

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

DEC 31 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Stidger, Felix Grundy, House  
other names/site number SPT-27  
Related Multiple Property n/a

### 2. Location

street & number 102 Garrard Street  NA not for publication  
city or town Taylorsville  vicinity  
state Kentucky code KY county Spencer code 215 zip code 40023

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for  
registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements  
set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property  
be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

   national    statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  A XB   C   D

 12-18-15  
Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts/SHPO Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

    
Signature of commenting official Date

    
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register    determined eligible for the National Register  
   determined not eligible for the National Register    removed from the National Register

   other (explain):   

 2-11-2016  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
 Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
 County and State

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property		Category of Property		Number of Resources within Property		
				Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)	1	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local	<input type="checkbox"/>	district			district
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State	<input type="checkbox"/>	site			site
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal	<input type="checkbox"/>	structure			structure
			object			object
				1	1	<b>Total</b>

Name of related multiple property listing

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/single dwelling


**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant/Not in Use


**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Saddlebag log


**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone

walls: Logs

roof: metal

other:  


Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

## Narrative Description

### Summary Paragraph

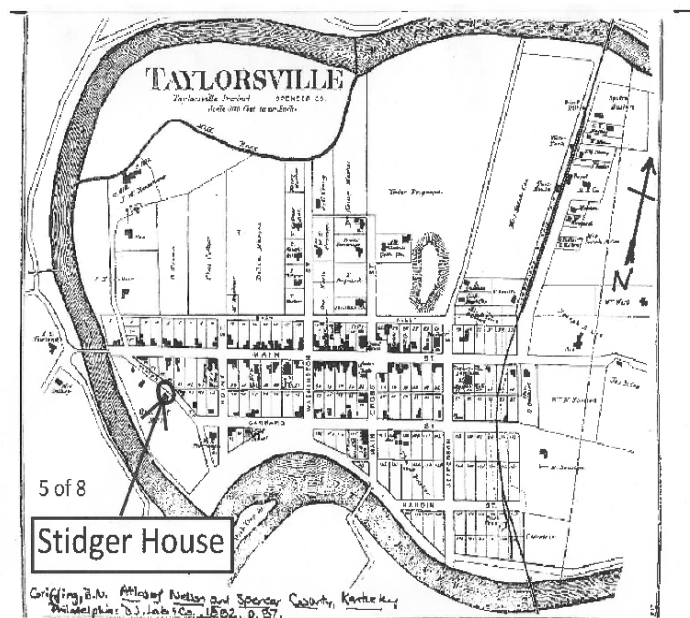
The Felix Grundy Stidger House (SPT-27) is a saddlebag-plan log house in Taylorsville, seat of Spencer County, Kentucky. The house stands near where current day Bank Alley intersects with Garrard Street. The house stands some 3 blocks from the historic center of town, where the historic courthouse overlooks Main Street and Main Cross streets. The lot is .404 acres and contains one contributing building and one non-contributing building.

### Description of the Site

Taylorsville developed in a neck of Brashears Creek, where it joins the Salt River. The town is surrounded on its north, west, and south sides by these two streams. The town's street system forms a grid, somewhat aligned with the cardinal directions. However, the streets closest to the creek and river break from the grid and parallel those streams.



Stidger House, Brashears Creek at bottom left



Town plat, 1882

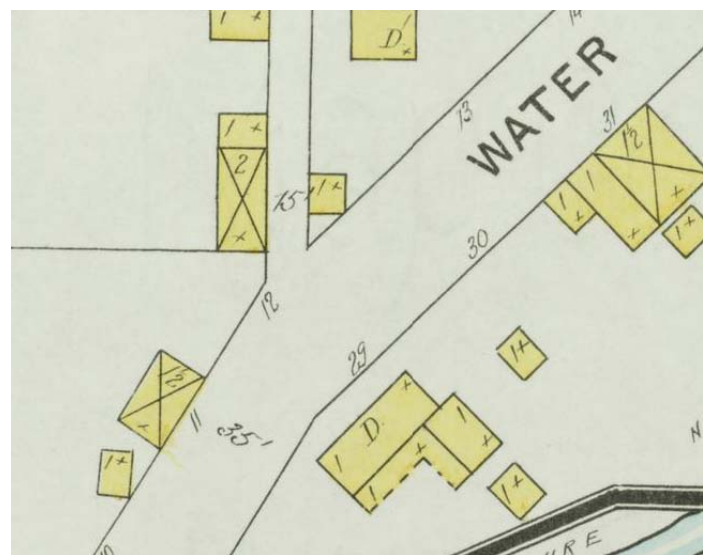
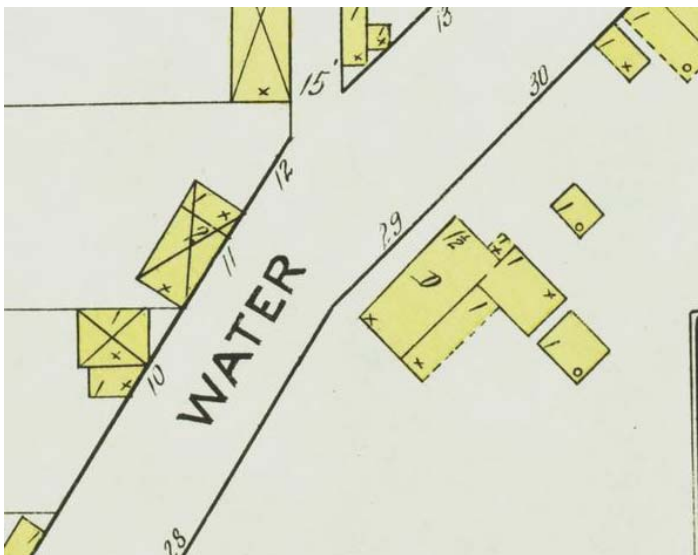
When built, the Stidger House was sited very near where Brashears Creek joins the Salt River, which provided it a convenient water source, but also put it in a flood-prone area. As Taylorsville developed and its streets were graded, the house stood between the Creek and a road, originally named Water Street, in recognition of the regular flooding. The 1916 Sanborn map shows only 4 scattered buildings standing on the south side of Water Street—the Stidger House, two other dwellings, and a carpet shop. Today, the Stidger House is the sole structure still standing on that side of the street, giving it the appearance of an orphaned building.

Felix Grundy Stidger House

Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State



Stidger House, marked as “D” on 1916 Sanborn

Stidger House on 1901 Sanborn

The house site is now less than ½ acre. Sizable trees stand to the east and west of the house, near its gable ends. Vegetation also is growing upon the house. The site has one ancillary building. A flood wall was built ca. 1980, severing the property’s relation to the creek. Today the house appears to be a survivor from a very early point in the town’s past. The property boundary runs from the road to the base of the flood wall; historically, the lot line would have run all the way to the creek.

### History of Property Ownership

Taylorsville’s 1814 city plat does not identify the piece of land, which today holds the Stidger House, as one of the city’s parcels. At that time, it probably flooded yearly or more frequently, whenever Brashers Creek pushed the Salt River out of its banks. The occasional flooding probably made the land unusable for building, which made it unlikely to be bought and sold. Perhaps this parcel was built-up between 1814 and 1837, when the town’s second plat was completed, because it does show up on that latter map.

Prior to 1837, William Rogerson had purchased the property. Rogerson served as Taylorsville’s jailor for many years. The 1830 census lists him as a Taylorsville resident. A deed search in both Spencer and Shelby County, however, failed to reveal when Rogerson bought the property. The property’s low selling price of \$350 in 1837, when it was a three-acre lot, may suggest that no house had yet been built on the parcel.

Harman Stidger purchased the property in 1837. In 1834 Stidger had married Narcissa Holsclaw, daughter of Enoch Holsclaw, who had lived nearby, on the north side of Garrard Street (SP-T-25), since 1830. If Stidger built the house for his new family, he did so quickly, and appears to have just as quickly died. He is not present in the 1840 census, which lists N. (Narcissa) Stidger as a Taylorsville resident, with two boys under the age of five. Further, the 1842 deed identifies that Enoch Holsclaw—father of Narcissa Stidger and executor of Harman Stidger’s estate—purchased the property in a commissioner’s sale, from his grandchildren, Felix and Harman Stidger, who were heirs to their father’s property. One would presume that Holsclaw allowed his daughter and her sons to remain residing there.

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

The house stayed in Enoch Holsclaw's possession until 1882, when it was sold to Jerry Lloyd. Lloyd sold it to John Shirley and his wife, who owned it from 1898 until 1942. Guy Mock, Sr. and his wife, Katie, purchased the property in 1942. Their son, Guy Mock, Jr., owned it till he died in 2014. The city of Taylorsville obtained the property through eminent domain in July 2015. The city immediately transferred the property to the current owners, Felix Grundy Stidger Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization intent on rehabilitating the building.

**Exterior description:**

The house sits very close to the road on a small grassed lot that runs along the foot of the flood wall. It is a 1½-story three-bay saddlebag plan log structure, with a gable roof topped by a small central chimney rising from the roof ridge. The front of the house runs parallel with Garrard Street, oriented to the northeast. The roof is covered with raised-seam metal. A boxed cornice runs along the front facade. A hole in the siding near the northwest corner reveals weatherboards beneath the asphalt, and beneath them, the log walls.

The central front entrance has a small filled-in transom and a Victorian-era door with round-arched panels. Windows are 2-over-2 double-hung sash on the front facade. A 2-over-2 double-hung window is located at the attic level in each gable end.



**North (front) and west side**



**South (rear) side**

The rear of the house has a salt-box roofline which extends to cover a small storage room on the southwest corner and a central recessed porch (probably additions). A one-story gable-roofed rear ell with an open porch along its west side extends back at the southeast corner. This ell is indicated on an 1882 map of Taylorsville and appears to date from about 1850 to 1875. It sits on a stone foundation, has vertical board siding covered with rolled asphalt, and 3-over-1 windows. The house has been neglected for a great number of years and is in very poor condition.

Felix Grundy Stidger House

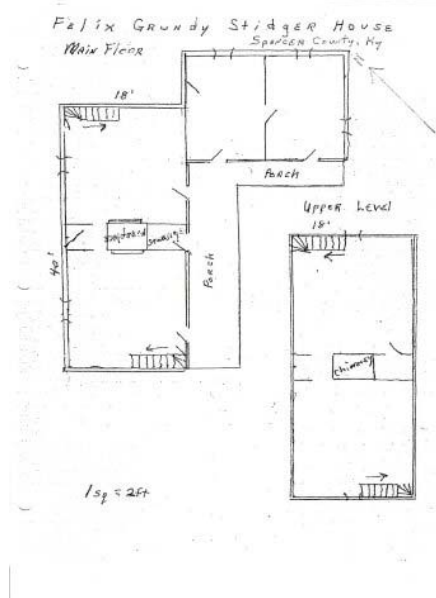
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State



**East Side**



**Floor plan**

### **Interior description:**

A very small central entry hall leads to the house's primary two rooms. These both contain much of their original detailing, including boxed stairs, very simple mantels, and vertical board doors. Baseboards are about 4" high in the east room and 8" in the west. The two attic rooms are finished with plaster. The upper portion had low sidewalls due to the roof line. The 2 rooms could be entered through an opening next to the fireplace, in addition to the enclosed stairwells on either end of the building.

### **Description of Shed (non-contributing building)**

A large gabled-roofed shed with vertical board siding is located to the southwest of the house. It was built by Guy Mock about 1950.

### **Changes to the Property since the Period of Significance**

This property has undergone a great deal of change since its Period of Significance, because that moment occurred so early in the house's lifespan. The house may have been quite simple during the years of Grundy's occupancy up to 1865, when no more than 3 people occupied it. At an unidentified point in the past, perhaps after 1865, the house was expanded, and sheathed with asphalt siding, and in one place, aluminum siding. Interior walls have been plastered, and that treatment may have occurred during the Period of Significance, but just as easily could have been done after. The plaster walls have been covered with wallboard, certainly a modern change. The construction of the flood wall certainly protected the building from further flood damage, and just as certainly changed the character of the setting, especially the property's relation to Brashears Creek. Since the end of the Civil War, the house received indoor plumbing and electrical wiring. The plumbing has been removed as part of the cleaning out of the property.

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
 Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
 County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Military

**Period of Significance**

1864-1865

**Significant Dates**

1864

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Stidger, Felix Grundy

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Period of Significance**

The Period of Significance spans the two years that Felix Stidger was a significant spy for the Union Army during the Civil War, as well as associated with the nominated property, 1864-1865.

**Criteria Considerations NA**

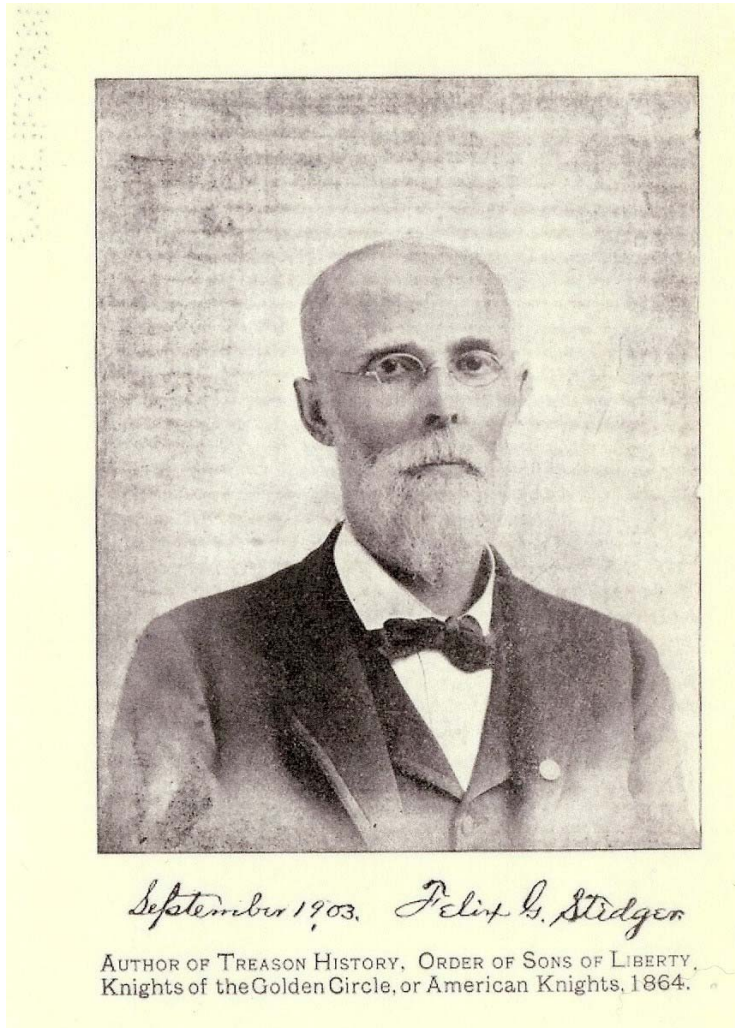
Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

## Statement of Significance

### Summary Paragraph

The Felix Grundy Stidger House (SPT-27) in Taylorsville, seat of Spencer County, Kentucky, meets National Register Criterion B, for its association with an important individual, Felix Grundy Stidger (1836-1908). The house is significant in the Area of the United States Military. He was employed by the Union Army to engage in espionage. His significance is evaluated within the historic context "Spying in the United States Civil War, 1861-1865."



**Felix Stidger (1903)**

### Historic Context: Spying in the United States Civil War, 1861-1865

There were approximately 390 known spies between the North and the South during the years of 1861-1865. This included 43 women. Also, approximately 50 of these spies, mostly men, were executed—evenly divided between North and South. Some spies were successful, such as James A. Garfield, who went on to be the twentieth President of the United States (Markle: 125).

One cautionary tale, showing the tenuous position that of spies might occupy, is that of William A. Lloyd. Lloyd became a spy in 1861, when he approached President Lincoln to request a pass to go south to write a book for a railroad and steamer guide for the south. The President asked him to



Felix Grundy Stidger House

Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State

become a spy while he was in the south. They then drew up a contract known only to each other. Lincoln offered Lloyd a salary of \$200.00 a month and expenses. He gave all his reports directly to President Lincoln. The intelligence provided included information on the strength of troops, the nature of numerous forts, and maps of battles, forts, encampments, artillery positions and more. When Mr. Lloyd was about to be captured by Confederates for spying, he burned his copy of his contract, to keep his identity secret. At the end of the war, Mr. Lloyd turned to the Army for payment, however, no contract could be found. After his death, the administrator of his estate sued the government. The case went all the way to the Supreme Court, but was ultimately denied (Markle,pg 130-135).

One of the most well known of the Confederate spies was Belle Boyd, the self-proclaimed "Cleopatra of the Secession." Her notoriety certainly gave a romantic image to spies. Her success, however, came less through gathering information (which appears to have been marginal at best), but from her love of publicity and fame. Belle can claim to be youngest of the spies, starting at age 18, and imprisoned in Washington, D.C., when 19. She was put in prison four more times during the war but always managed to use her charm to get a release. On the occasion of the Battle of Fort Royal (May 23,1862), she had information for Gen. Stonewall Jackson. She rode through the Union lines under a hail of bullets to deliver the message. Her dress was full of bullet holes, but she was unhurt. (Markle,pg 155-158)

The undercover protection of high-level officials, began with the establishment of the Secret Service toward the end of the Civil War. At first, the service was engaged in covert investigations to find counterfeiters of currency. General George McClellan brought Allan Pinkerton with him to Washington as a detective and body guard. Pinkerton's duty was to protect the President and McClellan. Pinkerton gravitated toward McClellan's protection, necessitating the hiring of, Lafayette Baker for the President's protection. A man from Baker's Secret Service detail was assigned to guard the presidential box at Ford's Theater! Baker never successfully accounted for his man's attendance during that terrible night.(Markle, pg 6&7). Lincoln's assassination underlined the danger of guerilla actions, and importance of an equally anonymous force to battle the opposition.

The above examples show some aspects of the nature of spying during the Civil War. Felix Stidger was in a field of his own. Other than his tour in the infantry from September 1862 to February 1864 he had no formal training in the spy business. Being only 34 years old, he had a determination to stick to the task at hand and also, as was shown in the court proceedings, an attention to detail that netted over 100 members of the attempted insurrectionist. His notes, which included dates, names of key individuals, ect., proved invaluable to the Government court convictions of most of the men charged. He was even able to continue his undercover work while locked up in prison, gathering intelligence to the end of the War. His fellow conspirators did not realize his true role until he appeared in court to testify against them.

One of the most convincing episodes of his spy ability was that he was able to rise in the organization to serve as secretary for the Knights of the Golden Circle in Kentucky. A great position to have as an infiltrator. His boss, General Henry Carrington, pronounced him "a natural spy" (Markle,pg.141-143).

### **Biographic Information on Felix Grundy Stidger**

Felix Grundy Stidger's working life started at the age of 15. He worked numerous jobs—in the county clerk's office, as a carpenter, etc. In August, 1860, he took a job in Bloomfield, Kentucky, ten miles

Felix Grundy Stidger House

Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State

south of Taylorsville, as a store clerk. In a town of nearly 350 people, Bloomfield had only 4 Union sympathizers. With the start of the war, a Rebel flag was put in the heart of downtown Bloomfield and remained there till the end of the war. This is one event that impacted Stidger's feelings for the duration of the war (Stidger, pg.18)

Confederate sentiments dominated a 5-county area comprised of Meade, Hardin, and Breckenridge, as well as Spencer County where Stidger's family lived, and Nelson County, where he worked. Locals supported the Confederates undertaking a guerrilla war by providing food, munitions, horses, information about the enemy, and safe houses.

In September, 1862, Union Gen. Buell's corps came through Taylorsville, and Stidger signed up as a clerk and infantryman from his home. He saw action at the battles of Perryville and Chickamauga. In the winter of 1863-64, Stidger received news that his mother was sick and confined to bed. He applied for a hardship discharge, and on February 14, 1864, he was granted an honorable discharge and arrived home days later, to find his mother near death.

On March 26, Stidger went to the Pharmacy to obtain a prescription for his mother. His receipt for the purchase showed a large sum of cash. That evening around midnight, three rebel fighters with guns entered and took all his money—approximately \$260.00. Just one week later, his mother died.

On April 14, 1864, Stidger went to Louisville to look for work, and on May 3, he visited a Capt. Jones of the Provost Marshall's office. They offered him the job of a spy for the Union, a position he accepted. That employment began "The Most Gigantic Treasonable Conspiracy the World Has Ever Known."

Stidger's autobiography relates a story in which his term as a regular infantryman forged relationships that helped his work as a spy. Stidger recalled encountering Major Henry Kalfus, an infantry officer in need of a horse. Stidger lent Kalfus his horse, which opened the door to a friendship. When Stidger obtained a hardship discharge, the two men parted. Kalfus also attempted to leave the military, but his resignation was rejected 3 times. He left with a dishonorable discharge from the Union Army, and nursed hurt feelings over that outcome. In retaliation, Kalfus began associating with a secret organization, the Order of the Sons of Liberty, who harbored anti-Union sentiments. When Kalfus met Stidger again, Stidger was a spy. Kalfus urged Stidger to join the group, and told him to go see Dr. Bowles at French Lick, Indiana.

Stidger spied on the group, the Order of the Sons of Liberty, who were trying to arm over 75,000 rebel prisoners and continue the war through the heartland. Stidger writes in his autobiography,

H.H. Dodd told me that he was at that meeting at Chicago as Grand Commander of the Order for the State of Indiana and that the plans were all arranged, except as to the exact date, which was whether they should fix a time themselves or wait until they could receive assistance from the Confederate forces and guerillas. Judge Bullitt on the night of the 18<sup>th</sup> of July, 1864, instructed Joseph Kern, in my presence, to go to the rebel Colonel Sypert, then commanding a guerilla force near Henderson, Kentucky, and consult with him as to when he could best co-operate with him (Bullitt) in the taking of Louisville (Stidger, p.168-169).

Stidger infiltrated the group, and was among them when he was imprisoned with many of the group. Even in prison, he continued gathering useful information on the group and its members.

Felix Grundy Stidger House

Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State

The trial of the Order of the Sons of Liberty brought about 100 men to court. Many of these men were leaders in their own communities or leaders within the Order of the Sons of Liberty (Stidger: 23, 24, 31, 32, 34, 104, 105, 106). They included:

- Dr. William A. Bowles, owner of French Lick Springs and leader of the Sons of Liberty
- Horace Heffren, Deputy Grand Commander of the Indiana Order
- Joshua Bullitt, Chief Justice of the Appellate Court for the State of Kentucky
- Judge Andrew Humphreys, Major General for the Order for the State of Indiana
- H.H. Dodd, Grand Commander for the Order in Indiana
- J.J. Bingham, Editor and proprietor of the *Indiana State Sentinel*
- Michael C. Kerry, U.S. House of Representatives

The reading of the charges took place at the United States Courthouse in Indianapolis on September 27, 1864. The trial of H.H. Dodd started on October 17, 1864. Between all the trials, Stidger had to make himself available as a witness. In Stidger's final testimony, he answered questions about the Order in front of the Kentucky House of Representatives, against Hon. Joshua Bullitt on May 18, 1865, to remove Bullitt from the office of Chief Justice of the Appellate Court.

Stidger's next contact with the government was in July 1865, when he was asked to come to Washington D.C. during the trial of Mrs. Surratt. Upon his statement that he knew nothing other than what he read in the papers, he was dismissed. As he was at the train station, a courier for Colonel L. C. Baker, head of the Secret Service, sent for him. He was asked to go to Warren, Ohio, and see what he could find out about the horse trading business with the Army and why the prices were so high. He was unable to obtain any good evidence, as someone let it be known that he was a government spy. He then informed Colonel Baker that he was leaving and going back to his printing business in Louisville. Sixteen months later, Stidger was informed of sixteen indictments of officers and citizens, including Colonel Baker, in the horse case. Thus ended Stidger's involvement in the Secret Service of the United States (Stidger, pgs 169, 172, 175-179).

### **Evaluating the Historic Significance of Felix Grundy Stidger in the context "Spying in the American Civil War, 1861-1865."**

Stidger's spy activity primarily took place in Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. This differed from many spies, who went into enemy territory (Confederates came north, and Union spies went to the Deep South) to do their work.

Stidger was locally significant—the only individual known to be from Spencer County, Kentucky, involved in an undercover role as a spy for the government. When comparing his contributions with known spies in the entire Union effort, he can be seen as a significant participant in that activity.

### **Evaluating the Integrity between the Significance of Felix Grundy Stidger and the Stidger/ House's physical condition at present**

The Felix Grundy Stidger House has a strong integrity of **association** with Felix Stidger. Throughout the Period of Significance (1864-1865), the house at 102 Garrard Street, Taylorsville, Kentucky was his primary residence (Stidger, pg.175,176). He traveled extensively as a spy, and the covert nature of his work makes it hard to associate any particular other places with his role as an important agent

Felix Grundy Stidger House

Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky

County and State

of espionage during the Civil War. The first mention of his living elsewhere came after his marriage to Josephine M. McGill, after the Civil War had ended, and he moved to Louisville, Kentucky. The local group who owns the property and who is preserving the nominated building will continue to undertake projects that strengthen the local awareness of the connection between Stidger and the house.

Felix Grundy Stidger House at 102 Garrard Street in Taylorsville Kentucky is the place in which he grew up, and served as a home base while he was performing the actions by which he became significant, as a spy employed by the Union to uncover people in the Midwest with Confederate sympathies. This is the primary property associated Stidger in an enduring way, and contains his greatest identity. His house is the best location in which to consider his life and his value.

Integrity is defined as the ability of a property to convey its significance in its material form. Of the seven components of integrity, the most critical to conveying the significance of the Stidger House are location, setting, materials, and design. If the house possesses these integrity factors, then it can be said to have integrity of association, which makes the property eligible.

The Stidger House has integrity of **location** because it has not been moved since its construction. That location was one of the more flood-prone places in town, and perhaps indicated that Stidger was not among the elite of the community. The integrity of **setting** has been greatly affected by the construction of a flood wall behind the house. That structure has disturbed the house's immediate setting, but it has served to preserve the house from successive floods. The setting of this side of Garrard Street lacks significant permanent structures, a consequence of years of flooding. The absence of neighboring properties provides an approximation of the historic landscape of the block during Stidger's tenure, suggesting the tenuous existence that anyone in this side of the block faced.

The Stidger House has minimal integrity of **materials and design**. The house has undergone a relatively small amount of modernization since the 1860s. It lacked any formal exterior style when built, standing as one of the later log constructions of the town's architectural chronology. It probably gained its covering of weatherboards by the Period of Significance. It was customary for a log house to be covered in weatherboards as soon as possible, to prolong its life. Later refinements are few, which suggests that this dwelling might have become rental housing.

The Stidger House retains a strong integrity of **association** with the important individual, Felix Grundy Stidger. Its lack of modernizing gives us a rather honest view into the life of a man who rose from humble beginnings to serve his country in a distinctive way. Felix Stidger's story fits a familiar trope: military service provides opportunities to each service man to draw upon his native strength to make singular contributions to the American war effort, regardless of how rugged his early years might have been. The Stidger House's simple design shows Stidger was a member of the common folk. The unassuming nature of the house surely paralleled Stidger's own demeanor. How better to get one's opponent to let down his guard than by presenting a non-descript identity. The house's lack of substantial improvement after the 1860s contributes to an integrity of **feeling** of a house during the period in which Stidger performed his significant activity. That feeling of an 1860s house enhances the house's integrity of association.

There were changes made over time to modernize the Stidger house, however the changes are no longer evident. There was a 100 AMP electrical box installed along with the minimal wiring. Most has been removed or is beyond repair. There was water run to the house to service the bathroom and a

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

kitchen sink. These were all removed in the process of cleaning out the trash. The bathroom was installed under the 8' overhang. It was all junk and beyond repair. The house today is as it was in the beginning.

These integrity views lead to the conclusion that the house retains sufficient integrity to meet National Register Criterion B.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

- Stidger,Felix G. *Treason History of the Order of Sons of Liberty* Chicago 1903**
- Fischer, Gerald W. *Guerrilla Warfare in Civil War, Kentucky* Acclaim Press Morley,Mo. 2014**
- Watson,Thomas Shelby *Confederate Guerrilla Sue Mundy* McFarland & Company Inc. 2008**
- Griffin, B.N., *An Atlas of Nelson and Spencer County, Kentucky.* Philadelphia: D.J.Lake&Co, 1882**
- Spencer County, *Kentucky Deed Books: D,493; F,251; R,503; W,242; 42, 246.***
- Markle,Donald E.,*Spies & Spymasters of the Civil War,Hippocreene Books,1994***

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_ # SP-T-27

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acree of Property** | .404 acre

**UTM References**  
**Taylorsville quad**

**Coordinates obtained from ArcGIS Explorer**  
**Coordinates according to NAD 27: Zone 16; Easting: 644885.13; Northing: 4210175.71**

**Coordinates according to NAD 83:**

1	16	644881.50	Zone		Easting		4210381.43	Zone		3		Easting		Northing
2			Zone		Easting			Zone		4		Easting		Northing

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

### Verbal Boundary Description

The area proposed for listing is conveyed on the property's deed, recorded August 6, 2015, in Spencer County Kentucky Deed Book 268, Page 539, and shown on the Property Valuation Administrator's map as parcel T2-09-02. The property is situated on the south side of Garrard Street, in the City of Taylorsville, and is described on the deed as follows:

Beginning at a found iron rod in the south right-of-way of Garrard Street, and 40 feet right-of-way, corner to City of Taylorsville, Deed Book 108, Page 28; thence leaving Garrard Street with City of Taylorsville, Deed Book 108, Page 28, South 29 degrees 17 minutes 17 seconds West (the basis of bearing for this survey) 44.08 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong 329, corner to City of Taylorsville, Deed Book 108 Page 28, in line of Spencer County, Kentucky Levee, Flood Control and Drainage District No.1, Deed Book 44 Page 518, thence with same for the following calls; North 67 degrees 33 minutes 21 seconds West 59.92 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong 329, South 22 degrees 26 minutes 39 seconds West 10.00 feet, South 22 degrees 26 minutes 39 seconds West 10.00 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong 329, North 67 degrees 33 minutes 21 seconds West 150.38, to a turn; thence 61.99 feet along an arc to the right, having a radius of 286.48 feet, the chord of which is North 59 degrees 42 minutes 17 seconds West 71.87 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong 329, and North 42 degrees 38 minutes 43 seconds East, 96.02 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong 329, corner to Carolyn Sue Sims, Deed Book 60, Page 127, said point also being in the south right-of-way of above mentioned Garrard Street, a 40 feet right-of-way; thence with said south right-of-way, South 18 degrees 23 minutes 58 seconds East, 22.94 feet, to a set rebar with ID cap Armstrong, 329, and South 60 degrees 42 minutes 43 seconds East, 230.32 feet to the point of beginning. Containing .404 acres, more or less according to the survey of Garland Armstrong, Registered Land Surveyor #329, dated August 9, 2013.

Being the same property conveyed to city of Taylorsville, by a Master Commissioners Deed dated April 23 2015, and recorded in Deed Book 267, Page 66 in the office of the Spencer County clerk.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary proposed for listing is most of the lot historically associated with the property and which retains integrity of setting. A small portion of the historic lot, near Brashears Creek, was taken for construction of the flood wall.

---

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Arnie Mueller/Vice President				
organization	Felix Grundy Stidger Historic Preservation Foundation	date	August 19, 2015		
street & number	45 Hidden Valley Dr	telephone	502-354-9134		
city or town	Fisherville	state	Ky	zip code	40023
e-mail	<a href="mailto:Mueller7270@twc.com">Mueller7270@twc.com</a>				

---

### Photographs:

<b>Name of Property:</b>	<b>Felix Grundy Stidger House</b>
<b>City or Vicinity:</b>	<b>Taylorsville</b>
<b>County:</b>	<b>Spencer</b>
<b>State:</b>	<b>Kentucky</b>
<b>Photographer:</b>	<b>Arnie Mueller</b>
<b>Date Photographed:</b>	<b>11-14-2014</b>

### Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 8: View looking southwest at Stidger house
- 2 of 8: view looking northeast at Stidger house
- 3 of 8: Site plan for Stidger house

Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

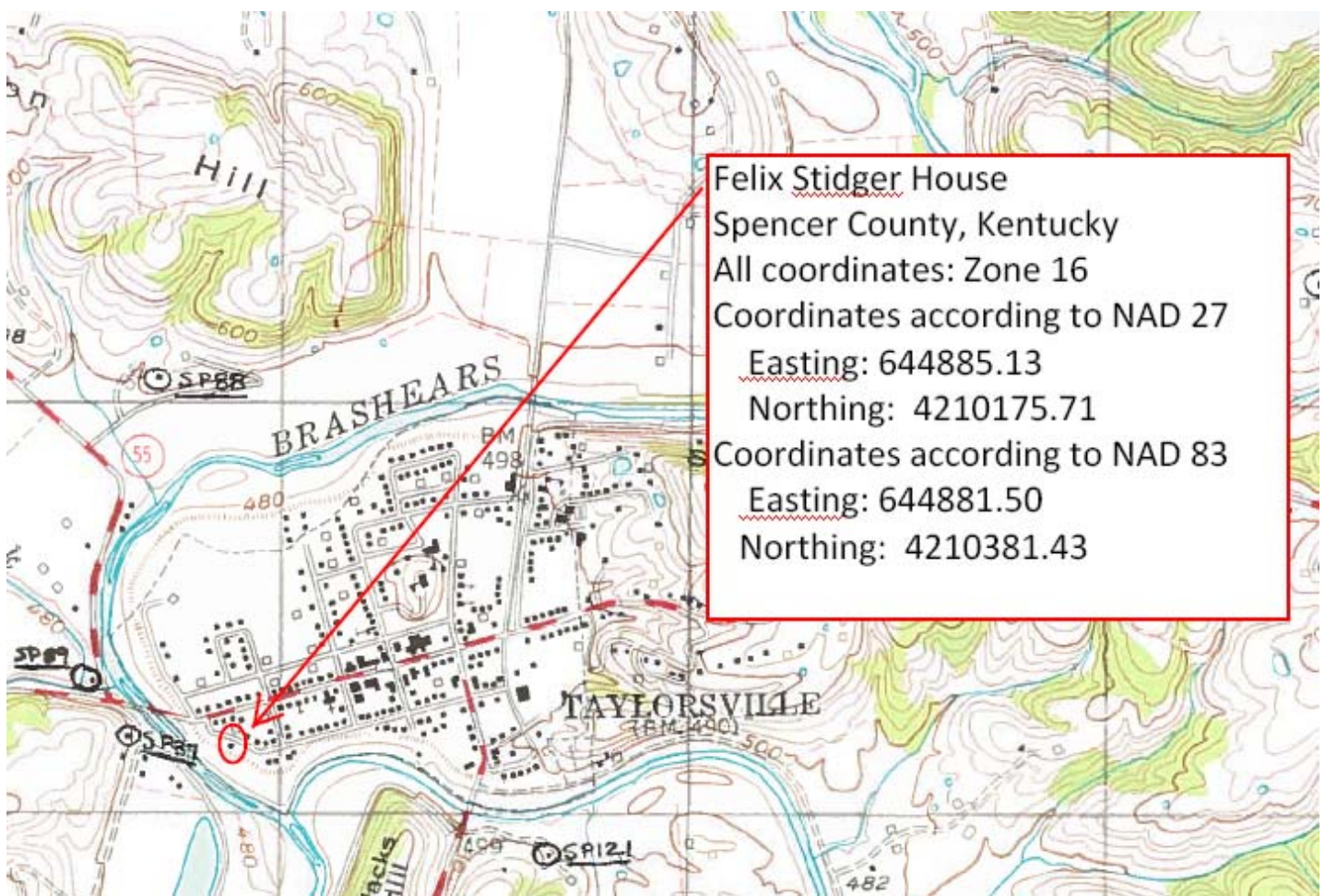
Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State

- 4 of 8: Floor plan for Stidger house
- 5 of 8: Taylorsville city plat (1882)
- 6 of 8: Stidger House, aerial view
- 7 of 8: Stidger portrait (1903)
- 8 of 8: View looking southeast at Stidger house

**Property Owner:**

name	Felix Grundy Stidger Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc.		
street & number	211 Garrard St	telephone	502-477-8184
city or town	Taylorsville	state	Ky zip code 40071

SSSS



Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State



Larger image of aerial photo of site



Felix Grundy Stidger House  
Name of Property

Spencer County, Kentucky  
County and State



Detail of previous map

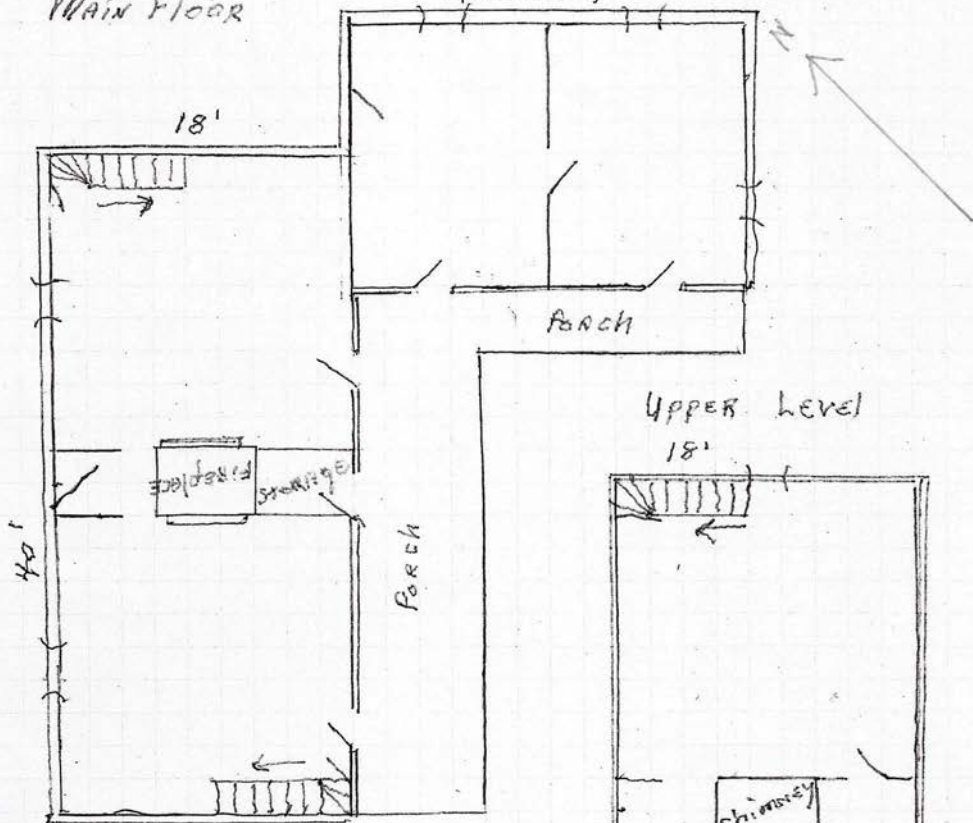




# Felix Grundy Stidger House

Spencer County

## Main Floor

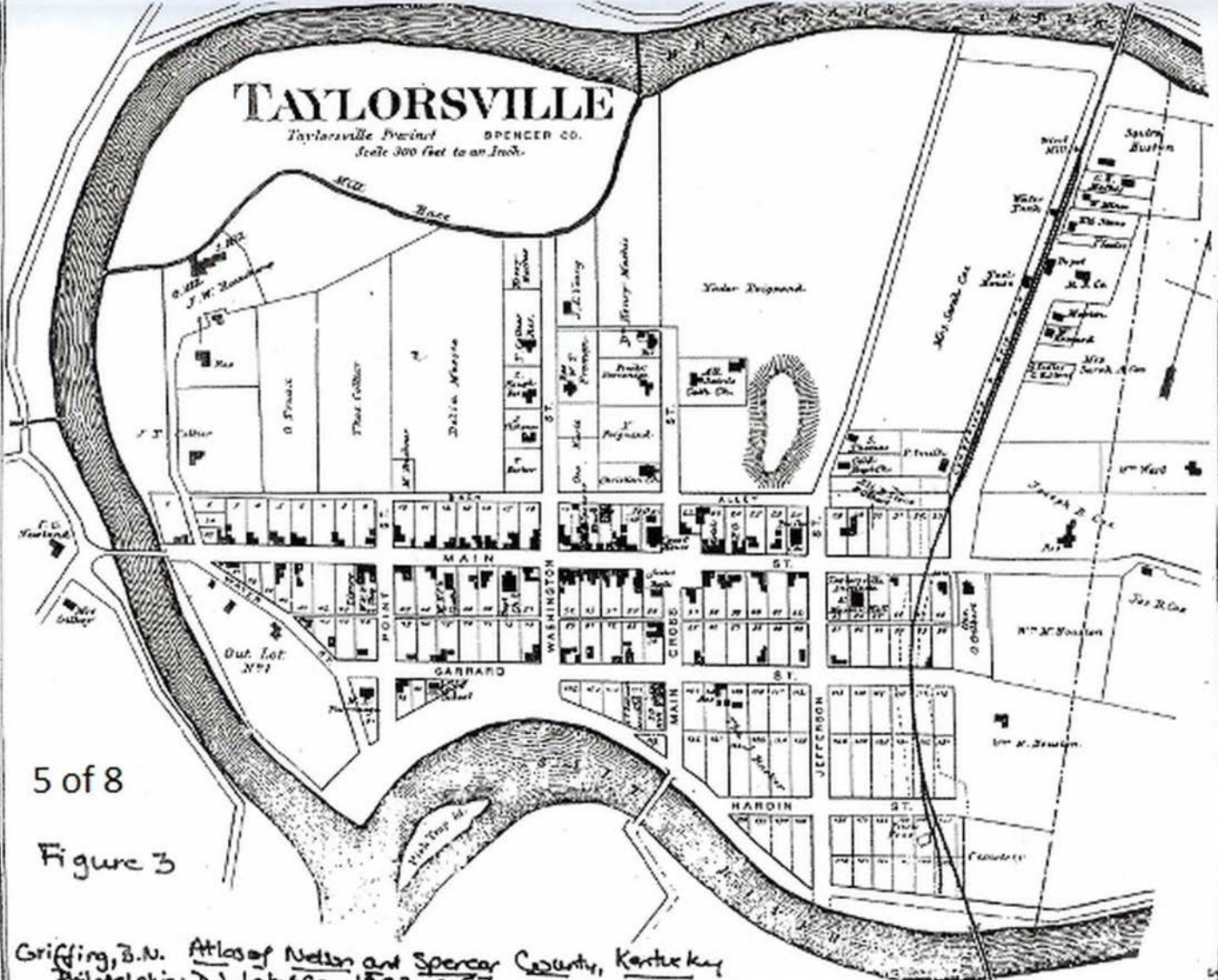


#4 of 8

1 sq = 2 ft

# TAYLORSVILLE

Taylorville Precinct SPENCER CO.  
Scale 300 feet to an Inch.

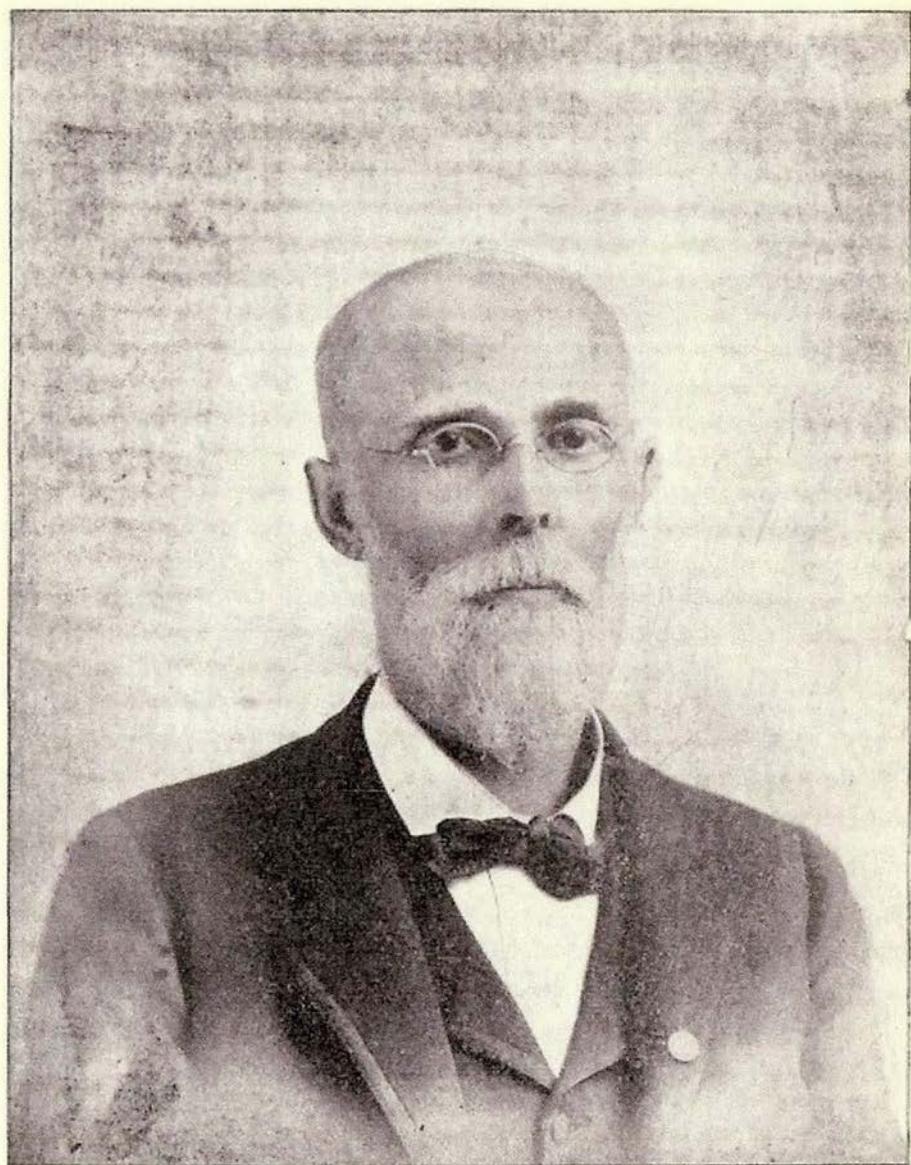


5 of 8

Figure 3

# Stidger





*September 1903. Felix G. Stedger*

AUTHOR OF TREASON HISTORY, ORDER OF SONS OF LIBERTY,  
Knights of the Golden Circle, or American Knights, 1864.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Stidger, Felix Grundy, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Spencer

DATE RECEIVED: 12/31/15      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/16      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/15/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000014

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2-12-2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Despite its condition, the bldg conveys importance for Association with Stidger, an important spy for the Union.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept B

REVIEWER J. Hubbard

DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

# Commonwealth of Kentucky

702 CAPITAL AVENUE  
CAPITOL ANNEX 242  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
502-564-2450  
MESSAGE LINE 800-372-7181



14TH SENATE DISTRICT

jimmy.higdon@lrc.ky.gov

**JIMMY HIGDON  
MAJORITY WHIP**

November 30, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of having the Felix Grundy Stidger Home added to the National Register of Historic Places.

One of the most attributed figures who aided in helping the union win the Civil War was Felix Grundy Stidger. With such a prominent history, it would be of great respect and honor to have his home and a museum memorialized in his name. While this could be seen merely as a touristic attraction, it is indeed so much more. It is essential for history to continue on and for his memory to be kept alive.

The memory and name of Felix Grundy Stidger is very important in Taylorsville's history, Kentucky's history and our nation's history. Please consider putting this project into effect so we can attribute the proper respect for a deserving figure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jimmy Higdon".

Jimmy Higdon  
Kentucky State Senate  
Senate Majority Whip



RECEIVED 2280

DEC 31 2015

MATTHEW G. BEVIN  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
DON PARKINSON  
SECRETARY

**THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
FAX (502) 564-5820  
[www.heritage.ky.gov](http://www.heritage.ky.gov)  
December 23, 2015

**CRAIG A. POTTS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW 8th Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed are the nominations approved by the Review Board at their December 15, 2015 meeting. We are submitting these forms so the properties can be listed in the National Register:

- First Christian Church**, Hickman County, Kentucky
- American Life & Accident Insurance Company Building**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Klotz Confectionary Company**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Louisville Cotton Mills (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- California Apartments**, McCracken County, Kentucky
- Clel Purdom House**, Marion County, Kentucky
- Sroufe House**, Mason County, Kentucky
- Bell House**, Metcalfe County, Kentucky
- Morehead Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Freight Depot**, Rowan County, Kentucky
- Felix Grundy Stidger House**, Spencer County, Kentucky

We resubmit two previously-returned nominations with revisions addressing National Register staff comments:

- Sen. John and Eliza Pope House**, Fayette County, Kentucky (NRIS 05000785)
- Charles Young Park**, Fayette County, Kentucky (NRIS 15000413)

Finally, we submit additional documentation that updates three already-listed Kentucky archaeological properties:

- Archaeological Site, No. 15Hr4**, Harrison County, KY (NRIS 86000269)
- Mt. Horeb Archaeological District**, Fayette County, KY (NRIS 98000088)
- Ramey Mound, 15BH1, Bath** County, Kentucky, (NRIS 98000089).

We thank you for your assistance in listing these properties.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts  
Executive Director and  
State Historic Preservation Officer