

ELMWOOD HALL
246 Forest Ave.,
Ludlow, Kenton County, Ky.

Survey No. KY-22

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Cincinnati, Ohio

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Charles R. Strong, District Officer
3700 Carew Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio

ELMWOOD HALL
246 Forest Ave., Ludlow, Ky.

OWNER: Eda E. Thomas Candy Company

DATE OF ERECTION: 1818

ARCHITECT: Attributed to Benjamin Latrobe.

PRESENT CONDITION: Elmwood Hall was built as a large river home. It faced the river and was approached by a long winding lane. Unfortunately, the town of Ludlow, Kentucky, was laid out with little regard as to location of the house. A street was cut through in back of the house so close to the main portion of the building that the kitchen wing had to be removed. What was originally the rear of the house has now become the front. The original front door can no longer be used and is almost obscured by the trees. The stone steps, and hand-rail, have been taken away, as well as the covering for what was then the rear porch.

The present owner has changed the porch on the west elevation into a bay window in order to enlarge one of the rooms, but the columns, etc., have been carefully saved. The house itself is in a remarkable state of preservation. The exterior walls, although covered with cement, are in excellent condition. The plaster in the interior is almost without a crack. The very beautiful mantels, as well as the woodwork, are in very good condition. Originally, there was a rail and a lantern on top of the house, but these have disappeared.

MATERIALS OF CONSTRUCTION: The foundation is of limestone, dressed smooth and laid up in even courses to the level of first floor joists. The floors are of tongue and grooved ash boards in random widths of from 4" to 6". The floor in the corner rooms are of white pine. The exterior walls are of brick 13" thick, laid up with brick that are 8" x 4" x 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " with a 3/8" mortar joint. These brick were originally exposed, but at some time they have been covered with a one-inch coat.

ELMWOOD HALL (Cont'd)
246 Forest Ave., Ludlow, Ky.

of cement plaster. The interior walls are for the most part brick. The framing is of yellow poplar, except the interlocking timber under the roof. All the framing is of very sound construction as will be noted in the attic framing plan. All the lintels are of ash. The roof was originally of split shingles.

OTHER EXISTING RECORDS: In "Early Western Travels" Vol. xlx, by William Bullock, "Journey from New Orleans to New York, 1827" there is a good general account of the house and the surrounding estate. Mr. Thomas, the present owner, has collected many old photographs and other historical information from former owners.

ADDITIONAL DATA: Elmwood Hall was built by Thomas D. Carneal, Esq., a member of the Kentucky Legislature. It was built on a 1000-acre tract of land, which had its beginning just about opposite Cincinnati, and extended $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles down the river. Bullock refers to it as being one of the finest residences in this part of America. William Bullock bought the estate in 1827. He was so impressed with the locality that he went back to England to gather his friends with the intention of establishing a town on the land. He had an elaborate plan made, while in England, from a model of the surface. This plan for the town, to be known as "Hygeia" may be found in Bullock's book, before mentioned.

Compiled by:

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