

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JAN 22 1976

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

APR 22 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

\*\* Bellevue (General James Taylor House)

AND/OR COMMON

Vonderhaar &amp; Stetter Funeral Home

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

335 East Third Street

\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Newport

\_\_ VICINITY OF

04

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

21

Campbell

037

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Vonderhaar &amp; Stetter Funeral Home

STREET &amp; NUMBER

335 East Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Newport,

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Campbell County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Alexandria

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site General Taylor chose for his homestead and later mansions is a small rise overlooking the Ohio River toward Cincinnati at the western end of what was to become Newport. Newport is separated from Covington to the west by the Licking River and to the east from the late 19th-century town of Bellevue by a stream labelled Covert Run on the 1883 Atlas. It was on this run that Taylor and his family established the sawmill and other manufactories that supplemented their wealth derived directly from the land. Between the Run and the western edge of the town as originally laid out the Taylors lived in a kind of family compound, which still existed as late as 1883. Apparently shortly after the death of Colonel James Taylor in 1883 the estate was sold off and developed into a then-fashionable area known as "Mansion Hill" after the Taylor House. The mansion still looms above its surroundings, even though Third Street has been cut through just to the south of the house, leaving it somewhat stranded overhead at the top of a steep flight of steps. In the 19th century, however, the estate extended in all directions, and there was an elegant set of gates at the junction of Third Street and Washington Avenue.

The original house faced toward the Ohio River (see photo 1). It was basically a Greek Revival brick cube with flanking wings extending east and west from the south ends of the sides. The main block had a low hipped roof crowned by a square monitor (that still provides a superb view in all directions). The brick walls have alternating quoins at the corners and edging the slight central projection of the north front, which has a low pediment above the rather plain cornice. It is not known whether the walls were originally stuccoed, although they appear to be so in the early photograph. An attempt in the 1920s to restucco the surface led to the unfortunate and ineradicable scoring of the surface of the bricks without successfully preventing the scaling off of the stucco the following winter. (It is possible that the stucco was not originally applied until the ca. 1890 alterations, although other houses in the area were stuccoed in the early 19th century.) There were shutters above and blinds below.

The exterior of the house in fact has few Greek Revival features: there are no pilasters or colossal portico; the quoins might appear to be a carry-over from the late Georgian period, rather than the intervening Federal. There was, however, a handsome one-story Ionic porch with a well-proportioned entablature and slightly wider center intercolumniation. A single window was centered on either side of the entrance feature, and there were paired windows in the centers of the sides; that on the west side had a delicate balcony linking them with steps to the ground. The windows of the service wing in the early photograph are unevenly spaced. An oriel extends from the upper story of the end of the wing, and a delicately supported porch is glimpsed facing south at the edge of the rear. How the two service wings were linked at the rear, where a U-shaped court may have resulted behind the main block, is not known.

(continued)

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Bellevue (General James Taylor House)

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ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

Behind the portico the house had an elaborate vestibule, most of which survives although it now leads to the reconstructed service wing rather than the entrance. There are interior pilasters at the corners and a ceiling pattern of small squares. A triple door leads into the central hall, which is climaxed by a superb semispiral staircase at the far (south) end, whose curve projects into a semicylindrical bay. The door under the stair (now the main entrance) has a transom with the Taylor family arms and motto ("Ready and Faithful") in amber painted on frosted glass. The handsome staircase is of cherry and mahogany. The ceiling of the hall is divided into three recessed squares with chandelier medallions (photo 6).

The double parlors on the right (west) are reached through single six-panel doors with small silver knobs, keyholes, and hinge covers. The two rooms, each 20 by 20 feet square, are divided by full-height Corinthian columns. This order is carried around the entire room in simplified form, with shallow pilasters flanking the windows, doors, and fireplaces, and meeting at the corners. The cornice serves rather convincingly as an entablature, and there is a stony quality to the details. The mantels are stone, very plain (although with lovely Rococo Revival castiron grates). The plaster ceilings are exceptionally fine throughout, with recessed panels framed by egg-and-dart moldings (See photos 4 and 5).

The two left (east) rooms are separated by wide sliding doors. They have equally elaborate plasterwork. The original aperture leading to the east wing remains at the right side of the fireplace in the southeast room (now filled in with an art glass insert). The chandeliers in the east rooms are probably original: superb confections of copper, brass, and probably German silver, labeled on the gascocks "Cornelius & Baker/Philadelphia."

Doorframes have the typical Lafever-inspired anthemion and acroteria. A band of stylized ornament that suggests a capital for the pilasters continues across the top of the recessed windows (one can see from the turn-of-the-century photograph the problems that the obvious original lack of provision for draperies has caused the Edwardian decorator, photo 4).

The second-floor treatment is much less elaborate, although there are magnificent Greek Revival closets flanking the upper vestibule that led from the upstairs central hall onto the balcony over the original front portico. These built-in cupboards, of fine wood, have the usual vertical panels on the doors, and an architectonic superstructure utilizing wave moldings to maximum effect. They may well be unique.

Over the spiral staircase is an exquisite circle outlined on the plaster. The door to the vestibule retains red-and-amber glass panels decorated with grapevines, and the stair window may have had similar glass at one time. The mantels are plain, although at least one has a low Tudor pointed arch rather than the straight lintel usual in Grecian designs. Double closets seem always to have been provided for between the two east bedrooms, which also

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allows for the narrow staircase to the third-story (lit by small windows in the main entablature) and monitor above.

Panels under the rear (south) windows indicate that there must have been a two-story gallery between the wings originally--perhaps similar to the existing porches.

The construction of the house is formidable. The solid exterior walls are 24 inches thick; the stone foundation 35". The interior partitions are 22" thick. The floors between the first and second stories are the most extraordinary feature, being comprised of channelled 12" x 16" square cypress blocks three inches thick, with 8 inches of sand below (presumably for fire- and sound-proofing), for a total thickness of 18 inches.

About 1890 the house was reoriented toward the south to face the newly developing area along 3rd Street. The east wing was removed altogether and the west wing was, amazingly, apparently moved intact to the north side of the main block and attached over the original entrance facade. The brickwork seems identical to that of the main block, but it may have been taken apart and rebuilt using the original bricks, if that is possible. The interiors do have typical 1880s or '90s woodwork with incised or grooved lines and angular details. There is an interesting breakfast room behind the double parlors, with an extended bay window. The rear portion of the wing, formerly the kitchen, has the usual tongue-in-groove dado of the period, although it has been converted into offices and lavatories.

At the same time a rather elegant frontispiece was applied across the south facade. The entrance is through the outward-curving cylinder of the staircase, an unusual effect. This is disguised by the triple-arched central feature, which is flanked by two-story galleries on exceptionally slender cast-iron supports. As seen in an old photograph, the first story has a fairly tall round arch with foliate carving in the spandrels and panelled piers. The second has an arch with an opening of similar size, but recessed frame, stouter piers, and a balustrade, and smaller spandrels. The attic story has an elliptical fanlight over double glass doors giving onto a shallow curved balustraded balcony. The gable returns and there is a prominent keystone over the fanlight. The overall effect of the ensemble is Queen Anne or Free Classic, and no doubt conceived by a fairly sophisticated architect, perhaps from Cincinnati. (photos 2 and 3).

The building remains in remarkably unspoiled condition. The scored surface of the brick has been mentioned above; its stripping seems also to give too much prominence to the quoins. The spandrel carving has been lost, and horizontal siding has been applied to the attic gable. The elaborate latticework shown in the c. 1890 photograph has been replaced with standard latticework. Otherwise, there is no visible difference.

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A minimal number of alterations have been made to the interior to accommodate the business and the residence of the present owners, who have made every effort to document and restore whatever features they can. In conclusion, it should be reasserted that the interior is one of the most impressive Greek Revival ensembles in Kentucky; the exterior of the main block has been modified only superficially and with a certain character of its own. There are no outbuildings.

# 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 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 mid-1840s; altered 1880s BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house, once known as Bellevue, was built probably in the mid-1840s by General James Taylor. The location of the present house -- a magnificent Greek Revival mansion that underwent a change in orientation and other alterations in the 1880s -- was the site of two earlier houses built by Taylor. James Taylor (1769-1848), one of the first settlers of what is now Campbell County, in 1795 donated and surveyed the land for the town of Newport of which he is considered the founder. He also served as the first Campbell County court clerk from 1794 to 1824. Over the years he amassed a fortune in various business enterprises, including land speculation in Ohio and Indiana. During the conspiracy trial of Aaron Burr in 1807, Taylor was a witness for the prosecution. Taylor also achieved distinction as a military figure, serving as quarter-master general in the Northwestern army in the War of 1812. At General Taylor's death in 1848, his son, Colonel James Taylor, inherited the property and lived there for many years. Colonel Taylor was a highly learned and respected Northern Kentucky businessman, and the mansion long the area remained the social center of the state.

James Taylor, born in Carolina County, Virginia, in 1769, was the son of Ann Hubbard and James Taylor, a high sheriff under the British crown and a Revolutionary War soldier. (General) Taylor was educated at private schools including the Rappahannock Academy. In 1788 he was commissioned surveyor of Carolina County by Governor Peyton Randolph.

James Taylor with his brother Hubbard Taylor made his first trip to Kentucky in 1791 to survey his father's lands located on the Ohio at the mouth of the Licking River at what is now Newport, Kentucky, across from Cincinnati, Ohio. After spending a month in the area, they returned to Virginia. A year later, James Taylor returned to the 180-acre tract of land in Kentucky with three servants, cleared part of it for farmland, and encouraged the settlement of the remainder. At this time he built a modest log house overlooking the Ohio River which he called Bellevue. During the same year, Taylor along with Jacob Fowler, an early settler, surveyed and plotted the first road from Newport to Lexington, Kentucky (now U.S. Highway 27).

When Campbell County, Kentucky, was formed in 1794, Taylor was elected the first clerk of both the county and the quarter sessions court and served in this position until 1830. A year later the town of Newport was established by an act of the Kentucky General Assembly. Taylor donated and laid off lots on one hundred sixty acres of his own land for the town. His father deeded him 1500 acres of land,

(continued)

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"General James Taylor" and "Colonel James Taylor," The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky of Dead and Living Men of the Nineteenth Century. Cincinnati: J.M. Armstrong & Co., 1878, pp. 29-310.  
Centennial Edition. The Cincinnati Times-Star. Thursday, April 15, 1940.  
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(continued)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	7	1,6	8,5,0	4,3	3,0	2,6,0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					

B 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					

C 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					

D 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					

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, Mary Cronan

October, 1975

ag

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

401 Wapping

CITY OR TOWN

STATE  
Kentucky

Frankfort

## 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Eldred W Meeter*

1/15/76

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Acting*

*[Signature]*

DATE

4/22/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*

DATE

4.12.76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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including the town site, as a wedding present in 1795.

In that year James Taylor married Keturah Moss Leitch, the widow of Major David Leitch, a Scotsman, Revolutionary War soldier, and founder of Leitch's Station, five or six miles from the mouth of the Licking River. Keturah Moss, a native of Virginia, emigrated to Kentucky with her elder brother-in-law, the Reverend Augustine Eastin, in 1783 and settled near Lexington. A year after Major Leitch's death she married General Taylor. They lived in the log house at the mouth of the Licking River.

Several years later, Taylor began locating land warrants across the Ohio River in Ohio and Indiana. Continuing to buy and sell land in this manner, Taylor soon amassed a fortune. In 1804 he was commissioned by the Federal government to build the United States barracks and arsenal in Newport.

Taylor was called as a witness for the prosecution in Aaron Burr's treason trial in 1807. In 1806 when rumors were rampant concerning Burr's and Harman Blennerhassett's plot to secede the Louisiana Territory from the United States, James Taylor wrote a letter to his relative James Madison, at that time Secretary of War under Thomas Jefferson, warning him that he suspected a scheme on the part of Burr to separate the West from the Atlantic States. In his letter, found in The Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society (1936), Taylor described a recent visit of Burr's to the Newport area: "I did not see Colonel Burr when he was here as I was on a visit to my friend in the interior of the state; but from the tenor of his conduct there is not a doubt in my mind but himself & some other men of talents in the United States are at the bottom of this publication [The publication Taylor refers to is a series of articles published in the Ohio Gazette under the pseudonym "Querist," which was believed to have been written by Harman Blennerhassett. The articles discussed the possibility of separating the West from the East.] & scheme for a division of the Union, ... from many expressions & actions I have no hesitation of his [Burr's] object"(p.114).

By 1812 Taylor felt the need for a larger house to meet the needs of his growing family. A mansion house, said to have been designed by Latrobe, was constructed at the site of the original one (and of the present mansion). During the War of 1812, Taylor served as quarter-master general of the northwestern army and as paymaster general in General Hull's army. Hull's invasion of northern Canada resulted in his surrender and loss of the whole territory of Michigan. He surrendered Detroit to the

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British General Brock, August 1812. General Taylor along with other officers opposed Hull's action of surrender and refused to help in drawing up the articles of capitulation. At General Hull's court-martial in Albany, New York, General Taylor was a witness against him.

After the war, Taylor returned to Newport. In addition to continuing his other business concerns, he founded the Newport Bank and served as its president. His other interests included ferry service across the Ohio between Cincinnati and Newport, and a large sawmill adjacent to the estate, the Newport Manufacturing Company.

In March 1842 the Taylors' second home was set on fire by a recalcitrant slave and burned to the ground. To replace it, it is believed that General Taylor built the present brick mansion. In his will, written in 1844, he states: "My beloved wife is to have the use of four rooms in the house if rebuilt in my lifetime" (Will Book A, Campbell County Courthouse, Alexandria, Kentucky). Lewis Collins in his History of Kentucky (1847) describes Bellevue and the elder Taylors:

The mansion of these venerable pioneers, "Bellevue," one of the most beautiful and costly in Kentucky, has long been distinguished for elegant hospitality. . . . In course of a long life General Taylor has accumulated a very large estate, and is probably one of the most extensive landed proprietors of the west (p.227).

The house was a large brick Greek Revival cube overlooking the Ohio River from a small rise. A small portico enclosed the entrance, and a semicylindrical projection at the rear housed the staircase. Fine plasterwork distinguished the superb double parlor and other rooms. Two large service wings extended to the sides. This must have been the largest and grandest residence in northern Kentucky in its day, and one of the earlier full-scale Grecian domestic buildings, although certain features of the exterior retained a Georgian (rather than the intervening Federal) character.

An unusual feature of the new house was a tunnel which extended from the basement of the house to the river landing. The purpose of the tunnel was to enable goods delivered by the river to be brought directly into the house through the basement without disrupting the household. According to tradition the tunnel was later used as an underground railroad. General Taylor was a member of the African Colonization Society (founded in 1817 to purchase the freedom of slaves and to colonize them in Liberia) and an advocate of emancipation. By the terms of his will he freed most of his slaves, with elaborate provisions for their well-being. (The tunnel was partially destroyed in the 1937 flood and consequently filled in with dirt.)

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General Taylor was a staunch supporter of the Whig party and voted in his last Presidential election for his second cousin, General Zachary Taylor, on the day of his death, November 4, 1848. His estate totalled over four million dollars, a vast sum at that time.

General Taylor's son, Colonel James Taylor, inherited Bellevue and most of his father's business concerns at his death. Colonel Taylor was born at the first Bellevue in 1802. At an early age he attended a private school operated by the Reverend Robert Stubbs, two miles from Newport. In 1813-1814 Taylor attended the school of Joseph Buchanan near Lexington, Kentucky, which followed the Pestalozzian method of teaching. Four years later he entered Transylvania University in Lexington while Dr. Horace Holley was president. Upon graduation, in 1822 he entered Transylvania Law School. Although he was admitted to the bar in 1825, he never practiced law. After obtaining his law degree, Taylor actively joined in his father's business concerns. His legal knowledge proved to be of invaluable use in dealing with problems which arose in land speculation in Ohio and Indiana. As a result, Taylor became a highly respected businessman. Also a banker, he was one of the founders of what became the American National Bank of Newport.

In his youth Taylor joined a Thespian society and played roles in several amateur productions. This histrionic ability was apparently much admired by his contemporaries.

Colonel Taylor was married in 1824 to Susan Lucy Berry. She was the daughter of William T. Berry, Secretary of State (1824). In Armstrong's Biographical Encyclopedia (1878) Taylor is described in this way:

Colonel Taylor is a speaker of uncommon ability, and would have made his mark at the bar or in politics, had fortune been less favorable. On the stage, he would have been equal to Forrest, or any of the great actors who have attained the highest histrionic fame; and, in any avocation, would have been successful (p.310).

On the 1883 Atlas Colonel Taylor is listed as the owner of the property, which remained a private estate between Newport and Bellevue to the west. Aside from the mansion, it contained numerous other dwellings, a toll house, ice house and pond. He and other members of the family still owned houses and property scattered all around the communities rapidly developing along the Ohio in the late 19th century. It was for Colonel Taylor's daughter, Mary Keturah (Mrs. Thomas Laurens) Jones, that the great house now known as Mount St. Martin, located on a dramatic hilltop site

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south of Newport, was built in the 1850s. (See the National Register nomination form approved at the State level on April, 2, 1974.)

At Colonel Taylor's death in 1883 the property was evidently inherited by his son John Barney Taylor, himself a prominent banker, who sold the house in 1888. At this time the mansion was considerably altered; like many houses in the area, the front was moved from the river side to the opposite side to face the town. One of the service wings was eliminated and the other was moved (an extraordinary feat) to the north side, extending toward the river from the original entrance. A new entrance was made under the projecting bay of the staircase, and an elaborate three-story frontispiece with flanking two-story porches was applied to the south front. Few changes were made, however, to the interior which remains essentially intact, with outstanding Greek Revival plasterwork, painted glass, unique cupboards, and interesting structural features.

By 1919 the property had been much subdivided and built up with substantial dwellings right up to the mansion, which gave the area its nickname, "Mansion Hill." At that time the house was purchased by the firm of Vonderhaar and Stetter, under whose auspices it was converted into a funeral home. It remains in the sympathetic hands of the successors of that firm. In spite of encroachments, the site is still spectacular; from the belvedere atop the roof, the house seems to be at the focal point of the greater Cincinnati area, just as General Taylor must have intended.

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Property Bellevue (General James Taylor House)

76000857  
Campbell

State Ky. Working Number 1.22.76.2393

**TECHNICAL**

**CONTROL**

Photos 7  
Maps 1, sketch scout sheets. (#7-9)

OK pl  
2.4.76

**HISTORIAN**

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

ACCEPT  
CEBOVICH  
2.26.76

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

accept  
R. Corbryn  
3-5-76

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

Accept  
Colz  
3.31.76

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

accept  
Hump  
4.12.76

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered APR 22 1976

Federal Register Entry 6-1-76

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74





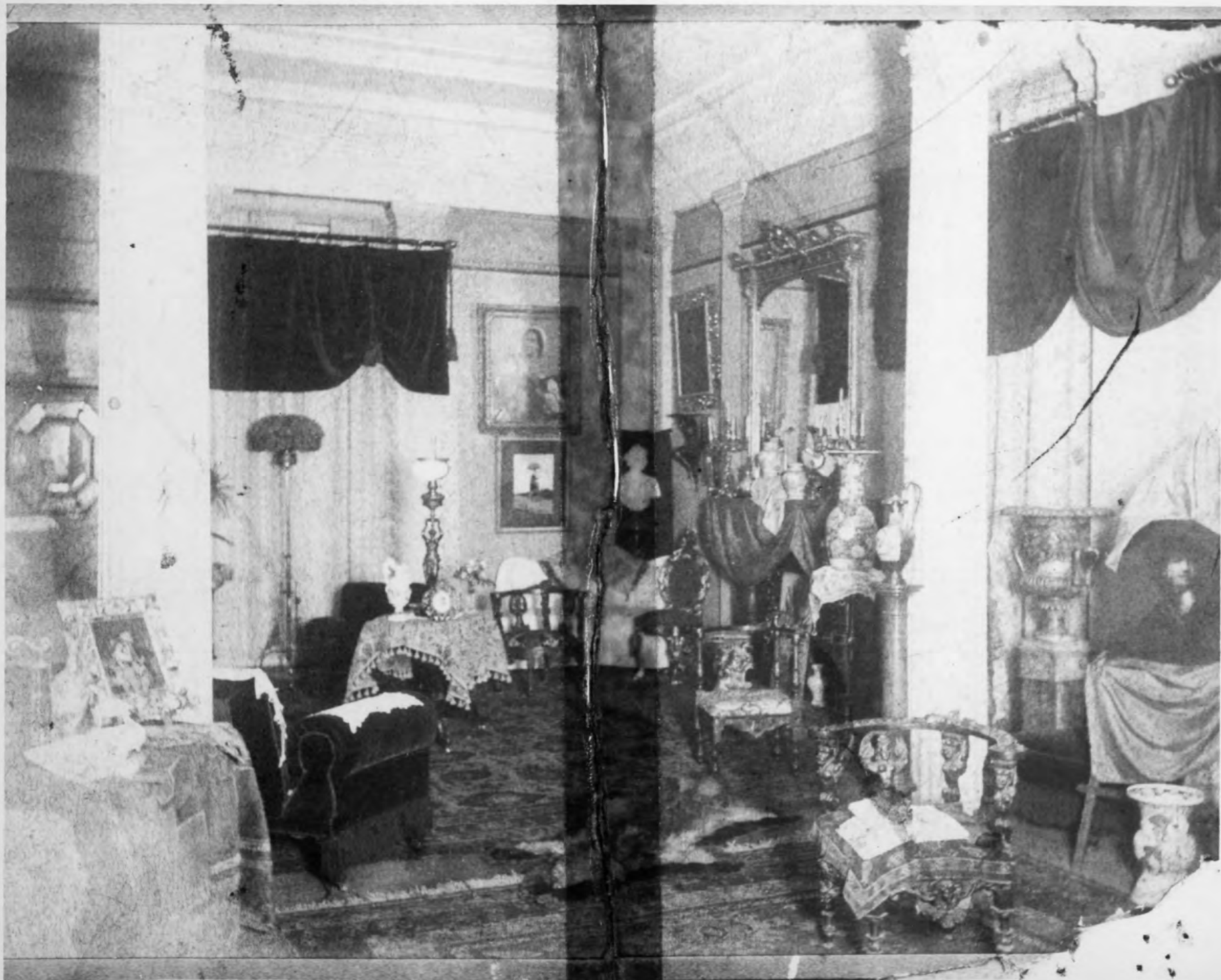


VONDERHAAR & STETTER

FUNERAL HOME

833

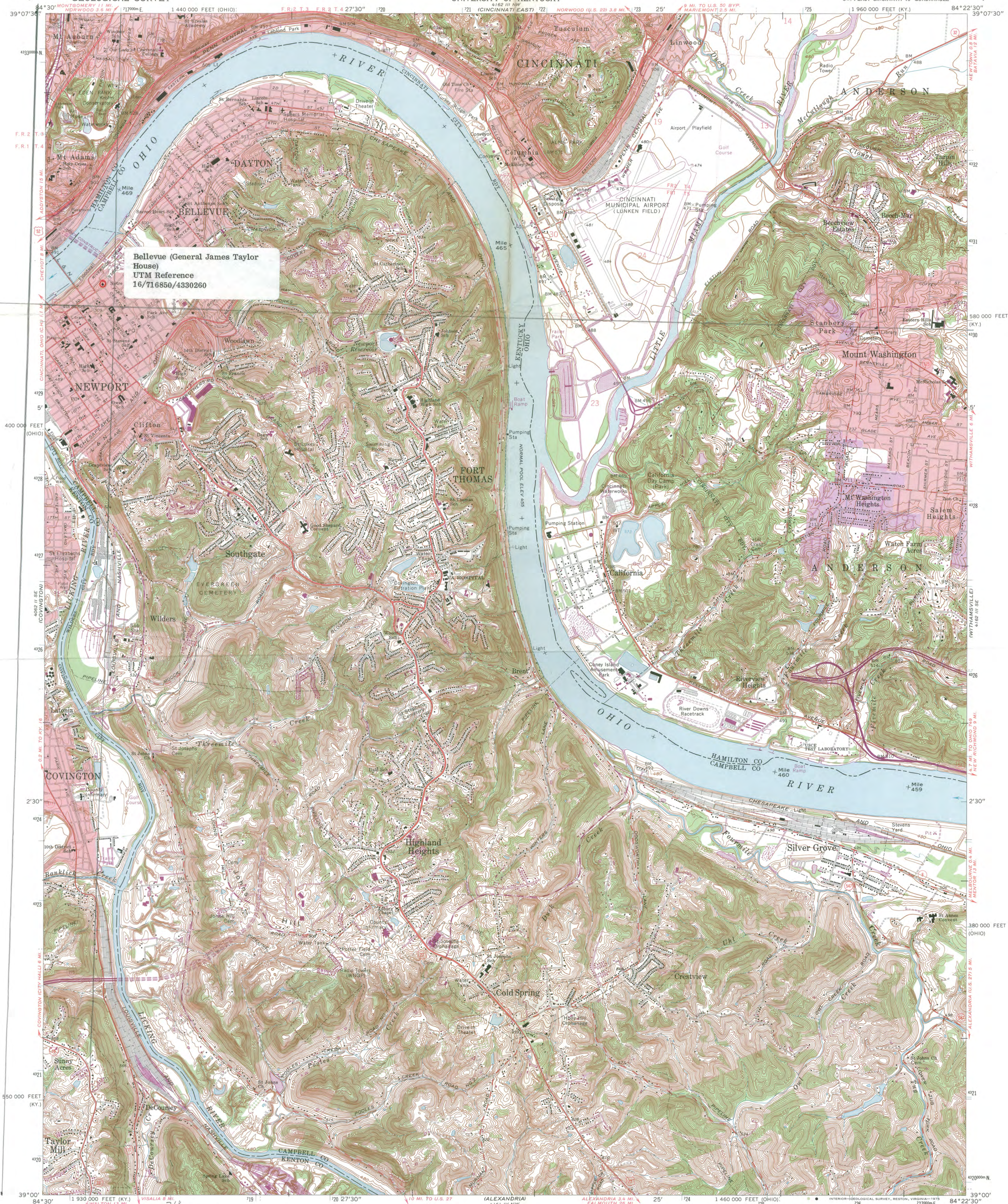






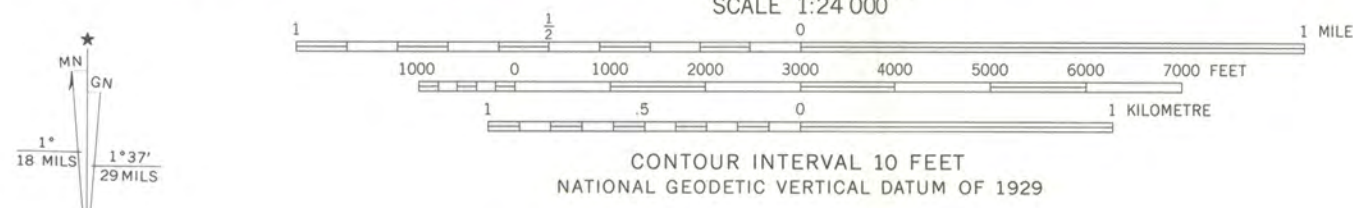






Bellevue (General James Taylor House)  
UTM Reference  
16/716850/4330260

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and City of Cincinnati  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1949, and in part by the City of Cincinnati  
Field checked 1951, 1952, and 1954. Revised 1961  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Kentucky coordinate system,  
north zone, and Ohio coordinate system, south zone  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position  
of the low water line as determined from U.S. Corps of Engineers  
Ohio River charts, surveyed 1913, and supplementary information  
Area east of the Little Miami River lies within the Virginia Military District  
Area west of the Little Miami River lies within the Between the Miamis  
Land lines based on the Great Miami River Base. Dotted land lines  
established by private subdivision of the Symmes Purchase



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt

U.S. Route      State Route

Interstate Route

NEWPORT, KY.-OHIO  
SW/4 EAST CINCINNATI 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3900-W8422.5/7.5

1961  
PHOTOREVISED 1970 AND 1974  
AMS 4162 III SW-SERIES V852

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken  
1970 and 1974. This information is not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas





BELLEVUE

CITY OF NEWPORT

EAST NEWPORT

BELLEVUE

SUMMER HILL

FINCHTOWN

NEWPORT

HILL

REVER

Corent Run  
Toll House  
Col. Jas. Taylor

Col. Jas. Taylor  
Ice Houses

Col. Jas. Taylor  
Res. of Jas. W. Abbott

Col. Thos. Jones

Jas. Taylor  
Will House

A. Perry  
Jus. Glenn

Geo. Parsons  
E. & J. Doelin

W. Robinson & Co. Distillery

Lindsey

Mrs. F. M. Tucker

A. S. Berry  
Green Houses

Slaughter Houses  
A. Spran  
Jos. Wright

Kentucky Highland House  
Cro. Wiedemann  
John P. ...

Mrs. A. H. Shaler

P. Brinsterhoff  
W. S. ...

Evergreen Cemetery  
Imagord

W. M. Crew Res.  
Wm. Conklin Res.  
John E. ...

W. S. ...  
Wm. Lear

P. Ryan  
Est. of J. P. Young

Wm. Conklin Res.  
John E. ...

J. W. Guthrie  
W. ...  
L. Pfeiffer

Fitch

J. T. Williams

Mrs. J. Taylor  
Stevenson

W. Hanna

Mrs. Lyle  
Thos. Vicker

Post Office

Col. Van West

Jacob Lerman  
Turnpike

Judge W. J. Perry

F. Helm

Frank Helm

R. Porter Res.

Jas. Taylor  
City

H. Raughter

J. P. ...

Darl Stegner

W. Raughter

Jas. ...  
E. South

C. Weaver

Heirs of H. Stratman

A. Kriger

Mrs. E. ...

W. M. Crew Res.  
Wm. Conklin Res.

John E. ...

J. W. Guthrie  
W. ...  
L. Pfeiffer

Fitch



# Kentucky Heritage Commission

401 Wapping Street

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

January 16, 1976

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
18th and C Streets, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

The following nominations to the National Register of Historic Places were approved at the State level by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board on the dates indicated. As State Historic Preservation Officer, I recommend they be entered on the National Register. Additional comments on the status of the sites may be attached to the appropriate forms.

<u>Name and Location of Site(s)</u>	<u>Date Approved at State Level</u>
Bellevue (General James Taylor House), 335 East Third Street Newport	October 21, 1975

Your early consideration of these nominations will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*Eldred W. Melton*

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures (see List of Attachments)

Dr. William J. Murtagh  
January 16, 1976  
Page 2  
Bellevue (General James Taylor House)

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form  
Eight Continuation Sheets  
Two Property Maps  
Seven Property Photographs

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pepper, Owners  
Mr. Kenneth A. Reis, County Representative  
Mrs. Robert R. Hartman, CoRepresentative  
Senator John B. Breckinridge  
Senator Walter "Dee" Huddleston  
Ms. Lenore Bacon

*Fort Ancient Board*  
RAG CONTRACT



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered APR 22 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Bellevue (General James Taylor House)	Newport Campbell County
Hurricane Hall (Quarles-Thomson House)	Lexington Fayette County
Fulton County Courthouse	Hickman Fulton County
Lincoln County Courthouse	Stanford Lincoln County

Also Notified

Hon. Walter (Dee) Huddleston	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Wendell H. Ford	Mrs. Eldred W. Melton
Hon. M. G. (Gene) Snyder	Director, Kentucky Heritage Commission
Hon. John B. Breckinridge	104 Bridge Street
Hon. Carroll Hubbard, Jr.	Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Hon. Tim L. Carter	
Regional Director, Southeast Region	

R

# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Bellevue (Gen. James Taylor House) 2 OTHER NAMES: Vonderhaar and Stetter Funeral Home <sup>- sec</sup> 3 date of entry: 4-22-76 4 county code: 037

5 LOCATION street & number: 335 E. 3rd St. city / town: Newport vicinity of: KY state: KY county: Campbell 6 NPS REGION: SE

7 OWNER  PRIVATE  STATE  MUNICIPAL  COUNTY  MULTIPLE  FEDERAL (agency name) 8 ADMINISTRATOR:

9 EXISTING SURVEYS  HABS  HAER  NHL 10 FUNDED?  YES  NO 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: BY 12 SOURCE OF NOMINATION:  STATE  FEDERAL

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES, NAME: 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?  YES, NAME: 15 ACREAGE: 5 16 LOCAL  PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

18 CONDITION  deteriorated  altered  original site  excellent  ruins  unaltered  moved  good  unexposed  reconstructed  unknown  fair  unexcavated  excavated

17 features:  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  
 NOT INTACT-0  NOT INTACT-0  
 UNKNOWN-4  UNKNOWN-5  UNKNOWN-6  
 NOT APPLICABLE-7  NOT APPLICABLE-8  NOT APPLICABLE-9

19 ACCESS  YES-Restricted  YES-Unrestricted  No Access  Unknown 20 ADAPTIVE USE  YES  NO 21 SAVED?  YES 22 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?  yes

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:  ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2  COMMERCE-6  ENGINEERING-11  LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15  POLITICS/GOVT.-21  RECREATION-28  
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1  COMMUNICATIONS-7  ENTERTAINMENT-26  LAW-16  RELIGION-22  SETTLEMENT-29  
 AGRICULTURE-3  CONSERVATION-8  EXPLORATION-12  LITERATURE-17  SCIENCE-23  URBAN PLANNING-31  
 ARCHITECTURE-4  ECONOMICS-9  HEALTH-27  MILITARY-18  SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24  OTHER (SPECIFY)  
 ART-5  EDUCATION-10  INDUSTRY-13  MUSIC-19  SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30  
 INVENTION-14  PHILOSOPHY-20  TRANSPORTATION-25

23 CLAIMS: explain 'first'   
 'oldest'   
 'only'

24 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: residence CURRENTLY: commercial / funeral home 25 dates of initial construction: mid-1840s major alterations: 1890 historic events: 26 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

27 architectural style(s): Greek Revival with Neo-Classical Revival 27 architect: 28 master builder: 29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer: 31 interior decorator: 32 artist: 33 artisan: 34 builder/contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Brick, stuccoed; 2 1/2 stories, rectangular, low-pitched truncated hipped roof, interior chimneys, 1st- & 2nd-story center entrances, 2-story full-width porch with round-arched center portal and 3rd-story pediment & balcony, frieze attic lights, quoins; alterations & front porch addition, circa 1890. Greek Revival with Neo-Classical Revival elements. Built for General James Taylor, prominent early settler, county clerk & businessman, and Quarter master General in War of 1812. 3