

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # SH 263  
SHELBY County

**1. Name of Resource:**  
SHROPSHIRE FARM

**2. Original Owner:**  
JAMES AND MAGGIE SHROPSHIRE

**3. Other Names:**

**4. Prehistoric Site** \_\_\_\_\_ **Building** <sup>X</sup> **Object**  
**Historic Site** <sup>X</sup> **Structure** **Other**

**5. Location:**  
SHELBYVILLE QUAD.; W.S. KY 714 (HEMP  
RIDGE RD.) @1 MI. S. OF I-64

**6. Owner's Name:**  
HOWARD AND HELEN LAWSON [ P ]

**7. Owner's Address:**  
ROUTE 2  
WADDY, KENTUCKY 40076

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

**9. Recognition & Date:**  
Nat.Landmark \_\_\_\_\_ Local Landmark \_\_\_\_\_  
Nat.Register \_\_\_\_\_ HABS/HAER \_\_\_\_\_  
Highway Marker \_\_\_\_\_ KY Inventory 1984 \_\_\_\_\_  
KY Landmark Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

**10. N.R.Status & Date:**

**11. N.R.Group:**  
District Name: [ ]  
Mult.Resource Area SHELBY CO MRA [ ]  
Thematic Name: [ ]

**12. Historical Theme:**  
Primary: AGRICULTURE [ 010 ]  
Secondary: [ ]  
Other: [ ]

**13. Statement of Significance:**  
TH SHROPSHIRE FARM IS SIGNIFI-  
CANT ON A LOCAL LEVEL UNDER CRI-  
TERIA A, AS AN EARLY 20TH CEN-  
TURY DIVERSIFIED FARM. ESTAB-  
LISHED IN 1904, THE HOUSE, OUT  
BUILDINGS, THEIR (CONTINUED) [ A ]

**14. History:**  
IN 1904, JAMES AND MAGGIE SHROPSHIRE  
PURCHASED 187 ACRES FROM C.S. AND MARY E  
WEAKLEY FOR \$4,000.00. THE SHROPSHIRE  
BUILT THIS RESIDENCE AND FARM AND OPERA-  
TED A DAIRY AND DIVERSIFIED FARM UNTIL  
1916 WHEN THE FARM SOLD TO A.C. RAY. THE  
CLOSEST RAILROAD SHIPPING POINT AT THAT  
TIME WAS HEMPRIDGE, A DEPOT COMMUNITY OF  
THE SOUTHERN RAILROAD, WITH TELEPHONE  
(THE SOLE SUCH DEVICE IN THE AREA),  
SHIPPING PENS FOR STOCK, A DAILY MORNING  
MILK TRAIN AND FOUR DAILY (CONTINUED)

**15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:**  
SHELBY COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER  
OFFICE; CAM AND HELEN LAWSON

**16. Date:**  
Original Building 1904-5 [ 4 ]  
Addition [ ]

**17. Style:**  
TOO VERNACULAR [ 5V ]  
CLASSICAL REVIVAL [ 52 ]

**18. Architect/Builder:**  
UNKNOWN

**19. No. of Stories:** ONE AND ONE-HALF [ 1.5 ]

**20. Original Floor Plan:**  
CENTER PASSAGE, DOUBLE FILE [ CF ]

**21. Single Pile** \_\_\_\_\_ **Double Pile** <sup>X</sup> **N.A.** <sup>X</sup>

**22. Roof Form & Material:** Original <sup>X</sup>  
HIP / METAL Not Original

**23. Structural Material:**  
FRAME [ W ]

**24. Exterior Material:** CLAPBOARD [ W ]

**25. Foundation Material:**  
STONE [ S ]

**26. Major Alterations:** None <sup>X</sup>  
Moved/Rebuilt Other

**27. Special Features:**  
TRACE OF OLD ROAD, SITE INTEGRITY

**28. Outbuildings:**  
NINE, SEVEN CONTRIBUTING [ 9 ]

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

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

**31. Condition:**  
GOOD [ G ]

**32. Endangered:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No <sup>X</sup>

**33. Attach Photos:**  
Roll: 2 Photo Nos: 15- No. of Slides:  
28

**34. Prepared by:** CHRISTINE AMOS

**35. Organization:** SHELBY CO. HIST. SOC.

**36. Date:** 9/1986

**37. New Survey** <sup>X</sup> **Resurvey** \_\_\_\_\_

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Shelbyville</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>663800</u>	Northing <u>4224340</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]
				40. Coordi.Accuracy [ ]
41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):				
A. <u>16 663960 4224480</u>			D. <u>16 663380 4224140</u>	
B. <u>16 664000 4224360</u>			E. <u>16 663400 4224320</u>	
C. <u>16 663520 4224080</u>			F. <u>-----</u>	
42. Total Acreage in Present Property: <u>238</u>	43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: <u>13.81</u>			
44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):				

The property is a turn-of-the-century farm complex, located on the Hempridge Road, south of Jephtha Knob in the eastern third of the county. The buildings of the 240 acre farm are located on a flat ridge with hillsides that fall to the Southern Railroad tracks south and southeast and Wolf Run creek to the north and northwest. Timber and grass forage cover the side slopes. Twelve buildings and features are included within the boundary which encompasses the rather flat ridge on which the buildings are sited along an east-west line over 300 yards in length. The north, south and west boundary lines follow the 830 foot contour line shown on the accompanying U.S.G.S. map that conveniently encircles the buildings and forms a visual cutoff for the land that slopes away from the buildings. The eastern boundary is formed by a north-south line that connects the 830 foot contour about 200 feet east of the front of the house. This boundary includes the planted trees surrounding the house.

45. Description and House Plan:

The property is a turn-of-the-century farm complex, located on the Hempridge Road, south of Jephtha Knob in the eastern third of the county. The buildings of the 240 acre farm are located on a flat ridge with hillsides that fall to the Southern Railroad tracks south and southeast and Wolf Run creek to the north and northwest. Timber and grass forage cover the side slopes. The original road into the farm paralleled Wolf Run from the Hempridge Road then cut south, up the hill to the rear area of the domestic buildings (photo 12-17). The present drive follows the flat ridge from the road about 1/2 mile to the buildings. This siting, so isolated from the main road, distinguishes the Shropshire farm from other turn-of-the-century farms that were commonly built in close proximity to the road. The property includes a modest sized, one and one-half story, Classical Revival residence, unique to Shelby County, four domestic out buildings, a stock barn, concrete silo, milk house, tobacco barn and three miscellaneous farm buildings. All are sited on the flat ridge in a long extension with the domestic buildings grouped to the east and farm buildings connected to the west by a gravel drive that links the two areas. Eight of the twelve buildings and features contribute to the property's integrity.

13. Statement of Significance, continued

locations and functions suggest the workings of such an operation. Additionally, the site is the only identified farm from this era located within the hilly, eastern third of the county that has maintained the significant majority of its historic integrity.

14. History, continued

passenger trains.

45. Description and House Plan, continued

The residence is a one and one-half story, frame dwelling with metal-clad hip roof; central, hip dormer; three, interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops; boxed eave guttering; 4" clapboard siding; dentil blocks; full, front hip porch with Tuscan columns; single light sash windows with molded hoods; a rough dressed ashlar foundation; and one story rear ell, original to the house, with hip roof and features similar to the main block (photos 12-15,16,20,24). Although never used, the half-story contains one large room, assumed to be potential living space. The plan of the main floor features four 16 square foot rooms that open to a central, eight foot hallway. The hall opens rear to the ell. Each room has a pinstriped iron mantle backed to its neighbor. The concrete piers beneath the porch columns that replace the original wood bases are the only known alterations to the house. Turn-of-the-century town residences that borrowed popular Classical Revival forms were fairly common at this time, but the Shropshire house is a rare county example of the form. Most turn-of-the-century farm houses, unless built for tenants or workers, stood two stories, and most often assumed the center passage t-plan, the eventual evolution from the I-house, center passage plan. However, despite a unique exterior form, the Shropshire house maintains local historical tradition with an interior double pile, center passage plan.

West of the residence in the rear yard area are four domestic out buildings and a garage to the northwest, where the old road used to access the site (photos 12-18,19). From south to north, they are a meat house, storage building and chicken coop. The meat house, contemporary to the house, is of box construction with metal gable roof extended over the front, centered entry; board walls covered with brick patterned asphalt siding; concrete slab foundation and interior poles for hanging meat on hooks while being smoked. The wood shed, also original, was a hen house. It has board walls, box construction, gable roof and a shed attached to the north side. The shed is of later construction with box frame, shed roof and asphalt patterned brick siding over the board walls. The garage is two bay and open to the east, with gable roof, box construction and board walls. The garage and storage shed, because of later construction dates, are not counted as contributing elements of the property.

## 45. Description and House Plan

About 300 feet west of the domestic buildings, the gravel drive continues along the ridge to the stock barn, milk house and silo (photo 12-16). The drive continues another 200 feet beyond these buildings to the tobacco barn and pastures beyond where the land begins to slope towards the creek and railroad. Photo 12-28, taken from the east front of the tobacco barn, looks east to the two other areas of the farm, and shows the gradual slope to the north and south of the ridge on which these buildings are located. Large, planted maples frame and identify the house.

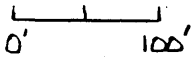
The stock barn, original to the farm, measures approximately 55' by 36' has a center drive; loft; shed to the south side; nailed frame with board sheathing; stone alignment foundation and double doors cut in half (like Dutch doors), to allow light into the drive and interior stalls. The half cut door was not common in this survey. Attached by a vestibule is a concrete, roofless silo with metal bands to the west gable end. The vestibule that connects the silo to the barn holds the fresh, unloaded silage before it is scooped to the cows. (Modern mechanical unloaders automatically unload the silage and send it down a conveyor between the stancions.) Two milk houses are to the north of the drive. The older had a cooler (like a large deep freezer compartment), that held ten gallon cans of milk, but but was replaced by the newer milk house nearer the barn.

The six bent tobacco barn (photo 12-27) stands at the west end of the site with metal ventilators and an attached stripping room that replaces the original (to the right in the photograph).

The property contains eight contributing buildings and two non-contributing buildings.

house	C
meat house	C
chicken coop	C
old milk house	C
milk house	C
stock barn	C
tobacco barn	C
silo	C
garage	NC
storage shed	NC

SH 263  
SHROPSHIRE FARM  
SITE PLAN  
SCALE APPROXIMATE



↑ PHOTOS

▨ NON-CONTRIBUTING

(SEE TOPO FOR UTM POINTS)

