

PH0508284

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 31 1977
DATE ENTERED	FEB 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
Springhill (Hubbard Taylor House)

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *N of Winchester*
Colby Road

CITY, TOWN
Winchester

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
06

STATE
Kentucky

CODE
021

COUNTY
Clark

CODE
049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
William R. Sphar, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER
Colby Road

CITY, TOWN
Winchester

VICINITY OF

STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Winchester

STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE
1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN
Frankfort

STATE
Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

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

Springhill, the residence for a large farm, is located 1/3 mile north of the Colby Road in rural Clark County. Winchester, the county seat, is five miles to the southeast. This two-story-with-basement house faces west, and was constructed between 1788-90 of local materials. The design was provided by the original owner, Hubbard Taylor, who supposedly based this residence on the type common in his native Orange County, Virginia.

The front facade (see photo 1) is symmetrically arranged with a centered door flanked by two windows on each side. A five-pane transom is above the entrance and the windows of the first level have nine-over-six panes; those of the second have six-over-six. The original construction was of hewn logs resting on a high stone foundation. Shortly later, the exterior was covered with beaded clapboards.

The most notable of the three large brick chimneys laid in Flemish bond is that near the southeast corner which has glazed headers (see photo 2). Structural evidence indicates that a hipped roof with small dormers was initially intended, but during the construction this was vacillated into a gable roof with a long slope at the rear--hence, Springhill's shape may be classified as a saltbox type. Although there is no overhang, an inclined jetty is between the two floors on the front facade.

The first floor consists of a central hall with two rooms on each side, and the hall is given a distinctive air by a keystone arch in its center (see photo 3). Beyond this is the original rear entrance which is treated with a transom like that of the front. Other original interior features include low baseboards, sections of chair-railing, six-panelled doors, a beaded batten section in the hall, and fine early mantels for the three segmental arched fireplaces of the first floor (see photo 4).

Access to the second floor which features a rear lateral hall and four rooms is by a closed staircase in the hall beyond the arch. Situated on a level between the two floors is a former "traveler's room." Originally, this had its own exterior entrance, but this was dismantled during a 1967 renovation. Other alterations from this same date included removing an 1868 one-story porch on the front, installing modern conveniences, covering of the second floor fireplaces, and converting half of a rear porch (added at an undetermined date) into a pantry/utility room. Despite these

(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 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 1791

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Springhill, a fine late 18th century log and frame house located in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky, was constructed by Hubbard Taylor, a prominent figure in the political affairs of his local community, county and state. Taylor served in the state house, was twice elected state senator, was a member in 1792 of the constitutional convention in Danville that framed Kentucky's first constitution, was five times selected as presidential elector, and was one of the first trustees for the town of Winchester. Taylor's house, which was built in 1791, has relatively few alterations for its approximately 190 years. It retains transitional woodwork typical of the period, including cherry mantels, chair railing, an attractive reeded arch with key in the central hall, beaded paneling in the hall and enclosed stairway. The chimneys' proportions are like those of early houses in Virginia and Maryland. The most distinguished of Springhill's three chimneys is that near the southwest corner which has glazed headers--an exceptional rarity in this region.

Springhill's distinguished builder, Hubbard Taylor (1760-1840), was originally from Caroline County, Virginia. As a young man Taylor apparently had an abiding interest in the "West" and in 1780, after serving for a period in a Virginia regiment during the Revolutionary War, was fortunately able to procure the office of deputy surveyor for Kentucky County, Virginia. Over the next four years, he made several trips to Kentucky, locating warrants for his family and friends. According to Taylor's private papers, he was anxious to move to Kentucky, but was unable to do so until the spring of 1790. "Preparatory thereto," wrote Taylor, "I bought of Dr. Thomas Minde 500 acres of his military tract in Kentucky--then Fayette County, brought out a part of my negroes searched out the tract for 500 acres laid off., employed sic a man to assist my hands in building some cabbins sic--I also employed Thomas Minor, a nephew of my wife's¹, to take charge of my new intended home, and returned to Orange County, Virginia, got there on Christmas Day 1788...." (Taylor)

¹Taylor married Clarissa Minor of Spottsylvania, Virginia, in 1782.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Collins, Lewis and Collins, Richard. History of Kentucky.

Jillson, Willard Rouse. Early Clark County, Kentucky. Frankfort: Roberts Printing Co., 1966.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 | 738240 | 4210000
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | |
 D | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Gloria Mills, Historian and Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1977

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

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

Cedric W. Miller

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10/26/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Robert B. Rettig

DATE

2/17/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Springhill (Hubbard Taylor House)

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changes, all rooms were returned to their original dimensions, random width ash flooring throughout was retained, and sections of chair-railing that had been removed earlier were carefully reproduced.

A large stone fireplace (see photo 5) is located in the basement which appears to have been partitioned into rooms and used as slave quarters. When erected, Springhill's kitchen and dining room were housed in a separate outside building, but this was destroyed ca. 1916, as were a carriage house and a spring house. The only surviving outbuilding of an early date is a hewn log structure several yards to the northeast (see photo 6), thought to have been used for curing meat.

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Taylor, his wife and three children set out for Kentucky in April 1790 and arrived the following month. The family lived in a temporary log shelter until Taylor could gather materials for his permanent residence, which he was to name Springhill. He began construction in July "and so far got it advanced as to get into it at Christmas following" (Taylor). Taylor later wrote, "the log house built for our reception had been three times moved, and is now in use for a kitchen at Springhill."²

From property inherited from his family in Virginia and from land speculation in "the West", Taylor became a man of considerable means. He was also important politically. In December 1791, Taylor was elected to represent Fayette County at the constitutional convention in Danville. The following year, upon Kentucky's entry into the Union, he was elected the first representative of Fayette County to the new legislature. When Clark County was formed in 1796, Taylor was made a member of the quarter sessions courts. He was elected Senator from the new county 1796-1800; 1815-1819. He served as presidential elector from 1800-1825 (Padgett, p. 95-96). Taylor died in 1840 and is buried with his wife Clarissa and other members of their family in a graveyard near Springhill.

The Taylor house was owned by descendants of the family until 1922 when it was sold to Mrs. William Rogers Sphar, from whom the present owner, Mr. William R. Sphar, Jr., inherited the property.

²The log wing was dismantled in 1916.

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PAGE 2

Owen, Kathryn. Old Homes and Landmarks of Clark County, Kentucky.
Winchester, Kentucky: By the author, 1967, p. 21.

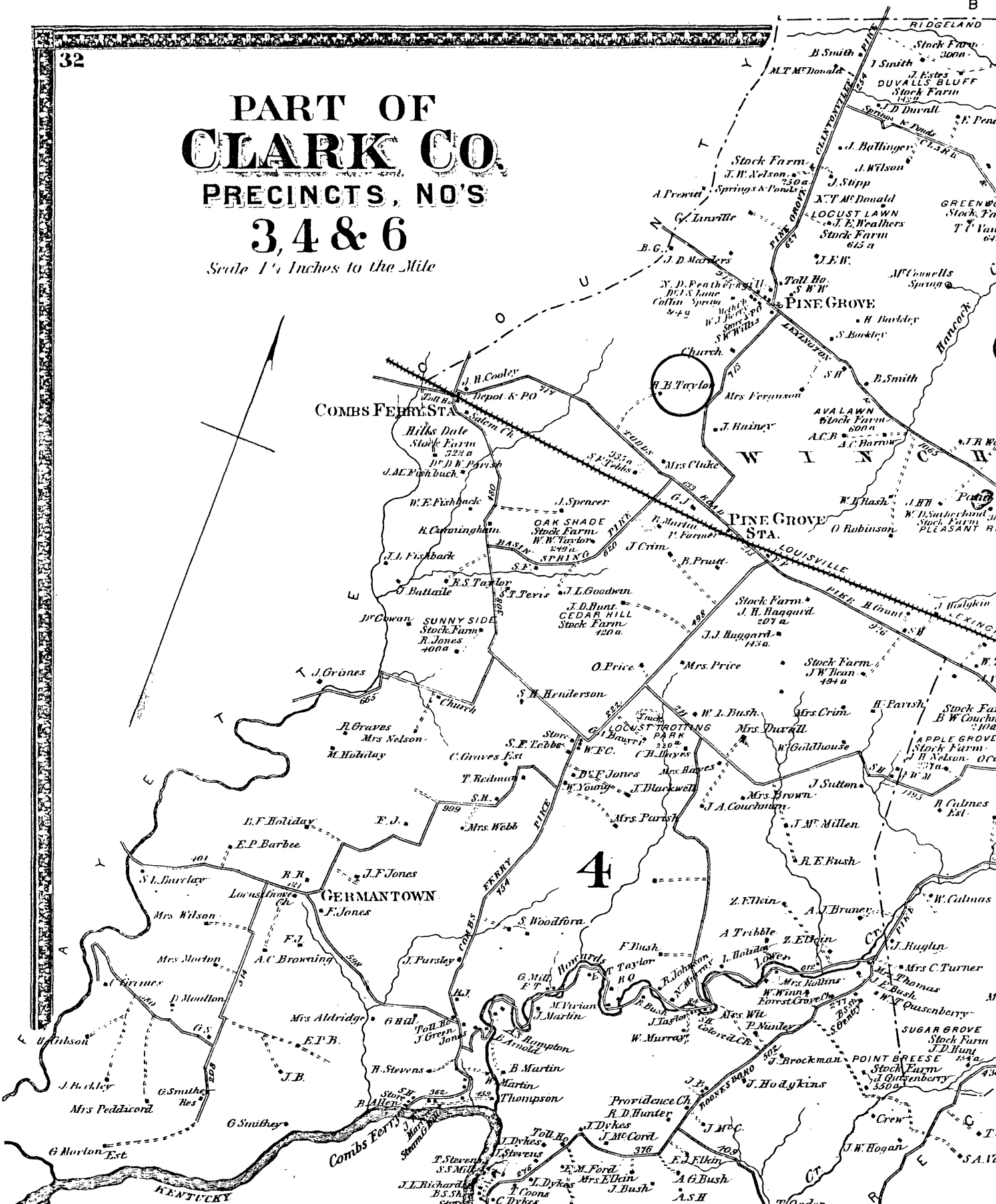
_____, Compiler. Civil War Days in Clark County. n.d.,
n. p.

Padgett, James A., ed. "The Letters of Hubbard Taylor to President James
Madison." The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society. Vol. 36 (1938),
pp. 95-127; 210-239.

"The Hubbard Taylor Story." Winchester Sun, March 6, 1924, pp. 28-29.

PART OF CLARK CO. PRECINCTS, NO'S 3, 4 & 6

Scale 1 1/4 Inches to the Mile



Springhill (Hubbard Taylor House)
Winchester vicinity
Clark County
Kentucky

FEB 17 1978

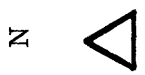
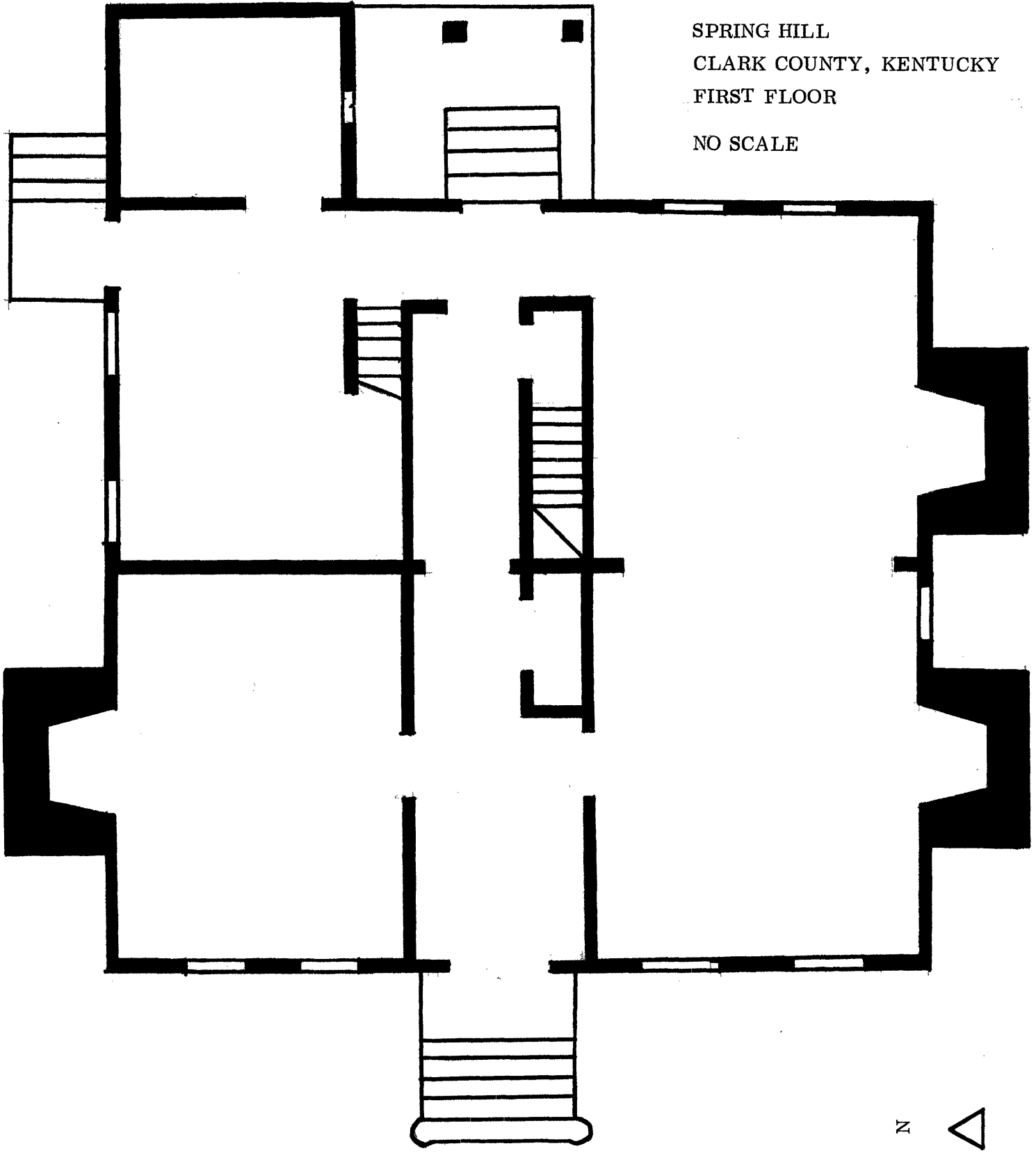
Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette,
Jessamine and Woodford Counties,
Kentucky. Compiled and published
by D. G. Beers & Co., Philadelphia,
1877.

Map 2. Springhill circled in
red.

OCT 31 1977

SPRING HILL
CLARK COUNTY, KENTUCKY
FIRST FLOOR

NO SCALE



Springhill (Hubbard Taylor House)
Winchester vicinity
Clark County
Kentucky

OCT 31 1977

Sketch plan.
Daniel Kidd

FEB 17 1978

No scale, September 1977.

Map 3. First floor sketch plan.

