

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Bk 143

1. Historic Name(s) <u>Laban Shipp house</u>		22. ADD/County <u>Beuegrass / Bourbon</u>	
Original Owner <u>Laban Shipp</u>		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') <u>Shawhan V. C.</u> G.I.S. Mod. <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Present Name <u>Spears house, Harshaway</u>		24. UTM Reference <u>16 740140 4240540</u>	
3. Location <u>410 m. W of 1940 on Flat Run, on lane commencing about 1 mi S of Rudder's Mill</u>		Zone Easting Northing	
4. Owner's Name <u>Charles S. Spears, Jr. 987-4716</u>		25. Coordinate Accuracy <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Owner's Address <u>Box 143, Route 3, Paris, Ky. 40361</u>		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	
6. Open to Public Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization		27. National Register District Name: <input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow <u>see attached boundary form</u>		28. Significance Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Architect		29. Status Date	
12. Builder <u>John Metcalf</u>		National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
13. Date <u>1789</u> A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		National Register <input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Style A. <u>Georgian Federal</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Original Use <u>residence</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Kentucky Survey <input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Present use <u>residence</u>		Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Condition <u>excellent</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Description <u>2 story 5 bay ashlar house of finest quality. The front facade has carefully tooled masonry, 9 stone voussair, square painting (now replaced); the rear (now used as front) has no voussairs, quarried stone, steeply painting.</u> (Continue on Back) <u>(over)</u>		30. Historic Theme Primary <u>architecture</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C Secondary <u>settlement</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> K Other <u>milling</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> L <u>(over)</u>	
No. Stories <u>2</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Single Pile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Preservation Project Status <input type="checkbox"/>	
Double Pile <input type="checkbox"/>		Actual Cost in \$1,000s <input type="checkbox"/>	
Floor Plan <u>central passage</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		33. ATTACH PHOTO <u>attached</u>	
Structural Fabric <u>stone</u> A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		Roll No. _____	
Decorative Fabric <u>ashlar square joints</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>denticled cornice</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>nodded hills</u> B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Picture No. _____	
Roof Form <u>gable</u>		Direction _____	
19. History <u>Built in 1789 by Laban Shipp (whose wife, Miss Montjoy, was sister of Gov. Garrard's wife) on his 1000 acre land grant. He built a grist mill on Flat Creek in</u> <u>(over)</u>		34. Prepared by: <u>C.M. Wooley</u>	
20. Significance <u>Outstanding example of the highest quality stone house; woodwork the finest of the time; sensitive restoration changes.</u> <u>(p. 3)</u>		35. Organization _____	
21. Source of Information <u>18: inspection</u> <u>19: Thomas, Old Ky Homes, Gardens p. 21 info from owner, attached</u>		36. Date <u>1982</u>	
		37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____	

18 cont.:

To the front was added at an early date a 2-room stone ell with ridgepole chimney between the rooms; ell has gougework dentils in the cornice of a style ^{often} attributed to Thomas, younger brother of the builder, John Metcalf, and may indicate that ell was Thomas's work. Both the main house and the ell have original finely tooled stone steps with nosing of similar shape to the window sills; the bottom step (wider than the others) has voluted ends - a feature of fine early Ky. Federal houses. (photo 3) (photo 6) (photo 9)

Federal houses.

On the E end of the house is a stone pitcher, originally single cell, connected to main block by an enclosed passage (now the kitchen). (photo 2)

The interior woodwork includes fine panelled fireplace walls, an open stair, and here shouldered architrave of Georgian influence. Living room mantel is from another Bourbon Co. house - it and the fanbursts in the panelling were added in the 1930's. Dining room panelled wall, presses, and mantel are original - good examples of Metcalf work. (photos 4, 8) (photo 7)

The house originally faced SE downhill. In the 1930's the house underwent remodeling and restoration. The rear door became the main entrance, facing new stone terraced gardens uphill, designed by an architect from Cincinnati. The pitcher wing was remodelled by enclosing the "dog trot" with stone; the arched porch was added, roof raised and chimney moved to center of new gable height. There appear to be the only structural changes. Restoration was carefully done - pegged frames, oval trim, milled sills, locks from England. Mortar, however, was replaced with concrete. (photo 1)

18 cont. (page 3):

(photo 10) Within the yard is the stone spring house (1930's) (photo 11) stone smoke house, and stone slave quarters (photo 12) (now the garage) all were repaired and ~~ref~~ re-roofed in the 30's. The rock fence has been entirely rebuilt with concrete.

19 cont.:

front of the house and added another 1500 acres to his land in 1793. In 1817 all was sold to Abram Spears, who continued to operate the grist mill, and owned it till 1860 when sold to L. Bedford. Spears was the great-great-great-grandfather of the present owner, whose uncle, Edward Spears, repurchased the property in 1935 and repaired the house and beautiful farm.

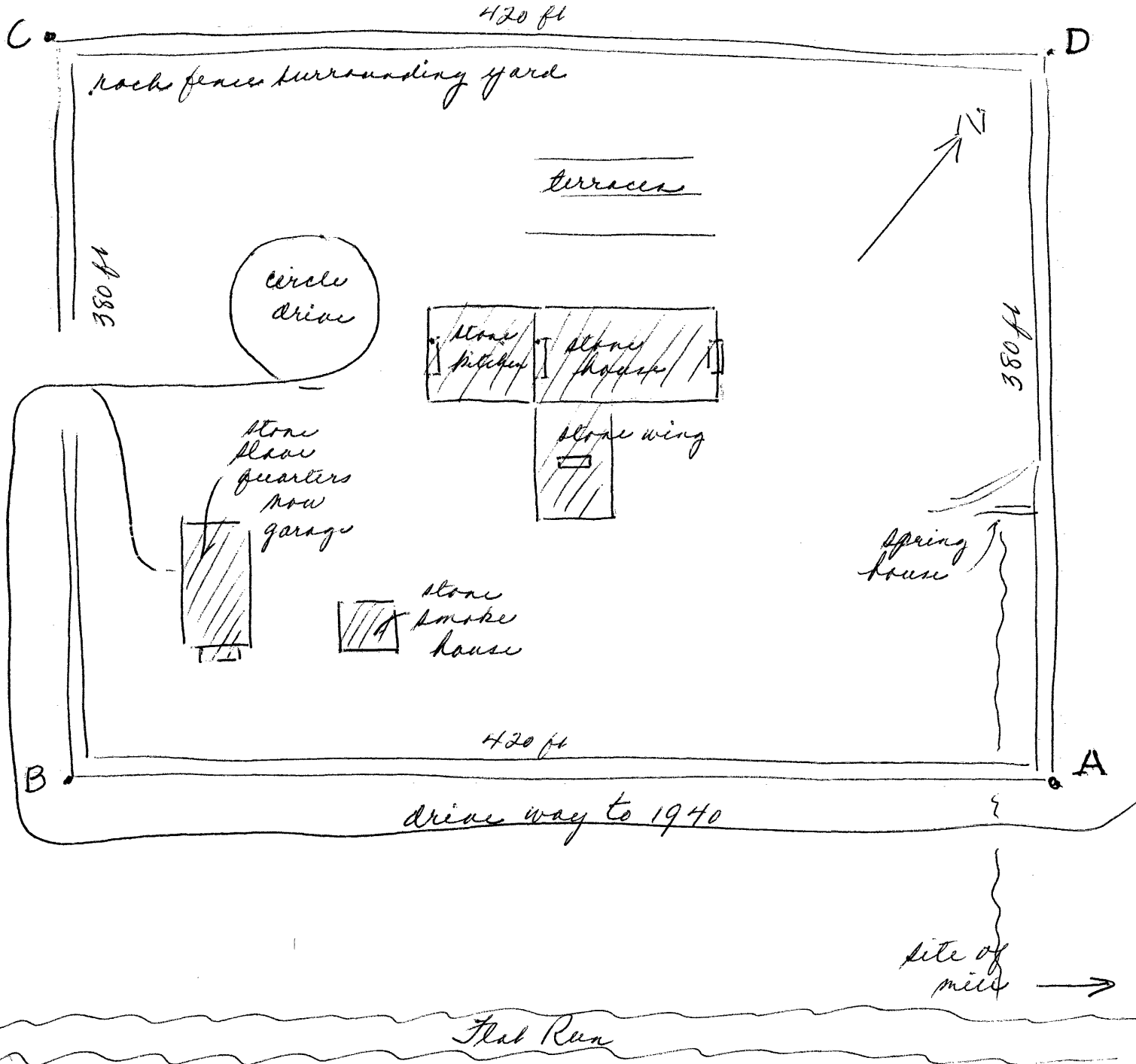
30 cont.:

landscape architecture Q

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION & JUSTIFICATION

Beginning at A in the corner of the yard near the spring branch, thence ~~SW~~ around yard outside rock fence 420 ft SW, 380 ft NW, 420 ft NE, and 380 ft SE to the beginning containing the house, addition, spring house, smoke house quarters and rock fence. The mill was outside this boundary. Other building on the farm are not old. 3 2/3 acres.

SKETCH MAP OF SITE SHOWING BOUNDARIES AND KEY BUILDINGS AND FEATURES WITH NORTH ARROW.



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