

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1. Name of Property

historic name Hinton-Scearce House

other name/site number SH-40

2. Location

street & town 212 Adams Pike

NA not for publication

city or town Shelbyville

X vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Shelby code 211 zip code 40065

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. ( ☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mark Dennen 6/9/09  
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark Dennen, SHPO Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.  
☐ removed from the National Register.  
☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

7/24/2009

## 5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
X private	X building(s)	1	3	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		1	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

Historic Resources of Shelby County, KY MRA

0

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

Domestic / Single Dwelling

### Current Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

Domestic / Single Dwelling

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

Greek Revival

### Materials

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt Shingle

other

Narrative Description (See continuation sheets.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

**Description**

The Hinton-Scearce House (SH-40) is a two-story three-bay single-pile brick house, with a projecting ell and Greek Revival styling, in Shelby County, Kentucky. The house site is located approximately 5½ miles north of Shelbyville, seat of Shelby County, near Kentucky Highway 53, a main north-south road through that county. The property is being described and interpreted according to its architectural values. The house does not have ostentatious design, and possesses moderate size and good proportions. The house was constructed for the Evan Hinton family in about 1850, and remained in the family until recently, though became vacant in the mid-1920s. In 1946, Mr. Dudley Scearce, the great-grandson of the original owner Evan Hinton, purchased the property and undertook some modest rehabilitation of it, updating it while preserving the home's design qualities. The current owners acquired the property in 2008, after it had been vacant for 6 years. The house is situated on a farm of 20.37 acres, which includes 4 additional non-contributing features, all of which is proposed for listing. Please refer to the site map.

**Character of the Property and History of Land Transfers**

The Hinton-Scearce House is built on an original 400 acre Certificate of Settlement Land Grant made to Evan Hinton's grandfather, also named Evan Hinton, on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1779. It states in the certificate that he had raised corn and had lived there for 1 year. He also filed for a 1000 acre Preemption Warrant at the same time, which would add to and join his 400 acres. It was surveyed out of Jefferson County and filed February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1784. Evan Hinton died in 1781 and when the Grant was finally issued on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1803, it was issued in William Hinton's name, stating he was the oldest surviving male heir. William Hinton subsequently died in 1813, passing a portion of the property to his son, Evan Hinton. The property's first outbuildings consisted of 2 log dwellings, a springhouse and out house; these are no longer visible (<http://sos.ky.gov/land/nonmilitary/settlement>; Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds, pg.222).

After his mother's death in 1846, Evan began construction on the current house. The bricks for the house were fired from the clay ground, east of the house's side yard. Indentations in the ground are still visible, and broken pieces of brick can still be found at the site. The stones for the house's foundation were most likely retrieved from the Fox Run Creek, down the hill a little further to the east from the brick-making area. This portion of the historic property has an outcropping of rock that appears similar to the type of stone used in the foundation.

The farm was divided and passed on to Evan Hinton's children at his death. Eventually, Mr. Ralph Scearce, son of Anna Bell Hinton Scearce, was sole heir to the homestead and 50 acres. His son, Dudley Scearce, acquired a large portion of the original acreage. His son, Sandford Scearce, still farms most of that land. The Scearce Farm Residual Tract is 111.6 acres adjoining the north, south and part of the east border of the Hinton-Scearce House property's proposed 20.37-acre listing (Shelby County Deed Book 482, page 174). The other adjoining property owner is Tony Patterson, whose farm is addressed 1678 Geoghegan Road, and described in Shelby County Deed Book 398, page 282.



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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

To reach the house today, one travels north from Shelbyville on Kentucky 53, turns right (east) on Goeghegan Lane, then left (north) on Adams Pike, the property's current road frontage. The house lies on the east side of Adams Pike, the first drive to the right. The gravel drive leads past a ca. 1900 barn, which stands northwest of the house. Also standing northwest of the house is a detached white frame 2-car garage built c.1950 and a well. The barn and garage are described at the end of this narrative. The initial view of the house from the current driveway is of its west side, not its front.

When built around 1850, the house was oriented to Goeghegan Lane, a county road about 1200 feet south of the house. Extending from the front door of the house and heading south for approximately 75 feet is an original brick walk in herringbone pattern. A large portion of the brick walk is visible today, and part was covered by Mr. Scearce when he reoriented the entry to the property to Adams Pike. A stone walkway leads from the house's west side porch to the asphalt driveway that leads to that entrance. These stones came from the foundation of the log cabin that was located directly west of the current house. The cabin deteriorated until the 1950s, when it was razed.

A natural wooded ravine marks the current property's southern boundary, ending on the east side of Fox Run Creek. The east boundary runs along the heavily wooded creek bank, crosses the creek and goes through woods to the northeast boundary marker at the edge of a field. The northern boundary line is straight, rolling with the natural terrain of the farmed land and is not wooded. Fox Run Creek on the property's eastern side flows from north to south, and eventually deposits into the Salt River, to the southwest in Bullitt County. The property contains two man-made wells not counted in the resource count. One is located just west of the original kitchen. The other is southwest of the southwest front corner of the house, across the asphalt driveway.

The Hinton family name changed its spelling to "Henton" sometime after 1870. The 1870 deed of Evan Hinton passing his land to 5 heirs is the last known instance of the name recorded as "Hinton" (Shelby Co. DB. B-3 pg. 458). Wills of the property in 1909 (Shelby Co. Will Book 49 Pg.458) and 1926 (Shelby Co. Will Book 51 Pg.346) from two of his children passing the homestead on to Anna Bell Henton Scearce's son Ralph Scearce use the "Henton" spelling. The deed filed in August, 1929, (Shelby Co. DB 108 pg.152) clearly state the children of Evan Hinton and refer back to the same deed found in DB. B-3 pg.458, however the spelling is now "Henton". These deeds and other records from the family in the 1900s use "Henton." Because this nomination focuses upon the importance of the architectural value of the 1850s residence, when the family spelled their name "Hinton," that spelling is retained for this form.

### **Exterior of the Main House**

The house is a 2-story brick construction with an L plan. The house's entire brick is laid in a running five-course common bond pattern. The primary façade exhibits 3 bays without a front porch. Each bay of the façade is enframed by brick pilasters rising to a Doric capital. The ell projecting from the rear of the house's main block itself consists in 3 discrete portions. A very low hipped roof covers the main block of the house; low-gabled roofs cover the 3-sections of the ell wing. Each of the three back sections of the house have brick end chimneys.

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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

The home has a mortared stone foundation. Please refer to the floor plan. The pilasters wrap around the corners to show on the side elevations. Each pilaster ends just under the simple uninterrupted unornamented wide frieze board. The front core of the house has a chimney at each side. The chimneys protrude to the same plane as the pilasters. The chimneys pierce the roof and terminate with reversed-corbelled caps. The first section of the ell-wing has a small scaled frieze and a pilaster with a Doric cap on its northwest corner. The other two sections of the ell have smaller cornice boards.

All windows except two are six-over-six-light double-hung sash original windows with their original walnut louvered shutters. The two smaller windows, believed to be original, are fixed single sash. The one in the second story back attic has four panes, and the second, in the old kitchen room, has six panes. The window above the front door has wooden panels that used to open for either ventilation and or access to a porch that is not present. The wooden panels are now nailed shut. The windows each have a simple lintel with an applied band of molding and protruding sills. There is a non-historic second-story window on the east elevation. It is a smaller six-over-six double-hung sash. It was added in 1948 when new owner, Dudley Scearce, added plumbing and an upstairs bathroom/laundry into a portion of a bedroom and hall. All windows are covered with non-historic aluminum storm windows; the door openings are covered with non-historic aluminum storm doors. All exterior doors are walnut with horizontal inset panels; only the front door is not painted. All are original with one exception, on the west elevation, which enters into the third room. It was removed and reused on the interior of that room at a new opening, made in 1948, to gain access to a new kitchen.

The central passage entry has simple flat wide trim surrounding the door with a small rectangular undivided transom and no sidelights. Above the transom is a heavy flat double lintel, the top piece is longer and fits under the sill of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-story center window. The shutters at the front door were added in the 1970s. The house's exterior trim is painted white and the shutters are painted black.

There are two small additions made to the house for Mr. Scearce, both on the ell and both one-story in height, as indicated on the plan. These additions occur on the 3-part-ell in the closest and furthest portions from the house. The addition in the part closest to the main house is wood frame and clapboards, and with aluminum storm doors. It houses a bathroom, two closets and a laundry porch. This addition enclosed an original wooden porch that connected the outside entrances from the back of the front hall to the first and second rooms of the ell-wing. The second addition is clapboard-covered and occurs on the east side of the original kitchen. It houses coal and the access to the current furnace room, which was historically used as a cellar under the center room of the ell. The cellar doors have been removed.

### **Main House Interior**

The interior layout of the home is arranged in a standard plan for the Greek Revival Style. The central hall has a spiral staircase of unpainted black walnut in its northwest corner, or on the left for someone entering the front door. It is of a single pile depth. A 3-foot-wide door under the staircase leads to a non-historic bathroom and closet area. The hall is flanked on either side by two rooms, each 18' x 18'.

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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

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The parlor on the right has a double opening with two 4' black walnut paneled doors and original hardware. It has a working wood burning fireplace with new glass front doors. The parlor on the left has a single 3' paneled door. Its fireplace has been bricked closed. No evidence on the woodwork in the front rooms and hallway suggests the woodwork was ever painted. The wood trim around the doorways and windows is massive, flat and wide. The side pieces resemble pilasters and extend from the floor to just under the lintel. They have a base and cap. Above the lintel is a protruding cornice piece ending at the ceiling, which is 12' in height. Under all windows are wood paneled pieces that extend to the floor.

Behind the west parlor room, now used as the dining room, is a single paneled door to the present kitchen. This room was renovated to a kitchen in 1946 when Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Scearce moved into the home. It has an original back staircase leading to the back hall on the second floor. That staircase's first four steps and a window sill were burned in a fire in the 1970s and replaced with oak steps. The cabinets and flooring were replaced too. There is an exterior door leading to the covered porch on the west façade, a new opening into the present den, and a fireplace with original mantel that has been blocked. Behind the kitchen is a room that was originally used as the dining room and is now a den. This fireplace has new brick façade from floor to ceiling with only a post mantel. In addition to the new opening there are two exterior doors, one to the west side porch and the other to the east non-historic enclosed laundry porch. The fire in this room in the 1970s started from the coal furnace below, damaging the wood floor and floor joists, along with the damage mentioned above in the current kitchen.

Accessed only from the west side porch, is the original kitchen. The fireplace is crumbling and structurally not sturdy. There are uneven wooden boards on a dirt floor. It has been partitioned through the years, with plumbing added to create a workspace. An east door to the exterior has been boarded; were it open, it would go to the coal storage within the non-historic addition.

Ascending the spiral staircase to the second floor is a center hall. A window on the north wall is centered above the stairs. Originally, only the bedroom to the east was accessible from the upstairs front hall. Mr. Scearce had a doorway added to the west bedroom in 1948. Then a bathroom and closets were added along a 6'-wide section of the room on the east wall. An original door on the north wall of that bedroom leads to the back hall and stairs, with another bedroom. Both front facing bedrooms have original fire places and mantels that have been bricked closed. The third bedroom in the 2-story ell has a fireplace but is missing the original mantel and has also been blocked with bricks. There is a small door on the north wall of this bedroom that leads to an attic room. There is a settling problem with the brick walls in the southeast corner. This doorway does not appear to have been cut or the bricks around the doorway altered in any way, giving credence to Mr. Scearce's statement that the brick portions of the house were all built at the same time. The trim woodwork upstairs is less formal and massive; it does not extend to the ceiling. The door panels are vertical, two over a shorter two, rather than the horizontal pattern found on doors downstairs.



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**Garage, Non-contributing building**

The property's current driveway ends at a white frame two-car garage, probably built in the 1950s, and which shows signs of significant deterioration. It is located approximately 30 feet to the northwest of the old kitchen. The garage has a high pitch hipped roof of asphalt shingles. The white frame clapboard exterior is laid horizontally. The large wooden door slides on an overhead track. The garage has a dirt floor. It has no windows and it has an open plan inside. Structurally, the building has corner posts and 2" x 4" studding.

**Barn, Non-contributing building**

Directly west of the house is a wooden barn (non-contributing building) and a detached small machinery workroom. Mr. Scearce states the barn was built circa 1900. The barn has a typical gabled roof of tin. It has a center passage with an extended bay on each side of the main section. These were added around circa 1915. The exterior of the barn is framed with wood vertically and is painted black. There are several other openings to the barn besides the main center doors that slide on an overhead track.

**Tool and Work Room, Non-contributing building**

North of the barn is a small tool and workroom. It is built in similar fashion as the barn. It has a tin gabled roof and vertical wood framing painted black. There is a center door and workbenches on the north wall.

**Grain Bin, Non-contributing structure**

Between the barn and workroom is a small grain bin. It is made of metal.

Hinton-Scearce Scearce  
Name of Property

Shelby County, KY  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

### Criteria Considerations

Property is:

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

### Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance  
1850

Significant Dates  
1850

Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)

NA

Cultural Affiliation  
NA

Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)  
Hagan, John F. (builder)

## Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (See continuation sheets).

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 Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9



## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 20.37 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1    16\_    654 270    4240 300 (NAD 1983)  
      Zone    Easting    Northing

3    16\_    653 710    4240 080  
      Zone    Easting    Northing

USGS Topographic Quad name Eminence

2    16\_    654 260    4240 080  
      Zone    Easting    Northing

4    16\_    653 710    4240 300  
      Zone    Easting    Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (See Continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (See Continuation sheet.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robin Roberts

organization Protegrity Properties, Inc. date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 260 Wekiva Springs Road telephone 407-551-3851

city or town Longwood state Fl. zip code 32779

email address rroberts@protegritynow.com

### Additional Documentation

The National Register requires each nomination consist of the following beyond this 4-page cover form:

- ☐ Continuation Sheets for narrative
- ☐ A **USGS topographic quad map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- ☐ A **Sketch map** for historic districts or properties having large acreage or numerous resources
- ☐ A **Photo identification map** for districts; one map can serve both as sketch and photo ID map.
- ☐ **black and white photographs** of the property. See policy statement for acceptable use of digital photographs

The Kentucky Heritage Council requires the following for all nominations:

- ☐ An **additional set of black and white photographs** that remains at the KHC
- ☐ **Floor plans** of properties whose significance is based on their plans
- ☐ **Color slides or PowerPoint images** and presentation of the property to the Kentucky State Review Board

### Property Owner

name/title Protegrity Properties, Inc.

street & number 260 Wekiva Springs Road telephone 407-551-3851

city or town Longwood state Fl. zip code 32779

email address (if available) rroberts@protegritynow.com

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

**Statement of Significance**

The Hinton-Scearce House (SH-40) meets National Register Criterion C and is an architecturally significant home within the context "Greek Revival Architecture in Shelby County, Kentucky." The local architectural context narrative for this nomination has been adapted from the document, "Historic Resources of Shelby County, Kentucky," a Multiple Resource Area (MRA) nomination that resulted in 106 listings of county resources in 1988. It is one of few two-story brick center-passage single-pile houses identified as being built in Shelby County 1840-1865. It was built by John F. Hagan, who also built the clapboard-covered Helmwood Hall, SH-185 (National Register 1986). Its architectural features are simplistic in decoration, symmetric and rectilinear geometric form, giving the house its well proportioned handsomeness that is not too grand either in style or size.

**Greek Revival Architecture in Shelby County, Kentucky**

The Greek Revival Architectural style in America dominated the 1820-1850s. It was first used in public buildings and then quickly made its appearance in private residences. It is considered to be America's first National style. After the War of 1812, Americans became disenchanted with many things English, and at the same time developed a sympathetic connection toward Greece in their struggle for independence from Turkey. Americans symbolically embraced ancient Greece, both as the birthplace of Democracy and a locus of classical architectural forms, an appropriate philosophical reference point for their new republic ([www.oldhousejournal.com/2003/february/greek\\_revival.shtml](http://www.oldhousejournal.com/2003/february/greek_revival.shtml)).

As any enduring style, Greek Revival design evolved over time and exhibited regional variations. The aesthetics of Georgian style, popular during the nation's Federal era, found expression in the form of house design that accentuated lightness of mass, a symmetrical facade, multi-light windows, side gables, and careful classical detailing. A new aesthetic became popularized during the second decade of the nineteenth century, which began shifting house design toward a more substantial effect, one more informed by the stone temples of Greek antiquity than by the delicate features of Georgian and other Federal-era designs. This emerging Greek Revival style shared many aspects with Georgian residential styling, such as symmetrical facades, reference to classical orders, central hall plan, side gable orientation, and overall formal composition. These similarities in compositional form allowed the Greek Revival to rise quickly in popularity throughout the young nation, as many of its earliest instances did not mark a radical break with existing stylistic sensibilities.

Central Kentuckians embraced Greek Revival as a popular style because it became fashionable just as the Bluegrass farming gentry emerged as an economic group looking for signs to confirm their rising social status. It had taken only a single generation for these farmers to go from initial settlement to great success. Thus, while settlers tentatively entered the area in the 1780s, by "around 1815, the majority of central Kentucky's rural landscape was well cleared and fenced, and the Inner Bluegrass counties surrounding Lexington, in particular, had attained a pastoral appearance" (Peckler, 14). These gentleman farmers chose the Greek Revival so consistently that the style became iconic in central Kentucky.

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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
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With Franklin County separating Shelby County from Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass region, Shelby was the only county in the early-19<sup>th</sup> century whose farms produced on a par with farms in the Inner Bluegrass. As early as 1810, Shelby County farms produced 185 tons of hemp, had 13 tanneries, and Shelby was among the state's leading counties in number of distilleries, cloth production, and operating looms. Another measure of agricultural activity was the 2996 enslaved workers enumerated in 1810 (MRA, p. 11-12). Early Shelby County farmers attained a level of agricultural success that could have supported the quick transition to Greek Revival that occurred within nearby counties to the east.

Yet, just as Shelby County farmers stood apart geographically from the Inner Bluegrass farming region, they did not immediately seek to emulate the architectural signs of success displayed by the elites in the Inner Bluegrass. Field recorders in the 1980s had found no fewer than 13 I-houses dating to the 1820s, many retaining remnants of Federal-era styling. In addition, the surveyors found 15 two-room, or hall-parlor plan houses, in Shelby County (MRA, p. 8-9), another grouping whose plan also retreated from full expression of Greek Revival style. Some of these two-room houses, such as the Thomas Weakley House (SH-81, NR 1988) gave slight nods to the emerging Greek Revival style by centering a single door between two windows, despite the absence of a central hall behind the door. However, about half of the hall-parlor houses frankly admitted their two-room plans, with two doors opening on a 4-bay facade, such as the Neal-Hamblen House (SH-26, NR 1988)—making no effort to appear Greek Revival (MRA, p. 9). Researchers surveying the county in the 1980s offered the period 1841-1865 as the span of time where the Greek Revival style found its full flowering in Shelby County (MRA, p. 13).

These researchers describe the dominant house type in the county during the 1841-1865 era, on pages 14-15 of the MRA form:

Domestic architecture in the antebellum period in Shelby County continued to be characterized chiefly by two-story center-passage houses, built of frame and brick. The delicate and finely detailed finishes identified with the Federal style were gradually replaced by the heavier and more two-dimensional Greek Revival, based in part on increasing use of pattern books. The use of wooden lintels, frequently with carved corner blocks, gradually became more common in place of the brick jack arches, which are associated with eighteenth century door and window heads. Two-story central porches supported by doubled Ionic or Tuscan pilasters are found on many of the houses.

One feature of Shelby County's Greek Revival Houses that the authors of the MRA did not mention is the high rate of occurrence in the rural areas as compared to urban instances. Within Shelby County, the Kentucky Heritage Council survey database contains 10 Greek Revival houses in Shelbyville, Shelby's county seat, and 40 Greek Revival houses outside of Shelbyville in the county's hinterlands. Of those 40, 12 have survived with sufficient intactness to gain entry into the National Register. Those listed are SH-10, -18, -44, -59, -76, -108, -118, -133, -154, -160, -170, and SH-185.



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Hinton-Scearce House  
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The enlargement of the dogtrot and I-houses was normally accommodated by a rear ell among Shelby County's Greek Revival houses. This ell often housed a kitchen, as is the case of the Hinton-Scearce House. The ell provided additional room without disrupting the careful symmetry of the principal façade. In many houses, the ell was built as part of the original campaign, which is also the case in the Hinton-Scearce house. In the county's brick houses, the ell is more frequently formed of two rooms than of one, and occurs either in one- or two-story heights; the Hinton-Scearce House's ell has three rooms. That ell's first portion, closest to the main house block, rises two-stories, one-and-a-half stories in its second part, and one-story in its remaining part. Three pieces of evidence testify to the originality of all three sections of that ell. First, examination of the exterior brick construction of the ell reinforces the view. Second, access to the upper bedroom on the southwest side originally came only from the ell's stairway. And, finally, conversations with Mr. Dudley Scearce—a descendent of the original house owners—state that the ell was original construction.

The impressive examples of Shelby County's Greek Revival residential design were frequently located along main travel routes not far outside of Shelbyville. These houses are situated on their properties to take advantage of prominent siting, often at the end of a processional driveway and highly manicured lawn. These buildings also have their main façade on their longer side, which visually suggests a greater dominance of the surroundings than would an entry on the house's narrower side. Fewer Greek Revival houses in urban contexts could display that same orientation to the road, due to the expense of assembling sufficient acreage to site the house in that way. These design qualities, relating the building artfully to its immediate landscape context, enhanced the architectural impact of the house upon viewers, transmitting messages of power and stature. These effects gave the style an emblematic quality, fitting for a mid-century gentleman farmer who wanted to make the appropriate statement of his agricultural accomplishment and social standing.

Perhaps few houses embody the popular notion of Greek Revival styling than the 2-story center-passage house with a dominant pedimented front porch. The MRA project resulted in 6 nominations of 2-story center passage houses in 1988. These split almost equally between gabled vs. hipped roofs and 3-bay vs. 5-bay facades. All but 1 use pilasters to articulate bays on the façade, and all but 1 had 2-story porches. These include

- Harbison House, SH-18
- Montrose (SH-76)
- Hansborough House (SH-44)
- Martin House (SH-133)
- William Sleadd House (SH-118)
- Robertson House (SH-108)

**Evaluation of the Hinton-Scearce House's Design within Shelby County's Greek Revival Style**

The Hinton-Scearce House is a handsome example of a later rural Greek Revival style domestic structure in Shelby County that has been exceptionally preserved by its owners for four generations of the original family. It exhibits hallmarks of the style, and helps us understand the popularity of the style in the county, which held a relatively large population of successful farms and stylized examples of the Greek Revival.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

Domestic architecture in the antebellum period in Shelby County continued to be characterized chiefly by two-story center-passage houses, built of frame and brick. The heavier and more two-dimensional Greek Revival Architectural style became predominate in the 1840s. During the Antebellum period, pattern books were published by various architects from more urban areas of the country, giving rural builders exceptional style, scale and form to follow. John F. Hagan, the proposed builder of the Hinton-Scearce House, could have used one of these pattern books to achieve such handsome beauty in his design.

One place the Hinton-Scearce House deviates from the county's norm for the style is on its façade: It has not been conclusively determined whether the home ever had a front porch. Some think the entry has been altered. Predominately in Shelby County, Greek Revival houses built by 1850 have some sort of a covered porch. There are earlier homes of the Greek Revival period that do appear without a porch. Whether this was an intentional design element with the Hinton-Scearce House is still to be determined.

**Evaluation of the Hinton-Scearce House's architectural integrity**

In this nomination, Hinton-Scearce House is being evaluated under Criterion C, as a type of construction: Greek Revival Style. In order to be a significant example of the Greek Revival style in Shelby County, Kentucky, any home should retain an overall integrity of design, materials, and feeling.

Virginia and Lee McAlester's *A Field Guide to American Houses* lists the following design features as critical in identifying a Greek Revival house: "Gable or hipped roof of low pitch; cornice line of main roof and porch roofs emphasized with wide band of trim"(p.179). As a principal subtype Greek Revival homes are also found with "entry porches less than full height, or absent – about 20 percent of Greek Revival houses have small entry porches which do not extend the full height of the façade. About 5 percent lack porches altogether". (p.179) "Pilasters are also frequent Greek Revival features. They are most commonly used on the corners of frame houses but are occasionally found across the entire façade in lieu of free-standing columns. Greek Revival window sashes most commonly had six-pane glazing"(p.182). A Greek Revival style house in Shelby County will be said to have **integrity of design** if most or all of these defining elements remain intact. The Hinton-Scearce House embodies all of these character traits, and so, can be said to have integrity of design within its local architectural context.

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Section 8 Page 5

Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
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A Greek Revival house in Shelby County will be said to have **integrity of materials** if the preponderance of the materials originally used in the construction of the house, particularly those that contribute the house's Greek Revival design, are still in place. Virtually all of the materials used in the 1850 construction of the Hinton-Scearce House are original. As discussed above, few elements have been replaced or altered. Those that were, were done so in more private spaces, such as kitchens and baths, and sometimes out of necessity, as when replacing burnt flooring and steps or enclosing a porch with rotting materials. The house retains approximately 95 percent of the original materials to this day, not only exterior materials, which give the most public statement of the style, but also its interior materials—trim, doors, both staircases, mantels and fireplaces—which give more intimate expressions of the style.

The exterior of the Hinton-Scearce House—including doors, windows, shutters, brick, decorative details—is little changed from the original construction. The exceptions are the one-story additions on the back ell, which are invisible from the house's front side or from the primary side of that ell. These expansions of the floor space added access to a furnace room and enclosed a porch that houses laundry facilities, a bathroom and closets. These areas of change were primarily service areas and not spaces within the house that carried the style. Inside the parts of the house, particularly the public spaces, that give more overt signals of Greek Revival style, the materials are largely unchanged. The fire in the 1970s damaged the first modern kitchen, and that space was rehabilitated for that historic use. Partitions have been added to the old kitchen. An upstairs bathroom, small laundry and closets were also added in a 6' section of the southwest bedroom and back hall. The important materials of the house remain greatly intact.

The **integrity of feeling** is a subjective response of a person viewing the nominated property. By terming this integrity factor "feeling," this integrity factor would appear to turn attention from judgments about the subject property's exterior, to focus upon interior states of the perceiver. This phrase attempts to acknowledge that sufficiently intact properties can produce an experience, for a viewer informed by the historic context narrative, of the resource's authentic time and place. And even when a particular house has undergone some changes in design or materials, it can still be said that the property retains an integrity of feeling if the changes were undertaken in a respectful manner. With greater amounts of change, the evaluation of integrity should give greater justification for how a person could view the place yet still experience the feel of the original resource in its historic and significant context. With the Hinton-Scearce House, so much materials and design integrity remains, that integrity of feeling is strong.

The integrity of feeling results not only from minimal changes in the house's materials and design, but also through its integrity of location and some retention of its historic setting. The house's siting on a tract of land above Fox Run Creek, surrounded by mature trees and gently rolling farming fields, contribute to a strong sense of the rural context that gave rise to Shelby County's large population of Greek Revival country seats. The house has been respectfully treated largely because it has been associated with the same family since 1850, creating an unusually strong integrity of association with the people who are responsible for its creation. Both in side and out, the Hinton-Scearce house is a lovely example of Greek Revival architectural style in rural Shelby County.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Hinton-Searce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

Section 9 Page 1

Bibliography

**Primary Sources**

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1969 Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company  
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1984 *Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred Knopf.

Peckler, Danae

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Worsham, Gibson, Charlotte Worsham, and Christine Amos

1987 Historic Resources of Shelby County, Kentucky. National Register nomination form.  
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<http://sos.ky.gov/land/nonmilitary/settlement> search - preemption warrant #613, Evan Hinton  
Survey Book, vol. 11, p. 251, survey # 9076  
Grant Book, vol. 2, p.161

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

Hinton-Scearce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The property proposed for nomination is the 20.37 acres on which the Henton Scearce House sits almost directly in the middle. This tract of land is located at the current address of 212 Adams Pike, Shelbyville, Kentucky. The legal description for this area corresponds with the metes and bounds description found in Shelby County Deed book 482 page 174 (June 16, 2008). The attached scaled map shows the entire acreage.

**Boundary Justification:**

A smaller boundary was sought for this property, to follow the norms for boundaries around properties meeting Criterion C. There were no man-made or landscape features that suggested a smaller acreage that could be easily defined for the National Register and future planners. There are no fences dividing the house and domestic grounds from the farmland it was separated from. This acreage was carved out of a still larger farm, then surveyed as Residual Tract Scearce Farm. That Residual Tract is currently cultivated in row crops in the fields surrounding the 20.37 acres. Since there are no visible signs of delineation, and given the interpretation of the house's design as a rural architectural resource, the entire 20.37 acres are proposed as an appropriate area to display the house's architectural design. This acreage gives the essence of the original setting in which the Hinton Scearce House was built and characterizes the lifestyle of the rural farming family in Shelby County, Kentucky in the 1850s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photos Page 1

Hinton-Searce House  
Shelby County, Kentucky  
*Historic Resource of Shelby County, Kentucky MRA*

**Photographic Identification**

Property: Hinton-Searce House

Location: Shelby County, Kentucky Heritage Council

Photographer: L. Martin Perry

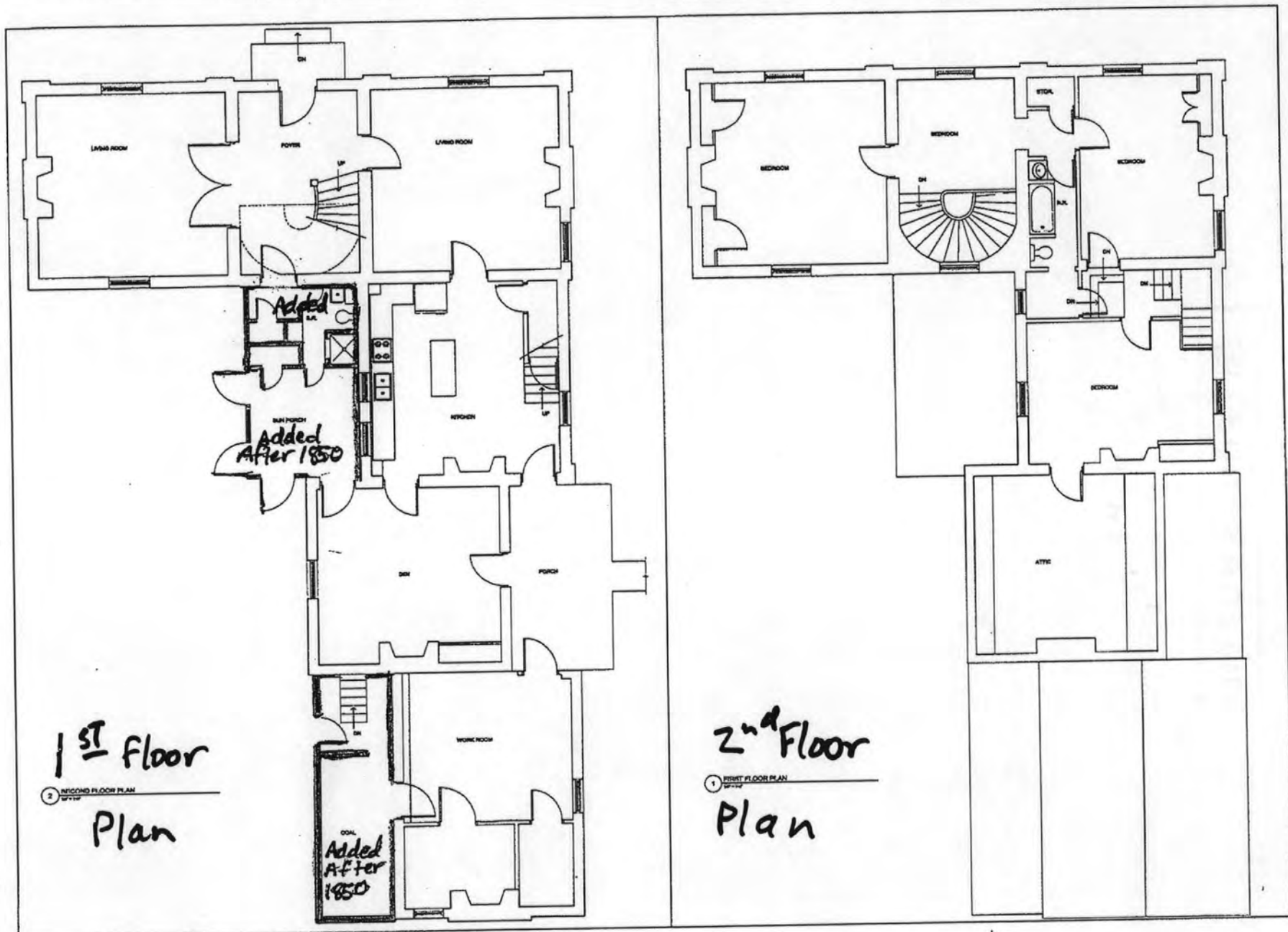
Date: May 10, 2009

Location of digital media: Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort KY

**Image Specific information:**

- 0001: View of Hinton-Searce Farm from Adams Pike, view to east
- 0002: View of west side and front (south) façade of Hinton-Searce House, view to northeast
- 0003: View of front (south) and east side of Hinton-Searce House, view to northwest
- 0004: View of back of Hinton-Searce House, view to southwest
- 0005: Garage and three non-contributing features, view to west
- 0006: Barn, grain bin, and tool and workroom, view to west
- 0007: Pump and back room of ell, view to south
- 0008: Front façade, view to north





ROBERT'S RESIDENCE  
 RENOVATION OF  
 HENTON - SCEARCE  
 RESIDENCE

212 ADAMS PIKE  
 SHELBYVILLE, KY 40065

ARCHITECTS:  
 K. NORMAN DEWEY  
 ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS PLLC  
 611 W. Main Street  
 Louisville, KY 40202  
 (502) 582-2000

Sheet Title: FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
 & SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
 .  
 .  
 .  
 File Number: 00.0010  
 Project Number: 1041  
 Drawn By: CF  
 Approved By: 11.04.08  
 Date:  
 Revisions:  
 .  
 .  
 .

A100

Hinton-Scearce House  
 Shelby Co., KY



PVA 09B-00-0291  
Agnie, Max D & Elaine  
5601 Orphan Lane  
Shelbville KY 40065  
Db. 382 Pg. 11

PVA 038-00-029J  
Shepherd Donald  
159 Adams Pike  
Shelbville KY 40065  
Db. 312 Pg. 550

## Adam's Pike

40°05'42"E 1015.78'  
From Fd PK Nail  
Center of Georgetown  
and Adams Bv.

LAND SURVEYORS CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PLAT SHOWN HEREON DEPICTS A SURVEY MADE BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION BY THE METHOD OF RANDOM TRAVERSE WITH SIDESHOTS. THE UNADJUSTED PRECISION RATIO OF THE TRAVERSE WAS 1:\_\_\_\_\_ AND WAS NOT ADJUSTED. THE SURVEY SHOWN HEREON IS A CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ SURVEY AND THE ACCURACY AND PRECISION OF SAID SURVEY MEETS ALL THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THIS CLASS.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR \_\_\_\_\_

General Notes:

1. Surveyor has made no investigation or independent search for easements of record, or encumbrances, restrictive covenants, ownership title evidence, or any other facts that an accurate and current title exam may disclose.
2. This survey is subject to all easements and rights of ways shown on the face of plat or of record.
3. Unless plat is signed and stamped by Surveyor it is void and null. This survey is made on the date indicated to the owner/client listed herein.

Hinton-Searce House  
Shelby Co. KY

Residual Tract Seacore Farm  
111.6 Acres by Deed  
Db. 482 Pg. 114

586°44'42"E

## workshop

Set 1/2" Rebar  
Cap #2123

Bearings were based on  
GPS Observation in June 00  
WSS 04

TRACT "A"  
2037AC.

Residual Tract Seacore Farm  
111.6 Acres by Deed  
Db. 482 Pg. 174

PVA 038-00-035  
Patterson Tony  
1678 Googhegan Road  
Shelbville KY 40065  
Db. 398 Pg. 282

AGRICULTURAL DIVISION  
SCIENCE FARM DIVISION  
SHELBY COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Owner, Anna L. Scarce

Owner: Anna L. Searce  
C/O Sanford C. Searce  
2025 Clore Jackson Road  
Shelbysville KY 40065  
Source of Title: Do. 482 Pg. 174  
Date of Plat - June 16, 2008  
Total Area Surveyed - 20.31 Acres

# ENGINE SURVEYS VAL. LAND SURVEYS AND DESIGN

506 MAIN STREET  
SHELBYVILLE, KY 40065  
502-698-1116

STATE OF KENTUCKY  
LARRY G. TINGLE  
2123  
LICENSED  
PROFESSIONAL  
LAND SURVEYOR

G:\TMODEL\Projects\OBLGT\SeacoreOB.pro  
2/2/2009 Original # Red  
11:52:36AM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Hinton-Scearce House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Shelby County MRA  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Shelby

DATE RECEIVED: 6/17/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/07/09  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/22/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/31/09  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000571

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 7/24/09 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Very nice example of 2 story, single pile house done in  
Greek Revival style. High degree of Design integrity.  
Locally Significant

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Gubbar DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.















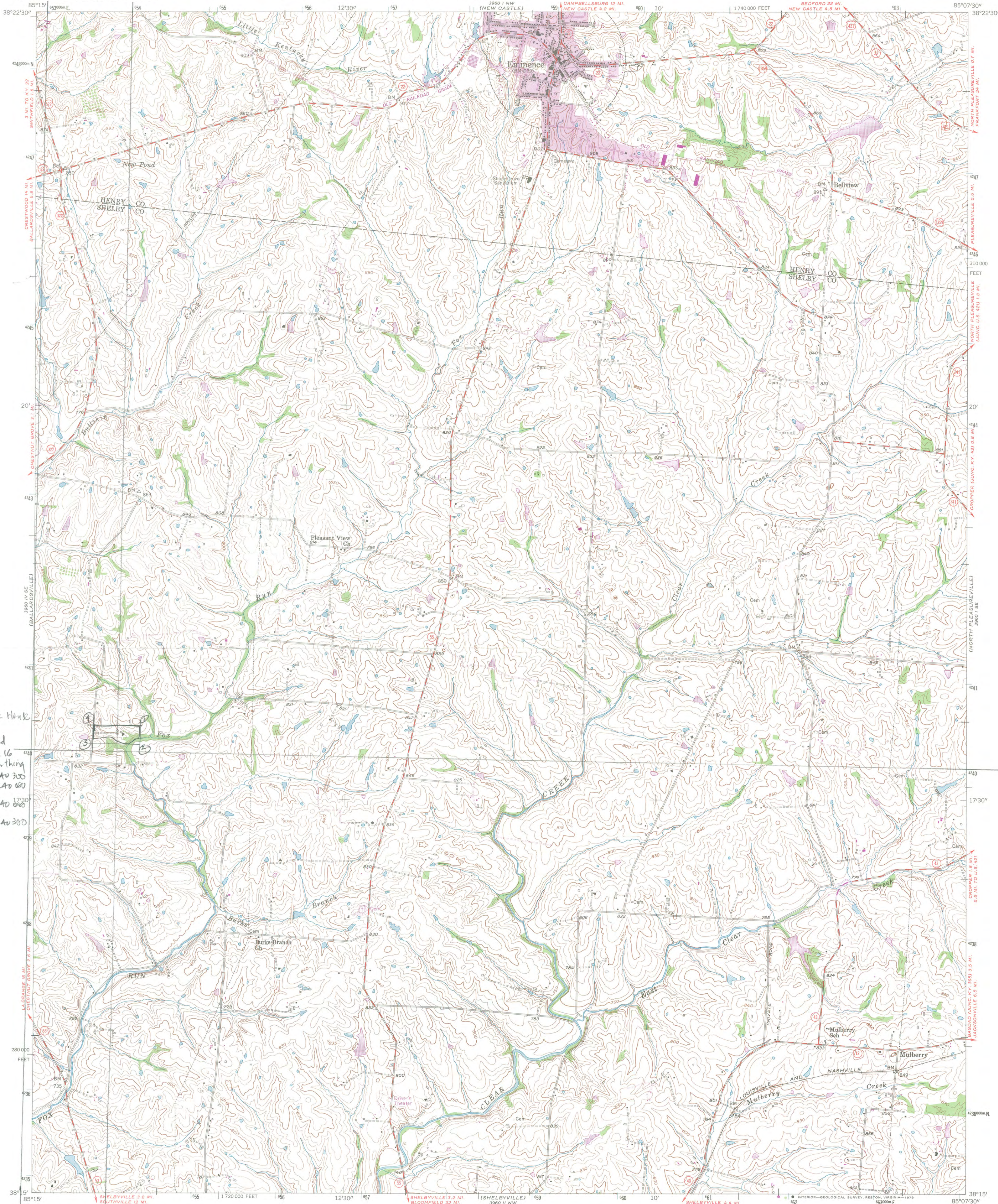












Hinton-Searce Hawk  
Shelby Co., KY  
Eminence Quad  
All points Zone 16  
Easting / Northing  
1 654 370 / 4240 300  
2 654 760 / 4240 080  
3 653 710 / 4240 020  
4 653 710 / 4240 300

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric  
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1952. Field check 1954  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Kentucky coordinate system,  
north zone  
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 16, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial  
photographs taken 1976 and other source data.  
Contours adjusted adjacent to certain photo-  
revised hydrographic features. This information  
not field checked. Map edited 1978

UTM GRID AND 1978 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

SCALE 1:24,000  
1 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET  
1 0 1 2 KILOMETRE  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty \_\_\_\_\_ Light-duty \_\_\_\_\_  
Medium-duty \_\_\_\_\_ Unimproved dirt \_\_\_\_\_  
U. S. Route \_\_\_\_\_ State Route \_\_\_\_\_

EMINENCE, KY.  
N 3815 - W 8507.5 / 7.5  
1954  
PHOTOREVISED 1978  
AMS 3960 1 SW-SERIES V853





STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
FAX (502) 564-5820  
www.heritage.ky.gov

MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

June 9, 2009



Jan Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Keeper  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Dr. Matthews:

Enclosed are nominations for 4 Kentucky properties approved at the 5/12/09 Review Board meeting:

**Upper Reaches of Boones Creek Rural Historic District**, Clark and Fayette Counties, KY  
**Central Frankfort Historic District**, Franklin County, KY  
**Bowman House**, Garrard County, KY  
**Hinton-Scearce House**, Shelby County, KY

A significant number of owners objected to the nomination of the Upper Reaches of Boones Creek Rural Historic District. The count of owners and objections was complicated by numerous types of ownership and by individuals who owned more than one parcel submitting multiple objections. In addition to submitting all objections with this mailing, we have enclosed the sheet that we used to count the numbers of owners and the numbers of objections, so you can verify our conclusion that a majority has not objected.

Finally, we resubmit a revised nomination, the **Mill Springs Historic Areas (Boundary Enlargement and Additional Documentation)**, Pulaski and Wayne Counties, Kentucky, for listing. We revised the form according to the reviewer's comments.

We appreciate your assistance with these actions.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SHPO and  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council