

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Springview Farm

other names/site number FA-461

2. Location

street & number 3076 Royster Road N/A not for publication

city or town Lexington X vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Fayette code 067 zip code 40509

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title Mark Dennen/SHPO Date _____

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

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8	2	buildings
		district
3		site
1	1	structure
		object
12	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence: Processing

Storage

Agriculture field

Agriculture outbuilding

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence: Processing

Storage

Agriculture field

Agriculture outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Diversified Farm

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone

walls: Log, Vertical Plank, Brick

roof: Asphalt Shingles, Standing Seam Metal

other:

Narrative Description

Summary

The historic Springview Farm is located in rural Fayette County, Kentucky along Royster Road approximately 7 miles east of downtown Lexington. The property is being interpreted primarily for the historic agricultural value of its identity as a farm. The area proposed for listing is a 317-acre historic farm consisting of 12 contributing features (8 buildings, 3 sites, 1 structure) and 3 non-contributing features (2 buildings and 1 structure).

Environment and Setting of Springview Farm

Springview Farm is located between Bryan Station Road, near where the Bryan Station fort and settlement was, and the historic Lexington-Winchester Turnpike. Royster Road forms a critical connection between these two important roads within the historic Briar Hill precinct. The area where the farm developed continues to be a pristine rural setting made up of a compilation of farms of long duration, along with the rural African American settlements of Columbus and Uttingertown. There is a meandering tributary on the farm property that is fed (in part) by a series of underground streams, two of which are located on the Springview Farm. The creek merges with a series of other tributaries that feed the David's Fork of the North Elkhorn. The tributaries were important waterways for the establishment of permanent settlement in the county and these same tributaries merge at the point of Bryan's Station, where settlers relied on the natural springs for their survival. When the Darnaby family settled on the property, they built their log house within view of one of the springs, thus the property became known as "Springview Farm". The property was established as a farm during the settlement period for the inner Bluegrass Region of the state and it has remained an active farm, until the present day.

The Springview farm's historic setting is also characterized by a combination of natural features, such as the springs and the gently sloping topography, that form part of the drainage basin for the North Elkhorn Creek. The Elkhorn was a major influence for those who explored the inner Bluegrass Region, and its tributaries were preferred by those seeking permanent settlement. The springs are indicative of the Karst formations that define Kentucky's Inner Bluegrass landscape region. Karst landscapes are underlain by limestone, with water permeating through, often resurfacing, to form or feed streams which provided a source of fresh water necessary for human occupation of the land. Likewise, the soil quality in east Fayette County was very desirable for farmers, and it continues to be categorized by the Kentucky Geologic Survey as *prime soil*—among the highest categories of soil quality within the state. Taken together, the good terrain, presence of the clean water, and prime soils, were key factors in why John Darnaby and the subsequent generations were able to sustain agricultural production on the Springview farm.

Change in ownership and farm size/use

The original owner of the land was Elijah Craig, a prominent settler and zealous Baptist minister, who has been credited with inventing Bourbon whiskey.¹ Craig sold the property to John Warrick in 1790, and it was acquired by means of purchase by John Darnaby (1760-1833) in 1808. Darnaby was from Spotsylvania County, VA, and he served as a private in the Virginia Militia at the age of 16. He later moved to Kentucky and established a homestead on his property. In all likelihood, it was John Darnaby who built the dogtrot log house that remains on the property today. Upon his death in 1833, John Darnaby's property was probated in his will dated May 17, 1828. Edward, his 6th child, received a tract that was approximately 300 acres. Edward Darnaby was a local Baptist minister and a farmer. According to the Federal Census, he owned anywhere from 7 to 13 slaves between 1810 and 1850; a feature of his farm that reflects the social and economic attitudes of many Kentucky farming families of that period. Also, he had 7 children that survived to adulthood. After his death in 1852, his property remained in the hands of his wife Catherine, who died in 1858. By 1863, 290 acres were divided among the Darnaby children. The division was platted and filed in the Fayette County

Office of Deeds.

The Shropshire/Ware families owned a great deal of property along Cleveland and Briar Hill Roads. The Shropshire, Wilson, Didlake, and Ware families were spread out throughout the Briar Hill Precinct in east Fayette County. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the Shropshire family began acquiring the Darnaby tracts of land. In so doing, they expanded their farming enterprise which consisted of tobacco, cattle, swine, mules, hay, corn, wheat, and open pastures. John Clifton Shropshire and his wife Willetta acquired tracts 1 and 2 of the Darnaby lands, which consisted of 168 acres. By 1897, James K. Shropshire (son of John and Willetta) bought the remaining Darnaby tracts, including the Elizabeth (Darnaby) Stevenson tract that contained the Darnaby log home. The farm expanded once more in 1943 when James Shirley Shropshire (Son of James K.) purchased at auction the Mitchell/Bush farm, thus expanding their property along Royster Road to over 300 acres. As the farm expanded, the Shropshires continued to engage in commercial farming with an emphasis on tobacco, sheep, swine, and cattle. Today, the farm remains intact and the original Darnaby tracts can still be distinguished from the 1863 sub-division of Edward Darnaby's 290-acre parcel.

Plank and wire fencing mark the farm's various spaces, demonstrating how the farm property was divided into distinct zones of agricultural production. For example, livestock areas are noticeably distinct from areas where hay or other crops are grown, or from those areas where domestic activities occurred. The fencing today shows the long-established patterns of field divisions that have changed very little over time. The current fencing allows us to see and understand the historic boundaries of the property as well.

The farm contains two cemeteries. One is the final resting place for Ed Darnaby and members of the Darnaby family, which include his wife and children, as well as extended family members such as the Smiths and Shropshires. The Smith family was related to Darnaby's wife (Catherine Smith), while the Shropshires married Darnabys. The other cemetery is known as the Bush Family cemetery, and it was acquired by the Shropshires in 1943, when they bought the Bush Farm.

Inventory of Contributing and Non-contributing Features

Springview Farm consists of approximately 317 acres of land, with its fields having been divided based on agricultural functions. Two features contribute greatly to the farm's historic identity: The main residential structure—a log house that was likely built by John Darnaby (the original settler and farm owner)—and a modest two-story brick structure built during the ante-bellum period. Both residences display changes over time. Additionally, four of the farm's barns were built after the turn of the twentieth century. The barns were capable of housing tobacco, while at the same time, accommodating livestock such as sheep and pigs. There is also a utility outbuilding located behind the main residence on the farm. That structure was used for domestic concerns such as canning, and other food preparation chores. It also served as a storage building for meats and other dry goods. Also, adjacent to the main residence, is a substantial milking barn. The farm also contains a modern garage/office building and a tenant's resident.

The farm is comprised of both natural and man-made features that, when taken together, form the basis for our understanding of what the Springview Farm is. Likewise, the field patterns that are visible today form a footprint of the past that show the long occupation of the property and its continual use as a farm. There are 12 Contributing features and 3 Non-Contributing Features.

Contributing Features

1. Log house

5. Tobacco Barn

9. Darnaby Family Cemetery (site)

- 2. Brick house
- 3. Domestic Outbuilding
- 4. Multi-Purpose Shed

- 6. Tobacco Barn
- 7. Multi-Purpose Barn
- 8. Multi-Purpose Barn

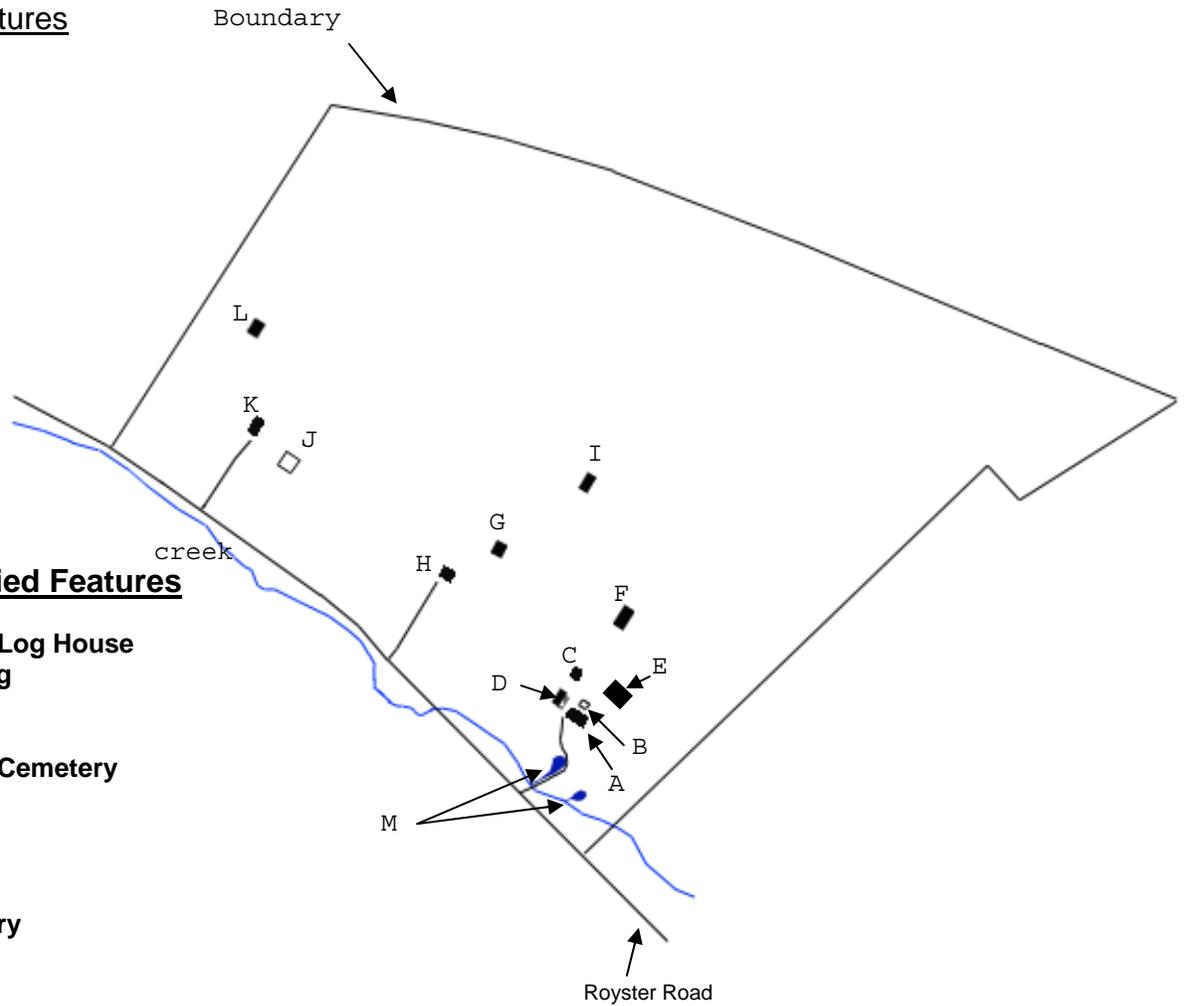
- 10. Bush Family Cemetery (site)
- 11. Stone Farm Entrance (structure)
- 12. Natural Springs (site)

Non-Contributing Features

- 1. Office/Garage
- 2. Plank Fencing
- 3. Tenant House

Location of Inventoried Features

- A. Darnaby/Shropshire Log House
- B. Domestic Outbuilding
- C. Smoke House
- D. Office/Garage
- E. Darnaby/Shropshire Cemetery
- F. Tobacco Barn
- G. Tobacco Barn
- H. Tenant House
- I. Multi-Purpose Barn
- J. Bush Family Cemetery
- K. Brick House
- L. Livestock Barn
- M. Natural Springs
- N. Plank Fencing (variety of locations)
- O. Stone Entrance (not shown on map)



A. Log House, ca 1790s, Contributing House

The noted architectural historian Clay Lancaster featured this house in his popular book *Ante-Bellum Architecture of Kentucky*. In that book he describes the Shropshire/Darnaby house as a Dogtrot that was enclosed to become a central passage plan house. Close examination of the structure shows distinctions between the two pens, suggesting the house likely started out as a single pen and it evolved into a dog-trot with the addition of a second pen. The first pen is characterized by its second-floor, which is constructed of log. The pen was likely a one-and-one-half story structure similar to the Abraham Bowman House [FA- 305B - Bowman Cabin] located along the South Elkhorn in rural Fayette County. A later pen was constructed in line with the first, most likely under its own roof originally. Once it was decided to incorporate the two pens under one roof, a framed second story was added, using hewed timbers. The process of raising the second-story elevation deployed vertical studs that were notched into the horizontal logs at the level of the lower window sill. Lancaster asserts that this was a technique adapted from both English and French traditions of joinery, dating back to early colonial settlements in the New World. Afterwards, a common roof was added, which covered the dog-trot space. Each pen had stone fireplaces which remain today, with alteration to the chimney

stacks. An ell was built to the rear of the house. It is constructed of brick in a common bond pattern and there is an integral fireplace on the rear wall. In all likelihood this was originally a kitchen ell.

As Lancaster suggests, the dog-trot was enclosed to form a central bay. It is not clear if the central bay contained two doors; however, today one sees that the front door is offset, thus resulting in an asymmetrical façade. As the house was being modified with the second-story addition, roof alteration, and dogtrot enclosure, the exterior logs were clad with weatherboard siding, and new window installations (6/6 double-hung wood sashes). Both the cladding and windows appear to be original to when they were first installed.

B. Domestic Outbuilding, ca. early 20th century, Contributing Building

Behind the main house is a framed outbuilding. The structure employs vertical studs of regular dimension, weatherboard siding, and a gable roof clad in standing-seam metal. This building is typical of multi-purpose outbuildings that were used for storage, canning, and other domestic chores. The Shropshire's recall that the building was also used for curing hams.

C. Multi Purpose Shed, ca. 1940s, Contributing Building

This building is constructed of sawn lumber and wire nails and was built during the 1940s, as the farm was in the process of expanding to accommodate cattle. The roof is clad in standing seam metal and there is a central aisle with doors on the gable ends. The building served the farm as a milk-barn where the cows were milked twice daily. Mr. Shropshire recalls that the milk was processed for personal consumption on the farm.

D. Garage/Office, ca 1960s, Non-contributing Building

This is a modern two-bay garage constructed of concrete blocks with overhead doors. The garage contains an office space used by the farm owners for conducting business. The structure has a gable roof clad in asphalt shingles.

E. Darnaby/Shropshire Family Cemetery, Contributing Site

Like many homesteads within Kentucky, families often administered their own burials and funerary rituals. The Darnaby family utilized a portion of the farm as a cemetery. It is located behind the original log house and contains at least 18 graves that remain visible on the surface. More importantly, it contains the graves of Ed Darnaby, his wife and children, as well as Shropshires, Wilsons, and Smiths.

F & G. Tobacco Barns, ca. 1920s, 2 Contributing Buildings

The Springview Farm has been a diversified agricultural complex from its beginning. Like most farmers within the Bluegrass, both in the 19th and 20th centuries, the Shropshires grew tobacco. According to "Harvesting and Curing Burley Tobacco"² the Springview tobacco barns follow an early-twentieth-century design for how most all of the central Bluegrass tobacco barns were built at this time. "Width is the most important dimension affecting ventilation. Width determines (1) the distance the air must move as it passes through the barn and 2) the quantity of tobacco through which the air must pass. A standard barn is 40 feet wide and 60 feet or more long with a sidewall 20 feet high and a gable roof of 1/3 pitch. The only ventilators are full-length sidewall vertical doors, equivalent in area to at least 1/3 of the sides with a central aisle."

The Springview tobacco barns are constructed using the conventions mentioned above. They deploy an H-beam framing with notched joinery and wire nails. The poles that support the H-frame structure rest on posts that are anchored into the ground. The roofs use a ventilation system that spans the entire ridgeline, and they are covered with standing seam metal. Each barn has seven bays distinguished by the vertical plank vents. The barns have stripping rooms, constructed of board and batten planks, where tobacco leaves are removed from the stem.

H. Tenant House, ca. 1960s, Non-contributing Building

The farm has employed tenants since the 1960s. This house is a frame single-story building. It has two interior brick chimneys and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house is clad in vinyl siding and its foundation materials could not be determined.

I. Multi-Purpose Barn, ca. 1940s, Contributing Building

This barn has been used for livestock, equipment storage, tobacco, and is currently used for hay storage. It is of frame construction with vertical plank siding. It has a central aisle with paired sliding doors on each of the gable ends. The roof is clad with standing seam metal. The barn is constructed using an H-frame superstructure of dimension lumber, and all of the joinery consists of wire nails.

J. Bush Family Cemetery, Contributing Site

During the 1940s, the Shropshires expanded their farm through the purchase of a tract of land once owned by the Bush family. With the land came the cemetery and house that the family owned. Since that time, the Shropshires have maintained the cemetery, which contains numerous graves of Bush family members from the 19th and 20th centuries. Like the Darnaby/Shropshire Cemetery, it embodies the mortuary customs associated with rural life in Kentucky and elsewhere. Its closeness to the main house suggests the farm's domestic habitat extended to encompass this feature.

K. Brick House, ca. 1860s, Contributing Building

This house shows up on the 1877 Beers Atlas of Fayette County. At that time it was owned by Milton L. Mitchell and his wife Martha. It is likely that the house was built for the previous property owners, namely James M. Dillard and his wife Nannie. The house is a two-story brick structure, constructed using a common bond. The house is unusual in plan for farm houses in Fayette County in that its entrance is on the gable side, the short side. Its construction mirrors that of a public building like a tavern or a small church. There is a substantial interior brick chimney, as well as a smaller rear wall chimney on its gable end. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. There is a rear addition of frame construction on the north gable end. The addition appears to be from the late-nineteenth century and it is 1-1/3 stories in height, clad in weatherboard siding. The foundation appears to be rough cut stones joined with mortar.

L. Livestock Barn, ca. 1920s, Contributing Building

This barn was one of the earlier 1920s tobacco barns and it is constructed in the same method as the other 1920s barns described earlier (F&G). That is to say it is an H-frame post-and-beam structure. It was partially converted into a livestock barn to accommodate an increase in sheep on the farm. The barn was a nucleus for breeding and feeding sheep, while at the same time it was also used to house tobacco. Mr. Shropshire is not sure when the barn was converted; however, he believes it was in the 1940s.

M. Natural Springs, Contributing Site

The natural springs on the farm are critical landscape features associated with the site. The settlement of the property centered on the springs as a source of fresh water. The springs are fed from an underground stream. The Karst topography of the inner Bluegrass is characterized by such springs, which attracted settlers who relied on the springs for their livelihood. The farm derives its name from the springs, which remain active as a fresh water source for livestock.

N. Stone Farm Entrance, ca. 1930s, Contributing Structure

The entrance to the farm is marked by a pair of stone walls that flank the driveway. The structure is very typical of many entrances associated with farms in the Bluegrass. It is constructed from hand-cut

limestone that is horizontally dry-laid using staggered widths of stone. Each section deploys a column-wall-column pattern, with vertical stones used to cap the columns and walls.

O. Plank Fencing, post-1960, Non-contributing Structure

The farm has a variety of modern plank fencing that consists of posts in the ground that are spanned by horizontal rails. This configuration is typical of paddocks and livestock pens in the inner Bluegrass.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1790 – 1962

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Criteria Considerations

N/A

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance justification

The period of significance (1790-1962) rests on the notion that Springview Farm was established by deed in 1790, and has remained a working farm to the present day. All of the farm's contributing features retain sufficient Integrity to convey the farm's significance for the period 1790-1962.

Criteria Considerations: NA

Statement of Significance:

Summary Paragraph

The Springview Farm (FA-461) meets National Register Criterion A and is significant within the context “Agriculture in Fayette County, Kentucky, 1790s-1960s.” The Springview Farm participated in the events that were important in the development of agriculture in the Bluegrass for two hundred years. Its land use patterns today can be clearly observed and understood in evaluating the farm’s significance. The Springview Farm is a farm of long duration in Fayette County; through time, it underwent changes in ownership and size—within the Darnaby family, and with the Shropshire family in the late-nineteenth century. Like the Darnabys, the Shropshires continued to farm the property according to prevailing agricultural patterns, and those uses are etched onto the landscape. In 1943, the Shropshire family purchased the adjacent Mitchell/Bush farm, 48 acres on the northeast edge of their property, which also retains significant visual clues in its field contours today that tell us about historic farming patterns. The purchase of the Mitchell/Bush farm allowed the Shropshires to expand their tobacco base, as well as to increase their cattle production, during a time when Fayette County witnessed a general farming transition that emphasized the value of Angus Cattle and Burley tobacco production. The farm’s association with the importance of cattle farming was underscored by James Shirley Shropshire’s service as the first secretary of the Kentucky Angus Association when it was started in the 1930s. He also went on to serve in the Foreign Agricultural Service in Washington, D.C. during the Eisenhower administration.

Like many farms in the inner Bluegrass Region, the Springview Farm also demonstrates an important and noticeable pattern of occupation, contraction, and expansion of the farm property over time. Historians and others have identified this pattern as an important agricultural trend in the central Bluegrass Region of the state, especially Fayette County. Specifically, that pattern shows that farms in Fayette County from the 1790s began as an act of settlement on a tract that started out as a single (often large) property. This was the case with the original owners of the property. Subsequent generations acquired the land through sale or probate, consequently dividing the farm eventually among heirs. With successive generations of heirs, the very large settlement tracts got divided down to very small units of production, mostly for subsistence purposes. According to popular Kentucky historian, Thomas Clark, agricultural production declined greatly after the Civil War, which ushered in an “age of the small subsistence farmer drudging a livelihood from ever shrinking acres.”³ Following that pattern, the Darnaby farm was subdivided in 1868 into five smaller tracts that were divided among heirs. Clark goes on to explain that, as agriculture became less and less profitable on small-scale farms, and as families moved away or pursued other occupations, certain farmers began to return to the practice of agriculture on larger farmlands (mostly after the mid-twentieth century). Again, we can observe this broad pattern as the Shropshire’s purchased and expand the farm into the twentieth century. Many things stimulated farmers to expand their farms; chief among them was the advent of Burley tobacco, quality grasses for grazing livestock, and stronger, more accessible markets. Many farmers, such as the Shropshires, began buying adjacent farm lands and expanding their farming operations to include Burley on a commercial scale as well as cattle and hay.⁴ Today, the farm retains evidence of the occupation-contraction-expansion phenomenon that reflects the broad patterns and trends associated with inner Bluegrass farms as observed in its log residence, tobacco barns, field divisions that distinguish agricultural functions, and the property’s boundary footprint that conveys its original and subsequent settlement/use patterns.

Historic Context: Agriculture in Fayette County, Kentucky, 1790s – 1860

Antebellum Agriculture, 1790s-1860

Land: After exploration by well known individuals such as Simon Kenton, Christopher Gist, and Daniel Boone up to the 1770s, the Inner Bluegrass Region was settled quickly. Fayette County was among the first counties to be named in the state, and the town of Lexington was chartered during the American Revolutionary War, in 1782.⁵ The Virginia land grant system fostered increased settlement of the county after the war. Militia men were able to acquire land for their service, and many came to Kentucky to begin making improvements to their property. Others, like John Carter of Virginia, chose to sell their land in Kentucky and remain in Virginia, thus avoiding the challenging journey to Kentucky and the perils of life as a pioneer. Carter was just one of many men who employed the services of land speculators to survey their property and enter it into the county records. Once a clear title was established, the absentee landlord (Carter) relied on his agent to convey that land to other parties with the aim of making a substantial profit. Through the mid-1790s, the time when Carter sold his land (what became Springview Farm) the value of land had increased one hundred percent on average. In some cases, land values soared to three hundred and even five hundred percent above their original value. Therefore, land speculation in the period that Carter sold his property - via his agent - was a common method employed to foster uncontested/secure land claims for would-be settlers who did not hold military warrants or other deeds to land. Secure ownership of land was the first step in establishing a property of long duration that could be successfully passed along to one's heirs.

Patriarchy: The notion of patriarchy was a well established social construct that was used to transfer land and other types of property through the male line of the family. As a result, properties eventually passed along through a male heir, thus reinforcing the patriarchal system of land distribution that many Kentuckians practiced. Historian Thomas Clark, exclaimed that the "pioneering type of family farm in early Kentucky set a pattern in perpetuity as a source of livelihood, a family centralizing center, and to hundreds of thousands of Kentuckians, their identification with place."⁶ Land became the most common measure of one's status and wealth within the inner Bluegrass counties, a trend that remains true today. Probating land to one's kin transferred status to their posterity and allowed future generations the opportunity to use that land as a bartering tool, sold for cash, or divided among heirs into smaller parcels. Either way, the land was a key to unlock the potential for one's present state of welfare and a way to provide for future prosperity. This practice was observed by Darnabys, and later, by the Shropshire family.

Slavery: The role of slavery is also one way to understand farming in Fayette County during the settlement period and beyond. The ownership of multiple slaves is indicative of the ways in which many farmers set out to produce their crops and maintain their farms. The farming economy (commercial and domestic) grew to become very dependent on slave labor. The use of such workers became the norm within a system of labor that bound Fayette County farmers to an economic dependency upon the labor of an enslaved workforce. Because slaves were regarded as the legal property of their owners, they too were probated by their owners to ensure that their property would remain in the family. Transferring slaves by probate reflects the broader patterns associated with Fayette County farms during the anti-bellum period and further demonstrates the magnitude of the county's slave economy. At the dawn of the Civil War, nearly half of Lexington's population was comprised of enslaved people.

The inner Bluegrass agricultural economy developed from its beginnings with the transfer of slaves from Virginia and elsewhere. Many were hired out by their owners as a means of income, while others remained in service to their owners. Most worked as field hands or as domestic servants and they typically lived on the farm in their own residential structures. As the cotton economy of the

lower south grew, Lexington became a gateway to the South for the sale of slaves, thus becoming a major slave market town.

Emancipation after the Civil War forced many blacks to enter into contractual labor with farm owners, more often than not to the disadvantage of the tenant. In other cases, many former slaves developed their own communities near the farms where they worked. These communities thrived with their own churches, schools, and other racially identifiable characteristics. One such community developed near the Springview Farm known as Uttengertown. Fayette County's rural settlements endured and thrived throughout the Jim Crowe era, and many of them remain intact today (including Uttengertown).

Production: Generally, antebellum-era farming in Fayette County continued on a slow but steady pace of improving lands for the purpose of agriculture. As Clark argues, most farmers in the 1840s-50s were "rigidly independent," with little or no awareness of scientific improvements being made in agriculture and livestock breeding.⁷ Most were content to provide a living for their families in hopes that their surpluses could be used to produce an income. Agriculture census tables from 1840-1860 reveal that Fayette County farmers produced a range of livestock which included cattle, pigs, mules, chickens, and sheep.⁸ Also, many of the county's farms produced wheat, hay, corn, and tobacco. Most small farms had sufficient production to sustain the family's needs, while also producing surpluses for bartering or for sale. Many farmers sold their goods at open markets in the city and through the stockyards.

Historic Context: Agriculture in Fayette County, Kentucky, 1865 – 1900

The period of farming in the county after the Civil War was dramatically different than it had been before the war. Again, Thomas Clark explains that "the average Kentucky subsistence farm produced too little capital to justify the purchase and operation of modern implements."⁹ The advent of horizontal and vertical integration of agricultural industries associated with the rise of the industrial age, alienated farmers and forced many into long periods of impoverishment. Although Burley tobacco was introduced to the region during the 1860s, the markets for the product were in Cincinnati and Louisville, and not necessarily that accessible to the Inner Bluegrass counties. Rails were developing in such a way that by the 1880s, towns such as Lexington, Winchester, Paris, were served by the major lines moving in all directions. Rails gave farmers increased access to markets, although pricing for tobacco remained a contentious issue between buyers and growers for many years.

Average Farm Size in Fayette County 1860-1900

Acres	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
<3	0	0	20	---	29
3-10	5	19	31	58	102
10-20	9	37	58	94	121
20-50	63	93	142	160	237
50-100	87	143	175	166	200
100-500	452	463	553	466	507
500-1000	63	18	76	34	40
1000+	12	5	16	87	7

The post-Civil War era for Fayette County ushered in a period where the number of smaller farms increased. Many reasons explain this phenomenon, including increases in improved acres, rising population, division of larger farms among heirs, increases in agricultural production, and the

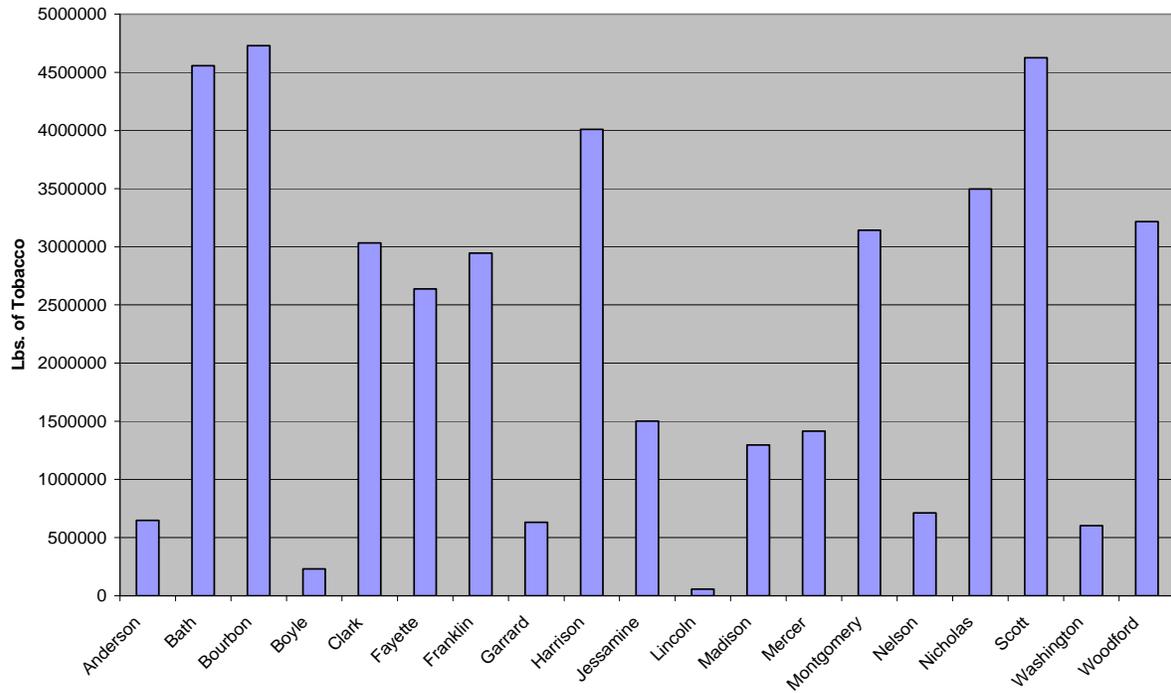
advent of gilded age/industrial wealth. The Springview Farm started out as a 300-acre farm that got divided into smaller tracts in the 1860s, which follows trends in the county toward an increase in the number of smaller farms as the nineteenth century draws to a close. As the twentieth century approached, the number of large farms increases substantially, as some folks consolidate their properties. By 1910, the number of 1000+ acre farms was dramatically reduced, to only 7.

Many Fayette County farms continued producing livestock and subsistence items, as they had before the Civil War. According to the 1860 Agriculture Census, Fayette County ranked on average about third in overall agricultural production among the inner Bluegrass counties. Livestock production on most subsistence farms was diversified among mules, cattle (including dairy), horses, poultry, sheep and swine. Swine and sheep production outnumbered all other livestock, and the history for Springview demonstrates that its owners, too, raised sheep and hogs up through the 1950s. Other production staples included corn, tobacco, wheat, and hay. Agriculture statistics through the 1900s indicate that farm production in Fayette County continued to focus on the commodities previously mentioned. Fayette County shifted each decade in various production rankings and did not rank in the top five for hemp production until the 1870s, after which it dominated as the number one producer to 1910.

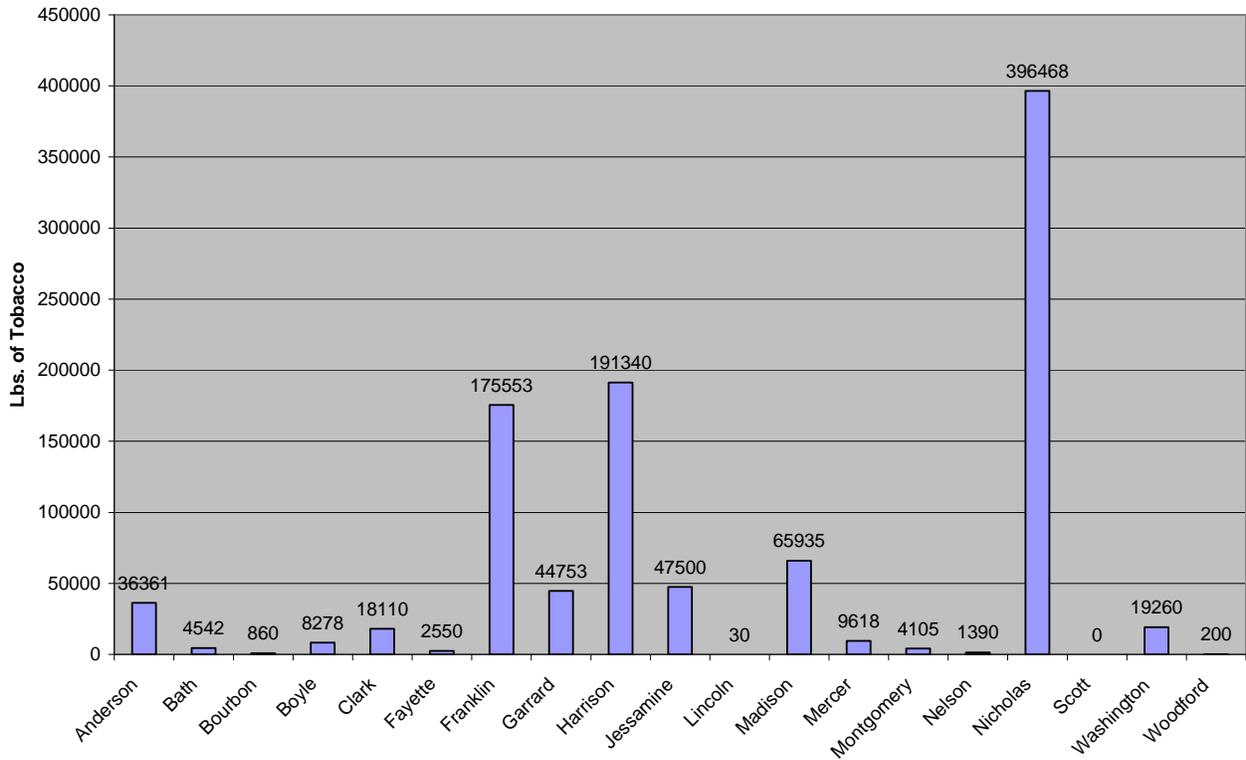
As a rule, small farms and diversified agriculture came to represent the average Fayette County farm by the turn of the century, and this was certainly true of the Springview Farm as well. Despite that, a shift in emphasis on tobacco occurred during this period, and it can be seen in the increases in Burley production on individual farms by county. In 1860, Fayette County produced a meager 2,550 pounds of tobacco and it ranked among the lowest tobacco-producing counties in the inner Bluegrass.¹⁰ For example, oxen, sheep, horses, pigs and mules continued to be among the leading items associated with Fayette County farms. By 1890, however, the total production of tobacco in the county increased to a staggering 2,638,272 pounds (see graphs). Fayette County, ranked somewhere in the middle for tobacco producing counties in the inner Bluegrass during this time.

The accelerated shift to a tobacco economy got an additional boost when in 1889, the American Tobacco Company opened up Lexington's first industrial tobacco plant in the city. While American Tobacco was the nation's largest tobacco trust, the plant in Lexington was owned and operated by Liggett and Myers Tobacco of St. Louis Missouri. Together with the modern rails that were recently built in the city, and the development of tobacco warehouses and re-drying plants, Lexington ultimately became the central tobacco market for the state of Kentucky. After the turn of the century, tobacco reigned as the leading cash crop in Fayette County and all of Kentucky.

Central Region Tobacco Production, 1890



Central Region Tobacco Production, 1860 (pre-burley)



Historic Context: Agriculture in Fayette County, Kentucky, 1900 – 1950s

The events associated with the rise of tobacco can be understood through the acquisition and timing of the property transaction. As the context for farming in Fayette County changed to emphasize tobacco, the Shropshire/Darnaby farm changed to accommodate the increased market demands for tobacco. This was not unusual or unique to the Shropshires. Rather it reflects the larger trend in farming in Fayette County. One can see this in the Agriculture census for 1900, where it shows that Fayette County farmers produced 6,339,690 pounds of tobacco – nearly three times as much as the previous decade. That year, Fayette County ranked in the top five Bluegrass counties for tobacco production.

In 1905, Charles W. Bohmer, a Virginian, established Lexington’s first loose-leaf sales warehouse along South Broadway, near the Liggett and Myers plant. Before this time, loose-leaf sales were a practice familiar to Virginia planters. Kentuckians adopted the method first in Hopkinsville; however the system did not take hold right away because the dominant hogshead method of sales was the traditional method used for marketing tobacco in Kentucky. Additionally, local markets in small towns could not compete with the huge market towns of Louisville and Cincinnati.¹¹ Within a few short years of Bohmer’s warehouse being built, other warehouses were constructed and Lexington rapidly became the region’s central loose-leaf tobacco sales market.

Nothing, however, compared to the continued growth in the tobacco economy and the production of Burley tobacco. Loose Leaf and open floor sales led to the construction of millions of square feet of warehousing space within Lexington. According to the 1945 Agriculture Census, Fayette County farmers produced 14,316,471 pound of tobacco, and the county was now the number one producer of Burley tobacco in the state.

Likewise, beef cattle production continued to increase within Fayette County during this period as well. In 1920, Fayette County ranked fifth in total beef cattle production behind Madison, Bourbon, Clark, and Nelson Counties. The total number of beef cattle for Fayette County was 12,586 as compared to Madison’s 23,520. By the 1950s, Fayette County had ranked among the top five cattle producing counties within the larger Bluegrass region of the state.

Total Cattle Production – Top 5 Regionally

1910		1930		1945		1959	
Madison	25,143	Madison	22,838	Madison	30,598	Madison	41,254
Bourbon	17,583	Bourbon	17,212	Nelson	28,313	Nelson	37,785
Clark	16,443	Fayette	16,450	Clark	21,682	Fayette	35,813
Fayette	14,490	Nelson	14,444	Fayette	20,655	Bourbon	35,363
Montgomery	13,541	Clark	14,266	Lincoln	21,610	Lincoln	30,533

In summary, the period 1900–1950s was a time when Fayette County farmers devoted themselves to the production of tobacco and cattle. This is not to suggest that they did not continue to diversify their operations to include hay, seed, and other crops such as corn, barley, and oats. Sheep production remained high as well, so that by 1910, Fayette County ranked eighth in the region. In 1930, the county placed 7th in the region and it had moved to 4th by 1959. Similar to sheep production was swine. In 1910, Fayette County ranked 6th, and by 1959, it had slipped to 9th.

History of the Springview Farm:

The history of the Springview Farm can be traced back to a transaction in 1790 between Elijah Craig and John Warrick. The property consisted of 190 acres and it originally belonged to a Virginian named John Carter. In many cases, absentee owners of land in Kentucky relied on surveyors and

agents to enter a clear title of ownership in the county court records, and then sell the land for a substantial profit. In all likelihood, Craig, who was a well known surveyor, preacher, and land agent, was acting on Carter's behalf to secure and enter a clear title, after which he could sell the land. Carter had acquired the land as a grant for his military service, however, there is no indication that either Craig or Carter had ever lived on the tract or that either made any improvements on the land. Nevertheless, the property was sold with a clear title to Warrick.

The location of the Warrick tract was in proximity to the Bryan Station springs and fort, which the British and Indian forces had destroyed in 1776. One attraction to the area was the natural springs that formed very desirable pools and streams that could be utilized by settlers. The property's natural springs were mentioned in the deed as key terrain features, which underscored the property's desirable natural attributes. To be sure, the springs on his property enabled Warrick to select a desirable location for his cabin. Erecting a log shelter was a crucial act of tenant husbandry due to continual land disputes in the county.¹² It was oriented (like most cabins) towards the stream, and within about one hundred feet of the natural spring. The cabin was built high enough above the stream to avoid flooding, and its slightly elevated posture led to the property being known as "Springview". The natural setting also meant that deer and other wildlife would be within ready striking distance for hunting, while domestic livestock could flourish as well.

In 1806, Warrick sold the property with improvements to John Darnaby.¹³ Darnaby was one of many who would leave his home in Virginia during or after the war, embarking upon a new life on the western frontier of Kentucky. Darnaby was born in 1760, in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. He served as a private in the Virginia Militia at the age of sixteen.¹⁴ The date he arrived in Kentucky is not known for certain; historic records indicate that his daughter Judy was born in Fayette County in 1784.¹⁵ Darnaby and his wife Judith (Gayle) had 7 children. All were born by 1795, including Edward – the ultimate heir to the homestead. The notion that Darnaby made his way to Kentucky in the 1780s fits into a larger pattern of migration, where Kentucky's population surged after the Revolutionary War. Kentucky struggled to gain its independence from Virginia, but it achieved statehood in 1792. Lexington became a destination for would-be settlers, and quickly became the center of commerce for the region.

There is not a lot known about John Darnaby. The records indicate that he lived on the property until his death in 1833. Just before his death, he is listed in the 1830 Federal Census; however, the census does not indicate much about his household, or whether he owned slaves. Despite that, his son Edward, who was also living on the property that same year, clearly does own at least seven enslaved people.¹⁶ Slavery was a very common feature of Fayette County farms and part of the larger economic infrastructure associated with Kentucky's antebellum past. Ed Darnaby (and his father) likely employed slave labor in their various agricultural undertakings, and there is the foundation of a previous structure on Springview Farm that may indicate their occupation of the farm in this period. The textual record allows us to infer that there would have indeed been some sort of arrangement for the care and shelter of the enslaved workers and their kin. Following trends in the upland south, slave dwellings on medium size farms (less than 500 acres) were often located adjacent to open fields and away from the main residence.

After John Darnaby's death, his homestead property went to his son Edward. Edward was a Baptist Minister, although it is not clear where he preached. Within the area there were several churches that show up on the 1877 Beers Atlas of Fayette County and the church closest to his home was the David Fork Church located on Cleveland Road very near the intersection with Winchester Pike. The practice of meeting in the house of a minister, however, was common during the settlement and anti-bellum periods, especially in rural areas. For example, in 1817, the Reverend John M. Peck traveled through parts of Kentucky and he created a journal of his experiences. While traveling in the fall of the year, Peck and his companions made their way to Davis Fork – the community near where Darnaby lived. After taking care of some business, they met at the Darnaby house where they heard

a message (presumably from Darnaby) preached on John 21: 17.¹⁷ The importance of this event ties the farm to the broader social and religious practices that were important aspects of life in rural Fayette County.

Ed Darnaby's occupation as a minister did not prevent him from farming nor from owning slaves. While there was no inventory of his estate, his will indicated that his children and wife were to receive all of the farm assets, which included horses, cattle, and his servants.¹⁸ This was a typical arrangement upon the death of a patriarch within the family. If the wife outlived her husband, she often remained in the sole possession of the estate, including slaves. Enslaved workers often were willed to family members, a common practice the Darnaby family observed. Darnaby seemed to be satisfied with his estate during his life, and it does not appear by the record of deeds that he ventured into land speculation or commercial ventures within Lexington. Darnaby was likely a man of modest means, or one not inclined towards accumulating wealth. His farm did not extend beyond its original boundaries while he owned it, which left a footprint that can still be observed today.

The notion of Ed Darnaby's modest means is also corroborated in his will where little mention of his estate or his possessions is made. Rather, upon his death in 1852, he left his estate to the care of his wife on the condition that she pass the property on to his children upon her death – at first to his male heirs and second to his daughters. Catherine Darnaby died in 1858, and her will was probated thereafter. It is not clear why it took almost five years for the estate to be formerly settled, but in 1863, the original Darnaby parcel of land was divided into seven tracts that averaged about thirty acres each.¹⁹ It is through that division of land that one can see the patriarchal customs at work, and the notion that the larger farm gets transformed into much smaller units of production. To be sure, this process is part of the larger agrarian/social context that was part of a farming tradition in Fayette County and an important aspect of how properties remained farms of long duration.

Lot No. 3 of the plat went to Elizabeth Stevenson (Darnaby), and it contained the family residence. She was the eldest daughter of Ed and Catherine who married James Stevenson. Because there are no other houses on the property, it appears that the other heirs chose to live elsewhere. The remaining lots were distributed to William, Mary, Judith, Sydney, Edward, and Caroline in nearly equal shares. It is clear that the Stevensons are living on the property in 1877, which shows up as such on the Beer Atlas of Fayette County. The atlas reveals that very many Darnabys are living in proximity to the David Fork area – also known as the Briar Hill Precinct. Upon her death, Catherine Darnaby gave her children the remainder of her estate, items that included livestock and household wares. Again, no inventory of the estate was made to arrive at the specific details of the farming implements or other property that remained on the farm.²⁰

It is not exactly clear in the historic record, but it appears that the Shropshires had some familial ties to the Darnabys and there are Shropshires buried in the Darnaby family cemetery during the 1880s. In her will, Catherine Darnaby stated that she wanted to be buried in the family graveyard and she left a sum of money to clean it up and build a "sturdy stone fence" around it. Within that cemetery there is the grave of *Clifton Shropshire* Wilson – clearly named after one of the patriarchs of the Shropshire family that owns the property today. Likewise, both Ed Darnaby and his wife Catherine's gravestones remain in the cemetery. This may help explain how this line of the Shropshire family came to possess the Darnaby land.

By the 1890s, the Shropshire family had their eye on the Darnaby tracts.²¹ They were farmers who had long been associated with the areas of David Fork and North Cleveland Road. The Shropshires were related by marriage to the Ware family, in particular James Ware, who established his farm in 1790, very near the Darnaby tract to the north east. The Ware property was passed to his son George in 1820, and in 1884, the land was divided between Abram and his sister Lucy Ware Shropshire. Lucy then passed property on to her son John Clifton Shropshire and then to their son James K. Shropshire. The Shropshires had long since been farming tobacco and raising cattle in Fayette County and the expansion of their farm holdings came at a time when the tobacco industry

was ramping up after the 1890s. James K. received a sum of money from his grandfather James G. Kinnaird for the purpose of buying “farm land”²² It was James K. Shropshire who bought the Darnaby tracts of land in 1897, after which he consolidated the divided Darnaby tracts back to their original configuration.

In 1897, ownership of the property was squarely in the hands of James K. Shropshire. During that same period, Lexington and greater Fayette County was expanding as both a producer of tobacco as well as a market center of tobacco warehousing. Fayette County farmers place a high emphasis on tobacco production, and by 1915 it replaced hemp as the number one cash crop in Kentucky. Within the next few years the Shropshires built two large tobacco barns that remain on the farm today – and are still in use. The barns were built at the typical industrial scale that most tobacco barns of this period were built in. The Shropshires devoted many of their acres to growing tobacco, and like many Fayette County farmers, tobacco set the course for the next few generations of Fayette County farmers to follow.

The Shropshires adopted the Darnaby log house as their own residence on the farm. In 1877, the house was labeled as the “Stevenson” residence on the Beers Atlas. The structure had undergone a dogtrot enclosure and a second-story alteration/addition at some point in the nineteenth century, and it was also clad in weatherboards with a rear addition constructed of brick. The Shropshires made some improvements for electricity and modern plumbing in the 1930s. However, the house retains much of its historic design, materials, workmanship, and perhaps most of all its setting overlooking the fresh water spring that attracted the original settlers to this area of Fayette County.

The farm property was willed by James K. to his sons James Shirley and Laurence. James Shirley occupied the farm and continued farming on it with his wife Martha. According to the current Shropshire heirs, the farm raised both sheep and pigs during this time (and likely before). There remains today a multi-purpose barn on the property that was used for hay storage and for raising sheep and hogs. It appears that the barn was constructed before the mid-twentieth century. Sheep remained on the farm into the 1950s, and in the 1945 Agriculture Census Fayette County reported an inventory of 27,580 sheep valued at \$370,762 dollars.

The overall increase in tobacco production in Fayette County in the 1940s can be seen in the Shropshire farm’s expansion. In 1943, James Shirley Shropshire purchased the Mitchell/Bush farm at auction. The farm consisted of 43 contiguous acres that joined the northwestern line of the old Darnaby tract. The expansion of the farm accommodated additional pastures for sheep and cattle, while at the same time allowed for increased tobacco production. As a result, an additional tobacco barn was constructed and remains on the farm today.

In addition to tobacco, the Shropshires raised Black Angus cattle and grew hay as well. Many acres were devoted to grazing, and the farm produced sufficient hay for feed and for market and the fresh water springs continued to supply the farm with water. James Shirley Shropshire’s served as the first secretary of the Kentucky Angus Association during the 1930s, and his devotion to the industry led him to an appointment to the Foreign Agricultural Service in Washington, D.C. during the Eisenhower administration. In 1953, James Shirley acquired his brother’s half-interest in the farm and became the principal owner of the entire farm.

The farm was passed once again to the current owners, Jim and Jane Shropshire, who continue to raise cattle, tobacco, and hay.

Evaluation of the Significance of the Springview Farm within the Context of Fayette County Agriculture, 1790s – 1960s.

The Springview Farm is important for demonstrating a clear relationship between farming over a long period of time and the complex depth of familial associations which supported farming with Bluegrass farms through history. The Springview Farm was featured prominently in the celebrated *Kentucky's Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, and the Darnaby House (current home to the Shropshires), was featured in Clay Lancaster's *Ante-bellum Architecture of Kentucky*. Both publications celebrate the property as a good example of a successful farm of long duration that showcases enduring architectural forms in design, materials, and workmanship. It is important to see the Springview Farm as a dynamic landscape where design, age, tradition, and the symbolic value are factors in its historical importance.

The period of expansion of the farm follows another farming trend in the Bluegrass. What started out as a large, single tract of land with the Darnabys eventually got subdivided into smaller units of production, and later expanded back to a large tract. This is a critical feature of a farm of long duration in that it shows quite succinctly how that process was tied to changes in family relationships, changes in the farming economy, and the subsequent desire for some to remain committed to farming despite the post agricultural age that currently defines Fayette County and the state in general.

Darnaby seems to fit well within Clark's analysis of average farmers in Fayette County - not as an intimate of agricultural experimentation practiced by academics. When one observes the Springview Farm, it seems closer to typical examples of the ways that farmers in Fayette County organized and operated their farms. Its pattern of operation remains a visible feature on the landscape today – unchanged from the time of the Darnaby occupation of the property.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Significance of Springview Farm in Light of its Physical Situation

For a historic Fayette County farmstead to retain integrity as an entire property, a majority of its components must be intact, and the spatial relationships among the farm's features must be intact since the period of significance. To assess the historic integrity of historic farmsteads, all seven integrity factors – location, setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association – must be examined. If a Fayette County farmstead meets Criterion A, with its significance based on its ability to convey the major types of farming present in the county, a farm must have high integrity of location and setting, moderate amounts of integrity of materials and design. If a farm has these 4 factors, it will be said to have integrity of associations, which is the capstone integrity factor through which the claim of eligibility can be made.

A Fayette County farm will have integrity of **location** if it has not moved. The Springview Farm was anchored along a popular road, well traveled within the important Briar Hill Precinct of the county. That road formed the middle ground between the Winchester Turnpike and Bryan Station Pike. The name "Springview" also alludes to a specific spot in relation to an important natural feature, the flowing stream, by which any early farm depended for a vital resource—water. Springview Farm has integrity of location.

Fayette County farms have two components of integrity of **setting**: the setting within the farm boundary and the setting of properties and uses surrounding the farm. A farm will have sufficient integrity of setting to meet Criterion A if only the interior setting remains. Springview Farm's interior natural **setting** is pristine, including the very important natural springs that were critical for long term occupation of the land. The immediate setting around the log residence remains today the way it was when the Warricks first established their homestead. Likewise, the establishment of the homestead put in place one critical element (the house) for understanding the processes and trends associated

with the settlement aspect of the county's historic past. Acquisition of the land, first through military service and later through the sale of the property, along with the establishment of permanent settlement via log architecture, are trends that are vital in understanding how the frontier was settled. The Springview Farm clearly retains those features of its past, which "cogently reflect the period of time in which the important events took place".²³ Moreover, these important landscape features (the residence and the spring) remain intact and are important for understanding the motives of the earliest settlers on the property.

A Fayette County farm's integrity of **materials** and **design** will be understood by assessing the 11 landscape characteristics identified within the National Park Service bulletin "Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes." That document further divides the landscape characteristics into four processes and seven components, which become ways to recognize a farm's important activities, and the way that space and materials were organized to serve those activities. One can observe today the long-standing patterns of field use and field divisions associated with the Darnaby's and their tenure of the farm. One very pronounced landscape feature is the property's exterior and interior boundaries. Those follow the historic metes and bounds calls that appear in the early deeds. The current fencing around the property, while itself not of the historic material, continues to follow the historic boundaries, as does a prominent tree line at the perimeter.

The division of fields for cattle, hay, tobacco, sheep, and pigs can still be seen on the landscape from the early-to-mid twentieth century. Additionally, there is a smokehouse that remains on the farm that was built before the 1940s, which was used into the 1960s for curing hams, pointing to the era when a portion of the farm's produce went into household consumption.

The residence established a key landscape feature and division of space that remains today the anchor of the farm's domestic complex. That division of space is recognizable throughout the farm and reinforced by long-established tree lines that demarcate original fencing, field patterns, and property boundaries. Taken together, those spatial characteristics formed the basis by which the farm was operated and maintained. The Springview Farm's historic footprint is clear and recognizable today.

The judgment that a Fayette County farm has integrity of **association** is a product of evaluating its other component integrity factors. When a Fayette County farm has integrity of location, setting, materials, and design, then that farm can meet the terms of Criterion A: The "property is **associated** with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." Indisputably, Fayette County agriculture has made contributions to local, state, and even national history. The focus of this nomination's analysis has been on the local level. Many farms in the county remain with sufficient intactness to provide connections with those important associations. The Springview Farm is one.

The property would remain in the Darnaby family for the next eighty-six years, during which time it exhibited the qualities of a productive diversified farm that served a subsistence function more than a commercial function. During that period, the Darnaby's etched out field patterns that structured the farm's outer boundaries, through fencing and maintained tree growth. Today those exact boundaries remain as critical features on the landscape that allow us to understand the spatial characteristics of the original farm. Those boundaries established by the Darnabys are the current boundaries of the farm today.

Likewise, the seven divisions of property formed distinct boundaries that separated each child's property one-from-another. One can still see the remnants of that division today; the 1863 plat, when laid out over an aerial image of the farm today, remains highly recognizable. That footprint provides three critical things associated with understanding the long duration of the farm as an important aspect of the past. First, the original John Darnaby boundary is visible on the landscape. Second, the seven divided parcels from Ed Darnaby to his children are also visible on the landscape.

And finally, the divisions of fields, that show how the farm was used, are visible. All of these indicate the design of the farm and the long-established patterns of use have been etched onto the ground.

The Mitchell/Bush property retained the original home that had been on that site since the antebellum period. It is a modest brick house that remains mostly unchanged from its 19th-century form. The Mitchell family were also farmers of modest means and the property passed to the Buses through marriage. Like the Springview Farm, the creeks and fertile soils made it an attractive purchase for the Shropshires in the 1940s. The Bush family cemetery came with the property as well, thus showing that mortuary practices important from the eighteenth century continued for Kentuckians well into the twentieth century. Also, the cemeteries link past generations to the landscape in unmistakable ways and are critical features for understanding farms of long duration in Fayette County (and elsewhere).

Again, the farm has retained its key landscape features sufficient to allow the current generation of Shropshires to exclaim “as far as we know, it (the farm) has always looked this way!” In other words, the continuity of land use patterns, natural features, and supporting architectural elements are so established, giving the farm a strong link to its past.

In all likelihood, the footprint of a probable dwelling for enslaved workers serves as another spatial element of the farm demonstrating a once-important aspect of farming in Fayette County. To be sure, the footprint forms a spatial clue to a way of life that no Kentucky textbook or historical work can avoid, namely the commitment many had to the institution of slavery.²⁴

James Shirley Shropshire died in the 1970s, after which his property was left to his wife and subsequently to his sons James S. Jr., and Thomas. The property continues to be associated with cattle farming, tobacco, and hay, and the current owners reside on the property. This means that the property has had an uninterrupted legacy as a farm since the settlement period – with people still living in the original log house making their living off the land. The Springview Farm is therefore a good example of a farm of long duration that is associated with events important in Fayette County’s agricultural past that provide meanings and understanding for a past (and present) way of life. The property is tied to the larger cycles of change that shows the elastic nature of farming over long periods of time. The pristine quality of the farm is characterized in *Kentucky’s Historic Farms*, which features the farm as one of Fayette County’s much celebrated Bicentennial Farms.

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1 Fayette County, Ky, Deed Book D, p. 175, March 1, 1790 – Also see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elijah_Craig, which explains Craig’s life in Kentucky.

² Massie, Ira E., and Jones H. Smiley, “Harvesting and Curing Burley Tobacco”, in AGR-14, Issued Aug., 1974 (Department of Agronomy-University of Kentucky), pages unnumbered.

³ Clark, Thomas., “200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture”, in *Kentucky’s Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, (Turner Publishing, Paducah, 1994), p. 26

⁴ See Darrell Haug Davis, *The Geography of the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky*. (Frankfort: The Kentucky Geological Survey, 1927). In his 1927 geography of the region, Darrell Haug Davis attributes this trend of decreasing farm size in part to the success of the tobacco industry in the area, arguing that its soils were fertile enough to generate profit from the crop on a relatively small farm. Christine Amos documents the same trend in her analysis of agricultural census statistics for 13 Bluegrass counties between 1880 and 1920. As she summarizes in *The Bluegrass Cultural Landscape*, there was a 41.3% increase in the number of farms across the region during this 40-year period. In Woodford County alone, she notes a 104% rise in the number of farms, while the average size of its farms shrunk from 179 acres to 83.5 acres. See *The Bluegrass Cultural Landscape*, 1988, on file at the KHC in Frankfort, KY. Nevertheless, as Clark argues in *Kentucky’s Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, “lands in certain areas of Kentucky would become so badly subdivided that families would be unable to produce a living on it”.

⁵ Wright, John D., Jr. *Lexington: Heart of the Bluegrass*. (Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission, Lexington, 1982) p. 13.

⁶ Clark, Thomas., “200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture”, in *Kentucky’s Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, (Turner Publishing, Paducah, 1994), p. 20.

⁷ Clark, Thomas., “200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture”, in *Kentucky’s Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture*, (Turner Publishing, Paducah, 1994), p. 23.

⁸ The first complete agriculture census for Kentucky/Fayette County was in 1840. The previous census data did not account for crops, rather for the general population including slaves and free blacks. The 1840 census is expanded to include all the major categories of farming within each county. Corn, oats, wheat, and rye were very common to local farmers and also important to the local farming economy. Livestock was routinely raised on local farms with an emphasis on cattle, mules, sheep, and swine. Those are the only livestock categories on the census. The later census records were expanded to include oxen and horses. The total tobacco raised in the county in 1840 was 92,900 lbs. This number will increase in most counties up to 1860, with Franklin and Nicholas Counties leading the way. It will not be until 1915 that tobacco surpasses hemp to become the leading cash crop in Fayette County. Hemp is being grown by numerous farmers at the time of Damaby, but much of it was grown on larger plantations such as Howards Grove. Robert Wickliffe corners the market in Lexington with many thousands of acres planted, and a large slave labor force to boot.

- 9 Clark, Thomas., "200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture", in Kentucky's Historic Farms: 200 Years of Kentucky Agriculture, (Turner Publishing, Paducah, 1994), p. 27.
- 10 1870 Agriculture Census, Fayette County, KY.
- 11 Anthony Rawe, Architecture of the Tobacco Sales Warehouse, 25-27.
- 12 See Gates, Paul., "Tenants of the Log Cabin" in The Mississippi Historical Review, Vol. 49, No. 1. (June, 1962), pp. 3-31.
- 13 Fayette County, Ky, Deed Book C, p. 185, September 27, 1806.
- 14 Ancestry.com
- 15 It is unclear where Darnaby might have been living prior to the purchase of the land from Warrick. He did own other tracts of land that were scattered about throughout the David Fork area of the North Elkhorn.
- 16 See Edward Darnaby, 1830 Federal Census, accessed February 1, 2010, at Ancestry.com.
- 17 The Christian Repository, Issue 96, (S. Howard Ford, 1859) p. 259. John 21:17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."
- 18 Fayette County, KY Will Book T, p. 478, July, 1852.
- 19 In 1863, the Darnaby estate was re-surveyed and a plat of the property was made and filed in the office of deeds at Fayette County. The plat accounts for 19 additional acres of land (209) that the original deed did not cover (190). It is not know what the discrepancy was, nevertheless, the 1863 plat extends the property by those 20 acres.
- 20 See Fayette County Will Book W, p. 396.
- 21 The complete description of the purchases made by James K. Shropshire for the Darnaby tracts are summarized in Deed Book 549, p. 428. The parcels are described in the deed as lots 1-4.
- 22 Fayette County Will Book 7, p. 297, December 29, 1890.
- 23 National Register Bulletin #30
- 24 See John Michael Vlach, Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery, 1993

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): FA-461

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 317.16 acres

Coordinates 1, 3, and 4 below: Lexington East quad

Coordinate 2 below: Clintonville quad

Coordinate Values below expressed according to NAD 27, and calculated with plastic overlay

UTM References

1	<u>16S</u> Zone	<u>729 890</u> Easting	<u>4214 350</u> Northing	3	<u>16S</u> Zone	<u>729 640</u> Easting	<u>4215 890</u> Northing
2	<u>16S</u> Zone	<u>730 600</u> Easting	<u>4215 030</u> Northing	4	<u>16S</u> Zone	<u>729 000</u> Easting	<u>4215 000</u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

The area proposed for listing is described by the Fayette County Property Valuation Administrator as a 317.16-acre property with parcel number 25876700. The entire parcel is proposed for listing.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include only those properties that are historically related to the development and evolution of the Springview Farm as it was associated with the Darnaby tract and the subsequent purchases made by the Shropshires in the 1890s and the 1940s. All of the contributing features of the farm are contained within these boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fred J. Rogers – with contribution by Marty Perry, NR Coordinator, KY SHPO
Organization Preservation Services and Technology Group, LLC date _____
street & number 206 B Orchard Drive telephone 859-270-3413
city or town Nicholasville state KY zip code 40356
e-mail fredj.rogers@gmail.com

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Springview Farm

City or Vicinity: Lexington

County: Fayette

State: KY

Photographer: Fred J. Rogers & R. Glen Payne

Date Photographed: November, 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1/18 - Tobacco Barn
- 2/18 - Tobacco Barn
- 3/18 - Smoke House
- 4/18 - Entrance Gate
- 5/18 - Open Field and Creek
- 6/18 - Spring (in front of house)
- 7/18 - Open Pasture
- 8/18 - Darnaby Cemetery
- 9/18 - House (view facing NW)
- 10/18 - House (view facing E)
- 11/18 - House (view facing N)
- 12/18 - House (view facing N - Mitchel/Bush Parcel)
- 13/18 - Storage Barn
- 14/18 - Storage Barn
- 15/18 - Natural Spring
- 16/18 - Outbuilding
- 17/18 - Natural Spring
- 18/18 - Open pasture and creek

Property Owner:

Name Jim Shropshire
street & number 3076 Royster Road telephone N/A
city or town Lexington state KY zip code _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

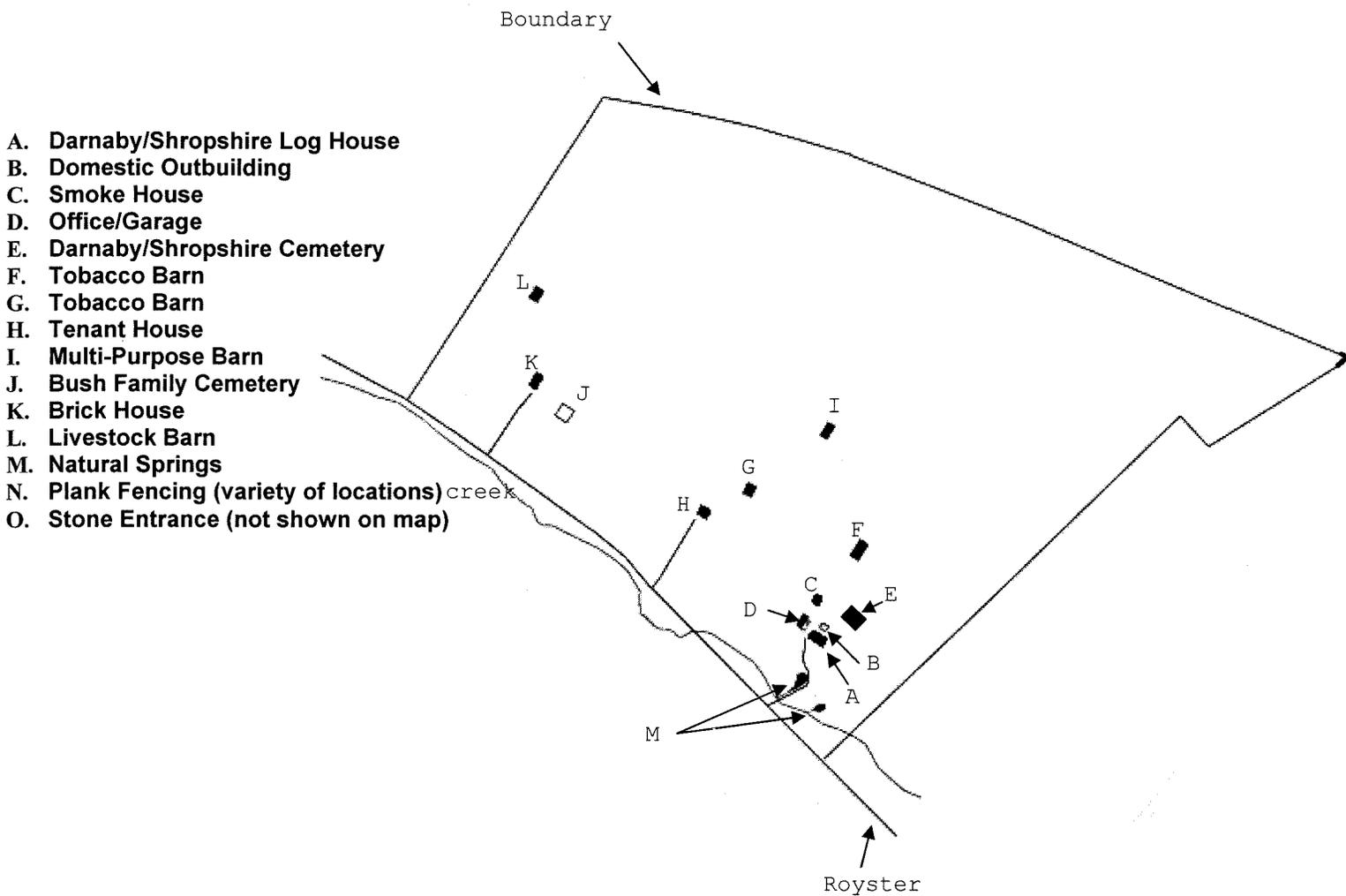
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property Springview Farm

County and State Fayette County, KY

Section number Sketch map Page

Location of Inventoried Features



- A. Darnaby/Shropshire Log House
- B. Domestic Outbuilding
- C. Smoke House
- D. Office/Garage
- E. Darnaby/Shropshire Cemetery
- F. Tobacco Barn
- G. Tobacco Barn
- H. Tenant House
- I. Multi-Purpose Barn
- J. Bush Family Cemetery
- K. Brick House
- L. Livestock Barn
- M. Natural Springs
- N. Plank Fencing (variety of locations)
- O. Stone Entrance (not shown on map)

Springview Farm (FA-461)
Fayette County, KY
Sketch Map

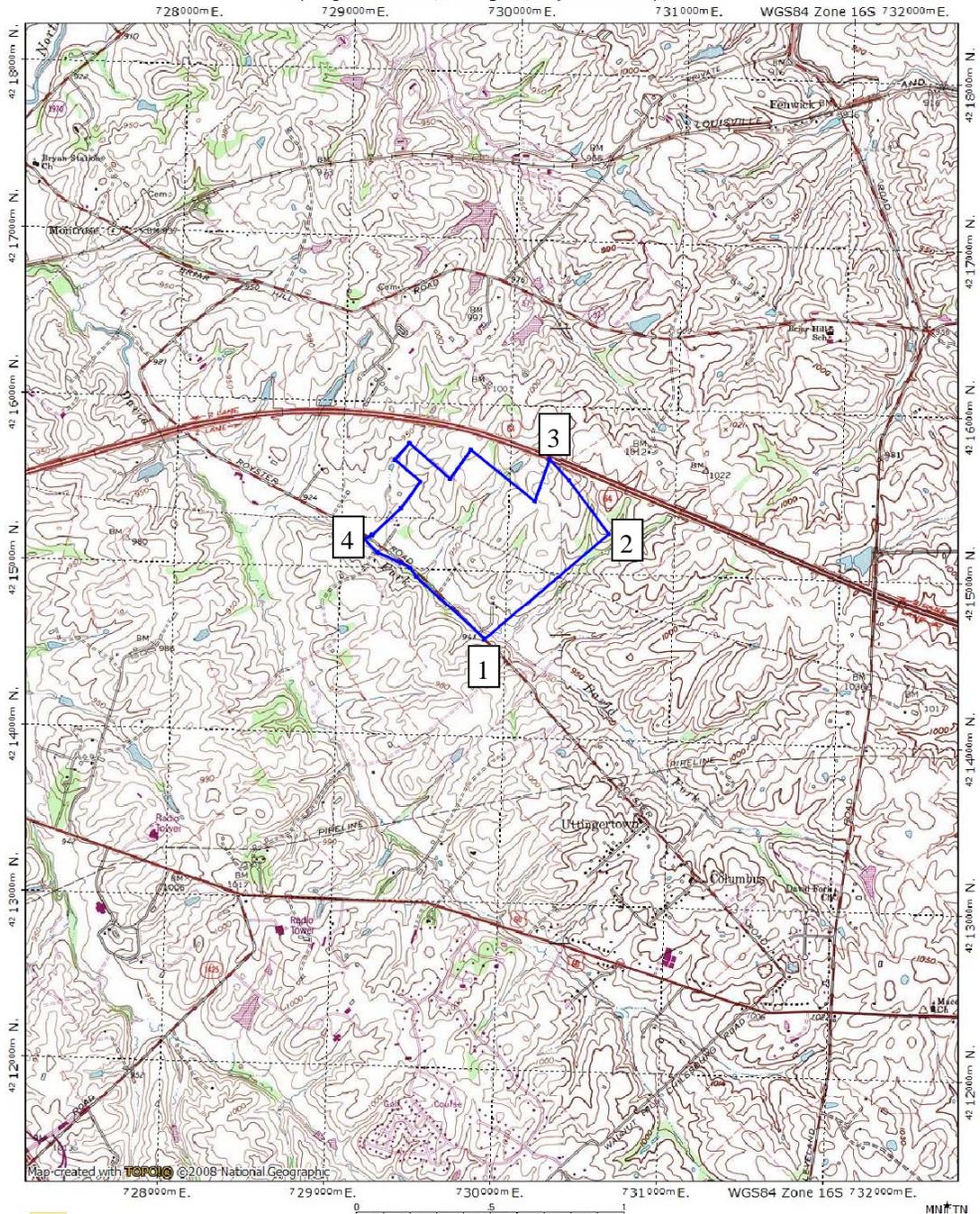
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Springview Farm
Name of Property
Fayette/Kentucky
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 1

DESCRIPTION: UTM Locators - 1 E 729874 N 4214583 2 E 730604 N 4215255
3 E 730240 N 4215657 4 E 729197 N 4215155

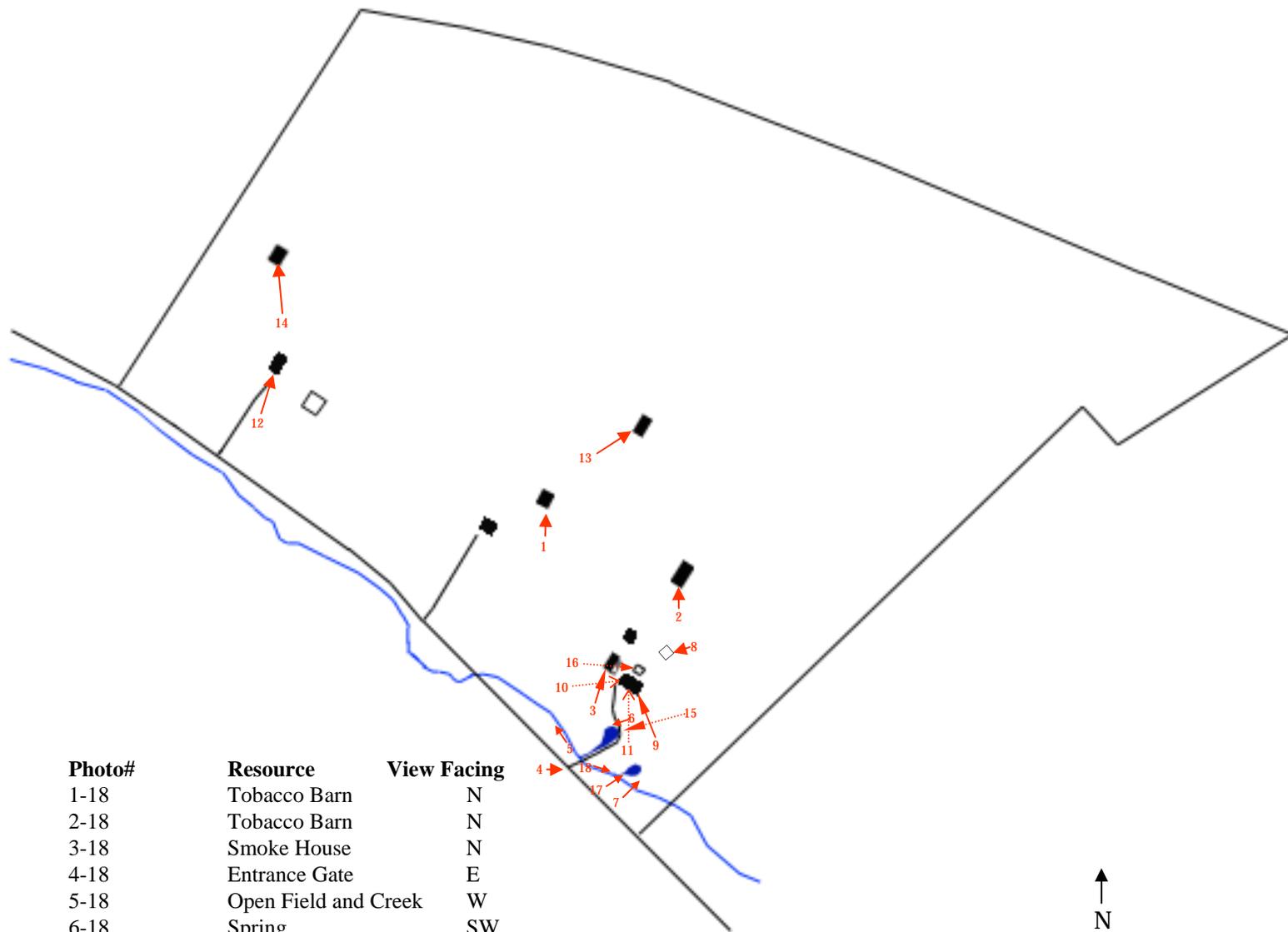


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Springview Farm
Name of Property Fayette/Kentucky
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photo Log/Map Page _____



Photo#	Resource	View Facing
1-18	Tobacco Barn	N
2-18	Tobacco Barn	N
3-18	Smoke House	N
4-18	Entrance Gate	E
5-18	Open Field and Creek	W
6-18	Spring	SW
7-18	Open Pasture	NE
8-18	Darnaby Cemetery	SE
9-18	House	NW
10-18	House	E
11-18	House	N
12-18	House	N
13-18	Storage Barn	NE
14-18	Storage Barn	N
15-18	Natural Spring	W
16-18	Outbuilding	NE
17-18	Natural Spring	NE
18-18	Creek	E

**Photographs Submitted
With Original Draft**

**Springview Farm
3076 Royster Road**



Property Boundaries (Aerial Photograph)



Stone Entrance – ca. 1930s

**Springview Farm
3076 Royster Road**



Main House – ca. 1790s



Secondary Residence – ca. 1860s

**Springview Farm
3076 Royster Road**



Darnaby Family Burial Grounds



Tobacco Barn 2 – ca. 1900

**Springview Farm
3076 Royster Road**



Multi-Purpose Barn 1 – ca. 1920



Smoke House – 1940

**Springview Farm
3076 Royster Road**



Natural Springs



Farm Setting