

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 171
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: Wright House

2. Original Owner: Lemuel Willis Wright ?

3. Other Names: None

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: West side of KY 1848, 1 1/2 miles south of Simpsonville

6. Owner's Name: Herman Moore [P]

7. Owner's Address: Rte. 5, Box 198, Shelbyville, KY 40065

8. Evaluation: National Register [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory 8-15-80
KY Landmark Certificate

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:
District Name: []
Mult.Resource Area: Shelby County []
Thematic Name: []

12. Historical Theme:
Primary: Architecture [030]
Secondary: []
Other: []

13. Statement of Significance:
This property is significant under criterion C as a well-preserved example of the late 19th century (1865-1900) brick, 2-story, center-passage, single-pile plan in Shelby County. It is one of 12 such houses identified from the period. The house may have been [C]

14. History:
House is said to have been built ca. 1858 to 1870 by Lemuel Willis Wright after his marriage, in 1858, to Sarah E. Norman, his 3rd wife, with money she inherited from her father, Abner Norman, who died in 1856. Whether the house was completed before or after the Civil War is not clear. Lemuel Wright died in 1884. In 1887 and again in 1902, John H. Wright, son of Lemuel by his second wife, Martha Boone, bought up his 'siblings and half-siblings' interests in

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Deed research by Betty Matthews, Shelby Co. Hist. Society; unpublished manuscript of area history as told by G.O. Wright to Nannie Wells, 1935.

16. Date: Original Building ca. 1858-1874 ? [6]
Addition []

17. Style: Vernacular [4V]
[]

18. Architect/Builder: Unknown

19. No. of Stories: 2 [2.0]

20. Original Floor Plan: Center passage [CP]

21. Single Pile Double Pile N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original
Gable, asphalt shingle Not Original

23. Structural Material: Brick [B]
[]

24. Exterior Material: Brick, double stretcher facade [B]
[]

25. Foundation Material: Stone, ashlar [S]
[]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt Other: porches
Additions removed from front

27. Special Features: Initials "IHW" in bricks

28. Outbuildings: Non-contributing [NC]
[]

29. Original Function: Residential/Domestic, single dwell [01A]
[]

30. Present Use: As above [01A]
[]

31. Condition: Excellent [E]
[]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

33. Attach Photos:
Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:
11 19 - 24 1

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

35. Organization: V, Shelby Co. Hist. Society

36. Date: March 1986

37. New Survey _____ Resurvey

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. []
 Quadrant: Simpsonville 16 644590 4228920 40. Coordi. Accuracy []

41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

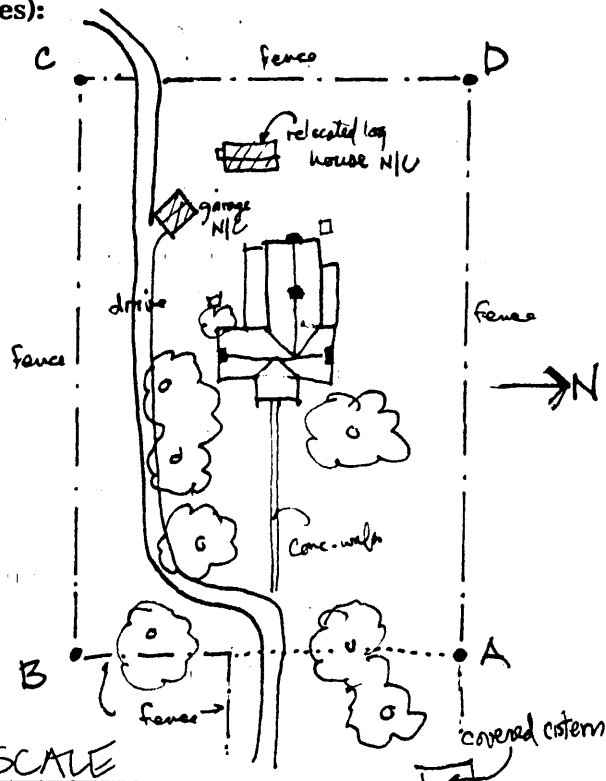
A. ----- D. -----
 B. ----- E. -----
 C. ----- F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 143 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: .77

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

Beginning at A, south 150' in a line which joins a fence on the east side of the site to B, thence west 225' along a fence to C, thence north 150' along a fence to D, thence east 225' along a fence to the point of origin. The boundaries were chosen to encompass the house and its domestic-related space as defined by fences separating it from surrounding fields. There are no contributing outbuildings.

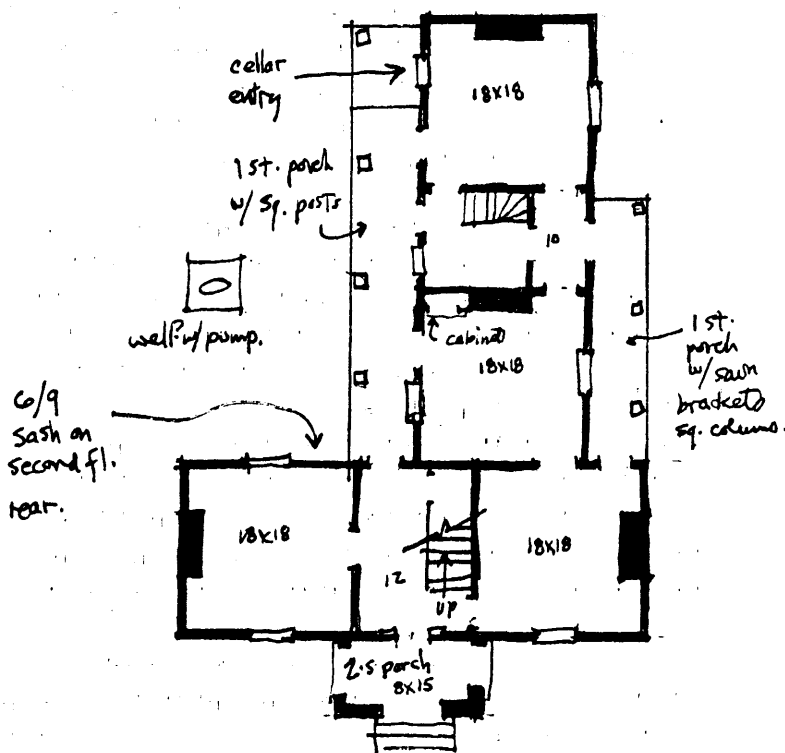
Point A is in the northeastern corner of the yard, and is 120 feet northeast of the northeastern corner of the dwelling.



45. Description and House Plan:

Exterior:

2-story, 3-bay, brick, center-passage, single-pile plan, double-stretcher bond principal (west) facade, common bond sides and rear, 2-story projecting central pavilion containing porch on first floor which is pierced on 3 sides by rounded-arch openings, west arch is corbelled and supported on carved stone corbels, 6/6 sash, segmental-arched windows, circular ventilator in gabled pediment of pavilion, deep, bracketted cornice with projecting eaves and deep returns, gabled, asphalt shingle roof, corbelled brick interior end chimneys, 1-story porches which originally flanked pavilion on north and south have been removed, ashlar foundation,



13. Statement of Significance: (continued)

built late in the mid-19th century period (see Item 14 below). However, the house is unique in the county in possessing a 2-story projecting central pavillion with a porch on the first floor which is pierced on all sides by rounded arch openings. This feature and the segmentally-arched windows suggest a slightly later construction date.

14. History: (continued)

the property. In 1909, John H. Wright sold the property out of the family. While deed research clearly seems to indicate that the house was built by Lemuel and Sarah Norman Wright after their marriage in 1858, four bricks in the house are clearly stamped JHW, the initials of Lemuels's first-born son by his second wife, John H. Wright, and architectural evidence would suggest that the house was built by John Wright in the 1870's or 1880' s (following his father's death in 1884?)

45. Description and House Plan: (continued)

2-story offset ell with advanced brick cornices on north and south sides, 1-story, shed-roofed porches on both sides of ell, north porch has bracketted posts, interior chimney in ell and interior chimney on east end of ell

Interior:

Eared surrounds throughout, medium high baseboards, cupboard flanks fireplace to east in north room and on south side of fireplace in east room of ell, stairs contained in passage between east and west rooms of ell.

Outbuildings:

There are no contributing outbuildings. A twice-rebuilt log house, originally from Nelson County, Ky., was moved to the rear of the main house in 1985 (see photo).

The nominated property contains one contributing building and two non-contributing buildings.