. 10-90)		AVILONEL LERK SEKALCE
nited States Department of the Interior		230419 STORES OF HISTORIC PLACES
tional Park Service		06L 5 2 500S
ational Register of Historic Pla	ices	
egistration Form is form is for use in nominating or requesting deter- tional Register of Historic Places Registration Form by entering the information requested. If any ite actions, architectural classification, materials, and ditional entries and narrative items on continuation	m (National Register Bulletin 16A). Completer does not apply to the property being of areas of significance, enter only categoria	documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." es and subcategories from the instructions. Pl
items.		
Name of Property		
storic name Blankenbecker-Riley Farm		
her names/site number <u>BE-396</u>		
Location		
reet & number 2788 Hathaway Road		not for publication <u>N/A</u>
ty or town Union		vicinity
	code KY county Boone	code_015 zip code_41091
ate Kentucky		
As the designated authority under the National Historic Pre determination of eligibility meets the documentation standar	servation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion the property X meets does r	not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that
B. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Pre- determination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significant nationallys Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State	servation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she SHPO and Executive Director, KHC</u>	the National Register Criteria. I recommend the vet for additional comments.) $\frac{(U-2) - 0}{Date}$
State/Federal Agency Certification     As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significant nationallys     Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan,     Kentucky Heritage Council/State     State or Federal agency and bureau	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>x</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she SHPO and Executive Director, KHC Historic Preservation Offic</u>	Date
B. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standard professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significantnationally Signature of certifying official/Title/ David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u></u></u></u>	Date
B. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standard professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significantnationally Signature of certifying official/Title/ David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>x</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she SHPO and Executive Director, KHC Historic Preservation Offic</u>	Date
State/Federal Agency Certification     As the designated authority under the National Historic Pre- determination of eligibility meets the documentation standard professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In or this property be considered significantnationallys  Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan,     Kentucky Heritage Council/State State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet Signature of commenting official/Title	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u></u></u></u>	Date
B. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Pre- determination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significantnationally Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet Signature of commenting official/Title State or Federal agency and bureau	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u></u></u></u>	Date
State/Federal Agency Certification     As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significantnationallys     Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State     State or Federal agency and bureau     In my opinion, the property meets does not meet     Signature of commenting official/Title     State or Federal agency and bureau	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she statewide <u>X</u> locally. (<u>See continuation she Historic Preservation Offic</u> et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u></u>	Date
State/Federal Agency Certification     As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significant nationally	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she , SHFO and Executive Director, KHC Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u> Date</u>	Lation sheet for additional comments.)
State of Federal agency and bureau  Signature of commenting official/Title  State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property meets does not meet  Signature of commenting official/Title  State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property meets does not meet  Signature of commenting official/Title  State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property meets does not meet  Signature of commenting official/Title  State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property meets does not meet  Signature of commenting official/Title  State or Federal agency and bureau  In my opinion, the property is:     entered in the National Register     See continuation sheet.  determined eligible for the National Register	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she , SHFO and Executive Director, KHC Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u> Date</u>	Lation sheet for additional comments.)
State/Federal Agency Certification     As the designated authority under the National Historic Predetermination of eligibility meets the documentation standar professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In this property be considered significantnationallys     Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan, Kentucky Heritage Council/State     State or Federal agency and bureau     In my opinion, the property meets does not meet     Signature of commenting official/Title     State or Federal agency and bureau     In my opinion, the property meets does not meet     Signature of commenting official/Title     State or Federal agency and bureau     In my opinion, the property meets does not meet     Signature of commenting official/Title     State or Federal agency and bureau     In my opinion, the property is:         entered in the National Register         See continuation sheet.         determined eligible for the National Register         See continuation sheet.	eservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby cert rds for registering properties in the National Regis my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does</u> r statewide <u>X</u> locally. ( <u>See continuation she , SHFO and Executive Director, KHC Historic Preservation Offic et the National Register criteria. (<u>See continu</u> Date</u>	Let for additional comments.)

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm Name of Property		Boone County, KY County and State	
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) <u>X</u> private public-local public-State public-Federal	Category of Property (Check only one box) X building(s) district site structure object	Number of Resources within Property         (Do not include previously-listed resources in the count)         Contributing       buildings         16       buildings         2       sites         1       objects         19       Total	
Name of related multiple propert (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple Historic Resources of Boone County	property listing)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0	
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling	
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage		AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage	
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE	/agricultural outbuilding	AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding	
7. Description		and the second	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) NO STYLE		Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundationSTONE/sandstone	
		walls_WOOD/weatherboard; WOOD; CONCRETE	
		roof ASPHALT; METAL	
		other	
Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of	f the property on one or more continuation s	sheets)	

Refer to continuation sheets

NPS Form 10-900a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 7 Page 1

### Description

The Blankenbecker-Riley Farm encompasses a 120-acre area containing 16 buildings, one object, and two structures, among which are a 1913 house and a variety of agricultural dependencies which date from the mid-nineteenth century to c. 1940. The property is located on the north side of Hathaway Road (Kentucky State Route 536), immediately east of its intersection with Big Bone Road (Kentucky State Route1925), and lies approximately one mile west of the unincorporated village of Union, in southwestern Boone County. Small farms adjoin the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm on the east and west and a new county park abuts the farm on the northwest. The property's nearly level acreage is indicative of the gentle topography of the eastern section of the county. Approached by a farm drive approximately one-quarter mile in length, the house and many of the associated outbuildings are clearly visible from the road. The Blankenbecker-Riley House is a representative example of Property Type I, *domestic architecture*, as defined in the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky" and its dependencies, all contributing features within the context of this nomination, are representative subtypes within the context of Property Type II resources, *domestic outbuildings*.

The main house (Photos 1, 2; Resource A on the accompanying location map) was built in 1913 and is the second on the site, having replaced the original log homestead. The house is one-and-one-half stories in height, and is crowned by a moderately-pitched pyramidal roof with lower gables. The facade contains the main doorway, framed by single-light sidelights and a transom sash of clear plate glass. To the left of the entrance, is a large, focal window with rectangular transom sash. On the second story, a gable on the left is balanced by a small, gabled dormer on the right. The dormer is faced with square-butt decorative shingling. Originally covered in wood shingles, the first roof was replaced with standing-seam metal, which, in turn, was replaced by the present asphalt shingling. Fenestration employs flat-topped openings with oneover-one-light sash. The house was originally trimmed with operable exterior shutters which deteriorated and have been removed, although some shutter hardware remains. Extending across the facade is a simple, threebay open porch of wood borne by Tuscan posts. A one-story hip-roofed ell adjoins the rear; a shed-roofed porch along the east elevation of the ell has been enclosed, but without impact on the overall character of the property.

The seven-room interior of the home includes a foyer which opens into a parlor and a hall that offers access to the dining room and kitchen, at the rear of the house. Doors and windows are enframed by modest, flat trim with modestly-molded entablatures, all retaining their original dark varnish (Photo 3). Original gasoliers, initially fueled by acetylene produced by a gas plant on the farm, have been electrified and remain in place, displaying the copper plating common on northern Kentucky lighting fixtures and hardware of the early twentieth century. Like a number of rural dwellings in the county, the Blankenbecker-Riley house is still heated with coal.

The property lies in a remarkably intact rural landscape with historic fencing and plantings, a gravel drive, and a series of dependencies. The house is closely surrounded by a series of domestic outbuildings, including a woodshed (Resource H on the map), another shed (Resource E), and a root cellar (Property Type IIC; Resource F), all of wood frame construction, with gabled metal roofs (Photos 4 and 5). The root cellar and shed appear to date from the late nineteenth century; the construction date of the woodshed, which appears

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 7 Page 2

## Description, continued

to have been built in the early to mid-twentieth century, has not been determined. The below-grade stone cellar is sheltered by an above-ground frame enclosure with a stairway providing access to the cellar below. Behind the main house, detached, stands the ell of the original log dwelling (Photo 5; Resource C), consider-ably altered and now serving as a studio. North of the house is a stone cistern, likely dating from the nine-teenth century (Resource D). Defining the front of the domestic yard area immediately south of the house is a straight run of wrought-iron fencing (Property Type IIIC; Photo 6; Resource B), executed in the spear-and-hairpin pattern and produced by the Stewart Iron Works of nearby Covington, Kentucky, whose distinctive cast name plate is on the gate. The fencing and gates remain intact, the original end posts were replaced by undistinguished modern posts when replacements could no longer be found. The house is surrounded by historic flowering shrubs and rose bushes, some of which appear in family photographs of the late nineteenth century. Also in close proximity to the house are a root cellar and a stone cistern.

About one-half mile north of the main dwelling is the former tenant house (Property Type IIF; Photo 7; Resource M). The historic core of the tenant house is a two-room frame building set on stone piers, built about 1890 for African-American farm tenants. During the early twentieth century, an addition was made to the tenant house. The addition was built perpendicular to the main wing on the lobby saddlebag plan, a common Boone County tenant house form. Unlike the original wing, the enlarged building was rented to white tenants. The interior walls of the newer section are finished with the tongue-and-groove wood siding commonly used in tenant dwellings and farmworker houses in the county. The interior also features woodwork reminiscent of vernacular Federal-era trim along with doors and frame-and-shelf mantelpieces salvaged from the demolished log homestead. The tenant house was last rented in the 1940s and is vacant and rapidly deteriorating.

The Blankenbecker-Riley Farm includes one of Boone County's finest collections of agricultural outbuildings, dating from the mid-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century. As is typical of large farms, the outbuildings are arranged in several discrete clusters. East of the domestic yard area stands a midnineteenth-century timber frame aisled stock barn (Property Type IIG(3); Photo 8; Resource I), constructed of hewn timbers pegged together and numbered. Entry is through the front gable end, which includes an overhanging, gabled hay hood. The main driveway extends from gable to gable and is flanked by stabling areas that housed sheep on one side and horses on the other. The barn retains its original framing and roof boards and most of its original poplar vertical siding, although some siding was replaced with tongue-andgroove pine siding in the twentieth century. A disparity in the proportions of the flanking sheds suggests one or both may have been added after the main unit was built.

Near the stock barn stands a twentieth-century wood frame corn crib, a cistern, and a wood-frame buggy house (shown on the property map as Resources J, L, and K). A lane leads approximately one-half mile north to a second group of buildings: an early twentieth century timber-frame dairy barn (Resource O) with front-gabled roof, enlarged in the mid-twentieth century to house the growing herd (Photo 9); a hog house (Resource P) dating from c. 1940; a deteriorated concrete block milk house (Resource S) dating from the 1930s (Photo 10), with a front-facing asphalt-shingle-clad gabled roof; and a second wood-frame corn crib (Resource R).

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm Name of Property

## 8. Statement of Significance

#### **Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### **Criteria Considerations**

Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

#### Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- \_\_\_ C a birthplace or a grave.
- \_\_\_ D a cemetery.
- \_\_\_\_ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- \_\_\_\_F a commemorative property.
  - G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Boone County, KY County and State

----

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1848-c. 1940

Significant Dates 1913

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder unidentified

9. Major Bibliographical References

## Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
Prime

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other state agency Federal agency Local government

- University
- Other

## Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 8 Page 1

## Significance

The Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (BE-396) is significant under National Register Criterion C, for architecture, as an locally-significant example domestic and agricultural design from the nineteenth through the early twentieth century. The nominated property is significant within Historic Contexts I, IV, and V, "Settlement, Growth, and Maturity of Boone County, 1789-1950," "Agriculture in Boone County, 1789-1950," and "Domestic Architecture in Boone County, 1789-1950," as set forth in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky." The Period of Significance of the property begins in 1848, when the Blankenbecker family first settled the tract, and ends c. 1940, the date of construction of the most recently-constructed historic buildings within the nominated area. The entire complex retains integrity its components meet the Registration Requirements set forth in Section F of the Boone County MPDF.

The 1993 Boone County historic resource survey identified this complex as

one of the county's finest examples of a large, diversified farm of the early twentieth century (c. 1900-1924). Its layout reflects the typical arrangement of such farmsteads: groups of specialized outbuildings arranged in discrete clusters, and one or more tenant houses at some distance from the main house. The farm retains one of the county's finest collections of farm outbuildings, including hog houses, several chicken coops, a dairy barn, corncribs, cisterns, and a multipurpose stock barn. Built from c. 1840 to 1930, these structures document the evolution of the farm and illustrate the necessity of replacing outbuildings over time.<sup>1</sup>

The original 200-acre area of the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm illustrates a sizeable farmstead in a county typified by significantly smaller agricultural holdings. In 1900, when the total number of farms was increasing in the county and average farm size was dropping steadily, the county's average farm was 93.4 acres according to the census of agriculture. This figure was only barely smaller than the state average of 93.7 acres. Only 137 of Boone County's 1,598 farms contained between 175 and 259 acres. By 1910, the county's population had decreased by 2,000 and the number of farms had dropped slightly, to 1,540 with the result that the average farm acreage increased slightly, to 94.6. In 1920, with the county's population on the increase, the total number of farms jumped to 1,831 and average farm size dropped to 82.6 acres: the lowest value recorded by the agricultural census to date. In 1920, only 153 (c. 8%) of the 1,831 farms in the county contained between 175 to 259 acres in 1920. Thus, the nominated property, at 200 acres, was somewhat anomalous within the context of Boone County farming. The nominated acreage, encompassing the house and its associated domestic and agricultural dependencies, is significant as a farmstead which has retained its cohesive collection of historic domestic and agricultural resources. This is particularly significant in Boone County, which is the focus of modern residential and commercial development on a large scale, due to its proximity to Cincinnati and the Cincinnati–Northern Kentucky International Airport.

Like most farms in Boone County, this property was a diversified operation which incorporated a dairy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Warminski, Margo, "Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Form" No. BE-396 [Riley Farm], on file with the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 8 Page 2

#### Significance, continued

herd, sheep, hogs, and chickens, in addition to corn and tobacco crops. While all of these products played a role in the county's agricultural economy, corn, tobacco and dairy products were of particular importance. The dominance of corn and tobacco among field crops in the vicinity of Union and the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm is attested by the Kentucky State Gazetteer and Business Directory, which reported that the settlement shipped "tobacco, corn and hogs." Census data for Boone County indicate that corn consistently lead cereal crops. The 1900 census reported that out of 23,445 acres devoted to cereals,17,240 were planted in corn. In 1910, 16,995 acres grew corn, which in turn comprised 547,941 (86.3%) of the 634,497 total bushels of cereals produced in the county.

Like most of Kentucky's Ohio River counties, Boone County has been a major tobacco producer since the mid-nineteenth century. The cornerstone of the county's farm economy, tobacco consistently led the census "special crops" category that also included potatoes, vegetables, cane and syrup. In 1910 tobacco, was by far the most productive special crop; while others in the category ranged from 46 to 995 acres planted, tobacco accounted for 3,304 acres planted and 3,537,996 pounds harvested. In 1920, during the heyday of the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm, tobacco dominated the category of "miscellaneous crops" (the term which by then had replaced the "special crops"), totaling 4,293 acres and 3,737,237 pounds.

Boone County's heritage of dairying is also represented by the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm. During the first three quarters of the twentieth century, a vast network of small Boone County dairy farms produced milk for the Cincinnati and Covington markets. Heavily promoted by the state's Department of Agriculture, dairying became a huge industry in the county after 1900. The former importance of dairying in Boone County is attested by the many surviving dairy barns, silos and milk houses extant throughout the county. In 1880 and 1890, census records indicate that milk cows totaled about one-third of the cattle in the county. In 1900 dairy cows aged 2 and over totaled 4,170 and led the category of neat cattle. By 1910, dairy cows had increased to 4,691 and comprised nearly one-half the county's total of 9,429 head. The 1920 census saw a doubling of the number of dairy cattle to 9,260. In the same decade 2,182,853 gallons of milk were produced, with a value of \$512,293. The Rileys produced ten gallons of milk per day in the 1920s and 1930s. Each day, workers trundled the milk cans in a wicker buggy to the milk house, where they remained cool until the arrival of the milk wagon. Most Boone County dairy barns post-date 1900 and some nineteenth-century barns were adapted to new use as the dairy industry grew. The Blankenbecker-Riley dairy barn, built c. 1900, was expanded in the 1920s to house the growing herd.

Like most large farms, this operation included tenants. It is not known whether they operated on a cash or share basis, both arrangements being common in Boone County. The 1900 census reported that 20.7% of farms were operated by share tenants, slightly below the statewide total of 25.7%; 14.6% of the farms were operated by part owners (6.2% statewide), and 8.5% by cash tenants (7.2% statewide). As was the case county-wide the tenants were housed in a modest frame edifice in sight of, but some distance from, the main house. The family rented to tenants until the 1940s, when the tenant house ceased to be occupied.

This farm has belonged to the Blankenbecker and Riley families since 1848and has been continuously passed on from one generation to the next. The Blankenbeckers were among a number of German Lutherans

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 8 Page 3

#### Significance, continued

who in the early nineteenth century emigrated into Boone County from Madison and Culpepper Counties in Virginia. Many of the families settled in Hebron and Florence. Successive generations of Blankenbecakers owned the property, including Ephraim, Robert, and Ezra. The Riley family also were major landowners in the Union area; Lake's 1883 **Atlas** indicates that the Riley family owned several farms in the vicinity. The Rileys acquired the property and remained active in its farming until 1983; apart from a rented tobacco field, the farm's acreage is no longer used for agriculture. The lack of active use has placed some outbuildings in danger of loss by neglect. No buildings have been replaced, nor have intrusive new structures been added. Some of the buildings survive in a fragile and deteriorated state, but the farm collectively retains a high degree of integrity. As an ensemble, the Blankenbecker-Riley Farm is a representative of Boone County's agricultural heritage and a valuable living chronicle of Boone County agricultural history.

The Blankenbecker-Riley House is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an outstanding representation of a stylish rural dwelling from the second decade of the twentieth century. The house is set in an exceptionally well-preserved rural landscape that includes the aforementioned dependencies, the ell of the original log homestead, historic plantings and a wrought-iron fence. Viewed in this setting, the importance of the house as the seat of a prosperous turn-of-the-century farm is readily conveyed.

Virtually unaltered, the house retains a high degree of integrity in all aspects. It is an excellent illustration of the sweeping changes in domestic architecture during the early years of the twentieth century, an era when more comfortable and aesthetic domestic architecture began to replace regional vernacular forms, and the picturesque High Victorian style gradually lost favor to simpler, more practical, more symmetrical designs. These dwellings, built in the first two decades of the new century, became symbols of agricultural prosperity much like the I-houses of an earlier era. As a group they are varied in form and plan, including the rectangular and cubical, center-passage or modified side-hall, with roofs may hipped or gabled. They are, however, united by their simple Colonial Revival or Neo-Classical Revival detailing, including porches with Doric or Tuscan columns and spindled balustrades, denticulated friezes, transomed focal windows, and front entries framed by plain glass sidelights. The building clearly reflects these changes in the popularity of domestic design. Each of the various dependencies is a contributing feature within the context of the nomination as a whole.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

Section Number 9 Page 1

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

Boone County Public Records, Boone County Court House, Burlington, Kentucky.

Lake, D. J. Atlas of Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties, Kentucky (Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883).

Oral interview with owners, 1999, incorporated into text of nomination.

Warminski, Margo. Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Form BE-396 ("Riley Farm"), filed at Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm	Boone County, KY
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 120 acres	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)	
	Zana Easting Nothing
Zone Easting Northing 1	Zone Easting Northing 3
2	4
<u>N/A</u> See c	continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a contin	nuation sheet )
Lespient my the boundaries were selected on a contin	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title David L. Taylor, Principal	
organization Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc.	date November, 1999
street & number 9 Walnut Street	telephone 814-849-4900
Succe a number 9 wallat Succe	
city or town Brookville	state PA zip code 15825
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the	he property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties historic	
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of th	e property.
A 4 4745 1 54	
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items	s)
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items	s)
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items Property Owner	s)
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items	s)
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) nameMr. & Mrs. Ben A. Riley	s)
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) name Mr. & Mrs. Ben A. Riley street & number 2788 Hathaway Road	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Blankenbecker-Riley Farm (Historic Resources of Boone County, Kentucky)

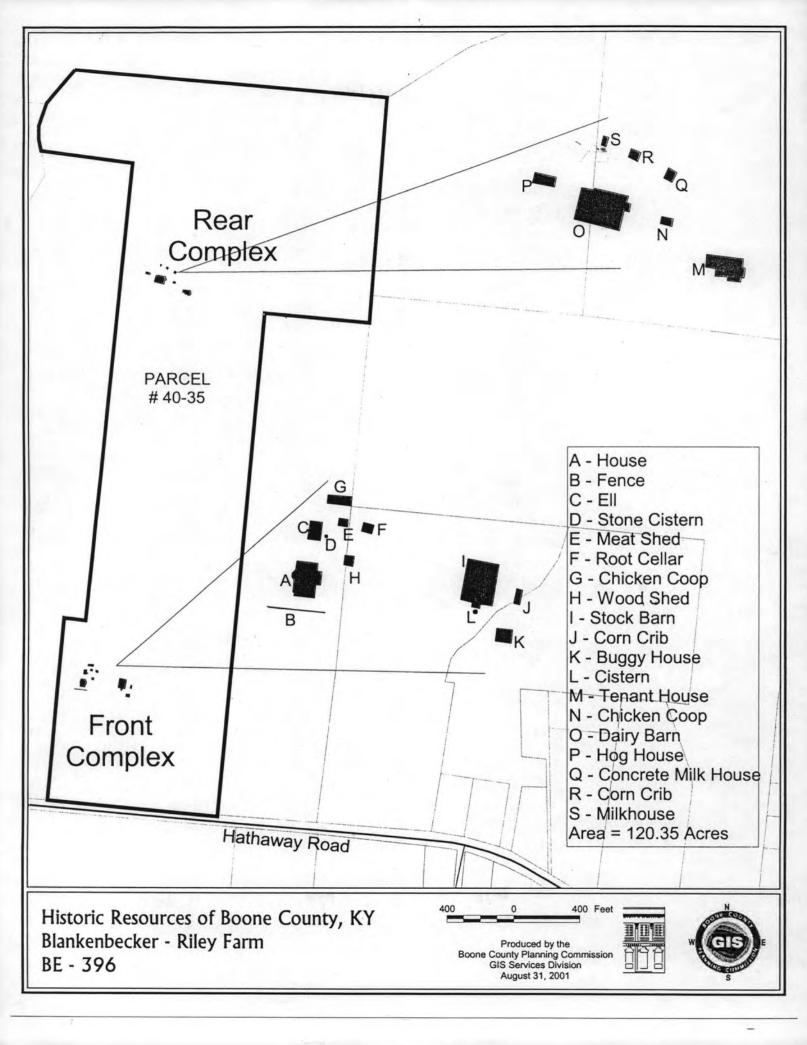
Section Number 10 Page 1

# VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being a portion of that property described in Boone County, Kentucky Property Tax Parcel Map No. 40-35, more particularly shown on the attached map prepared by the Boone County Planning Commission.

# JUSTIFICATION

The significance of this property is vested in its position as an agricultural resource with an associated farmhouse, the dependencies of which are inextricably linked to the property both by use and geographical proximity, and have been part of the holdings for generations.



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINAT			JELED
PROPERTY Blankenbecker NAME:	-Riley Farm	RECEIVED 2280	OCT 19 2000
MULTIPLE Boone County, MNAME:	Kentucky MPS	T 2 5 2002 /	
STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY,	Boone	PARK SERVICE	
DATE RECEIVED: 7/13/ DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/10/ DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:			7/25/00 8/27/00
REFERENCE NUMBER: 0000090	707		
REASONS FOR REVIEW:			
	N LANDSCAPE: N N PERIOD: N N SLR DRAFT: N		
COMMENT WAIVER: N			

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM. / CRITERIA Ketur	<u></u>
REVIEWER Bolend	DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE	DATE 8/24/00

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y)N see attached SLR Y/N

Blankenbecker--Riley Farm Boone County, Kentucky Boone County MPS

## National Register Comments:

The Blankenbecker--Riley Farm contains an impressive collection of farm buildings representing the evolution of this farm from the 19th into the 20th century. It is unclear, however, how the period of significance was selected. The families have owned the farm since the 1840s, and the earliest dated building, a substantial stock barn, was constructed in the mid 19th century. Therefore, a ca. date earlier than 1880 would appear to be a more appropriate date to begin the period of significance. Also, the reason 1950 was picked as an end date should be clarified. Dates of construction usually make the most fitting dates of significance for buildings nominated for architectural significance under criterion C. The latest most specific dates given for any of these buildings is the 1930s, although the woodshed is estimated to date from the "early to mid 20th century."

Discrepancies in the identification of some buildings need to be resolved, also. Resource J is identified as a corn crib in Section 7, but as a chicken coop on the map inventory. Similarly, P is called a milkhouse in Section 7, but a corn crib on the map inventory. There is only one Resource C on the map, but Section 7 identified C as two separate resources: a woodshed and another shed.

Finally, while the boundary justification addresses the inclusion of both clusters of buildings, it does not explain the configuration of the boundary demarcation running the half mile between the two. The nomination stresses the evocative and intact rural landscape that forms the setting for this farm, and the representative nature of some distance between the main house complex and tenant house complexes. That would seem to argue for a larger, more straightforward rectangle encompassing the two clusters of buildings and a representative band of farmland. A half mile is a considerable distance, however, and if this option is chosen, the nomination text needs to include a description of this half mile-by-?? sized area, and a more specific justification for its inclusion. On the other hand, narrow corridors as shown on the present boundary map, especially with odd jogs like this, and especially over this type of distance, often suggest that the concentration of significant resources would be better nominated as discontiguous districts. The close boundaries around the two complexes appear to argue for this choice.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Blankenbecker--Riley Farm NAME:

MULTIPLE Boone County, Kentucky MPS NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Boone

DATE RECEIVED: 10/25/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/09/02 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000907

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Boundaries & period of significance revised. I dentification of resources clarified

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - C	-
REVIEWER_ Soland	DISCIPLINE Historia
TELEPHONE	DATE 12/3/02

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N











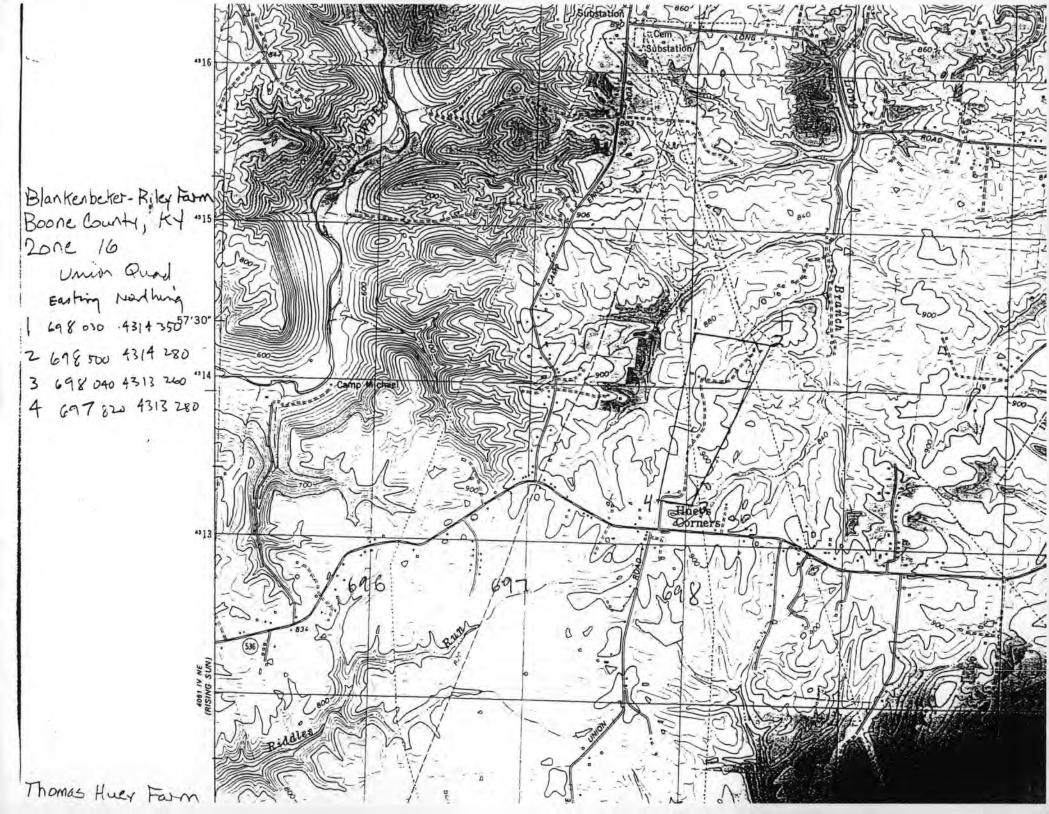












# Please refer to the map in the Boone County MRA Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000206



Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet

KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL The State Historic Preservation Office

Paul E. Patton Governor Marlene M. Helm Cabinet Secretary David L. Morgan Executive Director and SHPO

October 14, 2002

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief National Park Service, US Department of Interior National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is documentation for Kentucky properties recommended by the Review Board to meet the National Register eligibility criteria at their September 27, 2002 meeting. The properties include:

Cane Ridge Rural Historic District, Bourbon County, KY
Murray Commercial Historic District, Calloway County, KY
Third Street Motor Car Company Building, Campbell County, KY
Downtown Greensburg Historic District, (Green County, KY, MRA), Green County, KY
Woodard, George, House, (Hardin County, KY, MRA), Hardin County, KY
Duncan, Stuart E. and Annie L. Duncan, Estate, (Suburban Development in Louisville and Jefferson County, KY, MPS), Jefferson Co., KY
W.K. Stewart Bookstore, Jefferson County, KY
Masonic Temple, McCracken County, KY

Also included are 5 nominations resubmitted and revised according to return comments:

St. Francis in the Fields, Jefferson County, KY Allison—Barrickman House (Boundary Increase), Jefferson County, KY Blankenbecker—Riley Farm, (Boone County, KY, MPS), Boone County, KY Verona School, (Boone County, KY, MPS), Boone County, KY Glore, William Milburn House, (Boone County, KY, MPS), Boone County, KY

As State Historic Preservation Officer, I judge these Kentucky properties to meet the National Register criteria and request they be listed. Thank you for considering their historic significance.

Sincerely.

David L. Morgan Executive Director Kentucky Heritage Council and State Historic Preservation Officer

300 Washington Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 An equal opportunity employer M/F/D



Telephone (502) 564-7005 FAX (502) 564-5820 Printed on recycled paper