

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 31 1977
DATE ENTERED AUG 29 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

****** Southgate-Parker-Maddux House

AND/OR COMMON

Knights of Columbus Hall

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

24 East Third Street (south side of 3rd, between York and Monmouth Streets)

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Newport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Campbell

CODE

037

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: **headquarter**

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

and meeting place

NAME

Morrell Raleigh

STREET & NUMBER

2659 Amsterdam Road

CITY, TOWN

Villa Hills

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 40106

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Campbell County Courthouse (also at Alexandria, Kentucky)

STREET & NUMBER

Fourth and York Streets

CITY, TOWN

Newport

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky and Kentucky's Plan for Historic Preservation

DATE

1971 and 1972

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Knights of Columbus Hall is located on a rise overlooking the Ohio River to the north-west in downtown Newport (photo 1 and map 2). First Street has been replaced by a flood-wall; Second is depressed both physically and socio-economically. The original Southgate Place, once occupying a full block, now is flanked by smaller houses lining Monmouth and York Streets to the west and east respectively, as well as having a large 20th-century extension to the rear. Nevertheless, its position remains visually prominent and central in relation to the City Hall and Campbell County Courthouse a block to the southeast.

Of the original residence built for Richard Southgate 1814-21, purportedly by British prisoners from the War of 1812, little remains except for the walls. It appears that the house was of standard Federal type, the main block of two stories, one-room deep with a central hall, with a rear ell off the west side of the back (see photo 3). The foundations are of stone, the walls of Flemish-bond brick on the front. There were five bays across the front. The sides had central chimneys flanked by windows, some of them now opened up or bricked in. The windows have all been replaced, but the plain stone sills and lintels on the sides may be original. In the basement of the front block, early floor joists are visible and there are larger transverse beams. There is a wooden ventilation opening with diagonally set bars in one inner cellar wall. No other original woodwork seems to have survived.

At the end of the 19th century, major alterations and additions were made to the Southgate House. A third-story ballroom under a concave mansard roof was added, a four-story entrance tower was added, and cast-iron hoodmolds were placed over the front windows. These additions are interesting in themselves, although surely less than a century old and reflecting no doubt a taste totally different from that of the Southgates.

That even the lower part of the tower was added is evidenced by the use of different brick: three rather than two-and-a-half inches thick, and laid without headers. The base of the tower allows a vestibule on the first floor with a handsome mosaic tile floor and heavy double doors. The downstairs front windows were lengthened to the floor and cast-iron hoodmolds with shallow pediments applied (see photo 4). Those on the second floor lack pediments but have small curved brackets (see photo 5). The new cornice has open panels defined by curved moldings and scrolled brackets. There are also concave modillions below the iron shaped gutters. The concave mansard roof has rows of shaped colored slates. The round-arched dormers that flank the tower and on the sides have curved panels on either side, and the roof of the tower has still more concave curves and similar dormers on all sides. There are three linked round-arched windows on the front of the third story of the towers, and others on the sides. There is brightly colored glass in all these semicircular openings, creating a highly ornamental affect in the single third-floor

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1812-21; BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown
late 19th and 20th centuries

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 24 East Third Street in Newport, Kentucky, is a structure that has a long and distinguished history with many interesting local traditions. Its chief significance stems from the ante-bellum period when the original building (of which only the walls and basement remain) was the home of Colonel Richard Southgate from 1812 to 1857. Colonel Southgate was an influential local citizen who knew many figures prominent in both the state and the nation. According to local traditions, many famous and important political figures visited the house during this period. Among them are said to have been Henry Clay and De Witt Clinton and at least four men who served as United States presidents: John Tyler, James K. Polk, General Zachary Taylor, and possibly Abraham Lincoln. The present building may incorporate the oldest surviving house in the Covington-Newport area. However, it was significantly altered after the Civil War by the addition of a mansarded third-story and entrance tower with characteristic late 19th-century features. Aside from a front porch, the extensive additions made to adapt the residence for use by the Knights of Columbus, who have used the building since 1914, have not seriously affected the 19th-century structure.

During most of the first century of its existence, the house was owned by a member of the Southgate family, after whom the nearby city of Southgate, Kentucky, was eventually named (Knapp, p. 11), or by an heir of that family.

The house--then a two-story brick building--was erected for Richard Southgate about 1812-1821. According to tradition it was at least partly built by British prisoners from the War of 1812 who were incarcerated during the early part of the house's construction in the Newport Barracks, only a few blocks away, and who were allowed to work for pay.

The original owner and builder of the house, Richard Southgate (1773-1857), was a notable figure in Kentucky history. He was born in New York City, the son of Captain William Southgate and Mary Lush Southgate, his first wife. It is presumed that he received his early education in the elementary grades either in Richmond or Norfolk, Virginia (Hartman). He attended the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia and, according to tradition, acquired his legal education by reading law in the office of his uncle, Stephen Lush, in Albany, New York. While pursuing his studies there, he enjoyed opportunities to observe such famous men as Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr practice their legal trade (obituary).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Campbell County Bicentennial Committee (Mrs. Robert R. Hartman, Alexandria, Kentucky, Historian; Lenora Bacon, Newport, Kentucky, Editor; and Leroy Hoffman, Newport City Coordinator, Compilers). "Area 2 - The Richard Southgate Home," Historic Walking Tour of Newport, Kentucky. Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, (continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6	7	1	6	5	2	0	4	3	2	9	9	2	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

C

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

D

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Calvin Jones, Historian/Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

June 1976

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3471

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Eddus W. Meeter

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

1/24/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST *Cheryl...*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/29/77

DATE

8-25-77

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ballroom and tower staircase. The overall appearance of the remodelled building is quite dramatic and rhythmic.

The late Victorian porch shown in a 1908 photograph no doubt is dated from the major remodelling (see photo 2). It had delicate posts and spandrels and openwork railing that did not compete with the tower and main roof.

The surviving turn-of-the-century features of the interior (several rooms have been completely altered for the use of the Knights of Columbus) are large-scaled and severe. The frames are grooved, with machine-turned concentric corner blocks. The main staircase in the front hall has a striking angular newel post and knobby balusters (see photo 6). A separate staircase rises from the second-story hall into the tower, with only slightly simpler newels (see photo 7). There is a handsome turn-of-the-century mantel with ringed engaged colonnettes in the left front (northeast) parlor (see photo 8).

In the 20th century a heavy-handed brick porch with square piers and a corbelled brick balustrade has been added on the front and east sides (the latter is now enclosed). Wainscotting and ceiling beams have been added in some rooms. The large auditorium wing, added on the back of the ell after the Knights acquired the building in 1915, burned and was replaced shortly after World War II. Partly set into the lower ground behind the house, and with bare brick walls toward the front, this addition is not particularly conspicuous from the street, considering its size. (Because the property is in an urban renewal development area and has been for sale for many years, the building, like many of its neighbors, is not notably well-maintained, although structurally sound.)

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In 1792 Southgate purchased land in Kentucky and moved there no later than 1795 (Perkins, p. 7; Historic Walking Tour, p. 8). He was licensed to practice law in Campbell County in October 1797, and was appointed Commonwealth Attorney in January 1798 (Hartman). On July 30, 1799, he married Anne Winston Hinde, a daughter of Dr. Thomas Hinde and Mary Todd Hubbard Hinde. Dr. Hinde, a Revolutionary soldier, had served as an assistant-surgeon at the American siege of Quebec, and came to northern Kentucky with his family from Clark County, farther south in the new state.

Richard Southgate became a rather large landholder in northern Kentucky. Some of his land he sold as small farms and some he leased. In addition to his ventures in land acquisition and disposal and his law practice, he also owned a dry goods store in Newport. He broadened his political base from holding local offices to activities on the state level. He was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1803 and served in the State Senate from 1817 to 1821 (Collins, II, p. 773).

Deeds on file show that by 1810 Richard Southgate had purchased lots 68, 69, 70, 71, and 72 between York and Monmouth Streets in Newport, facing Taylor Street (now Third Street) and bounded at the rear by Jonquil Alley (now Southgate Alley). It was here that he first built his residence during 1812-1821.

Richard Southgate's son, William Wright Southgate, was also a notable historical figure. He was born in Newport in 1800 and, although he never personally owned the house on Third Street and could not have been born there, he undoubtedly lived a portion of his life there (Eilerman, p. 62). The younger Southgate, like his father, played an active role in political and community affairs in northern Kentucky. He may even have exceeded him in political successes. After moving to Covington where he became associated with Mortimer M. Benton in his law practice, he was elected as a Trustee of the Town of Covington in 1826, was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1827, 1832, and 1836, and served as mayor of Covington from October 3, 1835 to August 19, 1836. He also was elected as a Whig member of the United States House of Representatives and served during the 25th Congress (1837-1839). He died in 1844.

It is believed that the Southgate house has associations with the Texan War for Independence of 1835-36. When the Anglo-Americans in Texas made a plea for assistance from their relatives and former countrymen in the United States against the despotic actions

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of the president of Mexico, General Santa Ana, several citizens of northern Kentucky answered their call for help. Late in 1835 a company of 50 men was organized in Newport by Sidney Sherman, a well-known citizen of the city, with himself as Captain. Sherman was a close neighbor of Southgate. Sherman and his company left for Texas on December 30, 1835. On the night before their departure they were entertained in one of the most fashionable homes in Newport, and tradition places this reception at the Richard Southgate mansion on Third Street. This Kentucky company was active in the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, which resulted in the defeat and capture of Santa Ana and the de facto independence of Texas (Truesdell).

Local tradition associates the Southgate House with a visit there by Abraham Lincoln and his fiancée, Mary Todd, on a balmy night in June 1840, or about that time, as the guests of honor at a gala festival ball (Grayson). This tradition appears logical on the surface because a great friendship is said to have existed between Southgate and Colonel Todd, Mary's father. Both were Whigs who thought alike socially and politically. They were also related by marriage through the Parker family (Hartman).

A further investigation of the facts indicates, however, that such a visit by Lincoln could not have taken place. It is true that Lincoln and Mary Todd became engaged sometime during 1840, were speaking openly of marriage by December 1840, and were supposed to be married on January 1, 1841, although the wedding actually took place sometime later on November 4, 1842 (Barton, p. 256; Longford, P. 29; and Turner, p. 30). In point of fact, however, there is no record of Lincoln's having been out of Illinois during the summer of 1840 except to speak at Morganfield, Kentucky on September 8, 1840 (Miers, I).

The second purported visit by Lincoln to the Southgate House is also questionable although perhaps more plausible than the first. Nathaniel Southgate Shaler (1841-1906), a grandson of Richard Southgate and a close confidant of the older man when a child, was probably the most illustrious individual ever associated with the old house because of his later renown as an internationally recognized geologist, teacher, and historian at Harvard University. He also organized both the Kentucky and later the United States Geological Surveys. Although there is no record of his having been born in the Southgate House, he frequently visited his grandparents there and in his Autobiography recalled

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a supposed encounter with Lincoln about 1856 when he guided Lincoln from Covington to the house in Newport where Lincoln met with Richard Southgate (Autobiography, pp. 79-80). Research indicates that Lincoln was never in Newport in 1856. The only time he left Illinois during that year was August 26-28, 1856, when he addressed a Republican audience of 10,000 at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Lincoln did visit Cincinnati in 1855, however (Miers, II), during the McCormick versus Manny case. Lincoln was rebuffed by his fellow lawyers who represented the defendant. This was September 20-26, 1855. Freed from the case Lincoln visited points of interest in Cincinnati such as the estate of Nicholas Longworth, Walnut Hills, Mount Auburn, Clifton, and Spring Grove Cemetery. Although there is no mention of his crossing the Ohio River to visit Newport, it is possible that he did so at that time. Shaler's memory of the date of the event may have been mistaken and may also have been colored by later events in Lincoln's life related to the Lincoln-Douglas senatorial contest of 1858 which could have become fused in Shaler's mind by the time he wrote his Autobiography as an old man (see attached copies of pp. 79-81 for Shaler's full account). We also know that Lincoln briefly visited Cincinnati on September 18, 1859, to make a political address but on that occasion he was there for such a brief period of time that it is unlikely that he could have visited in Newport (Miers, II). Since Richard Southgate died in 1857, the later date is still less likely.

The second owner of the house, from 1857-1869, was Mrs. Frances Mary Taliaferro Parker. She inherited it from her father, Richard Southgate. The only known historic event to occur at the house during the time Mrs. Parker owned it was the birth there of her grandson, John Taliaferro Thompson, on December 31, 1860. He also lived the early part of his life there. Thompson, the son of Mrs. Parker's daughter, Julia Taliaferro Thompson, and her husband, James Thompson of the United States Army, also served in the American Army and became a brigadier-general during the First World War. He invented a number of semi-automatic rifles but his chief claim to fame was as the inventor in 1920 of the Thompson Submachine Gun, or the "Tommy Gun." It was first used by the United States Marines in Nicaragua in 1925, and also became famous as a weapon used by American gangsters during the 1920s and 1930s. With some modification the weapon was also used by the United States and her allies in World War II (Historic Walking Tour, p. 7).

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The third owner of the house, from 1869-1888, was Mrs. Julia Taliaferro Thompson. Her mother, Mrs. Parker, deeded it to her in 1869, but Mrs. Parker reserved to herself the use of the dwelling for the remainder of her natural life. Ten years later, in 1879, she restricted the area reserved for herself during her remaining years to "that part of my homestead which lies east of the Main Hall being two rooms and cellar, together with the free and uninterrupted use of the halls" (Ibid., pp. 7-8).

On May 31, 1888 Mrs. Julia Thompson, by that time a widow, sold the house to its fourth owner, Mrs. Fannie F. Maddux, wife of Lewis O. Maddux, who owned it from 1888 to 1914. On stylistic grounds it seems likely that it was the Maddux' (or possibly the previous owner) who enlarged the house by adding the third story and tower. One event occurred there during her ownership. On May 28, 1894, the Keturah Moss Taylor Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in the old mansion. This was the first chapter in northern Kentucky and the second in the state (Ibid., p. 8).

The Knights of Columbus Home Company of Campbell County, Kentucky, purchased the house in 1914. They built the brick porch and added a large meeting hall on the rear of the house. A fire on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1948, destroyed the back addition and a new one was constructed shortly afterward (Ibid., p. 8). The Knights of Columbus have maintained their ownership to the present time and have used it continually as their meeting place since they purchased it in 1914.

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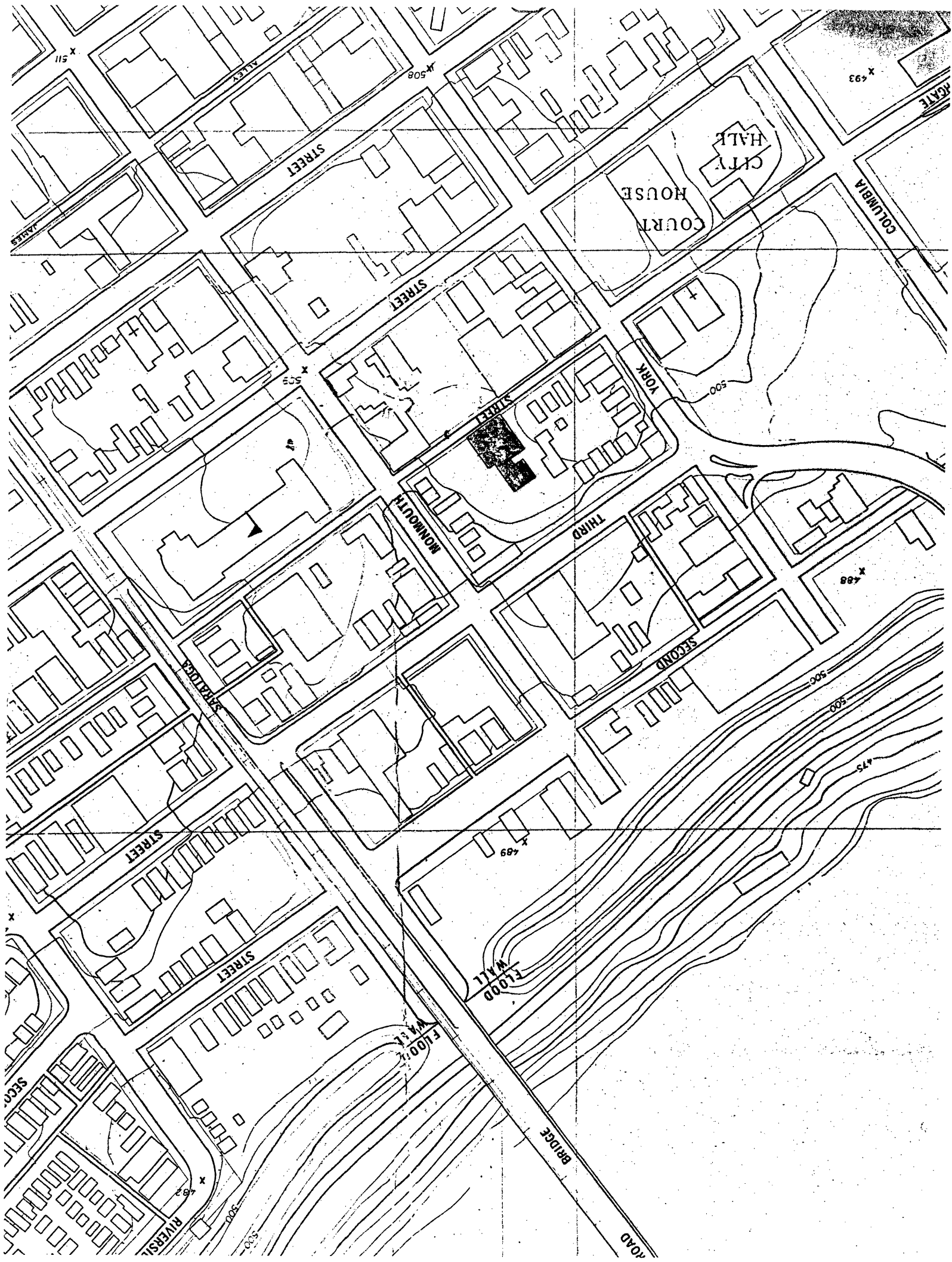
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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Photo 6. of 8
Snapshot of first-floor staircase.

AUG 29 1977 JAN 31 1977

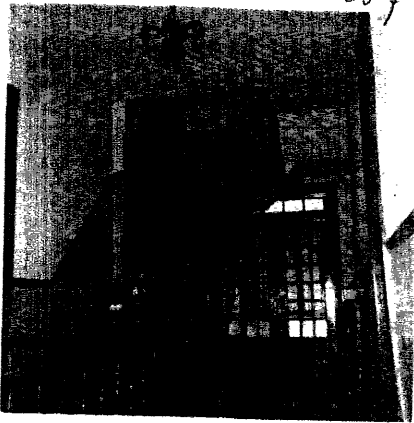


Photo 7. of 8
Snapshot of staircase from second story to tower.

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NPS Number AUG 29 1977

Title: Southgate - Parker -
Maddux House

Loc. Campbell County, KY

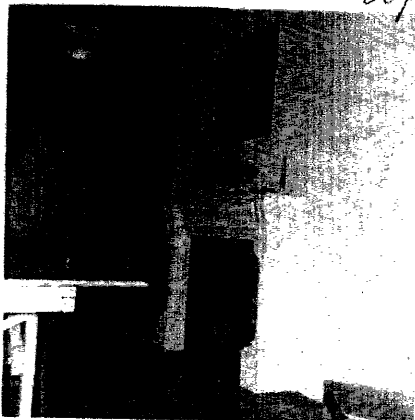


Photo 8. of 8
Snapshot of ca. 1890 mantel in left parlor.

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