

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Gaither Shelton, Rosco King, Carson King barn	Approx date/decade built: late 1880's
Address of Barn: 215 Kings Blvd.	Current Owner: Carson King
GPS Location: N36 00.700/W82 38.425	Historic Owner(s): Gaither Shelton, Vernie Shelton, Rosco King
Elevation: 2300' +/-	Current Use: equipment storage
Township: Laurel	Historic Use: livestock
Vicinity: Upper Shelton Laurel, Big Creek	Permission to visit property by: Carson King

Historic Information: W. Gaither Shelton was a successful farmer and is said to have owned most of the Big Creek valley. He was born June 11, 1855 and died February 6, 1927. He was married in 1884 at age 29. It is likely he built the barn after his marriage. He is buried across Big Creek Road to the north. Rosco King, father of current owner, bought this barn from Worley and Vernie Shelton, son and daughter-in-law of Gaither Shelton. Background obtained from Carson King, Max Shelton, and Flo Wallin, granddaughter of Gaither Shelton.

Outbuildings: a very good example of a storage building and corn crib is just south of the barn. A large burley tobacco barn is also on the property.

Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use: This farm sits in the large Big Creek valley, a higher elevation valley in Madison County at 2300 feet plus. The Shelton family has been a predominant family in the Shelton Laurel valley since the late 18th century settlement period.

ORIGINAL BARN characteristics

Integrity

- High
- Medium
- Low

Condition

- Good
 - Fair
 - Deteriorated
 - Ruin
- Add. Info.:

Function of original barn

- general purpose
- livestock/hay
- flue-cured tobacco
- burley tobacco
- bull face tobacco
- dairy
- other

Add. Info.: unusual that it was never adapted for burley tobacco

Type Construction of original barn

- Post and Beam
- timber frame: partial
- mortise and tenon
- sawn lumber
- hewn timbers
- notched logs
- stud frame

Add. Info.: all log notching is half dovetail notch

The original timber frame of this barn is typical of the period with hewn sills and plates that extend the length of the barn. The mortise and tenon joinery is good quality and includes numerous angled braces throughout, yet is usually fastened with spikes or nails and not pegs.

Original siding materials

- milled boards
- lattice
- exposed logs
- board and batten
- metal
- shingles
- other

Add. Info.: Unlike most barns of this period, there is no lattice work currently on the barn. There may have been on the original.

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
 - vertical
 - horizontal
- Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 10.5 / 12

Roof type of original barn

- gable
 - broken gable
 - gambrel
 - shed
 - monitor
 - cupola
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Roofing materials of original barn

- split wood shingles

- 3-V metal
 - 3-U metal
 - 5-V metal
 - stamped metal shingle
 - tar paper
 - unknown
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Roof framing of original barn

- round pole rafters
 - milled rafters
 - gambrel shallow trusses
 - gambrel with post and beam support
 - round purlins
- Add. Info.:

Foundation of original barn

- Dry laid stone
 - wood sills on rock piers
 - mortared stone
 - concrete
 - concrete block
 - columns/wood piers
 - posts on concrete footings
- Add. Info.:

Flooring of original barn

- dirt floor
 - wood flooring
 - concrete slab
- Add. Info.:

Species of wood used in original barn

- chestnut
 - other, list known species
- Add. Info.:

Hinges

- leather
- wooden
- wrought iron
- commercial metal
- rubber
- other

Add. Info.: doors with mortise and tenon joinery, one door survives with wood post and keep hinge.

Fasteners

- wire nails
 - cut nails
 - wrought spikes
 - wood pegs
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing

- +/- 2 feet
 - +/- 3 feet
 - +/- 4 feet
 - other, list
- Add. Info.:

Additional traditional features, list: The hay fork rail and fork are still in place, which is rare. Hay racks are angled with split palings, also rare.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

Has the original barn been altered or added to? yes

Description of alterations and additions: This barn was altered with the shed addition in the 1960's by then owner Rosco King. It is likely that the main roof was raised at this time also, giving more loft space. Replacement of wood shingle roof may have included replacement of the original round framing members with sawn lumber, but this is not confirmed. This barn was likely later sided with vertical siding boards over the log pens, an uncommon practice. Replacement of wood shingle roof may have included replacement of the original round framing members with sawn lumber, but this is not confirmed. There are also rail doors at either end which were added at a later date.

Condition of alterations

- good
 - fair
 - poor
 - ruin
- Add. Info.:

Function of barn alterations and additions

- general purpose
- livestock/hay

- flue-cured tobacco
 - burley tobacco
 - bull face tobacco
 - dairy
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Type Construction alterations and additions

- Post and Beam
 - timber frame
 - mortise and tenon
 - sawn lumber
 - hewn timbers
 - notched logs
 - stud frame
- Add. Info.:

Siding materials of alterations and additions

- milled boards
 - lattice
 - exposed logs
 - board and batten
 - metal
 - shingles
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
 - vertical
 - horizontal
- Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of alterations and additions: raised roof became a 9 /12 slope; shed addition is a 7/12 slope.

Roof type of barn alterations and additions

- gable: extension of main roof
 - broken gable
 - gambrel
 - shed: addition
 - monitor
 - cupola
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Roofing materials of alterations and additions

- split wood shingles
- 3-V metal
- 3-u metal
- 5-V metal
- stamped metal shingle
- tar paper
- unknown
- other

Add. Info.:

Roof framing of alterations and additions

- round pole rafters
- milled rafters
- gambrel shallow trusses
- gambrel with post and beam support
- round purlins

Add. Info.:

Foundation of alterations and additions

- Dry laid stone
- wood sills on rock piers
- mortared stone
- concrete
- concrete block
- columns/wood piers
- posts on concrete footings

Add. Info.:

Flooring of alterations and additions

- dirt floor
- wood flooring
- concrete slab

Add. Info.:

Species of wood used in alterations and additions

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.: various typical

Hinges/ alterations and additions

- leather
- wooden
- wrought iron
- commercial metal
- rubber

other
Add. Info.:

Fasteners/ alterations and additions

wire nails
 cut nails
 wrought spikes
 wood pegs
 other
Add. Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing/ alterations and additions

+/- 2 feet
 +/- 3 feet
 +/- 4 feet
 other, list
Add. Info.: NA

Date Photos Taken: March 31, 2014

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