

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ck-100

8200268

1. Historic Name (s) <b>John Martin House</b> Original Owner <b>John Martin</b> Present Name		22. ADD/County <b>Bluegrass CLARK</b>																										
3. Owner's Name <b>Mrs. Grave Tebbs</b>		23. Zoning Classification Magisterial District																										
4. Owner's Address <b>26 W. Hickman, Winchester 40391</b>		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75') <b>Ford</b>																										
5. Location <b>Basin Springs Road</b>		25. UTM Reference <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">16</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">8</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">9</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">5</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Zone</td> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Easting</td> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Northing</td> </tr> </table>		16	7	3	8	2	4	0	4	2	0	7	9	5	0	Zone			Easting				Northing			
16	7	3	8	2	4	0	4	2	0	7	9	5	0															
Zone			Easting				Northing																					
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		26. Prehistoric Site Historic Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object Structure <input type="checkbox"/>																										
7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		27. District Name: <b>Building</b>																										
8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>		28. Significance Evaluation																										
9. Local Contact/Organization		29. Status National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> National Register <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Survey <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>3/28/74, 2/17/77</b> Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>																										
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		30. Theme Primary <b>architecture</b> Secondary <b>agriculture</b> Other																										
11. Architect		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																										
12. Builder		32.																										
13. Date <b>c. 1820</b>		ATTACH PHOTO																										
14. Style																												
15. Original Use <b>dwelling</b>																												
16. Present Use <b>dwelling</b>		Roll No. <b>Roll 8 #7-20</b> Picture No. _____ Direction _____																										
17. Condition Interior <input type="checkbox"/> Exterior <b>good</b>		33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____																										
18. Description <b>Residence, brick. Three-bay, double pile, hipped roof, interior end chimneys, plain Greek Revival, Italianate details. One-story veranda has recently been removed</b>		34. Prepared by: <b>ACW-CMT</b>																										
19. History <b>Spencer sold land to John Martin in 1818; house built c. 1820 Stanley Fouchee Tebbs purchased land and house in 1877 for son, George Gibson Tebbs. (form Ck-97 and National Register site, Springhill for more historic information) Place passed to George Owings Tebbs and then to George Graves Tebbs and to John Hood Tebbs. Called Oakshade in 1877 Atlas owned by W. W. Taylor, 249 acres</b>		35. Organization <b>KHC</b>																										
20. Significance <b>This Greek Revival house has the square massing and large square lintels which predominated in this period. Brackets and a recently-removed Victorian porch were later additions. Most likely built around 1820, the house was the home of John Martin. This was the second generation over</b>		36. Date <b>Fall 1976</b>																										
21. Source of Information <b>Kathryn Owen Mrs. Grave Tebbs</b>		37. Revision Dates 38. Staff Review																										

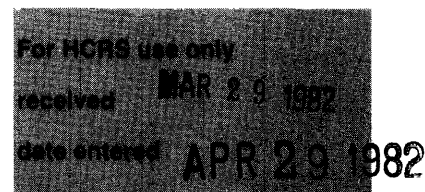
20. con't

of Martins. The first built in the Lower Howard's Creek area. However, during the period of major building and economic expansion, the wealthy and established second generation moved into the Bluegrass areas of the county. Both John and Dr. Samuel Martin settled in this area. Later in the century, this farm was a prime stock raising farm owned by W. W. Taylor and was comprised of 249 acres. The third generation of the prominent Tebbs and Taylor families purchased the land and this became the Tebbs farm.



**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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**

Martin, Major John, House  
(Clark County Multiple Resource Area) addition  
historic Multiple Resources of Clark County, Addition (Major John Martin House)

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Basin Springs Road NA not for publication  
city, town Pine Grove MC  vicinity of congressional district 6  
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. and Mrs. Eugene E. Freeman, Jr.  
street & number Box 543  
city, town Winchester NA 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 Ky. has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date 1977  federal  state  county  local  
depository for survey records Heritage Division, Department of the Arts  
city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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

The Major John Martin House, a late eighteenth century brick dwelling, is located six miles west of Winchester in rural Clark County in the heart of the Bluegrass region of the state. The house is set on a 220-acre farm, attractively placed some 650 feet from Basin Springs Road, which it now formally faces.

The house is 1 1/2 stories, of brick set on a stone foundation. Displaying classical symmetry, the house is five bays in width with a central entrance. Originally the residence faced southeast toward Todd's Road; however, in the late nineteenth century when Basin Spring Road was built, the formal entrance of the house was reversed. The features of the dwelling bespeak its early construction date (ca. 1790), such as the use of Flemish bond brickwork on the southeast facade and gauged jack arches over all the bays. The central entrances on the front and rear walls are identical, with four-light transoms above the doorways and six-pane lights to each side. On the northeast wall are two small upstairs windows centered between the chimneys. On the southwest wall there are also two upstairs windows but they are set slightly off center.

The house exhibits a double-pile central passage plan. A pair of identical enclosed staircases--one located on each side of the north end of the hall--is perhaps the most distinctive feature of the interior. Much of the original interior woodwork has survived, including chair rail, door surrounds, cupboards, and mantels.<sup>1</sup> The trim is plain but attractive in its simplicity.

On the second floor are four rooms, two with original mantels. Original chair rail also survives. An unusual feature is a small room situated above the stairway with an opening on each side, permitting a view of the stairway.

In 1970 the present owners completed a restoration of the main block, adding wings to give needed additional space. The sensitive rehabilitation was designed by architect Charles Bayless to preserve as much of the original fabric of the main block as possible without disturbing the floor plan. One-story wings were attached to the side walls of the main block and were recessed from the front facade. The wings extend southward, projecting from the rear wall to give maximum space without detracting from the front (north) facade facing Basin Spring Road.

The house sits surrounded by open fields. The frontage and rear yard, composed of about ten acres, is largely enclosed in fencing. No historic outbuildings remain. Tennis courts are located 139 feet to the rear

<sup>1</sup>The southeast parlor is the only room on the first floor that does not retain its original mantel.

## 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 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** ca. 1790

**Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located in one of Kentucky's earliest settled areas, the Major John Martin House survives as a remarkably intact example of Federal styling. This one and one-half story brick residence conforms to the classical symmetry characteristic of late 18th-early 19th century buildings constructed in Clark County. Original interior woodwork, including door surrounds, mantels, chair rail and baseboards indicate plain but well-executed Federal-period embellishments typical of the period. The residence was built c. 1790 by Major John Martin (1748-1837), Clark County's first sheriff and a judge of the quarterly court. Martin's son, Dr. Samuel Martin (1791-1881), a noted local physician and founder of the Clark County Medical Society, also resided in the house.

Born in Albermarle County, Virginia, John Martin was a captain in the second Virginia Line during the Revolutionary War and was promoted to major at Yorktown. He emigrated to Kentucky in 1784, residing first in Jessamine County (1784 to 1788) and eventually settling on Boone Creek in the Pine Grove community. The area selected was exceedingly fertile, indicated by its early settlement.<sup>1</sup>

In 1792 Martin was appointed Clark County's first sheriff by Governor Isaac Shelby. Local prominence was also indicated by the fact that he served as quarterly court judge from 1796 to 1798. Upon his resignation from the court, Major Martin retired to private life to devote his time to farming. He raised shorthorn cattle and was one of the early importers of purebred stock.

Major Martin's son Samuel is said to have been born in the house January 17, 1791. He studied medicine at Transylvania University in

<sup>1</sup>Situated in the Bluegrass region of the state, Clark County was established in 1792 out of parts of Fayette and Bourbon counties and was the fourteenth county formed in the state (Collins, p. 129).

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED** **UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property 11.3 acres

Quadrangle name Ford

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

**UMT References**

A 

1	6
Zone	

7	3	9	0	8	0
Easting					

4	2	0	8	7	9	0
Northing						

B 

1	6
Zone	

7	3	9	2	4	0
Easting					

4	2	0	8	5	9	0
Northing						

C 

1	6
Zone	

7	3	9	0	6	0
Easting					

4	2	0	8	4	5	0
Northing						

D 

1	6
Zone	

7	3	8	9	0	0
Easting					

4	2	0	8	6	4	0
Northing						

E 

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

F 

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

G 

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

(See #7, last two paragraphs.) Surrounded by open fields, the house sits about 627' from Basin Spring Road, with domestic space defined by fencing on two sides. (See Map 2.) The boundary is drawn to include the frontage to Basin Spring Road, which is important.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries** (continued)

state	NA	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gloria Mills, National Register Coordinator

organization Heritage Division, Arts Dept. date November 6, 1981

street & number 2200 Capital Plaza Towers telephone 502/5647508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mary Cronan Spill

title SHPO date 3/11/82

**For HCRS use only**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Melvin Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

date 4/29/82

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

Clark County, Kentucky  
John Martin House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

of the house. Approximately 509 feet to the northeast of the house, beside a barn, is the Martin family cemetery containing the graves of the builder, John Martin, his wife, and other family members. An early stone fence encloses the graveyard.

In order to preserve the ambience of this rural resource, the boundary is drawn to encompass sufficient footage on the four sides of the house to establish its agricultural/rural identity. Therefore, the nominated area extends 90 feet from the southwest wall of the main house; 139 feet from the southeast wall; 627 feet to the south side of Basin Spring Road; and 553 feet from the northeast wall to include the family cemetery. A frame barn, built around 1950 and located just north of the cemetery, is the only outbuilding included in the nomination.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

John Martin House  
Clark County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Lexington, after which he moved to Winchester, county seat of Clark County, and practiced medicine there from 1815 to 1825. Martin later moved to the family home in Pine Grove where he opened a medical office. According to local sources, the office was placed in a building on the northwest side of the house. (There is an outline of a door visible in the patched brick on the northwest side to enable easy access to Dr. Martin's office. It is thought that the wing was razed in 1900.)

The main block of the house has experienced few changes. The interior trim is remarkably intact. Because of its value as a local interpretation of the Federal style, and its state of preservation, the Major John Martin House serves as one of Clark County's important historic resources.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Major John Martin House  
Clark County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Bibliography

- Bedford, A. Goff. Land of Our Fathers. History of Clark County, Kentucky. I. Newport, Ky.: Quality Litho Co., 1958.
- Collins, Kewis and Collins, Richard. History of Kentucky. II. Berea: Kentucky Imprint, 1976 (originally published 1874).
- Freeman, Jr., Mrs. Eugene (Tabitha). Owner, John Martin House. Notes.
- Jillson, Willard R. Early Clark County. Frankfort, Ky.: Robertson Printing Co., 1966.
- Lewis, William T. The Lewis Family in America. Louisville: Courier-Journal, Job Printing Co., 1893.
- "Martin, Dr. S.D." Clark County Democrat. Obituary, May 11, 1881.
- Owen, Kathryn Owen. Old Graveyards of Clark County, Kentucky. New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1975.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Old Homes and Landmarks of Clark County. Winchester, Ky.: By the Author, 1967.
- U.S. Library of Congress. The Genealogical Record of the Martin Family. Library of Congress Code CS71 M38 1857.
- Wood, Reverend Edgar. History of Albemarle County. Bridgewater, Va.: Green Bookman, 1932.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Multiple Resources of Clark County, Addition

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 2

For NPS use only  
received \_\_\_\_\_  
date entered \_\_\_\_\_

(Verbal Boundary Description) continued

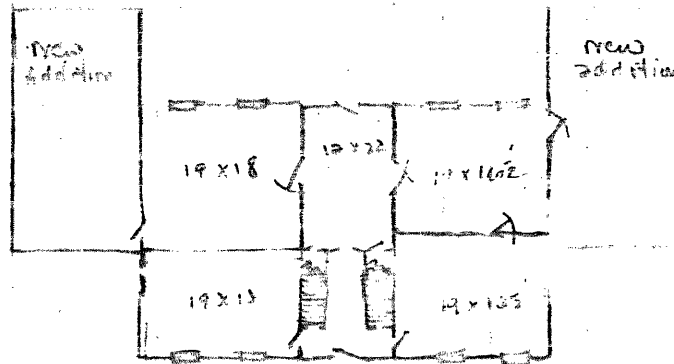
to the visual aspects of this rural/agricultural resource; using the fencing as the southwest boundary; extending eastward to include the barn and Martin family cemetery; and southward to encompass domestic space, stopping just north of the tennis court.

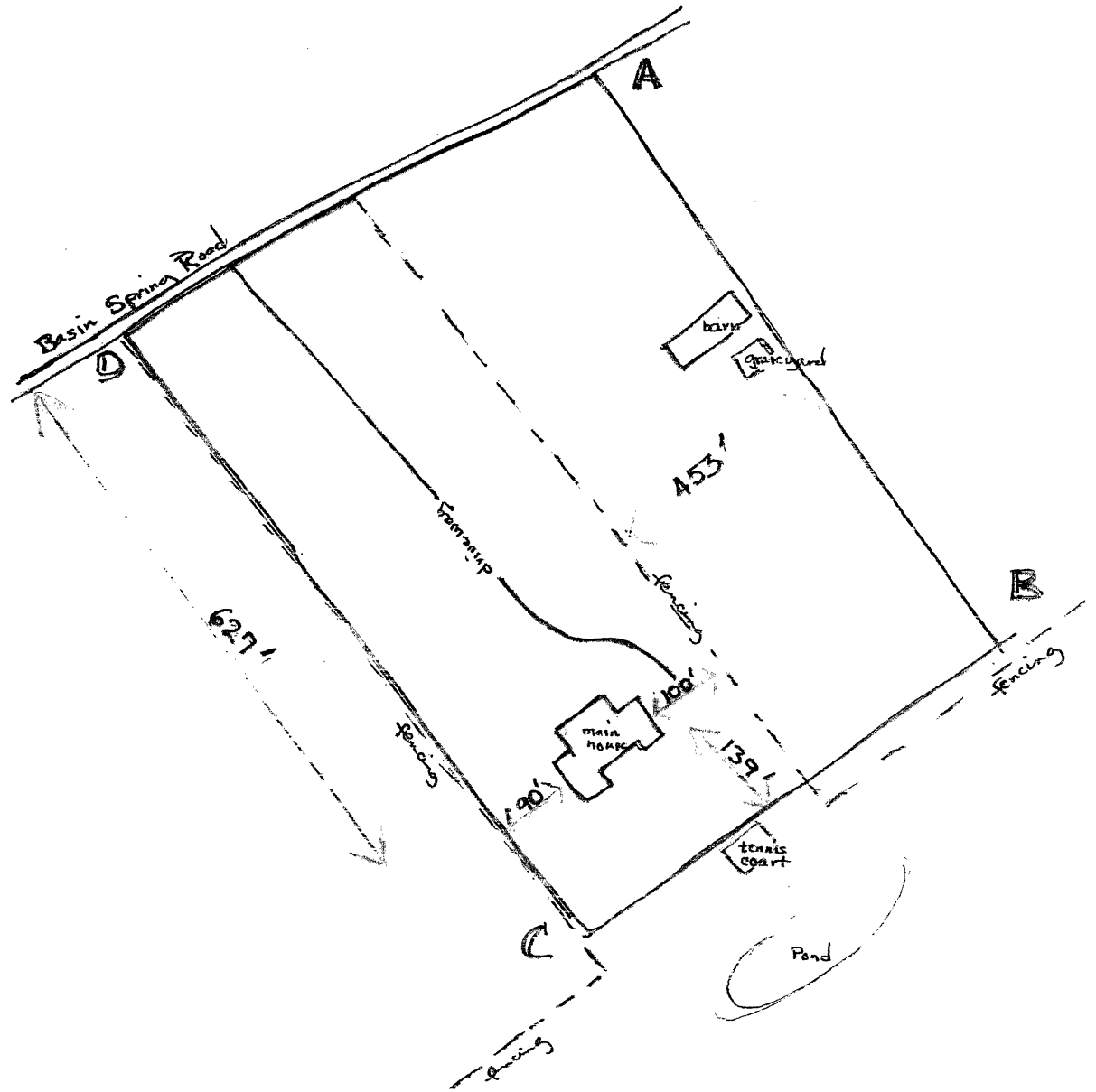
Beginning at Point A (see maps 1 and 2) on the south side of Basin Spring Road 600' northeast of the Martin house entrance drive, the line proceeds 800' southeastwardly to Point B. Turning in a southwestward direction, the line extends some 743' to Point C, turning northwestwardly 800' to Point D on the south side of Basin Spring Road. The boundary then extends along the south side of Basin Spring Road in a eastwardly direction to Point A and the place of beginning.

Clark County  
John Martin House  
Not to Scale

1981  
John Mills

Map 1





↑ North

--- Broken line indicates fencing

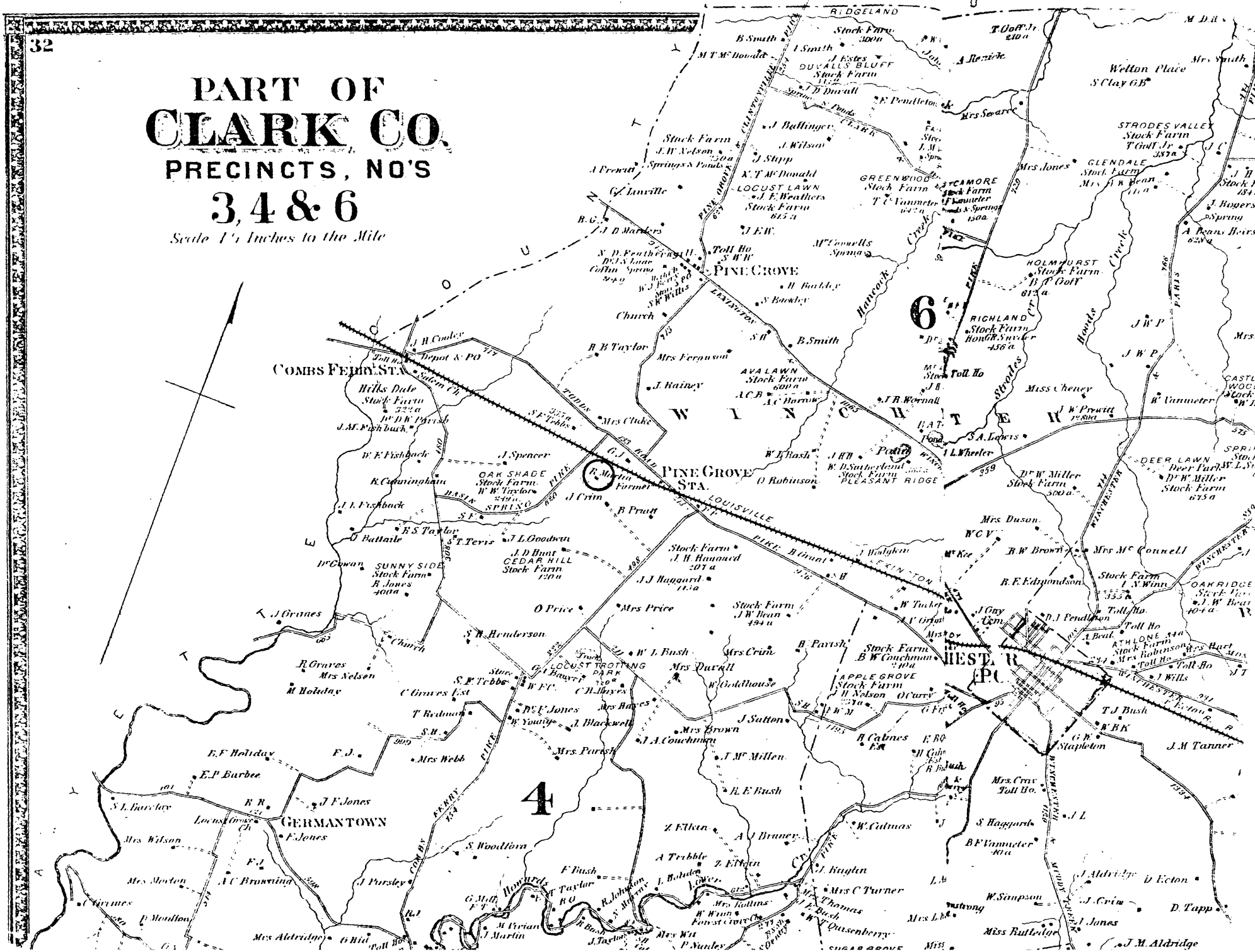
major John Martin House  
Clark County, Kentucky

Map 2

Not to scale 1981 gm

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

Scale 1 1/4 Inches to the Mile



John Martin House  
Clark County, Kentucky

Atlas of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette,  
Jessamine, and Woodford Counties, Kentucky  
D.G. Beers & Co., Phil: 1877

Map 3