

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 6 1979  
DATE ENTERED AUG 7 1979

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 Stony Point

AND/OR COMMON

Stoney Point

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 4935 Parkers Mill Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN Lexington

VICINITY OF

6

STATE Kentucky

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

021

Fayette

067

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Rigan McKinney

STREET & NUMBER 4935 Parkers Mill Road

CITY, TOWN Lexington

VICINITY OF

STATE Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Fayette County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 215 W. Main Street

CITY, TOWN Lexington

STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic Survey and Plan for Lexington and Fayette Co., Ky.

DATE 1970 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Lexington-Fayette Urban County Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN Lexington STATE Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Stony Point is situated on the north side of Parkers Mill Road west of South Elkhorn Creek and east of the intersection with Dedman Lane. According to Clay Lancaster, architectural historian, although the main block of the house built by Captain John Parker in the 1790s is typical of early Fayette County brick residences, "the house is not placed at the summit of a hill in the manner usual to early country residences, there being a rise of ground behind it."<sup>1</sup> A dry-stack stone fence runs along Parkers Mill Road in front of the property, on which are many handsome large trees and shrubs.

The main block of the house is 2-story, 5-bay brick painted white, with a gable roof, two inside end chimneys, stone foundation and Greek Revival portico (photo 1). On the east is a lower 2-story, 2-bay wing with inside end chimney and overhanging roof, left when a shallow 2-story front gallery was removed (photo 2). Pegged window frames indicate this wing was an early addition. A modern 2-story weatherboarded ell is at the rear.

The main block is Flemish bond brick on the facade and common bond on sides and rear. It has a belt course of three rows of brick (belt courses are a medieval feature which survived in the Bluegrass as late as 1817) and a purpose-molded water table. Windows are 6/6-paned above the belt course and 9/6 below. Brick voussoirs are above the lower windows. Windows have nosing (photo 3), as do steps leading from a side entrance on the east wall. The front door has a 3-pane transom above.

Clay Lancaster thinks that the front porch with railing, square posts and dentil trim is of the later Greek Revival period because of its heaviness (photo 4). However, the ornamental Georgian cornice with meander dentils and extra punch holes is original (photo 5).

A deep, 1-story rear porch is also original; local historian J. Winston Coleman says of it: "The rude unadorned columns and wide ceiling boards mark it as one of the earliest homes in the Blue Grass...The gable line carried well below the ceiling (is) characteristic of many garden porches"<sup>2</sup>(photo 6).

Inside is a narrow transverse stair hall with a square room on the left and a smaller one on the right. The hall has wainscotting with large panels which continues up the stairway wall. The stair has a closed stringer with beaded boards beneath, slender rectangular spindles and simple pegged newels.

Floors are ash and doors 6-panel except for the smaller 4-panel staircloset door. Chairrails appear in rooms on either side of the hall. The mantel in the left parlor is Federal and has a broken shelf, paneled center tablet, pilasters with triglyphs, broken at the level of the fireplace opening with paneled blocks before continuing upward (photo 8).

The wing has a secondary passage with stairway and a single room on each floor. Its facade is also Flemish bond brick.

1. Clay Lancaster, Ante Bellum Houses of the Bluegrass, (Lexington, Ky., 1961), p. 32.  
2. Bettye Lee Mastin, Sunday Herald-Leader, 10/3/65, p. 50.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stony Point, built in the 1790s by Capt. John Parker, one of the county's earliest settlers, is an excellent example of an early Kentucky brick house with stringer, water table and handsome interior woodwork. The major features of the house are mainly intact, and it is beautifully maintained by the current owners.

Captain John Parker, born near Valley Forge, Pennsylvania in 1753, went to Virginia in 1774, where he lived with his uncle, the Rev. William Todd, until he joined the Minute Men under Col. Samuel Meredith. He was commissioned a captain in the Revolutionary Army and most likely fought at the battle of Stony Point, New York, in 1779, for which he later named his house in Kentucky. He and his wife, Isabella Todd Parker, came to Fayette Co. in 1784, according to a great great granddaughter, settling on South Elkhorn Creek, where he built a saw and grist mill. (A log structure across Parkers Mill Road from Stony Point, which may have been the office of that mill or an earlier house, still exists.) He also had another mill farther up the creek at Slickaway.

John Parker soon became a prominent and respected citizen of Fayette County. Besides his country estate, he owned properties in Lexington and served as town trustee in 1787, Fayette County magistrate in 1792, and on the committee for a new courthouse in 1805-06. He also represented Fayette County in the Kentucky Legislature in 1795, 1798, 1808, 1816, 1817 and 1819.

His country house, Stony Point, has been compared by Clay Lancaster to Ellerslie, the 1787 house that formerly stood near Richmond Road, which was built by a kinsman and first clerk of Fayette County, Levi Todd. Levi's son, Robert S. Todd, married Eliza Parker, daughter of John Parker's brother Robert and mother of Mary Todd Lincoln. According to Lancaster, Stony Point served as the model for similar brick houses in the neighborhood; the Wells and Hall houses that he mentions are now gone.

When John Parker died in 1837 at the age of 84, he left his large estate to his surviving children: John, Jr.; Mary, who married Joseph Craig, a member of the pioneer family who led "the Traveling Church" to South Elkhorn; Marguerite (Peggy), wife of David Bryan of nearby Cave Place on Harrodsburg Road; Eleanor (Nelly), who married William Lytle Todd and lived on Bowmans Mill Road; and Nancy T., wife of William Bowman, who was a son of the pioneer Abraham Bowman, who also lived on Bowmans Mill Road. A provision was also made in his will for keeping slave families together.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached continuation sheet.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1 6	7 0 8 9 4 0	4 2 1 1 1 8 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bounded on south by Parkers Mill Rd, on east by paved driveway, on north (rear) by approximately 1 1/2-ft rise of ground to swimming pool area, and on west by fence.

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

Mrs. James Park, Jr., Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Commission

DATE

April 25, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

253 Market Street

TELEPHONE

255-8312 or 252-2504

CITY OR TOWN

Lexington

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

*Edward W. Helton*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

5-31-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Carol Shull*

DATE

8-7-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Dorothy G. ...*

DATE

AUG 7 '79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Mrs. Wallace Muir and husband began renovation of the house in 1938, a job completed by Mr. and Mrs. William Gess, who rebuilt kitchen, did over woodwork, reworked old bathrooms and added new ones. They replaced the front portico with concrete and screened in the back. The McKinneys added closets, refinished floors and generally redecorated.

The site is bounded on the south by Parkers Mill Rd., on the east by a paved driveway, on the north by a swimming pool-patio area on higher level, and on the west by fence. These man-made boundaries reflect the natural limits of the immediate yard surrounding the house. The house itself is uniquely situated in front of a one and one-half foot rise of ground which forms the rear boundary and becomes the pool area. The front yard slopes gently to the road. Trees and shrubbery outline the side boundaries which visually frame the house.

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PAGE 2

John Parker willed his son John, Jr. the "home, house and plantation in which I live." John, Jr.'s third wife Martha J. lived in the house until her death in 1913. Since there were no children to inherit, over 100 heirs--none with the name of parker--divided the property.<sup>1</sup> Later owners included two prominent Lexington attorneys, Wallace Muir (dec.) and William Gess.

1. Mastin, Sunday Herald-Leader, October 3, 1965, p.50.

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PAGE 2

Burns, Annie Walker. Revolutionary War Pensions of Soldiers Who Settled in Fayette County, Kentucky. Washington, D.C., 1936, pp. 74-77.

Dunn, C. Frank. Old Houses of Lexington. Kentucky Historical Society, 1930-50, pp. 478-479.

Lancaster, Clay. Ante Bellum Houses of the Bluegrass. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1961, pp. 22, 24, 32.

Mastin, Bettye Lee. Sunday Herald-Leader, October 3, 1965, pp. 49-50.

Perrin, Wm. Henry, ed., History of Fayette Co., Ky. Chicago: O.L. Baskin & Co., 1882, p. 533.

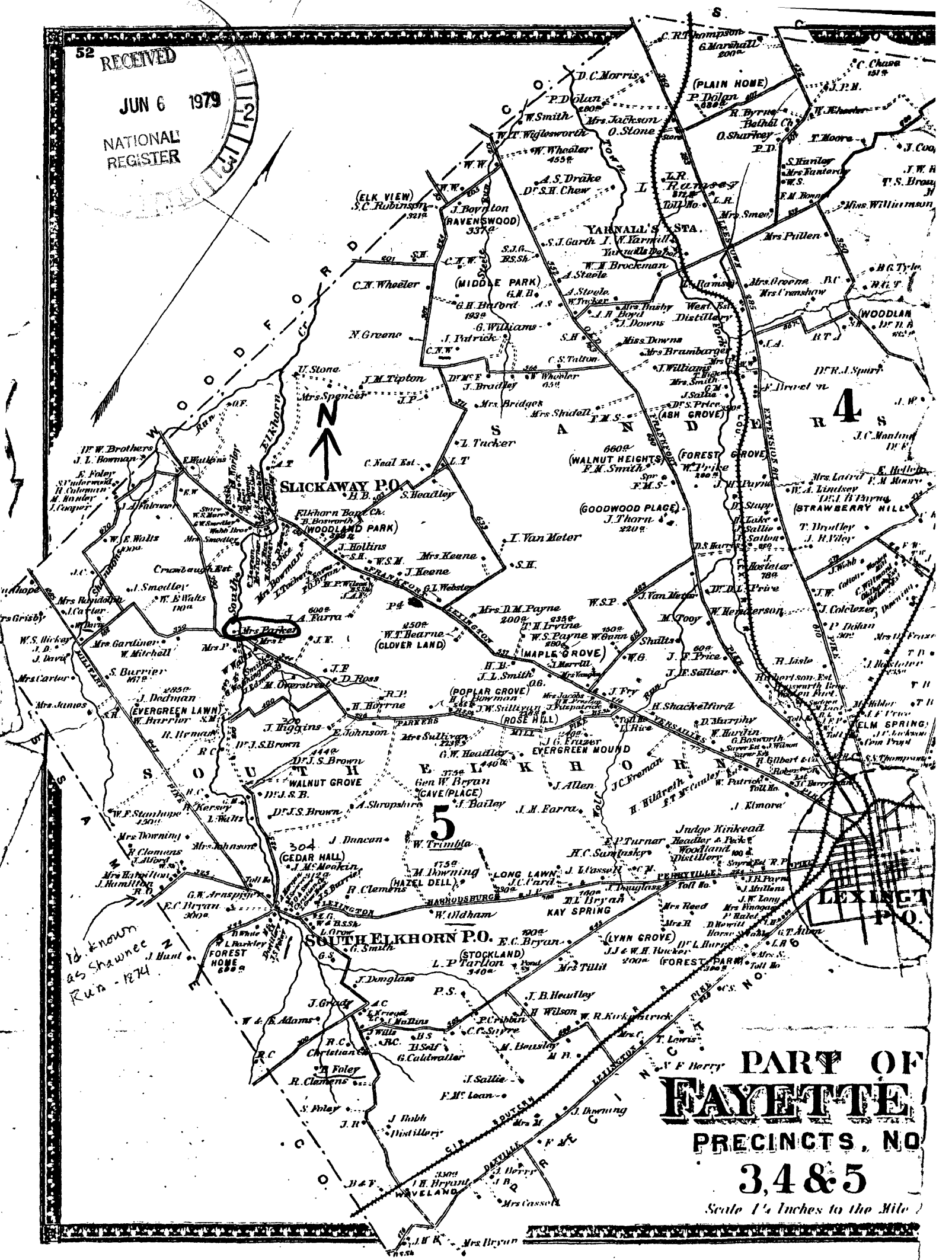
Staples, C. R. The History of Pioneer Lexington 1781-1806. Lexington, Ky., 1939 (reprinted 1973), pp. 44, 46, 62, 68, 78, 288, 314.

Todd Family Scrapbook, (a copy belongs to Bettye Lee Mastin).

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NATIONAL REGISTER



# PART OF FAYETTE PRECINCTS, NO 3, 4 & 5

Scale 1/4 Inches to the Mile

Id known  
as Shawnee  
Run - 1874



1. Stony Point  
Stoney Point

AUG 7 1979

2. Lexington  
4935 Parkers Mill Road  
Fayette  
Kentucky

3. Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine and  
Woodford Counties, Ky.

Scale 1"=1mile  
Date 1877  
Map, 2