

Keeper's Cottage

Henry Clay's local architect, Thomas Lewinski, finished designs for the Keeper's Cottage in April of 1846. The cottage, intended for Clay's grounds keeper, was a "small building composed of a main block containing a room on either side of a stair hall on each of two floors, and two rooms in a one-storied wing at the rear." After The Henry Clay Memorial Foundation took over the management of Ashland in 1950, the cottage was used as a residence for maintenance and security personnel. This arrangement continued until 1991 when the entire estate was closed for a major restoration and the cottage was completely restored. During that time the one-story wing was converted into public restrooms. Significantly, the two Federal style mantels and banister within the cottage are believed to have been salvaged from Henry Clay's original mansion. The Keeper's Cottage currently houses the Ashland administrative offices.