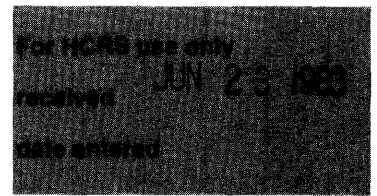


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Featherston, Edmonson and Clark Houses

and/or common University of Kentucky Maxwell Street Houses

2. Location

street & number 218, 226 and 232 East Maxwell Street^e n/a not for publication

city, town Lexington n/a vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Kentucky code 021 county Fayette code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name University of Kentucky

street & number 800 South Limestone Street

city, town Lexington n/a vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fayette County Courthouse

street & number 215 West Main Street

city, town Lexington state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date April 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

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

These three houses are the best representations of the Italianate period remaining on the south side of East Maxwell Street which at one time was a fashionable residential area.

218 East Maxwell Street (photo 1) is a large two to two-and-one-half story brick (occasional Flemish-bond brickwork in front) Italianate house with somewhat irregular plan; it has paired brackets, trefoil attic vents, and elegantly plain hoodmolds with consoles and dentils on most of the front openings, including the unusual rectangular attic windows; the recessed vestibule is now behind a full-width one-story Tuscan porch (added after 1907) with an enclosed section at the east end and an extended porte-cochere on the west. There are a standing-seam metal roof and panelled chimneys. The interior has a series of turn-of-the-century Colonial Revival mantelpieces, but the staircase retains its original octagonal newel post, panelled with lighter woods, and the interior frames are still in the Greek Revival style with pediments and "shoulders." The house is vacant but basically intact.

226 East Maxwell Street (photo 2) is a large two-story brick house, set well back from the Street, that is now symmetrical as a result of a short wing added onto the East side of the front block after 1907 (see the 1907 Sanborn map). There is a two-story gabled entrance pavilion with a recessed vestibule, whose elliptical arch is flanked by bold turned and incised half-posts; at the peak of the central gable is a pierced panel, with large and small brackets below. Unusual are the recessed panels in the attic over the second-story windows. The hoodmolds, probably stone, have sunk quatrefoils in the corners and incised consoles (suggesting triglyphs), which match those of several other houses in Lexington. There is a standing-seam metal roof, and the house seems to have gained a full-width one-story Tuscan porch with dentillated molding on the cornice about the same time. The interiors have a variety of mantels, some probably from the 1890's, other apparently earlier upstairs, and there is an attractive stained-glass panel in the added wing under the staircase, with amber and brown panes highlighted by turquoise and crimson accents. An outdoor staircase on the east side of the large rear ell was present by 1907.

232 East Maxwell Street (photo 3) is a two-and-one-half story, three bay brick townhouse with slightly projecting entrance pavilion at the east end of the front. The entrance pavilion has a pair of narrow windows above the slightly recessed segmental entrance arch. There is a very low hipped standing-seam metal roof and the chimneys are corbelled. The cornice has paired brackets between the bays, with shorter brackets above the horizontal small attic windows. The stone window hoodmolds have segmental tops and are incised with a Neo-Grecian pattern with stylized fleur-de-lys on the "keystones." The entrance has an incised or reed frame with rosettes over the arch. There is various Eastlake trim on the door and inner frame. The interior trim is stylized in the same fashion as the exterior, with incised patterns on the frames, corner blocks and at the end of the hall chair rails. In spite of additions at the rear, the house and its woodwork are unusually intact.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1875-1885

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

These three, late nineteenth century contiguous Italianate style houses, finer than any other houses in the area, represent the architectural style of the period and the era in which Maxwell Street was a prominent single family upper-class neighborhood. Over the years, due to the growth of their neighbor, the University of Kentucky, many of the fine residences in the area were demolished leaving these houses as one of the most important major architectural groupings of Italianate style residential buildings in the city. All constructed in the late 1870's or early 1880's, they display much of their original fabric in the form of brackets, trefoil attic vents, hoodmolds, panelled chimneys and a porte-cochere. Each of these houses was built by prominent local businessmen of that period, all of whom had much to do with the growth and prominence of Lexington during the last half of the nineteenth century. 218 East Maxwell Street was either built for or lived in shortly after its construction by the Warren Featherston family. Mr. Featherston was a member of a large family who had farm holdings and a livery stable in downtown Lexington. 226 East Maxwell was constructed for Colonel Robert E. Edmonson, prominent realtor, auctioneer and live stock agent. 232 East Maxwell was the home of George and Augustus Clark, principals in a contracting and building firm.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .91

Quadrangle name Lexington East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	7	1	9	5	3	5	4	2	1	3	0	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code n/a county n/a code n/a

state n/a code n/a county n/a code n/a

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian
Richard S. DeCamp, Executive Director

organization Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission date May 1983

street & number 253 Market Street telephone 606/255-8312

city or town Lexington state Kentucky 40508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mary Curran Appel

title State Historic Preservation Officer date June 15, 1983

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
Entered in the National Register date 7/21/83
for Allyson Byer
Keeper of the National Register
Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

University of Kentucky
Continuation sheet Maxwell Street Houses

Item number 9

Page 2

Major Bibliographical References:

Fayette County Deed and Will Books, Fayette County Courthouse, Lexington, Kentucky.

Kerr, Judge Charles, Ed. History of Kentucky. (5 volumes) Chicago and New York: The American Historical Society, 1922.

Lancaster, Clay. Back Streets and Pine Trees. Lexington: Bur Press, 1956.

Lexington City Directories, Lexington Public Library, Lexington, Kentucky.

Perrin, William Henry, Ed. History of Fayette County, Kentucky. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Company, 1882.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1886 to present. Map Department, University of Kentucky, Lexington.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

University of Kentucky

Continuation sheet Maxwell Street Houses

Item number 10

Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

The boundary begins at a point (A) (which is approximately 175 feet southwest of the southwest corner of Stone Avenue and Maxwell Street) and proceeds southwest along a line 420 feet to a point (B) thence southwest along a line 385 feet to a point (C) thence northeast along a line 420 feet to a point (D) thence southwest along a line 385 feet to the point of origin thereby incorporating the three houses.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Fa-LS-34

1. Historic Name(s)
Warren Featherston House
Original Owner

2. Present Name

3. Owner's Name

4. Owner's Address

5. Location **218 E. Maxwell St. (172 before 1902)**

6. Open to Public
Yes No

7. Visible from road
Yes No

8. Ownership
Private Local State Federal

9. Local Contact/Organization
Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Commission

22. ADD/County
BG/Fayette/Lexington

23. Zoning Classification
Magisterial District

24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75')

25. UTM Reference
Zone Easting Northing

26. Prehistoric Site
Historic Site **Building** Object Structure

27. District Yes No
Name:

10. Site Plan with North Arrow

11. Architect

12. Builder

13. Date **perhaps ca. 1875**

14. Style
A. **Italianate**
B.

15. Original Use
residence

16. Present Use
vacant

17. Condition
fair/good

28. Significance Evaluation
NR

29. Status
National Landmark
National Register
Landmark Certificate
Kentucky Survey
Local Landmark
HABS/HAER

30. Theme
Primary **Architecture**
Secondary **(Commerce)**
Other

31. Endangered
perhaps Yes No

18. Description **Large 2 1/2 S brick (occasional Flemish-bond courses on front) of irregular plan, with almost central gabled entrance pavilion (which had recessed 1S entrance vestibule, now enclosed) flanked by 2B parlor wing on E and slightly setback 2B wing on W; porch originally on NW corner only, expanded and partially enclosed after 1907 to include full 1S front plus projecting porte-cochère on W side; irregular and probably somewhat altered 1S and 2S E service ell;**
(see back)

No. Stories **d**

Single Pile NA

Double Pile

Floor Plan **k**

Structural Fabric **c**

Decorative Fabric
A. **r**
B.

Roof Form

32. ATTACH PHOTO

1S-I, 10A, SW; 11A, S: IV, 4A, NE (rear).

Roll No. _____
Picture No. _____
Direction _____

33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____

19. History **Although this house is not shown on the 1871 Bird's-Eye View of Lexington, the long narrow lot extending through to Euclid (then Winslow) Avenue on the S is shown on the 1877 Atlas. The 1st street directory of 1887 lists the occupant as Warren Featherston, member of a large family who had (see back)**

34. Prepared by: **Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian**

20. Significance **This very impressive Italianate brick house, basically intact but with a 20th-century Tuscan enclosed porch and porte-cochère across the front, forms one of a limited group of late 19th-century dwellings remaining (see back)**

21. Source of Information **City directories, Sanborn insurance maps, and other early maps; Industrial Record (1897; copy in LFCHC files); Kerr, Hist. (1922).**

35. Organization **LFCHC**

36. Date **April 1981**

37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____

18. (cont.)

standing-seam metal roof, corbelled chimneys; long 2/2-pane sash windows on 1S and 2S, with small corresponding horizontal attic openings above trefoil vents in gables; flat hoodmolds (probably iron) with dentil courses on consoles; paired eave brackets; curved stone pedestals of original entrance-steps have been moved out to serve bold Tuscan front porch and enclosed entrance, which extends from central section to E; the 1S of the service ell has segmental-arched openings, and there are "Gothic" brackets upholding the rear stoop canopy.

The interior (now boarded up) has a series of turn-of-the-century Colonial Revival mantels (probably installed when the front porch and porte-cochère were enlarged), but the original Italianate staircase remains, with an octagonal newel panelled in at least 2 woods, and the interior frames are still in the Grecian manner with pediments and "shoulders".

19. (cont.)

a farm on the Tates Creek Pike (5 miles out of town) and a livery stable on Vine St., as well as a meat market on N. Limestone St.; it seems likely that the 20th-century Marshall-Featherston Garage evolved out of the family livery stable (see Survey form for 168-82 N. Upper St.; Kerr, III, 298-99). In 1874 Warren Featherston had married Myra D. Hart (Press, 3/1/1874, 4-4); she left 3 children at her early death in 1887, the year they lived here (her obit., Trans., 3/27/1887, 4-4, age 36).

John C. Curd, rather surprisingly listed as a laborer, in 1888; lived here at least 1888-95 (obit., Her., 3/23/1924, 12-3, age 83 at the Britling Hotel on S. Broadway); in 1902 he was described, however, as a realtor and insurance agent.

Dr. Robert L. Willis, a physician and surgeon, lived here in 1898-99 (obit., Her., 11/7/1915, 1-6, age 68); he had moved across the Street to 225 (see Survey form) by 1902.

Charles E. Willmott lived here in 1902; he had lived at 349 Madison Place in the Woodward Heights District in 1898-99, and was later at 314 Grosvenor Place (see Survey forms); it is not clear what Willmott's occupation was, but he was the nephew of Curtis Smith Willmott of Boiling Spring farm on the Sandersville Pike (see Kerr, III, 13-14) and connected by marriage to the Bain family; his wife Anna died in 1923 (her obit., Her., 1/4/1923, 2-4).

Mrs. Martha C. Drake, widow of William, was listed here in 1906-1907, along with the Misses Drake, milliners, at least one of whom had been given a notice in the 1897 Industrial Record (pp. 4c-d):

(Continued)

218 E. Maxwell St.
Lexington-Fayette Co.
Page 3

(See the obit. of Miss Nash M. Drake, Her., 3/9/1934, Sec. 2, p. 4, 4-5, at home on Hanover Avenue.)

20. (cont.)

on the south side of East Maxwell Street between the University of Kentucky campus (of which the house is actually a part) and the downtown commercial area a block to the north. It may have been built about 1875, but the first occupant so far identified was Warren Featherston, member of a large family who had a farm on the Tates Creek Pike and a livery stable downtown; the latter eventually became the basis for the Marshall-Featherston Garage, one of the first successful (and surviving) automobile-oriented enterprises in Lexington. After a sequence of mercantile and professional residents at the turn of the century, it eventually became a sorority or fraternity house, but is now vacant.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Fa-LS-37

1. Historic Name(s) Col. R.E. Edmonson/Spotswood Family House		22. ADD/County BG/Fayette/Lexington	
Original Owner		23. Zoning Classification Magisterial District	
2. Present Name		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75')	
3. Owner's Name		25. UTM Reference	
4. Owner's Address		Zone Easting Northing	
5. Location 226 E. Maxwell (190 before 1902)		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure <u>Building</u>	
6. Open to Public Yes ___ No <u>X</u>	7. Visible from road Yes <u>X</u> No ___	8. Ownership Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local <u>(UK)</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Commission		27. District Yes ___ No ___ Name: _____	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		28. Significance Evaluation NR <u>d</u>	
11. Architect		29. Status National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> National Register <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Builder		Date _____	
13. Date by 1883-84; and later <u>5</u> <u>6</u>		30. Theme Primary <u>Architecture</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secondary <u>(Commerce)</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>(Building Industry)</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Style A. late Italianate <u>5</u> B. Eastlake <u>12</u>		31. Endangered perhaps Yes ___ No ___	
15. Original Use residence <u>1</u>		32.	
16. Present Use vacant		ATTACH PHOTO	
17. Condition fair/good <u>2</u>		LS-I, 8A, S; IV, 16A, SE; 6A, E (rear ell).	
18. Description Large 2S, 5B unbonded brick with projecting central gabled entrance tower; now virtually symmetrical, but 2S E wing was added after 1907 (see Sanborn map), as was 1S full Tuscan porch (whose dentil course, etc., resemble that on 218) that projects 1B forward around central tower, has wrought iron step-railing; above front windows at attic level are blind sunk panels (possibly closed in by fraternity?); low standing-(see back)		Roll No. _____ Picture No. _____ Direction _____	
19. History This house seems to have been built before 1883-84 (the lot is present on the 1877 Atlas) for Col. Robert E. Edmonson, a prominent local realtor, auctioneer, and livestock dealer (see Perrin, p. 602, Survey form for Clay Villa, Forest Avenue, in the Bell Court Neighborhood NR District, for further refs.). According to Perrin (see back)		33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____	
20. Significance This impressive former residence, set well back from the street, is the center piece of an important group of late 19th-century houses remaining on the south side of East Maxwell Street between the University (see back)		34. Prepared by: Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian	
21. Source of Information City directories, Sanborn insurance maps, other early maps; Fayette Co. Deed Books and 1794-1903 Index; Perrin, Fayette Co. (1882); Industrial Record (1897); copy in the LFCHC files; Lancaster, Back Streets (1956).		35. Organization LFCHC	
		36. Date April 1981	
		37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____	

18. (cont.)

seam metal roof, elaborate chimneys; front tower gable peak projects forward with pierced ornament flanking central vertical, many small brackets, larger at ends; similar brackets also at ends of front block; the main entrance is through the base of the tower, with brick round arches forming an open vestibule, and boldly turned pilasters remaining on the front of the tower, probably from the original asymmetrical NW porch; bold shaped dividers in 2S central window of tower; lintels, probably stone, have sunk quatrefoils at the ends and triglyph consoles; 1/1-pane sash on front, earlier 6/6-pane on ell, which has brick jackarches; there is a 2S gallery on the somewhat irregular W side of the long ell, enclosed on the 2S, with exterior wainscotted stair; the rear part of the ell is a 2S frame.

The original interior frames are of the same pedimented, eared type as those of 218 next door; those in the added E wing and elsewhere are of standard turn-of-the-century cabinet mantels elsewhere; the staircase is now in the SE corner of the wide arched entrance hall, in the new wing; under it off the E chamber is an alcove with windows of amber and brown art glass, incorporating turquoise "jewel" accents and red bottle-bottoms. The interior has suffered from a series of remodellings and hard use as a fraternity house, and there has been serious water damage from the roof, but the brick portions of the building are basically intact.

19. (cont.)

Edmonson "located in" Lexington in 1881 from Clark Co., Ky., after a checkered career; his residence in 1881-82 was 456 E. 3rd St. In 1885 (Trans., 11/6/1885, 1-7), when the family was living on E. Maxwell, his daughter Lelia married Harry L. Milward of an outstanding local family. In 1890 (Trans., 9/20/1890, 5-4) however, ~~Edmonson~~ and his family moved to Chicago, later returning to Lexington.

In 1887 Edmonson has sold a lot 91½' wide on Maxwell--presumably this property--to Sallie P. Spotswood, whose family had had several other real estate dealings long Maxwell in 1885 (see Deed Index 1794-1903). Mrs. Spotswood remained at this address at least until 1898-99 and Alfred Spotswood was still here in 1902. She was Sallie (or Sarah) P. Mountmollin (or Montmollin), no doubt member of a prominent mid-19th-century Lexington family, who gave their name to at least one street still existing; in 1854 she married Edward (or Edwin) R. Spotswood of Glasgow, Missouri (Ky. Statesman, 3/10/1854, 3-6), who evidently moved to Lexington soon thereafter. According to the Press (7/6/1877, 4-4), he started a new lumberyard on the S side of W. Main St. between Broadway and Spring St. in that year, but he died only 4 years later (see obit., Press, 3/8/1881, 1-4, age 51; also Will Book 5, p. 59, 3/1881). A son, Frederic M. Spotswood, was given a notice with portrait in the 1897 Industrial Record, of which he was a proprietor (p. 4C):

(Continued)

The lumberyard and planing mill were described as at 180-200 East Main, not far from this residence, in the 1888 directory, and appears on the early Sanborn insurance maps; known as the Ashland Planing Mills, it was apparently run by Mrs. Spotswood in conjunction with Alfred M., probably a son, who is listed with her on E. Maxwell at least 1890 and 1898-99, with Fred also there in the latter year. A Frank D. Spotswood, age 69, died in 1927 (obit., Her., 2/23/1927, 1-4), and Alfred's widow Katherine died in 1953 (her obit., Her., 11/12/1953, 8-4).

Mrs. Margaret McLaughlin, widow of Martin, was listed here in 1906-1907; she was apparently still here at her death a decade later (obit., Her., 9/26/1917, 12-2, age 74, at home on E. Maxwell, leaving 4 sons and 3 daughters; see also LPL Newspaper Index refs. to other members of the family).

Until recently this was used as the Kappa Alpha Fraternity house.

The lintels on the front of the house resemble those on the Dr. Matthew T. Scott house, ca. 1880, at 160 N. Broadway, and others perhaps originally associated with the Scott family on E. 2nd and 3rd Sts., and another nearby at 260 S. Limestone St.; the architect of these distinctive late Italianate/Neo-Grec houses has not yet been determined, although the quatrefoils occur on the Thomas L. Watkins house, designed by John McMurtry for his son-in-law in the late 1880s (see NR and Survey forms for 1008 S. Broadway; Lancaster, Back Sts., pp. 98-100, illus. 46-47).

20. (cont.)

of Kentucky campus (of which the building ^{is} presently part) and a narrow residential section above the downtown commercial area. Until recently a fraternity house, it was probably built in the late 1870s or early 1880s. The earliest recorded occupant was Col. R.E. Edmonson, a prominent local realtor, auctioneer, and live-stock dealer active in the development of several late 19th-century near-downtown subdivisions. In the 1890s and into the 20th century this was the home of members of the Spotswood family, who operated the important Ashland Planing Mills or lumber yard, located nearby on East Main Street at the time. Originally irregular in plan, the house was made symmetrical by the addition of an east wing to the front block in the 20th century, but some interesting Eastlake porch and gable trim remains on the front, with distinctive quatrefoil-stamped lintels that may be identified with the late work of architect-builder John McMurtry.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Fa-LS-39

1. Historic Name(s) George and Augustus Clark(e) House Original Owner		22. ADD/County BG/Fayette/Lexington	
2. Present Name		23. Zoning Classification Magisterial District	
3. Owner's Name		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75')	
4. Owner's Address		25. UTM Reference Zone Easting Northing	
5. Location 232 E. Maxwell St. (probably 265 E. Maxwell after 1883-84; 196 before 1902)		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure <u>Building</u>	
6. Open to Public Yes ___ No <u>X</u>	7. Visible from road Yes <u>X</u> No ___	8. Ownership Private _____ Local _____ State <u>(UK)</u> <u>X</u> Federal _____	
9. Local Contact/Organization Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Commission		27. District Yes ___ No ___ Name: _____	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		28. Significance Evaluation NR <u>d</u>	
11. Architect		29. Status National Landmark _____ National Register _____ Landmark Certificate _____ Kentucky Survey _____ Local Landmark _____ HABS/HAER _____	
12. Builder perhaps George Clark & Bros.		30. Theme Primary <u>Architecture</u> <u>3</u> Secondary <u>(Construction)</u> Other <u>(Commerce)</u> <u>5</u>	
13. Date by 1883-84 <u>5</u>		31. Endangered <u>perhaps</u> Yes ___ No ___	
14. Style A. Late Italianate <u>5</u> B. Eastlake <u>12</u>		32. ATTACH PHOTO LS-IV, 22A, S; I, 7A, SW; 9A, SE	
15. Original Use residence <u>1</u>		Roll No. _____ Picture No. _____ Direction _____	
16. Present Use vacant		33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____	
17. Condition fair/good <u>2</u>		34. Prepared by: Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian	
18. Description 2 1/2 S, 3B brick townhouse with slightly projecting entrance pavilion at E end of front, which has narrow double windows above slightly recessed segmental entrance arch; very low hipped standing-seam metal roof, corbelled chimneys; cornice has pairs of brackets between bays, shorter brackets above horizontal small attic windows (single attic opening over entrance bay); stone or possibly metal hoodmolds have segmental tops, incised (see back)		35. Organization LFCHC	
19. History This house was occupied by 1883-84 (as #265 or 256) and in 1887 (#194) by George Clark(e) and his brother Augustus, principals in the firm of Clarke & Bros., contractors and buildings. They were probably both sons of Enoch Clark, a famous and influential mid-19th-century Lexington carriage builder and trimmer (see back)		36. Date April 1981	
20. Significance This tall two-story brick townhouse with distinctive Eastlake or Neo-Grec trim, both inside and outside, is part of an important group of late 19th-century		37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____	
21. Source of Information (see back) City directories and Sanborn insurance maps; and other early maps; Perrin, Fayette Co. (1882); Kerr, Hist. (1922).			

18. (cont.)

Néo-Grec patterns with stylized fleur-de-lys on "keystones"; entrance has incised or reeded frame with rosettes over arch under hood with consoles; various Eastlake trim on the door itself and inner frame.

The interior trim is stylized in the same fashion as the exterior, with incised patterns on the frames, plus chamfered panels, patterns on the corner blocks and at the ends of the "Chair-rail" in the entrance hall; the main newel post is treated similarly; angular castiron mantels have recently (as of 11/80) lost their metal or marbelized slate shelves. In spite of additions at the rear, the house and its woodwork are unusually intact.

19. (cont.)

(see the Survey form for his house at 530 Elm Tree Lane; Perrin, p. 641 et passim; obit., O. & R., 11/10/1869, 306, age 78). An Augustus Clark of Lexington (perhaps member of another or related family) married Sarah, daughter of Josiah Felix of Woodford Co. in 1853 (Ky. Statesman, 7/19/1953, 3-6). More definitely the same George Clark, however, was the bridegroom of Julia Erd in 1884, about the time he lived on E. Maxwell (Trans., 10/8/1884, 4-3; her family was possibly that of the partner of John Wiehl in Erd & Wiehl's furniture and undertaking business; see Perrin, p. 749, for instance). The interesting obituary of George Clarke (Her., 7/9/1931, 6-1, age 84) lists various important buildings constructed by his firm, including the old Y.M.C.A. (now Artsplace) at Mill and Church Sts. (see Survey form for N. Mill in the Northside NR District), the turn-of-the-century Fayette Co. Courthouse. (see Survey form), and the Reform School (see also the Survey form for his residence at 136 Woodland, 1890-95). He was eventually a partner of J. Albert Howard, although the latter's extensive personal and business biography in Kerr (IV, 157-58) does not mention Clarke; (see also Survey form for Howard's residence at 440 Walnut St.). (George Clarke lived in the house formerly at 258 E. Maxwell at the turn of the century.)

James C. Bryant, who had a wholesale and retail store carrying drugs, books, etc., at (then) 38 E. Main St., lived here in 1888 (by then # 196); the previous year he had been assaulted at Main & Upper Sts. by C. J. Bronston, who "got the worst of it" (Trans., 5/24/1887, 4-2; on Bronston, a frequently controversial but nevertheless distinguished attorney--he also shot W.R. Milward in 1908!--see Survey form for his home at 424 W. 2nd St. in the Northside; LPL Newspaper Index refs.; and several other biog. sources listed in LFCHC card file).

Nothing has been found directly concerning Mrs. Mary E. Chick, widow of James A. Chick, who lived here from at least 1890 until 1902, but the occupant in 1906-1907, Nelson H. Smith, was apparently her son-in-law, and was a partner in Smith & (George)C. Chick, "queensware" dealers at 254 W. Main St.; he was described as a former merchant in his obituary (Her., 1/13/1935, 1-8, age 63; see also the obit. of Mrs. Nelson Smith, at home on E. Maxwell, Her., 9/7/1929, 4-8; and that of George Carroll Chick, a retired businessman of 1045 S. Limestone, Her., 11/9/1945, 22-1).

20. (cont.)

residences that backs up to the University of Kentucky campus, facing the still largely residential area between the campus and the downtown commercial district. By 1883-84 this was the home of George Clark(e) and his brother Augustus, partners in the Clarke Brothers Co., contractors and builders; George at least was later a partner of J. Albert Howard in one of the city's leading turn-of-the-century building firms, which was responsible for the construction of the current Fayette County Courthouse, as well as numerous other important civic, institutional,
(continued)

and private buildings. It seems likely that the Clarkes also built this house, which shares ornamental elements with at least one residence known to have been designed by Swedish-born post-Civil War Lexington architect Phelix L. Lundin, nearly all of whose major commissions no longer exist.

In 1889 the house was occupied by James C. Bryant, who had an extensive wholesale and retail drug business on Main Street, and also sold books. Mrs. Mary E. Chick, widow of James Chick, lived here from at least 1890 to 1902; her son-in-law, Nelson H. Smith, a prominent merchant in the family dry-goods firm, was listed here after that date, at least until 1930. Now vacant, the building is being renovated as offices for the University.



LEXINGTON

X
989

EAST

X
987

MAXWELL

COLLEGE
VIEW

C

STREET

ST

X

989

VIEW

University of Kentucky Maxwell Street
Houses

Fayette County, Kentucky
Planning Commission Map
Current

Scale 1" = 100 feet

Map 1 of 2