

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

APR 25 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Julian Farm
other names/site number FR-189

2. Location

street & number South side U.S. 60, 4 miles west of Frankfort not for publication
city, town Bridgeport vicinity
state Kentucky code KY county Franklin code 073 zip code 40601

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>12</u>	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>35</u>	objects
			<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
David L. Morgan 4-19-88
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Commonwealth of Kentucky
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register 5/28/88
 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:)
Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence

Processing

Storage

Agricultural Field

Irrigation Facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence

Processing

Storage

Agricultural Field

Irrigation Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone-Limestone

walls Weatherboard

Stone-Limestone

roof Metal-Tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Julian Farm encompasses approximately 336 acres of rural agricultural land in Franklin County, Kentucky. It is situated along U.S. 60 four miles west of Frankfort, Kentucky. Immediately west of the farm is the town of Bridgeport, which originated in the early nineteenth century as a stage stop. Although the farm has gained and lost acreage since Charles Julian purchased it ca. 1812, it incorporates essentially the entire 300-acre plot granted in 1784 to William Armstrong, whose heirs sold the property to Julian. This historic cultural landscape retains many of the natural features that drew Charles Julian to this particular acreage as well as cultural features that express certain facets of early settlement of the region, the concepts of experimental farming held by a well educated and wealthy early nineteenth-century Kentucky settler, and the adaptations and improvements which enabled his holdings to continue as a functioning farm to the present day.

Franklin County is located in the central portion of Kentucky on the northwestern edge of the Bluegrass cultural landscape region, a region of national reputation for rich agricultural production associated primarily with livestock. Characterized by a limestone base and undulating topography which permits excellent drainage and good availability of water. The area is generally recognized for its excellent soils. Franklin County is located just north of Woodford County and the core of the Bluegrass Region. When moving from the heart of the Bluegrass into Franklin County, one finds patches of the essential Bluegrass topography characterized by rolling hills and limestone-rich soils, but the county as a whole lacks the soils in its northernmost areas.

Frankfort, established as the seat of government for the Kentucky Commonwealth in 1792, lies between Kentucky's two largest cities: Lexington, 27 miles to the southeast, and Louisville, 50 miles to the west. Prior to the construction of Interstate 64, U.S. 60, the road along the Julian Farm's northern boundary, was the major artery connecting Lexington, Frankfort and Louisville. Although U.S. 60 achieved its present alignment during the 1930s, it was present throughout the nineteenth century in a slightly different route. Some of the changes to this road are evidenced on the front of the Julian farm: to the east of the entrance is an abandoned section of U.S. 60 about a half-mile in length which retains the original road treatment including the one-and-a-half lane width. A concrete bridge of ca. 1930 is in excellent condition and remains in this section. Other U.S. 60 improvements to the west of the main entrance are evidenced by missing sections of the stone fence which originally ran the length of the front of the farm.

Currently there are 16 rural Franklin County properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and an additional three districts and 16 individual properties and archaeological sites within the corporate limits of Frankfort. In 1986-87, a comprehensive survey of Franklin County

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Exploration/Settlement
Agriculture

Period of Significance

C. 1784 - 1820
1812 - 1938

Significant Dates

N/A
N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Julian Farm constitutes one of the most significant historic cultural landscapes in Franklin County and the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. Illuminated by a comprehensive daily journal compiled during the first two decades of the nineteenth century and significant in its own right, the approximately 336-acre farm provides a rare glimpse of agricultural practices and other aspects of rural life during the area's early development. At the property's western and northern reaches, road beds and a church site associated with the farm's first settlers represent the origins of the earliest community in southwest Franklin County. The tenure of the Julian family is reflected in the majority of the landscape, distinguished by remnants of stone fences and water gaps interspersed with mature foliage and hardwoods that define early nineteenth-century field patterns. Concentrated in the center of the property, there are stone and frame domestic and agricultural buildings, all well preserved, that chronicle the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In combination with the natural features that drew Charles Julian to this land in 1812, these cultural resources represent a history of the agricultural development marked by conservation-minded methods followed by Julian and respected by successive generations of his family to the present day.

Specifically, the nominated property meets three criteria and one criteria consideration for National Register listing. Under Criterion A it is locally significant in the area of exploration/settlement for encompassing the sites of portions of the Buffalo Trace traversed by the area's explorers and first settlers, of one of Franklin County's earliest churches, and of a portion of the county's first road system. The cemetery at the church site is locally significant under Criteria Consideration D in the area of exploration/settlement as the only surviving tangible resource associated with the church. Significance under Criterion A also extends to agriculture as represented by the remnants of early stone fences that partially delineate the intact early nineteenth-century field patterns and by an assortment of domestic and agricultural buildings reflective of historic land management techniques. Early stone fences and a granary and numerous frame buildings dating from the nineteenth through early twentieth centuries also render the farm significant under Criterion C as representative examples of agricultural building types. Under Criterion D, the Julian Farm is important for the information it is likely to yield about initial, late eighteenth-century development through archaeological investigation of the domestic yard and about early nineteenth-century farming methods through in-depth analysis in conjunction with the study of Charles Julian's journal. Altogether, the property's period of significance ranges from circa 1784 to 1937; in all respects the level of significance is local to regional.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Circuit Court of Franklin County, Kentucky. Deed and Will Books.

Jillson, Willard Roase. A Glimpse of Old Bridgeport. Kentucky Historical Society, 1956.

Julian, Charles. Original Document--"Receipt Book." In possession of Mrs. Charles A. Julian, Frankfort, Ky.

"Miss Mary Page's Reminiscences--Ninety Years Old at This Writing." The State Journal. 4 October 1936.

Murray-Wooley, Carolyn. "Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky." National Register Nomination, March 1983.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 335.89

Frankfort West, KY

UTM References

A

1	6	6	8	2	0	0	0	4	2	2	6	5	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	6	6	8	1	9	2	0	4	2	2	5	3	2	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	6	6	8	0	7	0	0	4	2	2	5	3	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	6	6	8	0	5	4	0	4	2	2	5	8	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Julian Farm is shown as the bold line on the accompanying map "Mrs. Charles A. Julian Farm," and labelled, "Julian Farm Resource Map and Photo Key."

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all of the grant purchased by Charles Julian in 1812 and consists of all of the portion of the Julian family's farm which continues to convey the historic character for which it is being nominated.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia R. Brown, National Register Coordinator; & William B. Scott, Jr., Private Consultant
organization Kentucky Heritage Council date March 1988
street & number Capital Plaza Tower, 12th Floor telephone 502/564-7005
city or town Frankfort state Kentucky zip code 40601

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 2

produced a Multiple Resources Area nomination consisting of 40 properties, which was approved by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board in September, 1986, and currently is undergoing final revisions by the Kentucky Heritage Council.

The layout of the Julian Farm is typical of an early nineteenth-century farm in the Bluegrass region and as such reflects its traditional use for raising both livestock and crops. Early field patterns are indicated by ancient hedge rows that have grown into tree lines and by stone and timber fences. Lower Benson Creek, the most significant natural resource of the farm, meanders through the center of the property as the primary source of water for grazing livestock, historically the farm's primary income producer. Perhaps the most visually distinctive natural area is a large savannah of more than 200-year-old deciduous trees flanking the main driveway and extending east to the boundary. The nucleus of the farm is divided into two distinct areas: the domestic compound and, to the east, the adjacent agricultural compound. Located on the highest ground of the farm, the domestic compound consists of the main residence, a smoke house and a granary. Originally, there was a servants quarter here as well. At a lower elevation to the east, on the Lower Benson Creek, the agricultural compound consists of a stock barn, corn crib and two shed barns. Late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century tobacco barns appear throughout the farm adjacent to fields in which tobacco is cultivated. Altogether, there are 35 contributing and six non-contributing cultural resources on the farm, as follows:

Contributing Cultural Resources**Buildings**

2. Smoke House
3. Granary
7. Stock Barn
9. Corn Crib
10. Barn
13. Wood Shed
14. Chicken House
15. Tobacco Barn
16. Shed
17. Tobacco Stripping Shed
18. Tobacco Barn
19. Tobacco Stripping Shed
20. Tobacco Barn

Structures

22. Roadbed Flagging
24. Main Entrance
25. Stone Fence
26. Stone Fence with 1 Water Gap (2 piers) and 1 Pair of Gate Posts.
27. Water Gap (7 piers)
28. Stone Retaining Wall

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 3

29. Water Gap (3 piers)
31. Water Gap (3 piers)
33. Spring Flagging
34. Stone Fence with 1 Complete Water Gap (2 piers) and 1 Pier of Another Water Gap
35. Spring Flagging
36. Remnant of Stone Fence with Water Gap (2 piers)

Sites

4. Servants Quarter Foundation
5. Domestic Midden
6. Spring House Foundation
8. Silo Foundation
21. Quarry
23. U.S. 60 Roadbed (abandoned)
32. Remnants of Buffalo Trace
37. Lower Benson Presbyterian Church Site and Graveyard
38. Arnold's Ferry Road (abandoned), with Bridge Pier Remains
39. New Castle Road (abandoned)

Non-Contributing Cultural Resources

Buildings

1. Main Residence
11. Equipment Shed
12. Silo
41. Tenant House

Sites

30. Wright Graveyard
40. Indian Settlement Site

NATURAL RESOURCES

Regarding five of its eight primary natural features, the Julian Farm might be considered ideal for early settlement and later agricultural purposes. All of these natural features were present at the time Charles Julian purchased the farm from William Armstrong ca. 1812, and it appears that no significant early features have been lost.

Water sources are perhaps the most important natural features. The South Fork of the Big Benson Creek, popularly known as Lower Benson Creek or Armstrong's Branch, bisects the farm in a fashion that is ideal for irrigation and access. A historic path called the Buffalo Trace (#32), a primordial track created by herds of migratory animals later used by Native Americans and early settlers, followed this main creek bed. (Recovery of artifacts in the west-central area of the farm indicates an Indian settlement site (#40) which is not covered by the period of

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 4

significance for this nomination and thus is considered non-contributing.) The creek's distribution on the farm is great due to its many small forks and arms. Important is the fact that this branch of the Big Benson Creek is fed by a spring, located just north of the residential compound, and in the dry seasons it is one of the few streams in the county that continues to provide ample water. Two other natural springs on the farm are located just northwest of the main house and in the southwest section of the farm. All springs were improved during the early nineteenth century.

A primitive swamp is located on the southeast corner of the property, at the back of the farm. The swamp is approximately 200 feet long with a width of about 50 feet. Although having no agricultural value in itself, the swamp represents an interesting ecosystem as an unusual surviving example of its type, according to several botanists consulted. In developing the land, continual attempts to drain it have failed, suggesting that it, too, is spring fed.

Natural timberland once flourished on the farm. As Charles Julian originally planned the farm, about 50 acres were specifically set aside to be maintained as forest. The savannah located in the northeast corner of the farm (photo 1) originally was a dense forest of burr oak and ash trees which was mature at the time of Julian's original acquisition of the farm. The savannah's hardwoods are now considerably thinned out, but the area's evolution is evident due to the size and arrangement of the remaining trees.

Another timberland (photo 2) is located along the rear or south edge of the farm. Here, locust and poplar trees were planted in 1933 as part of a New Deal project undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps. This section of the farm has been left undisturbed since that period.

DOMESTIC COMPOUND

The current main residence (#1, photo 3), built in 1941, was designed by Clarence Julian Oberwarth, the first architect registered in Kentucky and the namesake of Clarence Julian, who was born here and owned the farm c. 1892-1937. The house is located on the site of the original main house, for which the first phase of construction dated to 1785, but was reoriented from the creek to the road at the north edge of the farm. Doorways and ceiling beams in the current dining room, the original main stairway (now leading to the basement), several exterior steps and part of the foundations from the earlier house were used in construction of the existing dwelling.

Archaeological investigations have determined the soil surrounding the residence to be of a midden type, which suggests that most of the area is untilled and upon further investigation would reveal evidence defining the layout of the original house as well as the rest of the domestic compound (#5, domestic midden).² Archaeological testing of this nature might also reveal the location of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings no longer standing that were immediately to the north of the current main residence (Exhibit B).³ The owners are very supportive of this type of study.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 5

There are two early outbuildings in excellent condition directly behind the main house: a granary (#3, photos 8 - 10) and a smoke house (#2, photos 4 - 7). Both are approximately 12' by 12' and were built about 1815; their plans appear in the "Receipt Book," a remarkable journal kept by Charles Julian throughout the first two decades of the nineteenth century (Exhibit F). The granary is a one-story building covered by a pyramidal roof and supported on two-foot square, dry-laid stone piers at the corners. Construction is mortise and tenon of hand-hewn members, the exterior is sheathed in weatherboards and the roof is covered with wood shingles. Some original weatherboards remain, but most have been replaced over the years; the west facade was resheathed in 1986. The granary has no windows and the only access is an original front door of vertical planks supported by strap hinges. The interior retains original working including grain bins and other mechanics. The granary is described on page 30 of the "Receipt Book" as "house to hold grain after it is gotten ready for market."

The smoke house is constructed of stone and is a tall one-story, side-gabled structure. It appears that a mud or clay mortar was used in the original construction and has disintegrated; a variety of mortars has been used in repointing in recent years. The roof is supported by hand-hewn joists and covered by wood shingles on the front and standing seam metal on the rear. This building also has no windows, but there is a very narrow uncovered vent near the apex of the west gable. The front door, with a pegged heavy wood frame, provides the only access to the smoke house, which is shown on page 83 of Julian's day book. The interior retains exposed rafters used for hanging hams and a log twelve feet long and three feet in diameter which is bored out to form a trough used for salting the hams.

Very evident buried foundations are all that remain of one outbuilding close to the house. They previously supported the Servants Quarter (#4, photo 11), also probably dating from ca. 1815. The foundations measure approximately 12' x 24', dimensions which suggest that the building consisted of two rooms. The double-cell plan is that most frequently found among surviving contemporary quarters in the region.

Two structures from the ca. 1900 period of development of the farm also adjoin the house. They are located just beyond the south corner of the compound, close to the smoke house and granary (photo 4). Of similar construction, both are single-story and shed-roofed, of board and batten frame construction, and measure 20' x 20'. The building closest to the residence is the wood shed (#13, Exhibit D). The other, directly behind it, originally served as a chicken house (#14, photo 47, Exhibit D) and now is used as a tack shed. Both are in good repair.

AGRICULTURAL COMPOUND

A well-defined agricultural compound (Exhibit C) is situated to the east of the residential compound. Primarily a stock area, it was originally enclosed by barriers on four sides, mainly stone fences and the natural contours, most of which still exist.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 6

The principal structure is the stock barn (#7, photos 13 - 17) with original stone foundations and hewn-timber sills dating to the early 1800s. These foundations and the general layout of the barn are similar to drawings in Julian's day book on page 30, referred to therein as "a barn shedded on three sides." The barn measures 38' x 70' with 12' wide sheds running its length. Some of the timber used in the current superstructure, believed to date from the mid-to late-nineteenth century, is hand hewn and probably was reused from the original barn. On the west side of the barn a retaining wall (photo 15, discussed under "Stone Structures" below) running the length of the building serves as a boundary of the compound.

The other cultural resources in the agricultural compound are located north and south of the stock barn. Directly in front of the barn are the foundations of an old silo (#8, photo 18) approximately 10 feet in diameter which probably relate to the building shown at approximately this site in Julian's day book on page 30. A corn crib (#9, photo 19, Exhibit D) next to the stock barn may date from the 1880s. It is a one-story frame structure with a central corn bin measuring 8' x 24'; early 10' 6"-long engaged sheds open at each end on the north and south sides parallel to the crib; and an additional modern 11' 6" open shed attached to the earlier north shed. Board and batten siding covers the long sides of the central corn bin, weatherboards cover the gable end, and vertical boards sheathe the long facades of the sheds. To the north are a barn and an equipment shed. The barn (#10, photo 20, Exhibit D) is of a similar construction and vintage as the corn crib. Sheathed in a vertical board siding, it has a front gabled central room flanked by engaged sheds, the south being storage and the north a shop. The entire structure measures 20' 8" x 43' 6". The simple gable-roofed, 20' x 50' storage shed (#11, photo 21) to the north is non-contributing, built in about 1960 of corrugated metal over a wood frame. One other modern structure, a silo (#12), is located immediately south of the stock barn.

TOBACCO-RELATED BUILDINGS

The farm features three typical Kentucky tobacco barns dating from ca. 1880 to 1900, a period significant in the growth of Kentucky's white burley industry. All three barns measure 40' X 60' and are of rough frame construction with vertical board siding which accommodates ventilation slats the full height of the building. Originally, each contained seven tiers of tobacco hanging racks. The barn just south of the residential compound (#15, photo 22) was reworked with the installation of horse stalls in 1978. Despite the conversion, the barn remains virtually intact on the exterior and thus continues to contribute to the historic landscape. This barn retains two related buildings: to the north, a single-story frame stripping shed sheathed in board and batten and measuring 20' X 24' (#17, photo 23, Exhibit D); and, to the south, a small dilapidated storage shed of similar construction measuring 12 feet square (#16). Another barn northwest of the residential compound (#18, photo 24) retains its original roof vent but has had two grain storage bins added to one side. Adjacent to this barn is another dilapidated tobacco stripping shed (#19) measuring 15' x 20' and identical in construction to the other sheds. The third barn (#20, photo 25), situated in the northeast portion of the farm, remains intact with the exception of modern replacement roof vents. All three barns are in good condition.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 7

STONE STRUCTURES

Altogether, the stonework throughout the farm constitutes one of the property's most impressive features. Stone fences, gateways, roadwork and water gaps, all of similar workmanship, represent a scientific approach to farm development in the early nineteenth century.

The farm's quarry (#21, photo 26) was the source for much of the excellent quality limestone used extensively on the farm. Exposed bedrock in many areas of the property may have been used as well. The quarry was known for its excellent stone and in the 1850s was publicly condemned to provide materials used in the construction of certain sections of the highway today designated U.S. 60 fronting the farm. Measuring approximately 100' by 50', the quarry has not been used since the turn of the century and currently is somewhat eroded and overgrown.

Fences and Water Gaps

As Charles Julian developed his farm, he had a network of dry-laid stone fences constructed. Numerous remnants, several of considerable length, remain throughout the farm. They are typical of stone fences built across the Bluegrass region during the early nineteenth century in their construction of fairly flat limestone rocks laid on the horizontal and capped by a single course of similarly shaped rocks placed diagonally or almost vertically. At each of the seven points the fences cross a branch of the creek, a water gap was incorporated. Consisting of wood-slatted gates suspended by ropes from a wood or metal pole spanning stone piers, the gaps continue the fence lines without impeding the flow of water; when the creek runs high, the gates can be raised by the ropes to allow debris to pass. Today, varying lengths of stone fencing remain attached to piers at four of the water gaps, while the others are free-standing and flanked by newer plank or post and wire fencing.

The longest stone fences are found at the edge of the agricultural compound and at the farm's north boundary. At the compound, once completely enclosed in stone, the stone fence (#34, photo 41) runs just over 400 feet on the east side of the creek, where it incorporates one water gap pile (photo 42) engaged in the wall, and turns to the west at a complete water gap (photo 43) consisting of a pier on each side of the creek. Intermittently, the fence extends to the stock barn, running the entire length of its south elevation as a retaining wall. At the north edge of the farm, one stretch of stone fencing (#26, photo 31) runs in an irregular line for a distance of 500 feet along the west side of a branch of Lower Benson Creek, turns east at a water gap (photo 32), and continues another couple of hundred feet; near the east end there is a pair of square-in-section dry-laid stone gate posts supporting a dilapidated slatted wooden gate (photo 33-34). Much of the stone coping on these two fencing sections has been disturbed so that it is now randomly placed. The property's entire north frontage along the current and abandoned sections of U.S. 60 formerly was marked by a stone fence. Although twentieth-century road development caused the destruction of most of this fence, a section extending along the abandoned portion of the roadbed 550 feet east and 760 feet west of the main entrance remains standing and in excellent condition (#25, photo 30). The main entrance (#24, photo 29), erected ca. 1910-15, consists of curved walls flanking the driveway, each with a taller square-in-section pier at each end. In contrast to the fencing, it is constructed of mortared, random-coursed light limestone with concrete coping. Short remnants of early stone fences also survive at the south corner of the domestic compound and east of the north tobacco barn.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 8

At the water gaps, the piers vary in shape and size, the latter apparently depending in part upon the length of the gate to be supported. The greater the length of the gate, the thicker the piers. If the gate is short, as in the gap in the long stone fence next to the agricultural compound, the piers are not much thicker than the rest of the fence, whereas the piers of wider gaps (for example, #31) are much larger. Most of the piers in the Julian Farm gaps are approximately square, about four feet on each side, and range in height from about five to eight feet. The pier in the middle of the creek in the gap at the northwest corner of the farm (#29, photo 38) is rounded, as are the two piers flanking the creek in the gap immediately east of the stock barn (photo 43).

The number of piers and gates at each gap depends upon the width of the creek and the number of its branches to be crossed. Most of the gaps have two or three piers. The most interesting and complex of the gaps span two branches at a fork of the creek and consists of seven piers (#27, photos 35 & 36, Exhibit E). Four piles north of the junction appear to have been connected by rails forming a fence and the two piles between the branches are connected by a small stone wall. Relative to this system is a section of dry-laid stone retaining wall on the creek bank (#28, photo 37).

Apparently all of the piers originally were of dry-laid stone construction, but the piers of certain gaps, in particular those with three piers north of the residential compound (#31, photo 39) and at the northwest corner of the farm (#29, photo 38), have been rebuilt with mortar. The introduction of mortar probably was required first for those piers located in the middle of the creek where erosion would have been greatest. Sometime in the first quarter of this century, these mortared piers also had their original logs replaced with metal poles and their tops capped with concrete, apparently to better secure the new poles. Most of the water gap piers are in very good condition due in large part to the excellent foundation provided by the creek's bedrock. Two of the piers in the seven-pier gap (#31) have been reduced to rubble and one pier of a gap in the stone fence east of the agricultural compound has been lost altogether.

Springs and Internal Roads

The farm's three primary springs were improved and protected early in the nineteenth century. The most significant improvement was made to the spring approximately 200 yards northwest of the main house. It is described on page 83 of Charles Julian's day book (Exhibit F) as a 14' x 16' springhouse. Today, only one 16-foot-long foundation wall, of dry-laid stone, remains intact (#6, photo 12). The two other springs on Lower Benson Creek north of the main house (#33, photo 40) and in the southwest area of the farm (#35) simply have rock flagging directly around the spring openings.

Internal roads from the early development period show evidence of having been carefully constructed with stone flagging along the edges. The best example (#22, photo 27) is at the south end of the portion of the lane running through the agricultural compound. Here, several straightly aligned stones, exposed about three inches above the ground, run for about four feet along both outer edges of the road.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 9**OTHER STRUCTURES & SITES**

Three abandoned roads are located at the periphery of the farm. The entire south boundary formerly was marked by Arnold's Ferry Road (#38), while the entire west side of the property was bounded by New Castle Road (#39). (The legal boundaries of the farm run down the center lines of these roads.) Noted in early nineteenth-century records and shown in the 1882 Atlas of Franklin County, Kentucky, both of these road beds are still very much in evidence. The Arnold's Ferry road site also incorporates the remains of early nineteenth-century stone bridge piers at the Lower Benson Creek crossing. In addition, the full width of an abandoned section of U.S. 60 (#23, originally the "Big Road" or Frankfort-Louisville Road dating to the turn of the 19th century, and in the 1810s improved as the Frankfort-Louisville Turnpike) provides access to the farm's main entrance, near the northeast corner of the property.

A small cemetery at the northwest corner of the farm (#30) suggests that this area was developed with residences in the mid-nineteenth century. (The 1882 atlas shows buildings in the vicinity, but no structural remains have been discovered.) The cemetery contains headstones for Henry B. Wright, July 5, 1841 - January 19, 1865; Sarah Wright, February 27, 1810 - August 28, 1860; and Rhoda Wright, March 6, 1883 - April 16, 1860. This site does not meet Criteria Consideration D and thus is a non-contributing resource.

In 1803, Robert Armstrong deeded approximately ten acres at the southeast corner of this property to Lower Benson Presbyterian Church. Although the church building was razed in 1844, the adjoining graveyard containing approximately 40 headstones survives. All of the church site, with the exception of the western half of the cemetery, is located on the Julian farm (#37, photos 45 & 46). The headstones remaining, all on the Julian property, show the earliest known burial to have been Matthew Clark, 1791-Feb. 26, 1814, whose son, Joseph married Charles Julian's daughter, Harriet, and the last to have been Henry Saint Julian, May 29, 1813-Oct. 29, 1879. Other Julian family members buried here are Charles Julian, June 9, 1774 - June 19, 1837; Jane Julian, Oct. 4, 1777 - Jan. 19, 1851; and Charles H. Julian, Sept. 3, 1806 - April 13, 1853. Because this cemetery is the only visible resource associated with the locally significant Lower Benson Presbyterian Church, this site is contributing under Criteria Consideration D.

Finally, at the northwest corner of the property there is a small one-story frame tenant house built in the 1950s and considered non-contributing (#41).

NOTES

¹Cultural Resources in Numerical Order:

1. Main Residence
2. Smoke House
3. Granary
4. Servants Quarter Site
5. Domestic Midden

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 7 Page 10

6. Spring House Foundation
7. Stock Barn
8. Silo Foundation
9. Corn Crib
10. Barn
11. Equipment Shed
12. Silo
13. Wood Shed
14. Chicken House
15. Tobacco Barn
16. Storage Shed
17. Tobacco Stripping Shed
18. Tobacco Barn
19. Tobacco Stripping Shed
20. Tobacco Barn
21. Quarry
22. Roadbed Flagging
23. U.S. 60 Roadbed (abandoned)
24. Main Entrance
25. Stone Fence
26. Stone Fence with 1 Water Gap (2 piers) and 1 Pair of Gate Posts
27. Water Gap (7 piers)
28. Stone Retaining Wall
29. Water Gap (3 piers)
30. Wright Graveyard
31. Water Gap (3 piers)
32. Remnants of Buffalo Trace
33. Spring Flagging
34. Stone Fence with 1 Complete Water Gap (2 piers) and 1 Pier of Another Water Gap
35. Spring Flagging
36. Remnant of Stone Fence with Water Gap (2 piers)
37. Lower Benson Presbyterian Church Site and Graveyard
38. Arnold's Ferry Road (abandoned), with Bridge Pier Remains
39. New Castle Road (abandoned)
40. Indian Settlement Site
41. Tenant House

²Historic archaeological investigations were conducted at the site in the summer of 1986 by Nancy O'Malley of the University of Kentucky. The investigations consisted of reconnaissance survey, shovel tests, and soil coring.

³A site plan drawn by Charles A. Julian in 1971 depicts the residential compound and certain several adjacent buildings to the north (no longer standing) as they existed during the 1920s (Exhibit E). The sites of several buildings referenced in Julian's day book but not yet located also may be in this compound.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 2

Explorers first entered the area later to become Franklin County, Kentucky, in 1774 when a group of frontiersmen led by James Harrod ventured more than sixty miles down the Kentucky River. In search of good settlement sites, Harrod sent Richard Benson on a tour of the valley of a sizeable creek flowing into the Kentucky. Both the creek and the valley soon were to be designated by Benson's name--South Benson Creek and South Benson Valley, respectively. In the course of his wilderness journey, Benson is believed to have discovered and followed a primordial track known as the Buffalo Trace which ran across the creek valley to the southeast, along the edge of the site which would become the community of Bridgeport, and along a branch, later known both as Lower Benson Creek and Armstrong's Branch, that flows across the Julian Farm. The Buffalo Trace originally was followed by large herds of buffalo and later used by early hunter-gatherer groups of Native Americans, who often established temporary settlements in proximity to the route. In one of the Julian Farm's pastures west of the track, a Native American encampment is evidenced by numerous artifacts. (Although it merits further study and may be eligible for the National Register, this settlement site is not covered by the period and areas of significance specified herein for the Julian Farm and, therefore, is considered non-contributing for the purposes of this nomination.) As indicated by Benson's travels, the trace was to become essential to the area's historic development. While most indications of the Buffalo Trace along the branch have been obliterated, portions of the path remain clearly marked near the point it is crossed by the driveway, which follows the historic entrance to the property.

Several miles to the south, Benson found yet another creek (Little Benson Creek), which he followed back to Harrod's party on the Kentucky River. Although Benson established a homestead (of which nothing survives) on Little Benson Creek in 1775, almost a decade would pass before the South Benson Valley to the north would receive its first settler. On March 6, 1781, William Armstrong made an entry for 300 acres of land "on the Kentucky River," now the greater portion of the Julian Farm. A rectilinear survey of his entry on Lower Benson Creek, henceforth popularly known as Armstrong's Branch, bears the completion date of January 29, 1783, and was referenced in the grant to Armstrong. Governor Benjamin Harrison of Virginia signed the grant, which refers to the "Buffalo Road," on April 20, 1784. By the end of 1785, five other settlers would obtain grants to large tracts adjoining Armstrong's property. On the grant nearby to the west, mills and taverns built during the next few decades would give rise to the town of Bridgeport, named in 1835 and incorporated in 1847.

Within a few months of securing his grant and with the aid of his father, John Armstrong, and brothers John, Robert and Lanty, William Armstrong began construction of a 26-foot-square hewn log house on a knoll overlooking the branch.¹ Over the next 150 years, this building was improved and enlarged with frame additions until the original structure was completely obscured. That block was revealed in 1941 when the dwelling was dismantled. The replacement house rests on portions of the old foundation and utilizes early beams, doors and casings in the dining room. It is not known if William Armstrong ever lived here and made additional improvements to the 300-acre tract or merely erected the log building to fulfill the requirements of his land grant. Future archaeological investigation of the midden soil throughout the domestic yard should reveal additional information about the property's development by the Armstrongs.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 3

The scant additional information on William Armstrong comes from tax and land records. Shortly after he was granted the 300-acre tract, he received another grant for 472 acres to the southwest, closer to the future town of Bridgeport. By 1794, he had increased his holdings to 815 acres, as well as ten horses and twenty head of cattle. It is surmised that William left the South Benson Valley sometime after 1794 as he does not appear in subsequent Franklin County tax records. Disposition of the 300-acre farm for the next several years is unknown, but by the early nineteenth century his brother Robert had control of the property and certainly was living here in 1812.²

By the time Kentucky became a state in 1792, all of the South Benson Valley was in private ownership as grants or farms. In his history of the Bridgeport area, Willard Jillson attributes this development to the area's location on a principal travel route, the obvious richness of the soil where exposed by stream wash, and the terrain's agricultural suitability despite its rolling hills. At the turn of the nineteenth century, the plain crossed by the road from Frankfort to the west was well settled and much of it had been cleared.

One indication of the completion of the settlement phase of development in the South Benson Valley was the network of roads that had begun to take shape. In addition to the "Big Road" connecting Frankfort and Louisville (roughly parallel to U.S. 60 at the north edge of the Julian Farm where a portion of the original route survives), the lane that was to be named Arnold's Ferry Road, the southern boundary of the Julian Farm, was in use.³ This road no longer appears on current maps of the area, but early nineteenth-century remnants of the road bed's stone flagging and abutments for its crossing at Armstrong's Branch remain clearly evident. A principal north-south route, also replaced, ran along the farm's south boundary where its road bed remains visible. Known as the New Castle-Harrodsburg Road, this road connected New Castle, seat of Henry County to the northwest, with Harrodsburg to the southeast.

The local importance of Arnold's Ferry Road increased considerably after 1803 when Robert Armstrong donated a plot of land at the southeast corner of his brother William's 1784 grant for use by the Lower Benson Church. Franklin County's second Presbyterian Church, Lower Benson Church had been organized the previous year by a group of 26 area residents who included Robert Armstrong and his wife Jane. The Armstrongs and six other organizers had been members of Upper Benson Church, the first Presbyterian Church in the area, established four-and-one-half miles southeast on Little Benson Creek in 1795. The organizing minister was the Reverend Samuel Shannon, who had started the Upper Benson Church, and Robert Armstrong was one of the congregation's first elders. After Armstrong donated the land, the church erected a one-story log church house at the west end of the parcel and set aside the rest for an extensive cemetery. The church grew rapidly, due in large part to the fact that it was the Presbyterian Church in closest proximity to Frankfort, which did not establish a church until 1816. By this attraction of numerous city attendants for many years, Lower Benson Church was an important symbol of the developing network of rural-urban associations as well as an indication of the early significance of Arnold's Ferry Road, especially prior to the improvements made to the Frankfort-Louisville Road as a public turnpike in the 1810s. The church building's local importance also extended to education as it was used for the area's first school, a subscription school begun in 1820 and conducted until the church abandoned the building in the mid 1840s.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 4

During the 1820s and 1830s, Lower Benson Church experienced periods of declining membership due to the absence of a regular pastor. A new minister was called to the church in 1841, when the Upper and Lower Benson Churches united, and thereafter the society flourished once again. In 1844 the congregation built larger quarters on the more heavily travelled Frankfort-Louisville Road and changed its name to Franklin Presbyterian Church.⁴ Although neither building remains standing, the cemetery survives at the southeast corner of the Julian Farm as the sole enduring monument to Lower Benson Church. This burial ground, the largest in the Bridgeport area, was made available to anyone in the South Benson Valley, as affirmed by the numerous headstones for individuals not listed in the membership rolls of Lower Benson Church, among them Matthew Clark, the first to be interred here (d. 26 February 1814), and four members of the Julian family.⁵

On September 24, 1813, Charles Julian of Fredericksburg in Stafford County, Virginia, purchased William Armstrong's 1784 land grant plus fourteen additional acres from Robert Armstrong and his wife Jane. The purchase price was \$10.19 per acre, or \$3,200 for the total 314 acres, described as that "on which the said Armstrong now lives."⁶ Within the next few years Julian purchased an additional 34 acres adjoining this farm, bringing the total acreage to 348 acres. The property was afterwards known variously as "Julian's Hill" and "Julian's Grove." Since Julian's original purchase, this acreage, with the exception of about 13 acres sold to accommodate the right of way of the Louisville Road (U.S. 60), has remained intact. Although Julian acquired more than 4,000 acres nearby and adjoining this property during the next two decades, relative to the original acreage he directed his family "to keep my house and plantation and everything on it, so that the house is never to be broke up or rented" and further that "the property is never to go into the possession of a stranger."⁷ To this end Charles Julian and successive generations have willed the farm to the youngest male in each generation. In most of these cases, operation of the farm has been left to older sons until the youngest reached adulthood.

Charles Julian was the eldest son of Dr. John Julian and Margaret Isabella Lounds Julian, both of French Huguenot descent. John and Charles were members of the Fredericksburg Lodge of Free Masons, which met at the elder Julian's home from 1756 to 1762. From this time, a close association formed between George Washington, also a member of the lodge, and John Julian, who became the Washington family physician. In 1785, when Charles was eleven, Isabella Julian took him to be educated in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he lived with his uncle, Dr. Lounds, physician to the local nobility. After earning his medical degree from the Edinburgh University, Charles travelled to France to take additional courses, but the outbreak of the French Revolution necessitated his return to Edinburgh. He subsequently returned to Fredricksburg where, like his father who served as a colonel and surgeon in the Revolutionary War, Charles practiced medicine. Charles, however, eventually gave up the profession for farming. In 1797, he married Jane Moore of Fredricksburg; the couple eventually had eleven children who lived to maturity.⁸

An intriguing circumstance related to Julian's choice of the land in southwestern Franklin County is his close relationship to Sir Robert Alexander, an internationally recognized livestock breeder of the period who maintained his status through his extensive Woodford County farm, Woodburn.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 5

The Julian and Alexander families had been well acquainted for many years and Robert Alexander, firmly established in Kentucky since the 1790s, may have been a strong catalyst for Charles Julian's interest in Kentucky. In view of this probable influence and of the contemporary acceptance of the superiority of the inner Bluegrass land, it seems somewhat odd that Julian settled in less desirable Franklin County as opposed to the neighboring inner Bluegrass Woodford County where he stayed upon his arrival in Kentucky in 1812. Apparently the Armstrong property was particularly attractive to Julian. Given the availability of better land in other portions of the Bluegrass Region and Julian's connections with prominent Kentuckians such as Robert Alexander, Julian's choice of this particular property and the well-planned way he proceeded to improve it suggest motives that challenge popular notions about the early settlement period of Kentucky.

His motives, as well as agricultural practices and other essential aspects of daily life in the early settlement period, may be illuminated by the journal which Julian kept from 1800 to around 1820 (Exhibit F). The small (4½" x 7½") leather bound volume labeled "Receipt Book" attests to visions of farming in the "New County" to the west that Julian harbored for many years prior to his actual departure from Virginia. The approximately 150 pages primarily address farming methods, interspersed with a variety of notes on matters ranging from management of slaves to formulas for livestock medicines. In addition, there are several balance sheets and other accounting records, including those of his transactions with the Armstrongs (page 95) and an 1814 inventory of his Franklin County property (page 85).

The first 105 pages of the journal, entitled "Observations on Best Methods to Manage Your Multipharious Concerns on a plantation I have yet seen (there may be improvements)," are consecutively numbered and begin with a table of contents. This section contains numerous and scholarly descriptions of experimental farming methods, observations on buildings, advice about raising livestock and crops, and other notes pertinent to his "moving to Kentucky on good land." There are entries on how to preserve or make certain foods and cure plant and livestock disease, the number of slaves needed for the efficient operation of a farm (the best ratio is one slave for every fifteen acres), and terms for an agreement with an overseer. Although much of this section appears to have been copied from other sources, many of the items seem to be based upon personal experiences or advice from associates. The earliest dated entries were made in the spring of 1800 and include a daily record of crops planted. Annotations in a darker ink apparently were made after the Julians' arrival in Kentucky. For example, a list of provisions near the beginning of the journal is bracketed with the title "In Kentucky what I have used and will use, First year" added. At the end of this section are a few pages subtitled "Experimental Knowledge so far as I can Judge since I came to Kentucky." Following the consecutively numbered section, numerous pages contain notes comparing crops, livestock, land values and climates made after 1813.

The brief treatises on domestic and agricultural buildings and site planning constitute the aspect of the journal that is most relevant to the Julian Farm's significance. Charles Julian recorded numerous observations and hints about construction, such as the advice, "Have your corn house well built and so close as not to admit the hand of a child or the head of a fowl" and specifications

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 6

for erecting a house upon arriving in the "New Country." Most of the items concerning the built environment feature drawings of plans, elevations, and cross sections. He included sketches of a barn shedded on three sides, stables, and a granary on page 30; a plan for a sheep barn on page 35; a plan of a barn yard with plank fencing that lists dimensions on page 45. On page 93, a very precisely drawn site plan depicting a dwelling, office, dairy, kitchen and smokehouse specifying sizes of each building and the distances in between as well as fence lines and a "hedge compound with green cedar." Elsewhere, ideal garden and field patterns are sketched. As several drawings have captions with the word "my" in the identification, it may be assumed that certain buildings shown in the journal actually were constructed. Dating to the first quarter of the nineteenth century, both the granary and the stone smoke house in the domestic yard serve as a laboratory for further analysis of the journal and early settlement building practices in the Bluegrass.

It is probable that certain of the drawings relate to Julian Farm buildings no longer standing, including the building identified as servants quarters for which the foundations remain evident in the yard south of the main house. It is known that other buildings did exist in the domestic yard and beyond as well, as the following account by Charles Julian's granddaughter, Mary Russell, confirms:

"My grandparents brought with them a number of slaves. Among them was a shoemaker who made shoes for the children and servants, and a blacksmith. From flax raised on the place was spun materials for towels and other domestic articles; and the wool clipped from the back of the sheep was spun and made into garments for the men and women. This country homestead was dotted with log cabins, a kitchen, weaving room and homes for the servants. Mother said shoes and clothes had to be made first for the servants who worked on the farm. All of those servants grew up to be honorable men and women. Several died when young, while others married and had families."⁹

On page 101 of the journal, a list of the yards of cloth worn by each person on his farm, indicates that Charles Julian owned at least thirteen slaves in 1814. He also noted that all "negro cabins" should be sited together, with the overseer's house. A thorough archaeological examination of the domestic yard and adjacent agricultural compound is likely to yield remain of buildings which should be studied in conjunction with the journal. This document provides a significant link between the actual structures and farm layout and Julian's intentions, and thus presents a unique research opportunity into early nineteenth-century architecture and agriculture.

The Julian Farm is remarkable for the considerable amount of early stonework remaining throughout its landscape. Geologically, the Bluegrass is unique in Kentucky because it is underlaid by ordovician limestone, layers of sedimentary rock that account for the richness of the soil. Readily mined from quarries of varying depths depending upon the degree of surface erosion, this limestone also has been a ready source of building materials since the area was first settled. Although hundreds of stone spring houses, ice houses, and other outbuildings appear across the Bluegrass, the great majority of these have lost integrity, especially of setting. As traditional farming operations have been modernized and many diversified farms converted to equine

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 7

operations, associated alterations to the landscape ranging from building removal to wholesale recontouring have resulted in the loss of untold numbers of stone buildings and structures. Today, if early stonework exists in the middle of an agricultural landscape, it is likely to be an isolated building and perhaps a fragment of one or two walls. Usually early stonework survives in greatest concentrations as fences at the edges of properties, especially along two-lane roads where it contributes to the popular image of the Bluegrass and Kentucky generally. Even here, however, early stone fences are disappearing at an increasingly rapid rate. Much of the Julian Farm's importance derives from the survival of the stone water gaps and numerous sections of stone fencing, as well as the stone smoke house, in a setting that has experienced relatively few modifications in modern times.

No comprehensive study of stone outbuildings has been conducted, but stone houses, barns and churches built in the Bluegrass during the settlement period have been thoroughly researched. Of the almost 300 primary stone buildings identified, approximately 180 have been listed in the National Register, including four in Franklin County.¹⁰ Masonry in early Kentucky buildings is known as "dry stone" work, constructed in a double wall method in which the walls are hollow in the middle and joined by tie-stones (headers) every four or five feet. The stones were laid in courses, directly on each other, and a mortar of clay or sand and limestone dust was used to seal the joints. In many instances, the clay mortar has washed out so that today the walls are left with open joints or have been repointed with a more durable mortar. Most dry stone buildings in Kentucky were constructed between 1790 and 1830 by the owners themselves or skilled masons (available here at an early date), many of whom came from regions such as Pennsylvania and Virginia where the tradition of building in stone was well established. Stones were quarried from a nearby creek or outcropping. In the earliest houses, walls were laid in a coursed pattern with stones of uniform height. For outbuildings and later houses, "broken ashlar" in courses of varied sizes was used to save time and material.

Although questions about the stonework at the Julian Farm (e.g., Did Charles Julian's slaves do the work under his supervision or did skilled masons erect it?) may never be answered, the smoke house, fences and water gaps may be dated with a fair degree of certainty. The irregular ashlar dry stone work of the smoke house indicates construction in the 1810s or 1820s, while the narrow open vent in the west gable has been noted on stone buildings erected between 1810 and 1825. The fences are more difficult to date because the method used for their construction endured for a long period, from as early as 1806 until around the Civil War.¹¹ The close similarity between the styles of the smoke house and fence rock work, however, suggests that they are contemporary or nearly so. Although it is not impossible that Robert Armstrong was responsible for at least some of the stonework, the way in which certain of the wall fragments are integral with the water gaps supports an attribution of the entire complex to Charles Julian, whose scientific approach to improvement of the full acreage is confirmed by the journal and family tradition.

The absence of journal entries on stone walls may be due to the fact that they were commonplace by the time Julian began improving the farm. The apparent singularity of the stone smoke house—no other stone buildings are known to have been built on the farm—and the system of water gaps support the image conveyed by the journal that Charles Julian was a serious and

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 8

progressive individual who took a scientific and at times experimental approach to agriculture. He evidently was concerned that his buildings be well constructed, and the smoke house was a practical outlet for experimenting with the dry stone method due to its moderate size.

That Julian was a conservationist is indicated both by the wide range of subjects covered in his journal, from acreage layout to economics (for example, he calculated on pages 74-75 the amounts of certain crops a slave can cultivate and how long it will take him to make certain quantities of cloth) and by the water gaps themselves. Instead of digging ponds and running fence lines along the creek bank, as did many of his contemporaries, Julian maximized use of Armstrong's Branch as the sole water source for his livestock by extending his stone fences across the branch so that it was accessible in each pasture. The construction of the stone piers was more difficult than simply sinking log posts, but the use of stone permitted the piers to be extensions of the stone fences and their durability in water made them more practical in the long run. The slatted wooden gates suspended between the piers allowed a free flow when lowered across the creek and could be raised or swung open on hinges at a cross bar to permit debris to pass when the creek was running high. So few water gaps with stone piers have been identified in the Bluegrass that it is not known if the seven sets at the Julian Farm is a particularly high number for the period. The fact that six of the gaps, as part of the original fence lines defining the pastures, have been retained and used by all successive generations to the present certainly is rare and noteworthy and reflects an enduring conservationist approach to which may be credited in large part the farm's unusually high degree of integrity.¹²

Charles Julian did not restrict his interests to agriculture. Although he lived outside of the village that was to become Bridgeport, he participated in community affairs. Beginning around 1814 he retained a private tutor for his children, but he sympathized with those who could not afford such a luxury and in 1820 helped to organize the area's first subscription school, held in the Lower Benson Presbyterian Church at the corner of his property. Julian was a proponent and financial supporter of efforts to improve the turnpike between Frankfort and Shelbyville and in 1818 was elected secretary and treasurer of the corporation formed for that purpose by an 1818 legislative act. He never demonstrated an interest in politics, but was a director of the Commonwealth Bank and the Bank of Kentucky, both established in Frankfort.

Toward the end of his life, Charles Julian began a practice that was to be followed by successive generations of his family. By 1836 he had given his three eldest sons land adjoining or near his farm as he had stipulated in a codicil to his will that the Julian Farm, the heart of his holdings, was to be left in perpetuity to the youngest son.¹³ Consequently, the farm passed in 1837 to Alexander Julian (1820-1892). Resembling his father in his strong interest in farming, Alexander Julian maintained and developed the farm for more than fifty years and left it to his youngest son, Clarence Julian (1869-1937), the only owner not totally devoted to the operation. Clarence Julian ran a stone quarry on Taylor Avenue in Frankfort and served at least one term as Franklin County Sheriff. Under his ownership, the farm was the site of many political "burgoos" early in the twentieth century. The farm remained productive during Clarence Julian's tenure, probably with the assistance of his eldest brother, Charles Herndon Julian (1854-1900), who had managed the property until his father gave him a farm to the south, and later with the help of Charles

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 9

Herndon Julian's son, Charles Alexander Julian. During this period, the family's conservationist spirit was explicitly demonstrated by a 1933 invitation to a Civilian Conservation Corps group to forest the south edge of the farm as a windbreak of locust and poplar trees. After Clarence Julian's death in 1937, Charles Alexander Julian (1898-1975) inherited part of the farm and purchased the remainder from other heirs. The most recent owner already had been continuing the family tradition of devotion to agriculture by running his father's farm since 1920.

For most of the Julian Farm's history, its focus has been cattle--Black Angus since the mid-nineteenth century and, in recent years, Charolais cross-bred with the Angus. Cattle have been present ever since Charles Julian began developing his farm, as indicated by the drawings of "a barn shedded on three sides" on pages 30 and 35 of his journal and the very similar stock barn in the agricultural compound with stone foundations and hewn sills dating to the early 1800s. The silo foundations close to the barn also may be traced to the drawing on page 30. Numerous improvements made during the latter half of the nineteenth century, primarily under Alexander Julian's direction, are evidenced by the rebuilding of the stock barn's superstructure with original timbers and by the corn crib which is a good representative example of its type in its central bin and open engaged sheds on its long sides. The herd has always grazed in pastures adjacent or with access to the creek, while fields have been cultivated in corn, wheat and hay for the livestock. The spring and creek always have been the main water sources; two attempts in this century to create permanent ponds--a small one at the northeast corner of the property and another southwest of the main house--proved unsuccessful.

The Julian Farm underwent significant diversification in the 1880s after white burley tobacco was introduced to the Bluegrass. Kentucky's long-held status as the premier tobacco growing state in the Union was greatly enhanced with this newly discovered air-cured leaf producing a mild smoke as it quickly gained favor among tobacco consumers over the traditional strongly flavored, fire-cured leaf. Across the state, production multiplied 300 percent between 1870 and 1900. It was sometime during the last two decades of the century that the Julians erected the three air-cured tobacco barns, all good examples of the type in their simple rectangular, gable-roofed forms, seven-tier height, vertical board siding, and full-height ventilation slats.

Under the ownership of Charles Alexander Julian and his heirs, the farm continued to grow tobacco until several years ago when one of the barns was converted to horse stables and the other two to hay storage. Charles Alexander Julian further diversified the farm by raising sheep for several decades until 1971. Interested in conserving farmland, he was an exemplar of good stewardship who employed practices which tended to replenish the soil rather than erode and deplete it. Due to his frugality, some of his methods were similar to today's organic techniques. Charles Alexander Julian's wife and two children inherited the farm after his death in 1975 and continue to operate it today.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 10

NOTES

¹Jillson identifies the 1784 log building as "Armstrong's Station," the first fortified station in the South Benson Valley and thus a building essential to the opening of the valley to settlement. Apparently, however, reference to the building's role as a station is found only in local tradition, in which many of the stations turn out to be typical, unfortified early houses that became well known due to their locations on heavily travelled roads. In her study of pioneer stations, Nancy O'Malley based her identifications upon primary sources; her search of Franklin County documents revealed no references to an "Armstrong's Station." Willard Rouse Jillson, A Glimpse of Old Bridgeport, (Kentucky Historical Society, 1956), and Nancy O'Malley, "'Stockading Up': A Study of Pioneer Stations in the Inner Bluegrass Region of Kentucky," Archaeological Report 127 for Kentucky Heritage Council, 1987.

²The 1794 tax records list Robert Armstrong as owning 250 acres. The identical listing appears again in the 1796 tax records, which omit any mention of William Armstrong. Although it appears that William had left the South Benson Valley, the absence of a 1796 listing for all or part of his 815 acres under another member of his family (certainly the 300 acre grant remained in the family) has not explained. William had not died, as indicated by an 1816 Mercer County deed conveying land from "John & Lanty Armstrong to William and Robert Armstrong, all brothers . . ." Jillson, f.n.222.

³When it was fully developed in the second decade of the nineteenth century, Arnold's Ferry Road ran across Franklin County in an east-west direction. Its east end was at the Kentucky River ferry crossing established in 1814 at the mouth of Glenn's Creek, which emptied into the Kentucky from the east. This crossing has been cited as the county's most important outside Frankfort.

⁴The church relocated to a site on the Frankfort-Louisville Turnpike (now U.S. 60). The exact site to which they moved is no longer known for certain. Although the plat which is the basis for the sketch map accompanying this nomination shows the second location in the northwest corner of the Julian Farm (in the vicinity of the resource identified herein as the Wright Graveyard), Jillson and other local authorities believe the site actually was west of the Julian property. The 1882 atlas shows the church at the southwest corner of the Frankfort-Louisville Turnpike and New Castle Road.

⁵Charles Julian (June 9, 1774 - June 19, 1837); Jane Julian (October 4, 1777 - January 19, 1851); Charles H. Julian (September 3, 1806 - April 13, 1853); and Henry Saint Julian (May 29, 1813 - October 29, 1876).

⁶Franklin County Deed Book D, Page 292.

⁷Franklin County Will Book 2, Page 88.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 8 Page 11

⁸Of the couple's eleven children--four boys and seven girls--those known include Harriet (1798-1837), who married Joe Clarke (1793-1861) in 1817, the owner of most of the riverfront property in South Frankfort; John J. (1804-1877); Jane (1811-89), married Thomas Page (1800-1877); Virginia (1815-?), married Frank Dillion (1808-59); Anna Maria (1817-90), who in 1840 married Capt. John W. Russell (1794-1869), a well-known river boat captain; and the youngest, Alexander (1820-92). Two other daughters, Mildred Mitchell and Helen Woods, are mentioned in Charles Julian's will but nothing is known of them.

⁹"Miss Mary Page's Reminiscences--Ninety Years Old in this Writing," The State Journal, 4 October 1936.

¹⁰Of these, 124 were nominated in the 1983 thematic nomination, "Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky" by a Carolyn Murray-Wooley, an authority on Kentucky's stone buildings who currently is writing a book on the subject. The thematic nomination and consultation with Ms. Murray-Wooley in February 1987 are the sources for background on stone buildings herein.

¹¹The repair and rebuilding of early stone walls after the Civil War usually was done according to the original method and with the original materials that had fallen to the ground.

¹²Where the stone walls have been lost to deterioration, replacement fences are the horizontal plank or woven wire type. Ancient vegetation also marks these lines.

¹³Franklin County Deed Book 7, page 432.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky

Section number 10 Page 2

UTM References

E. 16:680520/4226000
F. 16:681500/4226440
G. 16:681760/4226440

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky - Miscellaneous

Section number _____ Page _____

EXHIBITS

- A. Photocopy of 12/15/85 Aerial Photograph of Julian Farm
- B. Site Plan, Domestic Compound, 1920s
- C. Site Plan, Agricultural Compound, Current
- D. Plans, I: Corn Crib (#9), Barn (#10), Wood Shed (#13), Chicken House (#14), and Tobacco Stripping Shed (#17)
- E. Plans, II: Water Gap (#23) and Arnold's Ferry Road Bridge Abutments (#28)
- F. Charles Julian's "Receipt Book," commonly known as his day book or journal, six pages
- G. Bridgeport Precinct Map, portion, from 1882 Atlas of Franklin County, Kentucky published by D. J. Lake & Co.

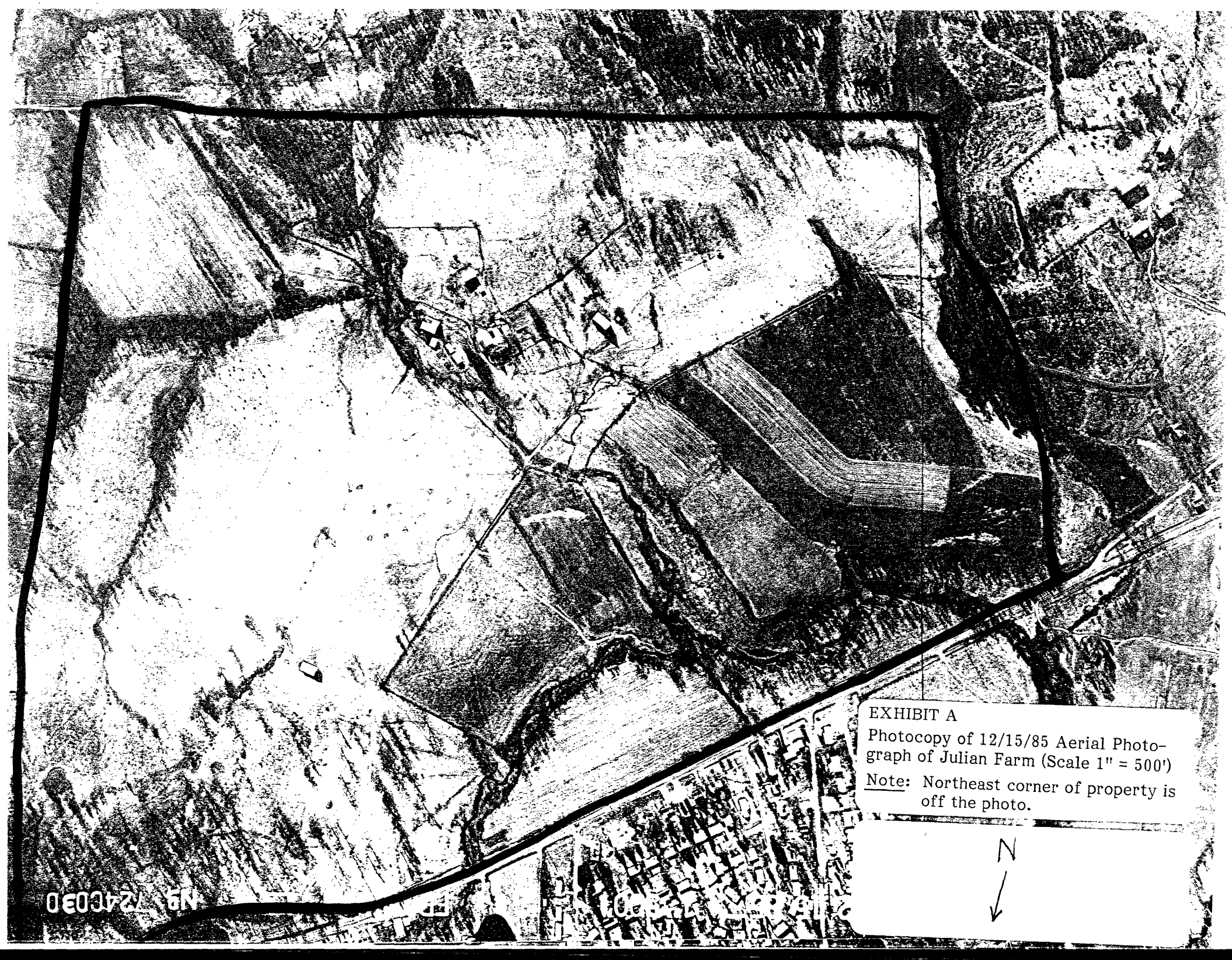


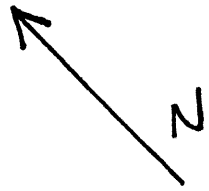
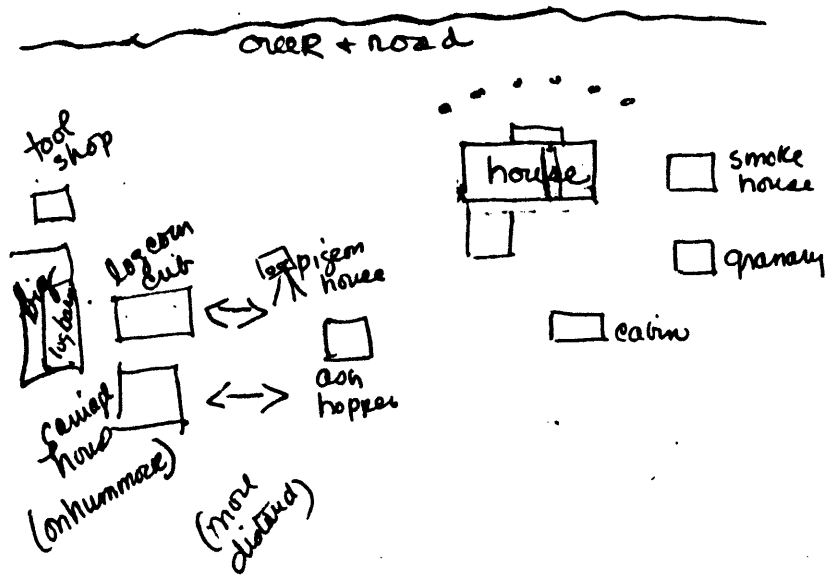
EXHIBIT A
Photocopy of 12/15/85 Aerial Photo-
graph of Julian Farm (Scale 1" = 500')
Note: Northeast corner of property is
off the photo.



19 724030

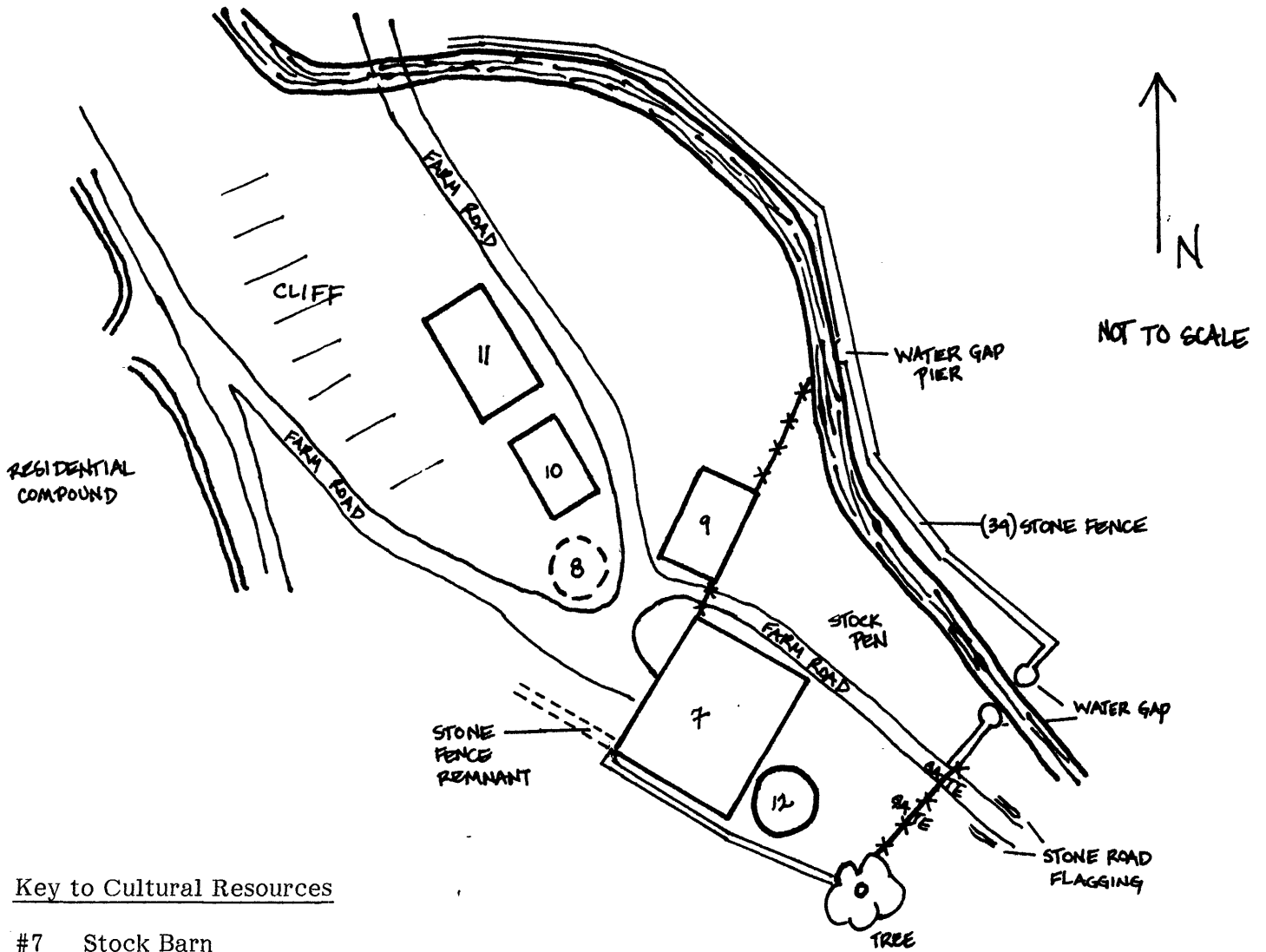
EXHIBIT B

Site Plan: Domestic Compound, 1920s



NO SCALE

Drawn by Mrs. Charles A. Julian in 1971 from description by Charles A. Julian as to the appearance of the domestic compound during his childhood in the 1920s.



Key to Cultural Resources

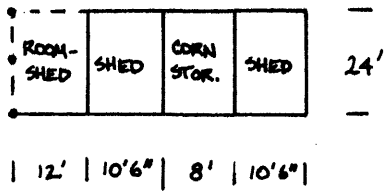
- #7 Stock Barn
- #8 Silo Foundation
- #9 Corn Crib
- #10 Barn
- #11 Equipment Shed
- #12 Silo
- #34 Stone Fence

EXHIBIT D

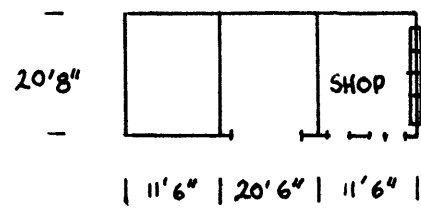
Plans, I: Corn Crib (#9), Barn (#10), Wood Shed (#13), Chicken House (#14), and Tobacco Stripping Shed (#17).

NOT TO SCALE

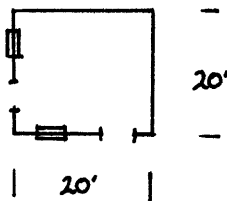
CORN CRIB (9)



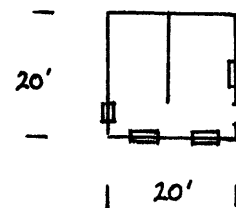
BARN (10)



WOOD SHED (13)



CHICKEN HOUSE (14)



TOBACCO STRIPPING SHED (17)

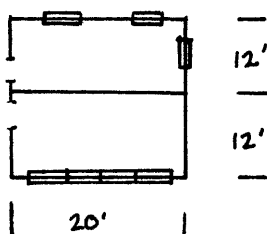
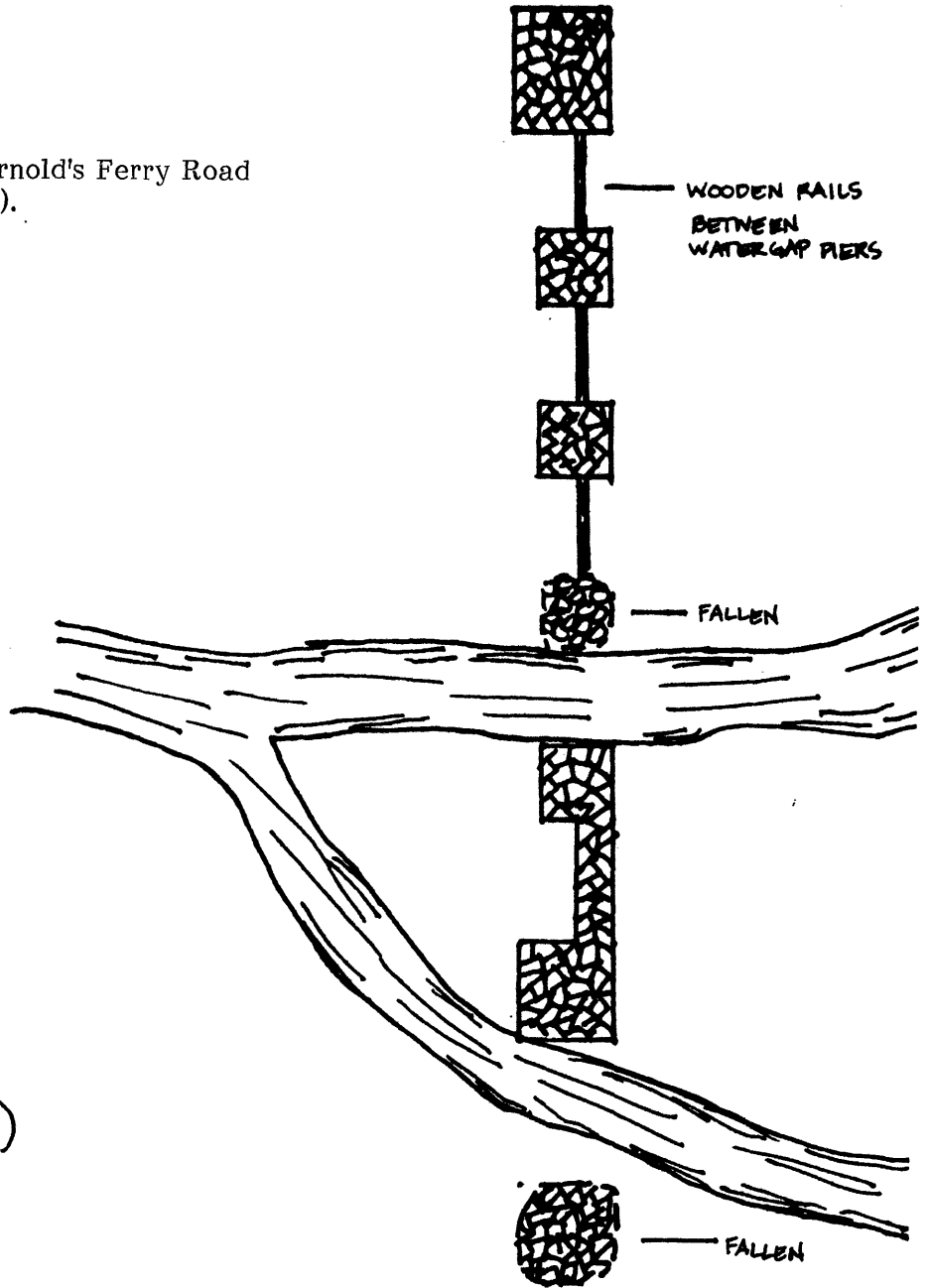


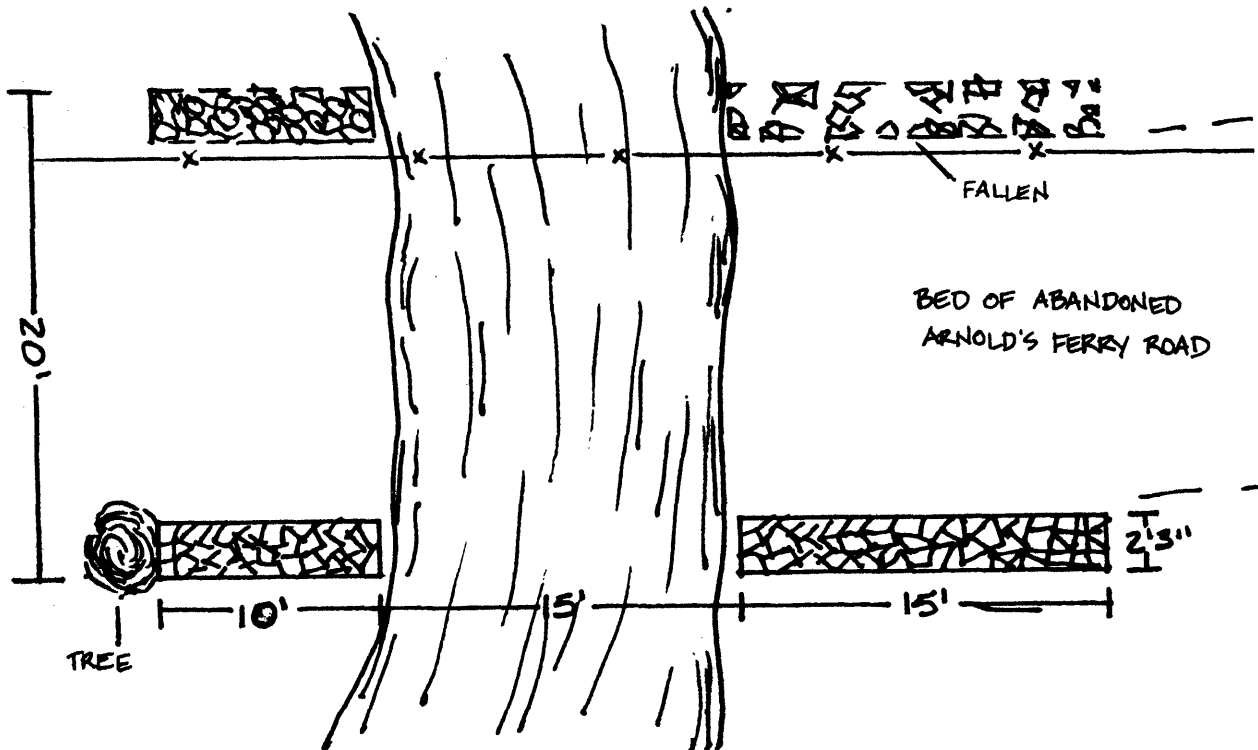
EXHIBIT E

Plans, II: Water Gap (#27) and Arnold's Ferry Road Bridge Abutments (#38).

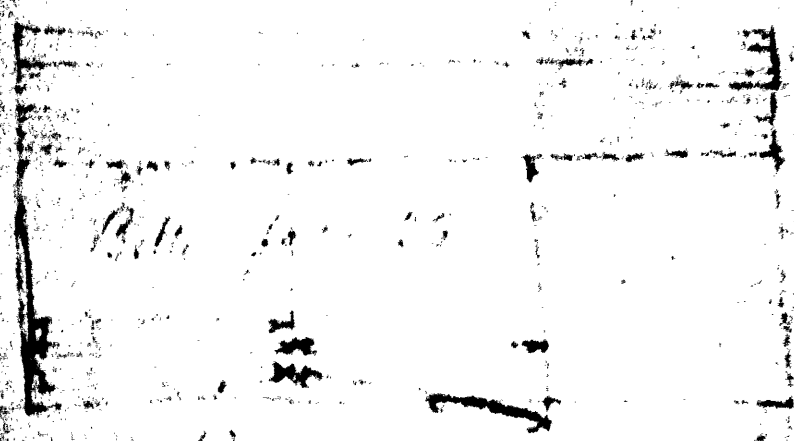
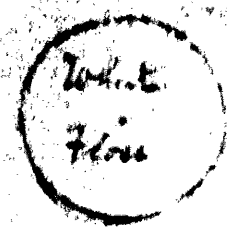
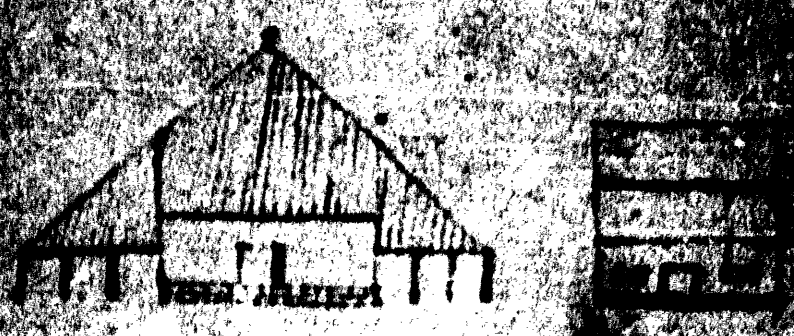
WATERGAP
WITH 7 PIERS
(27)



ARNOLD'S FERRY ROAD
BRIDGE ABUTMENTS (FALLEN)
(38)



Handwritten notes at the top of the page, possibly describing the location or purpose of the site.



Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, possibly describing the location or purpose of the site.

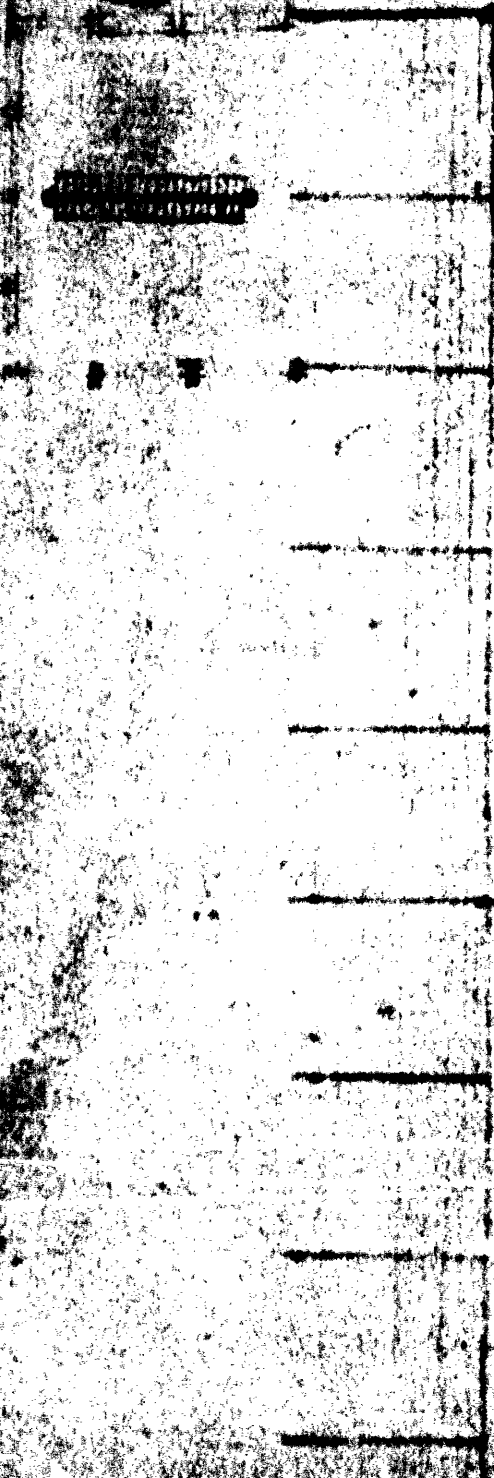
EXHIBIT F: item 1 of 6

Photograph of page 30 from Charles
Julian's "Daybook": barn shedded on
three sides, stables and granary

Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky

30

8-35



RESEARCH REPORT
NO. 1000

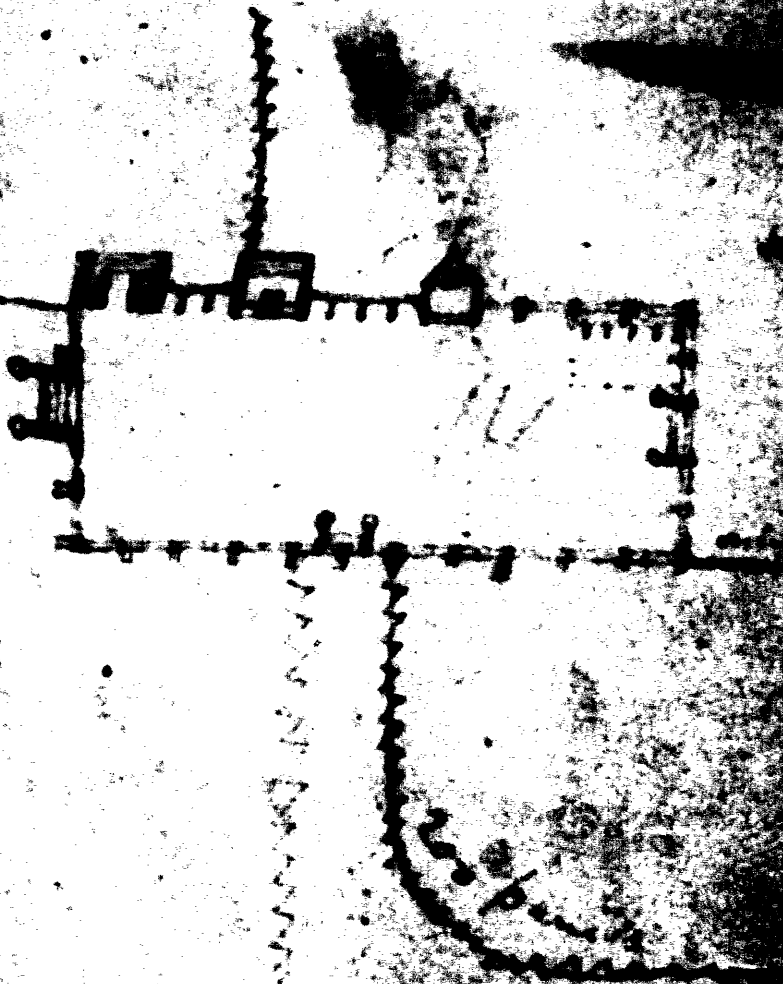
EXHIBIT F: item 2 of 6

Photograph of page 35 from Charles
Julian's "Daybook": plan for a sheep
barn

Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky

45

of my own yard & subject
to the Baller. See in the

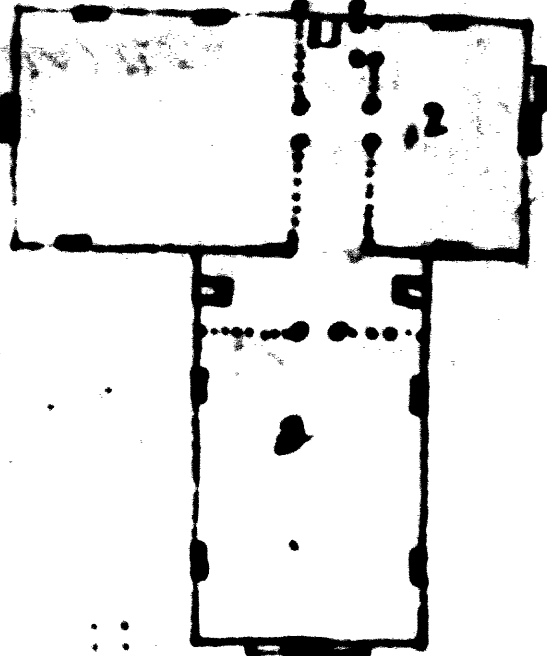


1853

EXHIBIT F: item 3 of 6

Photograph of page 45 from Charles
Julian's "Daybook": plan of a barnyard,

Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky



Ant. Soro
Pala Soro

I will not with my distance 300 S. to 200
 P. some 8. Dial. 1000 left a 1000. Cook
 out 100 S. 500 S. out house 300 S.
 500
 500



10 by 10
Kitchen



12 by 12
Mud house



10 by 12
Dagor



10 by 10
Quinghain

See also at Pua Hin...

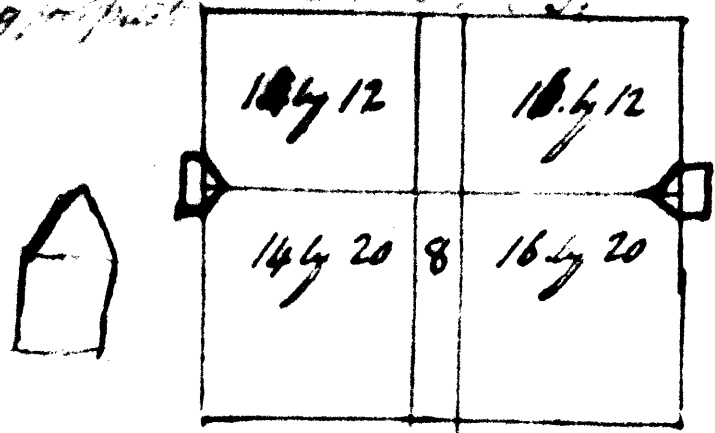
EXHIBIT F: item 4 of 6

Photograph of page 83 from Charles
Julian's "Daybook": house plan and ele-
vations of a kitchen, meat house, dairy
and spring house, with specifications

Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky

Dimensions in this form
 that is like Green Baulhouse
 which must give back some to this
 see p. 53.

9 Baul
 (house)



This house is 38 by 32 feet 3 feet above
 the surface of the earth with large Sellar
 Window, Sellar 6 feet high, Rooms all
 9 feet high a pitch,
 Lay of 5 acres round the house for yard &
 Garden in an square or oblong which
 were the ground will suit, here all the
 Best trees standing when you shall be very
 particular not to cut down as I shall
 show you then again
 Here a ...
 ...

EXHIBIT F: item 5 of 6

Photograph of unnumbered page from
Charles Julian's "Daybook": house and
site plan with specifications

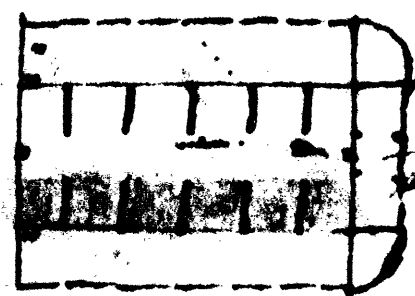
Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky

Hope to be get in the Case,
of Negro

Thomas Sharp, Mrs Bullock, Mrs
Hudson Mrs New Iron Capt Keane
Wm Lovell, Mrs Mason, J Vowel
James Vap, Mrs Biggs, B Pettit
Mrs Payne

Outgag to Bunker

in 364



have it slip by 30 by
which will hold 10 hours
the as 8 feet wide 7 length
of 3 feet 6 inches

May 1st 1811 on I cut 2 small blocks
1815
blocks 3 year of a bad year for
1818
of 9 thousand.

EXHIBIT F: item 6 of 6

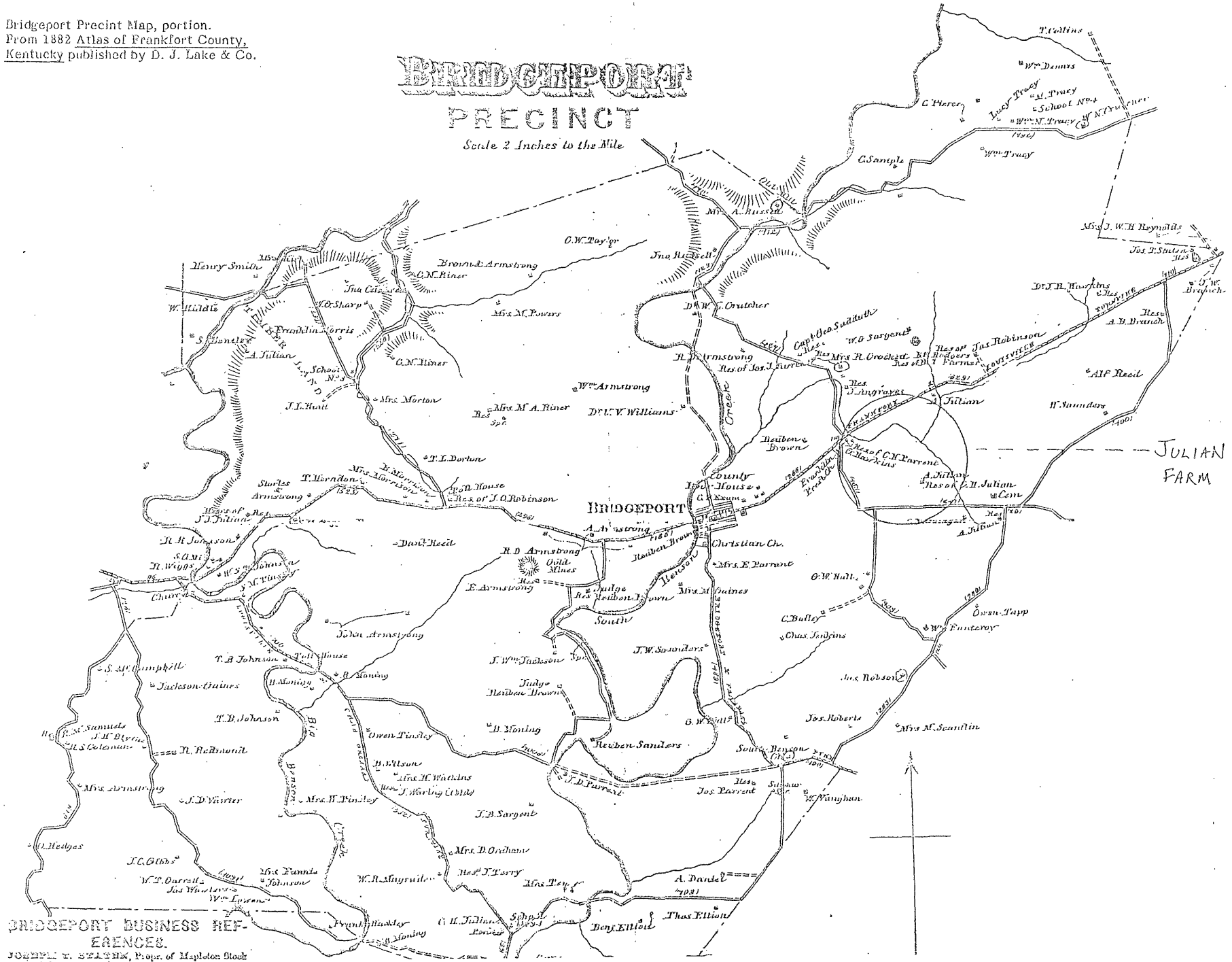
Photograph of unnumbered page from
Charles Julian's "Daybook": plan of
stable shedded on three sides

Julian Farm (Site #FR-189)
Franklin County, Kentucky

Bridgeport Precinct Map, portion.
From 1882 Atlas of Frankfort County,
Kentucky published by D. J. Lake & Co.

BRIDGEPORT PRECINCT

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile



BRIDGEPORT BUSINESS REF-
ERENCES.

JOSEPH E. SEATON, Prop. of Mapleson Stock

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Julian Farm, Franklin County, Kentucky -- Miscellaneous

Section number _____ Page _____

PHOTOGRAPHS

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Resource #</u>
1	Savannah	
2	C. C. C. Windbreak	
3	Main Residence	1
4	View to North toward Domestic Compound showing Chicken House, Wood Shed, Granary, Smoke House & Main Residence	1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 14
5	Southeast corner of Domestic Compound	1 - 3
6 - 7	Smoke House	2
8 - 10	Granary	3
11	Servants Quarter Site	4
12	Spring House Foundation	6
13	Stock Barn, Corn Crib & Barn	7, 9, 10
14	Stock Barn & Corn Crib	7, 9
15	Stock Barn & End of Stone Fence	7, 34
16 - 17	Stock Barn	7
18	Silo Foundation	18
19	Corn Crib	9
20	Barn	10
21	Equipment Shed	11
22	Tobacco Barn	15
23	Tobacco Stripping Shed	17
24	Tobacco Barn	18
25	Tobacco Barn	20
26	Quarry	21
27	Roadbed Flagging	22
28	U.S. 60 Roadbed (abandoned)	23
29	Main Entrance	24
30	Stone Fence	25
31 - 34	Stone Fence with 1 Water Gap and 1 Pair of Gate Posts	26
35 - 36	Water Gap (7 piers)	27
37	Stone Retaining Wall on Creek Bank	28
38	Water Gap (3 piers)	29
39	Water Gap (3 piers)	31
40	Spring Flagging	33
41 - 43	Stone Fence with 1 Complete Water Gap and 1 Pier of Another Water Gap	
44	Remnant of Stone Fence with Water Gap (2 piers)	36
45 - 46	Lower Benson Presbyterian Church Site and Graveyard	
47	Arnold's Ferry Road (abandoned)--Stone Bridge Piers	38