

608 South Eighteenth Street (House)
Louisville
Jefferson County
Kentucky

HABS No. KY-240

HABS
KY
56-LOUVI,
84-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
608 SOUTH EIGHTEENTH STREET (House)

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Location: 608 South Eighteenth Street
Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Significance: 608 South Eighteenth Street is significant within the context of the Russell National District which was listed in 1980. This structure is typical of shotgun houses that were built throughout this particular neighborhood during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This house and its neighbor to the north are quite similar in facade arrangements and basic floor plans indicating a series of this type of house in this specific portion of the neighborhood. A variety of architectural period styles were utilized to distinguish individual houses. The Italianate was a frequently used style in this Historic District.

Description: 608 South Eighteenth Street is a single story, Italianate style house, similar to a shotgun house although differing with the provision of an attic that can be occupied. It is a framed structure with existing wood lathe siding and has a three bay facade arrangement with a door to the south. The door and two windows have prominent bracketed moldings and tall proportions. The original door and possible limestone stoop are missing. As is the original metal roof which has now been replaced with asphalt shingles. The windows are 4 over 4 pane, and the structure is topped with a hipped roof. The cornice detail is distinguished by a simple crown molding. Significant alterations to this house have been made through additions constructed at the rear consisting of a kitchen and dining area.

History: A search of the Jefferson County Property Evaluation Administration records indicate that A. J. Henneberges was the first recorded owner of the large tract of land. Mr. Henneberges then sold to Kate E. Putnam alias Sarah Putnam and Alfred Putnam. Although the exact date of construction for this structure is unknown due to lack of building construction records, it probably dates from Circa 1889. Based on information gathered from City Directories this structure was first built and occupied by Alfred G. Putnam. Mr. Putnam was a local contractor who later took on the trade of bricklayer. In November of 1890 James P. Jeffries acquired the property from the Putnams.

Source: Caron's Directory of the City of Louisville. Louisville: Caron Directory Company, 1843-1943.

Sanborn Insurance Maps. Sanborn Map Company: Pelham, New York, 1892-1961.

Jefferson County Clerk, Deed Records, 1870-1994.

Historian:

Melissa Beyl Barry, Researcher
City of Louisville
Office of Housing and Urban Development

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