

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

JAN 12 1988
Resource # CPB-22
Campbell County

1. Name of Resource: The Foote-Fister Mansion		16. Date: Original Building c. 1870 [6] Addition []	
2. Original Owner: Foote family		17. Style: Second Empire [+3] []	
3. Other Names: Fister Mansion		18. Architect/Builder: unknown	
4. Prehistoric Site	Building Structure	xObject	19. No. of Stories: 3 plus cellar [3.0]
Historic Site	Structure	Other	20. Original Floor Plan: center passage [CP]
5. Location: 801 Lincoln Rd, Bellevue; on north side of road, east of Van Voast Ave.		21. Single Pile Double Pile x N.A.	
6. Owner's Name: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Moreland [P]		22. Roof Form & Material: Original x x mansard-slate Not Original	
7. Owner's Address: 801 Lincoln Rd., Bellevue, Kentucky 41073		23. Structural Material: wood balloon frame [W]	
8. Evaluation: NR potential [P]		24. Exterior Material: wood clapboards [W]	
9. Recognition & Date: n/a Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____ Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____ Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory _____ KY Landmark Certificate _____		25. Foundation Material: cut limestone [S]	
10. N.R.Status & Date: n/a		26. Major Alterations: None X Moved/Rebuilt Other	
11. N.R.Group: District Name: [] Mult.Resource Area: Bellevue [] Thematic Name: []		27. Special Features: acreage, slate roof, cresting, size of ho.	
12. Historical Theme: Primary: architecture [030] Secondary: exp./settlement [140] Other: []		28. Outbuildings: 1 non-contributing [1]	
13. Statement of Significance: See attached		29. Original Function: single family house [01A]	
		30. Present Use: single family house [01A]	
		31. Condition: poor [P]	
		32. Endangered: Yes X No	
		33. Attach Photos: Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides: FF I 1-5	
14. History: See attached		34. Prepared by: Margaret Warminski P	
		35. Organization: City of Bellevue	
		36. Date: May 1986	
		37. New Survey x Resurvey	
15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Lake's ATLAS (1883); Williams' Bellevue disrectory (1900); Campbell Co. Deed Book 86 pg. 104; county tax records			

[C,B]

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. []
Quadrant: Newport 1 6 7 1 8 5 2 0 4 3 3 1 0 6 0 40. Coordi. Accuracy []

41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A.	---	---	---	---	D.	---	---	---	---
B.	---	---	---	---	E.	---	---	---	---
C.	---	---	---	---	F.	---	---	---	---

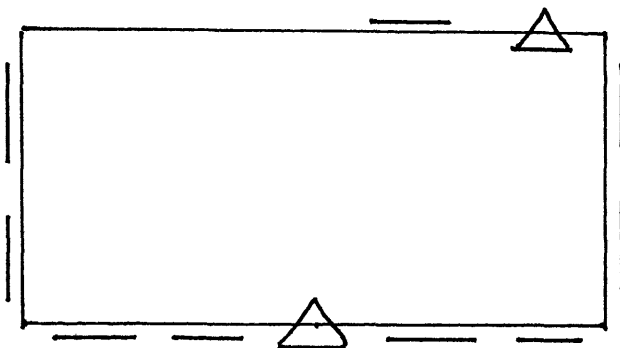
42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 2.2 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 2.2

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

See attached

45. Description and House Plan:

See attached for description



Item 13. Statement of Significance.

The Foote-Fister Mansion is a rare and distinguished c. 1870 frame residence of large scale, in deteriorated yet very original condition. It is by far the most imposing nineteenth-century home in the city of Bellevue. This landmark also possesses area-wide significance as one of Northern Kentucky's few surviving Victorian-era estates; its site integrity has been maintained to a large extent. The house is also notable as one of three surviving dwellings built by the Taylor family, founders and developers of Bellevue and much of urban Campbell County. Its period of significance extends from c. 1870 to 1925, when it ceased to be occupied by the descendants of its original owners.

Item 14. History.

The Foote-Fister Mansion was built by the Foote family, descendants of the prominent James Taylor family of Newport. The Taylors were Northern Kentucky pioneers who first arrived at the confluence of the Ohio and Licking Rivers in the 1790's. A distinguished, learned, and respected family, their influence extended far beyond the Northern Kentucky area. At one time the largest landowners in Northern Kentucky, their vast acreage originally included what are now the cities of Newport, Bellevue, and Southgate. The Taylors lived in a kind of family compound in and around Newport, and Lake's 1883 Atlas depicts a number of their residences.

The house now known as the Foote-Fister Mansion dates from c. 1870 and was one of the first houses to be built in the Bellevue vicinity. More significantly, is one of three surviving residences associated with the Taylors. A companion residence owned by another Taylor descendant, Col. Van Voast, once stood nearby, but has long since been demolished.

The earliest deeds to the Foote-Fister property were not recorded. The first recorded deed involves a transfer to Gus J. Fister in 1894 (Deed Book 86 page 104, Campbell County Deed Records). The Fisters were related by marriage to the Taylors, and were prominent residents in their own right. Gus Fister, for example, was one of the partners in the Bellevue-Dayton Land Co., a syndicate that developed much of the hillside areas of south Bellevue during the late 19th and early twentieth centuries.

Since the house was then outside the corporate limits of Bellevue, historical information is scarce. The 1900 Bellevue City Directory lists as occupants Gus J. Fister, salesman; Tillie, milliner; and Charles, Ida, Louise, and Sallie.

Following Gus Fister's death in 1925, his heirs subdivided the adjacent property to create the Fister Hills Subdivision. 2.2 acres, however, remained with the house. Since then, the estate has had a series of owners. The mansion is currently in deteriorated condition, and although occupied, it is in danger of demolition by neglect or possible redevelopment.

Item 44. Boundary Description and Justification.

Justification:

This nominated property is an irregularly shaped parcel measuring 320 feet by 445 feet more or less that includes all the property traditionally associated with the mansion since the subdivision of its property by the Fister heirs in the 1920s. This present subdivided property is a portion of lots 10, 11, and 12 of the Bellevue-Dayton Land Co. Subdivision, the total property originally associated with the house, and excludes non-contributing newer residential development on the north, east and west.

Description:

Beginning at the northeast corner of O'Fallon Ave. and Lincoln Rd., said Lincoln Rd. being a continuation of Chadwick Ave.; thence with the north line of Lincoln Rd. north 69 degrees east, 36 feet to a stake in the north line of Lincoln Rd.; thence south 85 degrees east, 96 feet to an oak stake in the said north line of Lincoln Rd.; thence along said north line 52.5 feet to an oak stake in the north line of said Rd.; thence north 26 degrees and 51 minutes east, 184.33 feet to a stake; thence at right angles, north 63 degrees and 6 minutes west; 50 feet to a stake in the east line of Lot 11; thence north 26 degrees and 51 minutes east; 217 feet along the east line of Lot 11 to a stake in the south property line of Observatory Ave., Fister Hills Subdivision; thence westwardly along the south line of Observatory Ave. 84.6 feet to a stake, same being the southeast corner of Lot 16 in the Fister Hills Subdivision; thence at right angles westwardly along the rear lines of Lots 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 a distance of 445 feet to a stake in the east property line of O'Fallon Ave., same being the southwest corner of Lot 24 in the Fister Hills Subdivision; thence at right angles southwardly along the east line of O'Fallon Ave., a distance of 190 feet, to the place of beginning. Contents 2.2 acres.

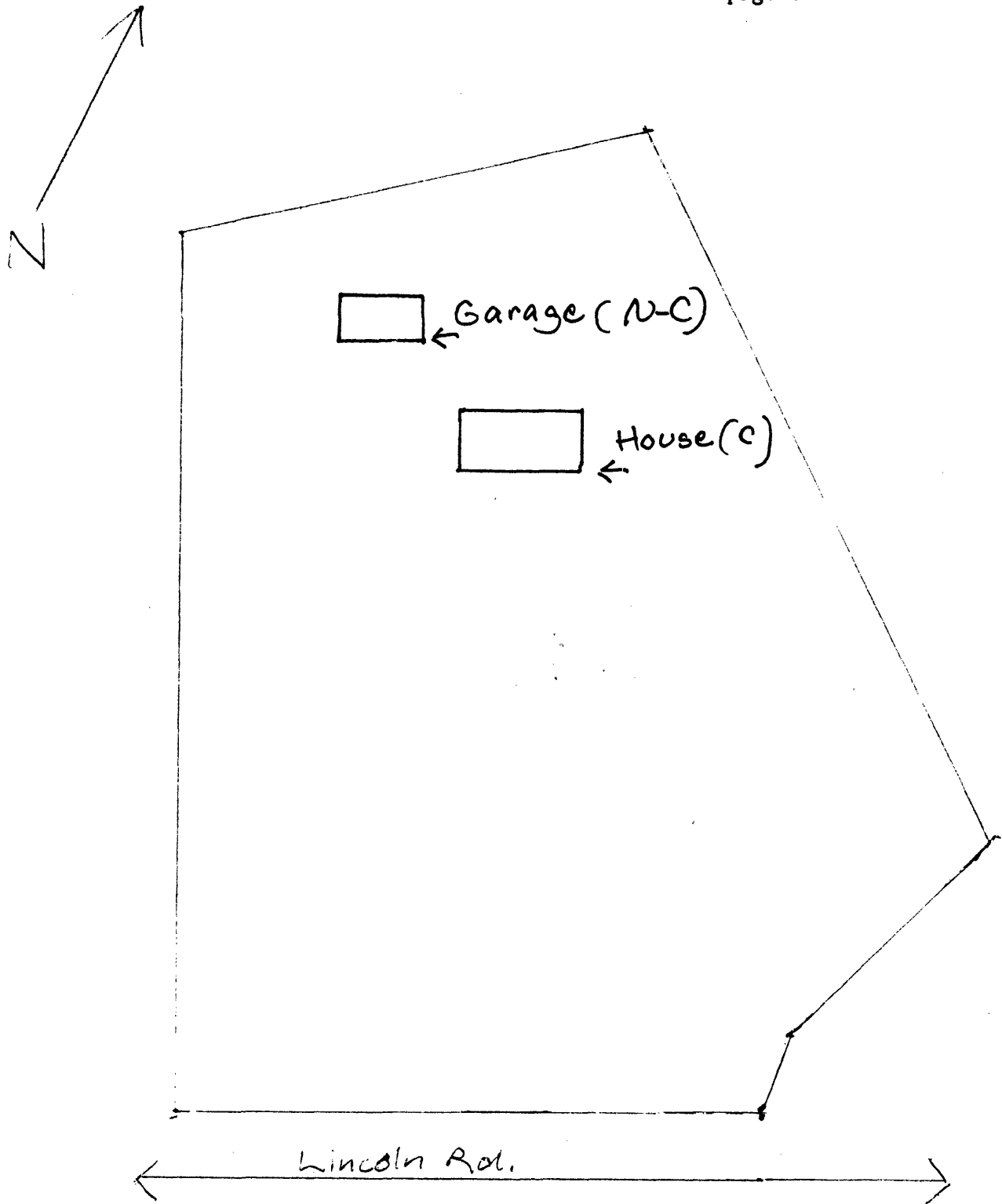
Item 45. Description.

The Foote-Fister Mansion is an imposing Second Empire frame residence sited on a sloping 2.2 acre lot. The mansion and its semi-wooded acreage with winding drive are unique in Bellevue and highly unusual in urban Northern Kentucky, which is characterized by tight scale and dense development.

The house, which appears to date from c. 1870., stands two and a half stories tall. It is simple and symmetrical in plan and five bays wide, with center doorway. A four-story central belvedere rises above the roof line. The house is sheathed in clapboard, much of which has weathered badly; some boards are missing. Both the main block and belvedere have bellcast mansard roofs clad in polychrome imbricated slate, with original wrought-iron cresting. Window treatment consists of 1-1 light sash, with minimal wooden trim. Those on side elevations retain original exterior blinds. Windows in the belvedere are paired; "shaped" and incised lintels, probably of pressed metal, extend over both. Front double doors have long beveled glass panes and appear to date from c. 1910. A full-width porch extends across the facade; it features slender tapered concrete columns with flared caps, and rests on

a concrete foundation.

Included in the nomination are the house and one non-contributing outbuilding; a concrete-block garage in the rear of the property.



Item 44. Site plan.
Traced from sketch in Property Valuation Administration Office; no scale or dimensions.