

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # SH 254
SHELBY County

1. Name of Resource:
L.C. FRY FARM

2. Original Owner:
LEWIS C. FRY

3. Other Names:

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location:
SHELBYVILLE QUAD.; E.S. KY 53, 1ST FARM ON RT. PAST HARRINGTON MILL RD.

6. Owner's Name:
MICHAEL AND NORMA WHELAN [P]

7. Owner's Address:
ROUTE 1 BOX 328
SHELBYVILLE, KENTUCKY 40065

8. Evaluation: N.R. POTENTIAL [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory 1986 _____
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: AGRICULTURE TOC [010]
Secondary: ARCHITECTURE [030]
Other: []

13. Statement of Significance:

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET, PAGE 3

14. History: [ac]
IN 1907, LEWIS C. FRY, ORIGINALLY FROM THE CHRISTIANSBURG AREA IN SHELBY COUNTY PURCHASED THIS 135 ACRE FARM FROM THE HEIRS OF RANDOLPH ANDERSON. SOME OF THE PRESENT BUILDINGS EXISTED AT THAT TIME, OTHERS WERE MODIFIED OR BUILT LATER, AND THE ORIGINAL LOG RESIDENCE WAS REPLACED BY THE PRESENT HOUSE BY FRY IN 1922. BECAUSE THE FARM HAS LONG ASSOCIATIONS WITH FRY AND THE PRESENT TURN-OF-THE CENTURY APPEARANCE IS DUE TO HIS EFFORTS THE FARM'S ERA OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONT.)

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:
MRS. EMMA FRY RAYMOND, SHELBYVILLE

16. Date:
Original Building PRE 1907 []
Addition 1922 []

17. Style:
AMERICAN FOURSQUARE []
VERNACULAR FARM []

18. Architect/Builder:
W.T. MILLER (HOUSE); MR. SHIVEL

19. No. of Stories: TWO [2.0]

20. Original Floor Plan:
FOURSQUARE [FS]

21. Single Pile _____ Double Pile N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original _____
HIP; ASPHALT SHINGLE Not Original

23. Structural Material:
FRAME [W]

24. Exterior Material: CLAPBOARD [W]

25. Foundation Material:
CONCRETE (FORMED) [R]

26. Major Alterations: None _____
Moved/Rebuilt _____ Other _____
Additions

27. Special Features:
NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTING OUTBUILDINGS

28. Outbuildings:
TEN (4 DOMESTIC) [10]

29. Original Function:
AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX / FARM []

30. Present Use:
AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX / FARM []

31. Condition:
GOOD [G]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

33. Attach Photos:
Roll 9-10 Photo Nos: 28- No. of Slides:
4

34. Prepared by: CHRISTINE AMOS

35. Organization: SHELBY CO. HIST. SOC.

36. Date: 8/1986

37. New Survey _____ Resurvey _____

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
 Individual Inventory Form

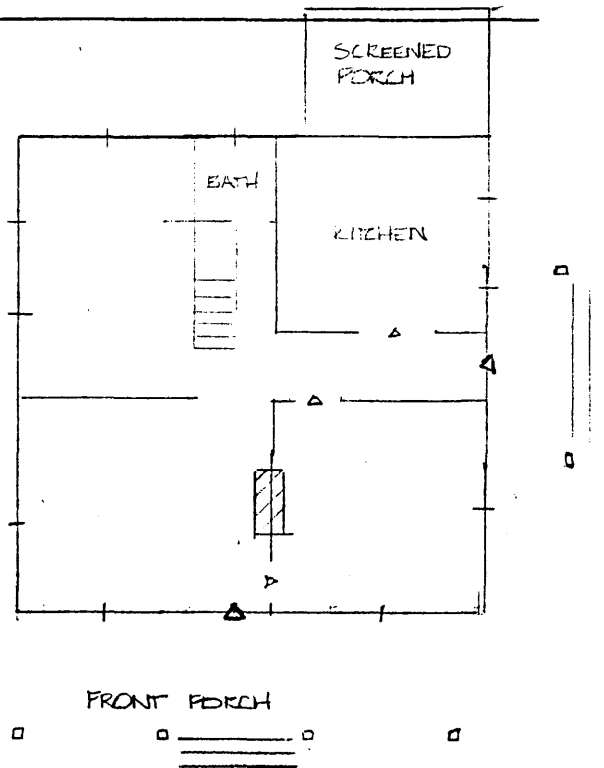
Resource # SH 254

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>SHELBYVILLE</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>654100</u>	Northing <u>4232900</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. []
41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):				40. Coordi.Accuracy []
A. <u>16 654000 4233020</u>			D. <u>16 654100 4232860</u>	
B. <u>16 654360 4233250</u>			E. <u>---</u>	
C. <u>16 654300 4232860</u>			F. <u>---</u>	
42. Total Acreage in Present Property: <u>135</u>	43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: <u>24.2</u>			
44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):				

THE PROPERTY CONTAINS APPROXIMATELY 24.2 ACRES SURROUNDING THE ELEVEN BUILDINGS OF THE FRY FARM WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE SMITHFIELD RD., (KY. 53) ABOUT A MILE NORTH OF SHELBYVILLE, THE COUNTY SEAT. THE LAND IS GENTLY ROLLING AND PRODUCTIVE WITH MOST OF THE FIELDS CLEARED AND DIVIDED BY POST AND WOVEN WIRE FENCES. TREES ALIGN SOME OF THE FENCE LINES AND FORM A GROVE ON THE EAST EDGE OF THE FARM. ALTHOUGH THE ROAD IS A MAJOR COUNTY HIGHWAY, THE BUILDINGS ARE SET BACK AT LEAST 100 YARDS EAST. THE BOUNDARIES INCLUDE THE FRONT YARD AREA, THE FIELD THAT CONNECTS THE DOMESTIC AND (CONT.)

45. Description and House Plan:

THE PROPERTY IS A WORKING FARM LOCATED ABOUT ONE MILE NORTH OF SHELBYVILLE ON THE SMITHFIELD ROAD, (KY.53), JUST NORTH OF AN AREA OF SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT. THE 135 ACRE FARM LIES ON GENTLY ROLLING, PRODUCTIVE LAND, WITH TREES ALONG FENCE-LINES AND DRAINAGES. THE ELEVEN BUILDINGS OF THE PROPERTY INCLUDE A HOUSE AND FOUR DOMESTIC BUILDINGS AND SIX OUT BUILDINGS INCLUDING A BUGGY HOUSE STOCK BARN, TWO TOBACCO BARNs, SPRING HOUSE AND SHED. ALL OF THE BUILDINGS, THE SETTING AND THEIR LOCATIONS IN RELATION TO EACH OTHER AND THEIR FUNCTIONS, EXHIBIT GOOD MATERIAL INTEGRITY AND TOGETHER CONVEY THEIR FEELING OF A TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY DIVERSIFIED FARM OF THE OUTER BLUEGRASS. THE HOUSE, BUILT IN 1922 UNDER THE EYE OF OWNER, L.C. FRY, REPLACED AN OLDER, LOG RESIDENCE THAT EXISTED WHEN FRY PURCHASED THE FARM IN 1907. THE HOUSE, QUITE LARGER THAN THE 1 1/2 STORY (CONT.)



13. Statement of Significance

The Fry farm is significant on a local level under criteria a; as a good representation of a late 19th-early 20th century diversified farm in Shelby County. The residence contributes to the significance of the site under criteria c as a good local example of the American Foursquare, a functional design and plan well suited to the needs of a farm family as well as urban dwellers. Together, the buildings maintain excellent integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, location, feeling and association. Their design, construction, and functional relationships effectively convey their historic role as a late 19th and early 20th century farm complex.

14. History, continued

dates to the late 19th, early 20th century, when his improvement and maintenance efforts were carried out. The Fry family, with tenant assistance, ran a dairy and diversified farm: milked about 20 cows and shipped whole milk and cream via the Hansborough Station crossing of the L&N; grew tobacco, (the big cash crop); raised cattle, sheep and hogs; cured meat and raised chickens for home use, and sold butter and cottage cheese in Shelbyville. These activities are not considered significant or special, but rather they neatly illustrate the activities of hundreds of farms in Shelby County and elsewhere across the state prior to modern mechanization and specialization of agriculture. The farm, its lands, crops, stock and buildings provided a family with a living (the comfort depending much on the quality of the land and the financial obligations of the owner). Because of few changes, the buildings of the Fry farm well illustrate how a successful Shelby County farm might have looked sixty to ninety years ago.

44. Site Plans and Boundary Description, continued

farm out buildings to the east and the field between these and the tobacco barn to the northeast. These boundaries encompass the historic buildings of the site, their yard and field relationships and the setting and visual qualities that contribute to the aesthetic significance of the site. The boundary forms a polygonal site: beginning at point A on the east edge of Smithfield Road (KY 53), which is 150' south of the south edge of the driveway, go 1000' north along the east edge of the road; then 1000' east on a line parallel to and 50' north of the north side of tobacco barn #2; then 1250' south; then 1000' W-NW to point of origin on a line that separates the agricultural complex and stock pond and runs along the north edge of the pond.

Additional acreage was not included within the nominated area because much of the farm is used solely as pasture with for beef cattle and beefalo. No other stock is raised on the farm.

45. Description and House Plan, continued

log, was built for a cost of \$10,000 by Bagdad carpenters W.T. Miller and his brother (photos 10-1,3). The form is the two story, American Foursquare with hip roof, a type of house extremely popular at the beginning of the 20th century that has roots in the Craftsman vocabulary but, in this case, borrows simple, classical details for the porch supports and fenestration patterns. Materials and design details include a formed concrete foundation; clapboard siding with trim; single light sash windows with simple trim and hood moldings; two, interior brick chimneys, a full front hip porch (photo 10-3), and side portico entry (photo 10-1). The rear porch has been enclosed but retains the original hip roof and is sided with identical clapboard. The interior plan has four rooms down with a rear, central stairway; side hall from the side entry, and front entry directly into the north front room. Details include two fireplaces with tile surrounds and mantles with Classical Revival details of dentils, columns and plain cornice. Upstairs are three bedrooms, bath and a "sewing room".

The domestic buildings are arranged on the periphery of the yard fence line and include a cabin (usually occupied by a hired hand, contributing), chicken house (photo 10-4, contributing), rabbit hutch (recent, non-contributing) and meat house (contributing). The cabin is of frame construction, has one room, a gable roof with standing seam metal covering, six-over-six sash windows, shed overdoor, paneled entry, brick flue, horizontal drop-beveled siding, and a foundation covered with metal brick patterned skirting.

The chicken house, east of the cabin, has the same type of siding, boarded windows, corrugated metal gable roof and a poured aggregate concrete foundation. Like most chicken houses, the window wall faces south. A small rabbit hutch is located between the chicken house and the meat house on the east fence line of the yard.

The meat house (photo 9-36), is sided with 18" to 20" boards with battens, has a corrugated metal roof, gable end entry, and stone pile foundation at corners and mid wall. The building is presently used for storage. Of the domestic buildings, all (5) but the rabbit hutch are counted as contributing to the integrity of the property.

The barn yard area is located east of the house at the edge of the drive that connects the farm to the Smithfield Road. There are six closely associate buildings in this area. One tobacco barn northeast of all other farm buildings in a field (photos 9-29,30,35) is located at the far northeast corner of the site area. All seven of the farm buildings contribute to the property's integrity.

The building south of the residence is a two bay, drive through buggy barn rebuilt by Fry at the original buggy barn location after 1907, with hayloft in the gable, vertical V-grooved novelty siding, hinged board doors and 24" on-center sawn timber frame. It has a stone alignment foundation and standing seam metal roof covering (photos 9-

45. Description and House Plan, continued

The spring house, built over the rock walls that stood in 1907 (now the foundation), has a standing seam metal gable roof and board and batten siding (photos 9-33,34). Mrs. Raymond recalled that the steam generator powered cream separator was located in the spring house. The spring is still active and the building and foundation are sound. Spring houses like these were used to cool down and keep milk chilled before rural electricity and/or Delco generators came into widespread use.

East of the spring house are a large stock barn, a smaller barn, a tobacco barn and stripping room/shed (photos 9-32,34,35). Access into the barn yard area was prohibited because of a beefalo bull (beef cattle-buffalo cross). The large stock barn with milking stancions (photo 9-32), was built about 1910-12 by a local barn builder, Mr. Shivel. It features a laid stone foundation, off center side and middle drives, vertical board walls, standing seam metal gable roof, and vertical boards in the gable ends staggered to create louvres. This feature also appears in the small tobacco barn. Windows are six light hopper type that open inward to help circulation in the barn while keeping drafts off the backs of the animals. Fry died in 1951 and never owned a tractor. Instead, he relied on two teams of mules which were housed in this barn. The family also kept an old mare to ride and a blooded horse to pull the buggy.

To the north of this barn is another, smaller storage barn with a north-south axis and board walls, and in the field to the south is a tobacco barn with center drive, stone foundation, metal standing seam roof and gable end vent like the stock barn (photo 9-34).

The large tobacco barn in the northeast field has seven bents, board walls, a stone pad foundation, and metal ventilators. The location of this barn in the field near where the crop was raised is typical of white burley tobacco farming methods. The barn was placed in the field for nearness to the crop for housing as well as to catch prevailing breezes for ventilation.

The entire farm is bounded by fencing. A post and board fence defines the domestic area while post and woven wire / barbed wire fences delineate fields. In a diversified farm where pigs and sheep were raised, a woven fence was necessary. Usually the woven wire was staked to the ground with curved pins to discourage rooting pigs, and sometimes, strings of barbed wire finished off the top of the fence to discourage cattle from rubbing the wire down with their necks.

45. Description and House Plan, continued

The property boundaries includes thirteen buildings and features. Nine buildings and two structures are contributing and one building is non-contributing.

house	C	stock barn	C
tenant cabin	C	tobacco barn (1)	C
chicken house	C	small barn	C
rabbit hutch	NC	tobacco barn (2)	C
meat house	C	cistern	C
spring house	C	well	C
buggy house	C		

