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KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # SH 272
SHELBY County

1. Name of Resource:
E.M. DAVIS FARM

2. Original Owner:
ERNEST MALCOLM DAVIS

3. Other Names:

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location:
N.S. KY 43 (CHRISTIANSBURG PIKE), a
3/4 MI. E. OF KY 55 INTERSECTION

6. Owner's Name:
J. HARDIN AND GARLAND M. DAVIS
[P]

7. Owner's Address:
ROUTE 1 BOX 209
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 p10 []
Secondary: []
Other: []

13. Statement of Significance:

THE E.M. DAVIS IS SIGNIFICANT ON A LOCAL LEVEL UNDER CRITERIA A AS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A FARM COMPLEX BUILT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY. ALL BUILDINGS HAVE SIMILAR DATES (CONTINUED) [A]

14. History:

THIS FARM WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1919 BY ERNEST MALCOLM DAVIS NEXT TO HIS FATHER, SQUIRE DAVIS' FARM DIRECTLY WEST ON THE CHRISTIANSBURG PIKE. DAVIS LIVED IN A SMALL TENANT HOUSE TO THE WEST (NOT INCLUDED WITHIN THE SITE BOUNDARIES) WHILE THIS HOUSE WAS BEING BUILT BY A BUILDER FROM ST. MATTHEWS (NEAR LOUISVILLE), MR. COCHRAN. COST OF THE HOUSE, GARAGE AND STOCK BARN, ALL BUILT BY COCHRAN TOTALED \$50,000.00 DAVIS, HIS WIFE, TWO SONS AND DAUGHTER OPERATED A (CONTINUED)

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:

MR. AND MRS. J.HARDIN DAVIS; PRIVATE PAPERS

16. Date:
Original Building 1919 [4]
Addition NA []

17. Style:
PRAIRIE VERNACULAR [80]
[]

18. Architect/Builder:
MR. COCHRAN, LOUISVILLE

19. No. of Stories: TWO [2.0]

20. Original Floor Plan:
ELABORATE FOURSQUARE [FS]

21. Single Pile _____ Double Pile N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original
HIP/ASPHALT SHINGLES Not Original

23. Structural Material:
FRAME [W]

24. Exterior Material: BRICK [B]
CONCRETE, FORMED [C]

25. Foundation Material:
CONCRETE [R]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt Other
Additions

27. Special Features:

28. Outbuildings:
SEVEN [7]

29. Original Function:
AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX/FARM [09X]

30. Present Use:
AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX/FARM [09X]

31. Condition:
GOOD [G]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

33. Attach Photos:
Rolls 3 Photo Nos: 1- No. of Slides:
36

34. Prepared by: CHRISTINE AMOS

35. Organization: SHELBY CO. HIST. SOC.

36. Date: 11/1986

37. New Survey Resurvey _____

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Shelbyville</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>658800</u>	Northing <u>4232920</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. []	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: <u>279</u>		43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: <u>3.2</u>			
44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):					

The property is an early 20th century diversified farm, located on the north side of KY43, the Christiansburg Pike, about one mile north of Shelbyville. The surrounding land of central Shelby County is of Shelbyville loam soil, gently rolling to level, well drained and containing productive farms. The property boundaries are justifiable as including the house, meat house, garage, stock barn, chicken coop and cabin/tool room. The buildings were built in a single campaign and maintain excellent integrity both individually and as contributing components of the site. The boundary is justified as the fenced domestic yard area and the grounds immediately surrounding the associated farm buildings. The historic context for evaluating extensive historic landscapes was not established for this project. Beginning at a point where a fenceline meets KY Hwy. 43, 150' ENE of the E edge of the driveway, follow the north edge of said road 200' to another fenceline; then NNW 400 feet along this fenceline to a point on a line parallel to and 25' NNW of the north side of the stockbarn; then 200' ENE along this line, crossing a farm road, to the initial fencelin' then 400' SSE along the fenceline to the point of origin.

45. Description and House Plan:

The property is a diversified complex, the most recently constructed farm site nominated in this Multiple Resource Area Nomination. It is the site continuity and overall building integrity that lend it significance as a good example of an early 20th century diversified farm in Shelby County. Contained in the boundaries are the house, a brick veneer, two-story, Prairie influenced dwelling; a large stock barn; center drive crib; meat house; garage; cabin/tool house and chicken coop. Tobacco barns and a stripping room are located north of these buildings and are not included within the site boundaries because of their distance in the fields beyond the immediate working building area. The two major buildings included in the site, the house and stock barn were constructed in 1919 by Mr. Cochran, a builder from Louisville, and the other buildings were constructed immediately thereafter. All have maintained very good integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, location, setting, feeling and association.
 (continued)

13. Statement of Significance, continued

of construction and the house and large stock barn were constructed by Mr. Cochran, a builder from St. Matthews, near Louisville. The house is one of four Prairie-influenced residences nominated and one of two with brick veneer finish. Only one of these four is not a farm complex associated dwelling. Other sites, once similar to this are found in the county, however, the integrity of setting and association have been far better maintained at this site than at others observed and therefore, it is included as one of the best surviving examples of this type of early 20th century farm.

14. History, continued

diversified farm here with purebred hereford cattle, sheep, hemp during World War II, and tobacco. The property is still owned and operated by sons of the original owner.

45. Description and House Plan, continued

The house is a large, two story, brick veneered dwelling with distinct Prairie influence (photos 23;13,15,17,18,21,22,35). It is one of four such houses included in the nomination, all of frame construction but only two with brick veneer exterior. Features include a hip roof pierced by a central hip dormer, wide, boxed eave and two interior brick chimneys; symmetrical three bay fenestration with side lighted entry, sash windows with vertically divided top sashes, concrete sills and a hip-roofed, one story, square bay to the north; a full front porch with concrete, urn-shaped ballustered railing, and brick piers that wraps to the south side creating a port cochere with side entry. The front yard is planted with mature trees and features a fairly long drive to the west side that curves to the port cochere, the garage and then extends through the rear, side yard area to the barn yard.

The garage, located northwest of the house in the corner of the domestic yard area has two bays, pyramidal hip roof, clapboard walls and a shedded bay to the west (photo 18-22).

The meat house, behind the house in the rear yard area is similar to area counterparts with gable roof, board and batten walls, a single entry beneath the gable end and metal roofing (photo 18-21, 23-16).

The chicken coop (photo 23-25), located north, behind the garage and west of the drive, has a shed roof, windows that face south to take advantage of light and solar heat, and board and batten walls. (cont.)

45. Description and House Plan, continued

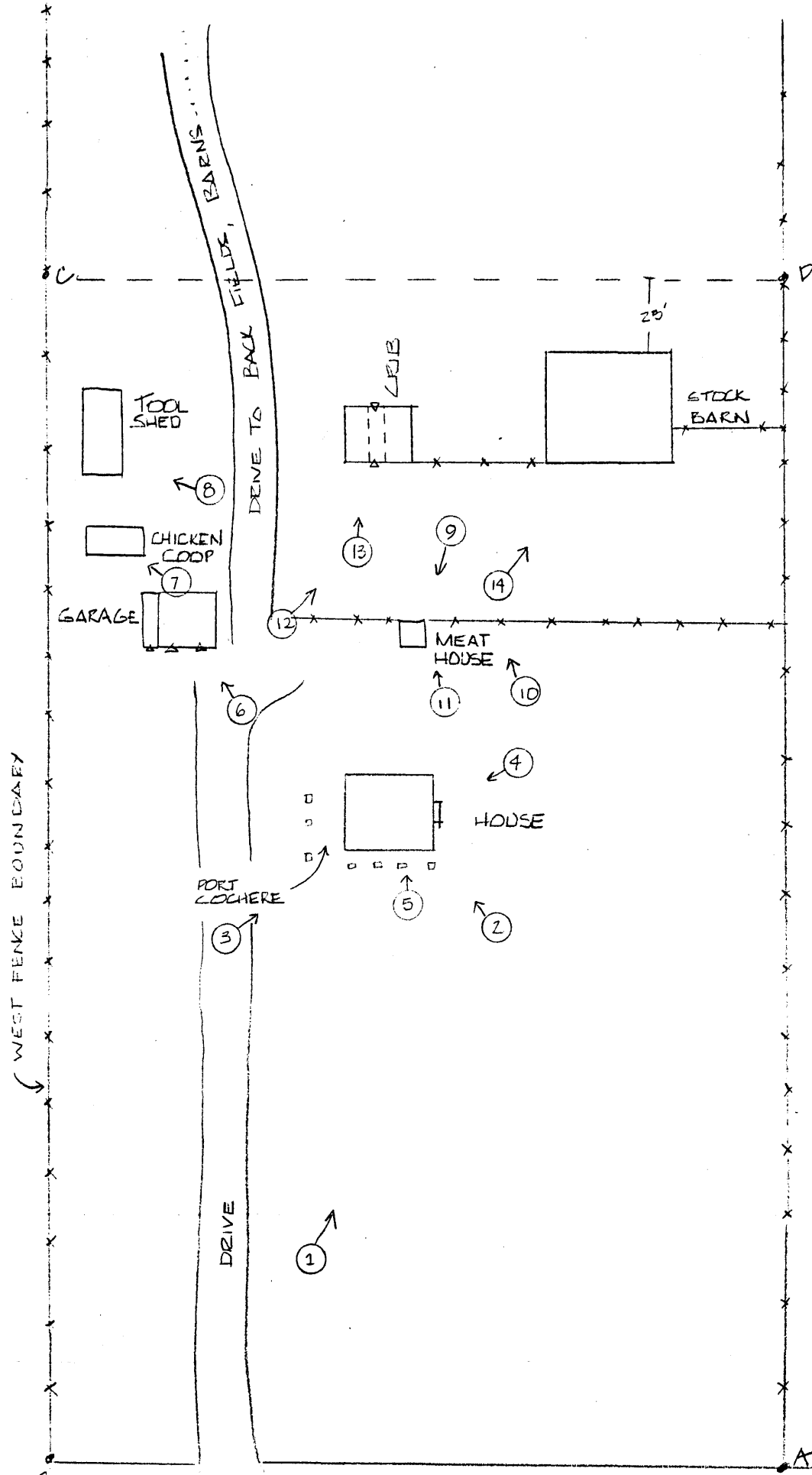
North of the chicken house is the cabin/tool house (photo 23-28), with gable central portion and flanking sheds to the north and south. Each room has its own, paneled entry door, there is a brick flue in the west gable end and walls are of board over box frame.

The crib (photos 18-23, 20) is located between the drive and the stock barn. it is in very good condition with gable roof covering two side storage bays and the central drive. Walls are of vertical lathe strips, gapped to provide air circulation around the corn; entry doors and chute doors access each bin; and the stucture is raised off the ground on concrete blocks on end.

The stock barn is a large, center drive, frame structure with low, gambrel roof, one of the few recorded in this portion of the survey, with extended glable mow; six light sliding windows; side and center doors; milk room ; stancions and large hay loft area (photos 23-16,24; 18-20).

There are seven buildings, all contributing, included within the property boundaries.

house	C
garage	C
meat house	C
stock barn	C
crib	C
chicken coop	C
cabin/tool house	C



SITE PLAN
 SH 272
 E.M. DAVIS FARM
 NOT TO SCALE
 ←○ PHOTOS, DIRECTION

