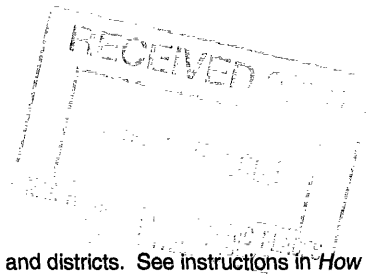


738

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name McCoun, Joseph/ Sharp, D.S., House
other names Crews House, Me-154

2. Location

street & number Corner of Bondville Road and Crews Street N/A not for publication
city or town Bondville/Salvisa vicinity
state Kentucky code KY county Mercer code 167 zip code 40372

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

David L. Morgan Signature of certifying official/Title **David L. Morgan, SHPO** Date June 16, 2005

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain): _____

Carlson Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 8/3/05

Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

private

building(s)

Contributing

Noncontributing

public-local

District

1 5 buildings

public-State

Site

_____ sites

public-Federal

Structure

_____ structures

Object

_____ objects

1 5 Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Vacant/Not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic/Federal

foundation Stone/limestone

walls Brick, frame

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Circa 1820

Significant Dates

Circa 1820

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.75 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 | 1 | 6 | | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 5 | | 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 0 | Salvisa, KY 1967. Photoinspected 1976
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rebecca Gatewood Rapier
Organization Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. date March 16 2005
street & number 151 Walton Avenue telephone 859-252-4737
city or town Lexington state Kentucky zip code 40508

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name James Maurice Crews, Jr.
street & number Box 163 telephone _____
city or town Salvisa state KY zip code 40372

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Description Summary:

The Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House (Me-154) is a one-story, five-bay, brick side-gable building with two rear frame additions clad in weatherboard. This house is located within Bondville, east of the railroad and the Salt River. The community of Bondville is located along the Salt River west of US 127, and northwest of Salvisa. The area remains rural, with large acreage surrounding homes. The community of Bondville is composed of residential and agricultural buildings, with no related commercial structures remaining. The façade of the McCoun/Sharp House is oriented to the south toward a tributary of the Salt River and Bondville Road. Crews Street diverges north from Bondville Road, southwest of the dwelling and travels along the western edge of the property. The house is accessed by two driveways. One dirt driveway travels from Bondville Road north, approaching the house along the east side. An additional gravel driveway accesses the west side yard, running perpendicular from Crews Street and traveling east. The Southern Railroad travels between Crews Street and Bondville Road through the community of Bondville, west of the dwelling. A stone-and-brick root cellar is located southwest of the house. A frame, gable-roof garage with shed-roof side wings is located northwest of the dwelling. A gable-roof barn and gable-roof privy are located northeast of the dwelling. The area proposed for listing includes 4.75 acres.

The chain of title for the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House is unclear and partially broken as a result of missing deeds, wills, and the absence of clearly recorded land divisions. It appears that the original acreage, prior to the construction of the house, was part of a 470 acre property located on Salt River owned by James McCoun, Sr. Several properties were inherited by John McCoun from his father James McCoun, Sr. in 1800. Though the actual division of land (located in Mercer, Shelby, Franklin, and Henry counties) is unclear, it is likely that this is how John acquired the property now associated with the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House. In 1816, John and his wife Elizabeth sold 93 acres of land to their son Joseph who had just married Esther Eccles (MCTA 1801, 1803, 1816, 1819; McCoun Family Files; DB 10:151; MB 1:200).

The next change in acreage occurred in 1829, when Joseph died and willed the majority of his estate, now including 100 acres along the Salt River, to his wife and seven children. In 1855, Esther acquired ownership of 40 acres of the original 470 acre property. Though a house is not mentioned within the deed, it is likely that Esther would have inherited or was already residing within the house she previously shared with her husband. Though deeds were not officially filed, the property appears to have passed, along with additional acreage, to Esther's son Joseph (MCTA 1828; WB 9:228; DB 29:470; DB 25:73).

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In 1864, the property was combined with other parcels to form a 173 $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre tract that was sold to John L. Jarvis. John L. Jarvis and his wife Mary C. Sharp are not recorded as residents within the county until the 1870 census. During this time, John L. was listed as a farmer and he and his wife Mary C. were recorded as having three children. In 1876, John L. and Mary C. died, leaving the property to their five children (Robert, William, Mary, Margaret, and Catherine) under the guardianship of Mary J. Sharp and David S. Sharp. David S. served as the administrator of John L. Jarvis' estate which may explain his name on the 1876 Atlas of Mercer County. Settlement books of Mercer County indicate that the Jarvis children actually inherited a number of farms within the area, which were rented to various surrounding families (DB 34:553; Webb 1996; Jarvis Family Genealogy; US Census 1870; New Providence Cemetery 2003; US Census 1880; SB 4:59)

Deeds and settlement books during the period do not specifically indicate how the properties were divided amongst the children once they were of legal ownership age. In 1895, Catherine Jarvis sold a 66 $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre tract to William Bunnell, Sr. and William Bunnell, Jr. Though the deed makes no mention of a house, the description of the property and the continuing transactions indicate this is the property where the house is located (SB 3:313-320, 372-377, 541-553; SB 4:412-431; SB 5:32, 66, 72, .382, 392; SB 6:130; DB 64:552).

In 1905, William Sr. and William Jr. officially divided the 66 $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre tract between themselves. William Sr. received 30 acres, and within the same year William Jr. and wife Ida sold William Sr. an additional 12 acres. This is the acreage that now comprises the property associated with the house. The property was willed to Mattie Bunnell the wife of William Sr. in 1913, and was eventually willed to the children W. Hugh, Mary, and Annie. Mattie and William's daughter Mary Bunnell married James Madison Crews in 1913 (DB 73:524; DB 74:445; WB 19:483; MB 24:598).

In 1938, the 42.89538 acre property was sold to James Maurice Crews, the son of Mary and James Crews, by the children of William Bunnell Sr. James Maurice Crews died in 1993; his wife Mamie Crews died in 1996. The property was willed to James Maurice Crews, Jr. in 1996 after the death of his parents (DB 112:110; DB 269; 630). Though no concrete evidence was available, it appears that the house has been abandoned since the death of Mamie Crews.

The current property contains 42.89548 acres, and is rural in nature with pastureland and hay fields encompassing approximately 90% of the total acreage. The remaining 10% appears to have been historically used as the domestic lot, with no signs of pasturage. Very few fences remain within the total acreage, those that do appear to be modern wire fences used to separate the northern portion into pastureland. Although the agricultural

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portion of the property appears to have been recently used for hay and cattle, the house and its surrounding domestic lot is abandoned, and littered.

The 4.75 acres within the proposed portion of the property for listing includes only the domestic area and the acreage that appears to have defined the setting of the house throughout history.

The **residence** is a brick one-story, five-bay, side-gable house. Due to the rear collapse and the inability to gain interior access, only the exterior of the house was documented. The façade is laid in Flemish bond, whereas the sides feature five-course common bond. A gable-roof pediment projects from the front roof slope over the façade entry. A lunette window is located within this pediment and features a two-light sash and segmental brick arch. The central three bays are contained within a slight projection that supports the gable-roofed pediment. Extending approximately four inches from the plane of the facade, the masonry extends through the gable of the pediment and contains the lunette window. Wall thickness for the central three bays is slightly deeper as a result of this projection.

The single-leaf entry is centered on the façade and features a channeled reveal. Windows on the façade have two-over-two-light double-hung sashes and feature jack arches. The façade retains its molded wood cornice. The east elevation of the primary block has two windows within the attic level of the gable and none on the first floor, whereas the west elevation has two windows within the attic level of the gable and a first level window with two-over-two horizontal-light sashes. The primary mass of the house rests on a stone foundation, and its roof is clad in asphalt shingles. A brick, interior end chimney projects from the ridgeline near the east side gable. A photograph of the house from the 1981 survey by Clay Lancaster indicates a similar chimney was located on the west side gable. It has since been removed. The primary mass of the house has a flush verge with wooden vergeboard.

A one-story brick addition projects from the rear of the primary block in alignment with the west gable wall. The addition features five-course common bond, but is evidenced as an addition by a seam located at its junction with the original rear of the primary block. This addition has one window with six-over-nine-light double-hung sashes.

A frame addition clad in weatherboards extends from the rear of the masonry addition. The west elevation has a single-leaf entry flanked by two windows with single-light sashes. The north elevation has a pair of windows with three-over-single-light double-hung sashes. A ridgeline chimney projects from the roof where the two additions meet. Another frame addition projects from the rear of the main block and adjoins the other frame addition. The roofline of this shed-roof addition is an extension of the roof slope of

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the original mass. The roof at the intersection of both frame additions has partially collapsed. Three windows with single-light sashes are located north of the intersection. The framing of these windows has partially collapsed.

The one-and-one-half-story five-bay brick portion constitutes period one of construction. Originally, the first floor was likely composed of two rooms and a central hallway. As evidenced through the collapsed rear addition, access to the loft area was gained through a staircase located at the rear of the hallway. Original windows on the first level possibly had six-over-six-light double-hung sashes. With five-course common bond and stone foundation, it is likely that the rear brick addition had a construction date near that of the original mass. Although no physical evidence indicates, the void between the east wall of this addition and the rear of the original brick mass would likely have served as a porch area. The existing rear frame additions, with weatherboard siding and three-over-single-light double-hung sashes, appear to date to the late-nineteenth century, post-dating any rear porch that may have existed. It is difficult to determine, due to deterioration, the original configuration of these frame additions. The middle portion near the intersection of the two frame additions serves as a hallway area. The door leading to the loft area of the original mass is located directly south of the rear frame addition.

Other additions to the original mass include the façade porch with turned wood columns and spindle work brackets. The house has also been painted. Windows within the original mass have been replaced with historic two-over-two-light double-hung sashes, an alteration likely taking place in the late nineteenth century.

A stone semi-subterranean **root cellar** is located south of the house within the front yard. It is constructed of limestone rock. The below-ground portion of the cellar appears to be assembled from quarried stone. This is particularly evident within the two retaining walls that line the stone access steps. Rocks within the walls are large, level, blocks that allow for tight joints and a flat, smooth surface. The rear of the above-ground portion of the cellar is mounded and consists of a grassy area. Bricks are located within the rear mound, but do not appear to provide any structural support. The façade of the above-ground area consists of a stepped stone parapet wall that serves as a retaining wall for the rear mound. The wall comes to a point approximately four feet above the entrance to the storage area. This above-ground section is constructed of quarried stone; portions of it have been covered in parging, perhaps a treatment added later as a result of settlement or degradation of the wall. The above-ground façade wall is topped by rock coping. Rocks within the coping appear to be field stones. Though no evidence exists, the cellar was likely constructed using the same quarry source that was used for the foundation stones of the

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house. Although the cellar likely dates to the circa 1820 construction period of the house, it is considered a non-contributing resource, as it does not contribute to the architectural significance of the site.

A frame, one-story, gable-roof **outbuilding** is located in the northeast yard of the house. This outbuilding is clad in board-and-batten siding. The building has a single entry bay on the north gable-end. The door for this entry is missing. The structure appears to rest on a wood pier foundation. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. A frame shed-roof wing was attached to the east side of the outbuilding, but has since partially collapsed. This addition is clad in sawn vertical boards. With sawn lumber, and wire nails. The outbuilding likely dates to circa 1930.

Further northeast, and within an adjacent field is a frame, gable-roof **barn**. The barn is constructed of sawn lumber and rests on a concrete foundation. It appears to be used for livestock. With sawn lumber, wire nails, and concrete foundation, the barn likely dates to circa 1930. Between the gable-roof outbuilding and barn is a frame, single-bay, gable-roof **privy**. The privy is clad in sawn vertical boards and has partially collapsed. With sawn lumber, and wire nails, the privy likely dates to circa 1930.

A gable-roof, frame **garage** is located northwest of the house. The garage has a central gable with hinged, double-leaf doors. A shed-roof wing extends from the east side, and also has hinged, double-leaf doors. The west shed-roof wing has a modern overhead sectional door, and features a single-leaf pedestrian entry on the west elevation. The central gable and east side wing are clad in wood siding. The west side wing is clad in wood paneling. The double-leaf doors of the central and right bays are clad in metal siding. The roof of the garage is clad in panelized metal. The garage appears to depict three building periods, with the central gable-roof portion predating the two shed-roof wings. The entire structure appears to date to circa 1930.

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Summary Statement of Significance:

The Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House (Me-154) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type (five-bay, central passage, Federal architecture in Mercer County) and period (Federal-era/style architecture of Mercer County) of construction. The house is significant within the context of **circa 1820 Federal style architecture within Mercer County** as an example of its type and period of construction. The majority of previously-documented Federal style houses within Mercer County are larger, academically-executed examples of the style. The Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House, with its single-pile depth, salmon-colored brick, and modest embellishment is a smaller, less academic example of the Federal style in Mercer County. As a restrained example of an academic style, the house represents an outstanding example of a vernacular expression of Federal architecture. The term Vernacular is commonly accepted as meaning a local interpretation of a widely known form and often termed "regional architecture" (Carter and Herman 1991:2; Upton 1986:315). Within that definition, the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp house, constructed in the early-nineteenth century, represents an outstanding example a vernacular interpretation of an academic style in Mercer County and as a result merits eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

Historic Context:

Circa 1820 Federal style architecture within Mercer County

The architectural inventory of Mercer County contains eight examples of one-and-one-half-story, five-bay Federal style dwellings (ME-9, ME-83, ME-144, ME-150, ME-172, ME-H-3, ME-H-13, and ME-H-14). Features shared by all of these examples include stone foundations, Flemish bond masonry, and openings topped by jack arches. Gable-end chimneys, either single or paired, are also common. One-story side pavilions are present in two examples, and three display a fanlight above the entry. Transoms and sidelights are also represented. All of the previously documented houses are constructed around a central passage plan, and three are double-pile. The Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House, while similar in many respects, differs from other Federal style houses. It shares a five-bay, central passage plan with other Federal houses of the county. The Flemish bond façade, stone foundation, end chimneys, and jack arches are also common features. Distinct differences emerge in the façade projection of the

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central three bays, seen in one house, an urban example: ME-H-3. Architectural detailing of the cited examples of Federal architecture includes porticos and other façade ornamentation, but none carry the masonry pediment of the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House. Its restrained entry, without transom, fanlight, or sidelights is more closely associated with less academic architecture. Of the other nine examples of one-story, five-bay, brick, Federal style houses in Mercer County, two (ME-H-13: Alexander Buchanan House and ME-9: Moses Jones House) share this simplified entry without transom or sidelights. Similar to the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House, these two examples also feature side gables and lack pavilions.

The Federal period of architecture spanned from 1780 to 1820 in most parts of Kentucky and in some areas remained popular well into the nineteenth century, with many examples constructed as late as the 1840s. Gaining popularity on the American Eastern seaboard following the Revolution, it is commonly referred to as Adam style or Adamesque, named for British architect Robert Adam. Working with his brother, Adam was influenced by the classical architecture of Italy and the Mediterranean. Generating more awareness of the classic Greek and Roman monuments, Adam's influence upon British architecture and eventually American architecture resulted in a style featuring symmetry, verticality, and a strict sense of proportions and ornamentation. In general, the style is characterized by its symmetrical form, typically featuring five façade bays with an accented central entry. Federal style homes are commonly straightforward in plan, with a central hallway flanked by two or four rooms. In particular, window openings were made more prominent during the Federal period versus that of the earlier Georgian style. Panes were typically larger, fewer, and lighter in appearance as a result of slimmer muntins. Lintels, jack arches, and segmental arches typically accented window openings. The façade entry was perhaps the most elaborate exterior accent of Federal style architecture. These ornate entries commonly featured fanlights, sidelights, paneled doors, as well as sophisticated surrounds with pilasters, dentil molding, and porticos. Though frame examples were prevalent during the period, the most common wall material was brick, laid in a Flemish or Common bond (Lanier 1997:127-138).

Through the early eighteenth century, the hall-and-parlor plan with a large multipurpose hall and a parlor or chamber was prevalent along the east coast; it remained a common form within Kentucky through the early-nineteenth century. The introduction of a central hallway came about as a means to more clearly separate the private and public spaces of the dwelling, making the original parlor and chamber more difficult to access. Within the purely academic examples it formed a ceremonial area where

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visitors were greeted and afforded further access to the house according to social ranking. The creation of the central hallway also served practical purposes. It allowed air to circulate through the center of the house, providing an area with seasonal uses. The hallway was eventually considered a less formal place, serving as a socially neutral area (Wenger 1986:137-149; Upton 1986:317, 318).

Within Kentucky, the Federal style was introduced in the 1790s and continued to hold its popularity through the 1840s. In his book *Antebellum Architecture of Kentucky*, Clay Lancaster discusses three types of Federal style architecture: the Georgian survival; the geometric phase; and, the classic phase. Liberty Hall (1796-1804), in Frankfort, is an example of the transition to Federal within Kentucky and is categorized by Lancaster as a Georgian survival. The house features a central passage plan, with the drawing room and dining room in the front side bays, and the chambers to the rear. The house is laid in Flemish bond and features a central façade pediment. A slight projection of the masonry wall includes the three central bays of the façade and is carried through the pediment. Lancaster compares the overall massing and scale of the house to the urban forms found on the East Coast such as the Matthias Hammond House in Annapolis. Located in the capitol city, and being the residence of a former United States senator, Liberty Hall is a textbook example of regional high style architecture. Visitors to Frankfort were likely impressed with the house, as it represented the influences of the East Coast and Mid-Atlantic. Other academic examples within Kentucky include Henry Clay's original Ashland (ca. 1813-1815) in Lexington and Federal Hill (My Old Kentucky Home) (ca. 1818) near Bardstown. One story examples include Farmington (1810) and Ridgeway (1817) both in Louisville, and the William Morton House (ca. 1810), Lewis Manor (ca. 1800) and Rose Hill (ca. 1812) all in Lexington. All five examples have hip-roofs. This roof type would have been more difficult to construct, and would have eliminated portions of the attic space. The Morton House and Rose Hill did not have staircase access to their attics, indicating a lack of use. The double-pile plan of both dwellings and the presence of one-story side pavilions likely provided ample living space (Kornwolf 2002:1494-1496; Lancaster 1991:118-127, 143-148).

The variations between the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House in comparison to academic Federal style buildings within the county, such as the lack of pavilions, restrained entry and window bay detailing, and the use of salmon colored brick in conjunction with the single-pile plan indicate that the house is a vernacular interpretation of Federal style architecture within the county. The term vernacular is commonly accepted as meaning a local interpretation of a widely known form and often termed regional architecture (Carter and Herman 1991:2; Upton 1986:315). Though commonly

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used to interpret the more widespread bungalow or prevalent twentieth century architecture, the term is routinely used to further interpret early academic styles such as the Federal as well as industrial and agricultural buildings.

Evaluation Within the Historic Context

According to scholar Dell Upton, the one-and-one-half-story, single-pile, central passage plan was one of the most common forms in Virginia during the eighteenth century. Upton classifies them as being "a quarter of the ideal type" Virginia house (Upton 1986:318). Similarly, the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp house is a more restrained version of Kentucky Federal style architecture. It incorporates the projected central three façade bays carrying through to a masonry pediment, similar to Liberty Hall. It also features a five-bay, central passage plan similar to Rose Hill and Lewis Manor. Other federal features include brick jack arches, Flemish and common bond, and a stone foundation. The single-pile depth and gable-end roof, however, indicate a more restrained interpretation of the architectural style. With only two rooms on the ground level, the plan, though technically a central passage, must have served functionally as a hall-and-parlor. One room would likely have served as a private chamber or sleeping room; the central passage and other room would have been considered public, a multi-purpose area for sitting, sleeping, eating, and entertaining. The gable-roof allowed for additional attic space to compensate for the overall small plan. Unlike Rose Hill and the Morton House, the McCoun/Sharp House incorporated access to the attic area, indicating that it was used regularly. The need for this extra space may explain the decision to incorporate a gable-roof rather than following the idealized hip-roof model.

Kingston Heath explains that "Vernacular architecture represents a localized response to broad cultural systems, historical events, and environmentally determined regional forces" (Heath 2001:185). The Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House is an excellent example of this analysis. The builder was clearly influenced by the culture that surrounded him, observing examples of Federal style architecture within the county as well as those outside of the area within larger cities. The influence of cultural or social systems is also evident with the use of the central passage plan. The house, with central passage plan, gable-roof pediment, Flemish bond, and symmetrical form represents a localized response to the environment, trends, and influences within the Federal period and particularly those manifest within the Federal style. Heath further explains that "When manifested in the built form, such buildings and their settings are capable of imparting a contextually rich bounty of learned

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cultural codes, patterns of behavior, local building processes, and social rituals" (Heath 2001:185). This is the essence of significance within vernacular architecture. Structures that embody this regional or local response to broader patterns provide insight into a social aspect of architecture that is otherwise not necessarily provided within high style academic architecture or written documents.

A vernacular structure such as the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House provides a type of autobiography on a specific period and location in history. In particular, it provides insight into local interpretations of the larger Federal style. Other houses in the county, such as the Moses Jones House (ME-9) and the Alexander Buchanan House (Me-H-13) illustrate a similar conception. The Moses Jones House (ca. 1809-1811) is an earlier example than the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House; similarly it has a five-bay symmetrical façade, end chimneys, stone foundation, and single pile form. Another similarity is the lack of detailing such as entry sidelights and transom. The Moses Jones House does, however, display additional detailing not found in the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House, such as Flemish bond brickwork along all four sides, as well as two-coursed jack arches and a somewhat restrained but prominent central portico with pediment. It also features a hall-parlor plan rather than a central passage.

Although it has undergone unsympathetic alterations, the Alexander Buchanan House (construction date unknown, but pre-1833) forms another example of Federal style architecture within the county that is comparable to the characteristics of the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House. Similar to the McCoun/Sharp House, it features a five-bay façade, central passage plan, interior end chimneys, façade Flemish bond brickwork and a lack of sidelights and transom.

Though a casual comparison of these three structures tells us little about them as individual five-bay, central-passage Federal style examples, their similarity does indicate the desire of Mercer County builders to provide or introduce a variation on the scale and detailing of the academic Federal style house. According to architectural scholar Henry Glassie, "What makes vernacular architecture is not an occupant who builds but a cultural congruity among design, construction, and use" (Glassie 2001:46). In other words, although vernacular offers a local interpretation it does not necessarily reflect an individual builder, but more likely represents the preferences of a social environment. As a result, the McCoun/Sharp House reveals the mores of a social group that is not represented within

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evaluations of purely academic examples. The form, plan, materials and characteristics of the Joseph McCoun/D.S. Sharp House, though individually common, come together to form a powerful representation of an historic environment embodying the distinctive characteristics of the Federal style while also displaying the social patterns, rituals, and codes of the period itself.

Integrity

The rear brick addition was likely added to allow space for an additional chamber. It appears to date (based on materials, brick bond and foundation) near the original construction date of the house. Although the addition incorporates a large end chimney, it is unlikely that the space was used as a kitchen due to the rarity of indoor kitchens during the time period (Kennedy and Macintire 1999:14). The two frame additions, with weatherboard siding and three-over-single-light double hung windows, appear to date to the late nineteenth century. These areas were likely added to supplement space, while respecting the central passage plan of the original mass. The two frame additions join west of the central hallway, allowing for the circulation patterns of the original construction to remain intact. Rather than extending the entire rear wall of the house, all additions were introduced to accommodate the central plan, further demonstrating its importance. Though it is difficult to determine emphatically, these additions were likely added following the Civil War. Homeowners were restricted financially, making it more efficient to merely add space rather than constructing an entirely new structure. In addition to allowing the continued use of the central passage, the additions are flush with the side walls of the original five-bay brick mass. This allows for the retention of the five-bay central passage form. In essence, the additions allowed for the expansion and alterations typical of a building of this age, while not affecting the original form and façade of the Federal period mass. Though the frame additions have severely diminished integrity, the failure of their framing does not detract from the overall shape, form, scale, plan and massing of the brick dwelling. They indicate the evolution of the dwelling from its original construction in the early nineteenth century through its expansion into the twentieth and do not detract from the characteristics that make the house eligible under Criterion C (Upton 1979:181-182).

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Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary begins southwest of the house at the corner of Bondville Road and Crews Street and travels north along Crews Street. After approximately 347.2034 feet, the boundary travels east behind the house, approximately 160 feet north of the rear of the house. After traveling east approximately 400.0000 feet, the boundary turns south, and meets Bondville Road after approximately 648.4882 feet. The boundary then follows Bondville Road approximately 516.0044 feet to its starting point at the corner of Bondville Road and Crews Street. The boundary encompasses approximately 4.75112 acres (206,959.2791 square feet).

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the nominated property include the dwelling house and sufficient surrounding area to maintain the setting of the dwelling on all sides. Associated outbuildings that are included within the boundary, not dating to the property's period of significance, are considered non-contributing (garage and frame board-and-batten outbuilding). The root cellar, though likely dating to the construction period of the house, is also considered non-contributing. Due to eligibility under Criterion C, and the fact that they were constructed after the period of significance for the house, the barn and privy are outside of the established boundary. The southern and western boundaries follow roadbeds that appear to be similar to the transportation corridors depicted on the 1876 Map of Boyle and Mercer Counties, thus maintaining the historic setback of the dwelling. The northern boundary was created to eliminate inclusion of four small house lots developed along Crews Street, allowing ample setting for the property while eliminating land divisions that post-date the period of significance. The eastern boundary roughly follows a tree line, allowing an appropriate buffer to maintain the setting of the dwelling.

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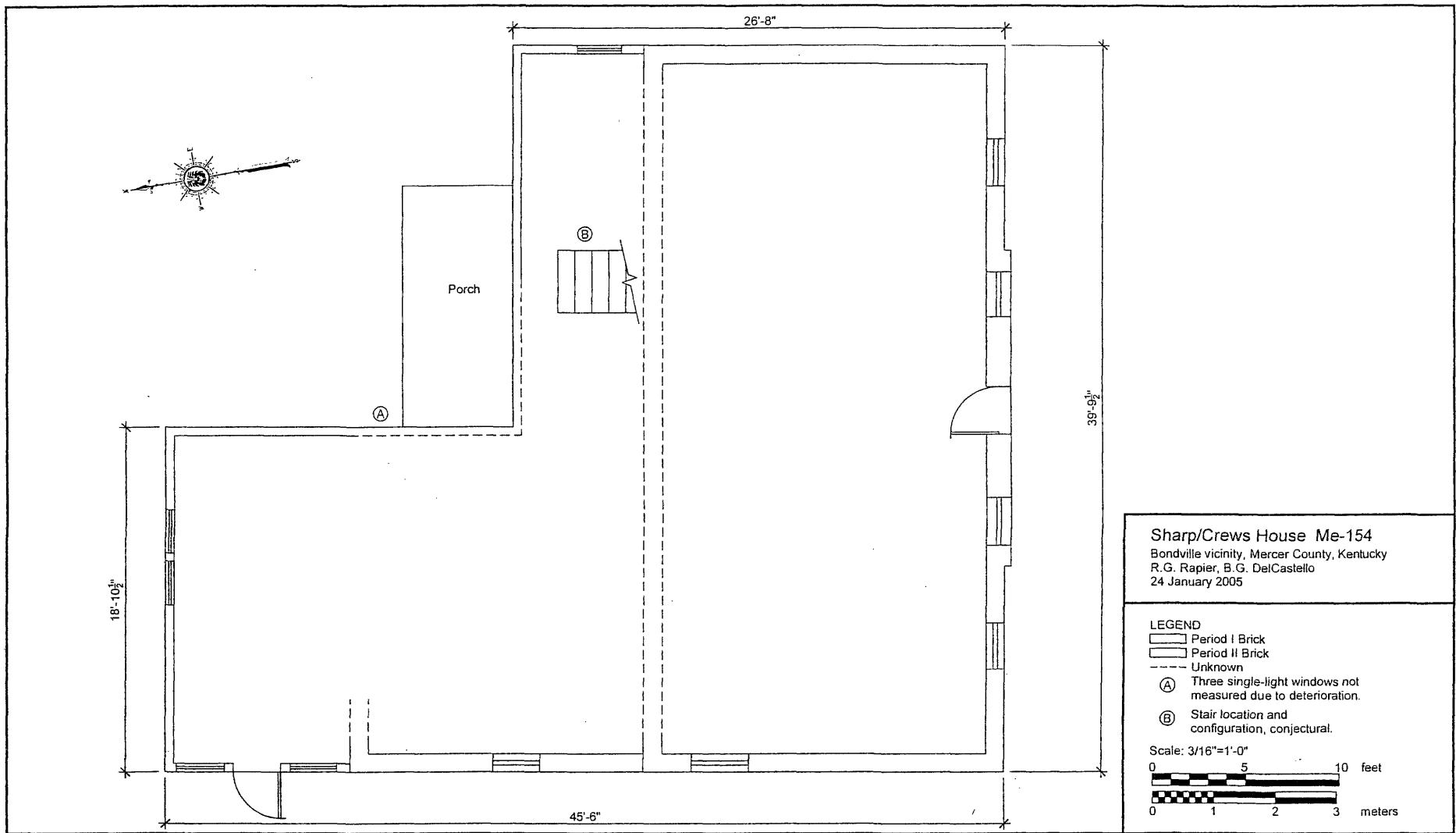
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Sharp/Crews House Me-154
 Bondville vicinity, Mercer County, Kentucky
 R.G. Rapier, B.G. DelCastello
 24 January 2005

LEGEND

- Period I Brick
- Period II Brick
- Unknown
- (A) Three single-light windows not measured due to deterioration.
- (B) Stair location and configuration, conjectural.

Scale: 3/16"=1'-0"

0 5 10 feet

0 1 2 3 meters

Exterior Measured Drawing