

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 132  
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: Weissinger Mule Barn  
 2. Original Owner: Harry C. Weissinger  
 3. Other Names: Undulata Barn  
 4. Prehistoric Site x Building Object  
 Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: West side of KY 53, 1/4 mile south I-64

6. Owner's Name: Ted Isaacs [ P ]

7. Owner's Address: Falls City Farming Corp., 1806 W. Main St., Box 480, Louisville, KY 40202

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: Agriculture [010]  
 Secondary: Architecture [ ]  
 Other: [ ]

13. Statement of Significance:  
 This property is significant under criterion C and A as an example of a barn type in Shelby County. Originally built as a mule barn and later converted to use as a dairy barn, it is unique in the county and [ A, C ]

14. History:  
 Barn built by Harry C. Weissinger ca. 1910 as a mule barn and a showcase for mule sales on the Undulata farm. It incorporated a balcony on the inside for spectators at the mule sales. The barn was subsequently converted to use as a dairy barn in the 1920's by Samuel Torbitt Castleman. Castleman kept a herd of 300 milk cows in the barn and delivered whole milk to hotels and private clubs in Louisville in the 1920's. Castleman also cured a 100-acre tobacco crop in the loft. The farm was sold in

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: "The Heart of Undulata Farm," Louisville Courier-Journal, Sept. 24, 1978.

16. Date: Original Building ca, 1910 [ 4 ]  
 Addition [ ]

17. Style: N/A [ N/A ]

18. Architect/Builder: Unknown

19. No. of Stories: N/A [ N/A ]

20. Original Floor Plan: N/A [ N/A ]

21. Single Pile Double Pile N.A. x

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

23. Structural Material: Wood frame, sawn [ W ]

24. Exterior Material: Weatherboard [ W ]

25. Foundation Material: Poured concrete [ R ]

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

27. Special Features: Large scale plan

28. Outbuildings: Silos [ 2 ]

29. Original Function: Agriculture/barn [09F]

30. Present Use: Vacant [99V]

31. Condition: Fair [ F ]

32. Endangered: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 No x

33. Attach Photos:  
 Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:  
 8 32 - 36A  
 9 2A - 3A

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

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

36. Date: March 1986

37. New Survey Resurvey x

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]  
 Quadrant: Shelbyville 16 6 5 5 9 0 0 4 2 2 7 0 6 0 40. Coordi. Accuracy [ ]

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

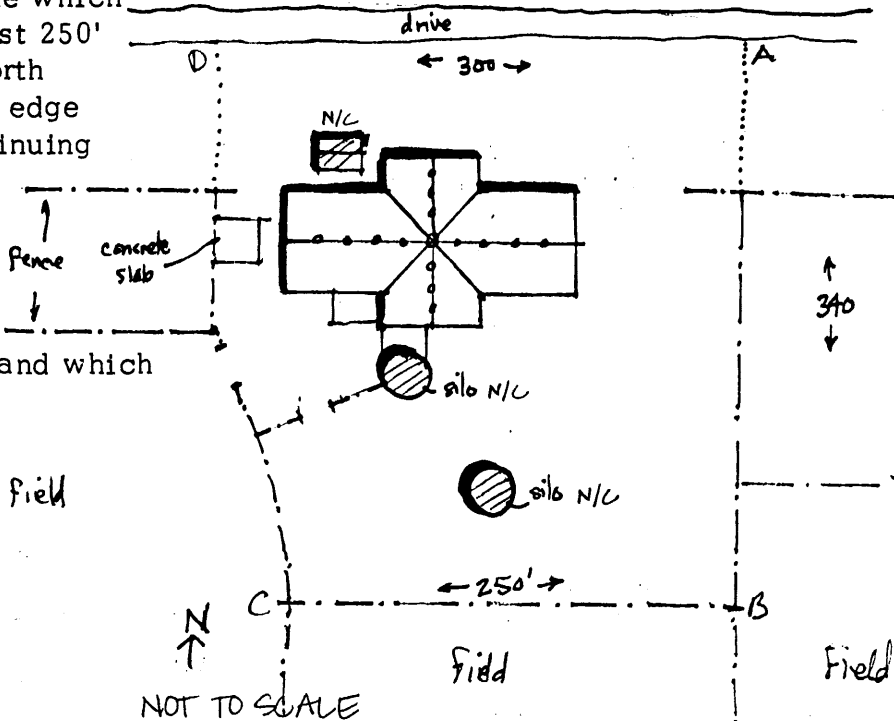
A. ----- D. -----  
 B. ----- E. -----  
 C. ----- F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 420 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 2.24

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

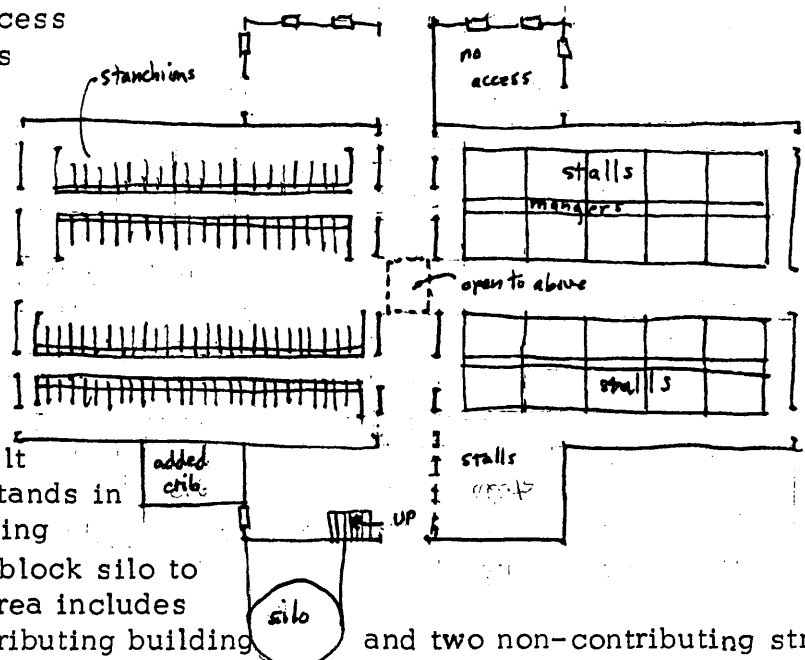
Beginning at A, south 340' in a line which joins a fence line to B, thence west 250' along a fence line to C, thence north following a fence line to the north edge of the concrete slab and then continuing north to D for a total of approx. 340', thence east along the south side of the drive for 300' to the point of origin. The boundaries were chosen to encompass the barn which is enclosed by fences and which includes two concrete silos.

Point A is 123 feet northeast of the northeast corner of the barn.



45. Description and House Plan:

The approximately 60 x 100 foot frame barn incorporates cross wings which extend 20 feet from the center of each side of the structure. Twelve-foot aisles cross at the center, giving access to cattle stanchions dating from the barn's use as a dairy, in the west end, and to animal stalls in the west, presumably dating from its use as a mule barn in its early days. Stalls and stanchions are ranged in double rows on either side of the main aisle. The loft above rises into the peak of the roof, which is supported by braced timber purlins and common rafters. Weatherboarded exterior walls are pierced by four tiers of four-light sq. sash windows. Ventilators line the asphalt shingle roof. Added one-story corn crib stands in southwest angle. Detached 1-story building stands in northwest angle and concrete block silo to the south were added. The nomination area includes one contributing building, one non-contributing building and two non-contributing structures.



13. Statement of Significance: (continued)

state both for its function, plan and immense size. At the turn of the century, Shelby was one of the state's top farm counties, leading in several categories of agricultural production, including equines. The Weissinger farm, also known as Undulata (see National Register nomination for Undulata, Harry Weissinger's palatial 1903 residence, listed in 1982), at one time incorporated a 2000-acre complex, making it one of the largest in Shelby County. It is an example of turn of the century agricultural diversification in terms of raising of mule stock and dairying.

14. History: (continued)

1932 and was last used for milking operations about 1970. Since then, the land has been leased for farming, but the barn has not been used.