

PHO 364959

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 2 1977

**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

Bourne-Anderson House

AND/OR COMMON

Anderson House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ky. 55, 1/2 mile north of Taylorsville

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Taylorsville

VICINITY OF

02

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Spencer

215

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

Robert L. Durning, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

306 Claremont Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Spencer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Taylorsville

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED (except kitchen wing)	<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

The Bourne-Anderson House and its dependencies lies above a shallow valley crossed by the old Shelbyville-Taylorville Road (see photo 1). The valley is just north of Taylorville. The Bourne-Anderson House, which faces south, is set on an eminence that drops off on all sides but the northeast, where there is a ridge connecting with the hills behind (north of) the house. Almost directly below the rear entrance is a spring, which has apparently created the shallow ravine that detaches the site of the house from the hillside. The residence is further raised on a fairly high basement with above ground windows that retain the horizontal wooden bars set diagonally (edge-out) into their frames. The walls are of brick down to the level of the sills of these windows, with stone foundations rising only just above ground level (see photo 2). The effect suggests an "English basement" of a type not infrequently found at one time in early 19th-century Kentucky houses (such as Farmington, Jefferson County, located on the Taylorville-Bardstown Road south of Louisville, listed on the National Register October 18, 1972).

The construction of the Bourne-Anderson house is of very fine Flemish bond with a panel of flat wooden siding in the central bay at the rear. The south facade has five bays, fairly widely spaced. The central three bays project the width of about a header and carry the gable. This slight projection does not in fact reflect the interior layout, as the central hall spans only the entrance bay. But the effect recalls such an ambitious late Georgian facade as that of Liberty Hall, Frankfort, Franklin County (listed on the National Register March 11, 1971). This late Georgian quality is enhanced by the wide moldings that frame the gable, spanning the three middle bays as well. Its elegant profile is silhouetted at the lower corners of the gable, as well as against the brick wall at the far ends, where the cornice returns into the wall (not around the corners); the latter affect is typical of early Kentucky houses, which normally have flat end walls with no eaves. (See photo 2, before reconstruction of stoop.)

The fenestration of the end walls (the east end is partially covered by the new kitchen wing) is also distinctive. There are three widely-spaced distinctive bays on the first story. Above the center one is a full window on the second story, flanked by small lookout windows set outside the flush chimneys. This arrangement provides ample illumination, not only for the large bedrooms at either ends of the house, but also for the attic storage spaces under the eaves, while making a handsome visual composition as seen from the road on the west. (See photos 4 and 5.)

All the exterior woodwork is superbly, but quite simply detailed. The front door and windows are set into the wall without breaking the surface, which has header-and-stretcher jack arches (or voussours). The curved arches over the elliptical fanlight of the entrance and the similar central unit of the Palladian window above are particularly well executed.

(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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1813-1835

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This fine brick house, erected it is supposed between 1815 and 1835, and is known locally as the Anderson House, is actually a monument to its original owner, George Bourne, and his unknown builder/architect. Bourne operated a mill and distillery on the property. The house and land were sold twice during the period of 1835 to 1844. In 1844 it was bought by George W. Anderson after public auction. Anderson was a prominent Taylorsville merchant and farmer, who also served as the sheriff of Spencer County for seven years. Several interesting outbuildings remain, although the distillery on the premises no longer survives. Acquired by Robert L. Durning in 1973, the house has recently undergone an exemplary restoration.

The known significance of the house is above all architectural. Although essentially a design embodying Federal features, there seems to be a sense of solidarity, of implied three-dimensional composition that suggests residual Georgian influence and craftsmanship. A type of plan, elevation, and detailing common in Central Kentucky (see Clay Lancaster's Ante-bellum Houses of the Bluegrass on what he called the geometric phase of Federal style) during the first quarter of the 19th century is executed here with extraordinary consistency, harmony, and logic. The standard central-hall plan with two rooms on either side is subtly dramatized in both upper and lower hall areas by the use of barrel vaults and an unexpected treatment of the stair-railing which almost soars over the newel posts on the landings. The facade has the standard three-bay gable with a Palladian window over a seamless front entrance with elliptical fanlight and sidelights. Yet here the effect is reinforced by the impressive cornices and barely perceptible projection of the central three bays. The end walls are also treated distinctively: on each, "lookout" windows of the early type flank the two chimneys which in turn flank a full-size window. This grouping effectively echoes the triangular pattern of the end-gables, thus consciously composing with the front gable as seen in perspective.

The house was surely intended to be seen from a distance, across an extensive bottomland north of the Salt River as it approaches the county seat of Taylorsville. The house is visible all the way from town as one moves north on the old road to Shelbyville, and is also conspicuous as one approaches from the north. The house is set proudly on a small eminence, detached by a spring-fed depression from the considerable hillside against which it is viewed. But the former springhouse, smokehouse, barns, and no doubt

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Nelson and Spencer Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D.J. Lake and Co., 1882.

Brown, Mary Frances. Spencer County-Taylorsville. Taylorsville; 1974.

Jefferson, Shelby, and Spencer County Court and Tax Records. (continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated acreage includes the main house and the outbuildings surrounding the main structure.

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

Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian; Mary Cronan, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

July 1976

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-4452

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

Eldred W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

July 9, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST:

W. M. Melton
Charles Harrington

DATE

11/2/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11.30.77

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The main entrance has a strong, perhaps slightly stiff, radiating fanlight. The sidelights are framed by half-engaged columns. The Palladian window has a reeded frame with concentric corner blocks of a more geometric Federal than classicizing Georgian quality.

The entrance hall has the generous width characteristic of the first few decades of the 19th century. The rear portion is cut off by a lateral passage, so that the front hall itself becomes a well-proportioned rectangular room. The staircase is quite delicate and rises a flight on the right to a lateral landing (in front of, not over the passage) and then returns forward several more steps. The ends of the steps (stringers) have graceful but quite simple curves. The newel posts have a curious straight-sided swelling in the center and rise above the conveniently low railing. This railing, supported by two plain, thin, square posts on each step, starts modestly without terminal at the bottom, but sweeps dramatically up and over the newels at the landings. An exquisite pendant below the newel at the beginning of the second flight marks the center passage. (See photo 6.)

The inside of the front entrance is also handsome, with the fanlight frame panelled, but those of the sidelights reeded. Throughout the house, the door and window frames have grooved moldings with corner blocks of concentric circles with modest raised "beehives" in the center. The doors are quite low and the rooms are definitely separate compartments, not open into each other. All four main rooms downstairs have identical mantels, rather heavy in relief but beautifully proportioned, except that the pedestals are slightly lower on one side of the house. Three-quarters engaged columns appear recessed in niches of standing moldings; above are reeded horizontal panels. There are panels under the deepset windows and within the raked frames. There is chair-railing throughout. (During the recent restoration Georgian crown moldings were installed, and built-in bookcases in the northeast chamber.) (See photos 8 and 9.)

The most unusual feature of the house is the small lateral passage behind the entrance hall. It is reached by a wide square arch under the stairs. The back wall of this passage is of wood construction, not of brick like the rest of the house: flat horizontal siding, interrupted by the large square opening of the back door (reconstructed by the present owner with square transom and sidelights). (This now opens into a new porch-platform raised above the old cellar door with its stone-lined access channel.) The central rear panel of siding curiously resembles that of the Vest-Lindsey House (Kentucky Heritage House) in Frankfort as restored by Walter Macomber (see the National Register nomination form for the Corner in Celebrities, Frankfort, Franklin County listed on March 11, 1971, and

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currently being revised). The rear passage has a shallow lateral barrel vault unique, as far as is known, in Kentucky.

In mounting the stairs of the Bourne-Anderson House one turns back toward the front gable or dormer, which has a full barrel vault framing the arch of the Palladian window, groined toward the landing. (The lower landing has a half-coved ceiling.) This south-facing, gable window floods the upper hall with light, as the fanlight and sidelights of the front entrance do below; there is no window on the landing facing north (over the outbuildings). Two large rooms at either end of the upper story now include modern bathrooms.

A new kitchen wing with a gallery on the south end has been added to the east side of the house, set back from the line of the main facade. Although old beams and brick were utilized, it houses a contemporary kitchen and services. The basement or ground story of the main block has also been fully panelled and modernized.

To the southwest of the house is a small brick building with a projecting gable supported on square brick piers. This structure is perched on a stone foundation facing the spring. (See photos 10 and 11.)

A square log smokehouse with a pyramidal roof is situated northeast of the house. Among the outbuildings is a large barn with a high stone foundation.

The present owners of the property have recently completed a generally authentic and sensitive restoration of the main house, based on the physical evidence remaining in the house and information from former owners. For the most part all the original woodwork was intact before the restoration began. The original chair-rail which remained in the central hall was copied and replaced in the downstairs rooms, where there was evidence of it being originally. Before the restoration the original back entrance had been removed, but the flat horizontal siding which flanked the entrance remained. The present rear door and stoop were constructed in keeping with the period of the house.

The few alterations made during the restoration include the addition of Georgian crown moldings in the central hall, built-in bookcases in the northeast chamber, and the

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panelling and modernizing of the basement. The room housing the kitchen was added on the east side of the main block. The door leading from the northeast chamber to the kitchen was original, which indicated that there was a kitchen wing on this side of the house. Although the new addition is very much in keeping with the main block, it was not reconstructed on the basis of the original wing, since its appearance was unknown.

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the distillery once at the site are set down in the declivity where they do not compete with the house. As a result of these factors, and the subtle monumentality of the building itself (the gables seem to echo the forms of the hillock, for instance), a fairly small house achieves remarkable visual impact.

Moreover, the interior woodwork has a generous scale that suggests a transition from the Federal period, with its usually delicate reeding and other details, to the bolder Greek Revival. Most obviously Grecian are the mantel-pieces with their engaged Tuscan columns. Moreover the mantels are almost uniform throughout, unlike the usual carefully graduated sequence of Federal mantels within a house. (For somewhat similar mantels see those by Gideon Shryock in the recently-restored Old State House in Frankfort, Franklin County (listed on the National Register on March 11, 1971, and a National Historic Landmark) and in the only residence known to have been developed by him, the superb Orlando Brown House, also in Frankfort (listed on the National Register as part of the Corner in Celebrities Historic District, March 11, 1971). But, surprisingly, the closest examples yet identified in Kentucky are in the McConnell House near Wurtland, Greenup County, at the far northeastern corner of the state (see the National Register nomination form approved July 20, 1975). All these mantels are probably derived from patterns by Minard Lafever. (See photos 8 and 8a.) Thus, there seems to be a carefully integrated combination of Georgian, Federal, and even incipient Greek Revival elements in this distinctive design.

George Bourne, a native of Calvert County, Maryland, came to Kentucky around 1807. At this time Bourne purchased 910 acres of land located on Brashears Creek north of Taylorsville. (He also was involved in a number of real estate transactions in the area, in particular with a Charles Davis). Although local tradition dates the construction of the house to about 1815, it seems likely from stylistic features--and specifically the probable debt to Lafever's book published in 1829 that it was built closer to 1830. He is also credited with the construction of another Spencer County brick house, similar in design, dating from the same period. From Spencer County Court records it is evident that Bourne operated a mill and distillery on the property. In 1835 Bourne sold his land and improvements to Frances L. Hornsby, trustee for son-in-law, Elisha Estes. In 1844 the property became the subject of a lawsuit; the estate was described in the testimony given by Elisha Estes:

This farm was handsomely improved and contained about 296 acres, and the purchase was made about the beginning of 1836. Estes proceeded to improve the place purchased of Bourne, but in the ensuing August a distillery burnt down, and he (Estes) proceeded to erect another establishment on it at an expense of

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about six or seven thousand dollars, by which he ground his own grain and manufactured from two hundred and fifty to three hundred gallons of whiskey per day. The care, labor, and fatigue of superintending and carrying on said steam mill and . . . distillery for some three years had greatly impaired the health of Estes and . . . in 1839, at his instance and advice trustee sold the Bourne place and improvements to one Nathaniel Marders at the price of \$20,000.00. (Action #3988 Louisville Chancery Court).

Evidently Marders failed to pay the purchase price and so in 1844 Estes filed suit against him. The lawsuit resulted in the public auction of the property. The property is described in the 1844 public sale notice: "A tract of land containing 296 acres 2 rods and 16 poles together with the distillery, engine and all the machinery and appurtenances lying and being in Spencer County, Kentucky north of Brashears Creek and near the town of Taylorsville, and being the same land sold by George Bourne to Frances L. Hornsby, (trustee, & c.)" (Public Sale, March 20, 1844). It is believed that George W. Anderson purchased the house and farm at the auction.

G.W. Anderson, born in Lincoln County, Kentucky, in 1814 was the son of John and Charity Elliott Anderson. When George Anderson was four years old they moved to Nelson County. Anderson attended a private school in Bloomfield, Kentucky. In 1833 he moved to nearby Taylorsville and became a successful merchant. Anderson engaged in merchandising for ten years, until 1844 when he purchased the Bourne property and took over the operation of the farm. He also served as the Spencer County sheriff for seven years. Although Anderson's death date is not known, he is still shown as the owner of the property in the 1882 Atlas of Spencer County (Map 2).

The house remained in the Anderson family until 1933 when it was sold to Thomas McClain. The present owner purchased the property from McClain in 1973, and is completing the restoration of the structure.

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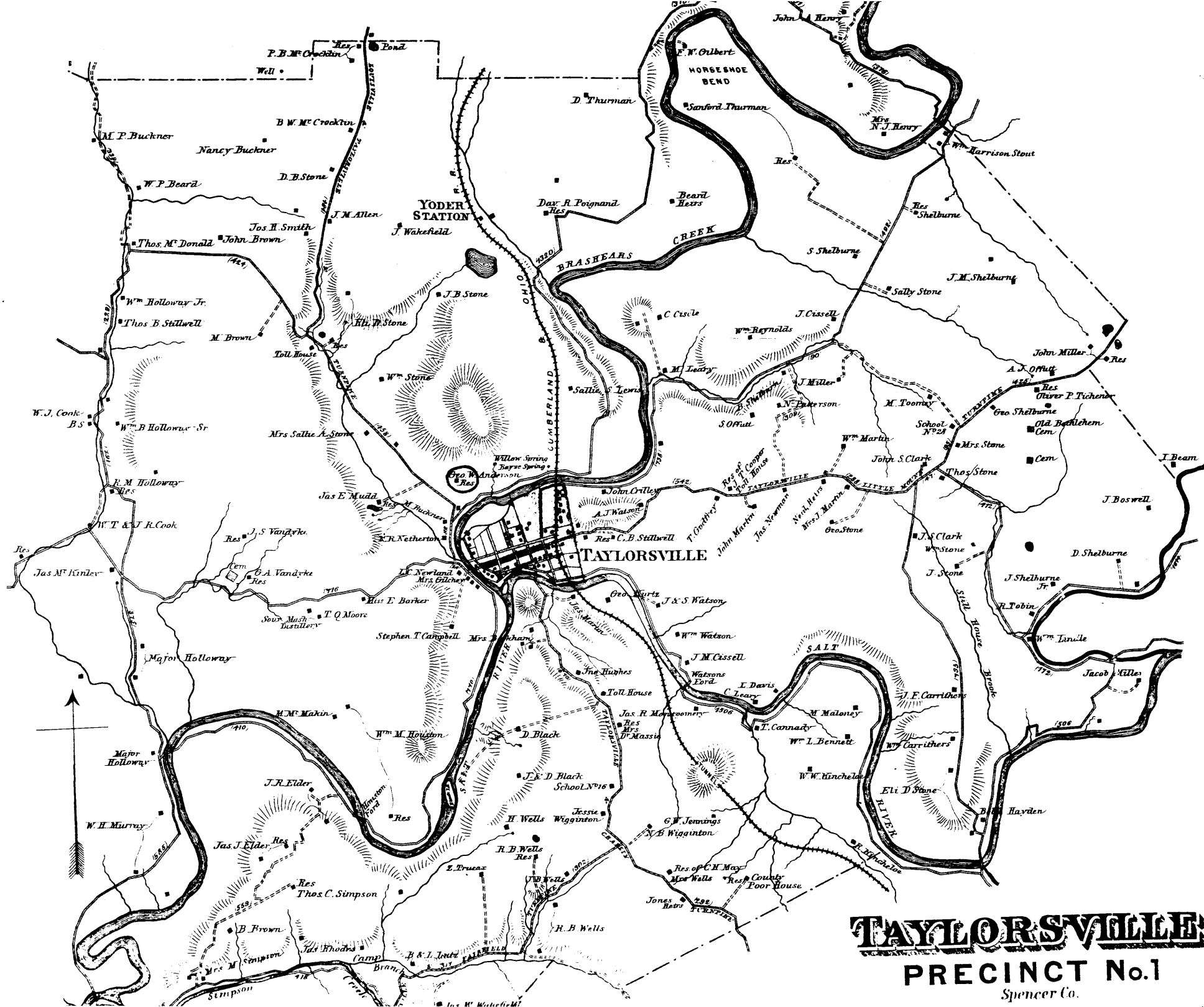
ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Perrin, W. H., J.H. Battle, and G.C. Kniffen. Kentucky. A History of the State. Louisville and Chicago: F.A. Battey and Company, 1888.

Wood, Edith. Middletown's Days and Deeds. By the same author, 1946. Photo 8a Art Bulletin.

Additional information from Robert L. Durning, Jr.



TAYLORSVILLE

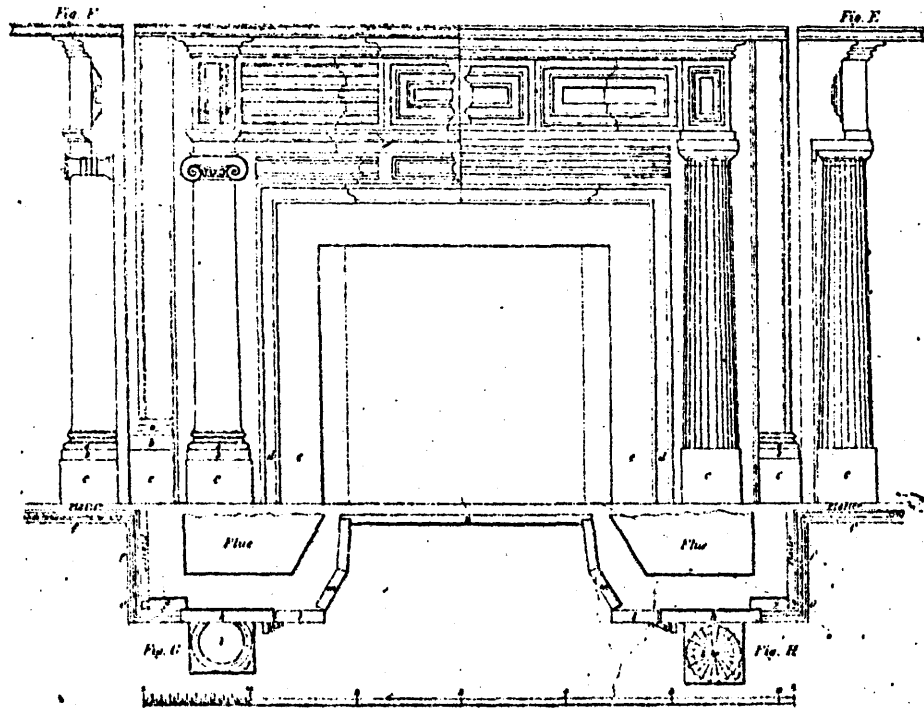
PRECINCT No. 1

Spencer Co.

Bourne-Anderson House and
Distillery Site,
Taylorsville, Spencer County.

Map 2. **DEC 2 1977**
An Atlas of Nelson and Spencer
Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia:
D. J. Lake and Co. 1882.





11. Mantel designs. La-
fever, *Young Builder's*
General Instructor,
1829, pl. 46, figs. E-H

Bourne-Anderson House and
Distillery Site,
Taylorsville, Spencer County.

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Photo 8a AUG 9 1977
Lancaster, Clay. "Adaptations
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