

Powell/Smith House (Kalorama)

**Now 2833 Tremont Drive
Formerly 2020 Tyler Lane**

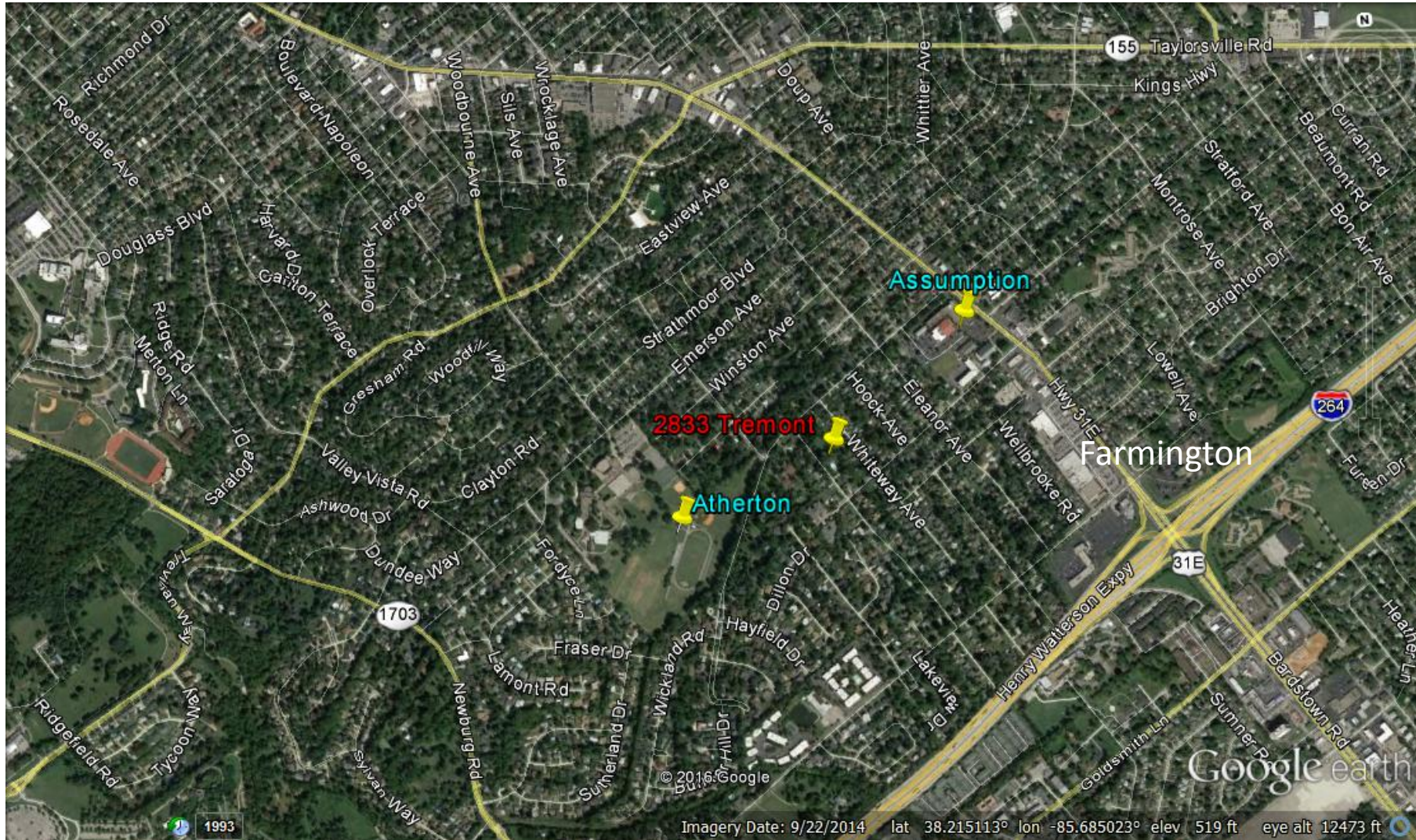
Petitioner's Landmark Criteria

Criterion	Comments
(a) Character, interest, or value in development or heritage of Louisville/KY/US, & (g) Relationship to other distinctive areas.	Pro-Union/Anti-Slavery amongst slave estates. 1840-60 pivotal to the Union KY staying in the Union.
(b) Historic/architectural/archaeological educational/economic/cultural heritage.	Kalorama Girls School - 20 years. What is there?
(d) Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Louisville Metro, Jefferson County, the Commonwealth, or the nation.	BBB Smith (1794-1884) - 1st Episcopal Bishop KY (1832-84) - 3 rd KY Super. P. Instruct. (1840-42) Schools 2,160>3,384; Students 4,950>10,221. - 9 th Presiding Bishop of US (1868-84)

SUMMARY

- 1836 Built by Dr. Llewellyn Powell, involved in Louisville Medical Institute.
- 1830s Benjamin Bosworth Smith is in Lexington, named Bishop of KY, establishes a theological seminary and girl's school. (Longest serving Episcopate in Anglican history - 1868 Presiding Bishop of U.S.)
- 1837 BBB Smith laid the cornerstone of St. Pauls' Episcopal Church.
- Speed family (Farmington) and Dr. Llewellyn were charter members.
- In 1840-42 BBB was KY Super. of Public Instruction w/schools increasing from 2,160 to 3,384 and students from 4,950 to 10,221.
- 1841 he relocated to Louisville, noting the purchase to Henry Clay in early 1842.
- Kalorama was active until about 1860 as a school, mostly girls.

2833 Tremont Drive Between Atherton and Assumption ½ Mile from Farmington

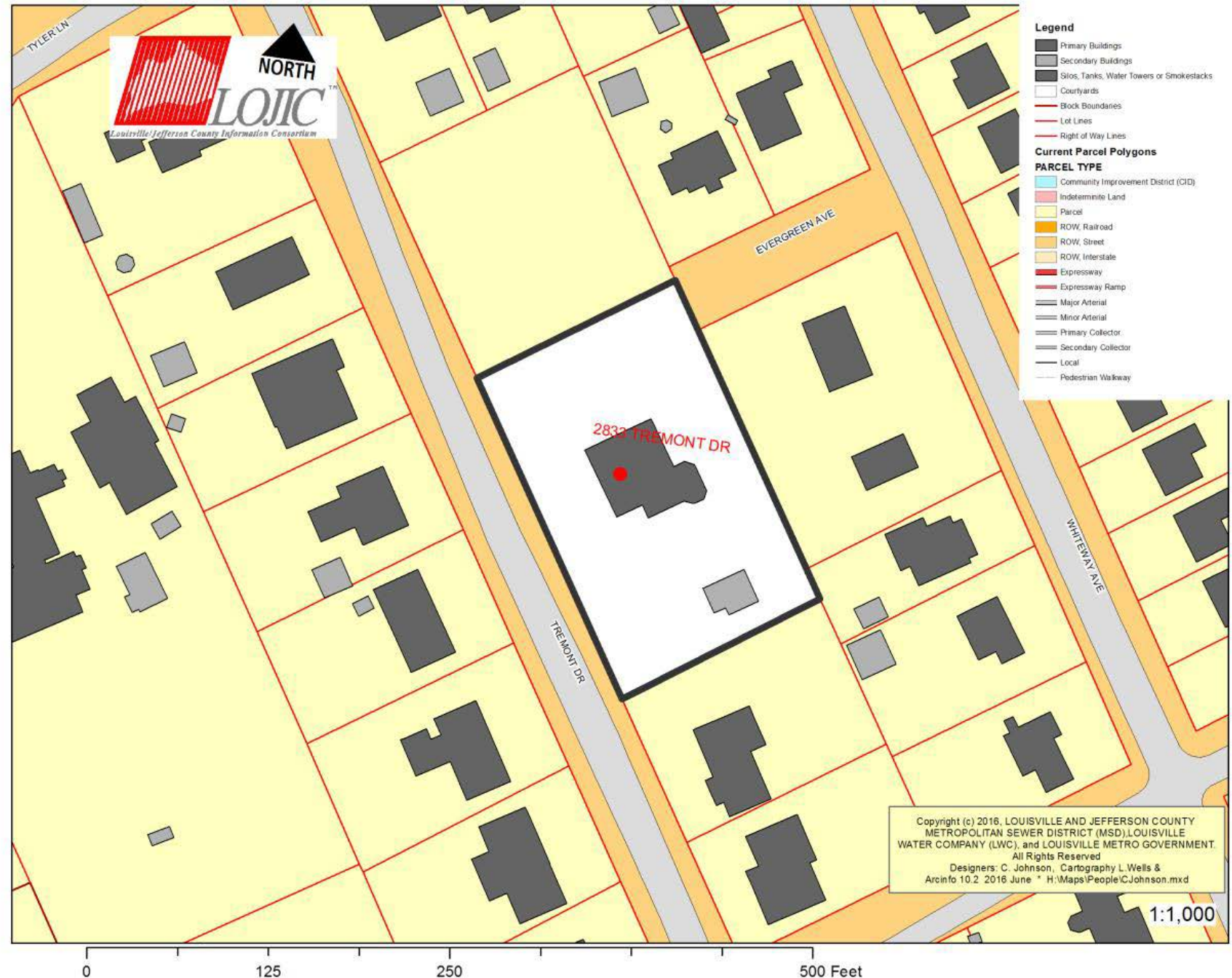


The Site

Boundaries -
2 lots held by
Urton's 50
years

Landmark
petition only
for house lot
Eligible

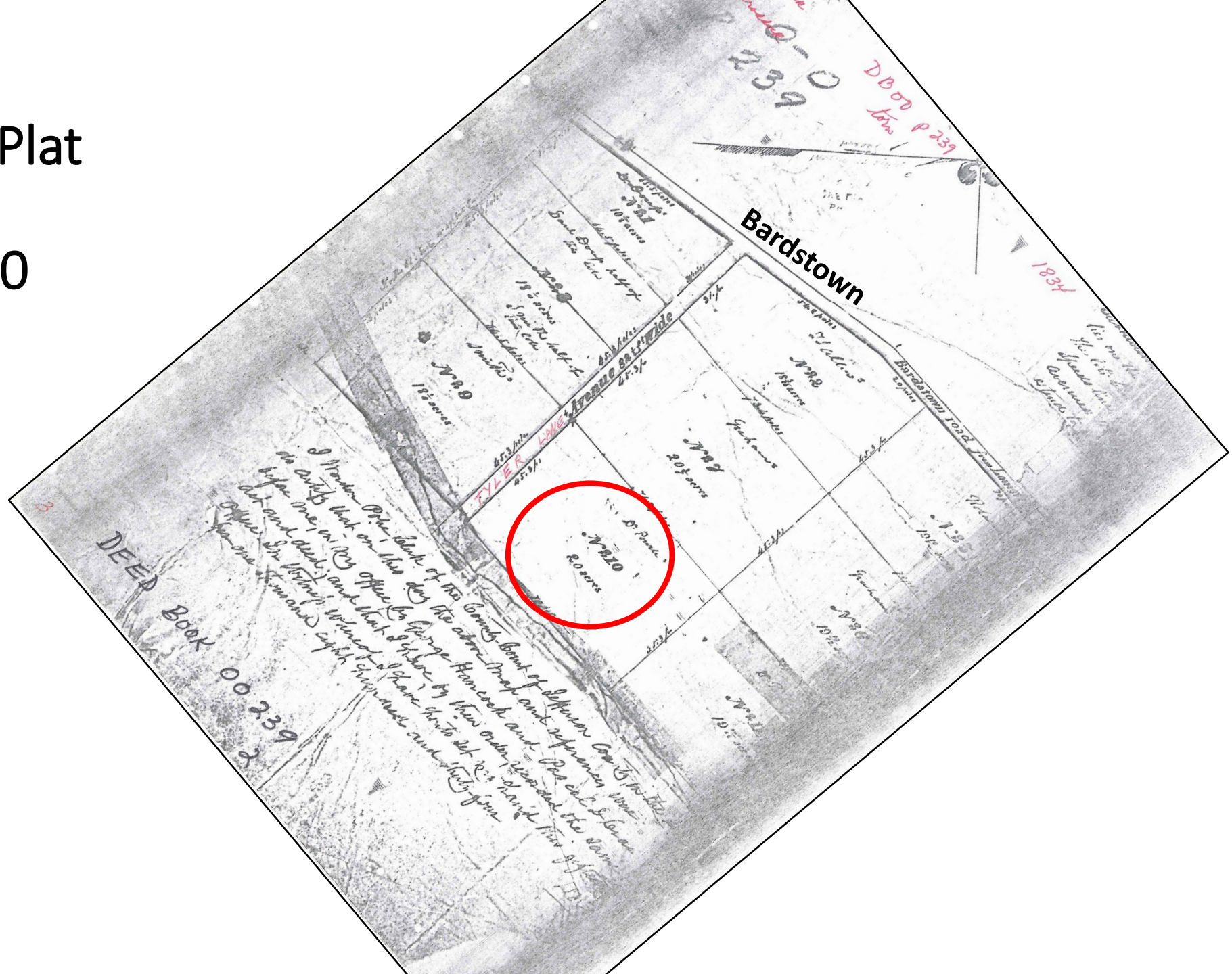
House and
Carriage
House found
eligible 2011



Trees – Sassafras 3 ft., Pecan 90 ft., Mulberry 50 ft.



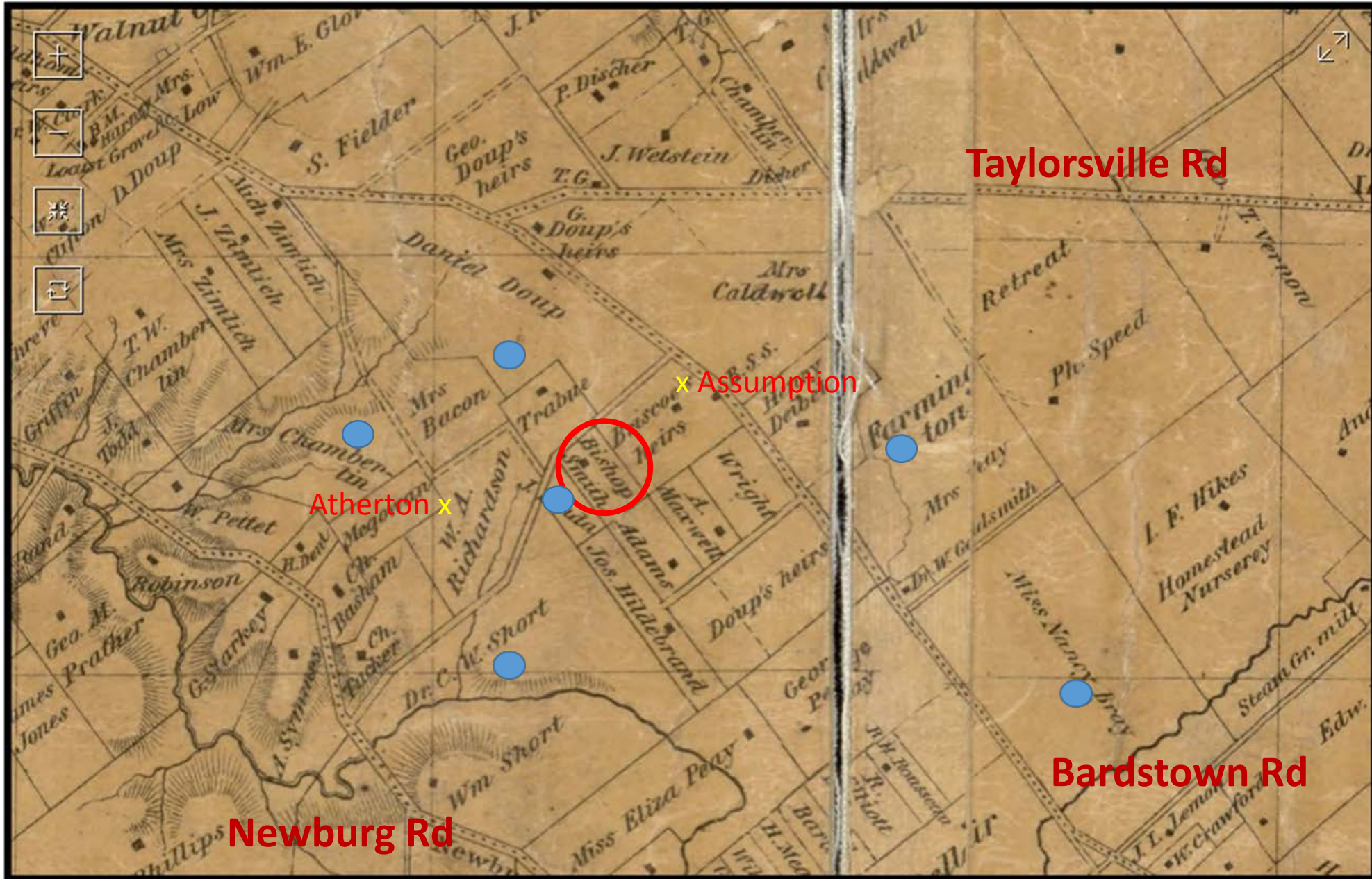
Hancock /
Craddock Plat
– 1834 –
Deed Bk 00
Powell,
lot # 10



Historic Context

- Bashford Manor (1796), Trough Springs (1802), Farmington (1816), Daniel Doup House, likely present
- Hancock and Craddock plat for speculation (1834)
- Panic of 1837 – delayed St. Paul's Episcopal construction
- Bardstown Turnpike completed - 1838
- Plantations – 1840 - L. Craddock 70 slaves, Hancock 31, Doups 22, Lucy Speed 55 – lots of slaves
- Lincoln visits Farmington (1841)
- Hayfield (by Ward, then Short) developed in 1840s
- Debate over slavery was a constant theme

Map



Bishop Smith's Principles

- 1836, Lexington Intelligencer* "Thoughts on the frequency of homicides in the state of Kentucky." BBB Smith sought statistics and found "From these returns, it appears that in 27 counties there have been, within the last three years, of homicides of every grade, 35, but only 8 convictions."
- Further, he points to slave-holding, as an exciting cause. "Are not some of the indirect influences of a system [slavery], the existence of which amongst us can never be sufficiently deplored, discoverable in these affrays? Are not our young men more heady, violent and imperious in consequence of their early habits of command? Is not intemperance more social, more inflammatory, more pugnacious where a fancied superiority of gentlemanly character is felt . . .?"
- Perhaps was not reappointed Superintendent of Public Instruction due his exposure during his travels that a Grand Jury had no members that could read or write, information not well received in all circles.

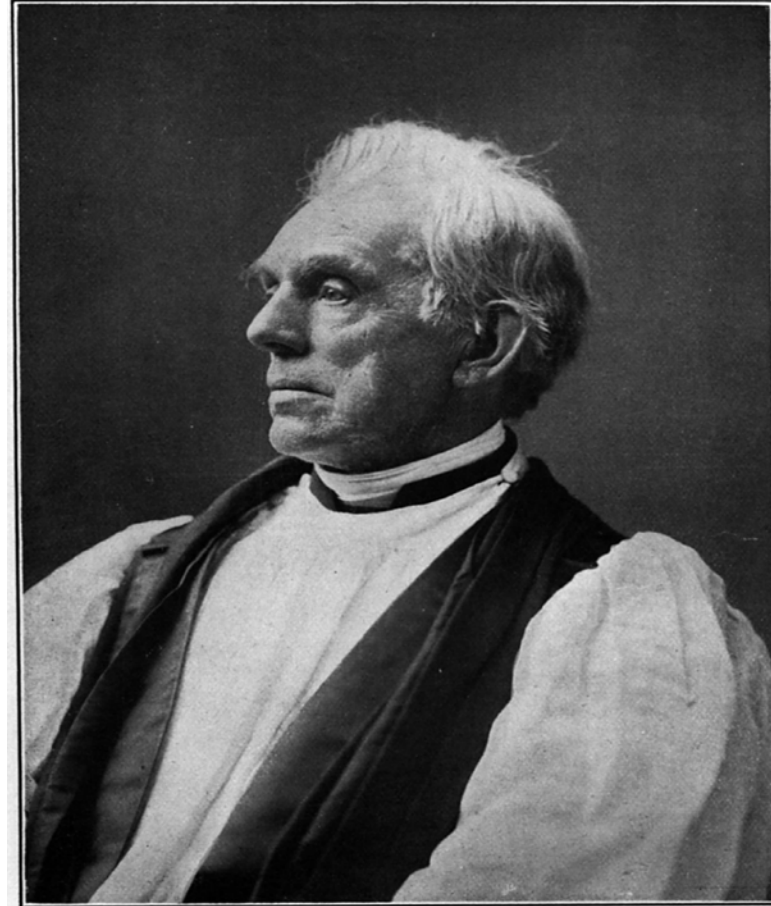
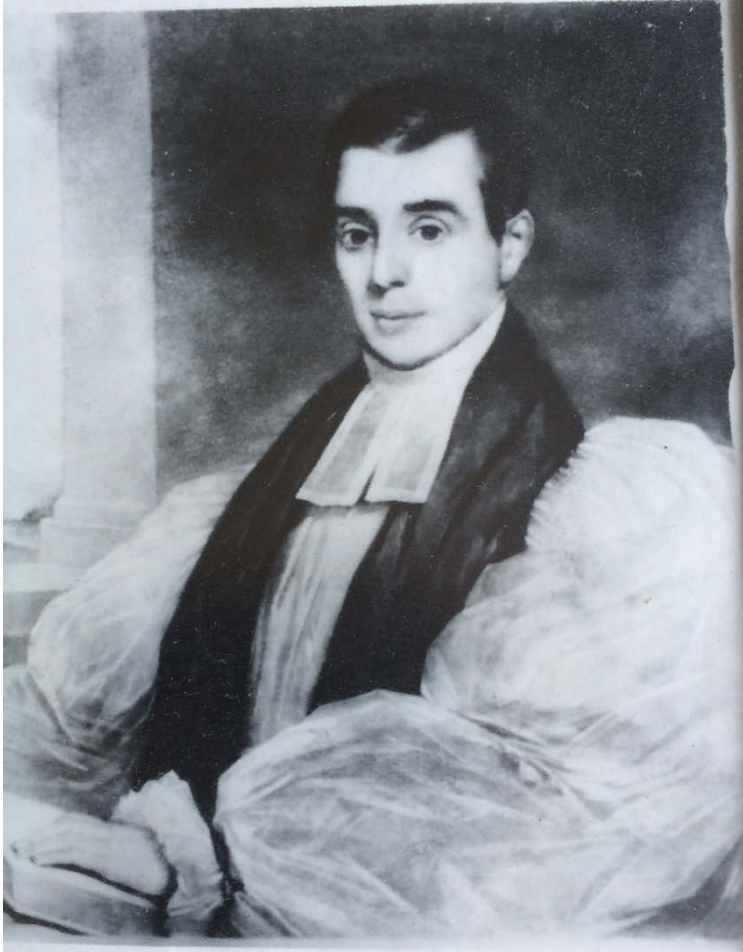
* *American Slavery As It Is: Testimony of a Thousand Witnesses*: Electronic Edition, Weld, Theodore Dwight, 1803-1895

- BBB Smith sought reappointment through Henry Clay, a fellow Unionist, January 3, 1842, writing, “if this be the cause of my removal” [pointing out illiteracy], he would “cheerfully submit. My sacred office long since taught me that the surest way of making an enemy is to tell him the truth.”
- BBB Smith was antislavery but evidently not an abolitionist (some clergy were sent to prison). He supported the American Colonization Society. Henry Clay was ACS president 1836 to 1849, and Lincoln supported it.
- *Fifty Years of Slavery in the United States of American* (Smith, Harry, 1891) reveals Bishop Smith’s strength of character. When he saw his neighbor Briscoe repeatedly whipping a slave he intervened. “On Friday morning the bishop of the college came over and after praying for the poor man informed Brisco if he ever struck that man another blow he would prosecute him to the full extent of the law. Such inhuman treatment as had transpired never was known in history. Brisco released him and never dared to strike him again.”
- 1865 Bishop Smith recruited a teacher for the school associated with St. Mark’s Episcopal Church (Colored), and ordained the first African American Episcopal minister in Kentucky.



GEORGE NEWTON.

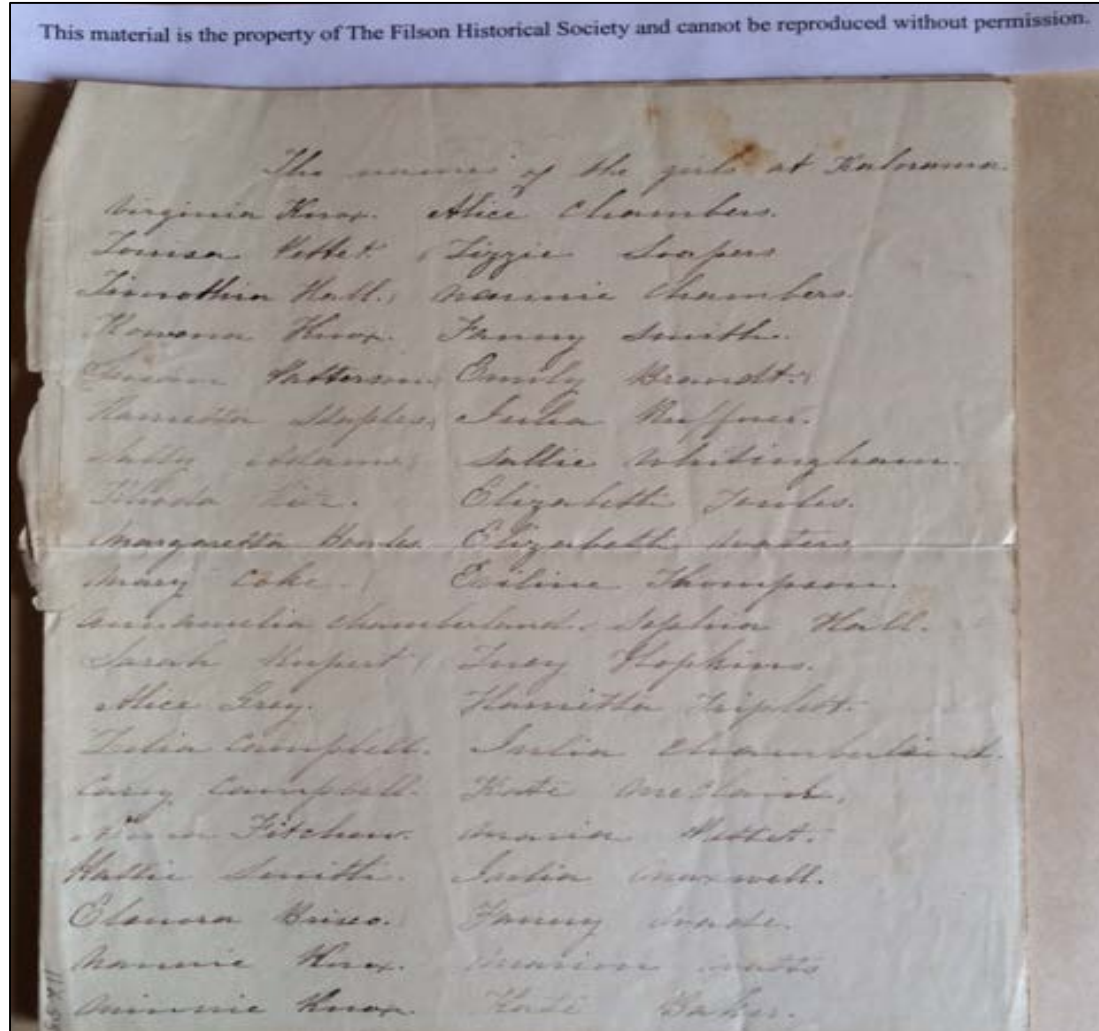
Bishop Benjamin Bosworth Smith 1794-1884



Photographs of the Bishop: left as a young man (courtesy of his great, great grand-daughter, **Burton Bosworth Smith**; painted by John Bernard Alwes of Louisville, 1832, on the occasion of his consecration. Hangs in the Episcopal Church Center in New York city); right in his maturity from <http://about.jstor.org/terms> (All use subject to <http://about.jstor.org/terms>)

Students in Schoolgirl's Notebook, 1849

Filson Club



Louisville Courier Ad - 1845

BISHOP SMITH'S SCHOOL.—The next term of this School will open on Wednesday, 11th 3d of September. An European lady is at that time to commence her residence in the family, who thoroughly understands and speaks the French and Italian language and who will give instruction in them, and also in Music and Drawing. There are still a few vacancies.

Kalorama, August 25th, 1845.

a26 d6

Harriet Staples (Douglass) Smith

- Harriet Staples (Douglass) Smith was daughter of Seth Perkins Staples (1776-1861), the first instructor at the private law school that became Yale Law School.
- Harriet ran the school when the Bishop traveled. She was held in high esteem. An 1844 Parent letter to daughter, "I cannot express too strongly my gratification at Mrs. Smith's account of your conduct and behavior. She is, I doubt not, a most estimable lady and preceptress for young ladies."
- Imagine the duties required to run a family, correspond with parents of students, & keep 20 people fed morning, noon and night.
- Plus, managing employees and farm functions.

BBB as a Renaissance Man

- Established more Episcopal churches in Kentucky than exist today.
- Brought the southern Episcopal churches back into the national church after the Civil War.
- He sketched churches during his travels, copied some to the walls of his study (now at Francis in the Fields) and carved scale models of churches. He was known by some as the “whittling bishop.”
- Four churches in KY are designated by historic highway markers.



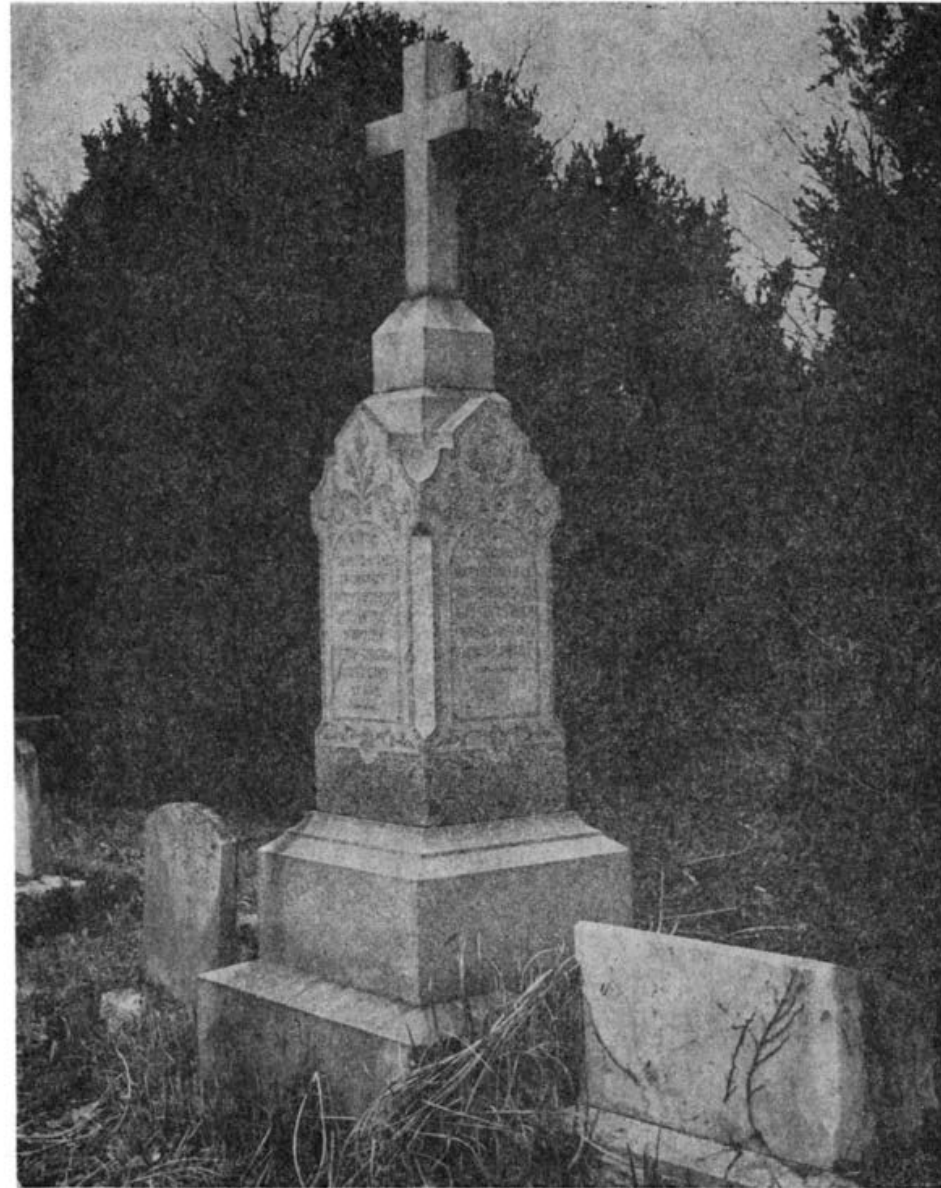
LANSDOWNE
Paintings from its Interior

BBB Smith Designed Churches – Harrodsburg & Frankfort

Both are on the National Register



Grave in
Frankfort,
Next to
Daniel
Boone



THE BISHOP'S GRAVE
Overlooking the Kentucky River at the Frankfort Cemetery

Memorial at Death by a Student

“Down through the vista of past years, other pictures came to me. There was a grand old Kentucky home, a home indeed, albeit a school. A dozen young girls were gathered around a central figure. He was our “guide, philosopher, friend.” We had come from far and near, to sit at his feet and learn the words of wisdom. To us, he unfolded the treasures of art, the mysteries of science, the riches of literature. Our lessons were scarcely those of other girls. We wandered into the forests of tropical luxuriances and by the little rippling streams gathered our flowers for studies in botany, while our master discoursed with a simplicity and charm we did not find in the books.

Out in the open air, amidst the perfume of roses and the freshness of dew, we had our lessons in astronomy—lectures without pedantry, suited to our young minds, yet replete with eloquence and learning (our beloved bishop was one of the most erudite astronomers of the age.)”

Archeology

- The 1836 Sale Description details – Frame Kitchen, Stable, Granary, and Smokehouse. Must have been large cisterns and privy(s) with so many persons on site.
- About 2010 an Urton neighbor was given a home tour and Dr. Urton said there was a tunnel that went to Bardstown Road and was used in the Underground Railroad. A daughter has told us the tunnels were later “cemented up,” due to all the kids around.
- Jeff Parr, stated the following in a text dated June 1, 2016, “The second thing he [an Urton son] showed us was an entrance to a tunnel which is somewhere under the front porch. This I did not go into. Too creepy! Remember, this was 46 years ago.”

Summary

- Overwhelming Concern is for History.
- Fewer and fewer opportunities for preserving a site this old.
- Where else is there a home dating from 1830s that is not protected?
- There is no competing economic interest.
- If this property is not worthy of preservation, what is?
- We are talking about replacing a house with a house. Why not opt for one with stature and character?
- We believe a number of criteria are met and the facts support Landmark status.

THANK YOU!