

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Rosco King, Carson King burley tobacco barn	Approx date/decade built: approximately 1930 - 1940
Address of Barn: 215 Kings Blvd.	Current Owner: Carson King
GPS Location: N36 00.700/W82 38.425	Historic Owner(s): Rosco King
Elevation: 2300' +/-	Current Use: equipment storage
Township: Laurel	Historic Use: burley tobacco
Vicinity: Upper Shelton Laurel, Big Creek	Permission to visit property by: Carson King

Historic Information: Rosco King, father of current owner, bought this barn from Vernie Shelton around 1948. It may have been built by Worley King, but that is not confirmed. This tobacco barn is from the late 1930's and is one of the earliest barns built exclusively for burley tobacco. It is a classic post and beam burley barn using hewn round logs for sills and round vertical and horizontal poles for the frame, with sawn boards for other framing. Use of lattice at the top of the walls is a hold-over from early livestock barn designs. The roof is an example of one that transitions to a very slight gambrel shape yet has no apparent reason for that shape. This barn is sided with vertical boards in such a manner as to provide long, tall vent doors of one or two boards wide on metal hinges, to be opened as needed for increased air flow for the air curing of the tobacco and is known as a "Kentucky vent". This farm sits in the Big Creek valley and was part of the Gaither Shelton farm.

Outbuildings: (See Gaither Shelton barn)

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 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.: an early barn built exclusively 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.: One of the earliest barns built exclusively for burley tobacco, it is a classic post and beam burley barn using hewn round logs for sills and round vertical poles, and round pole tier poles. Sills are hewn enough to provide a flat surface to receive the poles. Sills are joined with lap joints in center and at corners.

Original siding materials

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

Add. Info.: narrow band of lattice work currently on the upper fascia area of barn, a holdover from livestock barns, lattice members are perpendicular to the roof line

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
- vertical
- horizontal

Add. Info.: This barn is sided with vertical boards in such a manner as to provide long, tall vent doors of one or two boards on metal hinges, to be opened as needed for increased air flow for the air curing of the tobacco.

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 5 / 12, and 4 / 12

Roof type of original barn

- gable
- broken gable
- gambrel: slight 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.: appears to have been tar paper due to the continuous board sheathing under the current metal roofing.

Additional Info: this barn is an example of a roof that transitions to a very slight gambrel shape yet has no apparent reason for that shape.

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: the metal roofing appears to be the only alteration, from a tar paper roofing.

Date Photos Taken: April 2, 2014

Submitted By

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