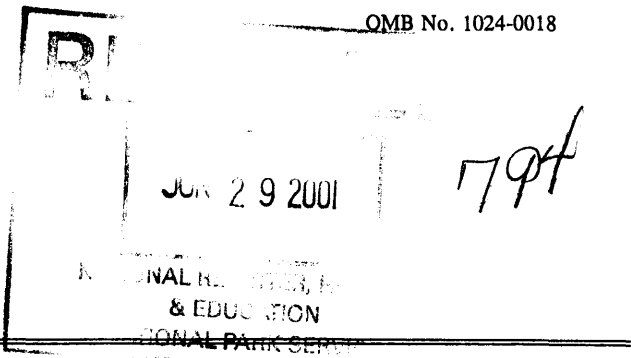


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Fowler, Clark C., House

other names/site number MR-290

2. Location

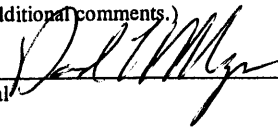
street & number State Route 214, Turkey Neck Bend Road not for publication N/A

city or town Tompkinsville vicinity X

state Kentucky code KY county Monroe code 171 zip code 42167

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan, SHPO  10-22-01
Signature of certifying official Date

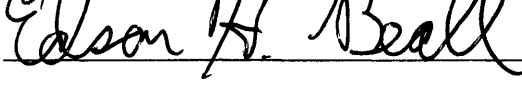
Kentucky Heritage Council, State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

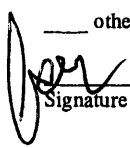
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register 
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain):

 _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Fowler, Clark C., House
Name of Property

Monroe County, KY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)

private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count).

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 2 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 2 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing. Historic and Architectural Resources of Monroe County, Kentucky

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Hotel</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Secondary Structure</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Secondary Structure</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER - I-House

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>STONE/Limestone</u>
roof	<u>METAL/Tin</u>
walls	<u>WOOD/Weatherboard</u>
other	<u>BRICK</u>

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Fowler, Clark C., House
Name of Property

Monroe 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

Architecture _____

Period of Significance

ca. 1880 _____

Significant Dates

ca. 1880 _____

Criteria Considerations

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

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

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Unknown _____

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: Kentucky Heritage Council _____

Fowler, Clark C., House
Name of Property

Monroe County, Kentucky
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Blacks Ferry USGS Quad

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 16 635355 4056235 3 _____

2 _____ 4 _____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip Thomason

organization Thomason and Associates date March 29, 2001

street & number P.O. Box 121225 telephone (615) 385-4960

city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37212

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Paul Murley c/o Irene Murley

street & number Turkey Neck Bend Road telephone 270-487-5889

city or town Tompkinsville state KY zip code 42167

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

Description

The Clark C. Fowler House (MR-290) is a two-story frame, central passage plan I-House built ca. 1880. The dwelling was built with Queen Anne influences in its gable wall dormers and decorative millwork on its rear porch. The house is located in the southeast section of Monroe County, Kentucky at a small river community known as Martinsburg. The house was built on a hillside overlooking the Cumberland River, and it is the only remaining dwelling at Martinsburg. In addition to its use as a dwelling, the house was also designed as a boarding house to accommodate travelers on the river. With the exception of replacement columns on the front porch and a small shed roof wing, the Clark C. Fowler House has not been extensively altered and displays much of its 19th-century architectural design.

The Clark C. Fowler House is a two-story frame dwelling with a limestone pier foundation, gable roof of corrugated metal, interior wall stone chimneys, and exterior of weatherboard siding. On the main (west) facade is a gable roof entry porch. This porch has original tongue and groove siding in its gables. The original milled porch columns have been replaced with ca. 1980 wood posts, and the porch has a ca. 1930 poured concrete floor. At the porch eaves are original vergeboard brackets. The main entrance has an original four-panel solid wood door. Flanking the door are original two-light sidelights. Above the door is a four-light transom which has had the glass removed, and the openings covered with wood panels. Windows throughout the first floor of the house are original four-over-four rectangular wood sash. At the roofline of the main facade are four gable dormers. Each dormer has wood trim with drop pendants, and original four-over-four sash windows. Two of the windows in the north dormers have been concealed beneath plywood panels.

On the south facade is a ca. 1940 shed roof wing with both rolled asphalt siding and weatherboard siding. This wing has a corrugated metal roof and a concrete block foundation. The entrance on this facade has an original five-panel wood door. Windows are four-light wood casement design. In the second story of the original dwelling on this facade are both original four-light casement windows and ca. 1940 vertical light windows. In the second story of the rear (east) facade are original four-light wood casement windows. Two of these windows are concealed beneath plywood panels.

The interior of the dwelling's ell retains an original shed roof porch on both the east and north facades. This porch has original milled columns, a wood floor, a spindled frieze, and a milled valence. The two entrances on the north facade of the ell have ca. 1940 single-light and three-panel glass and wood doors. The remaining doors leading to the porch are original four-panel solid wood design. Beneath the porch in the ell is flush board siding above a wide chair rail with tongue and groove siding below.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 2

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

The house was designed with an open breezeway dividing the front bedroom and parlor. When the front door is open, breezes from the river flow through the rear porch area. The house was also designed with two staircases to the second story; an interior staircase from what was originally the dining room, and a separate entrance at the rear of the parlor. This exterior entrance leads to an enclosed staircase connecting with the upper floor. On the second floor are four separate bedrooms.

The interior of the dwelling has not been extensively altered and retains its original wood floors, plank wood walls, and ceilings. All of the rooms retain original wood mantels. Both staircases are original with original handrails, treads, and risers. In the kitchen is an added linoleum floor.

Adjacent to the house is a ca. 1900 frame smokehouse with vertical board siding, a corrugated metal roof, and a stone pier foundation. On the west facade of this smokehouse is a ca. 1980 shed roof wing. To the north of the house is a ca. 1940 barn with a metal gable roof, vertical board siding, and a stone pier foundation. Both of these outbuildings are outside the dwelling's period of significance, and are included as non-contributing buildings to the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky

Statement of Significance

Summary

The Clark C. Fowler House (MR-290) meets National Register criterion C and is significant for its architectural design. The house is a central passage plan I-House with Queen Anne influences which retains integrity of its overall design. The house retains its overall floor plan, original interior and exterior materials, and integrity of site and setting. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the property was utilized not only as a dwelling but also as a hotel for those traveling on the Cumberland River. The settlement at this location was known as Martinsburg, and in the late 19th century it contained a ferry and river landing, post office, at least two stores, a sawmill, and several dwellings. The Clark C. Fowler House was used as a hotel until the early 20th century when steamboat traffic declined. In Monroe County, I-House plan dwellings are associated with prosperous merchants and farmers of the late 19th and early 20th century. These dwellings are significant for the information they convey concerning the economic growth and development of the county, and are also expressive of the social use and material culture of their builders and occupants. The Clark C. Fowler House is a notable example of this house form in Monroe County.

Historical Information

The original owner of this dwelling appears to have been Clark C. Fowler, and Fowler may have acquired this property prior to 1863. Due to their destruction during the Civil War, there are no county deeds prior to this year, and no record of Fowler acquiring this property in the decades after the war has been discovered. In the 1880 census, Fowler is listed as a merchant and postmaster in Martinsburg. Fowler operated a store which originally stood to the north of the house next to Turkey Neck Bend Road (now State Route 214). The dwelling's design and detailing indicate a construction date of ca. 1880, and local tradition states it was used as a hotel at the turn of the century.

This dwelling was built at the river community of Martinsburg which was established in the mid-19th century on the east bank of the Cumberland River. By 1850, Martinsburg consisted of a ferry and river landing, thirty dwellings, a school, and several commercial buildings. Around 1880, this two-story frame dwelling was built as the home of Clark C. Fowler, a merchant and postmaster at Martinsburg. The house was built not only to house Fowler's family, but also to serve as a small hotel on the bluff overlooking the river. The dwelling was designed with a parlor, bedroom, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor, and four bedrooms on the second floor. An exterior entrance and staircase leading to the second floor was located off the rear porch. According

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 4

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

to the present owner, in this manner, overnight boarders could access the upstairs rooms without going through the family's living quarters.

In 1887, Clark C. Fowler sold this property and fifteen acres to John Jefferson Coe and Jesse Coe for \$2,800.¹ The Coe family settled in Martinsburg by the 1830s, and by 1880 Jesse Coe operated a gristmill and sawmill at Martinsburg. His son, John Jefferson Coe, and his wife Matilda, resided at this dwelling for several decades, and continued its operation as a hotel. Coe and his brother also operated the nearby mill which cut timber into rafts for shipping downstream to Nashville. To the northeast of Martinsburg is the African American community of Coe Ridge, and the history of this area is described in Lynwood Montell's book, The Saga of Coe Ridge: A Study in Oral History. Within this publication are descriptions of the Coe family and the prominent Coe mill at Martinsburg. This mill was located near the Martinsburg ferry landing approximately one quarter mile to the north of the house. No remnants of this mill remain extant. Following the death of John Jefferson Coe, his widow and children sold one hundred acres including the dwelling, and the mill and its machinery to Radford Hume in 1919 for \$4,000.²

Radford Hume and his wife Madie Lollar Hume, owned the house and operated an adjacent store into the 1930s. The store was known as Hume and Lollars, and it was operated by Radford Hume and his brothers-in-law. Hume's son, Eston Hume, was born in the house in 1926. Eston Hume recalls that his mother continued to take in boarders traveling on the river when he was growing up in the house.³ In 1934, Radford Hume died and his widow, Madie Hume, later sold the house to Ada Dodson.⁴ The property has remained in the possession of the Dodson's descendants to the present. According to the present owner, the Hume family were the last owners to operate the property as a hotel.

By the early 1930s, improved road systems in the area led to the decline of steamboat traffic on the Cumberland River. According to Eston Hume, by the time his family moved away in 1934, Martinsburg

¹ Monroe County Deed Book L, Page 638.

² Monroe County Deed Book 4, Page 611.

³ Eston Hume, Telephone Interview, 11 September 2000.

⁴ Monroe County Deed Book 16, Page 207.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 5

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

consisted only of his family's dwelling and store, the school, and several other dwellings.⁵ The post office closed in 1938, and today the Clark C. Fowler House is the only remaining dwelling at Martinsburg.

The Clark C. Fowler House meets National Register criterion C as an intact example of a two-story, frame I-House. The 1983 survey of Monroe County identified a number of extant two-story I-Houses remaining from the 19th and early 20th century. Since this survey was completed, many of these properties have been altered through the addition of artificial sidings, large wings, and other changes. The Clark C. Fowler House has not been significantly altered, and retains its original form, plan, exterior siding materials, and interior detailing. The replacement of its entry porch columns, and the addition of a ca. 1940 shed roof wing are the only notable alterations to this dwelling, and these do not significantly diminish its overall architectural integrity.

This property may also meet National Register criterion A for its role in commerce once that historic context has been written for the county. This property was built not only as a residence but also as a hotel to serve those traveling by steamboat on the Cumberland River. Built at the river landing of Martinsburg, the house was designed with an exterior entrance off the rear porch to access its upper floor sleeping rooms. The property was used to lodge boarders by the Hume family into the 1930s. This property is the only hotel associated with the Cumberland River traffic known to remain extant in Monroe County. Once the commercial history of the county is more fully documented, this property may be evaluated as significant within the context of the county's commercial history.

Additional information is located within the multiple property documentation form, "The Historic and Architectural Resources of Monroe County."

⁵ Eston Hume, Telephone Interview, 11 September 2000.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 6

Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky

Major Bibliographical Sources

Birdwell, Dayton, comp. The History of Monroe County, Kentucky, 1820-1988. Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe County Press, 1992.

Hume, Eston, Telephone Interview, 11 September 2000.

Monroe County Deed Books, ca. 1863 - 2000, Monroe County Courthouse, Tompkinsville, Kentucky.

Montell, William Lynwood, comp. Monroe County History, 1820-1970, 2d ed. Tompkinsville, KY: Tompkinsville Lions Club, 1970.

Montell, William Lynwood. The Saga of Coe Ridge: A Study in Oral History. Knoxville, Tennessee: The University of Tennessee Press, 1970.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 7

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Clark C. Fowler House is shown as the triangular lot on the accompanying Monroe County tax map 94. This lot is part of parcel 15, and includes the dwelling, and two associated outbuildings. The property is bounded on the north by the right-of-way of State Route 214, on the east and south by a gravel driveway, and on the west by the bank of the Cumberland River. This boundary includes all of the remaining buildings associated with the original Clark C. Fowler property. All of the other buildings associated with this property have been razed with the exception of the dwelling and its two associated outbuildings. The boundary is drawn to include the house, smokehouse, barn, and adjacent front and rear yards.

Verbal Boundary Justification

Martinsburg was once a busy community on the east bank of the Cumberland River. With the decline of the steamboat traffic virtually all of the buildings in the community were razed with the exception of the Clark C. Fowler House and its associated outbuildings. The house is significant for its architectural design, and the proposed boundary has been drawn to encompass the site and setting of the property and its associated outbuildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photos Page 8

**Name: Fowler, Clark C., House
Location: Monroe County, Kentucky
Related Multiple Property Listing;
Historic and Architectural Resources of
Monroe County, Kentucky**

Clark C. Fowler House
Turkey Neck Bend Road, Monroe County, Kentucky
Photographs by: Thomason and Associates, Nashville, Tennessee
Location of Negatives: Kentucky Heritage Council
Date: August 29, 2000

- Photo No. 1: North and west facades, view towards the southeast.
- Photo No. 2: West and south facades, view towards the northeast.
- Photo No. 3: South and east facades, view towards the northwest.
- Photo No. 4: East and north facades, view towards the southwest.
- Photo No. 5: North facade, view towards the south.
- Photo No. 6: Detail of porch on the east facade.
- Photo No. 7: Main entrance on the west facade.
- Photo No. 8: Original mantel and built-in closet in the parlor in the north pen.
- Photo No. 9: Smokehouse, view towards the southeast.
- Photo No. 10: Barn, view towards the north.