

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0668826  
DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 15 1978  
DATE ENTERED JUL 17 1978

**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

Clover Hill

AND/OR COMMON

Youngland

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

2618 Dixie Highway

\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 and 4

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

111

**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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Vacant Residence

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Hesser Trust, Bank of Louisville

STREET & NUMBER

Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

\_\_ VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

511 West Jefferson

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Kentucky Survey of Historical Sites

DATE

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

Clover Hill is an important element of the architectural continuum in Jefferson County in the nineteenth century. It is especially important in that it is one of very few surviving early nineteenth-century structures in the southwest portion of Jefferson County. In addition, it represents several phases of building in the nineteenth century including an octagon room in 1863. The structure is situated on Dixie Highway (formerly the Valley Turnpike) in Shively and is surrounded by commercial establishments.

The main block of the house is a two-story, red brick structure in English bond with interior-end chimneys. Queen closures are used on the front corners of the main block. The sills and lintels of the main block are of wood. This main portion, built c. 1826, originally had a standard, five-bay facade. The front door has been widened and new doors added; however, the wooden double doors in the rear of the hall appear to be original. On the second story, the pair of windows in the center replaced a single window when two bathrooms were added upstairs. All of the other windows in the main block appear to be original and have nine over six panes.

It is uncertain whether the front porch is original; however, in Howard Miller's Farm Notes of 1863, he mentions the "reroofing of the front porch." Thus, a porch of some type existed in 1863. The porch has four round columns with Tuscan capitals, a balustrade, and two rounded pilasters. A triangular gable surmounts the porch.

Over the years, the Miller family enlarged their homestead. According to tradition, Robert N. Miller first built in c. 1817 a log structure which later served as a kitchen. The brick main house was begun in c. 1826 with additions made mainly in a seven-year period from about 1857 to 1864. A diary or farm journal kept by Howard Miller (now at The Filson Club) records daily operations on the farm, weather, buildings being erected, and comments on events such as the Civil War. In 1858, the diary mentions the hauling of lumber for a carriage house, the building of the carriage house, and the shingling of the roof. In December of 1858, a comment on the "upper new room" is recorded. This refers to either the back wing or the wing to the east. Then in July of 1859, the digging of the foundations for the library is recorded and subsequent comments are recorded on the erection of the library including "penciling library." It is unclear which of the two additions on the eastern portion of the house is the library or "new part" of the house. Thus, from Miller's diary, we have an exact date of the various additions to the Miller homestead including the octagon room. In August of 1863, according to the diary, brick was hauled for the octagon room, and the foundation was dug. It was referred to as the "western octagonal room," but no indication was given as to why an octagon shape was chosen. Throughout September and October of 1863, references were made to the various tasks of building the octagonal room. The new octagon room was in use by the end of November, 1863. On the interior west wall is a large fireplace with a wooden mantel.

The original homestead had the three additions mentioned, and it also had several porches added in the rear and on the east side.

The interior configuration was changed to include a hallway set perpendicular to the central hall. This cross hall facilitated passage to the three additions. Two bathrooms were added in the front of the upper hall in the main block.

(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 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 checked="" 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    1826, 1857, 1859, 1863    BUILDER/ARCHITECT    Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Clover Hill is a fine example of an early nineteenth-century, vernacular farmhouse of a type found elsewhere in Jefferson County. However, it is one of very few remaining early nineteenth-century structures in the southwestern part of the county. The existence of an octagon room places it as a special entity.

Clover Hill had been the home for over three quarters of the nineteenth century for the Miller family.

Robert Nicholas Miller, who built Clover Hill, was the son of Isaac and Mary Lewis Miller of Charlottesville, Virginia. The Miller family came to Jefferson County in 1804, and in 1811, settled on an extensive tract of land southwest of the city between the present Cane Run Road and Dixie Highway.

Robert Miller moved from his father's home in 1817 to the portion of the tract bounded by the Valley Turnpike or Eighteenth Street Turnpike, now Dixie Highway, according to tradition. He first built a double-log house on the Clover Hill site where he and his wife, Juliet Thruston Holloway, lived. The main block of Clover Hill is believed to have been built by Robert Miller about 1826. The log house then became the kitchen. According to oral tradition, bricks for the house were burned on the place by slaves.

Robert Miller's wife died in 1830, and he subsequently married Mary Latimer Howard, daughter of John Howard of Jefferson County. Robert Miller considered himself primarily a farmer, but he was elected to the State Legislature in 1831 and 1848 and was, for many years, vice-president of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association. He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Louisville and Nashville Turnpike and was the president of the company owning the Jefferson County portion. He died in 1877.

One of Robert N. Miller's sons, Howard, who was born at Clover Hill in 1832, lived much of his life on the farm, apparently running its operations for his father. Howard Miller was educated in local schools and later attended the Western Military Institute at Georgetown, Kentucky. He married Medora Griffin, and they had nine children, all of them born at Clover Hill.

During many of the years Howard Miller was engaged in farming, he kept diaries detailing the various operations involved in running a large farm with numerous slaves. He also comments on the several additions he made to the original house. Several volumes of this diary are extant.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Henry Miller Diaries, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1862, 1863, 1864, Mss. The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky.

Telephone Interview, 2 November 1977, Mrs. William Furnish, great-granddaughter of Henry Miller.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres *see telephone report*

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	6	0	5	8	1	0	2	5	0
ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING			

4	2	2	9	2	4	0	8	1	0
ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING		

*LEBOVICH*  
*7/13/78*

B 

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING					

  
D 

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bounded by Dixie Highway on east, property line of Chapel Park Church on north, Youngland Avenue on south.

## 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 Elizabeth F. Jones  
Mary Jean Kinsman

ORGANIZATION Jefferson County Representative

DATE January 11, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 1705 Lynn Way

TELEPHONE 426-0544

CITY OR TOWN Louisville,

STATE Kentucky 40222

# 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

*Edward W. Melton*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 5/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST: *William Lebovich*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7-17-78  
 DATE 7/13/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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None of the original outbuildings remain; however, there is a twentieth-century garage structure on the property. The house sits on a slight rise--thus the name Clover Hill. The property has a number of fine old trees and plantings.

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In the late 1880s, Howard Miller moved into the city to live and began selling tracts of his extensive acreage along the Valley Turnpike. Various owners acquired different portions of the estate.

From 1908 to 1912, Colonel Bennett H. Young purchased four tracts containing thirty acres and including the site of Clover Hill. Young maintained the house as a summer home and renamed it "Youngland."

Bennett H. Young, one of Louisville's distinguished citizens, was a native of Jessamine County, Kentucky. He was a student at Centre College when the Civil War began, and he left to join the Confederate army, later serving in John Hunt Morgan's brigade. He was captured but escaped to Canada and organized a series of raids into the United States, most notably the raid on St. Alban's, Vermont. After the war, Young was refused amnesty and went abroad to study. He graduated from the law department of Queens College, Belfast, Ireland.

In 1868, he returned to Kentucky and settled in Louisville to practice law. He became involved in numerous business and civic affairs in Louisville, particularly the organization, operation, and construction of various railroad lines and the building of the Kentucky and Indiana bridge. He was president of the Southern Exposition in 1884, a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1890-91, founder of Bellewood Seminary in Anchorage, and influential in the reorganization of the Polytechnic Society, later to become the Louisville Public Library. His interests included archaeology and literature, and he was the author of several articles on Kentucky archaeology, a history of Kentucky state constitutions, writings on church history, and other monographs on a variety of subjects, as well as a series of humorous stories about an old gander at his country home, "Youngland."

At the time of his death in 1919, General Young was involved in the final plans and fund-raising for the erection of the Jefferson Davis Monument at Fairview, Kentucky.

After Young's death, the Clover Hill property passed through the hands of several owners until it was purchased by the Hesser family in 1925, who occupied Clover Hill until the recent death of Howard Hesser.

Clover Hill is an interesting combination of architectural elements of the nineteenth century. The octagon room is perhaps the most unusual feature of the structure. While octagon rooms were popular as a nineteenth-century phenomenon throughout the country, few were built in Jefferson County. This may be the only remaining one other than the octagon rooms at Farmington from 1810.

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The Miller homestead is a unique assemblage of architectural motifs spanning the nineteenth century. Both the Miller family and Bennett H. Young, past owners of Clover Hill, were important in the development of this section of the county. Young was an important figure in the civic and cultural development of the city of Louisville in addition to being an important personage in the Civil War. Clover Hill is one of the most important sites of architectural and historical importance in Jefferson County.

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Interview, 3 November 1977, Mrs. William Furnish.

Site Visit, 3 November 1977.

Jefferson County Deed Books.

Johnson, J. S. Memorial History of Louisville. Louisville: 1896, page 371, 504, 505, and 506.

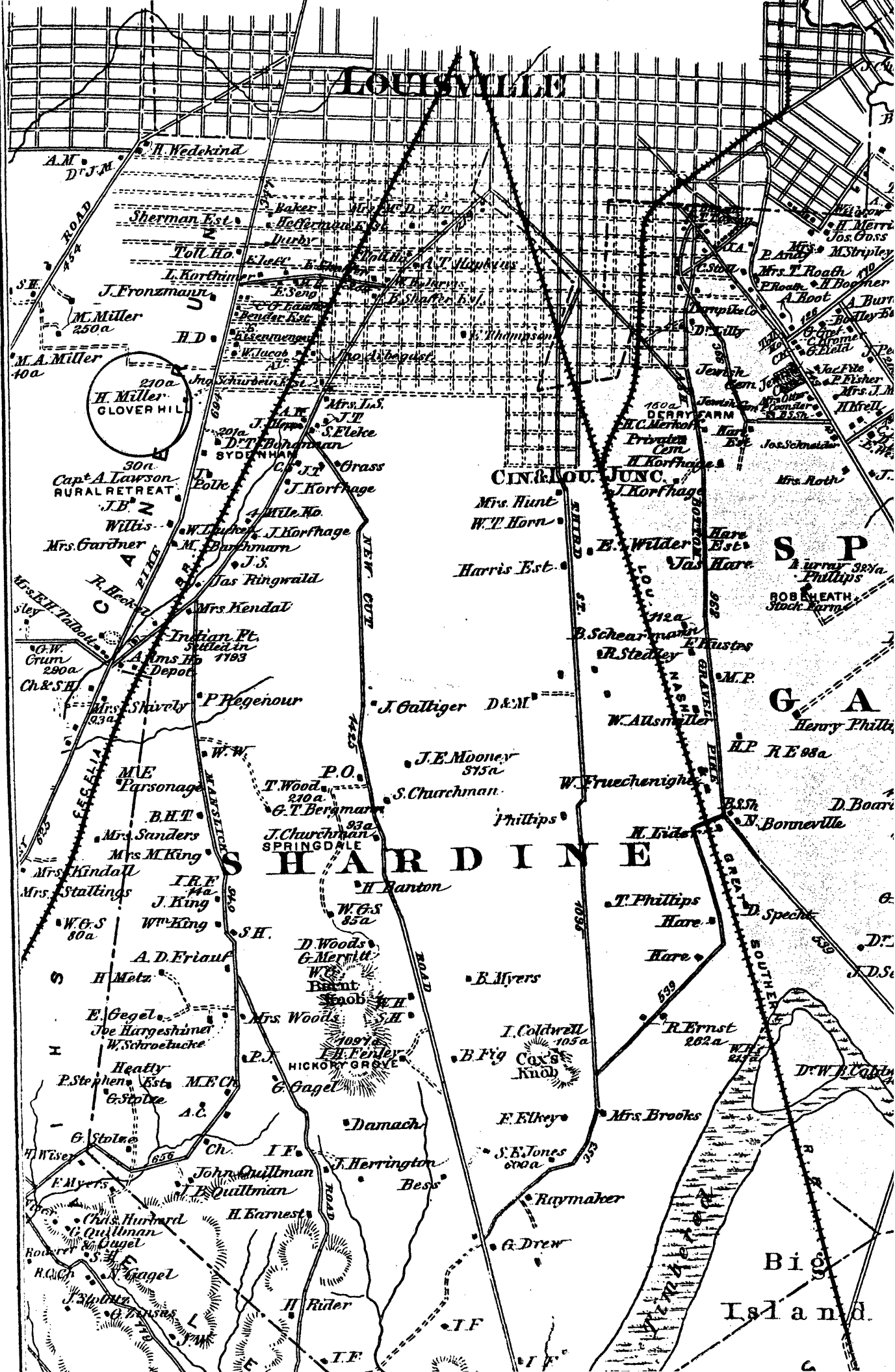
Bullitt, Neville. Old Homes and Landmarks in Louisville and Jefferson County, 1937. Mss. The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky.

Levin, H., Lawyers and Lawmakers of Kentucky. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1897, page 269.

Biographical Cyclopeda of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Chicago: Johnson Gresham Co., 1896, page 348.



# LOUISVILLE



H. Miller  
210a  
GLOVER HILL

Mrs. L. S. J. T.  
S. Eleke  
D. T. Bohannon  
SYDENHAM  
Grass  
J. Korfhage

CIN. & LOU. JUNC.  
Mrs. Hunt  
W. T. Horn  
Harris Est.

**S H A R D I N E**  
P. O.  
T. Wood  
210a  
G. T. Bergman  
J. Churchman  
93a  
SPRINGDALE  
H. Barton  
W. G. S  
85a  
Mrs. Sanders  
Mrs. M. King  
Mrs. Kindall  
Mrs. Stallings  
W. G. S  
80a  
Wm. King  
J. King  
A. D. Eriau  
H. Metz  
E. Gegel  
Joe Hargeshimer  
W. Schroetucke  
Healty  
P. Stephens  
G. Stolze  
A. C.  
G. Stolze  
Ch.  
I. F.  
John Quillman  
I. F. Quillman  
Chas. Hubbard  
G. Quillman  
R. Quillman  
S. F. Gegel  
J. Stolze  
G. Harris  
L.  
H. Rider  
I. F.

S P  
J. Murray 325a  
Phillips  
ROB. HEATH  
Stock Farm

G A  
Henry Phillips  
H. P. RE 93a

D. W. J. Coffey

Big  
Island

Clover Hill  
2618 Dixie Highway  
Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky  
Atlas of Jefferson & Oldham  
Counties, Kentucky. Beers &  
Lanagan, 1879.  
Map 3. Location on 1879 Atlas.

JUL 17 1976

MAY 15 1976