

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 62
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: John C. Brown House

2. Original Owner: John C. Brown

3. Other Names: None

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: East side of KY 43, 1/2 mile north of Mulberry School

6. Owner's Name: T.L. Johnson Estate
c/o Ralph Mitchell [P]

7. Owner's Address: Federal Land Bank Building
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 early 19th century (1810-1840) 1-story, frame, center-passage, single-pile plan in Shelby County. 3 frame I-houses have been identified in the county from this period. [C]

14. History:
House appears to have been built by John Cameron Brown shortly after his marriage to Sarah Ann Waters on September 12, 1837, on land he inherited from his uncle and guardian, the Rev. Archibald Cameron (first pastor of the Mulberry Presbyterian Church). John C. and his brother Archibald Cameron were reared by their uncle following the death of their mother. Both inherited land from the uncle whose will was probated in 1836.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Shelby Co. D.B. G-3 p 348, M-2 p 210, O-1 p 489, T-4 pp 246-7 & 4; W.B. 12 p 121, 36 p 270; research by Betty Matthews, Shelby Co. Hist. Society.

16. Date:
Original Building ca. 1837 [7]
Addition 1960's ? [2]

17. Style: []
Antebellum Vernacular [3V]

18. Architect/Builder: Unknown

19. No. of Stories: 1 plus attic [1.0]

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: Wood frame [W]

24. Exterior Material: []
Siding, asbestos [A]

25. Foundation Material: Stone, coursed rubble [S]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt Other
 Additions

27. Special Features: Floor plan

28. Outbuildings: Non-contributing [NC]

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

30. Present Use: As above [01A]

31. Condition: Good [G]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

33. Attach Photos:

Roll:	Photo Nos:	No. of Slides:
2	18 - 25	1

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

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

36. Date: February 1986

37. New Survey _____ Resurvey

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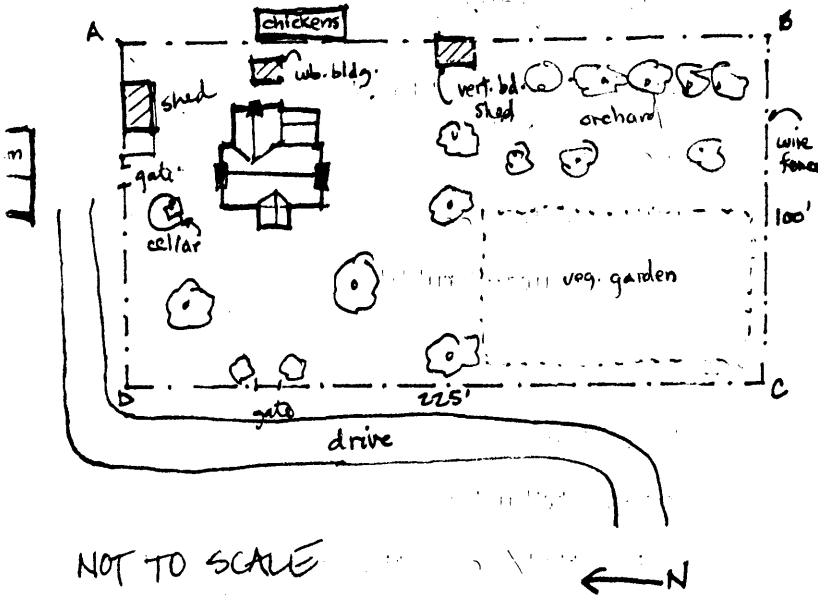
38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.L.S. Mod. []
 Quadrant: Eminence 16 6 6 2 6 9 0 4 2 3 7 6 4 0 40. Coordi. Accuracy []

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

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

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 256 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: .51

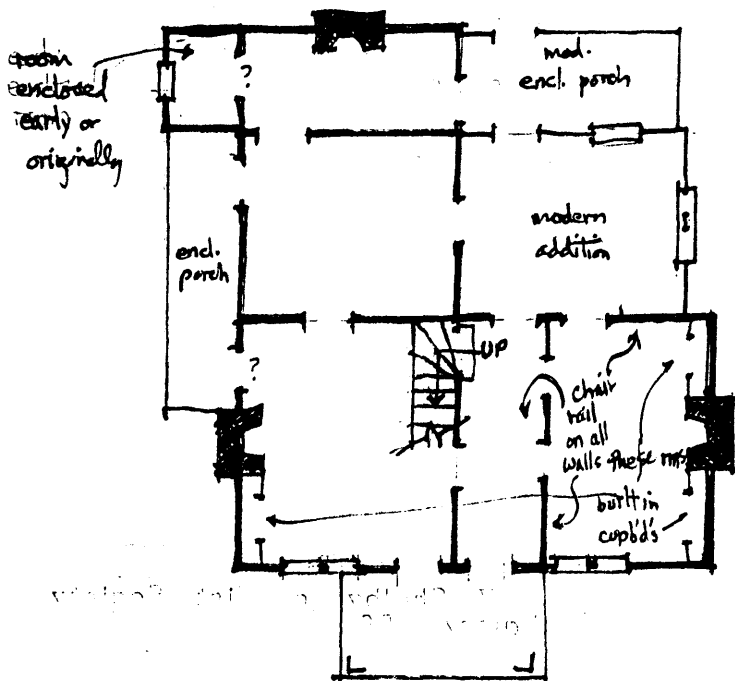
44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):



Beginning at A, south 225' along a fence to B, thence west 100' along a fence to C, thence north 225' along a fence and tree line to D, thence east 100' along a fence and tree line to the point of origin. The boundaries were chosen to encompass the house and its domestic-related space which includes the remains of an orchard, a vegetable garden, and a cellar, as well as three non-contributing sheds. Although these sheds are of more recent construction than the house, they could not be eliminated from the nominated area without disrupting the relationship of the house and its setting.

Point A is at the intersection of two fences in the northeastern corner of the yard, and is 43 ft. northeast of the northeastern corner of the ell.

45. Description and House Plan:



Exterior:

1-story, 4-bay wood frame center-passage, single-pile plan, coursed rubble foundation, gabled roof, asymmetrical principal (west) facade, original windows in outer bays replaced with paired 1/1 sash, 3-pane transoms over the two central doors, doors are late 19th century replacements, exterior slope-shouldered coursed-rubble stone chimneys at east and west gable ends flanked by enlarged 2/2 sash garrett windows, house clad in asbestos siding, 1-story-gabled porch shelters entrance, original 1-story-ell with exterior stone chimney on east gable end, enclosed porch on north side of ell, 2 additions in south


13. Statement of Significance: (continued)

two of which are 1-story structures. Frame center-passage houses appear to be extremely rare from this period as compared with the number of brick examples found in the county from the same period. This house is unique among those identified in Shelby County in that its plan appears to represent a transition from the hall-parlor form to the center-passage form. 8 4-bay hall-parlor plans were recorded in the county, and this one differs only in that a narrow center passage has been inserted into what would have been the larger of the two rooms in a conventional hall-parlor plan. However, the woodwork appears to indicate that the south partition is not an addition. The many changes to the house do not abolish its significance as a rare survival of plan, form, and building material.

45. Description and House Plan: (continued)

angle of ell: a shed-roofed extension on the rear (east) of the house (brick foundation) with a later jalousie porch of concrete block appended to it.

Interior:

South door opens into passage, north door opens into larger of the two rooms, this north room has simple federal woodwork, chairrail, low beaded baseboard, mantel with bull's eye corner blocks, cupboards flank fireplace, enclosed stairs in southeast corner of this room open into east end of passage; south room and passage have more elaborate woodwork: reeded door and window surrounds with corner blocks, high molded baseboards, chairrail, mantel in south room has central tablet , bathroom added in northeast corner of south room; ell original but largely re-worked as modern kitchen.

Outbuildings:

The property includes a contributing stone circular cellar, typical of food storage structures at houses where there was no cellar on the interior. It is significant as it demonstrates early spatial relationships within the domestic space around the house.

The nominated area includes two contributing buildings and three non-contributing buildings (sheds).