alabama that she was interested in having in the bedroom.

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Jefferson County PVA Drawing of 4403 Virginia Avenue

Exterior Description of the Anne and Carl Braden House

The Anne and Carl Braden House has a concrete poured foundation without a preset block. There is a concrete front porch with two steps and a railing on the west side of the porch. Above this porch lays a small overhang over the front door. The front door is comprised of wood while the siding is white vinyl. The gabled roof has gray shingles.

When facing the front, or south side, of the house, the right window, or eastward window, is sliding. When still facing north at the front of the house, the left, or westward, window is double hung and has security bars over it. On the interior side of this westward window is a bedroom. Both sets of windows in the front have a pair of red shutters.

The east side of the house has three first floor windows and an attic window. The two windows closest to the facade are double hung with safety bars. The attic window is also double hung. The window in the 1962 addition on the east facing side has two double hung windows without bars.

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The west side of the house also has four windows – three on the first floor with bars and one on the attic level without bars. These are all double hung windows. Each of these are single windows and are not in pairs.



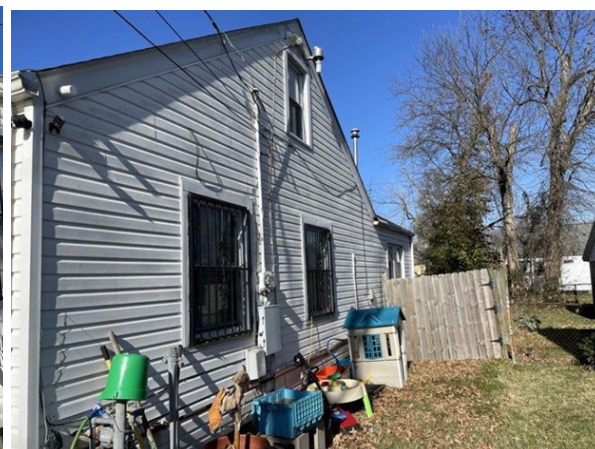
Anne and Carl Braden House Today, Front Side Faces Mainly South

The rear, or north, side of the house has three windows with bars – two double hung first floor and one double hung attic level – and two doors with bars; and a wooden deck level with the back doors.

A tall wooden fence encloses space behind and beside the house. The fence juts out very close to the property line perpendicularly to the east and west sides of the home near the border of the original house and 1962 addition. The fence closely follows the property line on the east and west boundaries toward the back of the property. The fence then closely borders an alley on the north side. A metal-walled shed is in the rear of the property. It is not counted, due to the temporary nature of the feature and its lack of impact on the landscape.



Braden House, West Side



Braden House, East Side

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Current Views of the Rear of the Property, its North Face

The Braden House Exterior through the Years (Courtesy of Elizabeth Braden)



Anne Braden with James Braden at 4403 Virginia Avenue, circa 1952



Anne Braden with James Braden at 4403 Virginia Avenue, circa 1953

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Picture of Elizabeth Braden, her Daughter Alice Braden Hansen, her Son Henry Owens IV, and Friend Denise Link Corey at the Anne and Carl Braden House, 1980s



Picture of the Anne and Carl Braden House, circa 1980s

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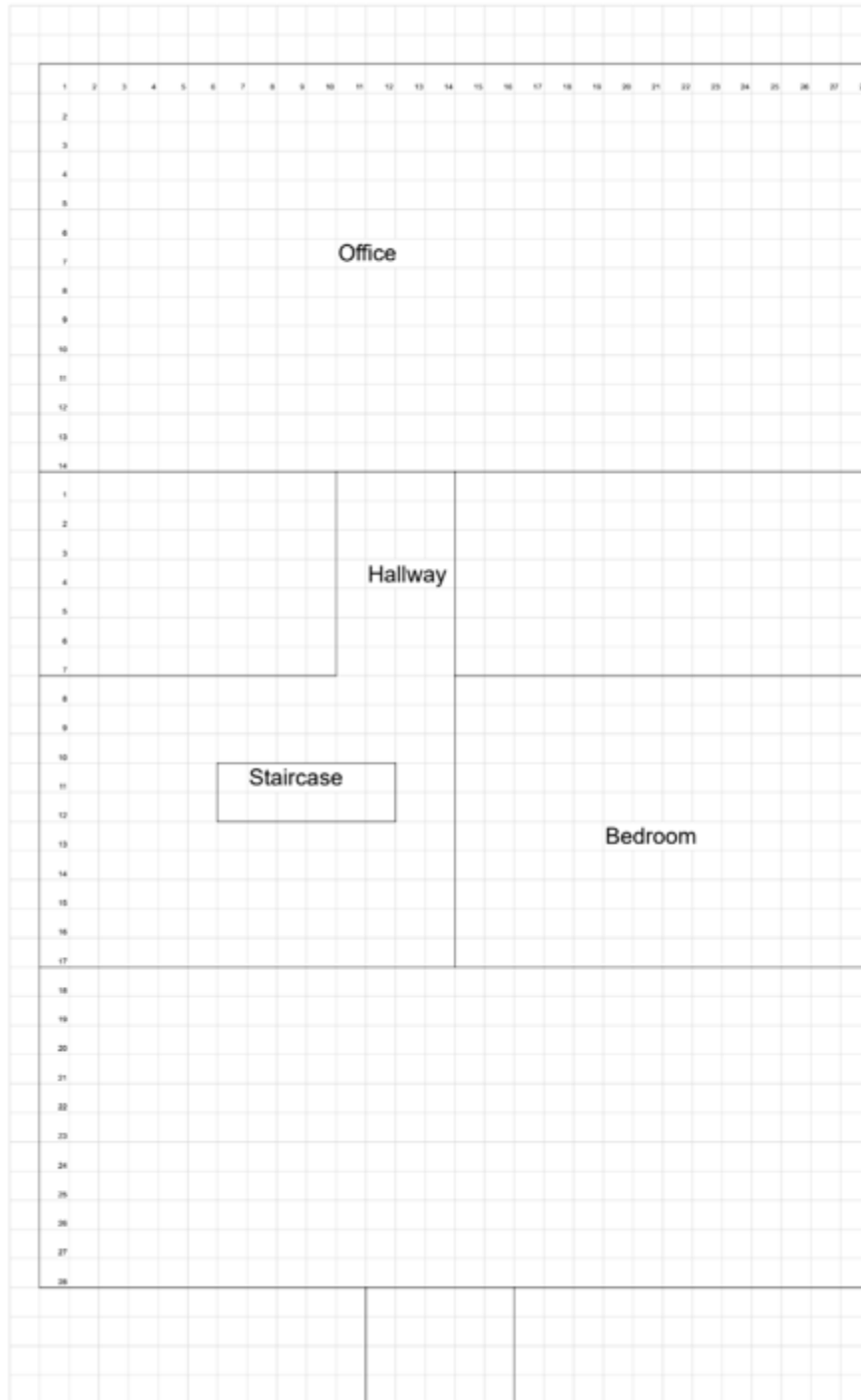
Interior Description of the Anne and Carl Braden House



First Floor Drawing of the Braden House by Elizabeth (Beth) Braden and Alice Braden Hansen, November 2023

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**Attic Drawing of the Braden House by Elizabeth (Beth) Braden and Alice Braden Hansen,
November 2023**

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There is no basement but there is a full crawl space according to the Jefferson County PVA.

Garage—building that used to be on the site but has since been demolished

According to the 1947 building permit and the 1961 survey, there used to be a wood framed garage on the property sized 20' 02" by 14' 02" in the northeast corner of the property. Its tear-down date is not known.

Storage building—non-contributing structure

There is a metal storage facility on a concrete base located on the northeast corner of the property.



Storage Building



Alley Behind Property

Historical Marker—non-contributing object

A metal object with engraved text sits at the edge of the property. It is situated near Virginia Avenue and faces perpendicular to the Braden House.

Changes to the Anne and Carl Braden House Since the End of the Period of Significance

A wood deck was added at an unknown date. A window was replaced in a back bedroom in April 2021. Some floor joists were fortified and the historical marker in the front yard was refurbished in May or June 2021. The roof was replaced sometime between May 2021 and October 2022.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Areas of Significance

SOCIAL HISTORY - BLACK

WOMEN'S HISTORY

Period of Significance

1954 - 1962

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Significant Dates

1954

Significant Person

Wade, Andrew

Wade, Charlotte

Braden, Anne

Braden, Carl

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

James Ishmael Rone for Wade House

Unknown for Braden House

The Period of Significance

The 1954 date corresponds to the beginning of the Wade-Braden Alliance and the purchase of the Wade House. During that year, the Wades moved into the house and withstood local opposition as strong as bombing of the house and rocks being thrown through their window. The 1962 date corresponds to Carl Braden's second release from prison and an end to all major events regarding the Alliance.

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Wade-Braden District (JF-3690 and JFC 2507) is a listing of two individual properties which had a related role in the challenge to existing racial segregation of housing in Louisville and elsewhere in the country. The district's significance is observed within the historic context "Black Fair Housing Movement within Louisville, Kentucky, 1945-1975." Both couples are important historic figures within that context, so both properties meet Criterion B for their owners' activities from 1954 through 1962. Andrew and Charlotte Wade, a Black couple, bettered social conditions by heroically facing local attacks when they purchased and occupied a house in an all-white neighborhood. They faced animosity from white neighbors, including the dynamiting of their home, but did not relinquish the property. The Wades endured physical attacks and great social pressure for moving into this house. Their steadfastness set a national precedent by advancing Black fair housing and civil rights through the dummy purchase concept: white people buying property and then transferring it to Black people. Anne and Carl Braden, a white couple, worked to better social conditions by dedicated acts of social activism and journalism. The Bradens purchased the house at 4010 Clyde Drive, Louisville and transferred it to Andrew and Charlotte Wade. The Bradens also encountered and withstood much civil backlash – they were charged with sedition and Carl was imprisoned twice. He was brought before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), faced the Supreme Court in *Braden v. United States*, and had the highest set bail bond in Kentucky state history at the time. This action placed a spotlight on the common housing practices and began to dismantle the segregation of home ownership by race within Kentucky's largest city. Their Alliance impacted not only the city of Louisville, but also the nation. National figures like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks, along with many other civil rights activists, visited the Bradens in their Virginia Avenue home in the 1960s.

The Black Fair Housing Movement within Louisville, Kentucky, 1945 - 1975

Black Louisvillians had an active social and civic existence in Louisville. However, legal and traditional structures, such as the separate but equal doctrine and the codified practice of redlining, existed that enabled the white population to maintain control over the lives of the Black population. Despite the instance of some Black people who transcended their limited starting places, most Black people in Louisville did not enjoy the opportunities and freedoms available to the white population, merely due to their social status connected to their skin color.

Black Civil Rights in Louisville, Kentucky

For Kentucky and much of the south, and even in Midwestern states and elsewhere, Black people became U.S. citizens in 1865 through the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment, but states and localities passed restrictive laws to limit their rights. Legislators devised laws that effectively robbed Blacks of their rights as citizens, but left a nominal amount of freedoms intact to prevent lawsuits or riots. Black citizens in Louisville, Kentucky, for instance, had been actively voting

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for years. The Black population could occasionally swing the vote because of the city's near split between Democrats and Republicans.

This prevented politicians from completely ignoring Louisville's Black population which made up about 15% of the city's residents at that time.

Contrary to the practice of strictly segregated bus seating in the deep south, Louisville had free seating standards. There were *Courier-Journal* and *Louisville Times* newspaper stories on Black civil leaders and what they said about civil rights. Anne Braden authored a few of these stories which occasionally made front page news.

In 1945, with white and Black soldiers both returning from a World War that had been ignited by two aggressors who preached racial superiority, sentiments in the U.S. began to question racial oppression in this country. From 1949-1951, dentist P. O. Sweeney encouraged Black residents to initiate a lawsuit against golfing segregation: *Sweeney v. City of Louisville*. Andrew E. Wade, Jr. was one of Louisville's most prominent figures who helped to desegregate golf courses in Louisville. Wade Jr. and his group fended off aggressive white people at an all-white golf course in 1951. Louisville's golf courses were legally desegregated in February 1952 as a result of the Sweeney lawsuit. In 1956, Wade Jr. attempted to enter into a tournament but was denied – this story made national headlines in Black newspapers. The rest of the city park system remained segregated until 1955.

A Black man playing tennis on a white-only court was arrested. He told Anne Braden that the tennis courts for Black people were in too poor of a condition to play on safely. Cinemas and theaters, hotels, restaurants, and stores were generally segregated. Residences were segregated in addition to places of work and recreation. However, the Louisville Free Public Library system was integrated by 1950-1951.

Elementary, middle, and high schools were completely segregated in Louisville, awaiting the decision of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* on May 17, 1954 and its first enactment in the 1956-1957 school year. This decision considered racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional. Catholic colleges in Louisville were integrated before the University of Louisville, which began to integrate higher education by the 1950-1951 school year.

Black citizens' economic possibilities were impacted by the restrictions imposed by government and private enterprises, leaving them grossly disadvantaged. They were not prohibited from owning businesses or from making a decent living, but many could only find work in janitorial or industrial positions and other low-level jobs within the white community. Men could work as waiters and women were frequently housemaids and nannies.

The Louisville News and *The Louisville Leader* were two Black newspapers in Louisville. *The Louisville News* ran from 1913-1949, and *The Louisville Leader* ran from 1917-1950. *The Louisville Defender* started publication in 1933 and continues to publish today. *The Louisville Defender* helped mobilize the Black community and closely followed the Wade-Braden Alliance.

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The civil situation of Louisville with its partial integration set the scene for the Wade-Braden Alliance in 1954.

Black Housing in Louisville, Kentucky in the mid-1950s

Louisville's civil situation had major flaws in a number of areas, including housing. A blatant segregation law that prevented white and Black people from moving onto a block of mostly the other race was created in Louisville in 1914 but overturned by the Supreme Court in 1917, due to a local lawsuit *Buchanan v. Warley*. However, local jurisdictions then created less obvious ways to discriminate in housing.

The United States Census in 1950 found 84.4% of Black Louisvillians lived in poor or very poor housing conditions. Poor Black people were generally restricted to run down properties, many without bathrooms. Middle income Black people lived in homes white people left only if they could pay the inflated price offered to Black people.

According to a February 20, 1954 *Courier-Journal* article titled "Negro Housing is Generally Poor," only 200 new homes were built in Louisville from 1925-1950 for Black people. However, in the first three quarters of 1953 alone, there were 2,768 single-family home permits issued, according to the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission in a *Courier-Journal* article titled, "County-Area Home Building Sets Record for Nine Month Period." From the same article, Jefferson County permits reached an all-time high in July 1953: 453 permits. The vast majority of these new builds were most likely for white people.

Even though the Supreme Court ruled against racial restrictive covenants by stating that buyers should not be excluded from purchasing a home due to their race, injustice was still practiced through government policy and deed covenants. While there was no written restrictive covenant in the Wade house deed, there was an unspoken restrictive covenant among the neighborhood, builder, realtor, banks, and insurance companies. This system of formal and informal covenants encouraged white flight from Louisville's downtown to the suburbs and aimed to protect white interests. While whole downtown blocks were filled with only white residences, realtors did "break blocks" by selling homes to Black buyers in white neighborhoods. This generally was an indication that the real estate company was attempting to convert an entire block to become a Black neighborhood. Realtors were in the process of purposely making one block white and the next Black so that they could significantly raise prices and profit off the sales of white residents leaving "broken" blocks. This system of covenants, along with buying and selling patterns, is described locally in Anne Braden's *The Wall Between* as well as nationally in Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law* and in The National Park Service's National Historic Landmarks Theme Study titled *Civil Rights in America: Racial Discrimination in Housing*.

Black people were continually barred from buying certain property. Even if a Black individual or family had enough money to buy a particular home, realtors and banks would often deny them the opportunity. Additionally, for those particular residences that the system allowed Black

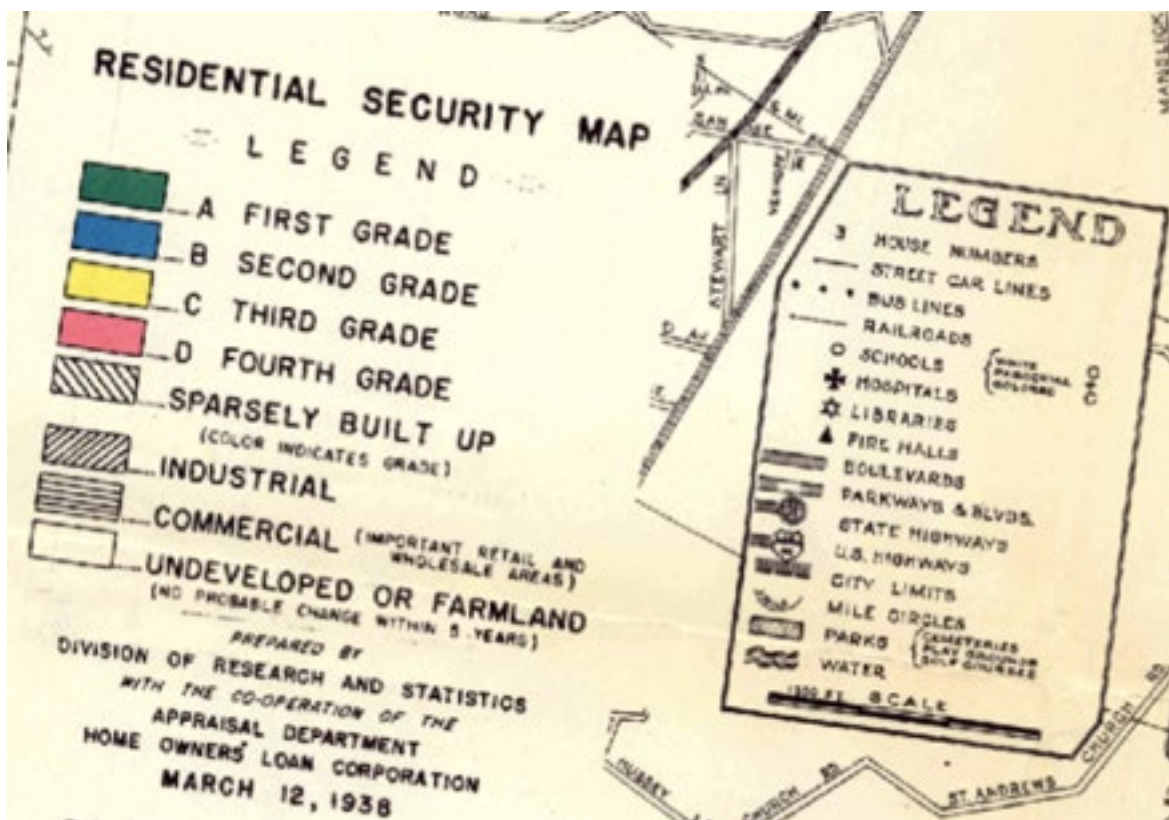
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people to buy, realtors would mark up prices so high that single-home purchases were often out of reach for Black families. Therefore, many Black people rented rooms or floors in homes in downtown Louisville.

The Louisville, Kentucky Redlining Map Detailed

In housing, Black people were generally prevented from accumulating wealth, thus denying them social power and agency over their own lives. This late 1930s map below depicts the practice of redlining: the banking practice where financial institutions would predominantly lend to middle-class and upper-class white people, thereby creating a generational system of poverty for Black people and poor white people. For the most part, middle-class and upper-class white people lived in the green and blue areas while Black people and poor white people lived in the yellow and red areas. Since many Black families living in the yellow and red areas could not secure loans to move to the green and blue areas, their families were trapped in their respective neighborhoods and classes.



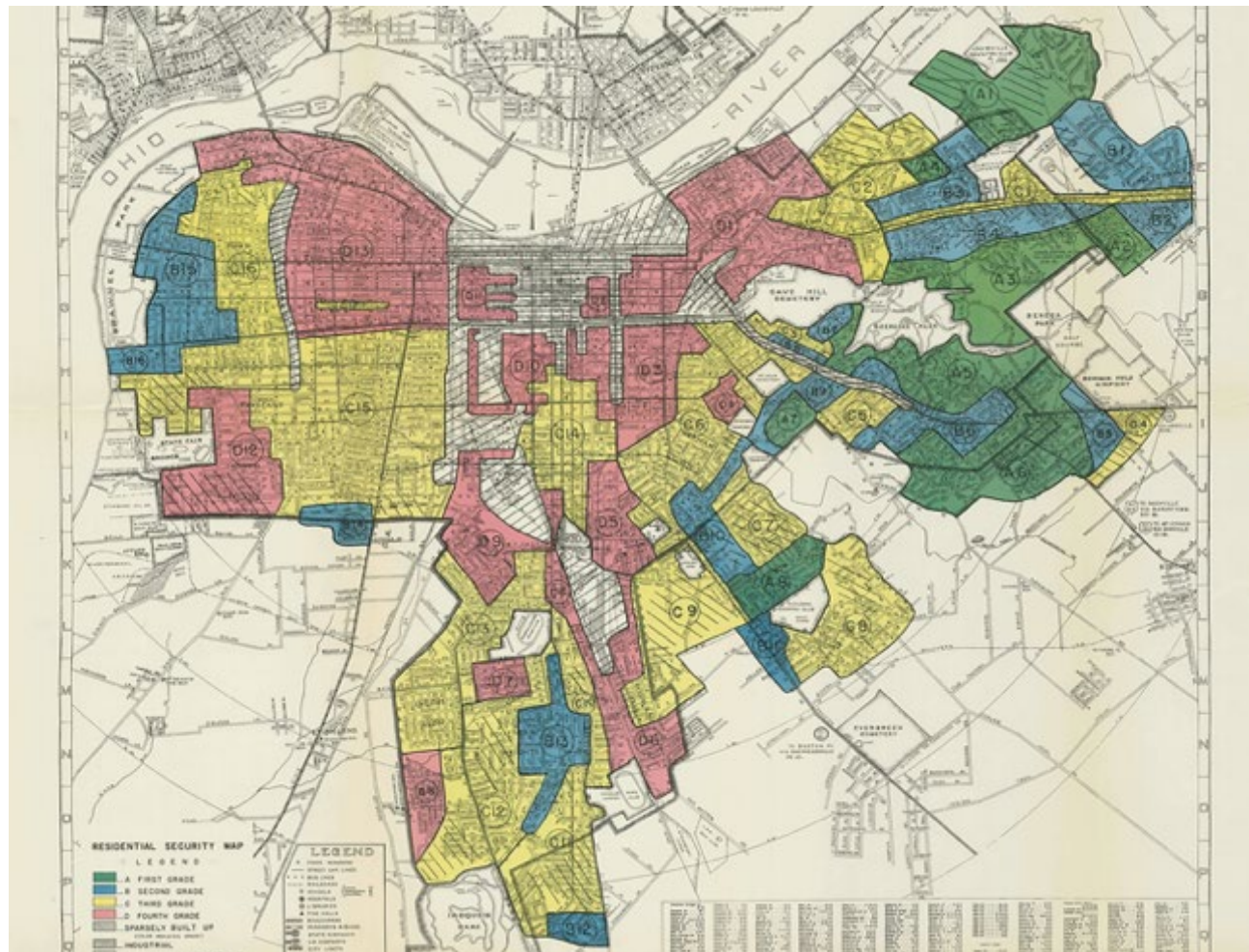
Legend, *Louisville Residential Security Map*, Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC), 1938

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Louisville Residential Security Map, Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC), 1938

Fair Housing for Black Louisvillians After the Wade-Braden Alliance

With their dummy purchase and the national attention it received, the Wades and Bradens were catalysts of the fair housing movement in Louisville and the country. In the years following the Wade-Braden Alliance, the fair housing movement in Louisville erupted with the formation of groups, demonstrations from the community, and the creation of new laws.

New neighborhoods for Black people were constructed after the Wades' commendable act of living on Rone Court. Although they were still segregated, it was new housing – a rare commodity for Black people at the time. The Wades influenced the construction of these new homes.

In 1962, the Louisville Human Relations Commission (HRC) was founded and tried to investigate integration in housing. In 1963, the HRC worked to promote the benefits of fair housing to the community. Religious groups engaged with the HRC and tried to inform the public as well. In May 1963, all public accommodations were desegregated in Louisville. On

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June 25, 1964, a draft of a fair housing law written by Harry S. McAlpin, a Black lawyer, was supported by the HRC. In July 1965, the law was approved and a voluntary ordinance was passed in August that same year. It received endorsement by the Home Builders Association of Louisville, the Louisville League of Savings and Loan Associations, the Louisville Mortgage Bankers Association, and the Louisville Real Estate Board.

Housing concerns in free public housing were also being addressed. Up to this point, these housing units were segregated - separate sections for Black and white residents. On September 8, 1965, the Louisville Housing Commission announced that it would place an applicant for government housing in the first available vacant apartment, regardless of skin color.

In February of 1966, Louisville Mayor Kenneth A. Schmied created a panel to address complaints about housing discrimination. In August of 1966, the HRC urged passage of a stronger law with more penalties for those who discriminated. Although this stronger law faced opposition by the director of the Louisville Real Estate Board, the Greater Louisville Central Labor Council endorsed it and pro-segregationist realtors were singled out to end racist actions. The mayor's advisory group felt that the voluntary ordinance was not effective and advocated for the stronger law. In March 1967, over 650 people at an NAACP conference marched at Louisville City Hall to support open housing. Other marches and sit-ins also occurred.

The events taking place in Louisville were happening on a national level. On March 30, 1967, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke to about 1,200 people at a West Louisville church. Between 300 - 500 people then marched to an auditorium with him where an anti-open-housing meeting was in process. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. propounded, "change dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows," and "We aren't going to achieve our freedom sitting around waiting for it." King made Louisville one of his focus cities. Over forty employees of King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) collaborated with the Kentucky Christian Leadership Conference, a major proponent for fair housing. King, the SCLC, and other supporters rallied on the roads of Louisville so much that the yearly Pegasus Parade was stopped for worry of fair housing marches. However, Dr. King strategically advised local leaders to cancel the demonstration at the Kentucky Derby in order to avoid angering people.

The mayor suddenly announced on April 3 that he wanted the alderman board to vote on the ordinance. Marches developed into near nightly happenings. On April 11, the aldermen board voted 9-3 in opposition of the ordinance. Eventually, the mayor declared that the city would not pass legislation until the drama subsided.

Hearing about all of the marches taking place along with their subsequent injuries, including the Reverend A. D. King being hit by a rock on his eye, Muhammed Ali came to Louisville and spoke at a rally, "I saw the Rev. (A. D. Williams) King mistreated for only trying to love thy enemy and I could not just stay there in the luxurious motel being world famous and the heavyweight champion of the world and not come to say something to you." The Reverend A. D. King was the brother of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A day later, forty-two people were arrested with potentially stiff penalties.

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Anne Braden, Reverend A. D. King, and others were arrested for ignoring a ban on night-time marching. On May 2, 1967, they were released from jail.



Anne Braden, Reverend A. D. King, and Others Leaving Jail
The Courier-Journal, May 3, 1967

In early November 1967, elected members on the Board of Aldermen who opposed the ordinance and fair housing were not reelected. Louise Renolds, a Black realtor and returning member to the Board of Aldermen who supported fair housing and a stronger ordinance, stated, "The listings available in the West End are pathetic. There's not much to choose from. The open housing ordinance has been given a change to work and it hasn't. It needs enforcement power. No citizen should have to go to all the trouble the administration prescribes as his legal remedies to buy the house of his choice."

In December 1967, an open-housing law was enacted by the Board of Aldermen making Louisville the first city south of the Ohio River with this type of open housing law.

Following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in April 1968, Kentucky created a statewide Fair Housing Law in 1968; this law addressed home purchases only and prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, and country of origin. In 1972, the law was broadened in scope and it became illegal to discriminate in selling or renting a home.

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Catalysts of Fair Housing and Civil Rights Change: The Wades and The Bradens

Andrew Edward Wade, IV, 1922-2005

From this point forward, “Andrew Wade,” “Andrew,” or “Wade” refers to Andrew Wade, IV.

Early Life

Andrew Edward Wade, IV was born on Sunday, February 12, 1922 in Nashville, Tennessee. His parents were Andrew Edward Wade, Jr. and Rosetta Wade. Both of his parents graduated from high school.

According to the 1930 Census, the Wade family had moved to Louisville and were renting at 2329 Chestnut Street. Wade had an older sister Martha; his parents also had another son named Andrew E. Wade, III who died before Andrew IV was born. His father worked for the Palace Theatre on 139 Walnut Street as a motion picture operator. Andrew’s mother was a domestic worker for a private family for an unknown amount of time, according to the 1940 Census.

Andrew graduated from Central Colored High School (now Central High School) in Louisville, Kentucky in 1940. He was excited about electricity from a young age. He expressed, “Electricity was intriguing,” “Seeing two wires light up a bulb was really something.”

Because no Kentucky college would accommodate him, Andrew left the Commonwealth of Kentucky for Hampton Institute (now Hampton University), a Black college in Virginia. He wanted to study electricity and Hampton Institute offered the program. While in college, he filled out his draft card for World War II at the age of twenty.

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REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1924)

SERIAL NUMBER N 11	I. NAME (Print) Andrew Edward Wade IV	ORDER NUMBER 16161
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 3311 Greenwood Ave, Louisville Jefferson Ky		
3. MAILING ADDRESS same		
4. TELEPHONE Sh. 2073 W	5. AGE IN YEARS 20	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Nashville Tenn
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Rosetta Wade 3311 Greenwood Ave. Lou. Ky.		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Andrew Wade Jr. 3311 Greenwood Ave. Lou. Ky.		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Employed by father Electrical Work		

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 9-1-42) (over) #10-21620-3 Andrew Edward Wade, IV

Andrew Wade’s World War II Draft Card Front, Ancestry

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Early Career

Three years after beginning college, he was drafted into the Navy for World War II and reached the rank of Musician Petty Officer 3. In the military, he saw instances of equal treatment for white and Black people. However, he came back to Louisville from the war in 1945 and returned to a civilian life lacking those equalities. By the 1950 Census, Andrew Wade and his parents lived at 3311 Greenwood Avenue.

Working with his father (Andrew Wade, Jr.), he was an electrician for Wade and Son Electrical Contractors. The electrical union did not allow Black people to join; since many electrical jobs within the city required membership in the union, Wade and Son created a client list that consisted mostly of Black churches and Black owned businesses. The business was not allowed in important union meetings where new regulations were discussed. They had to adapt in order to overcome their disadvantages. The electrical business was given the opportunity to perform work at Simmons University, the first Black college in Kentucky. Because a union membership was necessary for this contract, a union card was given for a limited period of time so that the Wades could perform their work. However, the union did not give Wade the seniority he deserved because he was Black.

Although not on active duty, Wade worked in the Naval Reserve. On Memorial Day 1946, he and three Black friends attended a veteran's event at Fontaine Ferry Park. An officer requested that his group exit the park because Black people were prohibited from being there. Later in 1988, Andrew revisited the injustice revealing, "A dog passed by and I said, 'The dog can stay, but we have to leave?' and the officer said, 'Yes. I'm sorry.'"

Charlotte Ann Williams Wade, 1928-2020

Early Life

Charlotte Ann Williams was born on Thursday, November 22, 1928 in Louisville, Kentucky. Her parents were Nebraska Williams and Anna Wright Williams.

According to the 1930 Census, Charlotte lived with her parents at 3315 Dumesnil Street. Nebraska Williams was a mechanic for the Gas and Electric Company. Anna Williams was a homemaker in 1930. At this time Charlotte was fifteen months old. Verna Allensworth, an older step-sister, also lived in the home.

By the 1940 Census, her father was a custodian at Central Colored High School (now Central High School), and her mother was still a homemaker. Charlotte had two younger sisters Sue and Betty Williams. The family rented at 1824 W. Broadway.

At the time of the 1950 census, the Williams family continued to live at 1824 W. Broadway. Nebraska continued to work as a custodian, but he was now working at the Board of Education.

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Charlotte attended Louisville Municipal College for an unknown amount of time. She is mentioned in an April 1948 *Chicago Defender* newspaper article as being a Louisville Municipal College student and participating in an Alpha Kappa Alpha modeling event at Kentucky State College (now Kentucky State University).

Andrew and Charlotte Wade Marriage and Family Life

Andrew Edward Wade, IV married Charlotte Ann Williams in Southern Indiana on Wednesday, May 31, 1950.

The Louisville Defender included news about the couple in its June 1951 "Jottings" column.

Thursday, May 31st, marked the first wedding anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wade IV. The Wade's are expecting you know.

Jottings, *The Louisville Defender*, June 9, 1951

Andrew and Charlotte had two children together: Rosemary and Andrea Wade. The elder, Rosemary Wade, was born in September 1951. Andrea Wade was born in August 1954.



Andrew Wade and Charlotte Wade with their Children Andrea Wade (in Andrew's Lap) and Rosemary Wade (in Charlotte's Lap), "Louisville Travesty," a pamphlet published by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, New York, 1955

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Anne Gambrell McCarty Braden, 1924-2006

Early Life

Anne's father was Gambrell McCarty and her mother was Anita McCarty. Only six months after her July 28, 1924 birth in Louisville at Saint Anthony's Hospital, Braden's family moved to Jackson and then Columbus, Mississippi. According to the 1930 United States Federal Census, her family lived in Owensboro, Kentucky at 1204 Allen Street; the family also moved to Lexington, Kentucky and Little Rock, Arkansas, due to her father's occupation as a salesman. Anne spent the longest amount of her childhood time in the town of Anniston, Alabama – from 1931 until her first year of college in 1941. According to the 1940 United States Federal Census, Anne lived at 502 Quintard Avenue in Anniston, Alabama.

She lived a rather peaceful upbringing in contrast to many during that period. During the Great Depression, she was exposed to the economic inequities in this country. Beggars, as many as twenty a night, came to her house in search of sustenance. She recalled that her father often prepared sandwiches for them – a repeated act of service that had lasting effects on an impressionable youth.

Her interest in writing showed with her letters, diaries, and starting a novel in third grade. In 1933, she had her earliest publication in *Junior Home* magazine. She even won a bicycle for coming in first in a jingle contest for Keds sneakers. She went to picture shows, took dancing classes, enjoyed poetry and theater, and participated in Girl Scouts.

Anne grew up in the Episcopalian denomination of Christianity and attended Grace Episcopal Church. The church and the Young People's Service League had a positive influence on Anne and encouraged her to focus on helping those in need.

Around the age of fifteen, she placed third in the state Civitan Club contest. Anne gave the speech "Preserve Our Liberties," a pro Bill of Rights speech. She was also paying attention to politics and was following the developments of World War II in Europe.

Anne's involvement with her high school newspaper fostered a love of journalism. In a 1989 interview with Dr. Catherine Fosl, Anne said, "One thing I did learn was how to put a publication together, and somehow I have been putting them together for one thing or another ever since. It's one thing I really love, that I'd rather do than anything else in the world."

She attended an all-women's institution named Stratford College for two years starting in 1941. Anne kept her enthusiasm for poetry and theater during this time. Anne wrote for the college newspaper which continued her interest in journalism. During her second year she became editor in chief of the Stratford College newspaper. That same year she received a plethora of honors and awards. Anne was the student council president, received the Distinguished Service Award, was voted best student by her peers, and was valedictorian.

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In that same 1989 interview, Anne had a realization: she would rather work in a newspaper office, no matter how menial a role, than work anywhere else. In the summer of 1943, after graduating from Stratford College, Anne became a summer reporter at the *Anniston Star*, a local newspaper serving eastern Alabama. Anne wrote her own stories about Girl Scouts and the nearby Army post, Fort McClellan. She conducted a poll for the paper on the upcoming presidential election and grew in her love of journalism. She progressed quickly and was given the opportunity to write editorials occasionally, primarily about international happenings.

In 1943, after a summer of journalism, Anne enrolled at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia. She soon found her way to the school newspaper and joined the theater scene. Anne settled on being an English major and even took an independent study on Russian literature. She recollected, "there was just this atmosphere that after the war things were going to be different. We had quite an image of ourselves as part of the 'New South.'" Anne thought that because America was fighting a war against Hitler's racism, there would be racial change in America after World War II. On May 27, 1945, Anne earned her diploma.



**Anne's Senior Year of College Yearbook Picture
Randolph-Macon Woman's College, 1945, Ancestry**

Early Career

After graduation, Anne aimed to complete a master's degree at Columbia University's School of Journalism. However, she thought it necessary to gain more journalistic experience first. Anne went back to working for *The Anniston Star* and worked as a full-time journalist. She covered Fort McClellan again, and the base proposed additional work for Anne. Her parents were

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unenthusiastic about Anne taking this job as they were not fond of her working in close distance to Black employees as the job would have required. She turned down this second job and became increasingly aggravated with the racial scene because of this episode.

A year later in the summer of 1946, Anne interviewed for several southern newspapers. She accepted a job in Birmingham, Alabama as a court reporter for the *Age-Herald*, the morning paper, and *Birmingham News*, the afternoon paper. She saw a twisted justice system that was hardly just at all. Anne had a direct view to a court that gave little to no justice to Black people. She saw Black men attempting to register to vote; they were denied on multiple occasions. One day in a cafeteria, Anne was asked about the news. She responded, "No. Everything quiet. Nothing but a colored murder." Her Black waitress took on a grim air. Anne desired to apologize, blaming her concentration on making a dynamic story over what actually mattered. However, it soon came upon her that she too was to blame. These racially unjust events helped to give Anne initiative and grit to fight racism one-on-one later in life.

In 1947, Anne hastily left Birmingham for a new job with *The Louisville Times*. During her time in Louisville, Anne found many, especially younger people, opposed to segregation. Anne took University of Louisville night courses and found men and women willing to create change as long as others were on their side.

With Anne's education focus at the *Times*, she could interview key people who were advancing social justice. For example, Anne promoted a story of Lyman Johnson to the front page. Lyman T. Johnson Traditional Middle School in Louisville is named after him today. Johnson was a Black man attempting to enroll at the University of Kentucky for graduate school. Opposing school segregation, he emerged victorious in his lawsuit.

At *The Louisville Times*, Anne met a fellow reporter, Carl Braden. He had Anne report about labor happenings on the weekend and shared books and ideas with her.

Not only did Anne meet Carl through work, but she also met a man in the Farm Equipment Workers Union at International Harvester. A Black Louisvillian slightly older than Anne, Sterling Neal, advised her on certain issues. Neal ran for the Eighth Ward City Alderman Office in the summer of 1947 and was very active in his union, later on attending the International Harvester Council of Farm Equipment Workers Union as a 1950 conference delegate.

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Carl James Braden, 1914 - 1975

Early Life

Carl James Braden, son of Mary Elizabeth and James Braden, was born in New Albany, Indiana on June 27, 1914 and grew up mainly in Portland, Kentucky.

According to the 1920 United States Federal Census, Carl lived in a rented house at 441 Highland Boulevard Louisville, Kentucky while his father was a steel worker for Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The neighborhood was an L&N community for its workers.

Growing up in a sometimes deprived working class childhood, Carl felt much empathy for those affected by injustice. His father became unemployed in 1922 after going on strike arguing for better pay. This incident had lasting effects on Carl because beans were his family's main food source for a time; Carl and his family were often hungry. As an adult, Carl often spoke about this period of his life and it fueled his desire to advocate for others.

The Braden family had moved to 2319 Rowan Street by the 1930 United States Federal Census.

Carl was involved in street life but read actively. His parents did not finish grade school but wanted him, along with his younger siblings Paul, Ruth, and Clyde, to be well-educated. He gained the attention of nuns at his Catholic parochial school because of his academic achievements. The nuns desired for him to become a priest and recommended him to attend Mt. St. Francis Preparatory Seminary in southern Indiana. He enrolled at age thirteen with his time there lasting three years. Even though Braden's parents were gladly in support of this idea, Carl left the pre-seminary school at the age of sixteen. At the seminary, he was immersed in journalism because of the school newspaper. Though Braden enjoyed learning, his proper education came to a halt at age sixteen.

After his education ended, he took a police reporting job for the *Louisville Herald-Post*. He credited a portion of his civil rights fervor to being a police reporter, seeing first-hand the problems people encountered as a result of poverty. He later documented many coal mining stories in Harlan County, Kentucky for the *Harlan Daily Enterprise*. He also worked as a reporter in Knoxville, Tennessee at the *Knoxville Journal* and then in Cincinnati at the *Cincinnati Enquirer* as a labor reporter. At twenty-five, he was promoted to be editor of the *Cincinnati Enquirer* (Kentucky edition). His picture was featured in a *Cincinnati Enquirer* article during his time there.

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Reporters' Copy Is Put Into Readable Form By Six Men On Local Desk Of Enquirer



Donald C. Heck, right foreground, presides over the local copy desk of The Enquirer. Copy readers, around the desk from left to right, are J. Blanford Taylor, who edits the news of Northern Kentucky and "makes up" the Kentucky Edition; Carl Braden, Joseph L. Wahl, and Walter D. Sullivan. Leonard Jordan, another desk man, was not present when this picture was made.

Braden Pictured as a Reporter in *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, December 5, 1937

In 1945, Carl moved back to Louisville taking a job for *The Louisville Times* as a labor editor. In 1948, he left *The Louisville Times* to work in editing and public relations for the following CIO unions: the United Farm Equipment Workers, Transport Workers, Public Workers, and Furniture Workers. He took this job because of his fondness for the trade union movement. In 1950, Carl left the CIO unions to be a copy editor for *The Courier-Journal*. He held this position until he was let go in the wake of his December 1954 court conviction.

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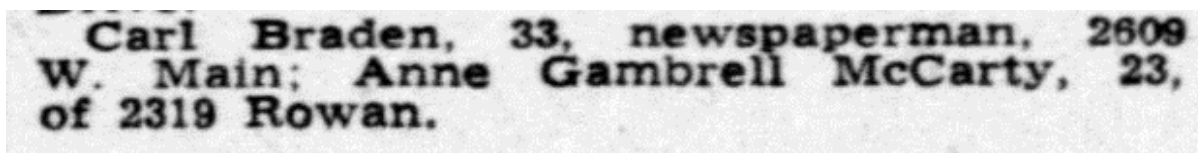
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At the time of the Wade house purchase, Carl ran Editors, Incorporated, a small enterprise helping businesses with their editing needs from the attic office. He did this in addition to his main job at *The Courier-Journal*. It is unknown how long he continued this work.

Anne and Carl Braden Marriage and Family Life

Carl Braden was first married to Virginia Braden. Tragically, their only child together, Lee Carl Braden, died at only seven months old despite many treatments for meningitis in 1940. Virginia had a daughter, Sonia, before she married Carl. However, in March 1948, Braden's zeal for his political beliefs was looked down upon by others. Unwilling to change, he and Virginia divorced shortly thereafter.

Carl had first met Anne in 1947 when she became employed in the same office at *The Louisville Times*. Braden confessed his love for fellow journalist Anne McCarty on March 19, 1948, and they were married on June 21, 1948. The 1949 City Directory states that Anne and Carl first lived in an apartment on 2609 West Main Street. By the 1951 City Directory, they lived at 1551 W. Ormsby Avenue in apartment 3. Finally, they purchased their home at 4403 Virginia Avenue on June 16, 1952. They lived together at this address throughout the remainder of their marriage.



Marriage Licenses, *The Courier-Journal*, June 23, 1948



Braden-McCarty Wedding Announcement, *The Anniston Star*, June 27, 1948

Their political views served as a common ground for the revolution to society they would help deliver. In a 1989 interview with Dr. Catherine Fosl, her biographer, Anne Braden remarked,

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There was a real sense when Carl and I decided to get married that we were joining our lives to bring about a new world. We often used the term “revolution” but we had no idea how this revolution was going to come about any more than most young revolutionaries do... We believed in the same sort of world, and we wanted to spend our lives working for [that] world.

Anne and Carl had three children together: James, Anita, and Elizabeth Braden. The eldest, James Braden, was born in September 1951. Anita Braden was born in February 1953. At this point, Anne considered decelerating her activism but could not resist working to help others. Sonia, the daughter of Carl’s first wife, also lived with them at times in the house at 4403 Virginia Avenue.

In 1954 because of sedition charges relating to the dummy purchase, Anne and Carl were arrested. James and Anita lived with Anne’s parents for just under a year. Also in light of the sedition case, Anne and Carl were largely estranged from many white people during this time. However, James and Anita went to a mostly Black school where they were not picked on by other students because of who their parents were. A few years later, Elizabeth (Beth) Braden was born in February 1960. Anita Braden tragically passed away due to heart disease in 1964. She was only eleven years old. A memorial library was established at her school, Virginia Avenue Elementary School (now Jessie R. Carter Traditional Elementary School). The plaque remains today.



Carl (left) and Anne (right) Typing at *The Louisville Times*, September 1948

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Carl and Anne Braden with Their Children, Jim and Anita, in Anniston, Alabama in Fall 1954, *The Subversive Southerner*



The Braden Family at 4403 Virginia Avenue on the Occasion of Beth's Christening in 1960, "with love to Rosa Parks" Written on the Back of the Photograph, Rosa Parks Papers, Library of Congress

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Anne in her Attic Office at 4403 Virginia Avenue in 1962, Wisconsin Historical Society

Interview with Elizabeth (Beth) Braden

In a personal phone interview on November 26, 2023, Elizabeth Braden recounts the house and her parents' welcoming and hospitable nature. People frequently stopped in for dinner or stayed a night or two. This occurred so often that it became second nature for Anne to ask how many people would be joining them that night for dinner. Anne and Carl never said no to anyone who wanted to stay in their home. Many notable individuals came to visit their home. Ms. Braden remembers Reverend Shuttlesworth, the Wilmington 10 with Benjamin Chavis, and Angela Davis visiting with her family in their home. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. also visited the Bradens in this home. Beth recalls Dr. King giving her and her brother a book with the inscription: "to Jimmy and Beth."

The painting in the background of Beth's Christening and in the group photo of the Bradens, Rosa Parks, and others was painted by Anne's friend. Those two photos were taken in the living room of 4403 Virginia Avenue.

There was a bookcase in the hall and walls of bookcases in the living room. Books were very important to her parents. There were other bookcases throughout the house. There was also a mimeograph machine in frequent use beside the bedroom upstairs in the finished attic space. Also, in the attic were what her parents called cubbies in between the roof and flooring of the attic in otherwise largely unusable space.

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Elizabeth's bedroom was eventually moved to the front of the house because it was quieter there. This was because Anne, Carl, their assistant, or visitors, would be working, printing, and moving around at what seemed like all hours of the night.

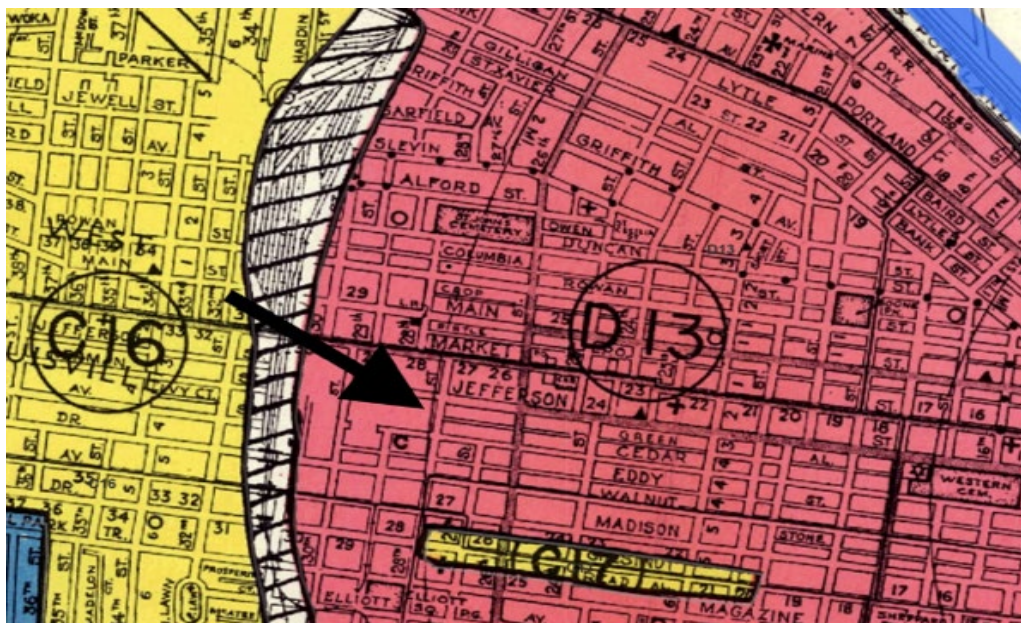
Ms. Braden recalls that her parents had grown accustomed to the years of persecution. Once the public recognized the value of her activism, her mother actually found it difficult to receive awards and adjust to her newfound fame and honor. Her father died before the public's ideological shift and the recognition that followed.

Elizabeth Braden moved out of the home in 1990 but visited often in the years following.

The Wade-Braden Alliance

At the beginning of 1954, Andrew and Charlotte Wade were living in a home on .0727 of an acre at 310½ S. 28th Street in the Russell neighborhood while seeking to buy a new home in the white neighborhood of Shively. The Wades were living in D13 which was a red zone – the zone considered to be the least desirable of all four categories. This was determined by the Residential Security Map pictured below. In spring that year, Andrew Wade came to Carl Braden with a compelling request. Wade wanted Braden to buy a home for his family in an all-white neighborhood and then transfer it to him. The Bradens purchased the home and sold it to the Wades. This started the Wade-Braden Alliance.

When racial injustice so brutally gripped a city and its people, Andrew and Charlotte Wade and Anne and Carl Braden battled bravely and decisively against the lack of fair housing equality and set the precedent for the dummy purchase. Their cooperation produced widespread attention for fair housing frontiers, not only within the city of Louisville, Kentucky but also across the nation.



Arrow Points to Early 1954 Wade Home at 310½ S 28th Street on HOLC Map, (↑ North)

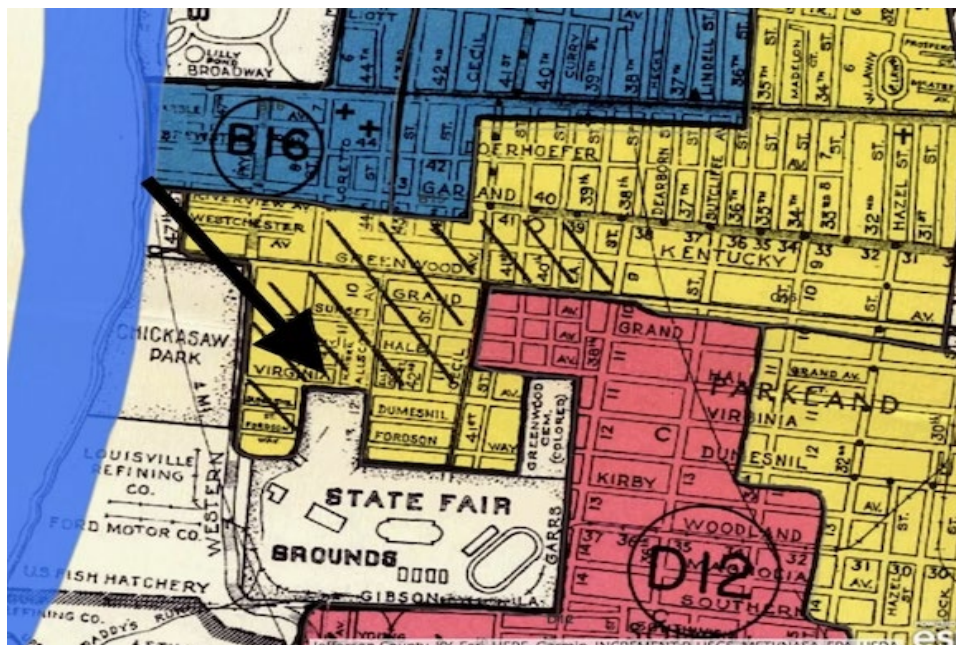
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As Andrew and Charlotte were deciding which house they would buy, Anne mentioned their own neighborhood as an option. Even though homes in the Exly neighborhood were fairly new and Black people lived close by, the Wades denied the offer stating their children's need for more green space. Anne and Carl lived in the C or yellow zone on the HOLC map.



Arrow Points to Empty Lot at 4403 Virginia Avenue on HOLC Map (Anne and Carl Braden House was built in 1947), (↑ North)

The Wades eventually came across a new limestone ranch-style home outside the city with a nice sized yard. Their prospective property was considered “undeveloped or farmland” at the time of the HOLC Map printing in 1938.

Charlotte was especially fond of a ranch-style home with a limestone exterior. She wanted a brand-new home where her children had plenty of space to play outside in a large yard. Charlotte also liked the idea of moving out of downtown Louisville. The Wades had the money and means to buy the home. However, since Andrew and his wife Charlotte were a Black couple, the realtors were uninterested in selling a home to them in Shively. Andrew had attempted to purchase a number of homes and would make it through multiple steps because of his lighter skin tone but was always stopped once the builder, realtor, or others realized he was Black. The Wades realized that they needed a white couple to complete the home buying process for them so that they could purchase the home of their dreams.

The following timeline has been created utilizing a number of varied sources. The dialogue is sourced from Anne Braden's account in *The Wall Between*, published in 1958.

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Spring 1954

As Anne paints the walls of her first floor at 4403 Virginia Avenue and prepares two attic rooms for use that were just finished, she and Carl are working on a statewide committee to desegregate schools. Anne helps lead a membership campaign for the NAACP to encourage more white members to join.

March 1954

The Bradens are not the first white people Wade speaks to, but they are the only ones who say yes. Anne and Carl feel a moral obligation to purchase the home and then transfer it to the Wades; they do just that. The Bradens are early and committed white allies of the Civil Rights Movement, particularly the Fair Housing Movement. Anne states, "There were two groups of men, two opposing forces, in Louisville in 1954 – as there were all over the south. And Carl and I could not maintain a relationship simultaneously with them both. We might in our innermost feelings, but in the area of action we had to make a choice. Even if we took no action, we were by our very inaction making a choice." When speaking about the Wade house, Anne recalls, "it seemed at that time like a quite minor project in our lives."

Sunday, April 4, 1954

An open house ad for the Rone Court house appears in the Sunday edition of *The Courier-Journal*.

Monday, May 10, 1954

The Bradens and Andrew Wade complete a walk-through of the home with the builder. The builder asks no questions about who Wade is. Additionally, the Bradens never mention the home they are about to buy is really for Andrew and his family. It appears there is no spoken suspicion from the builder before or during the Braden's purchase of the home. The Bradens hand the key over to the Wades.

Tuesday - Wednesday, May 11 - 12, 1954

Andrew and Charlotte begin to paint and move in on Tuesday and Wednesday of that week.

Thursday, May 13, 1954

The builder of the house, James I. Rone, originally assumes Andrew Wade is working on the house for the Bradens. When Wade states himself the new proprietor in a short discussion with the builder, Rone swiftly exits the house. This evening, a spontaneous neighborhood mob forms and arrives at the Braden's Virginia Avenue property. Realtor of the Wade home, Ben Hudson, and builder Rone are present and make accusations against Carl Braden. Others also speak out. With the realtor and builder on the front porch, Carl Braden stands at his front door and responds

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calmly and accurately to their questions. One individual in the mob threatens, “you’d better watch out.”

Carl then replies, “Now get out of my yard and quit trampling on my grass. If you want to come back and discuss this thing calmly, I’ll be glad to have you. But when you come back, act like gentlemen.” Anne returns home from a concert to find Andrew and Charlotte Wade debriefing about the mob with Carl. Anne profoundly says in reflection, “I thought again of Rone and how he had smiled at Jimmy and wanted him to have a pony. What had happened to him in that moment when Andrew told him we were deeding the house to him?”

In *The Wall Between*, Anne later analyzes the antagonists’ panicked response.

I saw now that Rone had had to oppose the Wades’ occupancy of the house, he had had to organize the crowd to come to our house, in order to prove to his friends and neighbors that he was not a part of this terrifying thing that had impinged upon all their lives, not responsible for it. And each man who joined the motorcade to our house that night had undoubtedly had to come along in order to prove, each man to his neighbor, that he was opposed to this new thing, that he was a part of the old safe world and bore no responsibility for the new. How much so-called prejudice is maintained from generation to generation because every man must prove to his neighbor that he thinks as his neighbor thinks?

There is an underlying social paranoia within the neighborhood mob. People are afraid to say anything publicly about the Wades; they are afraid of what will happen to them if they do. The realtor and builder are in distress from the social pressure. They are worried because other people are blaming them for the Wades crossing racial lines.

Friday May 14, 1954

Rone tries to buy back the property on Friday afternoon for fear of social repercussions. Andrew and Charlotte are not about to give up a house they had fought so hard to buy.

At 4403 Virginia Avenue, the Bradens begin receiving many hostile phone calls attempting to coerce the Bradens into relocating the Wades. A caller threatens to blow up the Braden’s house if they do not have the Wades leave their new home in Shively. The caller threatens, “We won’t have them out here. You put them in there. You get them out. We’ll give you forty-eight hours, or you take the consequences.”

The Wades also move more furniture on this day.

Anne makes calls to people she thinks could offer support to the Wades, particularly Christian ministers and Catholic priests. She has witnessed Christians’ beliefs support courageous social action. Anne hopes this episode will become a pivotal point in creating a new white south.

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Saturday, May 15, 1954

The Braden's phone begins to ring at 7:00 a.m. with threatening messages. Callers tell the Bradens, "Braden watch out. Something's going to happen at twelve o'clock." The calls keep coming, "Braden one hour," "Braden fifty minutes," "Braden watch out" and increase in number as the clock nears noon. Anne yearns for Carl to call the police which he eventually does from their living room telephone. The police drive by checking a few times. Carl predicts this is a scare tactic and his judgment is correct.

Writing about familial events during the tense time while also providing a description of their living room, Anne details, "The children had followed us into the living room, and I busied myself with them for a few minutes. Anita was sitting on the floor by the long bookcases that lined one wall of the room and gleefully pulling out books – our most precious possession and the one thing in the house that was taboo for the children to touch. I rescued the books and diverted her attention to one of her own picture books. Then I sat down on the arm of Carl's chair." Anne then pleads to Carl, "Look, I don't want to be a scary-cat, but don't you think we ought to go out in the yard or something about noon? Suppose they've set a time bomb under the house."

In an attempt to schedule an in-person meeting, Anne Braden speaks to the builder over the phone that same day. She emphasizes key aspects of the Wade family's situation and apologizes that the purchase caught him off guard. Anne Braden suggests Rone should take time to know the Wades like any other family. He pleads and responds, "But why did it have to be my house? Why did it have to be me? Everybody out here is blaming me for it."

On Saturday evening at Rone Court, Andrew and Charlotte arrive to sleep at their new home for the first time with a friend, Carlos Lynes. Their daughter Rosemary is not with them – she is staying with Andrew's parents, Andrew and Rosetta Wade. Upon arrival, they see a window shattered by rocks, one of which is wrapped in paper with a racial slur and threat. There is also an air grate broken. At 10:00 p.m., they walk outside and view a cross burning with people dancing around it. Wade pulls out a gun but does not shoot. The people dancing leave shortly thereafter.

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Police Officer Inspecting the Burned Cross, *The Courier-Journal* May 17, 1954

Sunday, May 16, 1954

Sleeping, the Wades and Lynes are woken by rifle shots at around 2:00 a.m. Glass breaks and one bullet flies close to Lynes' ear. A car drives off in the distance while the Wades and Lynes stay up waiting until morning to access a telephone.

At the Braden home until 2:00-3:00 a.m. that same morning, phone calls continue to come. Barely sleeping, Carl and Anne wake up around 4:00 a.m. because the Wades arrive at their Virginia Avenue home with surprising calmness. Anne recollects, "Carl jumped up and put on his bathrobe to go to the door and I dressed quickly. When I entered the living room a few moments later, Andrew was already telephoning the police...Charlotte's pretty dark eyes seemed much larger than usual as she sat on our living-room couch...Jimmy and Anita ran into the living room in their night clothes, and Charlotte leaned over to talk to them." Andrew tells Anne, "This will die down. It was probably only a few people: others will support us. And besides a principle is at stake – you just don't run away from something like this."

Carl and Anne are heavily encouraged by multiple people to file a warrant against the neighborhood mob that badgered them, but they refuse. Later that same morning, Andrew speaks to reporters saying very seriously he is determined to stay in the house. A *Courier-Journal* reporter calls the Bradens to obtain more information about the transfer of the house on Rone Court. Carl, who talks to the reporter, states their sole intention of buying the house was to resell it to the Wades. The reporter asks Carl and Anne if they could write a statement regarding their actions.

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Anne recounts the process of writing their statement which was published a day later.

Now we went upstairs into one of the new attic rooms we had made into an office, Carl sat down at the typewriter and I looked over his shoulder – as we often worked when we were writing something together – and in five minutes and in one paragraph we tried to put into words what we thought our reasons were. Since that time, we have been asked the question “Why” many times by many people; we have spoken and written many words trying to explain. But I have often thought that this first statement, made in the heat of events and under pressure of a deadline – although it wasn’t as carefully thought out as some of the things we said later – was perhaps the most valid reflection of our unconscious thoughts on the matter.

Carl calls upon principle AFL and CIO individuals to take pivotal action with their members. He suggests a picket line. The leaders in the AFL and CIO claim the labor movement should be the strongest proponent of democratic rights and promise to discuss the matter and submit writing to the news, neither of which happen.



The Wade Family and the Damage Done to Their House, *The Courier-Journal* May 17, 1954

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Charlotte Wade Pointing to A Bullet Hole in Her Kitchen, *The Louisville Defender*, May 20, 1954



Andrew Wade with Relative Warren H. Ebbs, Jr. Showing the Damage from the Rocks, *The Louisville Defender*, May 20, 1954

Monday, May 17, 1954

The unanimous ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* occurs on Monday, May 17, 1954 outlawing school segregation; this case sets a precedent contrary to that of the May 1896 *Plessy v. Ferguson* which ruled in favor of school segregation on the “separate but equal” doctrine.

The Wade-Braden District

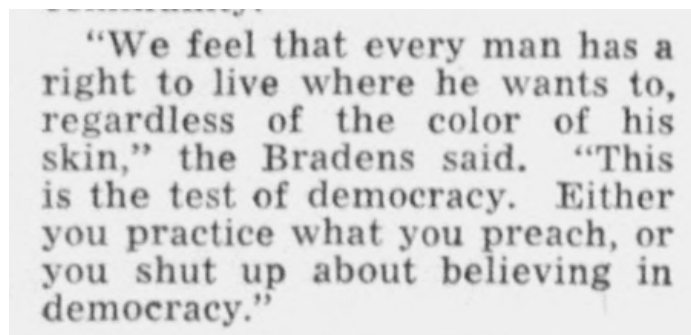
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After the Wades move onto Rone Court, the news of their purchase rapidly spreads throughout the city of Louisville. While Carl and Anne initially perceive the decision of *Brown v. Board* to be helpful to the Wades, Anne later analyzes this to be false. The local reaction to a landmark Supreme Court case verdict that outlaws segregated schooling and the Wade's purchase which seems like the dawn of housing integration cause many citizens to react with shock.

The *Courier-Journal* publishes an article under the headline "Shots, Rocks, and Burning Cross Greet Negroes In House Whites Got for Them: Both Families Receive Threats." The article contains the following quote by Anne and Carl Braden.



"We feel that every man has a right to live where he wants to, regardless of the color of his skin," the Bradens said. "This is the test of democracy. Either you practice what you preach, or you shut up about believing in democracy."

Anne and Carl Braden Statement, *The Courier-Journal*, May 17, 1954

This same day, Anne and Carl receive numerous phone calls from people across the city of Louisville – the calls are not isolated to the area surrounding Rone Court. The Bradens do not talk to those who remain anonymous but do receive support among some calls. When talking to the editor of the *Shively Newsweek*, Carl explains, "I believe experience has proved that when people of different racial groups live close together and get to know each other, racial tensions are reduced." A policeman is stationed to watch the Wades' home day and night. The various policemen are located outside across the street in builder Rone's driveway. Volunteers keep an eye on the house too.

Tuesday, May 18, 1954

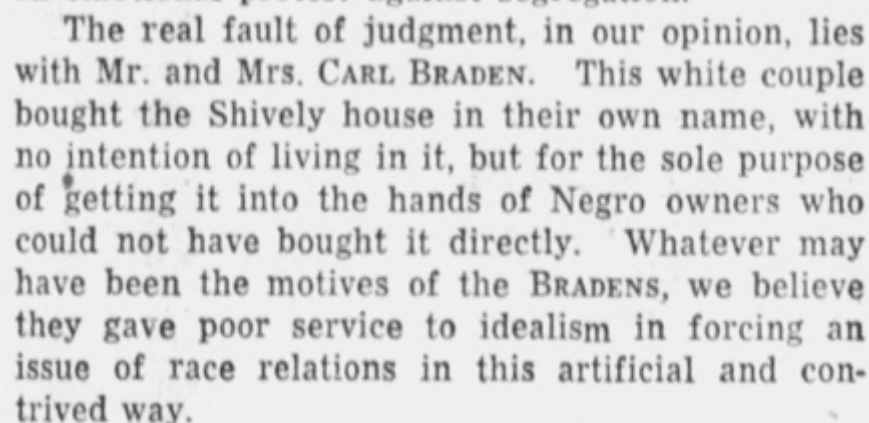
The Courier-Journal publishes an editorial on the Wade-Braden Alliance which blames the Wades and even more so the Bradens for their efforts to purchase the house on Rone Court. The editorial is titled "A Forced Issue Can Foil Progress." Below is a short excerpt from the article.

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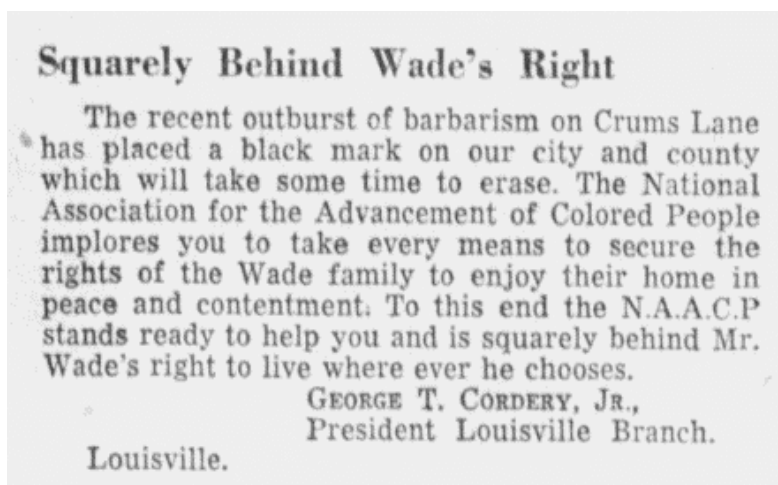
The real fault of judgment, in our opinion, lies with Mr. and Mrs. CARL BRADEN. This white couple bought the Shively house in their own name, with no intention of living in it, but for the sole purpose of getting it into the hands of Negro owners who could not have bought it directly. Whatever may have been the motives of the BRADENS, we believe they gave poor service to idealism in forcing an issue of race relations in this artificial and contrived way.

***The Courier-Journal* Editorial, May 18, 1954**

The Wades' neighbors are condemned for their violent actions, but not challenged for their beliefs that Rone Court should remain a white-only street. *The Courier-Journal* also states that property site values will fall because of the purchase, regardless of the moral issue. Just above this editorial on the same page, the newspaper applauds the decision of *Brown v. Board* in an editorial titled "Separate Schools Are Not Equal Schools."

Wednesday, May 19, 1954

The predominance of Louisville's Black population, including the NAACP, backs the Wades.



Squarely Behind Wade's Right

The recent outburst of barbarism on Crums Lane has placed a black mark on our city and county which will take some time to erase. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People implores you to take every means to secure the rights of the Wade family to enjoy their home in peace and contentment. To this end the N.A.A.C.P. stands ready to help you and is squarely behind Mr. Wade's right to live where ever he chooses.

GEORGE T. CORDERY, JR.,
President Louisville Branch.

Louisville.

Readers' Point of View, *The Courier-Journal*, May 19, 1954

In the time following the rocks, cross, and shots, Wade remarks, "People should not think of this as a fight of black against white. This is a fight of the broad-minded people against the narrow-minded people, regardless of color."

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Friday, May 21, 1954

Anne refers to the time that follows as “the war of nerves.” South End Savings and Loan, the entity through which the mortgage is held, finds out the insurance on the home is canceled. South End Savings requires the Wades to pay the loan completely in ten days. Andrew Wade manages to obtain insurance with a white businessman named Eric Tachau of the Louisville Fire and Marine Company. Tachau states, “it just didn’t seem to me that whether these people should or should not be allowed to live in their house in a white neighborhood should be decided on a technicality.”

Anne and Carl keep receiving aggressive calls and letters. In fear of gunshots or something worse at their own home, the Bradens relocate their children’s beds into the hallway at night. Sonia moves into the new attic bedroom. Before the Wade house purchase, Carl and Anne had previously decided to move their bedroom upstairs to allow Carl to have a quieter space to sleep during the day with his night shift hours. However, they choose to remain in the front bedroom for Sonia’s safety and so that they will be more likely to hear any suspicious activity outside. During the summer, neighbors of the Bradens help guard their home. The majority of the people in their neighborhood are actually friendly to the Bradens about their situation. And despite not being fully in line with the Bradens’ viewpoint on segregation, people see their friends as being under fire.

Saturday, May 22, 1954

The Wade Defense Committee, a group of mainly Black individuals, forms to provide support to the Wades and their home. Because of the Committee’s efforts, a volunteer guard is posted continually inside the home. Black and white lawyers are also a crucial part of The Wade Defense Committee. Its Black lawyers include C. Ewbank Tucker and Harry S. McAlpin. Its white lawyers include Grover G. Sales, Louis Lusky, Robert W. Zollinger, and George Ambro. Anne and Carl are on the publicity committee and help script radio and news broadcasts.

At their own home, the Bradens stay up for hours into the night to help ensure nothing will happen. They continue this routine for weeks on end.

Friday, May 28, 1954

A registered letter arrives at the Braden’s house from South End Savings. The bank has decided not to welcome monthly payments from the Wades. Despite Andrew’s success at finding insurance, South End Savings asserts that the Wades and Bradens broke the contract by altering possession of the property without written consent. This clause is relatively typical in Louisville, but it is not common nationally. As the builder had purchased the original mortgage from South End Savings, the Bradens never saw the paperwork before they sold the house to the Wades.

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On this same evening when Carl takes Jimmy along with him to Rone Court to speak with the Wades, a car follows them down the road. After some aggressive dialogue, a woman yells, “you’d better watch out for that child—something’s going to happen to him!”

Saturday, June 12, 1954

The Wade’s police guard post is reduced to only the night shift. During this time, unknown people keep phoning the Bradens threatening to hurt their children and bomb 4403 Virginia Avenue. Anne worries from the menacing phone calls, threats, and cars driving outside her house. She realizes,

...it was hard to ignore them then. It took time for me to learn to live with this new experience: the facing of possible physical danger. I found that it was quite different from the other thing I had long ago learned to live with and accept – the facing of verbal criticism and disapproval from some of my friends for the things I believed in. In the abstract, I had always rather assumed that if need be I would be willing to give my life for the things I thought were right. But I found now that there was a great deal of difference between vaguely assuming this in the abstract and facing the actual possibility in a concrete situation.

I found out later, when I came to know Charlotte better, that she was not really as calm inside as she appeared on the surface — and I’m not sure that Andrew and Carl were either. But in a situation like this each man and woman, cloaking his own fears, perhaps imparts courage to his friends — each one in turn drawing some strength from the other, strength that not one of them standing alone might have had.

Throughout the day when Andrew is at work, the Wade Defense Committee has individuals such as Vernon Bown, a white truck driver, and another night shift worker who is Black reside with Charlotte and Rosemary.

Saturday, June 19, 1954

The Courier-Journal reports that South End Savings and Loan brings the case to court arguing the Wades and Bradens broke the bank’s contract.

Sunday, June 20, 1954

A *Courier-Journal* article discusses the case in more detail. It reports that Andrew Wade will in fact challenge the bank’s suit against him. The Bradens are also charged for transferring a property without written consent from the bank. In the same suit, the bank charges builder Rone on a minor technicality in transferring the property to the Bradens as well.

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Monday, June 21, 1954

The Wades manage to tentatively obtain another mortgage with a Black business.

Saturday, June 26, 1954

The Wades stop receiving milk when their dairy delivery service stops bringing it solely due to their race.

Sunday, June 27, 1954

Shortly after midnight, dynamite blows a significant part of the Wade house up while Andrew and Charlotte are on the side porch with their friend Tellus Wicker. Another friend of the Wades, Melvin Edwards, is inside sleeping during the explosion. The dynamite was placed under the south side of the home. Fortunately, no one is harmed during the explosion and Rosemary is not at the home; she had been dropped off at Andrew's parents' home for the evening. William Blevins, a police officer, is on duty at the time and runs in to call other officers about the explosion. It is a miracle the phone still works. Andrew then phones the Bradens' house to inform them of the destruction that had destroyed their home. The police officer later testifies that no neighbors on Rone Court came out of their homes to see what had happened. It is suspected that they may have known what was coming.

This event strikes the Wades in an absolutely devastating way. Just as the commotion was dying down, the bombing happens when all is calm. In *The Wall Between*, Anne Braden emphasizes, "... the house had now become – completely and finally – a cause and a symbol. It had ceased to be a home." That same day, the Wades receive a *Courier-Journal* letter stating their newspaper service will not be moved from S. 28th Street to Rone Court. This occurs because their Shively paper deliverer does not want to add them on his route (see Appendix B).

Shortly after the bombing, Mrs. Wade, Andrew's mother, asks Anne to convince her son to move out of the house as she fears for his safety. Anne hesitates yet agrees to speak to Andrew. He refuses to leave Rone Court. A day guard shift is added back into rotation on this day by the County Police. Andrew continues to live in and guard the house even during its demolished state.

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Exterior of The Wade House, *The Courier-Journal*, June 27, 1954



TOP PHOTO illustrates damage to the Wade home after a bomb had been planted. Notice impact of bomb separated the gray stone from siding. Bomb was planted beneath the Wade's bathroom. **BOTTOM PHOTO** shows how explosion uprooted floor boards and demolished furnishings in bedroom. No one was present in either of the rooms when bomb was detonated.

Debris in One of the Wade's Bedrooms, *The Louisville Defender*, July 1, 1954

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The Wade House After the Explosion, *The Courier-Journal*, 1954

Monday, June 28, 1954

The Black-owned company handling the Wades' new mortgage is supposed to officially approve the mortgage at their board meeting. With the house half destroyed, the company does not offer the mortgage to the Wades.

The Wade Defense Committee orders an investigation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. While a first examination is completed, the Justice Department discloses that because no federal law was breached, they cannot continue with the case.

Tuesday-Wednesday, June 29-30, 1954

The Wade Defense Committee spends two days at the county courthouse trying to advance the case locally. A. Scott Hamilton, the Commonwealth's Attorney, offers for the group to be heard by the county grand jury on Thursday, July 1. Police take information from citizens on Rone Court and its surrounding area.

Thursday, July 1, 1954

An article about Charlotte Wade's reaction to the bombing is featured in *The Louisville Defender*. Charlotte questions, "Must my husband, my children and I always possess this fear created by oppression? Must we live friendless and skeptical in this 'caucasian' neighborhood? Could my children and grandchildren live and die with undeserving racial designation in this 'democratic society?'"

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Andrew Wade, Wade family members, Carl Braden, and certain individuals from The Wade Defense Committee report for the grand jury investigation only for it to be postponed. Commonwealth's Attorney Hamilton announces that an arrest will be made shortly. Carl and Andrew go back to 4403 Virginia Avenue to celebrate with hamburgers and carbonated beverages.

Anne and Carl are informed their home could be attacked next. Carl Braden is taken to Louisville Police Chief Carl Heustis' office for a meeting where he learns that county police have received information about another potential explosion. The Bradens have their children stay with friends and Carl Braden attaches flood lights to their house. Police monitor the situation from a short distance. Nothing ever comes of the perceived threat. Even though the police stop monitoring the house after the July 4th holiday, Anne stays cautious.



Debris Caused By Mysterious Explosion
A. E. Wade IV has just emptied some debris in his search for clues that caused the explosion last Saturday. Inset: shows the front of the house, the explosion blew the picture window out.

The Louisville Defender, July 1, 1954

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Wednesday, July 7, 1954

The Courier-Journal runs an article discussing the Wades' and Bradens' July 6 response to the Circuit Court suit, which claims the mortgage paperwork was not handled correctly. The Wades and Bradens reply by stating this contractual condition was an outlet for South End Savings and Loan to discriminate against Black people in the housing market. The Bradens assert they were informed the house was easily transferable.

Thursday, July 22, 1954

At some point, the police have Andrew Wade create a list of individuals who would be allowed to enter his property. One day, Wade willingly let someone in. However, on July 22, Andrew Wade is arrested because that person is not on his approved list.

Monday, August 2, 1954

Charlotte Wade gives birth to her second child, a daughter named Andrea Wade. Below is her birth announcement (with a typographical error on the day).

**Andrew E. and Charlotte Ann W. Wade,
Rone Ct., Rt. 8, August 8.**

Births, *The Louisville Defender*, August 26, 1954

Tuesday, August 3, 1954

Andrew Wade is fined \$100 and given thirty days in jail. A bond is posted, and Wade leaves jail.

Friday, August 27, 1954

The court case opens on the suit to foreclose the Wade home. Testimony starts in the case against the Wades, Bradens, and Rone. Subsequent hearings are set for September 10, 20, and 22.

The Week of August 30, 1954

Dr. Perdue, Chairman of the Wade Defense Committee, berates county and state officials for failing to capture individuals involved with dynamiting of the Wade house. He criticizes, "We cannot help feeling that if the situation was reversed and Negroes were suspected of bombing a white home, the jail would be full of suspects by now."

Thursday, September 2, 1954

The Courier-Journal reports an August 31st complaint filing of Louisville Fire and Marine Insurance Co. vs. Andrew Wade, et al., advice. Fire and Marine is questioning which party should be the recipient of the \$5,801 insurance payment.

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY

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Thursday, September 9, 1954

The Louisville Defender reports that the Wade Defense Committee is asking for additional contributions and loans to prevent foreclosure of the Wade house.

Wednesday, September 15, 1954

The investigation and hearings about the bombing begin by the county government. Both Carl and Anne Braden testify to a grand jury. Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney A. Scott Hamilton and assistant Laurence E. Higgins conduct the questioning. Andrew Wade is also called as a witness.



Courier-Journal Photo
GRAND JURORS get down on their hands and knees to inspect blast damage to the home of Andrew Wade, IV, in Shively. The jury is investigating the dynamiting of the young Negro's home in an all-white neighborhood last spring.

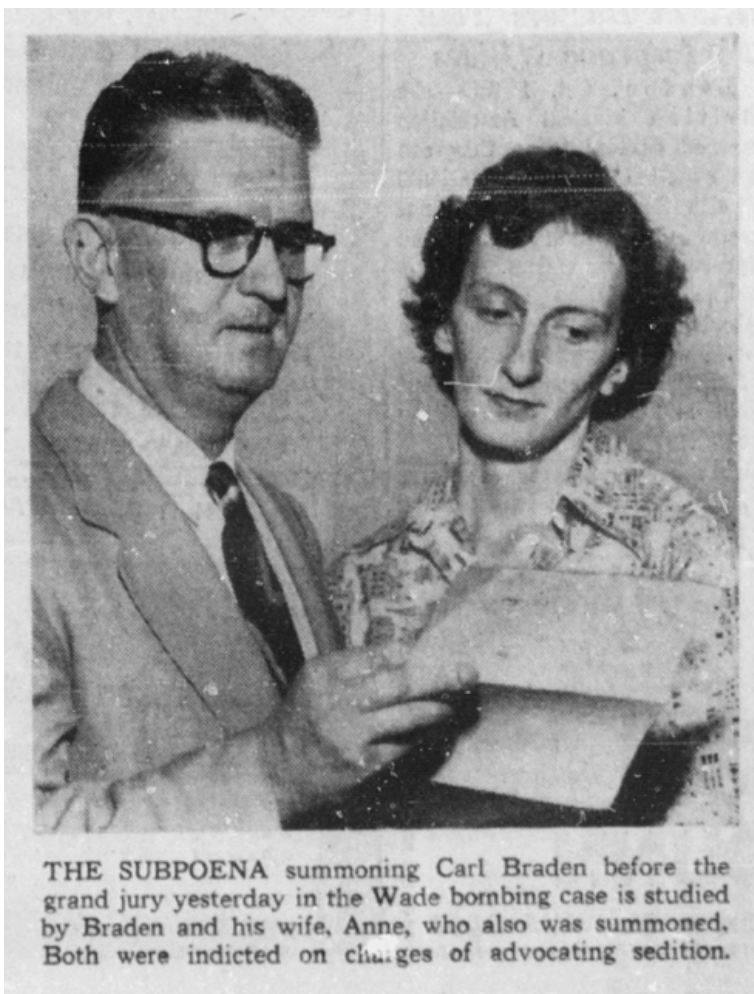
The Courier-Journal, September 23, 1954

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Friday, October 1, 1954

Carl and Anne Braden, along with four others, are indicted by the grand jury with the reason of advocating for sedition and go to jail. Vernon Bown, a volunteer guard at the Wade house through the Wade Defense Committee, is charged by the court with bombing the house. This happens in spite of the fact that Bown was in Wisconsin on the day of the bombing.



The Courier-Journal, October 2, 1954

Saturday, October 2, 1954

Carl and Anne Braden, along with the four others, plead innocence.

Tuesday, October 5, 1954

City Police, the Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, and the Commonwealth's Detective visit Wade and Son Electrical Contractors and take Andrew Wade, Jr. (Andrew Wade, IV's father)

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

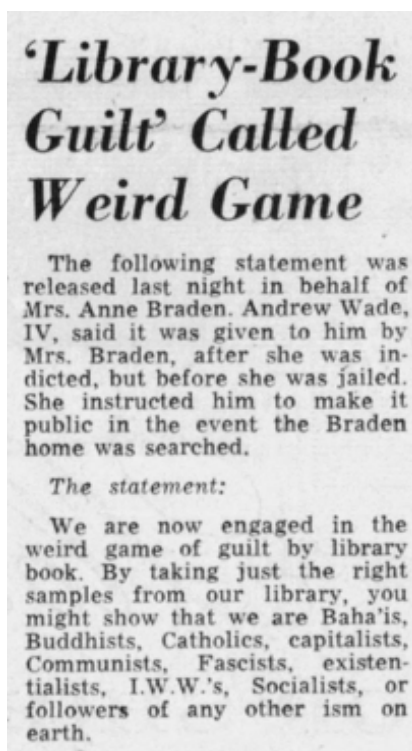
Jefferson County, KY

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with them to the Braden's house. They force Andrew Wade, Jr. to open the door to the house as he is in possession of a key. Around 800 books are taken from the house as evidence against them. According to the Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, their living room and attic have many different types of literature.

Wednesday, October 6, 1954

The Courier-Journal publishes the statement that Andrew Wade, as a representative of Anne Braden, shared with the media the day before. This is only the beginning of her statement.



Beginning of Anne Braden's Statement, *The Courier-Journal*, October 6, 1954

Thursday, October 7, 1954

Two additional boxes worth of literature from the Braden's house are collected.

Friday, October 8, 1954

Anne's parents bail her out of jail with \$10,000, an amount equivalent to almost \$112,000 in 2024. Anne and Carl's children then live in Anniston, Alabama for the following ten months.

Friday, October 22, 1954

Carl is bailed out by his friends and mother.

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

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Thursday, November 4, 1954

Anne, Carl, and others are charged for the second time with sedition.

Monday, November 29, 1954

While Anne's case is delayed until February of 1955 and never even happens, Carl's trial begins this day and continues for thirteen days. After Anne discloses that her goal is not to discuss legal matters but what effects the case has on Louisville, she propounds in *The Wall Between*, "our guilt or innocence... did not matter very much in the larger scheme of things. We had become symbols."

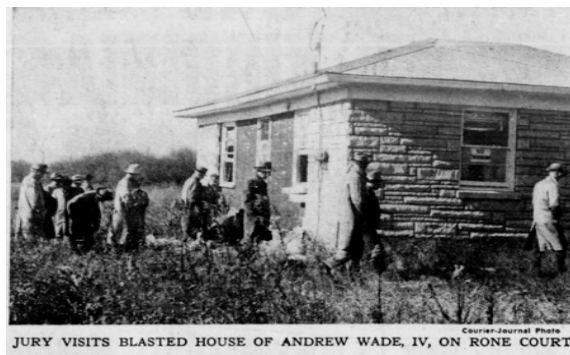
Wednesday, December 1, 1954

Andrew Wade testifies during the trial. The quote below is part of his testimony.

"I wanted to get a house that both my wife and I approved of; and not a house that people and policies told us we must buy."

The Courier-Journal, December 2, 1954

Monday, December 6, 1954



The Courier-Journal, December 7, 1954

Thursday, December 9, 1954

In the midst of this trial focusing more on Communism, Carl clarifies he is in fact not a Communist.

Saturday, December 11, 1954.

Court proceeding continue on Saturday.

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY

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**Carl and Anne Braden During Carl's Sedition Trial, *The Courier-Journal*,
December 12, 1954**

Monday, December 13, 1954

The jury convicts Carl Braden of sedition.

Tuesday, December 14, 1954

Carl Braden is accused of trying to overthrow the Commonwealth of Kentucky and sentenced to fifteen years in prison. Braden is given a \$40,000 bail bond, the highest ever in state history at this time.

Wednesday, December 15, 1954

The Courier-Journal dismisses Carl's position with the newspaper.

End of December 1954

In the days after Carl's sentencing, Andrew and Charlotte Wade, Sterling Neal, and one of her neighbors are the only people who check in on Anne. Anne attends a New York fundraiser put on by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (ECLC) to help with the Bradens' bills.

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Friday, January 21, 1955

Carl moves from a Jefferson County Jail to the LaGrange Reformatory. For forty-two days, he is housed in solitary confinement.



Carl Braden Prison ID Photo
Wisconsin Historical Society, January 21, 1955

January 1955

Anne begins her months of journeying around the country to meet with those who have also received similar backlash as Carl and attempts to collect \$40,000 to free Carl.

February 7, 1955

Anne's trial is shifted to February 28. Next, it is moved to March and penultimately April. Eventually, it is postponed indefinitely. In addition, the other defendants do not have any other trials in the future.

March 1955

Because the grand jury does not make a preliminary indictment on the burning of the cross, Wade's efforts to prosecute the cross burners fall through.

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Tuesday, July 12, 1955

After seven months, Carl is released from prison when Anne is able to post the \$40,000 bond with help from supporters around the country. Carl gives this following statement to reporters, "I have no ill will toward anyone as a result of the opposition to my action in helping Wade. I realize that social change often startles those who have a vested interest in things as they are."



**Anne and Carl Exit LaGrange Prison with Robert Zollinger After Carl's Release,
Wisconsin Historical Society, July 12, 1955**

December 1955

Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, Alabama. In 1956, Anne and Carl journey to Alabama to participate in a meeting of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

Monday, March 12, 1956

A bill that aims to counter the Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education* and the ending of school segregation is very heavily supported by southern legislatures.

Friday, June 22, 1956

The Kentucky Court of Appeals issues a reversal of Carl's sentencing of sedition.

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

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July 1956

Carl cannot gain his job back from *The Courier-Journal*. The rest of the defendants cannot obtain employment either.

On-Going/Exact Dates Not Known

Anne, Carl, and Andrew campaign from Louisville to reach people nationally to gather backing for both the Wade's house and Carl's sentence. Carl and Andrew travel together speaking about both of their causes in 1955 and 1956. However, at some point, Andrew is forced to depart this activity to focus on his electrical business. Because of his purchase on Rone Court, Wade and Son Electrical loses massive amounts of business. Large customers cannot receive loans because bankers refuse to lend out money in the wake of the drama, while smaller customers are simply too afraid to do business with the Wades. Anne later theorizes that Andrew's business would have been extremely prosperous had the reactions regarding their house purchase on Rone Court not occurred.

September 1956

Louisville schools are able to desegregate peacefully.

November 1956

The accusations of sedition toward Anne and the defendants are released. However, Attorney Hamilton discloses his idea to take Bown to court for the bombing; yet after some time, the judge terminates the case on all surviving charges due to Hamilton's change in direction.

Thursday, May 9, 1957

The Louisville Defender reports that Mr. and Mrs. David Simonson, a Chicago couple, hear of the Wades' plight on a radio interview with Andrew and Carl and read about their story in their local newspaper. They loan over \$12,000 to the Wades to pay off the court fees, mortgage, and interest.

June 1957

In June, the Bradens travel to Birmingham, Alabama and connect with Fred Shuttlesworth, a major advancer of civil rights.

Fall of 1957

Anne meets Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the first time at a Highlander Folk School event. She drives him to Louisville after the event ends.

The Wade-Braden District

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The Bradens encounter challenging financial times when Carl cannot find work in Louisville due to his sentences and their activism. After their part-time work with the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF), both Anne and Carl become employed full-time at SCEF, based in Louisiana. Their work as field secretaries for SCEF initially involves the goal of enlisting white people to aid in desegregation.

Anne and Carl are given charge of co-editing SCEF's newsletter, *The Southern Patriot*. She uses news from major Black papers and news regarding their battle of sedition. Less than two years later, *The Southern Patriot's* size doubles giving the Bradens a large platform to promote desegregation in America. They use the paper as a way to network with certain people and then appeal to these individuals to help further the movement. Braden says her writing gives people encouragement and a concrete reality of ideas.

1958

Written over a number of months in 1956 and 1957, Anne's book about the Wade-Braden Alliance, *The Wall Between*, is published. *The Wall Between* becomes a finalist for the National Book Award.

Carl Braden is summoned to the House Un-American Activities Committee. Braden refuses to answer certain questions citing they violate his First Amendment rights.

Friday, February 14, 1958

The Wades sell 4010 Rone Court.

May 1958

The Wades purchase 837 Sutcliffe Avenue, a home in the Chickasaw Neighborhood.

Monday, July 27, 1958

Carl and Anne are subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). Carl travels to Atlanta to give his testimony while Anne's subpoena is postponed.

Thursday, July 30, 1958

Carl gives his testimony saying, "my beliefs and associations are none of the business of this committee."

January 1959

Carl is convicted by a speedy jury who arrives at their decision in under an hour.

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

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February 1959

Carl is given a year-long sentence in federal prison for refusing to answer all of the HUAC questions.

Mid-1959

Carl's case begins to circulate through the court system.

October 1959

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. writes a letter to the Bradens asking them to align with the SCLC.

February 1960

Elizabeth (Beth) Braden is born.

Tuesday, May 31, 1960

The first picture shows Anne and Carl Braden socializing with Rosa Parks and others. The second picture shows Anne interviewing Rosa Parks. Both pictures are taken inside the Braden's home at 4403 Virginia Avenue.



**Rosa Parks With Anne Braden (top left) and Carl Braden (far right) and Others
at 4403 Virginia Avenue, May 31, 1960,
Highlander Folk School Manuscript Collection, Tennessee State Library and Archives**

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**Anne Braden Interviewing Rosa Parks at 4403 Virginia Avenue, May 31, 1960,
Highlander Folk School Manuscript Collection, Tennessee State Library and Archives**

February 1961

Carl is convicted on February 27, 1961. His second jailing, due to his charge of contempt of Congress, is upheld in a 5-4 vote by the Supreme Court in *Braden v. United States*. Anne creates a clemency campaign shortly after Carl's conviction.

April 1961

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. heeds Anne's request and signs a petition campaigning nationally for Carl Braden's clemency. Carl serves nine months in a one-year sentence.

Monday, May 1, 1961

Carl is imprisoned in Atlanta.

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Thursday, August 17, 1961

More than 1,000 people from over 40 states have signed the petition. Anne and a group of other activists take the petition to Washington and display it to Harris Wofford, the president's civil rights advisor. The White House does not take action on the issue. Wofford explains it would be contradictory to support the civil rights Supreme Court case *Brown v. Board* and then go against the court in a different civil rights case.

February 1962

Carl is released from prison after serving nine months of his one-year sentence.

End of the Wade-Braden Alliance Timeline

This is the end of major events surrounding the Wade-Braden Alliance.

Anne Braden's *The Wall Between*, published in 1958

Not only did Anne Braden have a direct impact on civil rights, but she also wrote a detailed account of the Wade episode titled *The Wall Between*.

For part of her audience, Anne's portrayal of herself as a housewife in her book propelled her activism. Braden described herself doing tasks such as caring for the children and ironing curtains in order to be relatable to other women. Since Anne's role as an activist was not particularly common, her clever utilization of showing herself completing chores shows her aptitude as a writer and an activist.

In Anne Braden's *The Wall Between*, she discovers the intentions of realtors segregating housing in Louisville.

These were not evil men; they...were trapped men. They were not the ones who had created the myth that a segregated housing pattern is the best for all concerned, but they had learned it as they learned their ABC's; they had absorbed it with the air they breathed. They had accepted it as one of the rock-bottom axioms of the professions which they had entered as their lifework. And when the time came to act on it, they acted – convinced, or nearly so, that the values they accepted were eternal ones.

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Andrew Wade's 1989 Interview

In Catherine Fosl's 1989 interview with Andrew Wade, she asked him questions about his house and career. Wade shared,

I really felt that I would end up buying the house of my choice. That was the basis of the whole thing. But too many individuals and realtors, legal advisors and whatnot had advised me that I should buy where I was designated to buy. And after looking around, and I did look around quite extensively – I became very much dissatisfied with what I had seen. And I wanted to buy a house that I wanted to buy – I would see a house that I liked, then it occurred to me that this was in a forbidden area. And I said, "This doesn't make any sense." I served in the services, and felt highly right in trying to buy what I wanted to buy with my own money.

Wade recounted the fervor and dedication that Anne and Carl Braden had saying,

In the community, they had always been running as staunch... fighters for civil rights and... better conditions for any group of people. So, naturally, I thought of them as... someone who I could rely on to not be afraid. Since these other people that I had confronted just came out point blank and said that they were afraid.

Wade also stated,

I thought it was... an indication that justice could prevail. But I couldn't really believe it firmly because at the same time that they didn't bother me, they actually threw Carl Braden into the penitentiary. They're stupid... charging him with sedition. Such... an unused... legal weapon. And then the courts just threw it out.

Evaluation of the Significance of the Wades and the Bradens as Significant Individuals within the Context "The Black Fair Housing Movement within Louisville, Kentucky, 1945 - 1975"

The purchase and transfer of the Wade House has had a long-lasting local impact. This was the catalyst that began the Louisville, Kentucky movement to advance Black fair housing and civil rights. Many civil rights activists, both Black and white, were invigorated and encouraged because of the Wades' bravery and the Bradens' dedication.

As mentioned in *Fair Housing for Black Louisvillians After the Wade-Braden Alliance*, new neighborhoods of Black housing were built in large part because of the Wades' bravery and dedication on Rone Court. Ironically, the Wades themselves were not able to afford such homes because their electrical business had suffered so much from the events on Rone Court.

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Schools in Louisville peacefully desegregated in the fall of 1956. In *The Wall Between*, Anne credits this smooth transition to the Wades’ living on Rone Court.

Not only did the Wade-Braden Alliance enhance fair housing and civil rights in Louisville, Kentucky, but it also set the national precedent of the dummy purchase, a transaction in which white people would buy property for Black people and then transfer the property to them. This allowed many Black citizens across the country to live in a house and neighborhood they wanted instead of where they were forced.

Anne Braden is mentioned by name in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s *Letter From Birmingham Jail*. He commends those who, “...have written about our struggle in eloquent and prophetic terms.” This shows Anne’s national level of influence and importance in advancing civil rights. Some people advised Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to dissociate from the Bradens because of their legal issues. However, King desired for the Bradens to become even more involved with the

South Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Despite Carl’s year-long sentence for not providing answers to the House Un-American Activities Committee, King endorsed his clemency.

In the 1989 interview, Andrew Wade expressed, “...I had one hope—that what had happened to us would make things easier for others later, I think that has happened.” This demonstrates Andrew’s sheer determination in advancing racial equality and fair housing.

In 2024, the neighborhood of Shively is one of the most integrated in all of Louisville. The statistics below point to this fact. Many Louisville neighborhoods are around 80% white or Black. This contrasts to the diversity of Shively.

Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity

	SS-D-W		County
	Estimate	Percent	Percent
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	2,802	49%	67%
Black, non-Hispanic/Latino	2,120	37%	22%
Asian, non-Hispanic/Latino	51	1%	3%
Hispanic/Latino, of any race	335	6%	6%
Multiple races, non-Hispanic/Latino	389	7%	3%
Other, non-Hispanic/Latino	9	0%	1%
Foreign born	212	4%	8%

UofL’s KSDC and Metro United Way Map of Shively South-Dixie-Watterson (SS-D-W) Neighborhood’s Race, Ethnicity, and Nativity, 2022

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

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Anne created the Carl Braden Memorial Center in 1990. The building has housed the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF) and other civil rights organizations including the Kentucky Alliance Against Racial and Political Repression. The University of Louisville constructed The Charles H. Parrish, Jr. Freedom Park in 2012 to honor nine prominent Louisville civil rights activists – Anne Braden is featured. The University of Louisville Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research also continues Anne’s impact.

There is a Wade marker at the end of Clyde Drive which commemorates the significance of the events on Rone Court surrounding the Wade House (see photo log).



**Map Showing Location of the Wade House in Relation to Historical Marker,
The Courier-Journal, June 25, 2004**

On April 11, 2008, the Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program dedicated the marker at the Braden House (see photo log).

In 1954, the unanimous decision of *Brown v. Board of Education* prohibited segregation in public schools. In 1955, both Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks refused to give up their bus seats. These large steps in Civil Rights happened after the Wades moved into their new home; the fact that the episode occurred earlier than many civil rights events makes it even more significant.

Andrew and Charlotte Wade’s commendable audacity in the midst of violence and backlash produced significant change in their neighborhood, Louisville, and the United States. The shocked Anne and Carl Braden also withstood an incredible amount of backlash for their transfer of the Wade House.

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Around the corner from the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House, there is a Wade-Braden Peace Park created in 2022 reminding people every day about the bravery and courage of the Wades and Bradens.



Wade-Braden Peace Park Sign, December 24, 2023

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Wade-Braden Peace Park Marker, December 24, 2023

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Wade-Braden Peace Park Marker, December 24, 2023

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Later Years of Andrew and Charlotte Wade

In May of 1958, Andrew and Charlotte Wade officially returned to the West End of Louisville, purchasing a house in the Chickasaw neighborhood, not far from the Bradens. Nat Tillman, a writer for *The Louisville Defender*, started his July 24, 1958 article about the Wades' new house purchase with the following summary. "Andrew E. Wade IV—Louisville electrical contractor who shocked white Louisville by daring to break out of the Ghetto—has finally acquired a home in which to rear his family after four years of heartbreaking struggle."

Andrew Wade continued to fuel his activism in various ways. In December 1961, *The Louisville Defender* recounted Andrew's lunch experience at Wick's Pharmacy on 4th Street in downtown Louisville. The pharmacy employees held a "conference" before deciding to serve him and, after his meal, threw his dishes into the sink, breaking them. Wade later returned with a *Defender* staff member to order coffee for both of them. They were served coffee in paper cups, so they requested glass cups. After a conversation with another waitress, Wade's waitress served the two in glass cups. Wade told *The Louisville Defender*, "There is no law against breaking dishes or insulting Negro patrons with paper cups, but we can insist on more courteous service or refuse to buy anything in such stores. Instances of this sort stress the urgency of legislative action in Kentucky to guarantee common decency to all people of color seeking accommodations in businesses catering to the public."

Andrew helped to found and guide the Louisville section of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), an organization devoted to organizing sit-ins to desegregate public areas. CORE, along with the NAACP Youth Council, began protesting in Louisville in January of 1961. As an August 1962 picketer at the West End Theatre, Wade endured heckling and fruit-throwing by white teenagers. He was also urged by other white people to quit marching or expect physical harm.

As a spokesperson for CORE, he promoted the Non-Buying Campaign which advocated boycotting businesses that refused to serve Black Louisvillians. Despite ongoing repercussions, the electrical business was successful and was written about by *The Courier-Journal* in 1988.

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Andrew Wade, *The Courier-Journal*, February 15, 1988

Andrew Wade passed away at the age of 83 on September 26, 2005 in Louisville, Kentucky. He was buried at the Lebanon National Cemetery in Lebanon, Kentucky. Charlotte Wade died at the age of 91 on January 11, 2020. Like her husband, she was buried at the Lebanon National Cemetery in Lebanon, Kentucky.

Later Years of Anne and Carl Braden

Carl and Anne were nominated by the SCEF Board to replace its retiring executive director. At the beginning of 1966, they moved the SCEF Headquarters to Louisville. Carl became the executive director while Anne assumed the title of associate executive director. She was still primarily consumed with *The Southern Patriot*. Carl and Anne continued to train and mentor others nationally on how to organize activism.

Anne continued to be a key leader in the fair housing movement in Louisville and was arrested in early May 1967.

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They both worked feverishly on labor rights in coal mining. In 1967, the Bradens were accused of sedition yet again for combating strip-mining in Pikeville, Kentucky. However, the Kentucky sedition law was struck down as unconstitutional by three federal judges.

Carl resigned as a director from SCEF in 1971 and shifted his focus to organizing training and media support on a national level. Anne resigned from her editing position at SCEF in the late fall of 1973. She tried to preserve SCEF from separating but left completely in 1974. SCEF had lost its focus and was largely engulfed by many varying goals and ideologies.

The Bradens continued to receive many threats during their lives as a result of their activism. Anne believed that society had lived by “white power” and that people must not be afraid when “black power is discussed.” Furthermore, she saw there could be no mutual conclusion if Black people did not create their own power.

Carl Braden died of a heart attack at age 60 on February 18, 1975. Many newspaper articles were written just after his death, telling of the zealous reformer Braden was; some commended him for his strong-willed social reform while others took the opportunity to criticize him again. Because Carl died over forty years before Anne, he did not see the changes in society that she did.

In 1975, Anne and other people from SCEF created a new organization called the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice (SOC). Having just been first-hand witnesses to the separation of SCEF, they constructed SOC with Black and white leadership; it eventually became a multiracial organization. Ben Chavis and Anne Braden co-led at the start, and Fred Shuttlesworth was among its other prominent leaders. They stayed focused on anti-racism in the south to make progress and avoid division.

Living much later than Carl, she was able to continue giving interviews, speaking, organizing, and working for civil change. Anne won numerous awards for her life’s work and even

taught at the college level. She continued to live at 4403 Virginia Avenue and advocated for the causes that she believed in up until her death. Anne Braden died at age 81 on March 6, 2006.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House’s Significance

To meet Criterion B, a property must retain enough materials to support the view that the “Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.” The Wade and Braden Houses maintain an integrity of **association**, which is the main integrity factor that relates to the eligibility Criterion.

The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House has integrity of **location** because it is still situated on the same .36 parcel of land on its original foundation. There are still many residential homes surrounding the house as the Shively Neighborhood has retained its character. The Wade’s neighborhood also retains its integrity of **setting** many years later. The neighborhood still reads as a collection of ranch houses built in the 1950s, quite similar to each other, with very regular

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setbacks, designs, forms, heights, and square-foot plans. These neighborhoods were popular among home buyers in the 1950s for their quality of near homogeneity. There are small differences among the houses on Clyde Drive, more variations than in some 1950s suburban settings, but the differences are not striking. This setting is one not of architectural distinction within any one house, but of relative sameness among all houses, paralleling the social attitudes at the heart of this episode. In 1954, the effect of a Black family moving into this neighborhood challenged the social traditions that race would be part of the sameness of the occupants of those houses. The significance of the Wades' and the Bradens' actions was that they challenged this mandated uniformity of neighborhood-wide racial composition. The physical setting of nearly-uniform architecture is intact and helps convey that story.

The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House maintains its integrity of **materials and design**. It is apparent that the Wade House underwent rebuilding after the bombing; this work occurred during the Period of Significance. The Wade's house still has a limestone exterior identical to the architectural design of the home when it was built. The windows remain as double-hung sashes. The roof configuration remains the same. The size and number of the window openings are the same as in 1954. The home still looks as if it was built around the early 1950s. It has no large visible architectural changes to the exterior of the home.

With these integrity factors, the Wade House retains an integrity of **feeling** to mark the era of the post-World War II housing boom. The street of Rone Court is still a part of the neighborhood of Shively. Although more housing development has sprung up over the years, Rone Court continues to be suburban and distant from downtown Louisville just as it was in the 1950s.

With integrity factors of location, setting, materials, design, and feeling, the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House possesses an integrity of **association** as a site of civil rights activists who fought to provide more housing options to the Black population of Louisville. A Kentucky Historical Society marker at the end of the street denotes the significance of Rone Court and the Wade House. There are currently not one but three street signs on 4010 Clyde Drive: Clyde Drive (the current, official name of the street), Rone Court (the original name), and Andrew and Charlotte Wade Lane (an honorary naming) attached in 2022. The house qualifies for listing under Criterion B.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Anne and Carl Braden House's Significance

The Anne and Carl Braden House has integrity of **location** and **setting** because it is still situated on the same .0942 acre on its original foundation. There are still many residential homes surrounding the house as the Exly Neighborhood has retained its neighborhood character. The home looks as if it was built around the late 1940s to early 1950s. Chickasaw Park is close to the Braden House – a five-minute walk or one-minute car drive. Chickasaw Park was an all-Black park in the late 1940s and early 1950s before all Louisville parks were desegregated in 1955. The Bradens welcomed the idea of living near Black people, which gives an integrity to their ideals and their behaviors. The majority of homes in Exly Neighborhood and the greater Chickasaw Neighborhood are still single family residences. In Anne Braden's *The Wall Between*, she

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describes her neighborhood's homes in 1958: "little frame houses – sparkling white with red, green, or blue roofs and shutters." The majority of the homes are still little white frame houses. While most of the red and blue roofs are not present because of modern design preference, there are a number of green roofs still present in the neighborhood. The Anne and Carl Braden House still has its red shutters. This location and the continued identity of the setting help tell the story of the authenticity of the Bradens' social activism.

The Anne and Carl Braden House maintains its integrity of **design** and has less integrity of materials visible. It has undergone periodic changes since its construction, the primary visible change being the application of vinyl siding. Some changes occurred during the Period of

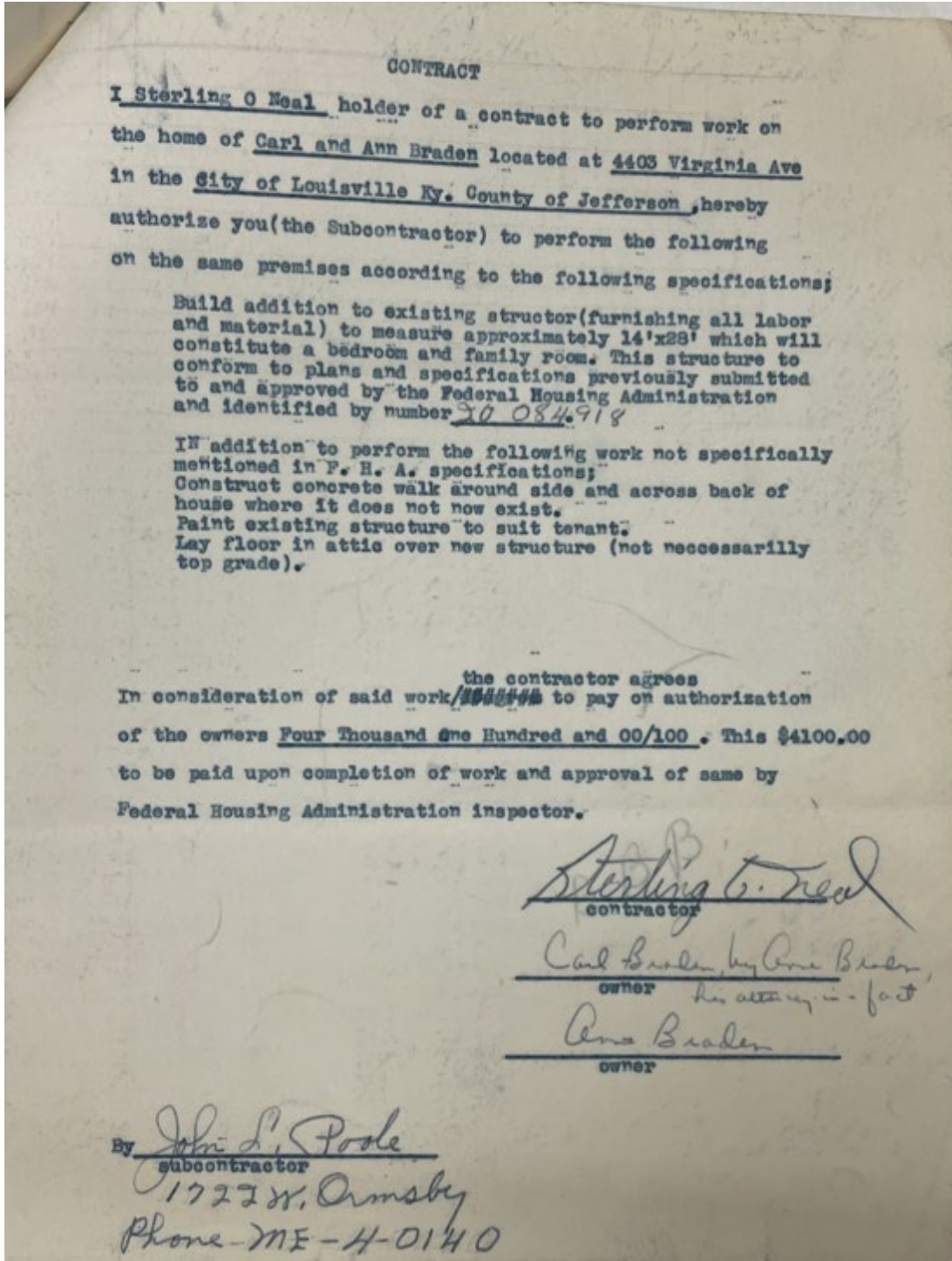
Significance. For instance, in 1954, the Bradens finished the previously bare attic space into a more usable area. In 1962, an addition was completed on the back, or north, side of the home during the Period of Significance. The workmanship matches that of the rest of the house. The important design qualities of form, roof shape, and fenestration enable this house to be recognized for its historic identity. Comparison between historic photographs and the current appearance of the house allow us to know it is the same place where the Bradens resided, raised their family, and worked to better Louisville's society.

Because the Braden House continues to maintain its integrity of location, setting, and design, it can be said to have an integrity of **association** as a site of important civil rights activists. Civil rights activists such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks visited the Bradens in their home during the 1960s. Most of the Bradens' work was conducted in this home making this place vital to the movement. A Kentucky Historical Society marker (2254) denoting its significance stands in the front yard at the Anne and Carl Braden House. Because the house maintains its historic associations with a pair of important people, the Bradens, the house meets Criterion B.

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Appendix A



Contract for 1962 Addition, Anne Braden Papers, U of L Special Collections

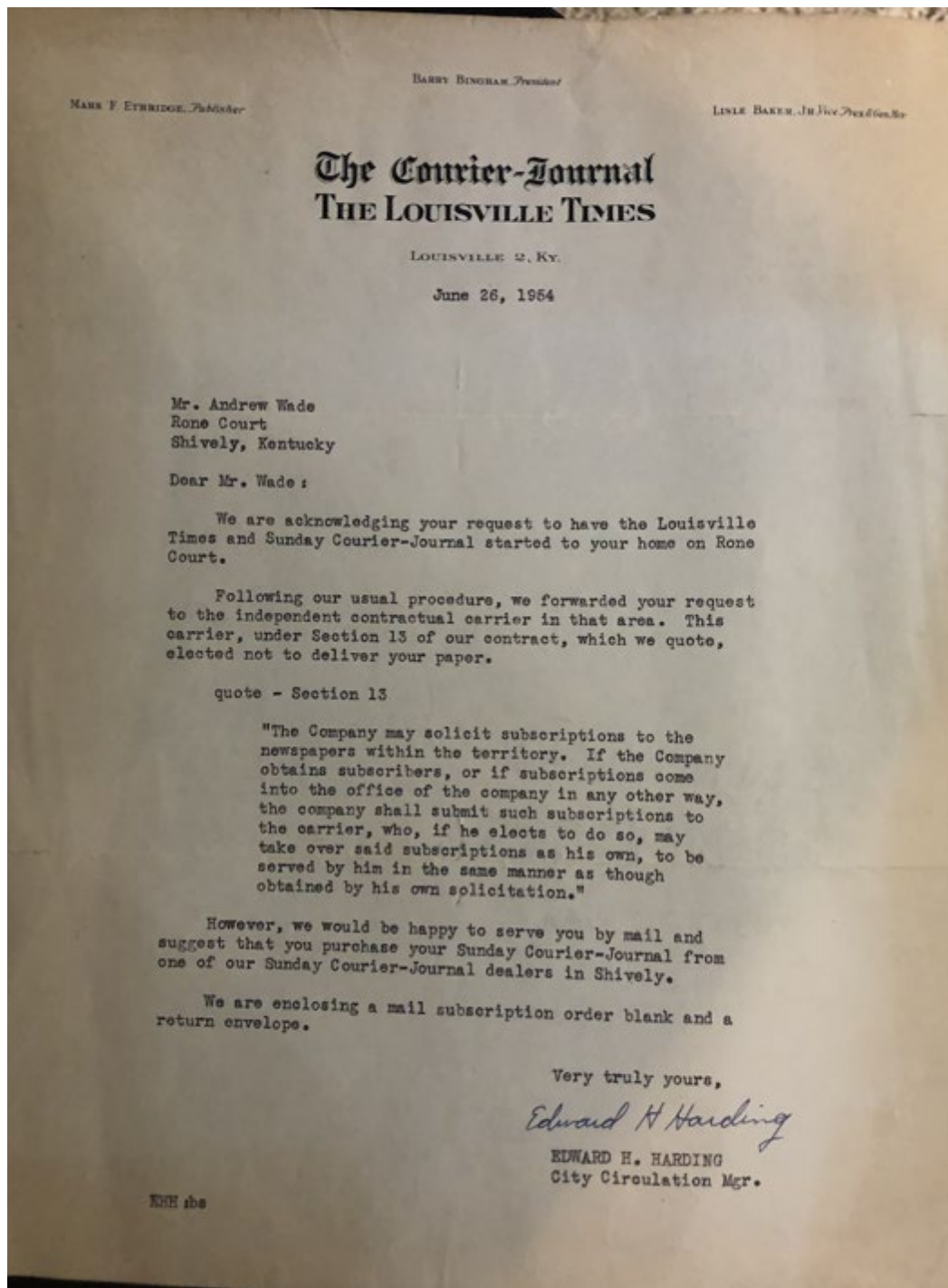
The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY

County and State

Appendix B



Letter from *The Courier-Journal* to Andrew Wade, Andrew Wade Papers, June 26, 1954

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

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Jefferson County, KY
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The Wade-Braden District

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Jefferson County, KY

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Jefferson County, KY

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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 # _____

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): Wade House: JF-3690 Braden House: JFC-2507

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Wade - .36, Braden - .0942

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Coordinates

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 38.193391 | Longitude: -85.828301 (NW corner) |
| 2. Latitude: 38.193454 | Longitude: -85.829213 (NE corner) |
| 3. Latitude: 38.193302 | Longitude: -85.829238 (SE corner) |
| 4. Latitude: 38.193223 | Longitude: -85.828320 (SW corner) |

Anne and Carl Braden House Coordinates

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5. Latitude: 38.193460 | Longitude: -85.829212 (NW corner) |
| 6. Latitude: 38.193392 | Longitude: -85.828301 (NE corner) |
| 7. Latitude: 38.193223 | Longitude: -85.828319 (SE corner) |
| 8. Latitude: 38.193297 | Longitude: -85.829237 (SW corner) |

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description

The area proposed for listing is two parcels.

The Wade House is identified by the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator as 101404100000. The property is depicted on the scaled map below, as the area indicated by the purple teardrop shape bounded by the property lines of the following addresses:

On the south by 4012 Clyde Drive and 4003 Moray Court

On the north by 4001 Moray Court and 2910 S. Crums Lane and 4008 Clyde Drive

On the east by Clyde Drive

On the west by 4001 Moray Court

The Wade House parcel is shown on the following map.

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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The Braden House is identified by the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administration as 044G00620000. The property is depicted on the scaled map below, as the area indicated by the purple teardrop shape, a parcel bounded on the north by the southern border of an east-west alley between Virginia Avenue and Exley Court, bounded on the south by the northern border of Virginia Avenue, bounded on the east by the western border of 4401 Virginia Avenue, and bounded on the west by the eastern border of 4405 Virginia Avenue. The parcel is shown on the following map.

The Wade-Braden District

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Boundary Justification

These two properties have been strongly identified with the significant individuals, Andrew and Charlotte Wade and Anne and Carl Braden, and were owned during the Period of Significance. This district is where most of the significant events of the Wade-Braden Alliance took place.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: William Bache, Life Scout

organization: Boy Scouts of America - Lincoln Heritage Council

street & number: 12001 Sycamore Station Place

city or town: Louisville state: Kentucky zip code: 40299

e-mail williamfbache@gmail.com

telephone: 502-361-2624

date: 1-2-24

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

The Wade-Braden District

Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY

County and State

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.



1943 E. J. Coleman Map Showing Shively's Proximity to the Center of Louisville, Kentucky, University of Louisville Archives and Records Center

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1943 E. J. Coleman Map Showing A Close Up of Shively and Rone Court's Eventual Location, Arrow Approximately Points to Wade Home at 4010 Rone Court, University of Louisville Archives and Records Center (↑ North)

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1943 E. J. Coleman Map Showing Virginia Avenue's Proximity to the Center of Louisville, Kentucky, University of Louisville Archives and Records Center

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

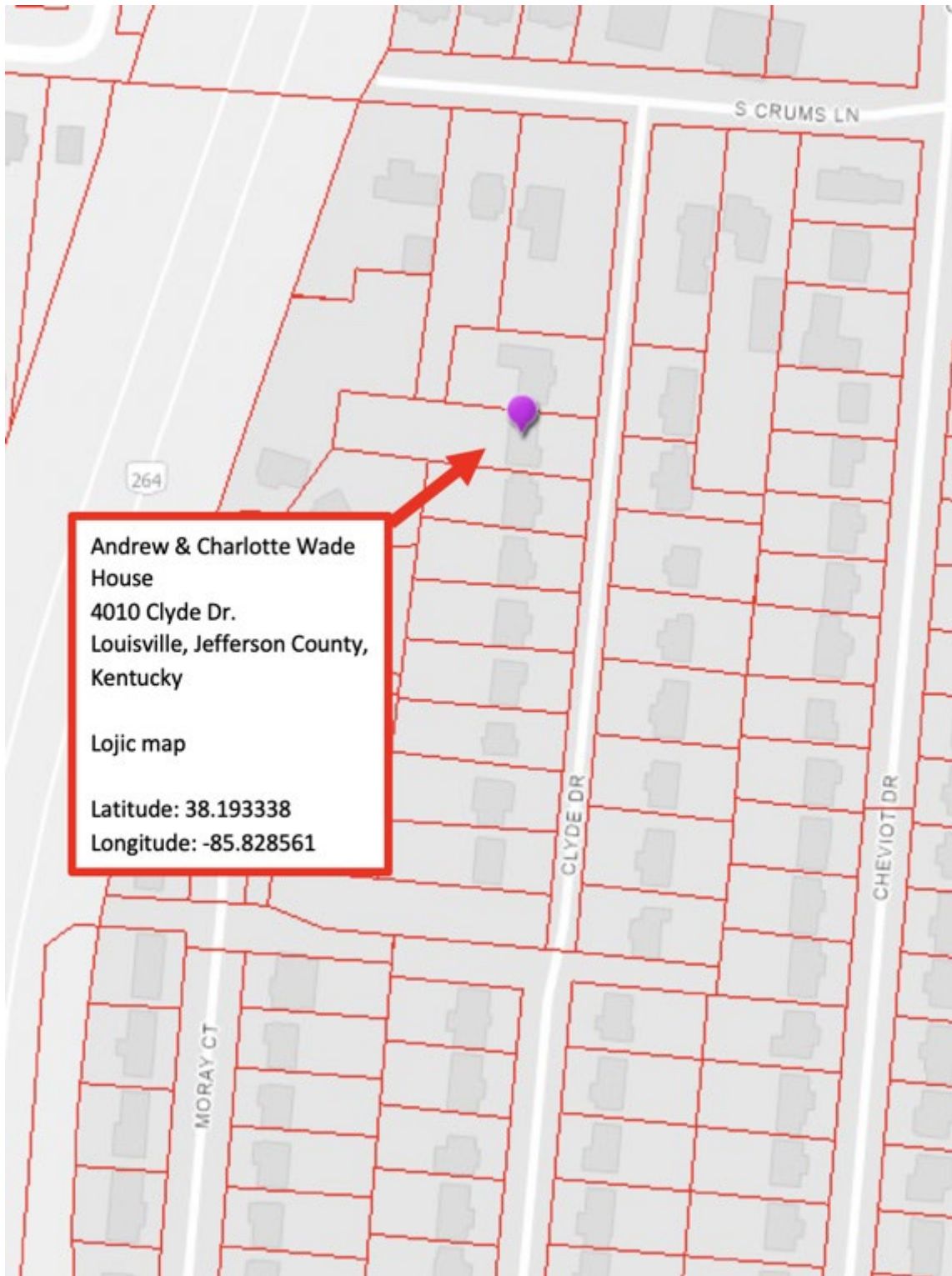
Jefferson County, KY
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1943 E. J. Coleman Map Showing Virginia Avenue's Proximity to Chickasaw Park and the Ohio River, University of Louisville Archives and Records Center

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

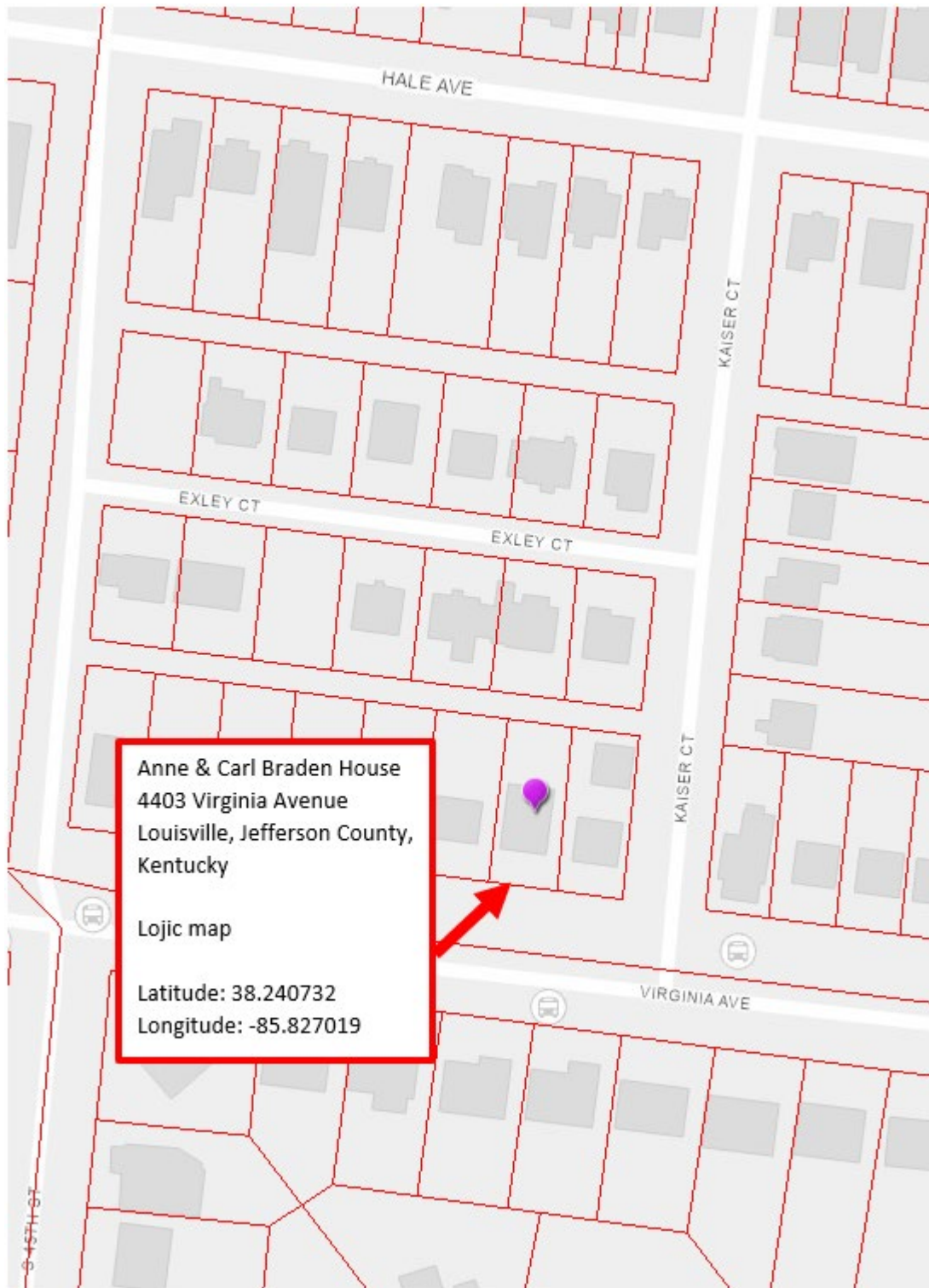
Jefferson County, KY
County and State



Close Up Lojic Map of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

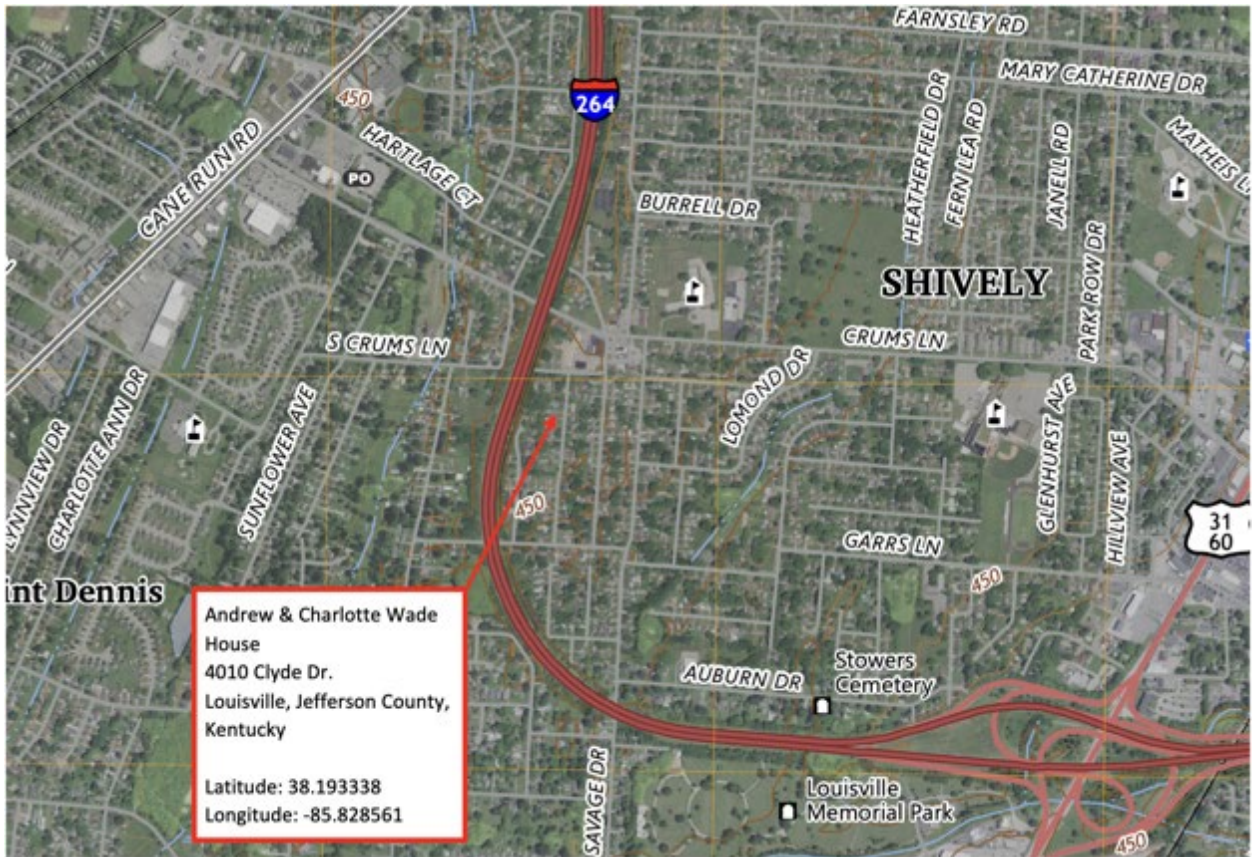
Jefferson County, KY
County and State



Close Up Lojic Map of the Anne and Carl Braden House

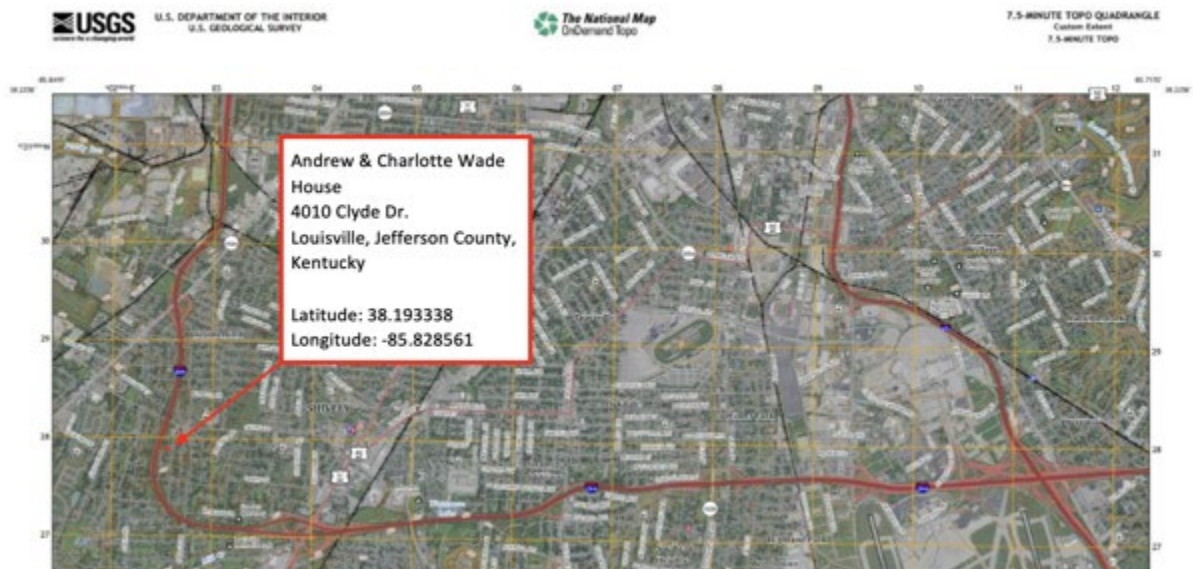
The Wade-Braden District
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Andrew & Charlotte Wade
House
4010 Clyde Dr.
Louisville, Jefferson County,
Kentucky

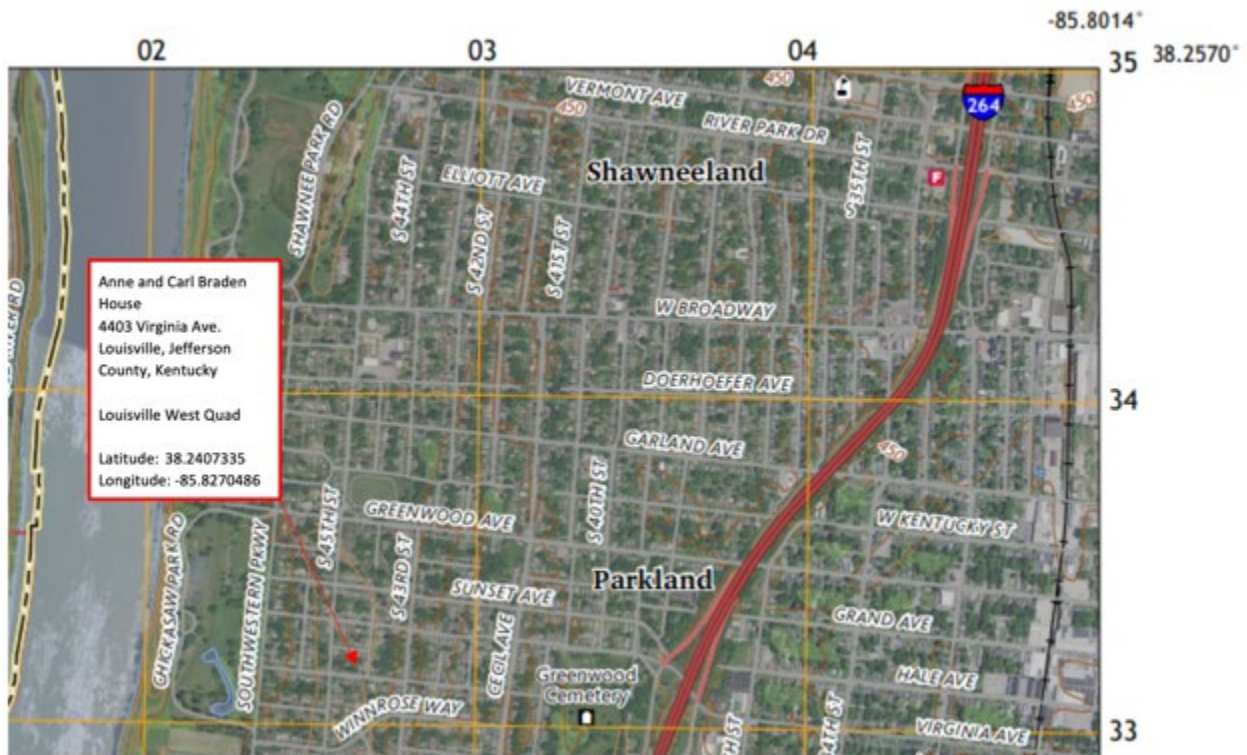
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Longitude: -85.828561



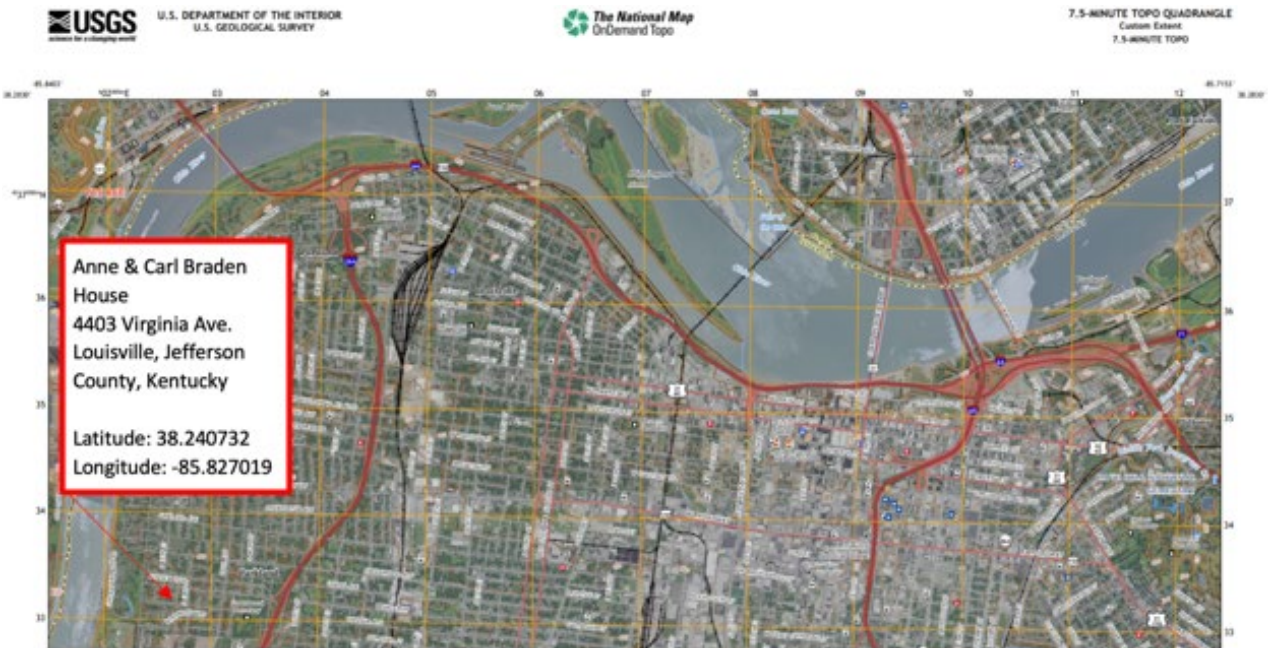
Wider View, Louisville City Map with the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House

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Louisville City Map with the Anne and Carl Braden House



Wider View, Louisville City Map with the Anne and Carl Braden House

The Wade-Braden District

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- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photo Key

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: The Wade-Braden District: The Andrew and Charlotte Wade House and the Anne and Carl Braden House

City or Vicinity: Louisville

County: Jefferson

State: Kentucky

Photographer: William Bache

Date Photographed: November 28, 2023; December 11, 2023; December 24, 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1: Facade of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking West

2: Facade and North Facing Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking Southwest

3: Façade and South Facing Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking Northwest

4: Houses on North and South Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House, Looking Southwest

5: Road Signs on Clyde Drive that Indicate Historical Significance of Rone Court, Looking Northwest

6: Road Signs and Historical Marker at the Corner of Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane Intersection, Looking Southwest

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- 7: Historical Marker at the Intersection of Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane Intersection, Looking Northwest**
- 8: Historical Marker at the Intersection of Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane, Looking Southeast**
- 9: Facade of the Anne and Carl Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue, Looking Northwest**
- 10: Facade of the Anne and Carl Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue With Its Kentucky Historical Marker, Looking North**
- 11: Kentucky Historical Marker of the Anne and Carl Braden House**
- 12: South Facade of the Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue With Its Kentucky Historical Marker, Looking Northeast**
- 13: West Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northeast**
- 14: East Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northwest**
- 15: East Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northwest**
- 16: Northeast Facing Corner of the Braden House, Looking Southwest**
- 17: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking South**
- 18: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking South**
- 19: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Southeast**
- 20: Alleyway on North Side of the Braden House, Looking West**
- 21: Virginia Avenue West of the Braden House, Looking Northwest**

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Photo 1: Facade of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking West

The Wade-Braden District
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Photo 2: Facade and North Facing Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking Southwest

The Wade-Braden District
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Photo 3: Facade and South Facing Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House Facing Clyde Drive, Looking Northwest

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Photo 4: Houses on North and South Side of the Andrew and Charlotte Wade House, Looking Southwest

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Photo 5: Road Signs on Clyde Drive that Indicate Historical Significance of Rone Court, Looking Northwest

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Photo 6: Road Signs and Historical Marker at the Corner of Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane Intersection, Looking Southwest

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Photo 7: Historical Marker at the Intersection of Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane Intersection, Looking Northwest

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Photo 8: Historical Marker at Clyde Drive and S. Crums Lane Intersection, Looking Southeast

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Photo 9: Facade of the Anne and Carl Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue, Looking Northwest

The Wade-Braden District
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Photo 10: Facade of the Anne and Carl Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue With Its Kentucky Historical Marker, Looking North

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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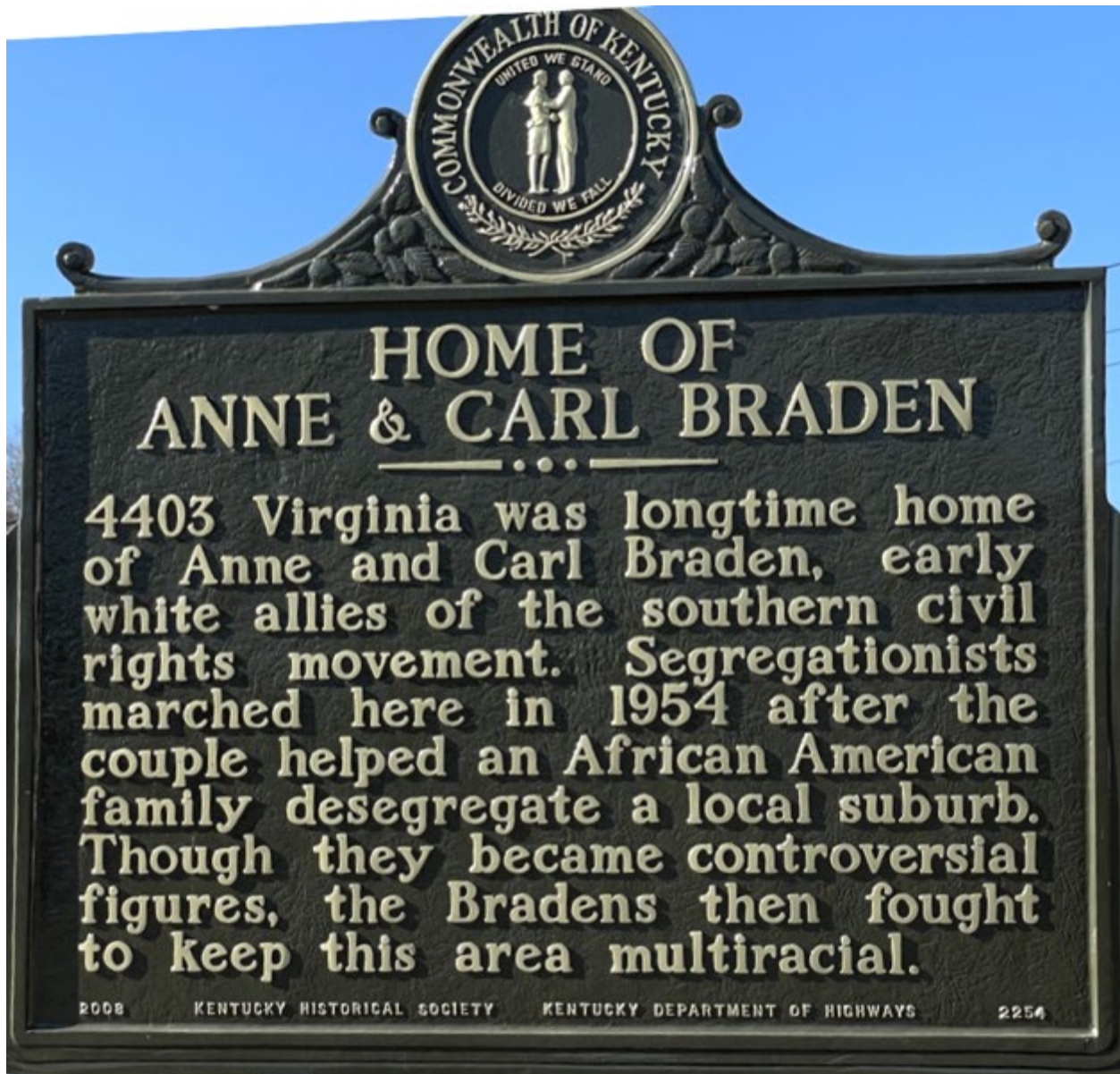


Photo 11: Kentucky Historical Marker of the Anne and Carl Braden House

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Photo 12: South Facade of the Braden House Facing Virginia Avenue With Its Kentucky Historical Marker, Looking Northeast

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Photo 13: West Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northeast

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Photo 14: East Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northwest

The Wade-Braden District
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Photo 15: East Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Northwest

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Photo 16: Northeast Facing Corner of the Braden House, Looking Southwest

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Photo 17: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking South

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Photo 18: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking South

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

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Photo 19: North Facing Side of the Braden House, Looking Southeast

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Photo 20: Alleyway on North Side of the Braden House, Looking West

The Wade-Braden District
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
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Photo 21: Virginia Avenue West of the Braden House, Looking Northwest